

SPORTS

Issues surface as St. Johns swept Softball team home today vs. SCF

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The St. Johns River State College softball team had multiple issues Saturday during a home double-header with Hillsborough Community College.

In the opening game, it was five errors in the first two innings that gave the visitors a 7-1 lead after two innings. In both games, it was the lack of a clutch hit as the Vikings stranded 12 runners on base in the first game, then six in the second.

The Vikings wound up losing both ends of the twinbill, falling 10-4 in the first game before a two-run home run by pinch-hitter Ashley Bentley in the top of the seventh inning gave the Hawks a 3-2 victory.

"Absolutely frustrating," Vikings coach Jill Semento said after her team dropped under .500 to 9-10. "In the second game, Maddy (lefty starter Madison Roeshink) threw a great game. And the pitch (Bentley) hit was really a good pitch by Maddy that was down and out. She just about golfed it over the (left-center field) fence."

The Vikings took a 2-1 lead in the bottom of the fifth against starter Aubrey Ehlers when Christiana Marasa singled in Marissa Huggins. Marasa was 2-for-3 with a run and an RBI, while Jessie Grissom finished 2-for-3 with an RBI and Sydney Shows ended up 2-for-3. Kayla Kight and Brittani Lewis had one hit apiece.

Ehlers walked one and struck out two, while scattering eight hits, while Roeshink (5-4) had one walk, four strikeouts and allowed four hits.

In the first game, the Vikings self-destructed in the field to give the Hawks (11-12) a big lead. The Vikings came back with a solo run in the third on the second home run this season by Maegan Stone (2-for-4 with two runs and an RBI in the opener). But Sara Newman, who was 2-for-4 with a run and four RBI, helped put the opener away with a three-run, fourth-inning home run.

For the Vikings, Huggins was 2-for-4, as was Marasa. Taylor Nilsson finished 2-for-2 with an RBI. Jordan Phillips provided a double for the Vikings, who will host State College of Florida at 4 p.m. today.