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Fireworks too late, —Seminoles fall 3-2

Special to the Democrat

MOBILE, Ala. — South Alabama shut off a ninth inning Florida state rally and escaped with a 3-2 baseball victory over the second-ranked seminoles here Sunday afternoon.

Down 3-0 going into the top of the ninth, the Seminoles got a pair of solo homers after one out but two Jaguar relievers came on to get the final two outs on strike outs.

Guillermo Bonilla cracked the scoreboard first for the tribe with a long shot to left field and Terry Kennedy immediately followed with his 17th homer of the year over the rightfield fence.

That was all the seminoles could muster off South Alabama starter Rick Williams and consequently saw their record drop to 33-9 on the season.

Larry Jones, drawing his second start since coming back from an earlyseason knee injury, pitched well but dropped to 5-2 with the loss.

He allowed only a pair of unearned runs in the second inning and a run in the fourth on a sacrifice fly. After that, the Jaquars never threatened.

Two two runs in the second scored after two were out on an infield hit and a fielder's choice. The inning had been prolonged, however, by an error on first baseman Ben Curry.

Steve Morrison, USA second baseman led off the fourth with a double and moved to third on a single by Ladell Lowe. He then scored when Mike Jacobs hit a sacrifice fly to deep left.

Jones pitched the whole way, giving up only seven hits and walking four South Alabama hitters. He struck out The mild ninth inning rally by the Seminoles was eventually quelled by a pair of South Alabama relievers.

After Kennedy's long homer, Coach Eddie Stanky went to his bullpen for righthander Enas Reidy who came on to strike out designated hitter Joe Hicks.

Stanky then, playing the percentages, brought on lefthander Corey Baker who got shortstop Jeff Hardy on a called third strike.

Jaguar starter Williams, starting his first game after 18 relief stints, pitched longer than he had in any game in his two years at USA.

The victory was South Alabama's second over the Seminoles in two days and gave them the victory in the threegame series. FSU won one game 9-4 Saturday. The Jaguars are now 26-9.

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