

Bumgarner earns first Major League win

Written by Mike Kelly

Wednesday, 07 July 2010 12:11

It took a while, but when the moment arrived, it was certainly gratifying.

Madison Bumgarner, who played his high-school baseball at South Caldwell in Sawmills, finally cracked the win column at the Major-League level. It happened Tuesday night as he led the San Francisco Giants to a 6-1 win against the Milwaukee Brewers at Millers Park.

The former Spartans went eight innings, gave up no runs on three hits, struck out five and walked three. He threw 115 pitches and improved his record to 1-2 on the year. It was Bumgarner's fourth Major-League start, and his third this season.

Bumgarner was also 1-4 at the plate and drove in a run. Bumgarner, who was recalled from Class AAA Fresno in the Pacific Coast League on June 26, got off to a slow start. His earned-run-average was well over six during spring training, earning him a demotion to triple-A. But the lefthander gradually worked out the kinks and marched his way to the big-league club. Bumgarner, who was selected by the Giants with the tenth pick in the first round of the Major League draft in 2007, was 7-1 with a 3.16 ERA at Fresno. He gave up 29 earned runs in 82-plus innings of work, and he struck out 59 men and walked 22. During his professional career in the minors, Bumgarner is 34-6 with a 2.00 ERA. In 355 2/3 innings of work, he's given up 79 earned runs, he has 315 strikeouts and he's only walked 77 men. In seven appearances with the Giants, including four starts, Bumgarner is 1-2 with a 2.53 ERA. He's given up nine earned runs in 32 innings of work with 25 strikeouts and eight walks.

During his tenure at South Caldwell, Bumgarner led the Spartans to a second-place finish his junior year and exited with a state title his senior year in 2007.