From the Tallahassee Democrat February 29, 1976 Page 37

Seminoles hold on 3-2

By WAYNE HOGAN

Democraf Sports Write

Florida State's baseball team may end up playin' em a little closer this season, but if the results are the same that will suit Coach Woody Woodward just fine.

Ahead 3-0 at Seminole Field Saturday afternoon, the Seminoles staved off a ninthinning Southwestern Louisiana rally and won

its home-opener 3-2.

The two clubs battle again this afternoon at 1:30 with Florida State lefty Jackie Smith, drawing his first nod as a Seminole, opposing USL's Jeff Garren.

The game has been designated a special "Poster day," with early-arriving fans picking up free FSU schedule posters.

"I still think we've got a lot of good talent on this club," said Woodward after the Tribe had recorded its fourth victory in as many starts. "We just made a few mistakes out there today and that kept them in the game."

Florida State righthander Larry Jones earned his second win of the season, working eight innings before giving way to Mike McLeod in the hectic ninth.

Jones, leading 3-0 going into the last inning, ran into trouble when the first two batters for the Ragin' Cajuns reached base.

Woodward went directly to McLeod, the righthander from Godby High, who proceeded to wild pitch the runners to second and third.

After striking out Paul Trosclair for the

first out of the inning, McLeod got designated hitter Willie Boyd to bounce out to first. That allowed Mike Kerrigan to score from third.

McLeod walked the next hitter to set up a first-and-third situation. Catcher Mike Sheffield then singled to deep short cutting the lead to one.

Shortstop Gerald Grand then bounced to Chip Bifano at second and the Seminoles had won their home-opener before 2,148 fans.

The Seminole bats were quiet most of the

Third baseman Greg Jones, subbing for ailing Guillermo Bonilla, managed the first hit in the third inning.

But it wasn't until the fifth that the

Seminoles did any damage. Even then, however, it was the wildness of starting pitcher Mike Jones that led to the runs.

The big righthander walked the bases loaded and then wild-pitched home the first

run of the game.

Leftfielder Jim McArdle then singled sharply up the middle to drive in two more Seminole runs. The rally died at that point, however, when shortstop Jeff Hardy rapped into a double play.

"Their starter was very effective," said Woodward of Mike Jones. "I thought we made a lot of mistakes at the plate that kept

him in the game, though."

The Seminoles had two runners on in the second and couldn't get a run and had the bases loaded in the sixth inning but failed to

punch a run across.

FSU's Larry Jones scattered three hits, but had some control problems, walking six Ragin' Cajuns. The vistors never had a serious threat, however, until the eighth inning when they had runners at first and second with two out.

"Larry pitched well," said Woodward. 'He had some problems, but we'll just say

that it's still early and he'll work those out. The important thing is that he's 2-0."

Jones, a 15-game winner last season, shut Miarni down on two hits in his first outing Monday night.

The game was not without its dramatics. by any means.

Southwestern first baseman Barniard was thrown out of the game in the seventh inning when he protested a close call at first on a pick-off attempt.

In the same inning, Woodward stormed at umpire O'Niel Jackson to protest a close call at first as well. He was allowed to stay despite the outburst.

McArdle, a transfer from Brevard Junior College, finished as the only player in the game with a pair of hits.

Woodward may make a few minor lineup changes for today's final game of the short series. He anticipates moving Terry Kennedy into the outfield and starting junior Rick McGlone at catcher.

Bonilla's status is still cloudy, but he may be available for some duty this afternoon.

FSU 3 SW La. 2

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