

Recap: Bees unable to rally as Sea Unicorns cruise in Norwich



This Wednesday, June 2 the New Britain Bees continued their road trip with a pitstop in Norwich to take on the Sea Unicorns. The Bees entered Wednesday night's contest with a 3-1 record on the season, but they were unable to extend their winning-streak to three games as Norwich won 7-2.

Much to the delight of head coach Donnie McKillop, the Bees got on the board first for the first time this season. An Alec Ritch double and a Jimmy Sullivan single gave the Bees the 1-0 lead in the top of the first inning. It didn't take long for Norwich to respond, though. A sacrifice-fly by Bryan Loriga off of starter Andrew Cain scored Andy Martin to tie the game at 1-1.

Tied 2-2 in the fifth, the Bees' bullpen checked into the game as Alex Rosario replaced Cain after four solid innings of work. Rosario induced two quick outs, but never got the third one as a two-out single by Kyan Lodice quickly turned into a bases-loaded jam. Colton Bender notched a two-run single and right-fielder Tyler Wells brought in two more runners with a triple. Rosario was replaced by Michael Boyian, who got a strikeout to end the inning with the Bees now down 6-2.

The Bees tried to spark a rally late, but ultimately never got close as they lost by a final score of 7-2. The loss is New Britain's first in regulation this year.

While Andrew Cain had a decent enough start (four innings, two earned runs), the bullpen faltered when it mattered most. After not allowing a run in

the first three games, they have now allowed six runs in the past two outings. The fact that all four runs charged to Rosario happened with two outs made it that much more deflating.

The Sea Unicorns' pitching on the other hand was rock solid. Starter Eddie Kafton allowed two runs in three innings, but Spencer Fox and Kalib Clark shut the door for five innings after that. Fox in particular was spectacular, tossing four no-hit innings and earning six strikeouts along the way.

New Britain's offense never quite found its footing after a strong start. After collecting five hits off Kafton, the Bees mustered only one more hit in the final five innings (a Christian Fagnant double). They struck out 12 times.

Despite the loss, Wednesday was another good game for outfielder Alec Ritch. He reached base safely in three of his five plate appearances and has four hits in his past two games.

The Bees are now heading home to host the Westfield Starfires. The game begins at 6:35 p.m. Eastern.