

No. 1 Warriors eye District 6 title

Written by Jim Ecker

Wednesday, 15 October 2014 19:13 - Last Updated Wednesday, 15 October 2014 19:24



The top-ranked Cedar Rapids Washington football team can make a little history Thursday night with a victory over Iowa City High at Kingston Stadium.

A triumph would give the Warriors the District 6 title in Class 4A, no matter what happens in the regular-season finale next Friday night at Burlington. This is the first year for district football in Class 4A, so this would be the first district title in school history for Washington.

The game will be broadcast by KGYM 1600 AM/107.5 FM with kickoff scheduled for 7:15 p.m.

Washington enters the game at 7-0 overall and 3-0 in the district. If the Warriors win, the worst they could do is finish in a tie for first place in the district with Muscatine at 4-1, but Washington has already defeated Muscatine and would have the tiebreaker and a No. 1 seed for the playoffs.

Iowa City High enters Thursday night's contest with a 2-5 overall record, but the Little Hawks are 2-1 in district games. If the Little Hawks upset the Warriors, the district could be thrown into a three-way tie for first place with Washington, City High and Muscatine at 3-1 if the Muskies defeat Prairie Friday night.

Only district games count toward making the playoffs, so the Warriors can make life a lot easier for themselves if they take care of business Thursday night against Iowa City High.

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The Little Hawks began the season with five straight losses, but they played some good teams in Cedar Falls, Bettendorf, Ames, Iowa City West and Ottumwa. The Little Hawks enter Thursday's game on a two-game winning streak with victories over Prairie (27-23) and Burlington (38-24).

Sophomore quarterback Nate Wieland has passed for 874 yards for Iowa City High, but he has eight interceptions and only two touchdowns. He's also rushed 89 times for 477 yards and six TDs.

Bryson Runge has 20 receptions and Griffin Fellows has 18 catches for the Little Hawks. Mike Fredieu has rushed for 375 yards and Runge has rushed for 267.

The Washington Warriors have found a winning formula this season with a strong running game and stingy defense. The Warriors rank third in Class 4A in rushing offense (259.6) and are allowing just 9.3 points per game. Washington ranks sixth in Class 4A in scoring at 37.8 points per game.

Tavian Patrick has rushed for 685 yards on 70 carries for a healthy average of 9.8 yards per carry for the Warriors. Fullback Johnny Dobbs has powered his way for 437 yards and nine touchdowns.

Washington quarterback Reid Snitker got the passing game cranked up in a 28-6 victory over Prairie last week. He has thrown for 554 yards, with eight TD passes and only two interceptions.

Linebacker Connor Vincent leads the Washington defense with 68.5 tackles and 18.5 tackles-for-loss to rank among the state leaders.

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