





Pats complete season sweep of Bengals

The Miyamura Patriots never loosened their defensive grip on the Gallup Bengals and sailed to a 10-2 win April 22 in a boys prep baseball game at Miyamura High School. The win was the second for the Patriots against Gallup this season. Miyamura mercy-ruled Gallup 17-0 on April 11 in a game played at Gallup High School.

“This was about defense,” Patriots’ head coach Brian Silva said. “We could have hit the ball a little better, but I was very pleased with our defensive effort in this game.”

The win tied Miyamura (13-8, 6-2) with a record of 7-2 in District 1-5A play. Aztec was sitting at 7-2 and the Tigers played Farmington (13-10, 6-1) this week beat the Scorpions 5-4. The Patriots played Kirtland Central (13-9, 3-4). The Broncos are the sole team to be Miyamura in 5A play this season and beat Miyamura again 5-3 April 25. The Broncos won the first game at Gallup 5-4.

Saturday's game looked to be Miyamura's from the start. The Patriots led 7-0 after three and appeared to be coasting into the fourth and latter innings. The only early scare the Patriots got was when freshman superstar outfielder Lance Evans got hit in the face by accident with the ball.

Junior Brandon Vidal and junior Matt Chavez scored in the first, with Vidal coming in on a pop fly by junior Giovanni Chioda and Chavez picking up a run on an error.

The Patriots scored five runs in the third inning. Vidal hit a double to score senior Brett McFarland. Chioda hit a sacrifice fly and Vidal came home. Senior Daniel McDonald scored on a Vidal fly ball to right field for another Patriots run.

Meanwhile, Gallup painstakingly kept at it trying to get somebody on base. The Bengals got their first runner on base in the fourth inning when Kevin Stewart benefitted from a lead-off walk.

Bengals head coach Martin Arias remained optimistic throughout the game, though. "If we eliminate errors and some mental and physical mistakes, you're talking about a different ball game," Arias said. "We put forth a very good effort."

Marc Rios started at pitcher for Miyamura and recorded 10 strikeouts while giving up just two runs. Senior Tyler Sanchez started for the Bengals and threw two strikeouts and gave up 10 runs. Both pitchers threw complete games.

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