

BROCKTON, MA – Rox Hang Around, But Quebec Bats Prove Too Tough to Stop

A five-run fifth inning by the Quebec Capitales was the difference-maker at Campanelli Stadium on Wednesday morning, as they defeated the Brockton Rox, 12-3.

Much like Tuesday, the Quebec offense wasted no time getting started. Three walks and a wild pitch in the first inning gave Les Capitales an early 2-0 lead. Rox starting pitcher **Trevor Nelson** picked off Les Capitales third baseman Christian Inoa with a sharp pickoff toward first base to escape further damage.

Brockton third baseman **Evan Giordano** led off the bottom of the second with a double off the left-field wall. It appeared Giordano would be stranded, but red-hot left fielder **Tommy Kretzler** homered to left with two outs to tie the game. Les Capitales left fielder **Pier-Olivier Bouchard** made an incredible effort to rob the home run but came up just short as the ball landed in the bullpen.

The tie was short-lived. Quebec shortstop **Kyle Crowl** homered on the first pitch of the third inning to regain the lead for Les Capitales. Quebec catcher **Anthony Quirion** continued to be a thorn in the side of the Rox, adding another solo shot with one out in the inning.

However, Les Capitales starter **Pablo Garabitos** surrendered two free passes in the bottom of the third, and Brockton catcher **Derek Bender** singled home **Jack-Thomas Wold** to make it 4-3.

Garabitos exited after four full innings and was replaced by **Brodie Cooper-Vassalakis**, who went on to throw three hitless innings in relief.

Nelson gave up a single and a double in the top of the sixth with one out, and danger was imminent. **Matt Maloney** entered in relief but struggled mightily with command. He recorded just one out and allowed a base hit and three walks. Tall lefty **Ben Seiler** came in to record the final out of the inning. By the time the dust settled, five runs had scored for Quebec in the frame.

Seiler disagreed with several calls from home plate umpire Noah Hobart during the sixth. Walking off the mound after ending the inning, Seiler voiced his displeasure, and a heated exchange led to ejections for both Seiler and Rox manager **Jerod Edmondson**.

The Quebec lead had grown to **9-3**, and the Rox's momentum was extinguished by the five-run sixth inning.

RBIs by Boucher and **Emiles Boies** in the top of the ninth set the final score at **12-3**. The Rox went five innings without recording a hit, managing to collect two base knocks in the ninth before **Keegan Calero** struck out to end the game.

Five scoreless innings from the Quebec bullpen helped them lock down the lead. Cooper-Vassalakis earned the win—his third of the season—while Brockton's Trevor Nelson took the loss.

The Rox will be back in action Thursday night at **7:00 p.m. EST** for the third and final game of the series against Quebec.