

Spartan Nation Finishes Strong, Headed to Playoffs for Third Straight Year

By Victor Olivares

Casa Grande, AZ- On senior night the #4 ranked Spartans won big, beating the visiting #18 ranked Walden Grove Wolves 10-0 in five innings. Senior starting pitcher Adam Belloc (4-1) pitched a complete game shutout, giving up only one hit and striking out 8 Wolves. Assistant coach Victor Olivares said that Belloc “was sharp today, after that first inning he settled down and got in a nice rhythm. He trusted his defense and his catcher and took care of business”.

Vista Grande got on the board in the second inning when senior Tank Rodriguez doubled to left center and sophomore Anthony Bolanos singled to score courtesy runner Erubiel Ozuna. Bolanos advanced to second on the throw and scored on senior Juan Martinez single to center field. After a Kenyata Diamond single, freshman Emilio Barreras reached on an error which scored Martinez and Diamond to make it 4-0 Spartans after 2 innings.

The Spartans added another run in the third inning. Senior Marco Ozuna drew a leadoff walk and ended up scoring on a Bolanos sacrifice fly to right field. In the fourth inning after walks to Martinez and Barreras, Belloc, Anthony Garcia and M. Ozuna had back to back to back RBI singles to make the score 8-0, Spartans.

In the fifth, pinch hitter Guapo Armenta and senior Jaydon Moreno had infield singles and with two outs, Barreras doubled them in to ten run rule Walden Grove.

The Vista Grande Spartans finished the season with an overall record of 17-8 and finished with a 7-3 region record. They will be heading to the playoffs for their third straight year. The 17 wins is a record high for both Vista Grande High School and Head Coach Harley Grigg. This year is also a record for lowest ranking for the Spartans as they were ranked #4 in 4A for several weeks.

The last two years Vista Grande lost in the play in round, having to travel to the lower seed. This year the Spartans will host their first playoff game in school’s history and might even bypass the play in round if they finish in the Top-8. Official and final ranking will be posted today April 23, 2019 around 2:30 PM.

~Spartan Nation~