

And the rubber match goes to ... Waukon.

In its third meeting this season with Northeast Conference rival Crestwood, Waukon claimed the victory in the one that mattered most, beating the defending state champs 48-37 in the Class 3A quarterfinals.

Defense has been Waukon's strength all season and it certainly carried the Indians in this one. They came up with 12 steals in forcing 25 turnovers and came close to matching their season defensive average of 34.2 points.

Waukon shot just 28.6 percent, but enjoyed a critical 20-7 edge in points off turnovers.

Annika Headington led Waukon with 15 points and five assists, while Sydney Ross scored 15 and Lauren Griffith eight. The Indians also got a major contribution off the bench from sophomore Margaret Wacker, who had three points, seven rebounds and four steals.

Crestwood had success when it got the ball to 6-foot-3 junior Sharon Goodman, the only starter who returned from last season, but the Cadets couldn't get it to her enough. She scored 21 points on 9-for-12 shooting, grabbed eight rebounds and blocked a tournament record 10 shots.

No one else had blocked more than seven shots in a game since the tournament went to five classes in 2013.

Goodman has committed to signing with the University of Iowa.

Waukon and Crestwood split their two regular season meetings, Waukon winning 42-31 and Crestwood prevailing 56-53.

Fifth-seeded Waukon is now headed to the semifinals against top-seeded North Polk at 1:30 p.m. Thursday with a 19-3 record. Crestwood finishes 15-6.