

Recap: Bees lose fourth straight game in 2-1 pitching duel with Lake Monsters



With a three-game losing streak underway, the New Britain Bees were hoping their Wednesday, June 9 matchup with the Vermont Lake Monsters would be a turning point amidst their struggles. Instead, though they were firmly in the game for all nine innings, Wednesday brought them a 2-1 loss to extend their losing streak to four games.

The early innings of Wednesday's action were particularly intense, with the feeling that any swing could spell trouble for New Britain. These feelings were validated in the bottom of the fifth inning when an error and a pair of singles by Pat DeSalvo and Noah Granet gave the Lake Monsters the 2-0 lead.

A Rory Lynch RBI-double in the seventh inning gave the Bees some life, but the eighth and ninth inning were challenging to say the least. Down only one run in the final two frames, six of the last seven Bees to come to the plate were retired via the strikeout. They struck out 13 times overall.

New Britain may have lost, but they got a strong performance from the entire pitching staff. Starter Michael Boyian went five innings without allowing an earned run, though two scored via fielding errors. The bullpen of Brendan Kirck (two innings, three strikeouts) and Steven Phillips (one inning, two strikeouts) did not allow a hit in their three innings of relief. The team allowed three hits all game, which is usually good enough to win.

The inspiring pitching performance had head coach Donnie McKillop in decent spirits postgame, as he usually is. “We’ve out-hit teams our last three games and we have not had the timely ones. [The] pitching effort has kept us within reach for the most part,” he said.

McKillop said he and the team are now just looking forward to Thursday’s game back in New Britain. They will host the Norwich Sea Unicorns at 6:35 p.m. Eastern. Dawson Logie will be the Bees’ starting pitcher.