

Kennedy sets record; Tribe loses

By WAYNE HOGAN

Democrat Sports Writer

STATESBORO, Ga.—Terry Kennedy accomplished the inevitable here Sunday, but it came in a losing cause as Georgia Southern gained a split of a two-game series by beating Florida State 6-4.

Kennedy, a sophomore from Mesa, Ariz., blasted his 14th home run of the year in the eighth inning, breaking the single-season record at Florida State.

The 370-foot shot over the right-centerfield fence was too little, too late, however, as the third-ranked Seminoles dropped their fifth game of the season in 28 outings.

Kennedy's record-breaking homer, amazingly enough, came one game short of the halfway point of the season. The 6-3, 208-pound catcher also tied a record for most career home runs with the same shot, his 17th since coming as a freshman last year.

The single-season record has stood since 1966 when Jim Lytle hit 13 in leading the Seminoles into the Region 1 final. Mike Easom, who finished at Florida State in 1969, shares the career mark.

But all talk of records meant nothing to the Seminoles on a warm afternoon at Eagle Park.

After taking the opening game of the short series 10-3 on Saturday night, Florida State fell behind early and could never catch up in the finale.

Lefthander Jackie Smith, who started for FSU, was touched up for five runs before he left with two out in the fifth. The transfer from Manatee Junior College was tagged with his first loss of the season after three victories.

The Eagles, who improved their record to 20-9 with the win, scored a run in the first, added three more in the third and another in the fourth to grab a 5-0 lead.

MEANWHILE, GSC starter Jack VanDerSluys was a complete mystery to the Seminoles for five innings and by the time FSU finally solved the right-hander it was too late.

"We just played with a lot more enthusiasm than last night," said GSC Coach Jack Stallings.

The first-year Eagle coach was obviously pleased with his first victory over his former club. Stallings was Florida State head man for five seasons before leaving in 1974.

"I was very disappointed in the way we played last night," Stallings continued, denying that this was a particularly big series for the Eagles.

The Seminoles didn't get their first hit off VanDerSluys until the sixth inning when they picked up a pair of runs to cut the lead to 5-2.

Georgia Southern got a run in the sixth off reliever Craig Eaton and FSU found itself down by four again.

The Seminoles added their third run in the seventh and probably would have gotten more had Guillermo Bonilla not bounced into a picture-perfect double play to end a threat.

Kennedy led off the eighth with his solo blast, but that was all the Tribe could muster.

Ga. Southern 6 FSU 4

GSC			FLA. STATE		
	ab	r h		ab	r h
B. Moore, 2b	4	1 2	Bifano, 2b	3	0 0
Boyer, cf	3	2 0	Huff, rf	3	1 1
M. Moore, lf	4	0 2	Hicks, ph	1	0 0
Fisher, lb	4	0 1	Curry, lb	1	0 0
Kotchman, 3b	4	0 2	Bonilla, 3b	4	0 0
Ivins, rf	4	0 0	Kennedy, c	3	2 1
Rover, dh	2	1 0	Hardy, ss	4	0 1
Hynko, dh	2	0 0	Coulter, dh	2	0 0
Kozniaki, c	3	0 0	Cooper, dh	1	0 0
Howser, ss	4	2 1	Lezcano, cf	4	0 0
VnD'Sluys, p	0	0 0	McArdle, lf	3	1 2
Ladd, p	0	0 0	McGione, lb	3	0 0
Sundermeier, p	0	0 0	Smith, P	0	0 0
			Eaton, p	0	0 0
TOTAL	34	6 8	TOTAL	32	4 5

Fla. State 000 002 110—4
Ga. Southern 103 101 00x—6
E—Bifano 2, Hardy, Kotchman, Howser.

DP—GSC 2
LOB—FSU 7, GSC 7
RBI — Hardy, Kennedy, B. Moore, M. Moore 2, Fisher
2B—McArdle, M. Moore 2, Fisher
3B—B. Moore
HR — Kennedy (14)
SB—Hardy, McArdle, B. Moore

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Smith, L (3-1)	4:3	6	5	3	2	3
Eaton	4:3	2	1	0	0	4
VnD'Sluys, W (2-0)	6	3	3	2	6	3
Ladd	2	2	1	1	0	1
Sundermeier	1	0	0	0	0	0
WP Smith, Eaton, HBP by Eaton (Kozniaki) SAVE Sundermeier T 2:12 O Giles, Ethridge, ATT 354.						