

# SPORTS

## St. Johns settles for split on road

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The result was a Mid-Florida Conference doubleheader split for the St. Johns River State College softball team.

But that didn't come without controversy in the second game Tuesday at Lake-Sumter State College.

With the game tied at 3-all in the top of the seventh inning, the Vikings had a runner at second base with two outs. Brooklynn Basile struck out, but the ball reportedly could not be handled by catcher Aura Blackburn. Blackburn, though, took the ball and rolled it back to the pitcher's mound as Basile reached first.

However, the ruling, according to Vikings coach Jill Semento, was that both the plate umpire and home umpire never saw the ball bounce in front of Blackburn and the third out was official, much to Semento's chagrin. In the bottom of the seventh, Rachel Phelps' sacrifice fly to center fielder Kelsea Friend scored Taylor Turner with the winning run and a Lake-Sumter 4-3 win.

The Vikings won the opener, 4-2, with two runs in the sixth inning to break a 2-2 tie.

Down 3-0 in the fourth, Selena Bezares got the comeback started for the Vikings (23-10 overall, 1-3 in conference) with a solo home run, her 11th of the season. Friend was 3-for-4 with a run scored, while Bezares was 2-for-4 with a run and an RBI. Maegan Stone, Jaime Scala, Basile and Karsyn Barnes had one hit each.

In the first game, another close one, Bezares drove in Stone with the go-ahead run with a sacrifice fly and Reganne McCarl, who hit a home run earlier in the game, delivered a groundout to score Scala.

Selena Nunez was 2-for-3 with a run and an RBI, delivering a solo home run, while Scala finished 2-for-4 with a run. McCarl and Stone had one hit apiece. Winning pitcher Ariel McCullough (14-5) got the win in relief, throwing three innings, walking one, striking out one and allowing two hits.

The Vikings host Santa Fe in a conference twinbill at 1 p.m. Saturday.