

# SPORTS

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## Vikings blow lead in first game, then salvage split

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Another blown opportunity for a doubleheader sweep.

Now the St. Johns River State College softball team will do everything it can Saturday afternoon to avoid being swept by the best junior college team in the country.

The Vikings helplessly watched as

host Florida State College-Jacksonville score five runs in the bottom of the seventh inning after they scored five in the top of that inning to pull out a 12-11 victory in the opener. In the second game, the Vikings erupted for an 11-2 victory behind a 3-for-3, two-RBI, one-run effort from Hannah Sommers and a five-hit pitching performance

from Skye Davenport.

But the first game would prove to be painful for the Vikings (23-20 overall, 6-10 in the conference). A solo home run by Savannah Montgomery got her team going, taking an 11-7 lead into the bottom of the seventh. But three walks and a costly play in the field helped the Blue Wave (26-12, 5-11)

bounce back. With four runs in to tie it, Maddie Johnson ended it with a single.

For the Vikings in the first game, Chris Marasa was 3-for-5 with two RBI, while Montgomery was 2-for-4 with two runs and an RBI, Haley Wildes finished 2-for-5 with three runs

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## Vikings

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and two RBI and Sydney Shows was 2-for-4 with three runs and two RBI. Kayla Kight had a hit as well.

The second game saw Kight go 2-for-2 with two runs, Marasa fin-

ish 2-for-4 with an RBI and Shows going 2-for-4 with a run and one RBI. Montgomery, Amanda Peck and Alendra Resendes had one hit each.

For the moment, the Vikings are one game ahead of FSC-Jacksonville, Santa Fe and Lake-Sumter in the Mid-Florida Conference standings for fourth

place. But that could be in danger come Saturday when the Vikings travel to Ocala to take on Central Florida, which has a 47-1 mark and the No. 1 ranking in the country. The Vikings were mercy-ruled in two straight games by the Patriots in a conference doubleheader at home on March 10.

"We needed to sweep this team,"

Vikings coach Jill Semento said. "Our pitching was not good in the first game with eight walks, but we almost got away with the win."

As to facing Central Florida on Saturday, Semento said, "Yep. That's all I can say on it. I'm looking for us to just get some hits and make routine plays and play defense."