

'Dads Drop Two At Greenville

Written by Staff Reports

Saturday, 08 June 2013 07:22

The Hickory Crawdads had a long day at the ballpark Friday evening, as the 'Dads had to deal with two separate rain delays mixed in with their scheduled doubleheader against the Greenville Drive. More than seven and a half hours after their first game was scheduled to start, the 'Dads left Fluor Field having lost both games of their twin bill 17-8 and 10-5.

Game one had actually been in limbo for more than two weeks, as the 'Dads and Drive had their May 22nd game from L.P. Frans suspended in the third inning with the two teams tied at 3-3. With no other matchups between the clubs scheduled for Hickory, the game was resumed in Greenville with the "visiting" Drive batting with the bases loaded and two outs.

Following an hour delay to the start of the game due to rain, Greenville pinch hitter Alex Hassan promptly doubled off Hickory reliever Cody Kendall to clear the bases and give the Drive a 6-3 lead. Greenville wouldn't stop there, as the Drive went on to score five runs in the fourth and three more tallies in both the sixth and seventh innings to end the game with 17 runs on 20 hits, both season-highs allowed by the Crawdads.

The 'Dads lineup meanwhile scored four times in the sixth and once in the ninth to end the game with a 17-8 loss. Nick Williams paced the Hickory lineup in the defeat, going 2-3 with a double and a 3-run homer in the sixth. Lewis Brinson also went yard in the game, lining a solo shot to left in the ninth to finish the game 1-5.

Crawdads pitcher Tyler Smith (4-3) took the loss despite never pitching on Friday, as Smith was the original starting pitcher in May and was responsible for the six runs allowed in the third.

Greenville reliever Austin Maddox (1-4) got the win after allowing four runs on five hits over his five innings of work out of the pen.

Game two followed in the first games footsteps in many facets, starting with a rain-delayed start to the contest. With the first game ending just after 8:00 pm, the second matchup took more than two hours to begin when more rain moved into the Greenville area.

When the first pitch was actually thrown at 10:18 pm, the Crawdads quickly jumped ahead 3-0 thanks to an RBI double by Williams in the first and a 2-run homer by Ronald Guzman in the second. The Drive and 'Dads would then began a seesaw affair, with Greenville scoring three times in the second to tie the score at 3-3, before Hickory re-took the advantage 4-3 on an RBI double by Nomar Mazara in the third. Greenville jumped ahead 5-4 with a pair of runs in the bottom of the frame, but the 'Dads once again tied the score at 5-5 when Joey Gallo lined an RBI single in the top of the fourth.

Greenville would finally pull away in the bottom of the fourth, scoring three runs to take a 8-5 lead before capping the scoring with two more tallies in the fifth for their 10-5 advantage. In yet another similarity between the two contests, Tyler Smith (4-4) was once again the starting pitcher and losing pitcher for the 'Dads after allowing seven runs on six hits in 3.1 innings. Greenville reliever Gerardo Olivares (1-1) got the win after tossing three scoreless innings of relief.

The two losses drop the Crawdads (33-27) a half game back of Hagerstown for first place in the SAL Northern Division. The 'Dads will look to bounce back against the Drive (19-39) Saturday night at 7:05 pm.

NOTES: The Crawdads stay on the road for 6 more games in 5 days. The 'Dads will return home to Hickory next Thursday to wrap up the first half of the season with four games against Delmarva....Individual Tickets for all Crawdads home games are available right now at Hickorycrawdads.com or by calling (828) 322-3000! Group outings, corporate partnerships,

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