

No.2 Saints earn trip to state soccer

Written by Metro Sports Report

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Luke Koechner fired in two goals Saturday as the Xavier Saints blanked Clear Creek-Amana, 4-0, in the Class 2A substate finals at Heco Field.

The second-ranked Saints (14-2) will face seventh-ranked ADM (16-4) in the opening round of the state soccer tournament Thursday at 2:35 p.m. in Des Moines.

Xavier has won six state titles in 2004, 2005, 2006, 2010, 2011 and 2013.

Koechner gave the Saints an early 1-0 lead on an assist from Stephen Jones. Will Hanigan made it 2-0 with an assist from Luke Duball, then Koechner scored again on an assist from Duball to make it 3-0 at halftime.

Josh Hoffmann finished the scoring in the second half with an assist from Daniel Richardson.

Jordan Even and Richardson shared time in goal for Xavier.

The other first-round games at the Class 2A state tournament feature Sioux City Heelan (15-1) against South Tama (15-4), DeWitt Central (17-1) against Perry (16-3), and Norwalk (15-3) against Waverly-Shell Rock (16-0).