

SPORTS

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Vikings sweep Pasco-Hernando

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This, to St. Johns River State College softball coach Jill Semento, was more like it.

Her Vikings swept a doubleheader at home Tuesday, taking down Pasco-Hernando, 5-4, in the first game, then capturing the second game, 5-4, to improve to 15-12.

Semento wanted to talk about the performances she got from winning pitchers Madison Roeshink (8-5) and Christiana Marasa (4-3).

“Maddie (who had three strikeouts and no walks while allowing four hits in the first game) has been throwing very well for us every time she is on the mound,” Semento said. “We have a good shot at winning every time she takes the mound. And Chris (one walk, three strikeouts and 10 hits scattered for the second-game win) has been throwing very well of late. The other teams are not hitting the ball hard at all. Everyone is gaining more confidence behind our pitchers and it’s nice to have that happening.”

The Vikings got a big boost when Marissa Huggins delivered a grand slam over the right-field fence in the second inning, her first career college home run. Selena Bezares added a solo home run during a three-run fifth inning, her fourth of the season.

Marasa was 2-for-4 with an RBI, while Kayla Kight was 2-for-4 and Maegan Stone finished 2-for-4 with a run scored. Taylor Nilsson, Sydney Shows, Jessie Grissom and Brittany Lewis added solo hits for the Vikings in the opener.

With the game tied at 3-3 in the second game, the Vikings took the lead in the third when Bezares hit a forceout that scored Stone and Nilsson delivered a double to score Bezares.

Pasco-Hernando got to within a run in the fourth inning and had runners on second and third with one out in the fifth, but Marasa got out of trouble with a strikeout and a flyout.

Shows finished 3-for-4 with a run scored and two RBI, while Kight was 2-for-4 and Nilsson finished 2-for-3 with two RBI. Stone, Grissom and Bezares added solo hits.

The Vikings travel to Plant City on Thursday to face Hillsborough in a doubleheader that was rained out last Thursday. Starting time is 4 p.m.