

Drive Downs Crawdads In Series Opener

Written by Staff Reports
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The Greenville Drive topped the Hickory Crawdads, 11-6, in game one of the weekend series, before 3,261 fans at L.P. Frans Stadium on Friday night. Greenville (31-29) wasted no time getting on the board as they scored twice against losing pitcher Victor Payano (4-3) in the top of the first inning. Jose Garcia singled to lead off the game and he scored on an

a run-scoring double by Keury De La Cruz. De La Cruz scored shortly after on a delayed stolen base attempt that led to a throwing error, allowing him to score from second base that gave the Drive an early 2-0 lead.

Greenville added single runs in the second and third innings for a 4-0 lead. Lucas LeBlanc forced in a run on a bases-loaded walk in the second. Drew Turocy then blasted an RBI double to left field in the third that scored David Renfroe in the third.

The Crawdads (32-28) came back with three runs in the bottom of the fourth. All-Star Hanser Alberto homered to start the inning; and two outs later, Kevin Torres dropped a two-run single into shallow left-center field that made it 4-3. In the top of the sixth, the Drive increased its lead with a sacrifice fly by Jose Garcia drove in a run that made it 5-3, and a run-scoring ground-ball out by Garin Cecchini stretched the Drive's advantage at 6-3.

An RBI single by Drew Robinson made it 6-4 in the bottom of the sixth; but Greenville broke the game open in the top of the seventh. After the first three batters reached base on two singles and a walk, Lucas LeBlanc hit a grand slam that gave the Drive a 10-4 lead and basically put the game out of reach. LeBlanc, who drove in five runs, had an RBI in the top of the eighth inning, scoring 1B Boss Moanaroa for the 11-4 lead. Trever Adams and Chris Grayson both homered in the eighth and nine innings in the losing cause.

Crawdads Clippings:

On Saturday, the Crawdads take on the Drive at 6 p. Saturday's game is also Shred Night, presented by Enviro-Shred - bring paper documents to the ballpark to be shredded from 4 - 6 p.m. and get a FREE ticket to the game! And don't forget to stick around after Saturday's game for Post-Game Autographs! Gates open at 5 p.m....The 'Dads are celebrating Father's Day early with Craw"DADS" Day this Sunday at 5 p.m. All dads get a FREE ticket to the game against Greenville, and be sure to bring your glove for Post-Game Catch, presented by Countryside Pet Hospital. Gates open at 4 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.