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**Blue Rocks Offense Comes Alive Against Red Sox**

*Wilmington Finally Puts Losing Streak to Bed*

**Wilmington, DE-** The Wilmington Blue Rocks (61-68/30-29) finally slayed the losing streak with a dominant, 8-2 win against the Salem Red Sox (60-67/28-31) on Friday night at Frawley Stadium. **Emmanuel Rivera** was on fire at the plate, going 3-for-5 with three doubles and four RBI while **Ofreidy Gomez** shut down Salem as he went seven full innings giving up only five hits, one run and one walk while also earning four strikeouts in the winning effort.

The Blue Rocks took a commanding lead in the bottom of the first. With one out and the bases loaded, Rivera roped a double deep into left to clear the bases and put Wilmington ahead 3-0. The Blue Rocks added to the lead in the bottom of the fourth. After an **Angelo Castellano** single put runners on the corners, **Rudy Martin** singled down the right field line to score **Travis Jones** and make it a 4-0 ballgame. Later in the inning, Austin Glorius tossed a wild pitch through the legs of his catcher, Castellano raced home to extend Wilmington’s lead to 5-0.

Salem responded in the top of the fifth. With Ryan Scott on second, Jagger Rusconi hit a grounder up the middle that bounced off the arm of **Gabriel Cancel** for a fielding error to put runners on the corners with no outs. Nick Lovullo followed up with a ground out that scored Scott to put the Red Sox on the board 5-1. The Rocks responded in the bottom of the sixth. With runners on first and second, **D.J. Burt** roped a line drive into right to bring **Blake Perkins** home to make it 6-1. Later in the inning, Rivera doubled through the gap in left bringing Burt home and putting the game out of reach, 7-1.

The Red Sox tallied another run in the top of the eighth. After an infield single by Lovullo, and a walk by Nick Sciortino, Tyler Hill doubled to right to score Lovullo and make it 7-2. The Blue Rocks added one more insurance run in the bottom of the eighth. **Blake Perkins** started the inning off with a ground-rule double into left field. Martin hit a ground ball that snuck into right field for an RBI double to extend the lead to 8-2. **Tyler Zuber** came in to close the door in the top of the ninth. The reliever tossed a 1-2-3 inning with a lineout, a strikeout, and groundout to end the game and end the losing streak.

The Blue Rocks will look to continue the winning ways against Salem on Saturday, August 25 with first pitch scheduled for 6:05 p.m. Wilmington will send right-hander **Gerson Garabito** (6-6, 3.37 ERA) Salem will have fellow righty Kevin McAvoy (1-3, 4.10 ERA) to oppose him. Fans can catch all the action with Matt Janus and Cory Nidoh on 89.7 WGLS-FM.

**PEBBLES OF KNOWLEDGE**

**Emmanuel Rivera** swung a hot bat on Friday night. The third baseman went 3-for-5 with three doubles and four RBI. This is the first time Rivera hit three doubles in one game this season and the first since July 24, 2017 when he was with Low-A Lexington. This is the third time Rivera has driven in four RBI one game this season. The last time he drove in four was on July 20 in a 12-11 extra-inning win against the Lynchburg Hillcats.

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