

Warriors blast net, Washington

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah — The Waterloo Warriors and head coach Doug Dietz went to the USA Hockey National High School Championships, a little blind.

Things are a bit clearer now as they destroyed the Washington Hornets, 12-1, during the first round of pool play Wednesday.

"We had no idea coming in here what these teams would be like," Dietz said. "Every team here could be dangerous. I mean, it is nationals."

"We just came out and played. I thought we may be a little rusty with three weeks off, but we moved the puck well and there was no selfishness," Dietz added.

The Warriors had to adjust to the time schedule. There is a 17-minute period, a one-minute break, another 17-minute period, then the ice is resurfaced. Finally, the third period is also 17 minutes in length.

That said, the Warriors enjoyed a good start.

Leading scorer Austin Jackson began the onslaught at the 2 minute, 31-second mark, followed by Lee

Jensen's tally just over three minutes later.

Jackson put two in the back of the net with an assist, while Jensen notched a hat trick to go along with one assist.

Eight different Warriors found the nylon during the rout, as they fired 54 attempts at the Hornets goalie.

The game was never in doubt as the Warriors built a 5-0 lead early in the second period with goals from Beau Cook and Tim Brown.

After relinquishing a power play goal to the Hornets midway through, the Warriors finished them off with seven unanswered tallies. Connor Hyde delivered four assists and starting goalie Chance Kremer saw only 12 shots.

"We have some big guns on this team, and after this opener we have maybe started to paint a target on our backs," Dietz said. "People will start chirping about this now and we will just have to do what we have all year. There was a target on our backs all year long."

The Warriors wrapped up their regular season with a

31-1 mark and marched through the Midwest High School Hockey League playoffs, three weeks ago claiming the title, with a 4-2 victory over Kansas City Jets.

The Warriors will be playing the Pinnacle Pioneers from Arizona Thursday at 2:30 p.m.

SCORE BY PERIODS

Washington Hornets	0	1	0-1
Waterloo Warriors	3	5	4-12

FIRST PERIOD - 1. Waterloo, Jackson (Cavanaugh, Hyde), 2:31; 2. Waterloo, Jensen (Sessler), 5:42; 3. Waterloo, Jackson (Hyde, Cavanaugh) (sh), 15:03. Penalties - Schutte-Wat. (roughing) 2:58; Cole-Wash. (hooking) 7:15; Becker-Wat. (interference) 8:30; Brown-Wat. (interference) 14:00

SECOND PERIOD - 4. Waterloo, Cook (Sessler), 2:43; 5. Waterloo, Brown (Hyde), 7:39; 6. Washington, Toivola (White) (pp), 8:13; 7. Waterloo, Skarlis (Jackson), 13:09; 8. Waterloo, Lichty (Brown), 14:50; 9. Waterloo, Brown (Hyde) (pp), 16:59. Penalties - Schutte-Wat (high sticking) 3:11; Sabin-Wash. (cross checking) 5:23, Wright-Wat. (hooking) 8:13; Mandella-Wash. (tripping) 16:48

THIRD PERIOD - 10. Waterloo, Becker (Lichty) (pp), 8:10; 11. Waterloo, Jensen (Becker, Cavanaugh, 10:06; 12. Waterloo, Sessler (Jensen, Richter), 13:02; 13. Waterloo, Jensen (unassisted), 15:33. Penalties - Cavanaugh-Wat. (tripping) 1:44; Jones-Wash. (roughing) 6:22; Saul-Wat. (hooking) 9:24; Becker-Wat. (unsportsmanlike conduct) 10:06; Sessler-Wat. (unsportsmanlike conduct) 13:43; Skinnell-Wash. (roughing) 13:43; Shaver-Wash. (charging) 16:45.

SHOTS ON GOAL

Washington	14
Waterloo	54

Goaltenders - Washington, Bowen (32 shots, 24 saves), MacLean (22 shots, 18 saves); Waterloo, Kremer (13 shots, 12 saves); Weber, (1 shot, 1 save)

Power plays - Washington 2-for-6; Waterloo 1-for-9
Officials - Andre Collins, referee; Shawn Mikkelsen and Rick Serena, linesmen.