

Kernels blanked by Timber Rattlers

Written by Morgan Hawk

Thursday, 03 September 2015 20:23 - Last Updated Thursday, 03 September 2015 20:29



GRAND CHUTE, Wis. - The Cedar Rapids Kernels were held to five hits Thursday night and fell to the Wisconsin Timber Rattlers, 4-0, before 4,435 fans at Fox Cities Stadium.

It was the Kernels' first road loss at Wisconsin this season in 11 games. The Kernels are now 15-2 against the Timber Rattlers in 2015.

Cedar Rapids stranded 10 men on base. Nick Gordon and Brett Doe had two hits. Gordon and Chris Paul had doubles and were hit by a pitch.

Wisconsin jumped to a 3-0 lead in the third inning. The Timber Rattlers quickly loaded the bases as Mitch Meyer walked, Luis Aviles doubled and Sthervin Matos drew a base on balls to begin frame.

With the bases loaded and nobody out, Blake Allemand's sacrifice fly to right scored Meyer for the game's first run. The throw home allowed both Aviles and Matos to move into scoring position.

Aviles came home on Elvis Rubio's RBI groundout, making the score 2-0. David Denson's RBI single to left brought Matos home and pushed the Wisconsin lead to three runs.

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The Timber Rattlers extended their lead to 4-0 in the fifth inning. Aviles tripled to left-center to start the frame, his second extra-base hit of the game. He scored on an RBI single to center by Matos.

Michael Theofanopoulos (5-3) took the loss for the Kernels in a spot start. He allowed three runs on three hits over three innings, striking out three and walking two. It was his first start for the Kernels after appearing in a team-high 36 games as a reliever.

Felix Jorge made his first relief appearance after starting a team-high 22 games. Jorge allowed one run on three hits in two innings, striking out two and walking none.

Luke Bard retired all six batters he faced in two innings out of the bullpen for Cedar Rapids, striking out three. Nick Anderson induced three groundouts in a row for a scoreless and hitless eighth inning.

Josh Uhen (2-3) earned the win after tossing six scoreless innings for the second consecutive start.

The Kernels conclude the series at 6:35 p.m. Friday at Wisconsin with Sam Gibbons (7-4, 2.88) on the mound.

KERNELS (0): Miller, 2b, 5 0 0 0, Valera, 3b, 3 0 0 0, Gordon, ss, 3 0 2 0, Murphy, lf, 3 0 0 0, Wade, cf, 3 0 0 0, Paul, dh, 3 0 1 0, Doe, 1b, 4 0 2 0, Navarreto, c, 4 0 0 0, Diemer, rf, 4 0 0 0. Totals 32 0 5 0.

WISCONSIN (4): Matos, rf, 3 1 1 1, Allemand, 2b, 3 0 0 1, Rubio, dh, 4 0 2 1, Denson, 1b, 4 0 1 1, Neuhaus, 3b, 3 0 0 0, Mejia, c, 2 0 0 0, Meyer, lf, 2 1 0 0, Aviles, cf, 3 2 2 0. Totals 27 4 6 4.

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Kernels 000 000 000 - 0 5 0

Wisconsin 003 010 00x - 4 6 0

Theofanopoulos, Jorge (4), Bard (6), Anderson (8) and Navarreto. Uhen, Cooper (7) and Mejia.
W - Uhen (2-3). L - Theofanopoulos (5-3). S - Cooper
(3). 2B - Paul (1), Gordon (23), Rubio (27), Aviles (7). 3B - Aviles (3).
T - 2:08. A - 4,435.