



The following was the original game story that appeared on the Red Wings' website on May 17, 2008.

May 17, 2008

Ruiz makes history as Wings top Tides

By: Mike Spier

Randy Ruiz extended his hitting streak to 23 games and Francisco Liriano's scoreless innings streak ended at 26 2/3 innings as the Rochester Red Wings washed away the Norfolk Tides, 7-4, on Thursday night at Frontier Field. Liriano (8-2) pitched eight solid innings, allowing just one run.

"In my opinion he's getting to where he needs to be to be in the majors again," Wings' manager Stan Cliburn said of Liriano. "He's setting up his pitches with his fastball and fooling batters when the ball comes out of his hand."

The Wings were up against Tides starter Hayden Penn, who earned his first win of the season against Rochester on April 8. The Wings (46-54) promptly started their revenge as they scored two runs in the first inning.

After Darnell McDonald hit a one-out double off the top of the left field wall to move Trevor Plouffe to third, Garrett Jones hit a sacrifice fly to score Plouffe for the first run. The next batter, Ruiz, laced a ball through the infield to left field for another run. The hit extended Ruiz's hitting streak to 23 games, the longest hitting streak by a Wing since day-to-day records began in 1979.

Jones kicked off a four-run fourth against Penn, launching an 0-1 pitch to right-center for his 10th homer of the season. Penn, who allowed just four runs over his last three starts, got a quick out before allowing a single to Howie Clark. Matt Macri worked Penn for a walk, then Sergio Santos drilled a two-run double into the left field

corner. Jason Pridie's RBI double off the wall in centerfield finished the scoring and the Wings, who owned a 6-0 lead.

Penn (4-5) did not come out the next inning as he was removed in favor of reliever Ryan Bukvich. Penn finished with six runs on six hits and only one strikeout.

After entering the game with 21 1/3 scoreless innings, Liriano surrendered back-to-back doubles in the sixth to end the streak. His new count of 26 2/3 puts him second on the Red Wings list behind Nick Blackburn (44 innings in 2007) and ahead of Curt Schilling (25 inn. in 1989) for the longest streaks without allowing an earned run since Red Wings records started in 1967.

The Wings tacked on their seventh run in the eighth inning. After Ruiz got his second hit of the game, a double, Clark dunked a single into center to score him, making the score, 7-1.

After pitching eight solid innings, Liriano was removed in favor of Ricky Barrett. Liriano's line was one run on seven hits and eight strikeouts.

After allowing a lead-off double, Barrett allowed two of the next four Tides hitters on, putting himself in a bases loaded situation. Mike McCoy fixed that problem as he hit a bases clearing double to the right-centerfield wall, inching Norfolk (41-58) closer to the Wings, 7-4.

After that hit, Bobby Korecky got Tike Redman to fly out to center to end the game and earn his 13th save of the season.