

WARRIORS

Waterloo blanks Capitals to earn first title since 1990

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"No way did I think my goal would stand up because they (Capitals) are a great team," Kuhlmann said. "But we came in with a ton of confidence after yesterday's big win."

The Warriors blanked the Des Moines Oak Leafs Saturday, 6-0, for the right to play in the championship match.

"Dobes played the game of his life. This was the perfect ending," Kuhlmann said. "Our defense has come so far this year. They just dominated."

Momentum shifted back to the Capitals in the second frame. Des Moines burned off a 5-on-3 shorthanded situation.

With the Warriors back on their skates and looking for a break, Waterloo West senior



PHOTO COURTESY OF AMANDA JO PAYNE

The Warriors pose with the trophy after winning the Midwest High School Hockey League title Sunday.

Jake Irey gave his team what they needed.

Irey grabbed a short pass from Kuhlmann and skated the length of the ice, zig-zagging through Capitals defenders.

Finally, Irey uncorked a shot that went undetected by Temple to the back of the net for a 2-0 lead.

"I have been dreaming of this moment my whole life," Irey

said.

"I didn't think that lead (2-0) was enough because they are such a good team. Des Moines has made a lot of comebacks."

Dobes denied them a chance

Sunday.

"Brian played great all weekend and definitely deserved the MVP," Irey said.

It was the first high school hockey championship for a Waterloo team since 1990. Only two current Warriors were born at that point.

"When the horn sounded, I just didn't know how to react," Warrior coach Shawn Weinke said. "I found out in a hurry, though, and just felt so happy for our guys. They really wanted this.

"They were buzzing us all game and our guys went out and matched the intensity."

During a break between the second and third period, Weinke was spotted in the hallway, sitting on a cooler with head in hands.

"I was thinking at that moment of all the guys that have been through this program to make it what it is today," Weinke said.

Contact Rod Payne at sportsdoor@wcfcourier.com

SCORE BY PERIODS

Waterloo	1	1	0	-2
Des Moines	0	0	0	-0

FIRST PERIOD - 1. Waterloo, Dawson Kuhlmann (Spencer Warren) 6:10. Penalties - Warren, Wat. (interference) 7:20; John Watson, D.M. (interference) 13:57; Taylor Olson, D.M. (holding) 14:35.

SECOND PERIOD - 2. Waterloo, Jake Irey (Kuhlmann) 8:22. Penalties - Matthew Bunting, D.M. (hooking) 1:44; Michael Thompson, Wat. (roughing) 4:39; Jaymes Aldrich, D.M. (hooking) 7:36; Ben Jasper, Wat. (checking from behind) 9:54; Jake Garcia, D.M. (slashing) 13:01.

THIRD PERIOD - No scoring. Penalties - Bryce Frost, Wat. (roughing) 1:05; Bunting, D.M. (roughing) 1:05; Kyle Collins, D.M. (holding) 4:13; Kuhlmann, Wat. (tripping) 4:28; Marshall Cook, Wat. (hooking) 5:04; Kuhlmann, Wat. (interference) 7:04; Warren, Wat. (slashing) 13:10.

SHOTS ON GOAL

Waterloo	9	9	4	-22
Des Moines	11	9	17	-37

Goalies - Waterloo, Brian Dobes (37 saves), Des Moines, Derek Temple (20 saves).
Officials - Referee, Paul Koskovich. Linesman, Tim Frazee and Rick Chartier.

MSHSL results

CHAMPIONSHIP

Waterloo 2, Des Moines Capitals 0

THIRD PLACE

Kan. City Stars 5, D.M. Oak Leafs 2

FIFTH PLACE

Mason City 5, Dubuque 2

SEVENTH PLACE

Kansas City Jr. Outlaws 7, Lincoln 3