

Kernels fall to Bees in opener

Written by Metro Sports Report
Saturday, 18 April 2015 22:02 -

BURLINGTON - The Burlington Bees topped the Cedar Rapids Kernels, 4-3, Saturday night before 765 fans at Community Field in Burlington.

Burlington scored three of its four runs in the first two innings and held the Kernels to just six hits.

Austin Robichaux (1-1) recorded his first Midwest League win. The Bees right-hander allowed two runs on four hits and one walk while striking out three.

Michael Cederoth (1-1) suffered the loss for Cedar Rapids. Cederoth allowed four runs on six hits and two walks while striking out six in his second start of the season.

Burlington (6-4) struck first with a two-run first inning. Jake Yacinich led off with a walk for the Bees. Caleb Adams followed with the first hit of the game, a single through the right side, giving the Bees runners on first and second with no outs.

Two batters later, Frank Whitten reached on an infield single, loading the bases. Zach Houchins then delivered the game's first runs with a two-run single to right, scoring Yacinich and Adams.

Burlington added another run in the second, going in front, 3-0. Michael Hermosillo got the inning started for the Bees with a two-out walk. Hermosillo advanced to second on a wild pitch and came around to score on an RBI single by Yacinich.

Cedar Rapids (7-3) countered with two runs in the top of the third, cutting Burlington's lead to 3-2.

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T.J. White led off the inning with a single to left and advanced to second on a Brian Navarreto ground-out. One batter later, White advanced to third on a wild pitch.

Tanner English drew a walk and stole second with two outs. Nick Gordon gave Cedar Rapids its first two runs on a two-out, two-run single to center, scoring White and English. Gordon's two-run single gave him his ninth and 10th runs batted in, tying him with Zack Larson for the team lead.

The Bees extended their lead to 4-2 in the sixth, courtesy of a Zach Houchins solo homer. The home run was the second for Houchins this season and gave the third baseman his third RBI of the night.

The Kernels scored their final run in the seventh. Trey Vavra led off with a double to left-center. White then reached on an infield single, giving Cedar Rapids runners at the corners with one out.

Navarreto reached on a Burlington fielding error, loading the bases for the Kernels. English followed with a sacrifice fly to right field, scoring Vavra from third and cutting the Bees' lead to 4-3.

Randy Leblanc threw two scoreless innings of relief for Cedar Rapids. The right-hander allowed just two hits and struck out one in his third appearance of the season.

Tyler Carpenter and Ronnie Muck each recorded holds for the Bees. Carpenter allowed one unearned run on two hits in one inning while Muck struck out two in one scoreless inning. Eduardo Paredes earned his second save of the year with a scoreless ninth inning.

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The Kernels look to bounce back Sunday afternoon against Burlington. First pitch is at 2:00 p.m. from Community Field.

Felix Jorge (1-0, 0.00) gets the start for Cedar Rapids while Sean Newcomb (1-0, 1.80) gets the ball for the Burlington Bees.

KERNELS (3): Granite, dh, 4 0 0 0, Gordon, ss, 4 0 1 2, Larson, rf, 4 0 1 0, Murphy, lf, 4 0 1 0, Vavra, 1b, 4 1 1 0, Hinojosa, 2b, 4 0 0 0, White, 3b, 4 1 2 0, Nevarreto, c, 3 0 0 0, English, cf, 1 1 0 1. Totals 32 3 6 3.

BURLINGTON (4): Yacinich, ss, 3 1 1 1, Adams, lf, 4 1 2 0, Daniel, 2b, 4 0 1 0, Whitten, 1b, 4 0 2 0, Houchins, 3b, 4 1 2 3, Delgado, rf, 3 0 0 0, Wass, c, 2 0 0 0, Cayones, dh, 3 0 0 0, Hermosilio, cf, 2 1 0 0. Totals 29 4 8 4.

Kernels 002 000 100 - 3 6 0
Burlington 210 001 00x - 4 8 2

Cederoth, LeBlanc (7) and Navarreto. Robichaux, Carpenter (7), Muck (8), Paredes (9) and Wass. W - Robichaux (1-1). L - Cederoth (1-1). S - Paredes (2). 2B - Vavra (2), Whitten (3), Adams (2). HR - Houchins (2). SB - English (3), Gordon (1). E - Houchins (1), Yacinich (3). T - 2:03. A - 765.