

Throwing Error Wins It for 'Dads

Written by Staff Reports
Sunday, 24 July 2011 21:45

The Hickory Crawdads, 1st-Half Northern Division Champions, took the walk-off win in the bottom of the ninth, 7-6, against the Delmarva Shorebirds, before 1,551 fans at L.P. Frans Stadium.

The Crawdads (59-39, 19-11) jumped out to an early 2-0 lead in the bottom of the first. Jurickson Profar and Jake Skole got things started with a single and a walk. Both runners advanced on a ground ball out before Profar came home on an RBI grounder by Andrew Clark; Skole moved to third. and he scored on a wild pitch moments later..

After the Shorebirds (46-54, 11-19) cut the lead in half with an RBI single by Joe Oliveira in the top of the second, Hickory countered with three runs in the bottom of the stanza. Josh Richmond led off with a walk and moved to third on a single from Odubel Herrera.

Herrera then stole second base, and Kellin Deglan drove in Richmond with a sacrifice fly to left field. One out later, Profar brought in Herrera with a two-out RBI single for a 4-1 lead. Skole's RBI double drove in Profar and the Crawdads owned a 5-1 advantage.

The Shorebirds came charging back with three runs of their own, one of which was earned. An RBI grounder by Garabez Rosa in the fourth made it 4-2. Mikey Planeta led off the fifth with a single and Ty Kelly kept the inning alive with a two-out walk. Jeremy Nowak followed with a grounder to second that got by Herrera for an error that scored Planeta. With runners at the corners, the Shorebirds pulled off a double steal with Kelly streaking home on the play bringing Delmarva within a run at 5-4.

The Crawdads picked up a run in the bottom of the seventh. Tomas Telis reached on a one-out double and stole third base. After Clark walked, Christian Villanueva drove in Telis with a sacrifice fly making it 6-4.

Francisco Mendoza dealt a scoreless eighth for the 'Dads and started the ninth by retiring the first batter in the inning. However, Brenden Webb doubled and Kelly brought him in with an RBI single making it 6-5. Jimmy Reyes (5-0), who came on in relief and got the win, took over to face Jeremy Nowak, who singled Kelly to second base. Michael Ohlman followed with a base hit loading the bases with one out. After Reyes struck out Oliveira, Garabez Rosa forced in the game-tying run with a bases-loaded walk.

But the Crawdads pulled it out with a run in the bottom of the ninth. Profar led off with an infield single followed by a walk to Skole. A sacrifice bunt by Telis was misplayed by Kelly just inside the third base line. His throw sailed past first base allowing Profar to score the winning run from second base.

NOTES: Monday night's game against the Delmarva Shorebirds features the Christmas in July promotion! Come take pictures with summer Santa, and all fans that donate a new/gently-used gift will get a FREE ticket to the game.....Monday is also Kids Eat FREE Night, with all kids getting to chow down for free with the purchase of a ticket. Additionally, Monday is 2-for-1 Senior Night, featuring bingo! First pitch is 7 p.m., gates open at 6 p.m.

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