

Walker's 21st homer lifts Kernels to win

Written by Andy Pantini

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FORT WAYNE, Ind. - Adam Brett Walker hit a two-run home run, Mason Melotakis won his eighth game and David Hurlbut notched his sixth save as the Kernels beat Fort Wayne, 2-1, Sunday afternoon before a crowd of 7,261 at Parkview Field.

Walker's homer was his 21st of the season and was hit to dead center field. The Kernels had eight hits in the game. Jonathan Murphy went 2-for-3 and Jorge Polanco was 2-for-4 with a double.

Melotakis (8-3) allowed a run on four hits and struck out six over six innings. Hurlbut worked the final three innings for the save and struck out three.

Fort Wayne starter Joe Ross (4-5) took the loss, allowing two runs on seven hits and striking out three over six innings. Bryan Adams was 1-for-3 with an RBI for the Tincaps.

Kernels infielder Niko Goodrum left the game at the end of the fourth inning. Goodrum was playing second base and appeared to injure his right knee covering the bag on a stolen base. His status is day-to-day.

The Kernels go for the series win against the Tincaps Monday night. Jose Berrios (5-5) starts for the Kernels against Walker Weickel (3-4, 4.66) for the Tincaps. First pitch is set for 6:05 p.m. (Iowa time).

KERNELS (2): Murphy, cf, 3 0 2 0, Goodrum, 2b, 1 0 0 0, Licon, ph-2b, 2 0 0 0, Polanco, ss, 4 1 2 0, Gonzales, dh, 4 0 1 0, Walker, rf, 4 1 1 2, Kepler, 1b, 3 0 1 0, Harrison, 3b, 4 0 1 0, Quesada, c, 4 0 0 0, Pineda, lf, 4 0 0 0. Totals 33 2 8 2.

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FORT WAYNE (1): Adamson, rf, 4 0 0 0, Stubblefield, ss, 4 0 0 0, Tissenbaum, 2b, 4 0 0 0, Quintana, 3b, 3 0 0 0, Goris, 1b, 4 0 0 0, Burke, dh, 4 1 2 0, Domoromo, lf, 2 0 0 0, Daal, c, 3 0 1 0, Adams, cf, 3 0 1 1. Totals 31 1 4 1.

Kernels 000 002 000 - 2 8 1

Fort Wayne 000 010 000 - 1 4 1

Melotakis, Hurlbut (7) and Quesada. Ross, Rea (7), Guzman (9) and Daal. W-Melotakis (8-3). L-Ross (4-5). Sv-Hurlbut (6). 2B-Harrison (24), Keppler (7). HR-Walker (21). SB-Adams (15), Quintana (6). E-Goodrum (19), Ross (1). T-2:32. A-7,261.