

Crawdads Blank Tourists, 2-0

Written by Staff Reports

Monday, 05 August 2013 16:57

One day after the Hickory Crawdads and Asheville Tourists combined for 18 runs, 22 hits and seven home runs it was the pitching that prevailed Sunday night, as the 'Dads shutout the Tourists 2-0 in front of 1,771 fans at Crawdads Stadium. The win also gave Hickory the series win over Asheville three games to one. Hickory hurlers Connor Sadzeck, Joe Burns and Jose Leclerc combined to toss the Crawdads 10th shutout of the season. The offense, meanwhile, was led by center fielder Chris Garia who went 4-4 with an RBI and a run scored. Garia got things started in the first with a leadoff single to right, and came in one batter later when newcomer Taylor Wrenn doubled to right to put the 'Dads ahead 1-0.

The Crawdads picked up their second tally the very next inning, this time with 9th place hitter Nick Urbanus singling up the middle with two outs, stealing second base, and scoring an Garia's RBI base knock to right to make the score 2-0.

The Hickory pitching would take over from there, with Sadzeck throwing the first six shutout innings before giving way to Burns for two scoreless frames and finally Leclerc for the final three outs. The Tourists best scoring opportunity came in Sadzeck's final frame, when Asheville loaded the bases with only one out. Sadzeck was able to work out of the jam however, striking out both Francisco Sosa and Dillon Thomas to keep the 'Dads ahead.

Sadzeck (10-4) earned the victory for his performance, becoming the first Hickory pitcher this season to earn double-digit wins. Asheville starter Matt Carasiti (2-6) was saddled with the loss after allowing two runs on nine hits, one walk and three strikeouts during his 6 IP. Leclerc (4) earned the save for the 'Dads with a perfect 9th, complete with two Ks.

Joining Garia's perfect 4-4 game was Wrenn, who finished the night 2-4 with an RBI double while making his Crawdads debut. Kevin Torres also had a good evening going 2-4 while Urbanus went 1-3 with a run scored.

The win pushes the Crawdads second half record to 23-19, while Asheville drops to 17-25 with the loss. The 'Dads will now welcome in the Greensboro Grasshoppers for a 3-game series at Crawdads Stadium, starting Monday night at 7:00 pm.

NOTES: The Crawdads season home run total currently sits 145, just 28 away from the South Atlantic League record of 173 home runs in a season.....The Crawdads will stay at home for three more days with a series against the Greensboro Grasshoppers. Monday is Video Game Night, with a FREE XBOX 360 with Kinect being given away to one lucky fan! Tuesday showcases the always popular Dollar Night while Wednesday wraps up the home stand with Kids Run the Show Night! Check out the entire Crawdads promotional schedule here.....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.

Tourists Out-Homer 'Dads in 12-6 Loss

It was a tale of two halves for the Hickory Crawdads Saturday night, as the 'Dads scored six early runs and held a 6-0 lead through the fourth before the Asheville Tourists rallied for 12-unanswered tallies resulting in a 12-6 Crawdads loss in front of a season-high 6,116 fans at

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Crawdads Stadium.

The offensive surges for both teams were paced by the long ball, with the 'Dads launching three early homers before the Tourists went deep four times in their rally. Nomar Mazara got the home run derby started with a 3-run shot in the 1st, while David Lyon went deep twice with solo shots in the second and fourth. The Tourists meanwhile picked up a 3-run shot by Tom Murphy in the 5th, a grand slam from Francisco Sosa in the seventh, a 2-run blast by Derek Jones in the 7th and a solo dinger from Jason Stolz in the 8th.

Things looked good for the hometown club early, with the 'Dads taking a 6-0 advantage into the 5th inning. The Crawdads had outhit the Tourists 6-2 and seemed to be well on their way to a victory with starting pitcher Luis Parra throwing well.

The turning point in the game seemed to come with the leadoff batter for the Tourists in the 5th, as Matt Argyropoulos lined a ball off of Parra's right wrist to reach base on an infield single. Parra stayed in the game after being examined by athletic trainer Jacob Newburn, but the southpaw was touched for five runs on 5 hits before the frame ended.

From that point on the Tourists outhit the Crawdads 13-1 while going on a 12-0 run to end the game with the 12-6 score.

Parra finished the night with a no-decision after allowing five runs on six hits, one walk and six strikeouts over five innings pitched. Hickory reliever Jose Monegro (0-2) took the loss with six runs allowed on five hits, two homers, over 1.2 innings pitched. Asheville reliever Alving Mejias (4-4) earned the win with two scoreless innings out of the pen.

Lyon finished the game 2-4 with two home runs, Mazara went 1-3 with his 3-run homer and a walk and Nick Vickerson chipped in with a 1-3 night complete with an RBI, a hit-by-pitch and a run scored. The three long balls pushed the Crawdads season total to 145.

The loss is just the second all year for the Crawdads (23-19) against the Tourists (17-24). The 'Dads will go for the 4-game series win Sunday, with first pitch scheduled for 5:00 pm.

Mazara Powers Hickory By Tourists, 4-3

Four first inning runs were all the Hickory Crawdads needed Friday night, as the 'Dads rode a 3-run home run by Nomar Mazara and a stellar bullpen performance to a 4-3 win over the Asheville Tourists in front of 3,443 fans at Crawdads Stadium.

Hickory jumped on Asheville starter T.J. Oakes for four first inning tallies to take a 4-0 lead. Leadoff hitter Chris Garia led off the inning with a triple down the right field line, Jorge Alfaro walked one out later and Ryan Rua came through with an RBI single to plate Garia. Mazara then proceeded to clear the bases with a 3-run blast to right to put the 'Dads up 4-0.

The RBI single was Rua's South Atlantic League leading 81st RBI of the year, while Mazara's long ball was his 10th of the season and the 142nd dinger of the year for the Crawdads as a team.

The Tourists responded with a pair of runs in the second and another in the third off of Hickory starter Ryan Bores to cut the score to 4-3. The scoring would stop there however.

Crawdads left-handed reliever Cody Ege entered the game in the fifth and shut down the Tourists lineup over the next three innings. The southpaw struck out 8 total batters over his three scoreless innings on the mound, including six straight Ks to end his night.

Ege was followed by right-handed reliever Sam Wolf, who picked up right where his counterpart

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left off by striking out the side in the 8th. In total, Ege and Wolf struck out 9 straight Tourist batters from the sixth through the 8th. Wolff would fan two more batters while closing out the 9th to give the 'Dads 16 total Ks for the ballgame, tying their season high.

Ege (3-0) earned the win for his dominant performance while Wolff (1) picked up the save.

Oakes (8-7) took the loss despite settling down after the first and finishing the night with four runs allowed on five hits, one walk and 8 Ks over seven innings pitched.

Mazara finished the game 1-3 with his 3-run homer, the second straight night the 18-year old has gone yard. Garia also had a good game going 2-4 with a triple and a run scored while both David Lyon and newcomer Kevin Torres went 1-3 with a double.

The win is the second straight one-run win for the Crawdads (23-18) over the Tourists (16-24) and improves the 'Dads season record to 7-1 against Asheville. The two teams will match up again Saturday at 6:00 pm for game three of their 4-game series.