

Crawdads Out Last Asheville, 10-7

Written by Staff Reports

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The Hickory Crawdads again tied a season-high with seven runs in the seventh frame, taking the 10-7 win against the Asheville Tourists before 1,777 fans at Historic McCormick Field in Asheville on Monday evening.

The Crawdads claimed their seventh win in the last eight games, as they now first-place Hagerstown by one game in the Northern Division in the South Atlantic League with six games remaining in the first half of the regular season. After the Tourists (30-34) got on the board with an unearned run in the bottom of the first, the Crawdads (36-27) came back to take a 2-1 lead with single runs in the third and fourth innings. Odubel Herrera tied it in the third with a run-scoring double before Christian Villanueva smacked a solo home run leading-off the fourth that made it 2-1.

The Tourists scored a pair of unearned runs in the fifth to regain the lead, 3-2; they increased that lead by scoring four times in the sixth. That outburst also knocked Nick Tepesch, the SAL Pitcher of the Week out of the game.

But the Crawdads put together their second seven-run inning in as many days in the top of the seventh. The 'Dads loaded the bases with nobody out to spark the rally. Jhonny Gomez drove in the first run with a fielder's choice. Jurickson Profar then skied an RBI double to right field that RF Kyle Parker lost in the lights, scoring LF Alejandro Selen from second base and bringing the 'Dads within three at 7-4. A balk by Gonzalez brought in Gomez from third and moved Profar to third, before Herrera belted an RBI double that plated Profar, making it a one-run game, 7-6.

Tomas Telis reached on a single and took second on a throwing error, putting runners at second and third. Herrera scored on an RBI grounder by Villanueva that was misplayed by first baseman Tyler Massey. Villanueva was safe at first and Telis moved to third on the play. An RBI single by Josh Richmond, and a sacrifice fly by Jake Skole capped the rally, giving Hickory a 9-7 lead.

Asheville loaded the bases with two outs in the bottom of the seventh, but Ryan Rodebaugh, who picked up his ninth save, squelched the rally by striking out Russell Wilson. The 'Dads added an insurance run in the eighth thanks to an RBI single by Telis.

NOTES: The Crawdads continue their series in Asheville on Tuesday at 7:05 p.m. The 'Dads return home on Thursday, June 16 against the Charleston RiverDogs. It will be Thirsty Thursday, presented by Buffalo Wild Wings with \$1 can beers and Pepsis! Also, don't miss the post-game concert by Norva Jean Dreams! First pitch is at 7 p.m., gates open at 6 p.m.