Kernels roll past Beloit, 10-3



BELOIT, Wis. - The Minnesota Twins keep making changes to the Cedar Rapids Kernels roster, but it doesn't seem to matter.

The Kernels keep winning.

Mitch Garver led a 14-hit attack Thursday night as the Kernels dumped Beloit, 10-3, in a Midwest League game before 1,034 fans at Pohlman Field.

The Kernels swept the three-game series from Beloit and remained one game behind Kane County in the Western Division standings for the second half of the season.

Cedar Rapids is 62-60 overall and 31-21 for the second half, despite a series of roster moves in the past few weeks.

Jonatan Hinojosa, the new third baseman and leadoff hitter, went 2-for-5 and scored twice. Max Murphy, the new center fielder, belted his second home run two days and was 2-fo-5. Alex Swim, another recent addition in right field, was 2-for-5 with two RBIs.

Garver, who has been with the club all season, went 3-for-5 and collected three RBIs as the designated hitter. Chad Christensen went 2-for-5 and had two RBIs and Engelb Vielma was 2-for-5.

Matt Batts, who also joined the club recently, pitched six strong innings for his first victory with Cedar Rapids. Brian Gilbert, another new addition who was with the club last year, pitched two innings and Brandon Bixler tossed the final frame.

The game was tied, 1-1, after five innings, but the Kernels scored twice in the sixth inning and five times in the seventh to break it open.

The Kernels open a three-game series Friday night at 6:35 against Peoria at Veterans Memorial Stadium.

KERNELS (10): Hinojosa, 3b, 5 2 2 0, Wade, 2b, 4 2 0 0, Christensen, 1b, 5 2 2 2, Garver, dh, 5 1 3 3, Swim, rf, 5 1 2 2, Murphy, cf, 5 1 2 1, Williams, lf, 4 0 1 1, Quesada, c, 5 0 0 0, Vielma, ss, 5 1 2 0. Totals 43 10 14 9.

BELOIT (3): Mercedes, 2b, 4 0 1 0, Boyd, cf, 4 1 1 1, Chapman, 3b, 4 0 1 1, Marincov, rf, 2 1 0 0, Mathews, lf, 4 0 0 0, Soto, 1b, 3 0 0 0, Baez, dh, 4 0 0 0, Cogswell, ss, 3 1 1 0, Ludy, c, 2 0 2 0. Totals 30 3 6 3.

Kernels 100 002 511 - 10 14 0 Beloit 100 000 011 - 3 6 2

Matts, Gilbert (7), Bixler (9) and Quesada. Stalcup, Vail (6), Roberts (7), Michaud (9) and Ludy. W - Batts (1-0). L - Stalcup (4-4). 2B - Christensen (20), Garver (24), Chapman (5). 3B -Williams (1). HR - Murphy (4). SB - Christensen (26). Marincov (17). E - Chapman (6), Mercedes (17). T - 2:57. A - 1,034.

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