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"We play for Something"

More mature Burriss returns home

Giants second baseman enjoys second trip to DC

***** Current MLB Star Manny Burriss played in the CGL in 2003 and 2004 for the Vienna Senators. *****

From MLB.com:

By Jeff Seidel / Special to MLB.com

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WASHINGTON -- Emmanuel Burriss may play for the Giants, but he'll always be very popular in Washington.

The Giants second baseman became the first product of the District's public school system to make the Major Leagues since 1981 when he made it last year. This is his second trip back to town, and Burriss loves to return.

"It's a lot of fun, the opportunity to spend time with my parents and get to see my son and all my friends," Burriss said before Tuesday's series opener with the Nationals. "It's always fun."

Burriss was a bit of a novelty last year when he came back to Washington in early June. He had started earning some playing time in a part-time role and got a lot of local press for being the first player from the city to earn a spot in the Majors since Willie Royster did it with the Orioles in 1981.

But it's a little different now. Burriss has become the team's starting second baseman, the only Giant to have played in all 50 games, and posted a solid .271 average. He also leads the team with 11 steals.

"It was a big deal the first time," Burriss said. "The second time around, it's going to be a little bit easier. I think it's awesome. You're not going to find that much humidity like this anywhere else -- it's kind of good to see it again."

Giants manager Bruce Bochy said that he sees Burriss growing as a hitter and really helping the team in many ways.

"He competed for a job in Spring Training and handled that well," Bochy said. "He's grown quite a bit. He got off to a rough start, and it's not easy for a young player. To his credit, he's worked hard and found his stroke there and started swinging well. The defense has been solid all year for us."

But Burriss loves to remember where he came from. He got a chance to go through the District on Tuesday, and it stirred some emotions.

"Riding around today I saw some of the fields I used to play at," Burriss said. "It's kind of moving, being back here in the city at the biggest level of baseball."



Manny is currently batting .273 with 17 runs scored and 12 rbi . Manny also has 12 stolen bases and he has played in all 52 games for the Gints in 2009.