

## Drive hang on for 4-3 win

Written by Staff Reports

Wednesday, 11 April 2012 08:07

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The Hickory Crawdads attempted a late comeback with runs in the seventh and eighth, but came up just short, 4-3, against the Greenville Drive at Fluor Field on Tuesday afternoon. For the second straight game the 'Dads (4-2) faced a rehabbing big leaguer in the first frame. Rich Hill

pitched the first inning for Greenville, and the Crawdads quickly jumped in front against him. Luis Sardinas and Chris Grayson led off with back-to-back singles, putting runners at the corners with nobody out. Hanser Alberto then bounced a grounder to second for the RBI fielder's choice, scoring Sardinas and putting Hickory up, 1-0.

The Drive (4-2) tied things up in the bottom of the third against losing pitcher Andrew Faulkner (0-1). With one on and no outs, Cody Koback doubled in the game-tying run and took third base on the play. One out later, Garin Cecchini and Boss Moanaroa both walked, loading the bases. Henry Ramos belted a two-run double scoring Cecchini and Moanaroa to make it 3-1; Keury De La Cruz drove in the final run of the inning with an RBI fielder's choice, making it 4-1. Winnip pitcher Mickey Pena (1-0) kept the lead intact through his five scoreless innings, but was matched by 5.1 scoreless frames by Crawdads Randol Rojas, keeping Hickory in the game. The 'Dads then attempted a late comeback with runs in the seventh and eighth against reliever Yeiper Castillo, who picked up his first save of the year.

With two outs and no one on in the top of the seventh, Jorge Alfaro kept the inning alive with a double, and quickly came in on an RBI single by Jeremy Williams, making it 4-2. Jordan Akins brought the Crawdads even closer in the top of the eighth with a solo home run that made it 4-3. The 'Dads got the game-tying run on base, but Castillo retired the side to end the game.

### **Crawdads Clippings:**

The Crawdads conclude the three-game series in Greenville against the Drive on Wednesday at 7:05 p.m. Catch all the action live on The Big Dawg 92.1FM and Hickorycrawdads.com, and tune in 15 minutes early for Crawdads Countdown.....The Crawdads 2012 Home Opener is coming up on Thurs., April 12 vs. the Asheville Tourists at 7 p.m. Don't miss Thirsty Thursday, presented by Buffalo Wild Wings and 1290 WHKY, featuring \$1 can beers and Pepsis, as well as the Sneak Peek Night promotion. Gates open at 6 p.m.....All the Opening Weekend FUN continues on Friday, April 13 with Grand Opening Fireworks, presented by Crowne Plaza, Mister Tuxedo and The Big Dawg 92.1FM, and a 7 p.m. first pitch. Then, on Sat., April 14, it's Eric Church Bobblehead Giveaway for the first 1,000 fans with a paid admission, courtesy of Galaxy, Ragu and KICKS 103.3FM. First pitch will be 6 p.m. that Saturday, with gates opening at 5 p.m.

### **Get Tickets:**

Individual Tickets for all Crawdads home games are available right now at Hickorycrawdads.com or by calling (828) 322-3000! Group outings, corporate partnerships, Levine Children's Hospital Claw Club memberships and Ticket Books for the 20th Anniversary Season are also available right now by calling the Front Office at (828) 322-3000.

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