

Bumgarner, Giants eliminate Braves

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Here's a trivia question for you.

Who was the player that ended Bobby Cox's managerial career? I'll give you a hint. He was born in Hickory, he attended South Caldwell High School and led that school to a state championship his senior year, and he was the tenth player chosen in the first round of the 2007 Major League Baseball draft by the San Francisco Giants.

Give up? The answer: Madison Bumgarner. The lefthander went six innings, threw 85 pitches, coughed up two earned runs, six hits, walked one and struck out five as the Giants rallied with two runs in the seventh inning to beat the Braves 3-2 at Turner Field in Game 4 of the National League Divisional Series. The Braves were making their first playoff appearance since 2005. It was Bumgarner's first post-season win, and a memorable one it was as it also ended a great career for Bobby Cox, who led the Atlanta Braves for 25 years and was the fourth winningest manager in Major League Baseball history surpassing Sparky Anderson with 2,195 wins. He led the Braves to a World Series title in 1995.

"I love this team," Cox said/ "They gave me all they had. And I'm emotional. I was emotional when we lost the World Series. It's tough taking this uniform off and saying good-bye. But I'm taking it off and I'll never put it on again."

Cody Ross put the Giants on the board with a solo, line-drive home run in the sixth inning that broke up Derek Lowe's no-hit bid. Then he singled in the eventual winning run in the seventh.

"It feels great to move on," Bumgarner said. "Sometimes it's the offense, and other times it's the defense. This was a tough series. Every game was decided by one run, but it was a lot of fun." The Giants will play the Philadelphia Phillies in the National League Championship Series.