

'Hoppers spring to 4-2 win against 'Dads

Written by Staff Reports
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Despite a late-game comeback, the Hickory Crawdads fell to the Greensboro Grasshoppers, 4-2, before 7,224 fans at NewBridge Bank Park in Greensboro on Thursday night.

The Grasshoppers (14-12) got out to an early lead thanks to an unearned run in the bottom of the first. Isaac Galloway reached on an error to start the frame, then later scored from first on a two-out RBI double by Christian Yelich. Ramon Mendez dug in and kept the Grasshoppers from adding to their lead through the next four innings until Greensboro doubled its advantage in the bottom of the sixth.

Mark Canha drove the inning's first pitch over the left field wall for the solo shot and 2-0 lead. The Crawdads finally got on the board against starter Zach Neal in the top of the 7th. With two outs and no one on, Kellin Deglan belted his first homer of the season to cut the deficit to 2-1. Hickory tied it up with a run in the eighth.

Jurickson Profar led off the eighth with a walk, before he rambled from first to third on a sacrifice bunt by Odubel Herrera that drew in third baseman Ryan Fisher and left that bag uncovered. Profar then raced home on a wild pitch, tying it at 2-2.

However, the Grasshoppers moved right back in front with a pair of tallies in the bottom of the eighth scoring on a wild pitch and an RBI grounder by Brian McConkey. Greensboro Sean Watson took over on the mound for the top of the ninth and closed out the 4-2 win for Greensboro, earning his seventh save of the season.

NOTES: The Crawdads take on the Grasshoppers in Greensboro on Friday at 7 p.m. Hickory will return home to start a seven-game homestand on Friday, May 13 against the Augusta GreenJackets at 7 p.m. It will be Friday the 13th and Halloween Night, with all fans wearing a Halloween costume receiving a FREE ticket to the game!