

## **Preview: Home-field advantage could cure what ails the Bees as they host Brockton Rox**



The 7-11 New Britain Bees have lost nine of their last 11 games and will play three of their next four games against the first place Brockton Rox. Still, there are plenty of reasons for optimism for New Britain, chief among them being that they will be playing all four of those games at New Britain Stadium, where the team has been excellent all year. On Friday, June 17 the Bees will begin their four-game homestand with a matchup against Brockton that could set the tone for the rest of the weekend.

The 12-5 Brockton Rox are no joke, and they've certainly had their success against New Britain this season. The Rox have won all three meetings between the two teams thus far and have outscored the Bees 24-8. However, the teams have only played once in New Britain (albeit an 11-0 loss for the Bees), and the Bees have a stellar 6-3 record at home this year. Friday's game and the double-header between them on Sunday will be a perfect chance for New Britain to flip the script on the season series.

The Rox may be only hitting .230 as a team this year, but their top guns are among the league's elite. Michael Golankiewicz, Ben Rounds and Erick Ramirez have combined for 40 RBI's, five home runs, 12 doubles and 23 walks as a trio in 17 games. The Bees' pitching staff will have their hands full all weekend.

The pitcher who will get the start for New Britain on Friday is none other than the righty Kevin Seitter. The Quinnipiac product has allowed only five

earned runs in his three previous starts, good for a solid 3.85 ERA. He has allowed 11 hits and collected eight strikeouts in 11.2 innings this season.

Friday's game will begin at 6:35 p.m. Eastern.