

# SPORTS

## Bellamy blasts key St. Johns' Pasco sweep

Palatka Daily News

The St. Johns River State College softball team keeps rolling.

Off to the best start in program history at 17-6, the Vikings swept visiting Pasco-Hernando State College Thursday, beating the Bobcats, 8-0, in the opener on the strength of three home runs, then capturing the nightcap, 3-2, in eight innings on a two-run home run in the bottom of the eighth by former Palatka High player Baily Bellamy.

It was a big day for Bellamy, who hit one of the three home runs in the first game, a three-run shot during a five-run third inning, her first career college home run, while teammate Selena Bezares hit a two-run shot, her seventh of the season. Maegan Stone got the eight-run rule win started by hitting the first pitch of the game over the center field fence.

Jaime Valent had two doubles in a 3-for-3, one-run performance. Morgan Scala was 2-for-3 with a run and an RBI, while Stone, Bezares, Bellamy, winning pitcher Ariel McCullough, Rachel Johnson, Reganne McCarl and Brittany Lewis had one hit apiece for the Vikings.

McCullough (10-3) went the first four innings, allowing three hits, walking one and striking out two. Brandi Polk finished it with a hitless fifth inning in the circle, striking out a hitter.

In the second game, Pasco-Hernando (9-13) took a 2-1 lead in the top of the eighth inning when a throwing error by third baseman Alyssa Rosenbaum on an Angelica Venezia bunt allowed Jada Radecky, who started at second via tie-breaker advantage rules, to come home and make it 2-1.

In the bottom of the eighth, pinch-runner Marissa Huggins started the inning at second and moved to third on a passed ball. On a 3-1 pitch, Bellamy – who was 2-for-4 with a run and three RBI, delivering a first-inning RBI double – crushed a shot over the left-center field fence to win it for the Vikings.

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## Vikings

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Stone was 2-for-4 and Scala was 2-for-3 with the first-inning run for the Vikings. Left-hander Madison Roeshink (4-2) went 5 2/3 innings in relief of starter Polk and allowed one hit, struck out two and did not walk a batter.

"I'm still skeptical because I can say it a million times – our (Mid-Florida) conference is so strong," Vikings coach Jill Semento said. "But we still did a lot of things really well. I have confidence that we can go into conference play and win some games."

The Vikings begin conference play March 10 at the College of Central Florida. This weekend, the Vikings will play four games in an event at Sanford's Soldiers Creek Complex.

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