

SIoux CITY METROS

Beller leads Metros to MHSHL first-round win

JOURNAL STAFF

AMES, Iowa | Skyler Beller scored two goals Friday afternoon while leading the Sioux City Metros to a 3-2 first-round win over the Dubuque Devils in the Midwest High School Hockey League Varsity Championship held at the Ames/ISU Ice Arena.

Beller, an All-West Division forward, recorded the 27th multiple-goal game of his three-year varsity career. Two of those games have been contested in the MHSHL Tournament.

Beller scored both of his

goals, three minutes apart, in the third period. Tanner Frerichs and Walter Werden recorded assists on the first goal at the 6:14 mark while Frerichs and Grant Newman assisted on Beller's 33rd goal of the season to give the Metros a 3-0 lead.

Frerichs, an MHSHL All-Star forward, has 31 assists on the season for the sixth-seeded Metros



Beller

(15-12-1-1), who avenged 8-7 (shootout) and 4-0 losses to Dubuque on Nov. 21-22 at the IBP Ice Center.

Coach Dave LeGree's Metros took a 1-0 first-period lead when Trent Harsma scored, courtesy of Sam Holzrichter's assist.

Third-seeded Dubuque (15-13-1) pulled within 3-1 when team scoring leader Carter Grobstick scored an unassisted, shorthanded goal with 8:12 left in the game. Grobstick, an All-Central Division forward,

has recorded six goals and two assists against the Metros this season.

Andrew Nedder closed the scoring for the Central Division champions, which outshot the Metros 28-23.

Winning goaltender Carter Manthorne (7-3), converted 26 of 28 save attempts.

Sioux City will face second-seeded Kansas City (26-1-1-1) in a 1 p.m. semifinal Saturday. Kansas City, the West Division champion, opened with a 4-0 win over Quad City.