

NEWPORT GULLS BASEBALL

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"RAISING THE BAR IN SUMMER COLLEGIATE BASEBALL"

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Kittredge Fans 12 In Game One Victory Over Vermont

Newport, RI-The Newport Gulls took control of the NECBL Finals as they won game one 7-2 over the Vermont Mountaineers. With the win, the Newport Gulls are just one win away from winning their fourth NECBL Championship, a NECBL record.

Aaron Westlake started things off right in the bottom of the second for Newport as he hit a single and advanced to third on a double by first baseman Troy Scott. The Gulls were poised for a big inning but third baseman Kevin Vance made a nice play by getting Westlake out at the plate when Mike Kaminski hit a ground ball. The Gulls were able to muster one run as the next batter Mike Melillo hit a single but that's all they got as Newport squandered two runners on the base.

Newport starter Andrew Kittredge got into some trouble in the fifth inning as he gave a single to second baseman Nick Martinez. After falling behind 1-0 to the next batter, Jantzen Witte, Witte smacked a ball, deep over the right field fence for a two run home run. The 2-1 lead was the first lead of the series for Vermont.

The Gulls responded as they scored three runs in the bottom half of the inning. Their second run of the ball game came when Tim Smalling scored on a wild pitch. Joey Bergman and Troy Scott later followed that up with an RBI single each.

The Newport Gulls never relinquished the lead after that inning. Kittredge settled down, finishing the game going seven strong innings as he struck out twelve Mountaineer batters. He allowed a total of three runs as he scattered six hits while allowing just two walks.

In the sixth inning, Newport added a run when centerfielder T.J. Mittelstaedt hit a double which scored second baseman David Bentrott. In the following inning, Newport added two more runs. Troy Scott and Mike Kaminski hit back to back doubles to lead off the inning, with Kaminski collecting an RBI. The Gulls seventh run of the night came on an error by the shortstop Witte.

Geoff Nichols came on to pitch the final two innings with a four run lead. Nichols allowed just one hit while he struck out a lone batter.

The Newport Gulls will look to win the series and their fourth Championship when these two teams meet for game two on Sunday August 9. Game time is set for 6:30 in Montpelier, Vermont at Montpelier Recreation Field.

If the Gulls don't secure the a victory, there will be a game three that is played on Monday at 6:35 in Newport, Rhode Island at Cardines Field.

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