

'Dads Earn Split With Intimidators

Written by Staff Reports
Saturday, 06 July 2013 09:57

The Hickory Crawdads earned a split against the Kannapolis Intimidators Friday evening, as the 'Dads dropped the resumed 4th of July game 4-2 before bouncing back to earn an 8-2 win in the night's regularly scheduled 9-inning contest. Friday night started the same way Thursday night ended, with the two clubs sitting through a 2-hour rain delay before picking up the previous evening's game tied 2-2 in the bottom of the 7th inning. The Crawdads had a runner at second base with two outs, but 9th place hitter Luis Marte popped out to second to begin the night and also end the frame.

The Intimidators then showcased a rare power display, with Keon Barnum and Brent Tanner hitting back-to-back home runs off of 'Dads reliever Jose Monegro in the top of the 8th to give Kannapolis the 4-2 advantage. Hickory came up empty in both the 8th and 9th innings, resulting in the 4-2 loss. Monegro (0-1) took the loss for Hickory for allowing the two runs in his two innings of work, while Kannapolis reliever Brad Goldberg (1-0) earned the win for his two shutout innings of work.

The Crawdads decided to take no chances in the second game of the night, as the club sent 14 batters to the plate and scored eight runs on 10 hits to take a 8-0 first inning lead. Nick Williams kick started the frame with a solo home run to left, before Nomar Mazara singled in a run, David Lyon hit a 2-RBI double, Marte lined a 2-RBI double, Williams singled in another run and Ronald Guzman plated a base runner on a single.

The eight-run outburst was more than enough support for Hickory starting pitcher C.J. Edwards. The Crawdads Ace escaped a 2-on, no out first inning jam by striking out the final batter, a K that would actually start a string of five-straight strikeouts. The Intimidators scored their only runs of the game in the sixth, when they plated two runs, one earned, on two hits and two Crawdads errors.

Edwards finished the night with his second 10+ strikeout game of the year, as he held Kannapolis to two runs, one earned, on five hits, one walk and 10 Ks over 5.2 innings pitched. The Crawdads bullpen would go the rest of the way, with Jose Valdespina fanning three over his 2.1 scoreless innings while Tyler Smith struck out the side in the ninth to secure the 8-2 win. Edwards (7-2) picked up the win for his gem on the mound while Intimidators starter Euclides Leyer (2-11) took the loss for allowing all 8 Hickory runs in the first while recording only two outs. Williams finished the night 2-5 with his 15th home run of the year and two RBI, Lyon went 2-4 with a double and 2 RBI, Marte had a 1-4 night with 2 RBI and a double, while Nick Vickerson finished 3-5. The two-game split moves the Crawdads record on the season to 9-6 while Kannapolis now sits at 7-9. The two teams will face off again Saturday night at 7:00 pm for game three of their 4-game series from Crawdads Stadium.

NOTES: Nick Williams' solo blast tonight pushed the Crawdads season long ball total to 121. The single-season Crawdad record is 135 home runs while the SAL record stands at 173....The 'Dads are home again Saturday and Sunday against Kannapolis. Saturday will feature Hall-of-Fame wrestler Ted "The Million Dollar Man" DiBiase at Crawdads Stadium! Exclusive Meet and Greet tickets are only \$22 and includes a ticket to the game, a pre-game meal, and two autographed photos! Sunday meanwhile, is First Responders Appreciation Night, with all First Responders receiving FREE admission with a valid ID....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.

'Dads Earn Split With Intimidators

Written by Staff Reports
Saturday, 06 July 2013 09:57

Photo Courtesy: C.J. Edwards, Hickory Crawdads