

HAAC Softball Tournament Begins Today

Peru, Neb.) – The Heart of America Athletic Conference (HAAC) has announced the first round pairings for the 2012 Softball Tournament. The quarterfinals will begin this Friday, April 27, at home sites for the top four seeds.

Central Methodist University (CMU) earned the top seed and will host the eighth-seeded Benedictine College (BC) Ravens at 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. CMU finished the HAAC season with a 16-2 record and 35-12 overall. BC finished 6-12 and 13-30.

Earning the second seed was Evangel University and the Crusaders will host seventh-seeded Missouri Valley College (MVC). The Crusaders and the Vikings will begin play at 3 p.m. on Friday. Evangel's HAAC record was 12-6 while MVC finished at 7-11. Overall, the Crusaders were 31-11 while Mo Valley was 15-20.

Gaining the third seed was Graceland University, whom finished 12-6 in the HAAC and 21-17 overall. The YellowJackets will host MidAmerica Nazarene University (9-9, 18-15) on Friday with their double header starting at 2 p.m.

Peru State, the fifth seed, will travel to Baldwin City, Kan., to face the Baker University Wildcats. Game time for the Bobcats and Wildcats is scheduled for 4 p.m. In their first year in the HAAC, the Bobcats finished 10-8 and 29-23 for the regular season. Baker was 11-7 and 21-16.

The winners of the quarterfinal pairings will face each other in a double elimination tournament beginning on May 4 at the Blue Valley Recreational Complex in Olathe, Kan. Games are scheduled to be played at 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. on Friday. The first game on Saturday is scheduled for noon with the championship game scheduled for 2 p.m. If necessary, a second championship game would follow at 4 p.m.