MCC baseball wins NJCAA Division II national title

azcentral sports 10:45 p.m. MST May 31, 2014

Mesa Community College topped Hinds, Miss., 9-7 in 12 innings to capture the National Junior College Athletic Association Division II title at David Allen Memorial Ballpark in Enid, Okla., on Saturday night.

Mesa (52-13), after opening the double-elimination national tournament with a loss, battled its way through the losers' bracket to reach the title game.

Mesa took a 5-0 lead early in the championship game but had to rely on late-inning heroics, and ace **Joseph Carvalho** closed out the game after Hinds had put the winning runner on base.

Mesa had defeated Hinds 12-0 earlier in the tournament, and Hinds beat Madison (Wisc.) to reach the title game.

It's the fourth baseball championship in school history for the Thunderbirds, who also won it all in 1970-72.

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