

# SPORTS

## Gulf Coast nips Vikings

*Palatka Daily News*

The scouts who turned out for the opening game of the Kevin Miller Classic Thursday in Panama City had to go away impressed.

The host Commodores of Gulf Coast State College had to go away happy.

Even the losing coach seemed pleased.

“Just a great college baseball game,” said Ross Jones St. Johns River State College, which saw a five-game win streak end with a 3-1 loss. “They threw their guy (Dylan Cyphert) that had signed with Alabama and we threw ours (Pearson McMahan) that has signed with Mississippi State. Two SEC guys.”

Both pitched well, though neither figured in the decision. The Vikings took a 1-0 lead into the seventh before Gulf Coast’s Jacquez Koonce drilled a two-out, two-run double down the line in left off Jagger McCoy (0-1). Alec Wisely’s solo home run in the eighth ended the scoring.

See **BASEBALL**, Page 8A

---

## Baseball

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7A

Greg Loukinen worked a 1-2-3 ninth for his second save. The win went to Trever Kilcreast (1-0), who took over for Cyphert in the fifth.

McMahan pitched five an a third, striking out seven, walking four and allowing a couple of infield hits. “He was outstanding,” Jones said.

SJR State got on the board in the third. Nick Owens and Kerry Carpenter drew one-out walks and Cole Perry’s two-out single loaded the bases. Cyphert uncorked a wild pitch that allowed Owens to score.

Gulf Coast pitchers held the Vikings to three hits, a pair of singles by Perry and a double by Justin Smith.

It was the first of four games for St. Johns at the Miller Classic. Today, the Vikings play the nation’s third-ranked team, Chattahoochee Valley of Alabama.