

Belmont draws Vandy in regional opener

Written by Metro Sports Report

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Belmont University, led by former Cedar Rapids Xavier prep Nate Woods, will play Vanderbilt on Friday in the first round of the NCAA regional baseball tournament.

Belmont (36-24), which earned its first bid to the NCAA tournament by winning the Atlantic Sun Conference tournament, is the No. 4 seed in the regional and Vanderbilt is No. 1. Both schools are located in Nashville, Tenn. Vanderbilt (47-10) is the host school for the four-team regional. Also in the field for the double-elimination tournament are No. 2 seed Oklahoma State (35-23) and No. 3 seed Troy (42-17).

Belmont and Vanderbilt met once during the season and Vanderbilt won, 6-2, at home on Feb. 23. The Bruins did not play Oklahoma State or Troy.

Vanderbilt finished second to Florida in the SEC tournament. The Commodores are the overall No. 6 seed in the 64-team tournament.

Regional winners advance to the super regionals, where they play a best 2-of-3 series. The eight super regional winners advance to the College World Series, June 18-29, at Omaha's new TD Ameritrade Park.