

# NEWPORT GULLS BASEBALL

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*"RAISING THE BAR IN SUMMER COLLEGIATE BASEBALL"*

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## Gulls Take Game One of Double Header 5-3

**Newport, RI-** The Sanford Mainers committed four errors, which proved costly as they lost the first game of the double header against the Newport Gulls.

Mike Melillo started the game off right for the Newport Gulls as he hit a two run home run in the first after Greg Garcia reached base on a lead off double in the first inning.

The Gulls lead did not last long as the Mainers tied the game up at 2-2 in the second inning. Newport starter Colby Hawk got into trouble as he allowed a single and then a walk in the second. Corey Thompson made Hawk pay as he busted out a double, scoring both Justin Hilt and Adam Duvall.

The Gulls took the lead again in the third second inning when Melillo was in the middle of the scoring once again. After getting the first two batters out, Mainers starter Dustin Ramey looked like he was going to cruise through the inning until he met some trouble in the name of Greg Garcia as he surrendered a walk on a full count.

Ramey battled back well while getting Melillo to hit a fly ball out to right field for what should have been the third out of the inning. However, Mainers right fielder, Hilt, couldn't handle the ball as it tipped off his glove, allowing Garcia to score.

Sanford battled back once again as they tied things up in the fifth inning. After giving up a double and a single respectively, Hawk was replaced by Geoff Nichols. Although Nichols allowed the lead runner to score on a ground ball, Nichols got all three of the batters he faced in the fifth.

After a lead off walk in the fifth, Joey Bergman attempted a sacrifice bunt to advance Melillo to second base. Bergman laid down the bunt, surrendering himself, but Melillo tried to take third base and was thrown out on a double play.

The inning looked like it was going to be a waste for the Gulls but they battled back, sending six more men to the plate on their way to scoring two runs. Mainers pitching allowed four walks and a base hit to Tim Smalling which gave the Gulls a 5-3 lead.

Nichols came back to pitch a perfect sixth inning while he got his first win of the season. Matt Branham came in the seventh inning to capture his second save of the season.

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