

# SPORTS

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## Vikings back from South Georgia with split

### Sunday afternoon rematch at Tindall Field

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The trip to Douglas, Ga., is seldom simple for the St. Johns River State College baseball team.

Sometimes, it's just the weather in the middle of February. More often, it's the host Hawks.

The latter was the case Friday, when the Vikings escaped with a doubleheader split, rallying from five runs down in the second game for a 6-5 victory. South Georgia won the first game 2-1, getting two unearned runs in the fourth to spoil St. Johns' first complete-game pitching performance of the season, a two-hit gem from lefthander Scott Kobos.

The Vikings came home 12-6. The

Hawks are 9-8. They meet again for a Sunday afternoon doubleheader at Tindall Field.

"They're a good club," said SJR State coach Ross Jones. "They can pitch. They can swing it. It's like that always up here. It's a tough place to play and they're well coached."

The Vikings made it hard on themselves in the opener, going 0-9 with runners in scoring position and

allowing South Georgia to score twice without a hit in the fourth. A hit batsman, an errant throw on a sacrifice bunt, two passed balls and a groundout translated to a 2-0 lead.

SJR State's Nick Koslowski hit the second of his three doubles on the day with two out and nobody on in the sixth, scoring when Jimbo Reemsnyder reached on an error.

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## Vikings

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Wasted in defeat were six good innings from Kobos (1-2), who struck out three, walked three and held the Hawks to a couple of singles.

"Everything was working for him," Jones said. "He pitched really well to both sides of the plate."

Koslowski was 2-3 in the first game, Kerry Carpenter 2-4. The other St. Johns hits were Kobos' double and singles by Justin Smith and Nick Owens.

After one run through the first 11 innings of the doubleheader, the Vikings got a needed jolt from Andrew Williamson in the fifth inning of the second game – a two-out, two-run double off the wall in left center. Owens and Smith followed with run-scoring singles to bring SJR State within 5-4.

Owens, Smith and Carpenter began the seventh with consecutive singles, Carpenter's plating Owens to make it 5-5. Smith took third on Carpenter's hit and scored the go-ahead run when Cole Perry lofted a fly ball to the warning track in left.

South Georgia loaded the bases without a hit with one out in the bottom of the seventh – a wild pitch on the third strike, a walk and an error – before Andrew Vaccacio served up a pop foul and a shallow fly ball to record his first save.

The win went to Zach Greene (3-0), who struck out two, walked two over an inning and a third, allowing no hits or runs after entering in the sixth.

Owens, Smith and Kobos each went 2-4. Doubles by Williamson and Koslowski and singles by Carpenter, Josh Broughton and Michael Koenig completed an 11-hit offense.