

## **Crawdads Rally Falls Short**

Written by Staff Reports  
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The Hickory Crawdads are glad to be headed back home following a very disappointing eight-game road trip. The Crawdads were 2-6 on their recent trip, and they closed things out with a disappointing 8-5 loss Tuesday night against the Delmarva Shorebirds hung on, 8-5 at Arthur W. Perdue Stadium in Salisbury. The Crawdads, who fell behind 8-0

in Tuesday's game, dropped three of four games against the Shorebirds. But despite the bumpy road trip, the Crawdads return home in a three-way tie for first place in the North Division of the South Atlantic League. Hickory shares the division lead with Hagerstown and Lakewood, which comes to LP Fran Stadium Thursday night.

A two-run shot by Nicky Delmonico gave the Shorebirds (9-16, 37-57) a 2-0 lead in the first inning. Delmarva doubled its lead with two more runs in the bottom of the second. With one on and one out, Wynston Sawyer knocked an RBI double inside the left-field line. He later scored on an RBI base hit by Glynn Davis that gave Delmarva a 4-0 lead.

The Shorebirds kept swinging away in the bottom of the third scoring four more time. Michael Ohlman had a run-scoring triple, Brenden Webb had an RBI single, Jason Esposito drove in a run and Sawyer capped the inning with with an RBI double that gave the Shorebirds a commanding 8-0 lead.

The Crawdads (15-11, 51-44) finally scored in the fifth inning. Jorge Alfaro ripped an RBI double down the left-field line that drove in Hickory's first run, and Alejandro Selen drove in a run that made it 8-2. Hickory continued the comeback attempt with two more tallies in the top of the seventh. Chris Grayson reached on a lead-off single. He then raced all the way home on an infield single by Alfaro and a throwing error by Delmonico. Alfaro moved to third on a fly out, and then came home on a sacrifice fly by Selen to pull the 'Dads within four runs, at 8-4.

The Crawdads scored another run in the top of the ninth on a run-scoring triple by Alfaro, but Eric Wooten, who picked up his first save of the year, closed things out. Alfaro and Selen each had two RBI apiece in the loss.

### **Crawdads Clippings:**

The 'Dads kick off the eight-game homestand this Thursday with Thirsty Thursday, presented by Buffalo Wild Wings! Don't miss \$1 can beers and Pepsis, as well as U.S. Air Force Night. Thursday is also Dark Knight Night - wear Batman apparel for a Half Off Ticket! Gates open at 6 p.m.....Individual Tickets for all Crawdads home games are available right now at [Hickorycrawdads.com](http://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.