

'Hoppers come back late for 4-3 win on Sunday

Written by Staff Reports
Sunday, 08 May 2011 20:15

The Greensboro Grasshoppers scored a pair of late runs in the eighth inning for the come-from-behind win, 4-3, against the Hickory Crawdads, before 3,585 fans at NewBridge Bank Park on Sunday evening.

Crawdads Matt Thompson struck out the side in the first, but Greensboro (16-13) still managed to take the lead with one run in the frame. Ryan Fisher was hit by a pitch and stole second base, before 1B Mark Canha worked a walk to join him on the bases with only one away. Christian Yelich then cracked the scoreless tie with an RBI single to score Fisher and make it 1-0.

Hickory (19-10) worked it back even, getting on the board against Robert Morey in the top of the fourth. Tomas Telis sparked the rally with a one-out single, before moving to second on a wild pitch. After Andrew Clark walked and RF Josh Richmond flied out to deep center field, Christian Villanueva ripped an RBI double to the left field corner, plating Telis and tying the game, 1-1.

Greensboro, though, moved right back in front in the bottom of the fourth. Jacob Realmuto kept the inning going with a two-out single and stole his way to second base. Noah Perio followed with a single of his own, bringing in Realmuto and putting the Grasshoppers up, 2-1.

The Crawdads again tied it with a run in the top of the seventh. With runners on the corners and two outs, RHP Alfredo Buret unleashed a wild pitch that enabled Jonathan Roof to charge in from third and tie the game at 2-2.

Hickory struck again in the top of the eighth, moving in front on the scoreboard for the first time in the game. A one-out single by Telis chased Buret from the mound and brought in Michael Ojala, who then allowed a single to Clark, putting runners at the corners. Josh Richmond promptly drove a sacrifice fly to center field, plating Telis for the 3-2 Hickory lead.

The Grasshoppers started the bottom of the eighth with a single against RHP Nick Tepesch, who had dealt two scoreless innings, and then retook the lead in the inning against losing pitcher Ryan Rodebaugh. Yelich tied it with an RBI double, before scoring the eventual game-winning run on an RBI single by RF Marcell Ozuna.

Sean Watson closed the 4-3 win for Greensboro with a scoreless bottom of the ninth, earning his ninth save of the season.

NOTES: The Crawdads head to Savannah on Monday at 7:05 p.m. Hickory will return home to start a seven-game homestand on Friday, May 13 against the Augusta GreenJackets at 7 p.m. Don't miss a special appearance by Breakin' BBoy McCoy as he entertains fans of all ages during the game! It will also be Friday the 13th and Halloween Night, with all fans wearing a Halloween costume receiving a FREE ticket to the game!

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