

## 'Gnats avoid sweep against 'Dads in series finale

Written by Staff Reports  
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The Hickory Crawdads won the four-game series but dropped the finale, 6-1, against the Savannah Sand Gnats, before 2,112 fans at L.P. Frans Stadium on Thursday night.

After the Sand Gnats (2-5) got in front with a pair of unearned runs against RHP Nick Tepesch (L, 0-1) in the fourth, Hickory answered with a run of its own in the bottom of the frame. SS Jurickson Profar ripped a triple to start the inning, before being promptly plated by an RBI single from DH Tomas Telis, cutting the deficit to 2-1.

RHP Braden Tullis took over for the 'Dads and tossed a scoreless fifth and sixth, but Savannah stretched the lead with a four-run seventh. The inning started with a solo shot from C Albert Cordero and was highlighted by an RBI double from LF Alonzo Harris and RBI singles by DH Robbie Shields and 1B Sam Honeck, making it 6-1.

Savannah RHP Ryan Fraser took over for starter RHP Taylor Whitenton (W, 1-0) and tossed four scoreless innings to close out the victory for the Sand Gnats and earn his first save of the season.

Crawdads RHP Zach Osborne and RHP Ryan Rodebaugh each dealt a scoreless inning in relief.

□ **NOTES:** The 'Dads hit the road for the first time this season for a nine-game road trip, starting in Kannapolis on Friday night at 7:05 p.m. Catch all the action live on The Big Dawg 92.1FM and Hickorycrawdads.com, and tune in 15 minutes before First Pitch for Crawdads Countdown.

The 'Dads return home for a nine-game homestand on Monday, April 25 against the Augusta GreenJackets! It will be 2-for-1 Senior Night. Also, all kids get to eat for free with a ticket purchase. First Pitch is 7 p.m., gates open at 6 p.m.