Virginia Tech’s baseball program will bite off quite a chunk of the NCAA’s elite next spring when it participates in a round-robin tournament at Nashville in late March.

Instead of taking the spring break to travel in Georgia and South Carolina as usual, the Gobblers will participate in an invitational run by Vanderbilt.

Defending NCAA champion Arizona State and NCAA participants Oklahoma, Miami of Ohio and South Alabama are in the eight-team field. In addition, defending NAIA champ David Lipscomb is another participating team.

Virginia Tech Coach Bob Humphreys, it’s understood, put only one stipulation on his team’s visit. Since clubs play

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all but one of seven days, Humphreys insisted his team be off Saturday so that he could attend the Grand Ole Opry.

The tournament is scheduled to be the first event in a new baseball stadium being built to house a professional baseball team.