

KKKKK Overcomes 7.64 ERA In July, Baltimore's Aldong Challenge for No. 1 'Targeting Car'

Albert Suarez (35, Baltimore Orioles) pitched well for the first time in a long time. He started an away game against the Toronto Blue Jays in the 2024 Major League held at Rogers Centre in Toronto, Ontario, Canada on Sunday (Korea time), and allowed two hits, six strikeouts and two walks in five innings.

Suarez has made the most remarkable performance among major league pitchers from the KBO League this year. He became a winning pitcher for the first time in eight years since 2016, and posted 5 wins and 3 losses and 2.82 ERA in 19 games alone in the first half of this year. I wondered if he was a pitcher who recorded 10 wins and 15 losses and 3.04 ERA for Samsung in 2022 and 2023.

In fact, however, Samsung was recognized as a quality pitcher as it did not follow suit. Few were expecting a U.S. challenge due to its low number of wins. A pitcher who entered the Major League through a minor contract has a 5-4 record and 3.66 ERA in 23 games in this season, which is quite successful.

Suarez, however, suddenly showed sluggish performance in July. He only had one win and two losses and an earned run average of 7.64 in four games. His hit rate soared to 0.319. Four core parts were still powerful in the mid-90s, but the cutter was also less bent. The four core and cutter seemed to be beaten a lot.

Even if he failed to become the winning pitcher on the day, however, he gained confidence by allowing no runs in five innings. In fact, his luck in baseball was not as good as it is now, and his performance in baseball was not as good. On the day of the game, he showed off his aggressive use of curves and changeups. He also made careful pitching by violating the pitch clock at bat with no outs and runners on the first and second bases in the second inning. As he was on the verge of being hit with runners at the first and second bases with two outs, he swung and missed by Edison Barger with 95.9 miles.

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Unless he was a batter who was weak in fastballs or in poor condition, he seemed to have devised a game plan to focus on breaking balls. In the end, he did not yield a point during five innings. He threw 73 pitches and had 46 strikes. He seemed to throw another inning, but the

bench chose to replace him. The follow-up pitcher was Burch Smith, who left the Hanwha Eagles after playing in the opening game last year.

Baltimore had Jackson Holiday's first solo shot after one out in the top of the sixth inning. Suarez had a winning requirement. However, as Smith lost a point right away in the bottom of the sixth inning, Suarez's victory went away. Still, it is meaningful that he showed a reversal in the pitching content.

Baltimore is battling the New York Yankees for first place in the American League East. Suarez could be the driving force. He is also one of the driving forces behind the fight for first place so far. No one expected the pitcher to show such performance at the opening.