

'Hoppers top 'Dads in 11 innings, 3-2

Written by Staff Reports
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The Hickory Crawdads tied the game in the eighth to force extra innings, but ended up falling to the Greensboro Grasshoppers, 3-2, in 11 frames, before 2,772 fans at L.P. Frans Stadium on Thursday night.

Hickory grabbed an early 1-0 lead by scoring a run in the bottom of the second inning. Andrew Clark singled to right field and advanced a to third on a double by Josh Richmond. Christian Villanueva then drove in Clark with a sacrifice fly.

The Grasshoppers came right back in the top of the fourth. Isaac Galloway led off with a double, he took third on a fly ball to center-field, and he scored on Christian Yelich's RBI ground ball out, tying the score at 1-1.

Greensboro took the lead on a solo home run by James Wooster, putting the Grasshoppers in the fifth. Trailing 2-1, the Crawdads finally tied up the game in the bottom of the eighth. Villanueva singled with one out and promptly stole second base. One out later, Jhonny Gomez delivered a pinch-hit, two-out run-scoing single to left-center field, scoring Villanueva and tying the game, 2-2.

The game went to extra innings, and Greensboro took the lead for good on a solo home run by Ryan Fisher leading off the 11th. Losing pitcher Ryan Rodebaugh was victimized on the play. The Crawdads went down quietly in ther half of the 11th.

NOTES: The Crawdads hit the road for a four-game series against the Rome Braves, starting on Friday night at 7 p.m. The 'Dads return to L.P. Frans to kick off a four-game home series against the Charleston River Dogs on Wed., May 25 at 7 p.m.! It will be Bald is Beautiful Night, with all bald fans getting a Half Off ticket! Also, as part of Guaranteed WINSdays, if the 'Dads don't win, all fans in attendance will get a FREE ticket to a future game. Wednesday will also be Unemployment Night - bring an NCESC-issued debit card or printed online statement to the Ticket Office for four FREE tickets to the game! Gates open at 6 p.m.