

# SPORTS

## Vikings batter Polk St.

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The reeling St. Johns River State College baseball team got everything it could have asked out of a Tuesday afternoon trip to Polk State College.

The Vikings ended a four-game losing streak with a 14-1 rout in which 10 batters combined for 17 hits and five pitchers combined for 13 strikeouts. Every position player got into the game, including an outfielder making his St. Johns debut in place of another who suffered a season-ending injury last Saturday.

The newcomer, Josh Haygood, was 2-4 with one RBI and that was only the beginning of the positives for the Vikings, who led 7-1 after two innings, 10-1 after four and 14-1 by the end of the sixth.

"After losing four (in the Capital City Bank Classic), we needed to come out and play well and we did," said SJR State coach Ross Jones, whose team improved to 12-6 while Polk leveled off at 7-7. "We played every single guy. We got five of our starters out of there after the fifth inning. Our starters really swung the bats well."

Half the Vikings' runs came off homers – two-run shots by Michael Rosario in the first inning and Charlie Welch in the second and a three-run blow by Chase Sanguinetti in the sixth. Sanguinetti was 3-3 on the day, Rosario 3-4.

Haygood, Ryan Romano and Juan Jaime had two hits apiece. Jaime was inserted at third base and Andre James was moved to the outfield Tuesday in an attempt to beef up the offense.

August Haymaker doubled for St. Johns. James, Chase Malloy and Ben Spittler all singled.

Three days after taking the loss in a disastrous relief stint against Florida SouthWestern, Stephen Halstead (2-1) got the win as a starter, striking out three and giving up two hits and an unearned run over three innings. Nic Daniels, Caleb Dix, Michael Morse and Kavin Kroll all worked in relief. SJR State pitchers combined on a five-hitter that included 13 strikeouts and four walks.

"We got five pitchers out there who needed innings," Jones said.

The John Tindall Classic begins Thursday at Tindall Field as the Vikings take on Florence-Darlington Tech of South Carolina. They play State College of Florida on Friday, Hillsborough on Saturday and East Georgia on Sunday.

"We've got 12 days to (Mid-Florida) Conference and four tough games this weekend," Jones said.