

Marion is tough to beat just about any time. When the Indians are making their 3-pointers, it's almost impossible.

Three players scored in double figures and defending champion Marion knocked down 13 of 26 3-point shots in rolling past Mason City 75-54 to reach the Class 4A title game for the third straight year. The Indians will face North Scott in a rematch of the 2017 4A state title game, which North Scott won in overtime.

Ahead 32-23 at halftime, Marion hit five of its first seven attempts from long range in the third quarter in stretching its lead to 55-38 and it was never closer than 15 after that.

Marion did the same thing against Cedar Rapids Xavier in the quarterfinals, going 12-for-24 from 3-pointer range in a 70-35 win. The Indians now have won 73 of their last 76 games and will take a 23-1 record into the championship game at 3 p.m. Saturday.

One of those recent losses was to North Scott in the 2017 state championship game. The Indians beat Grinnell in last year's title game to finish 26-0.

Kayba Laube led the way against Mason City with 20 points, Ella Van Weelden had 16 points and 15 rebounds and Riley Wright scored 14. Leah Van Weelden and Sadie Struchen each scored nine for the Indians.

Ella Van Weelden finished 5-for-10 from 3-point range and five other Marion players made at least one 3.

University of Iowa recruit Megan Meyer hit six 3-pointers in leading Mason City with 23 points. Anna Lensing and Anna Deets each scored 11 for the Mohawks, who could not stretch their defense enough to cover all Marion shooters -- a problem that faces every team the Indians play.

Mason City, the 2016 state champion, finishes 16-9. Until this one, all of the Mohawks' losses had been to 5A schools.