

## Recap: Bees' offense heats up behind Nemchek's dominant start



As the seventh place New Britain Bees and their fans know, every baseball season has its ups and downs. Luckily for them, the Bees are in the midst of a solid stretch of play. The latest example was a 6-0 shutout of the Norwich Sea Unicorns this Sunday, August 8 at New Britain Stadium that kept the Bees' playoff hopes alive.

Leadoff hitter Alec Ritch was all over the field for the Bees on Sunday. After working a walk to start the inning, Ritch gave the Bees their first lead (and the winning run) when he stole home plate on a heads-up play from third. An inning later he stroked his first triple of the season, a two-RBI shot off Norwich's Camren Varney. As the Bees' lead expanded their pitching staff continued to hold it down; the team went on to win 6-0.

Ritch certainly did his part as the team combined for eight hits, but the game was won on the mound for New Britain. Joe Nemchek turned in perhaps his best start of the year, throwing five shutout innings with seven strikeouts and only one hit allowed. Meanwhile, Dawson Logie and Connor Podeszwa each threw two scoreless innings out of the bullpen. The whole staff had it going Sunday.

Though a recent eight-game losing streak may be too much to overcome, the Bees are heating up at the right time. They have now won three of their last four games, two of which came over the Sea Unicorns, one of the teams they are chasing in the standings. The Bees currently stand three games back of

the fourth and final playoff spot with five games remaining. The home stretch could get interesting for New Britain.

The Bees will have the day off Monday before returning to the field Tuesday for a double-header in Nashua. Their first game against the Silver Knights will begin at 3:00 p.m. Eastern.