

'Dads Take Two From Charleston

Written by Staff Reports
Tuesday, 30 July 2013 08:14

The Hickory Crawdads and Charleston RiverDogs played late into Monday night and early into Tuesday morning with their rain delayed doubleheader, but when the night was over the outcome was worth

the wait for the 'Dads. Hickory swept the twin bill against Charleston, taking the first game 3-1 before rallying for four runs in the top of the 7th inning for a come from behind 5-4 win in the nightcap.

Game No. 1 started two hours late due to a rain delay, and saw the 'Dads and 'Dogs tied 1-1 going into the 6th frame. That's when left fielder Jordan Akins lined a 2-run double into the left-center gap to put the Crawdads up 3-1. Hickory reliever Cody Ege (2-0) would cruise from there, tossing three shutout innings with only two runs and 6 strikeouts for the win.

Starting pitcher Luis Parra went the first four innings with one run allowed on five hits, two walks and five strikeouts while earning a no-decision. Charleston reliever Derek Varnadore (0-3) took the loss after allowing two runs on three hits over his 2.1 IP.

Akins finished the game 1-3 with his double and two RBI, while Nomar Mazara ended game one 2-3 with a run scored. Jorge Alfaro also picked up a hit in his first game back from the DL, going 1-3.

The Crawdads jumped out to an early advantage in the second matchup when second baseman Ryan Rua lined a solo home run to left for a 1-0 lead in the 2nd. The homer was the Minor League leading 29th long ball of the year for Rua and also raised his South Atlantic League leading RBI total to 80.

The RiverDogs would then rally for four unanswered runs, scoring twice in the fourth and two more times in the 6th to take a 4-1 lead. That set the stage for the 'Dads 7th inning rally.

Ronald Guzman and Rua both walked to start the inning, before Alfaro reached on an error by Charleston second baseman Angelo Gumbs that also allowed Guzman to score. Following a strikeout by Mazara, Akins drove in Rua with a sacrifice fly to left to pull the 'Dads within a run at 4-3.

With a runner at first and two outs, David Lyon came through with an RBI double inside the right field line to score Alfaro and tie the game. Lyon was then able to score the go-ahead run on the same play thanks to two more RiverDogs errors. Right fielder Ericson Leonora misplayed the hit allowing Lyon to take third before Gumb's relay from second to third flew into the visitors dugout to award Lyon home and give Hickory the 5-4 lead.

Lyon finished the game 1-3 with his double, and RBI and a run scored, while Rua went 1-2 with a homer an RBI and two runs scored.

Hickory reliever Jose Valdespina (3-1) earned the win after allowing two runs on one hit, one walk and a strikeout. Monegro (2) took home the save after striking out the side to finish the game. Charleston reliever Ben Paullus (6-3) was handed the loss after allowing the 'Dads winning run to score in the 7th.

With the win the Crawdads (21-16) improve to 11-3 in doubleheaders this season and 5-1 on their current road trip against Kannapolis and Charleston (20-15). The 'Dads and 'Dogs will meet up again Tuesday night at 7:05 pm for game three of their four game series.

NOTES: Rua's solo shot in Monday's second game raised the 'Dads season home run total to

'Dads Take Two From Charleston

Written by Staff Reports

Tuesday, 30 July 2013 08:14

140 and also moved them 33 away from the South Atlantic League record of 173 home runs in a season.....The Crawdads have two more games scheduled against the Southern Division RiverDogs before returning home on Thursday, August 1st to begin a week-long home stand at Crawdads Stadium.....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