

'Dads Dropped Sixth Straight

Written by Staff Reports

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The Hickory Crawdads ended their 7-game home stand Tuesday night but were unable to end their recent slide, as the 'Dads fell to the Charleston RiverDogs 5-1 for their 6th straight loss. The season-high losing streak has seen the normally potent Hickory bats go quiet, with the 'Dads producing one run on four hits Tuesday. At the same time, the RiverDogs scored five runs on 11 hits, marking the sixth straight game the 'Dads have allowed double digit hits. Much of the game was a well-pitched matchup between Luis Parra of the 'Dads and Cesar Vargas of the 'Dogs. Charleston picked up single runs in the third and fourth innings, before plating an unearned tally in the sixth to take a 3-0 lead.

The Crawdads responded in the seventh when Nick Williams hit his South Atlantic League leading 11th triple of the year, and came in one batter later when Ryan Rua picked up his SAL leading 77th RBI on a single to left to make the score 3-1.

The RiverDogs pulled back away the next half inning however, scoring two runs off of Hickory reliever Jose Valdespina to end the scoring at 5-1. Williams finished the game 1-4 with a triple and a run scored while Rua went 1-4 with his RBI hit. Both Lewis Brinson and Nick Urbanus finished 1-3 for the other two Hickory hits.

Parra (5-4) was the hard-luck loser for the 'Dads with three runs, two earned, allowed on seven hits, two walks and six strikeouts over his six innings pitched. Vargas (4-3) earned the win for the 'Dogs after allowing one run on four hits, no walks and 4 Ks over seven innings pitched. The win gives the RiverDogs (18-11) the 4-game sweep against the Crawdads (16-15), and also marks the first 6-game home losing streak for the 'Dads since 2008. The Crawdads have an off day Wednesday before starting a seven-game road trip with a 4-game series in Kannapolis on Thursday at 7:05 pm.

NOTES: The Crawdads are still tied for their single-season home run record with 135 long balls on the year. The SAL record stands at 173....The Crawdads will now hit the road for a 7-game road trip, starting Thursday at 7:05 when they kick off a 4-game series in Kannapolis....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.

Photo Courtesy: Ryan Rua, Hickory Crawdads