

'Dads Sweep DH Monday

Written by Staff Reports

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The Hickory Crawdads seized control of 1st Place in the 2nd-Half standings with a doubleheader sweep against the Lakewood BlueClaws -- 3-2 in Game 1 and 4-1 in Game 2 -- before 8,380 fans at FirstEnergy Park on Monday night.

In game one, the Crawdads (76-53, 36-25) with a pair of runs in the top of the third. Jurickson Profar walked and Tomas Telis belted a two-run homer one out later putting the 'Dads in the 2-0 lead.

Lakewood (66-63, 33-28) tied it up with a run in the third and another run in the fourth. Zach Collier got the BlueClaws on the board with an RBI single in the third; Bill Rice tied it with an RBI triple in the fourth.

The 'Dads moved back in front in the top of the sixth. Josh Richmond singled his way on with one out and moved to second on a sacrifice bunt. Kellin Deglan walked, putting runners at first and second. Richmond stole third base and he scored on an RBI infield single by Jhonny Gomez snapping the tie and giving Hickory a 3-2 lead.

Ben Rowen (5-4) got the win in relief; Francisco Mendoza picked up his seventh save.

In game two, Hickory (77-53, 37-25) jumped on top again with a run in the top of the second. With one out, Clark Murphy, Jhonny Gomez and Braxton Lane drew consecutive walks to load the bases. Jurickson Profar brought home Richmond with a sacrifice fly to center field giving the 'Dads the early 1-0 advantage.

Profar struck again with a two-run double in the top of the fourth, making it 3-0. Winning pitcher Luke Jackson (5-5) held Lakewood (66-64; 33-29) hitless through the first four innings. The BlueClaws finally got on the board in the bottom of the fifth. Carlos Perdomo broke up the no-hit bid with a leadoff triple and he scored on an RBI single by Bill Rice making it 3-1.

But the Crawdads made it 4-1 with a run in the top of the sixth. Lane drew another walk to start the inning. He stole second base, and a throwing error by catcher Jeff Lanning, allowed Lane to take third base. One out later, Jake Skole placed an RBI single to shallow left field that scored Lane from third.

NOTES: The Crawdads wrap up the series in Lakewood with a doubleheader on Tuesday at 5:05 p.m.....The 'Dads return to L.P. Frans Stadium for their final regular season home series from Thurs., Sept. 1 - Mon., Sept. 5, before the playoffs come to town! The series against Greenville gets going with Thirsty Thursday, presented by Buffalo Wild Wings, on Thurs., Sept. 1 at 7 p.m. Enjoy \$1 can beers and fountain Pepsis, as well as a post-game concert by Norva Jean Dreams!