

Grasshoppers Drop 'Dads, 9-4

Written by Staff Reports
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The Greensboro Grasshoppers topped the Hickory Crawdads, 9-4, before 1,221 fans at L.P. Frans Stadium on Wednesday night.

The Crawdads (57-37, 17-9) took an early lead in the bottom of the second. The 'Dads loaded the bases with nobody out; a single and a pair of walks got things started. Greensboro countered with a double play on a comeback grounder to the mound, with no runs scoring on the play that left runners at second and third with two outs. Kellin Deglan walked to reload the bases with a walk, and an RBI walk to Jhonny Gomez gave Hickory a 1-0 lead.

The Grasshoppers (52-44, 12-14) evened things up with a run in the top of the fourth. Noah Perio reached with a leadoff double, and he scored two outs later on an RBI single by Mark Canha.

Hickory regained the lead with three runs in the bottom of the fourth. With one out, Deglan reached on a throwing error and moved to second base on a passed ball. Jurickson Profar put Hickory back on top with an RBI single to right field. Tomas Telis and Andrew Clark added RBI singles in the frame that gave the Crawdads a 4-1 lead.

Greensboro chipped away with a run in the top of the fifth. Ryan Fisher started the frame with a solo home run, cutting the 'Dads lead to 4-2. Jacob Realmuto refueled the charge with a single and raced all the way in on an RBI double by Aaron Dudley that made it 4-3.

The Grasshoppers scored three more times in the top of the sixth. With a runner at second and two outs, Realmuto drove an RBI double to spark the rally. He then scored on an RBI single by Dudley, who took second on the throw home before racing in on an RBI base single by James Wooster giving Greensboro a 6-4 advantage.

The Grasshoppers added three more runs in the top of the seventh. A single and a walk got things started for Greensboro,. Christian Yelich belted an RBI double to left-center field, plating Perio on the play. Canha walked to load the bases before Fisher dealt the final blow with a two-run single to close out the scoring.

Kenneth Toves (1-0) picked up his first win for the Grasshoppers, tossing 2 1/3 innings of scoreless relief.

NOTES: The 'Dads take on the Grasshoppers Thursday at 7 p.m. for Thirsty Thursday, featuring \$1 can beers and Pepsis, presented by Buffalo Wild Wings.....It's also Jimmy Buffett Beach Night - wear some beach gear or a bathing suit and get a Half Off Ticket! Don't miss out on \$2 cheeseburgers, \$2 Landsharks and \$1 Shock Tops, too! The Jacob Johnson Band will also be performing live after the game.....Hickory then wraps up the series against Greensboro on Friday with Friday Night Fireworks, presented by Hickory Dickory Dock. First Pitch is at 7 p.m., gates open at 6 pm.....Saturday is the annual Christian Concert Game, presented by Chick-Fil-A, 106.9 The Light and Young & Associates, ☐☐ against the Delmarva Shorebirds at 6 p.m. Don't miss the Dove Award winning band, Sidewalk Prophets, performing live after the game! All tickets are just \$12 and going fast! Gates open at 5 pm.

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