

Kandilas hits for cycle in Ghosts win over Ogden

David Kandilas led off the Casper Ghosts game Friday night in Ogden by striking out on three pitches, but that wasn't a sign to how the rest of his night would go. He finished the game with four hits and four RBI, the last two coming on a ninth inning triple, which made hi the first player in club history to hit for the cycle in a 14-7 win over the Raptors in the opening game of a 4-game series at Lindquist Field.

Will Swanner hit his first two home runs of the season, and drove in five runs, as his bat, much like every other Ghost's bat came alive, after they were held to just 13 runs over the four games in the season opening series in Orem.

The Ghosts struck first in the third inning when Kandilas hit his first home run of the season, but the lead was short lived as the first four Ogden hitters reached base in the bottom of the inning. Jeff Hunt started it with a double, he scored on a 2-run homer by James Baldwin III, then Charlie Mirabal singled, and he also scored on a 2-run home run, this time by Charlie Mirabal, that made it 4-1 Ogden.

In the fourth, the Ghosts got two of those runs back. Matt Argyropoulos singled with one out, he got to third on a double by Harold Riggins, and scored on a sacrifice fly by Robert De La Cruz, Riggins scored on a single up the middle by Francisco Sosa to cut the lead to 4-3.

Baldwin answered in the bottom of the fourth with his second 2-run homer of the night to give the Raptors a 3-run lead again, but the Ghosts didn't go away.

Jose Rivera started the fifth inning with a walk, and he scored on Swanner's first home run of the season to make it a one run game once again, and the Ghosts regained the lead in the sixth. De La Cruz started it with a walk, and he scored on a double by Sosa to tie the game at six, and Sosa took third on the throw home, then with two away, Kandilas singled to give the Ghosts a 7-6 lead.

Ogden tied the game in the bottom of the inning, but the Ghosts answered immediately in the seventh. Argyropoulos doubled, for his third hit of the game, to start the frame, then Riggins was hit by a pitch. De La Cruz laid down a sacrifice bunt to move them over, and after Sosa struck out for the inning's second out, Julian singled them home to give the Ghosts a 9-7 lead.

In the ninth, the Ghosts scored two runs on a triple by Kandilas, and three runs on Swanner's second home run of the night. All of the runs were unearned because of two catcher's interference calls in the inning.

Five Ghost pitchers (Danny Winkler, Matt Crocker, Alex Gillingham, Russell Brewer, and Kyle Rolliard) combined for 17 strikeouts. The staff combined for 19 punch-outs in the four games in Orem.

The Ghosts and Raptors will play game two of the four game series Saturday night. First pitch is set for 7:00, as Alving Mejias will toe the rubber for the Ghosts against Gustavo Gomez.