From the Tallahassee Democrat March 15, 1966 page 12

Florida State rolled out its heavy bats Monday afternoon and bombarded the University of Kentucky 9-4 to open the 1966 baseball season.

A crowd of almost 1,000 watched the Seminoles despite adverse weather. The game was played on a practice field due to the waterlogged infield on the regular diamond.

Maury Hopkins led the Seminole assault with three ground - rule doubles, which hit the trees 275 feet down the right field line. Hopkins drove in two runs and scored three.

Center fielder Mike Martin drove in three runs with a double and triple, while Gary Sprague, Tommy Thomas, Pete Sarron and Chico Fernandez had two hits each.

Junior lefthander Marv Stringfellow survived a shaky start, and went the route for the Seminoles. He struck out 10 and walked two while giving up eight hits.

Hank Degener hit a threerun homer in the second inning to lead a Kentucky assault. FSU broke the scoring ice in the first inning. Sprague lined a shot to left field. He advanced to second as Jim Lyttle flied to deep right, took second on a wild pitch, and scored as Brown lined a single past first basemen Ken Nally.

The Wildcats came back in the top of the second to go ahead 4-1.

Rick Anderson reached first on a throwing error by Hop-Kins. Pete Fritsch drew a walk, and both scored as Degener ripped a Stringfellow fast ball over the head of Thomas in left field for a home run.

The Wildcats added their final run as Hopkins commited two more errors and Nally lofted a sacrifice fly.

The Seminoles picked up another run in the second on back - to - back doubles by Hopkins and Martin.

Brown led off the third with a walk. Pete Sarron lashed a ground rule double to the trees, with Brown taking

third. Hopkins got his second straight two - bagger to score both. He came home with the go - ahead run as Fernandez hit a double down the leftfield line. The Wildcats in their half of the fourth loaded the bases with none out. However, Stringfellow got Mike Durcan to ground into a force at the plate, and struck out Nally and Steve Robia.

From here on it was all Florida State.

The Seminoles added two runs in the fifth, and two in the sixth. Stringfellow retired seven straight men and gave up only three hits over the last five innings.

It was a day for defensive standouts too.

Sophomore Lyttle made a fine running catch of a long fly ball by Robia to get FSU out of trouble in the second, and displayed a fine arm in throwing out Nally to end the game. Wildcat center fielder Bill Rhea made a diving catch to rob Lyttle of a certain two - bagger late in the game.

The two teams were scheduled to meet again this afternoon at 12:15. Chuck Hawkins was to be on the mound for the Seminoles. Tomorrow at 3 a third straight game between the two is scheduled here.

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