



FIGHTING SAINTS TO OPEN PLAYOFFS AGAINST TEAM USA **Quest to repeat as USHL champions begins Monday in Dubuque**

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DUBUQUE, IOWA – A victory by the Indiana Ice has confirmed the Dubuque Fighting Saints' plans for next week.

The Ice has defeated Team USA tonight in Indianapolis 3-2. This clinches second place for the Ice in the United States Hockey League's Eastern Conference, as well as a first-round bye in the USHL's Clark Cup Playoffs. This also locks the Fighting Saints into third place in the conference.

The Fighting Saints begin their defense of the Clark Cup by playing sixth-place Team USA in the first round of the playoffs. The best-of-three series begins Monday at Mystique Community Ice Center. The second game also takes place in Dubuque on Tuesday. If necessary, then the third game would follow Wednesday at MCIC. The puck drops at 7:05 each night. The Fighting Saints have won four out of five meetings with Team USA this season.

Should the Fighting Saints advance, they would face the Ice in an Eastern Conference semifinal series. That series would begin in Indiana next weekend. The Fighting Saints and Ice each have two wins against each other this season.

The Fighting Saints finish the regular season by hosting the Chicago Steel on Friday night and the Muskegon Lumberjacks on Saturday night. Both games begin at 7:05. For tickets to these games and the ones for the playoffs, call (563) 583-6880. Fans can also buy tickets in person at Mystique Community Ice Center from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday, as well as on game nights until the start of the second period. Additionally, they can purchase them at any time at DubuqueFightingSaints.com.