

Villanueva drives in RBI, North All-Stars Fall, 6-3

Written by Staff Reports

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The 1st-Half Northern Division Champion Hickory Crawdads were represented by RHP Roman Mendez, 3B Christian Villanueva, who drove in an RBI, and C Tomas Telis in Tuesday's 2011 South Atlantic League All-Star Game.

The Southern Division put together a five-run, third inning rally en route to a 6-3 win against the Northern Division before 7,410 fans at Arthur W. Perdue Stadium in Salisbury, Maryland, the home of the Delmarva Shorebirds. Mendez was the first Crawdad to appear in the All-Star Game, taking over on the mound in the top of the third inning. The Southern Division welcomed Mendez to the hill with a five-run rally. Bryce Massanari of the Asheville Tourists drove in a run with a fielder's choice and Adam Duvall of the Augusta GreenJackets Corey Vaughn Savannah Sand Gnats both went deep with a man on. The big inning gave the Southern Division a 5-2 lead.

Telis and Villanueva both entered the game as defensive replacements in the top of the fifth inning, with the Northern Division trailing, 6-2. Villanueva grounded out in his first at-bat in the bottom of the fifth, but then drove in Brady Shoemaker of the Kannapolis Intimidators in the bottom of the seventh with an RBI single, which cut the deficit in half at 6-3. Telis was 0-for-1 with a fly out.

Mendez was tagged with the loss; Edwar Cabrera of the Asheville Tourists got the win for the Southern Division with a scoreless second inning of work.

NOTES: The 1st-Half Division Champion Crawdads start the second half of the season this Thursday at L.P. Frans Stadium, when they host the West Virginia Power for Thirsty Thursday at 7 p.m., presented by Buffalo Wild Wings. Don't miss \$1 can beers and Pepsis, as well as a post-game concert by Soul Watt. It will also be U.S. Air Force Night! Gates open at 6 p.m.