

HIGH SCHOOL HOCKEY

Timberline takes state hockey tournament

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"Five" turned out to be the lucky number for Timberline of Boise on Sunday at the Idaho Amateur Hockey Association's 2006 High School Championship Tournament at Tautpahus Park in Idaho Falls.

The Wolves woke up early on March 5 and proceeded to score five goals almost before the sun was up to beat Immaculate Conception Cristeros of Post Falls 5-3 in a 7 a.m. matchup with a trip to the championship game at stake.

Timberline then returned to the ice in the early afternoon and scored five more goals — three in the opening period — to beat Meridian 5-1 for the 2006 state championship and the right to represent Idaho at the Rocky Mountain District Regional Tournament on March 17 in Boise.

Timberline scored early and often to jump on their Treasure Valley rivals from Meridian.

Less than two minutes after the opening face-off, forward Jason Kahn scored off an assist from Alex Andrews as the Wolves grabbed a 1-0 lead.

Then it was time for the "Carson Show." Junior defenseman Carson Kawano beat the Warriors' goalie off an assist from

Elliott Brasch to make it 2-0 Timberline at the 10:50 mark and less than four minutes later scored an unassisted goal. When time had expired in the first period, Timberline was in control at 3-0.

In contrast to the Wolves' relentless attack on the net, Meridian managed only one shot on goal during the opening 15 minutes.

For the game, Timberline outshot Meridian 36-11 as the Wolves' defense dominated the contest.

The Warriors' lone score came with just over a minute gone in the second period as Jimmy Chapman beat Timberline goalie Kevin Love with an unassisted goal to make it 3-1 after two periods.

But the Wolves came out of the locker room hungry to begin the final period, getting an unassisted goal from Anthony Dworak at the 12:34 mark, followed four minutes later by a goal from Josh Schamber to give Timberline the game, and the championship, 5-1.

Despite the loss, Meridian, the Boise-area champion, is expected to receive an at-large bid to the regional tournament later this month in Boise — an affair that will draw the top teams from Utah, Colorado, Arizona, New Mexico and Texas.

State hockey tournament

Sunday's results

Timberline 5, Immaculate Conception 3
Meridian 7, Skyline 4

Championship game

Timberline 5, Meridian 1

In contrast to some of the earlier games this weekend, the championship contest was a relatively penalty-free — each team committed only two penalties.

With the win, Timberline finishes the tournament with a perfect 5-0 record, and a season mark of 21 wins, three losses and one tie, including the Sunday morning semifinal 5-3 victory over Immaculate Conception.

In that game, Jason Kahn and Cameron Vestermark led the offense, and goalie Kevin Love recorded 12 saves.

Meridian closes out the weekend at 3-2, with both losses coming against Timberline. The Warriors out-skated Skyline 7-4 in Sunday morning's late game to advance to the championship.

Taylor Crawford scored a hat trick for Meridian, while Warriors goalie Jared Secundo turned away 25 Skyline shots-on-goal.