

## Early Lead Evaporates,'Dads Lose

Written by Staff Reports

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The Hickory Crawdads received a pair of homers from Jorge Alfaro and Nomar Mazara while jumping out to an early 3-1 lead Saturday night, but the 'Dads couldn't hold on to the advantage over the middle frames as they fell to the visiting Augusta GreenJackets 6-3 in front of 3,223 fans at Crawdads Stadium.

Alfaro took to the air first, crushing a 2-run homer in the 1st to give the Crawdads an early 2-0 advantage. Following an Augusta run in the top of the 2nd to make the score 2-1, the 'Dads responded with another long ball by Mazara. The no-doubt solo shot to right pushed the Hickory advantage to 3-1 through four innings.

The GreenJackets began to pick away at the deficit in the fifth, scoring once on an RBI single from number nine hitter Travious Relaford to cut the score to 3-2. The big blow came the next inning however, as Augusta third baseman Mitch Delfino flipped the script on the 'Dads with a 2-run long ball to left to put the 'Jackets ahead 4-3.

Augusta picked up a pair of insurance runs in the 8th to make the score 6-3, while the Crawdads were unable to rally down the stretch.

Alfaro finished the night 1-4 with his 2-run homer, while Mazara also went 1-4 with his solo shot. Nick Williams was the only 'Dad with a multi-hit game, finishing 2-4.

Hickory starting pitcher Paul Schwendel (0-2) took the loss for allowing four runs on six hits, two walks and one strikeout over 5+ innings pitched. Augusta starter Justin Schumer (5-8) earned the win for his team after giving up three runs on four hits, one free pass and 6 Ks during his six innings pitched. GreenJackets reliever Mason McVay (1) earned his first save in four chances with three shutout innings, complete with seven strikeouts.

The Crawdads (34-28) have now dropped the first two games of their series against the 'Jackets (38-23). The 'Dads will look to salvage the final matchup Sunday evening, with first pitch scheduled for 5:00 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....Alfaro and Mazara's homers tonight push the Crawdads season long ball total to 165, just 8 away from the South Atlantic League record of 173 home runs in a season....The Crawdads wrap up their brief 3-game home stand Sunday evening 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](http://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.