

Bumgarner Wins Second Straight

Written by Mike Kelly
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Madison Bumgarner picked up his second win of the year Monday afternoon as the San Francisco Giants belted the St. Louis Cardinals 7-3 at steamy Busch Stadium.

The left-hander, who received his best offensive outing of the year, went seven innings and gave up two earned runs on six hits. He struck out five and walked two as he improved to 2-6 on the year. And he lowered his once astronomical earned-run-average to 3.66.

"This feels like home, it's what I grew up playing in," said Bumgarner, who was born in Hickory and played at South Caldwell High School. "I like this weather (temperatures were in the 90's), it feels good to get out there and sweat a little bit."

Bumgarner has given up just 11 earned runs in his last eight appearances. He's has a 1.66 ERA during that stretch with 37 strikeouts and 12 walks allowed in 46 2/3 innings of work. Andres Torres homered and drove in four runs for the Giants on Monday afternoon; Cody Ross homered as well. And Bumgarner helped himself at the plate going 1-2 with a walk and two runs scored.

The win moves San Francisco (29-24) into a first-place tie with Arizona in the National League West. The Diamondbacks were playing Florida late Monday night.

Bumgarner's next scheduled start comes on Saturday when the Giants return home to play the Colorado Rockies.