

## CLASS 4A CHAMPIONSHIP – Friday, November 20, 2009

7:05 p.m. – No. 4 Marshalltown Bobcats (13-0) vs. No. 1 Iowa City High Little Hawks (13-0)

**STATS & INTERVIEWS:** We have a complete stat crew on duty. They will have halftime and final stat summaries for you. **Do not conduct interviews or detain players or coaches on the field at any time.** There will be an interview room at the end of the tunnel for that express purpose (This is a request asked for by the media when on the field interviews compromised some outlets.) No media are allowed in the locker rooms. **Since this is a working press box, please observe the professionalism of “No Cheering.”** Team ratings used are the season final Associated Press poll, Oct. 27. Team and individual season statistics are available from the IHSAA's Quikstats.

-- IHSAA--

**ROAD TO THE DOME:** The only two unbeaten teams in 4A clash in this one, making this the tenth time in the class that it has occurred and first since 2004. Top-ranked Iowa City High is in search of their fourth state title. The Little Hawks won in 1993, 1994 and 1996 and had runner-up finishes in 1997 and 2001. This is their 21st trip to the playoffs and the sixth title game. They are 34-17 all-time in play-off games. To reach the championship they posted wins over Mississippi Valley Conference foes, Iowa City West, Dubuque Hempstead and Cedar Rapids Washington, and Xavier, Cedar Rapids all of whom they defeated in the regular season. The team has a 38.8 ppg offensive average and a defense that has allowed an average of 11.4 ppg. It has been an historic year for fourth-rated Marshalltown who has willed their way to the championship. The last time Marshalltown went unbeaten in the regular season was 1947. The 'Cats have won five games decided by six points or less. This year marks the fifth time the school has qualified for the playoffs and the first time they have advanced to the championship. They will take a 3-4 playoff record to the finals. The post season slate featured wins over Indianola, Waukee, Ankeny and second-ranked Dowling Catholic, WDM.

MARSHALLTOWN BOBCATS		IOWA CITY HIGH LITTLE HAWKS	
Sioux City North	17-7	Wahlert, Dubuque	38-7
Des Moines North	53-6	Cedar Rapids Washington	65-21
Valley, WDM	16-14	Xavier, Cedar Rapids	24-17
Johnston	21-17	Iowa City West	49-10
Mason City	38-21	Dubuque Hempstead	28-7
Newton	17-0	Cedar Raids Kennedy	22-14
Ames	60-35	Prairie, Cedar Rapids	34-0
Waukee	44-22	Waterloo West	47-14
Fort Dodge	16-10	Cedar Rapids Jefferson	54-8
Indianola (substate)	49-14	Iowa City West (substate)	45-20
Waukee (first round)	31-26	Dubuque Hempstead (first round)	24-7
Ankeny (quarterfinals)	31-21	Cedar Rapids Washington (quarterfinals)	35-14
Dowling Catholic, WDM (semifinals)	28-25	Xavier, Cedar Rapids	21-3
	<i>Offense: 421/32.4</i>		<i>Offense: 486/37.5</i>
	<i>Defense: 218/16.6</i>		<i>Defense: 140/10.8</i>

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**THE COACHES:** Dan Sabers, coach of the Little Hawks, is in his ninth season and is 81-20. This is his eighth playoff squad and the seventh straight time he has had Iowa City High in the post-season including the runner-up finish in 2001. The former Beckman, Dyersville prep is a graduate of the University of Iowa. His assistants include Larry Brown, who guided the Little Hawks to three titles in 13 trips; Tim Casey, Dennis Knoop, Mark Mitchell, Mike Pugh, Joe Wilcox, Mitch Brinkley and Brett Lyddon. Marshalltown Coach Dave Holdiman is in his sixth season with Bobcats where he is 35-24. He prepped at Columbus, Waterloo and did his college work at the University of Northern Iowa. He previously coached at West Liberty, Cherokee and Mason City and has a 26-year career mark of 119-123. He previously coached Cherokee (1989) and Marshalltown (2007) into the playoffs. His assistant coaches are Mike Eggleston, Kirk Brooks, Todd Kluver, Adam Hoop, Curtis Prusha, Jon Reed, Tim Johnson, Ryan Dalton, Pete Drury and Joe Divoky.

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**GAME SNAPSHOT:** Quick strike offenses and tenacious team defenses go head to head in this classic battle and both teams feature them. Each has a total offense of over 4,600 yards in 12 games. The Little Hawks, who have amassed nearly 4,300 yards in total offense, AJ Derby spear-heads a solid team effort, which benefits from a mobile offensive line. He has thrown for 1,515 yards and 20 touchdowns, hitting on 76 of 149 attempts. He has also rushed for 13 TDs on 113 totes for 670 yards. Jordan Ellis is the top rusher darting for 1,211 yards on 182 carries and 12 trips to the end zone. He also has two punt returns and kick-off return for touchdowns. Nick Reuter has rushed for 326 yards and seven scores. John Chelf leads the receiving contingent with 34 receptions for 941 yards and 14 trips to pay dirt. He is one of 16 Little Hawks to have a reception and one of eight to reach the goal line. Phil Riley has connected of 49

extra point kicks and has three field goals with a long of 33. Derby handles the punting chores and has averaged nearly 40 yards on 23 boots. The defense has 18 interceptions. The Bobcats attack of "taking what the defense gives you" has been efficient with Chanse Creekmur at the controls. He has thrown for 3,011 yards after missing the opening game. He has completed 216 of 358 aerials for 30 TDs and his two year total coming into the game is 5,255 yards (nearly 3 miles) and 45 scoring strikes. Jarred Carlson has 76 catches for 1,363 yards and 19 touchdowns. The yards and TDs are Class 4A state bests and the 76 catches is five behind the number set in 2007 by Cedar Rapids Washington's Keenan Davis. Nick Thimesch, another member of the "good hands people" has 67 receptions for 948 yards and eight touchdowns. Junior Mark Duncan follows with 48 catches for 490 yards and three scores. The rushing attack is led by Austin Ruddick, a senior, who has 178 carries for 798 yards and eight trips to pay dirt. Creekmur has eight rushing scores and 445 yards. The Bobcats defense has 25 take-a-ways and 82 tackles for losses. Jon Vance has been in on 125 stops and Kyle Carnahan and Alexander Dalton have been in on 88 each. Cole Grewell has six interceptions and Carnahan has covered three fumbles.

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### PROBABLE STARTERS

MARSHALLTOWN OFFENSE						IOWA CITY HIGH DEFENSE					
Pos	No	Name	Gr	Ht	Wt	Pos	No	Name	Gr	Ht	Wt
WR	22	Mark Duncan	11	6-3	175	LB	32	Noah Cmiel	12	6-2	200
WR	30	Ty Steffensen	10	5-9	146	LB	18	AJ Derby	12	6-4	223
WR	88	Jarred Carlson	12	6-3	177	CB	5	Andrew McNulty	11	6-1	185
WR	20	Nick Thimesch	12	6-0	150	LB	3	Jordan Ellis	12	5-7	180
LT	71	Luke Appelgate	12	5-11	220	LB	16	Jasper Washington	10	5-11	170
LG	62	Spencer Swartz	12	6-2	234	or	22	James Taylor	12	5-11	165
C	54	Joey Roberts	11	6-1	277	CB	81	Alex Evans	12	5-9	166
RG	70	Jacob Whaley	11	6-4	236	CB	13	John Chelf	12	5-10	166
RT	74	Ben Blagg	12	6-3	200	DT	75	Aaron Johnson	11	6-5	245
QB	18	Chanse Creekmur	12	6-7	210	DT	77	Matt Tvedte	12	6-2	238
RB	26	Austin Ruddick	12	5-8	195	DT	30	Cam Tucker	12	5-9	158
						DT	71	Jesse Leyendecker	12	6-2	285
P	32	Josh Illum	11	6-0	185						
PK	32	Josh Illum	11	6-0	185	KO	18	AJ Derby	12	6-4	223

IOWA CITY HIGH OFFENSE						MARSHALLTOWN DEFENSE					
Pos	No	Name	Gr	Ht	Wt	Pos	No	Name	Gr	Ht	Wt
RB	3	Ellis Jordan	12	5-7	180	DE	61	Grant Carnahan	12	6-2	225
FB	36	Adam Prybil	11	6-2	227	DT	63	Aaron Gonzalez	12	6-0	262
or	25	Nick Reuter	12	5-11	165	DT	77	Daniel Wickham	12	6-0	245
QB	18	AJ Derby	12	6-4	223	DE	43	Gaston Gonzalez	12	5-10	175
WR	8	David Koehnke	12	5-11	165	LB	36	Jon Vance	12	5-9	195
WR	13	John Chelf	12	5-10	166	or	26	Austin Ruddick	12	5-8	195
WR	16	Jasper Washington	10	5-11	170	LB	44	Dalton Alexander	12	6-1	215
TE	45	Tucker Tholen	12	6-2	221	LB	34	Chris Allen	11	6-0	185
OL	60	Dan Minichk	11	6-0	220	SS	88	Jarred Carlson	12	6-3	177
OL	71	Jesse Leyendecker	12	6-2	285	FS	46	Kyle Carnahan	10	5-11	174
OL	75	Aaron Johnson	11	6-5	245	CB	10	Cole Grewell	12	6-0	165
OL	77	Matt Tvedte	12	6-2	238	CB	35	Alec Lovin	12	6-0	172
P	18	AJ Derby	12	6-4	223	or	32	Josh Illum	11	6-0	185
PK	28	Phillip Riley	12	6-1	205	KO	32	Josh Illum	11	6-0	185