

Intimidators race to 7-3 win against 'Dads

Written by Staff Reports

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The 1st-Half Northern Division Champion Hickory Crawdads fell to the Kannapolis Intimidators, 7-3, before 2,222 fans at L.P. Frans Stadium on Saturday night.

The Intimidators (66-49, 29-18) got off to a red-hot start as they plated seven runs in the first two innings against losing pitcher Luke Jackson (4-4). With one away in the top of the first, Kannapolis put together six straight hits, which included RBI singles by Dan Black and Rangel Ravelo, an RBI double by Marcus Semien and a two-run homer by Trayce Thompson, accounting for the 5-0 lead after one. Semien struck again with a two-run shot in the second, stretching the advantage to 7-0.

Andrew Doyle took over on the mound to start the third inning, and kept the Intimidators from adding to their lead through his scoreless three-inning of relief.

The Crawdads (66-50, 26-22) finally got on the board in the bottom of the fifth. Jake Skole walked to start the inning and Alejandro Selen grounded one right back to the mound, but winning pitcher Phil Negus misfired past second, enabling Skole and Selen to both reach safely on the fielder's choice and throwing error. One out later, Jhonny Gomez placed an RBI single to left field scoring Skole to make it 7-1.

After Roman Mendez dealt a pair of scoreless relief innings, the Crawdads got a little closer by scoring twice in the bottom of the seventh against Terrence Marin. The 'Dads produced four straight singles. Josh Richmond and Skole started the frame with the first two base hits; Selen and Kellin Deglan followed with consecutive RBI singles to make it 7-3.

But the Kannapolis bullpen closed things out with two scoreless innings in the eighth and ninth.

NOTES: The 'Dads kick off a four-game road series against the River Dogs in Charleston on Sunday at 5:05 p.m....Hickory starts a four-game home series against the Lexington Legends this Thursday at L.P. Frans Stadium. It is Thirsty Thursday, presented by Buffalo Wild Wings, featuring \$1 can beers and fountain Pepsis....It will be Biker Night, with all fans riding a motorcycle to the game receiving a Half Off Ticket. Also, Banned on Wednesday will be performing live on the concourse after the game! First Pitch is at 7 p.m., gates open at 6 p.m.