

Campesinos clinch regular season crown

BY MATT RAWLINGS
Of the Keizertimes

There may still be two weeks left in the regular season, but the Campesinos can already call themselves champions.

After going up 10-0 in the third inning, the Mavericks staged a wild comeback in the final seven frames. But it wasn't enough as the Campesinos took home the 14-11 victory on Thursday, Aug. 12, officially clinching the inaugural Mavericks League regular season championship and the top seed in the postseason — which will take place Sept. 2-4.

“This has been a special season, and I am glad our guys are staying in the moment and enjoying every chance they get to come to the ballpark,” Campesinos manager Daniel Robertson said.

“This is a phenomenal group of guys to play with. We knew where we wanted to be at the end of the season. We knew it was going to take the work to get here and that’s what we did. I’ve never seen a group of guys that grind like us,” added Campesinos outfielder Joseph Nunn Jr.

Both teams went scoreless in the first frame, but in the bottom of the second, the Campesinos offense began to put their mark on this game.

Back-to-back hits by Trevor Morrison and Eric Whitfield gave the Campesinos two runners in



Drew Bayard drives a ball to the outfield in the third inning of the Campesinos 14-11 win over the Mavericks. Photo by MATT RAWLINGS of Keizertimes

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scoring position. After an RBI-groundout by Sergio Rey, the Campesinos took advantage of a pair of Mavericks errors to put two more on the board. Moments later, another RBI-groundout, this time courtesy of Patrick Chung, put the Campesinos up 4-0.

In the bottom of the third, Nunn knocked a two-run double into the left-center field alley to extend the lead to 6-0.

“The key for me was to attack

early, watch for balls in the dirt. I know he wasn’t coming with anything too overpowering, so I scooted up in the box a little and looked for something middle-away. Next pitch, that’s what I got and hit a double to left-center,”

Nunn said.

Nick Ybarra followed with a two-run double of his own to make the score 8-0. After an RBI-hit by Chung, Mavericks manager Jon Embree took starter Garrett Alvarez out of the game



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