

Talladega (39-15 overall) edged previously 1-0 Bluefield State (31-15) 3-2 to remain unbeaten in Game 7 of the Black College Baseball World Series presented by Tyson Foods at Riverwalk Park – home of the of the Class AA Montgomery Biscuits – Friday.

Talladega effectively used four different pitchers to stifle BSU's hard-hitting attack. Third hurler Jack Wood (1-0) worked 2 1/3 innings as the winning pitcher with a save (his fourth) from bullpen ace Juan de Dios. Bluefield State opening moundman Alex Kanipe (8-3 overall) tossed capably for six innings with a tournament-individual-best nine strikeouts before yielding to losing pitcher Tahraun Hammond (3-1) in the seventh.

The Tornadoes Allen Morel broke up a 0-0 pitchers' duel in the bottom of the fifth inning with his second home run of the season – a 350-foot solo blast to left field to stake TC to a mid-game 1-0 advantage. BSU countered with an RBI single with two outs in the next inning to knot the skirmish.

TC again tied the game 2-2 before a game-winning RBI by Jeriel Lamboy in the bottom of the eighth.

The second dual-team pitching gem of the day produced 18 strikeouts (11 by Talladega pitchers) and just 13 safeties among the two teams that entered the contest at 2-0.

Talladega also learned Thursday that it will be playing in the NAIA Shreveport, La., Regional against upstart Blue (Miss.) Mountain Christian (31-21) next Thursday. BMCU is making its first postseason baseball trek in school history.

The undefeated winning team advances to Saturday's 2 p.m. (CDT) championship contest against the winner of Friday night's Game 9 between Bluefield State and the winner of Friday's elimination tilt between Edward Waters (playing its eighth game in eight days).

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