

## Recap: Bees earn gritty win over Westfield behind Tonghini's dominance



The New Britain Bees hit the field Saturday, July 3 for the first time since Tuesday, and like Tuesday evening, they earned an impressive win. They got an incredible start from Julian Thongini and pieced together enough quality at-bats to survive a late push from the Westfield Starfires en route to a 3-1 victory at New Britain Stadium.

Having several days off can often lead to a team looking rusty in their first game back, but the Bees shook off any hypothetical rust prior to Saturday's contest. The top of the order in Alec Ritch (double), Ryan Bagdasarian (single) and Luke Broadhurst (walk) all reached base safely in the first inning before a Davis Cop single gave New Britain the 1-0 lead. Luke Broadhurst stole home to claim the two-run advantage the next at-bat before Westfield recorded an out.

Bees' starter Julian Tonghini was the story of the game for both teams. The right-hander had thrown 4.2 no-hit innings when a fifth-inning single by right-fielder Henry Martinez sparked a little bit of trouble. Tonghini loaded the bases with two outs but delivered a pitch that earned the inning-ending swing and miss by Cole Bartels. He finished the game with six shutout innings with one hit, four walks and eight strikeouts.

Though the winning run had already been scored, Luke Masiuk padded the Bees' lead when a triple and an error at third base allowed him to cross home plate. After Tonghini's night was over, manager Donnie McKillop handed the ball to John Mikosz. The right-handed reliever gave New Britain the final

three innings and the victory. Mikosz allowed an eighth-inning run, but ultimately earned the save while Tonghini picked up the win.

Tomorrow the Bees will be back on the road for a double-header with the very same Westfield Starfires. Game 1 of the set will begin at 12:00 p.m. Eastern.