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### **DEVIN IVANY LEADS POTOMAC HIT PARADE**

*Catcher picks up four hits and five RBIs*

KINSTON, NC – Potomac needed a good offensive night to try and turn its struggles around. They got it. They needed good starting pitching to keep a powerful Kinston offense in check. They got it. Both aspects helped the Nationals beat the Kinston Indians on Saturday night, 12-4.

Catcher Devin Ivany, hitting in the four slot for the P-Nats, did what his hitting position required – cleaning up. The right-handed catcher went 4-for-5 and tied a season high with his five RBIs.

The P-Nats jumped on the board, scoring in the top of the first inning on a single to center by Ivany and a single up the middle by Brandon Powell.

The team would add one more in the third on another single by Ivany. This time, he went opposite field.

In the sixth, already up 3-0, the offense would give Potomac starter Clint Everts yet more support, on an RBI double down the line in left field by Luke Montz that would plate Powell.

That made the score 4-0 and would be all Everts would need, as he threw 5-2/3 scoreless innings, giving up just one hit – a meaningless fifth-inning single – and two walks while striking out six. His record improved to 5-8 on the year, and his ERA dropped from 5.53 before the game, to 5.14 after.

Everts throws a fastball, curveball and changeup. On Saturday night, he did a good job locating all of them.

“When you throw all your pitches for strikes, it can be pretty tough on them,” Everts said, referring to the Kinston offense.

For Everts, who is still trying to make it back from having Tommy John surgery in September, 2004, the win today was especially gratifying.

“Tonight, I felt great, my arm didn’t hurt at all, it was probably my best (outing) this year,” he said. “It’s just a huge confidence booster.”

Also a huge confidence booster for Everts was knowing his defense was behind him. Right fielder Cristian Guerrero made a sliding catch early in the game. And then, in a tremendous two-way effort, Desmond made a play on a ball hit up the middle. He spun and threw to first, but with Stephen Head hustling up the line, it looked like even the strong throw wouldn’t be enough to get

the out. But first baseman Steve Mortimer, back foot still on the bag, looked like an Olympic gymnast, doing the splits in order to come up with the baseball ahead of Head.

“After that play,” Everts said, “I was thinking to myself, ‘this might be the night.’”

He was referring to the chance at a no-hitter. On almost any no-hitter, there are usually examples of great defensive plays being made to preserve the special feat. At the point of the Desmond-to-Mortimer play, Everts had gone 4-1/3 of no-no baseball. But the next batter would break it up.

The P-Nats made the game 8-0 in the top of the seventh inning by scoring four more runs, including a two-run homer to right-center field by Brandon Powell. For Powell, it was especially satisfying since he had yet to hit a homer since the All-Star Break.

The K-Tribe would score three runs in the bottom of the seventh inning off reliever Greg Bunn, the big hit being a leadoff homer by Jordan Brown. The score still stood in Potomac’s favor at 8-3.

The Nationals offense wasn’t done, though, as it plated four more in the eighth inning.

Kinston picked up a run in the bottom of the ninth off Zech Zinicola, but it was too little, too late, as the P-Nats took the second game of the three-game series.

Potomac and Kinston will play a matinee game on Sunday. The first pitch is scheduled for 2 p.m. with left-hander Mike Hinckley (5-6, 5.27) taking the mound for the P-Nats and southpaw Jensen Lewis (6-5, 4.19) on the bump for Kinston.

You can hear Dan Laing and Brandon Chapman give all the live, play-by-play from Grainger Stadium via the P-Nats’ Web site: [www.potomacnationals.com](http://www.potomacnationals.com).

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