

Crawdads pinch BlueClaws, 8-5

Written by Staff Reports
Monday, 06 June 2011 15:19

The Hickory Crawdads struck for six runs in the bottom of the third inning en route to the 8-5 win against the Lakewood BlueClaws before 2,992 fans at L.P. Frans Stadium on Monday afternoon.

Hickory also set a new team record with eight stolen bases, the most since April 17, 1998, when the Crawdads had six steals against the Macon Braves.

The BlueClaws (28-29) took a 1-0 lead in top of the first against winning pitcher Cody Buckel (1-2). Miguel Alvarez reached on a one-out single, and went to third on a two-base throwing error committed by Buckel on a pick off attempt. Alvarez came home to score on a two-out RBI double by Jim Murphy.

Hickory (31-26) tied things up with a run in the bottom of the second. Jake Skole reached on a bunt single to start the inning. He promptly stole second base and later scored on Odubel Herrera's RBI single that tied the game, 1-1.

The Crawdads jumped all over losing pitcher Mario Hollands (4-4) in the bottom of the third, plating six runs to take the lead. Christian Villanueva sparked the big inning by reaching on a one-out walk; Josh Richmond was hit by a pitch, and Skole scored both runners with a two-run triple that he ripped down the right-field line, making it 3-1.

Jhonny Gomez drove in Skole with an RBI single. He moved to second on a base hit by Herrera. Jonathan Roof's RBI double drove in Gomez to make it 4-1 as Herrera went to third. A sacrifice fly by Teodoro Martinez scored Herrera and an RBI single by Jurickson Profar drove in Roof, capping off the rally as the Crawdads owned a commanding 7-1 advantage.

Lakewood scored a run in the top of the fourth. Domingo Santana doubled, and then raced home on an RBI single by Aaron Altherr to cut the 'Dads lead to 7-2.

The BlueClaws scored three times in the sixth, but only two of the runs were earned as they inched a little closer at 7-5. Back-to-back walks to Murphy and Jeff Lanning got things started. Geancarlo Mendez and Santana drove in both runners with consecutive run-scoring singles, making it 7-4. Altherr's RBI fielder's choice made it 7-5.

But Ryan Rodebaugh took over on the mound and retired the next two batters to protect the lead. Hickory added some insurance with a run in the bottom of the sixth. Telis belted a one-out double and Richmond with a two-out, run-scoring double that made it 8-5.

Rodebaugh allowing one hit and struck out four through 3.2 scoreless innings to register his seventh save of the year.

NOTES: The Crawdads host the Lakewood BlueClaws for Education Day, presented by Sylvan Learning Center, Tuesday at 11 a.m. Gates open at 10 a.m.