

The Sussex County Miners opened their third series against the Trois-Rivieres Eagles with a 5-1 victory, moving their record to 16-7 and dropping the Eagles to 9-14.

No damage would be inflicted by either team until the top of Inning number 3, when James Smibert smacked a pitch from Jackson Balzan out of Skylands Stadium to give the Eagles a 1-0 lead. It would be the only run Balzan would let up through his seven innings of work today.

On the other side, Jacob Peaden had completely shut down the Miners offense, until the bottom of the sixth, when Mahki Backstrom started the Miners off with a double, Will Zimmerman followed him up with a single, and Alec Sayre slapped a flyball deep enough to allow Backstrom to score from third and tie the game at one a piece. Peaden would finish the inning, ending his day with six innings of one-run ball while sneaking in a single strikeout.

Moving to the bottom of the 8th inning, a nightmare would unfold for the Eagles, as after a Mahki Backstrom Walk, second baseman Alec Sayre hit sharp groundball that was just out the reach for the second baseman, John Montes to glove it cleanly scoring Backstrom and giving the Miners the lead. Following a Jordan Smith Walk, Keenan O'Brien would break the game wide open with a three-run home run, extending the Miners' lead to four.

Billy Parsons would pitch a perfect ninth, ending the game with the Miners taking the first of the two-game set between them and the Eagles while also reaching a new team best all time season start at home at 9-1. Miners will look to complete the sweep tomorrow at 11 AM and give themselves a 6-3 season series advantage over the Eagles.

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