

Muskrats mount a huge comeback over Sanford

By Zachary Wilson | July 13, 2022, 11:00 pm EDT

The Muskrats have experienced rough losses over the last few weeks, with most of them coming after they held the lead for most of the game. However, they were able to flip the script this time around.

Winnipesaukee (13-16) returned to action at home after their scheduled contest with North Shore yesterday got postponed due to weather, facing their division rival, Sanford (13-16), whom they were 2-3 against coming into tonight's contest.

Patrick Harrington made his third start of the season tonight and his second appearance against Sanford after he began his summer with the Muskrats as a reliever against the Mainers on June 26th, striking out the side against all three batters he faced in the ninth inning. For Sanford, they started Jack Mullen, who made a start at Winnipesaukee twelve days ago and was credited with a loss after allowing seven hits and three runs, two earned.

The Mainers scored the first two runs of the game after Jake Rainess and Alex Knapp each had an RBI single in the first two innings before the Muskrats came on the board off a Jack Thorbahn home run. Afterwards, Harrington gave up six more runs before he was relieved by Alex Kafka in the fourth inning, giving the Mainers an 8-1 lead.

Then, the Muskrats began their comeback in the fifth by driving in two runs, followed by three in the sixth and seventh innings each to take a 9-8 lead entering the eighth inning. In the top of the eighth, the Mainers tied up the game after Calvin Hewett for Sanford scored on a wild pitch. The Muskrats then responded in the bottom of the eighth by retaking the lead off an RBI single by Zach DeMattio to bring home Randy Flores, making it a 10-9 lead for Winnipesaukee.

Entering the ninth, the Muskrats brought in Ian Murphy from St. John's, looking to make another save on the summer and complete the comeback. Despite allowing the game-tying run on base via a one-out walk, Murphy struck out the last two batters to complete the comeback, get the save, and tie the season series with Sanford at three apiece. Kafka was given the win while Brian Craven was credited with the loss after giving up the go-ahead run in the eighth.

The Muskrats have now won three of their last four games as they will take a day off tomorrow before they head to Martha's Vineyard on Friday Night at 7 PM at the Shark Tank, looking to sweep the season from the Sharks, having defeated them a month ago at Robbie Mills Field.