

SPORTS

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Vikings strike out 17 Broward batters in Classic win

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For the first time this week, the St. Johns River State College baseball team did not have to bat in the ninth inning Friday afternoon.

Seventeen strikeouts tend to keep the opponent at bay.

Broward College made it interesting a couple

of times, but whiffed 17 times in an 8-4 loss to the Vikings on the second day of the Capital City Bank Classic at Tindall Field. St. Johns (10-3) was coming off consecutive 7-6 wins over Polk State and Florence-Darlington Tech of South Carolina, each in the bottom of the ninth.

The Vikings never trailed Friday, though the

Seahawks (3-6) got within 3-2 in the top of the fourth and loaded the bases with nobody out in the seventh inning of a 7-4 game. On came Jagger McCoy, who quelled the uprising with two strikeouts and a groundout.

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He finished the game to notch the first save of the year for him and his team. McCoy struck out seven, walked none and allowed two hits in three innings. Starter Scott Kobos (1-1) went five and

two-thirds, striking out nine, walking one and allowing two hits. Jaison Heard got the last out in the sixth via strikeout.

"We were pretty good on the mound today, to say the least," said SJR State coach Ross Jones. "By far, this was Kobos' best outing. He made one mistake all day."

The mistake was a two-run homer that got the Seahawks

within 3-2 in the top of the fourth, but the Vikings responded with three runs in the bottom half.

It was the second straight game in which St. Johns got by without an extra-base hit.

Leadoff man Nick Owens led a nine-hit offense by going 3-4 and scoring three runs. Kerry Carpenter went 2-4 and had three RBI. Justin Smith, Josh

Broughton, Michael Koenig and Jimmy Goldsmith had one hit apiece. Owens, Smith and Goldsmith each had an RBI, as did Cole Perry on a sacrifice fly.

The classic continues today, SJR State completing action with a 6:30 p.m. game against Gulf Coast State. They also play the last game on Sunday, at 4 p.m. against Chipola College.