

## 'Dads Hold on, Down Tourists

Written by Staff Reports

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The Hickory Crawdads once again rode a one-inning offensive outburst to a win Wednesday night, as the 'Dads plated three runs in the third and held on the rest of the way for a 4-2 win over the Asheville Tourists at McCormick Field.

One night after a 9-run 4th propelled Hickory to an 11-1 win, the Crawdads only needed a 3-run 3rd to pick up their second straight victory over the Tourists. The 'Dads sent all nine batters to the plate in the decisive frame with Chris Garia (RBI groundout), Alejandro Selen (RBI double), and Nomar Mazara (RBI single) driving in the three runs to give the Crawdads a lead they would never relinquish.

Asheville made things close, as they answered the 'Dads output with two runs of their own in the bottom of the third to make the score 3-2, but the Hickory pitching staff would shut it down from there. An RBI double by Lewis Brinson in the 8th pushed the score to the 4-2 margin the Crawdads would win by.

Starting pitcher Frank Lopez (3-7) settled down after the third and tossed three more scoreless innings to finish with two runs allowed on eight hits over six innings while earning the win. The 'Dads bullpen would take care of the rest, with Cody Ege striking out three over two scoreless frames and Sam Wolff (5) stranding the tying runs on base in the ninth to close out the win. Asheville starter Jayson Aquino (0-7) also calmed down after the three-run third, but still took the loss after allowing three runs on six hits, one walk and 9 strikeouts over seven innings pitched.

Brinson finished the game 2-4 with a double and an RBI while Selen went 1-2 with an RBI double before being removed with an injury in the 4th.

The win is the third straight for the Crawdads (34-25) and their 12th in 15 games against the Tourists (21-37) this year. The win also keeps the 'Dads only a half game behind the West Virginia Power in the Northern Division wild card race. The Crawdads will go for the 3-game sweep over the Tourists on Thursday, with first pitch scheduled for 7:05 pm.

**NOTES:** The 2013 Crawdads Jersey Auction is up and running! Bid on the actual game worn road uniforms of your favorite players from the last 3 years, including Joey Gallo, Jurickson Profar, Ryan Rua, Nick Tepesch, Lewis Brinson, Justin Grimm and Jorge Alfaro! Check out the auction page here....The Crawdads home run total for the season sits at 160, just 13 away from the South Atlantic League record of 173 home runs in a season....The Crawdads wrap up their 7-game road trip Wednesday night in Asheville before returning home on Friday, August 23 for a 3-game home stand against Augusta. Friday night is Duck Dynasty Night at Crawdads Stadium, with \$25 "Meet and Greet" tickets still available with Mountain Man of Duck Dynasty! Friday is also another Fireworks Friday at the ballpark! Saturday features the return of the Zopperstars! while Sunday wraps up the home stand with Where's Waldo Night, the Cutest Craw"Dog" competition and Splash Day! 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.

**Photo Courtesy: Lewis Brinson, Hickory Crawdads**