

JACKSON, MS -- Mike Mandarino allowed just five hits and struck out seven, but 21st-ranked Southern Poly scored twice in the fourth inning in a 2-1 victory over No. 7 Cumberland in baseball action Saturday.

The Bulldogs (2-4) lost all three games at the Belhaven Invitational to three ranked teams, managing just 16 hits combined in the three contests. Nick Sydnor drove in the only run for CU in the contest with a triple after Mandarino doubled to leadoff the second inning.

But Cumberland had just one hit the rest of the game, as SPSU hurler David Gibson (1-1) retired 23 of the final 24 batters of the game.

Mandarino (1-1) did not walk a batter in eight innings, the longest outing of his career. He retired the Hornets (4-6) in order in five innings and allowed one baserunner in two others. Kendadll Wehrle plated a run with a groundout and Jon White followed with a run-scoring single for SPSU's only runs.

Gibson gave up just three hits, walked one and struck out nine in the complete game. He walked Brodie Ross in the first inning and allowed a single to Chris Del Bianco to leadoff the sixth for CU's only baserunners of the contest.

Mandarino doubled to left to leadoff the second inning and pinch-runner William Henderson came around to score on Sydnor's one-out triple to rightcenter.

Southern Poly's only real threat of the game came in the fourth inning when Jordan Williams led off with a double and Trey Malone reached on a bunt single. Wehrle followed with an RBI groundout before White's single to left plated Malone.

Malone singled in the sixth and Chris Dykes singled in the seventh for SPSU's only other runners.

Bulldogs fall to SPSU

Saturday, February 11, 2012

Cumberland opens the home schedule Wednesday, Feb. 15 with a 12 Noon doubleheader against Milligan College and hosts Lindsey Wilson in a single game Thursday at 2 p.m.