

Riverdogs Blank 'Dads

Written by Staff Reports
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The Hickory Crawdads had a tough night at the plate Friday, as the 'Dads battled against the on-point Charleston RiverDogs pitchers and a gusting wind blowing in, before ultimately falling 5-0 to the 'Dogs at Joseph P. Riley Park. Four different pitchers combined to hand the 'Dads their 5th shutout defeat of the season. Charleston starter Daniel Camarena kick started the night with four shutout frames, followed by Adam Smith and James Pazos who each pitched in two scoreless innings. Finally, right-handed reliever Zach Arneson kept the Crawdads at bay in the 9th to secure the 5-0 RiverDogs win.

The Crawdads remained close for much of the game, due to a solid night by starting pitcher Andrew Faulkner who held the 'Dogs to three runs on seven hits, two walks and five strikeouts over 5.2 innings pitched. Charleston jumped out to a 2-0 lead in the first, when first baseman Reymond Nunez picked up a two-out, two RBI single up the middle. The lead grew to 3-0 in the fourth when Faulkner hurt himself with a walk, a hit batter, and an infield single before tossing a wild pitch to score another RiverDogs run.

The 'Dogs ended the scoring with a couple of insurance runs in the seventh, as Nunez came through again with a two-run home run over the scoreboard in left to finish the scoring at 5-0. Nunez finished the game going 3-4 with 4 RBI, raising his total to 13 RBI in 8 games against the Crawdads this year.

The 'Dads also had a few scoring opportunities of their own, starting in the fourth when Nick Williams broke up the perfect game with a leadoff double to left. Williams would not move off of second base however, as Camarena battled back to retire the next three batters and keep the 'Dads off the board.

Hickory also managed to load the bases with only one out in the sixth thanks to two walks and an error, but first baseman Ronald Guzman grounded into an inning ending 3-6-3 double play. The 'Dads put two runners aboard in both the seventh and ninth frames as well, before coming away empty-handed.

Williams led the 'Dads offense as the only player to reach base more than once, finishing the night 1-3 with a double and a walk. Adam Smith (4-0) earned the win for the RiverDogs for his two shutout innings, while Faulkner (2-2) took the loss for the 'Dads. The Crawdads (6-3) will meet up with the RiverDogs (4-5) again Saturday night at 6:05 pm for game three of their 4-game series.

NOTES: The Crawdads did not hit a homer tonight, so their home run total for the season stands at 116. The single-season Crawdad record is 135 home runs while the SAL record stands at 173.....Crawdads on the Road: The Crawdads will stay on the road for another five days, with two more games against the RiverDogs and three against the SandGnats. The 'Dads return home for a 4-game series against Kannapolis starting July 4th! Make sure to pick up your Independence Day tickets now.....Individual Tickets for all Crawdads home games are available right now at Hickorycrawdads.com or by calling (828) 322-3000! Group outings, corporate partnerships, Buffalo Wild Wings Claw Club memberships and Ticket Books are also available right now by calling the Front Office at (828) 322-3000.