

Wolfpack punch return ticket to playoffs with win at Chaparral:

	<u>R:</u>	<u>H:</u>	<u>E:</u>
Great Oak (18-8-1 Overall, 9-5 SW League):	0-0-0-1-2-3-1=7	11	1
Chaparral (16-9 Overall, 6-8 SW League):	0-0-0-0-1-0-0=1	2	1

By: Derryl Trujillo
Inland Sports Senior Writer

Temecula, CA (Chaparral High School)-

It is a fact of life in CIF-SS play that sometimes teams which are ranked by their division coaches polls miss the postseason due to poor finishes in league and lack of extra spots. This was a very real possibility for both Great Oak & Chaparral's baseball teams entering Wednesday afternoon's game on the corner of Allen Craig Dr & Winchester Rd. Starting pitchers Andrew Mosiello & Cameron Mabee were locked in a pitcher's duel for three innings combining to strike out ten batters and allow just five baserunners (four walks and a single). Then once Great Oak scored they kept scoring to the tune of seven runs on eleven hits (all after the third) and defeated Chaparral 7-1 punching a return to postseason play.

Mabee said about his afternoon's work "I just gave them a steady diet of fastballs and once they caught up to it I went to either a slider or curveball and stayed in control. From where we were last year (missing playoffs) to today (playoff qualified, top five seed in division, and probable home game to start) is quite the turnaround for one year."

In the Wolfpack fourth inning Ethan Wayer reached base via a leadoff infield single and was moved to second base on Isaiah Lopez' sacrifice bunt. Jared Fisher's opposite field single gave Great Oak runners on the corners with just one out. Jonah Sebring reached base on a fielder's choice scoring Wayer and putting the Wolfpack up 1-0. Mosiello got Jessie Dickens to groundout keeping it a one run deficit for Chaparral.

After retiring Chaparral in order during their half of the fourth Great Oak struck for two more runs in the fifth inning. Zach Arnold was walked and Josh Paino laid down an excellent bunt to give the Wolfpack runners on first and second with no outs. Mabee then had an RBI single scoring Arnold and advanced to second on an error by Zach Ernisse in center field. Paino scored on the error. A double play kept Chaparral within distance trailing 3-0.

Rheego McIntosh had a bloop single to right field leading off the Puma 5th inning. Sam Krueger entered as a pinch runner and came around to score on a passed ball. Ernisse struck out to end the inning.

A single from Luke Jepsen led off the Great Oak sixth inning. After a sacrifice bunt Arnold was intentionally walked and Paino also reached via walk to load the bases. Mabee then walked to

score a run & the Wolfpack got two more runs on a grounder to Jason Mannino which resulted in an error.

One more run scored in the Great Oak seventh as Arnold recorded an RBI single to shortstop which scored Jonah Sebring. Mabee got the first two outs on a groundout and flyout before walking his counterpart Mosiello and was nineteen pitches from his limit before yielding to Blake Bambrick who recorded a foul tip out to end it.

Wolfpack coach Eric Morton remarked about the win "After the Vista Murrieta series we were 3-5 in league and the guys on their own called a 12pm team meeting prior to a tournament championship game. They talked about making the game fun again and seeing what happens. From that point forward we've been a different group. I thought today started playoffs especially facing a quality pitcher like Andrew in the win and you're in scenario. Once we started to focus on ground balls offensively the runs just started coming."

Wolfpack Notables:

WP: Mabee, Cameron

6 $\frac{2}{3}$ IP, 7 K's, 4 BB's, 2 Hits

At the plate>1-4 w 2 RBI

Josh Paino>2-4

Evan Wayer>2-4

Luke Jepsen>2-4

Jonah Sebring>2-4 w an RBI

Chaparral Notables:

LP: Mosiello, Andrew CG, 7 Hits, 5 BB's