

Bumgarner Drops Heartbreaker

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It's been a year of frustration and what ifs for Madison Bumgarner.

Bumgarner, who remains winless early in this 2011 season, dropped a 2-0 decision against the Washington Nationals Monday night at Nationals Park in Washington, DC. Bumgarner, who was stellar for six-plus innings, was victimized by a ground ball, a flare off the bat of Ian Desmond, a run-scoring single by Michael Morse, and an RBI double by Jerry Hairston in the seventh inning. And all of this coming with two outs in the frame.

Despite that breakdown in the seventh, Bumgarner had impressive numbers. He coughed up two earned runs on five hits, walked one and struck out seven. The loss leaves Bumgarner with an 0-5 record and a no-decision through his first six appearances of the year. Sadly, Bumgarner suffered the loss with his father, who was celebrating a birthday, in attendance.

But the Giants, who have been anemic offensively this season, didn't give Bumgarner any run support again. The Giants only made three hits and left four men on base. They wasted a golden opportunity in the first inning when Aaron Rowand led the game off with a double, but the Giants couldn't bring him home. In Bumgarner's six appearances this season, the Giants have scored all of eight runs for an average of 1.3 runs-per-game. And the Giants have been shut out in his last two outings. As a matter of fact, the Giants have been blanked three times in their last six games. The Giants were shut out only three times all of last season.

The Giants travel to New York to play the Mets on Tuesday; Bumgarner won't pitch again until Saturday when the Giants return home to play Colorado.