

Orange 12U baseball wins Monte Irvin title

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The Orange Recreation 12U Monte Irvin All-Stars defeated the Hillside Braves, 15-5, to win the second annual Monte Irvin Inner City Invitational Baseball Tournament championship on June 29 at Metcalf Park in Orange.

For Monte Irvin, Darryn Stewart (3-for-3, two doubles, three runs, RBI), Shamil Roberts (2-for-2, home run, double, two RBI), Gerson Hierro (2-for-2, triple, two runs, RBI) and Shukri Cotton (2-for-3, run, two RBI) led the offense. Darius Moses pitched four innings, giving up one earned run.

To get to the championship game, Orange defeated Newark West Ward, 16-6, Irvington, 17-10, and Trenton, 16-11. "This tournament has really grown over the past two years," said Orange Recreation supervisor Keith Pressey. "And we've already gotten commitments from teams to play next year."

The Monte Irvin Tournament is also the Metropolitan Junior Baseball League's New Jersey State Championship tournament, so the team from Orange will represent New Jersey at the MJBL World Series Aug. 5-9 in Greensboro, N.C. For more MJBL information, visit www.mjbl.org.

"The MJBL tie-in has really taken the Monte Irvin tournament to a new level," said tournament director Wally Boyett. "Next year, we will expand the tournament to include 15U and 18U divisions and we envision hosting teams from every corner of the state."