

Shorebirds Nip 'Dads, 4-2 In Extras

Written by Staff Reports
Tuesday, 26 July 2011 06:36

The Hickory Crawdads, 1st-Half Northern Division Champions, rallied with a run in the bottom of the 10th, but the Delmarva Shorebirds hung on for the 4-2 win in extra innings, before 777 fans at L.P. Frans Stadium on Monday night.

The Crawdads (59-40, 19-12) took a 1-0 lead in the bottom of the first inning. Jurickson Profar and Jake Skole both walked to start the inning. Christian Villanueva cracked the scoreless tie with an RBI single through the left side of the infield that scored Profar. Roman Mendez kept the 'Dads in the lead, allowing a hit and two walks through his first four innings of work. Riley Hornback finally broke through in the top of the fifth as he homered to tie the game at 1-1.

Mendez concluded his outing with a perfect sixth inning before giving way to Ben Rowen (2-3). Rowen, who suffered the loss in relief, worked three scoreless innings before he was victimized in the tenth.

The Crawdads threatened to end the game in the bottom of the ninth. With runners at first and second and one out, Skole laced a single to right field. But Braxton Lane, who tried to score from second base on the play was cut down at the plate on a perfect throw by left fielder Brenden Webb.

Delmarva moved in front in the top of the 10th by scoring three unearned runs. With one out, Hornback singled; Michael Rooney then hit a potential double play ball to short, but Profar had problems picking it up and made an error that enabled both runners to reach safely. A ground ball to first advanced Hornback and Rooney to second and third before Mike Mooney belted a two-run single to make it 3-1. Mooney took second on the throw home following his base hit; he eventually scored on an RBI double by Webb that gave the Shorebirds a 4-1 lead.

The 'Dads rallied for a run in the bottom of the 10th, but David Walters (23 saves) settled the issue. Josh Richmond and Odubel Herrera had back-to-back doubles to bring the Crawdads within just two runs, 4-2 before Walters settled down.

NOTES: The 'Dads wrap up the homestand against Delmarva at noon on Tuesday. It is Summer Camp Day and the Businessperson's Special, so bring your business card to the Ticket Office for a \$5 Box Seat Ticket. Gates open at 11 am.