

## Bandits snap Kernels' streak at 8

Written by S.D. Buhr

Thursday, 22 August 2013 21:26 - Last Updated Thursday, 22 August 2013 21:46

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DAVENPORT - Jose Berrios returned to the mound for the Cedar Rapids Kernels Thursday night after spending a week on the disabled list with a right elbow contusion.

The 19 year-old right-hander shut the Quad Cities River Bandits down without a hit for the first three innings, but things turned sour after that and the Bandits snapped the Kernels' eight-game winning streak with a 7-1 win over Cedar Rapids in front of 3,882 fans at Modern Woodmen Park.

The Kernels rapped 11 hits, seven during the game's first four innings, but managed just a single run. Adam Brett Walker opened the fourth inning with a double and scored on an RBI single by Bo Altobelli.

The River Bandits struck back in their half of the fourth to tie the game 1-1, then buried Berrios (7-6) and the Kernels with a four-run fifth inning.

Berrios gave up five runs on four hits in 4 2/3 innings. He walked three hitters and struck out four.

Christian Powell relieved Berrios with two runners on and two outs in the fifth. Powell was greeted with a two-RBI double by Quad Cities shortstop and super-prospect Carlos Correa.

Powell worked two more innings, allowing two unearned runs in the seventh inning thanks in large part to a pair of Kernels errors. Dallas Gallant threw the final inning for Cedar Rapids, giving up one hit and striking out a batter.

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Chris Devenski (3-3) spread out nine Kernels hits over his seven innings on the mound for the Bandits to pick up the win.

Altobelli, Walker and Tyler Grimes each had two hits for the Kernels.

The night started out badly for the Kernels even before the game's first pitch.

Niko Goodrum, slated to start at second base, felt a grab in his lower abdomen during batting practice and had to be scratched. He'll see a doctor back in Cedar Rapids on Friday.

If Goodrum is going to be out for any period of time, Manager Jake Mauer expects a roster move will need to be made. There are only 11 games left in the regular season.

Jorge Polanco and Max Kepler are both among the walking wounded for the Kernels, as well, and catcher Michael Quesada took a bit of a beating behind the plate against the River Bandits Thursday.

Despite the loss, Mauer was generally pleased with Berrios' performance in his first game back.

"He was throwing pretty good. Had a live arm. Didn't have any problems from that line drive he took off the elbow. So that was good,." said Mauer. "His off-speed stuff wasn't as sharp as it normally can be, but all in all, I was happy. He threw 80-some pitches, so that was good. Stretched him out a little bit."

Even with the loss, the Kernels hold a 5 1/2 game lead over Quad Cities for first place in the Midwest League Western Division second-half race.

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The River Bandits host the Kernels in the final game of the series Friday night at 7. The Kernels' next home game is Saturday when they open a series with the Peoria Chiefs.

KERNELS (1): Murphy, cf, 4 0 1 0, Licon, 2b, 4 0 1 0, Gonzales, 1b, 4 0 1 0, Walker, rf, 4 1 2 0, Harrison, 3b, 4 0 1 0, Altobelli, dh, 4 0 2 1, Grimes, ss, 4 0 2 0, Quesada, c, 4 0 1 0, Pineda, lf, 3 0 0 0. Totals 35 1 11 1.

QUAD CITIES (7): Kemp, 2b, 4 2 1 1, Hernandez, cf, 5 2 2 0, Correa, ss, 3 0 1 2, Vasquez, lf, 2 0 0 1, Joyce, ph-lf, 0 0 0 1, Borchering, 1b, 4 0 1 0, Ruiz, 3b, 4 0 1 0, Elkins, dh, 2 1 0 0, Pena, c, 4 1 2 0, Scott, rf, 4 1 1 1. Totals 32 7 9 6.

Kernels 000 100 000 - 1 11 3

Quad Cities 000 140 20x - 7 9 0

Berrios, Powell (5), Gallant (8) and Quesada. Devenski, Morton (8) and Pena. W-Devenski (3-3). L-Berrios (7-6). 2B-Walker (30), Correa (32). SB-Elkins (19), Hernandez (24). SF-Vasquez. E-Walker (4), Harrison (24), Pineda (7). T-2:42. A-3,882.