

Recap: Bees top Suns as they reach .500 mark once again



The Bees are buzzing. With a win Thursday, June 24 over the second place Pittsfield Suns, the New Britain Bees have now won seven of their last 10 games. They are now at .500 (12-12) for the first time since the team began the season at 5-5.

Bees' starter Dawson Logie, who has had several excellent starts, didn't quite have his best stuff Thursday. He battled control and got bit for three runs on five hits in 1.1 innings. Despite the shaky first inning, New Britain scored runs in each of the first two frames to keep the game close. It was a 4-2 affair by the time Bees' pitcher Michael Boyian (who's been mostly used as a starter this season) entered the game and turned the tide for New Britain.

When Boyian took the mound in the fifth, the Bees gave him some quick run support that set him up for the eventual win. A Ryan Bagdasarian double tied the game before two more scored in the inning off of a David Howarth triple. In the sixth, Jake Hyde brought in another pair of Bees with a single, giving the home team a three-run lead. Meanwhile, Boyian finished the final five innings of the game, allowing zero runs on three hits with five strikeouts. New Britain won by a final score of 7-4.

Though the top of the first was difficult, New Britain outscored Pittsfield 7-1 in the final 8.5 innings. It was, as head coach Donnie McKillop put it, "a total team win." The bullpen allowed only one run in 7.2 innings and the offense got big hits in big spots. Six of New Britain's nine hitters recorded a hit, and eight of them reached base at least once.

Jake Hyde put together a strong three-RBI showing while Alec Ritch, who had missed a number of games with an illness, reached base three times and scored twice. Todd Petersen (one hit, two walks) and Ryan Bagdasarian (one hit, one run, one RBI) also had a big impact on the game, particularly in the field where they each made a number of difficult plays look easy.

New Britain will host the Suns once again on Friday with a chance to climb over .500. The game will begin at 6:35 and Joe Nemchek will get the start for New Britain.