

By EARL WATT

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With two regular season games remaining, the playoff picture for the Liberal Cal Ripken League is starting to emerge.



The Cardinals have locked up the No. 1 seed and will receive a bye in the first round.

The Rockies will also get a bye in the first round as the No. 2 seed.

The White Sox will hold down the No. 3 seed and will play the No. 6 seed, but that spot is yet to be determined.

The Tigers are currently the No. 4 seed and would play the No. 5 seed.

Currently, the Royals and A's are tied for the fifth and sixth seeds with 2-7 records.

Both will play the first place Cardinals before Saturday. If the Royals or A's upset the Cardinals, they could break the tie.

What makes the tie even more confusing is that both teams split the regular season with the A's winning the first match-up 13-9, and the Royals winning the second, 12-10.

The A's could make the case that their margin of victory was greater.

Another tie-breaking scenario could be the strength of their second victories. The Royals defeated the fourth-place Tigers while the A's knocked off the second-place Rockies.

Or, they could flip a coin.

Either way, the White Sox, Tigers, Royals and A's will play Saturday in the first round of the post-season tournament at Rosel Field. The time has yet to be determined.

The losers will be eliminated.

The winner of the White Sox game will play the Rockies while the winner of the remaining game will play the Cardinals. Both games take place Monday.