

By JIM CHITWOOD

Democrat Sports Writer

GASTONIA, N. C. — Cool Gene Ammann remembered the rough start Florida State's baseball team got off to here two years ago, and he wasn't about to let it happen again.

Ammann, the Seminoles' whiz righthander, fashioned a two-hitter as Florida State shut out East Carolina 2-0 Thursday afternoon in the opening game of the NCAA District 3 baseball tournament.

Opportunistic Maryland scored two unearned runs on a wild throw in the eighth inning in a come-from-behind 3-2 win over Mississippi State. A solo homer in the fourth inning by Gene Hiser accounted for the other Maryland scoring.

The Bulldogs got all their scoring done before Maryland started. States scored one in the first inning on back to back doubles, and Ted Milton blasted a home run in the third with no one on.

In a fiery pitcher's duel between Ammann and ECU's Ron Hastings, the Tribe's big control artist was definitely superior. Ammann fanned seven Pirate batters, walked only three, and was never in danger as he pushed his record to 13-0.

The Seminoles, meanwhile, tapped Hastings for seven hits. The Pirates' big righthander struck out only two and walked three. It was the second loss for Hastings, now 8-2.

FSU came up with runs in the sixth and ninth innings on singles by rightfielder John Grubb and third baseman Ron Cash, and that's all that was needed.

Despite the victory, Coach Jack Stallings was a little disappointed with the Seminoles performance at the plate. "We didn't swing the bat like we should," he said.

"We should have scored early too, but Hastings settled down and got tough. We should have got to him and didn't."

But Ammann clearly took away the Pirates' swords. His seven strikeouts yesterday helped the quiet Atlanta hurler set two FSU records and his 13th victory was also a new season mark.

Ammann now holds both the season and career strikeout records previously owned by Wayne Vincent. Ammann fanned 132 this year so far while Vincent had 129 in 1966. Ammann has a career total of 193 while Vincent's old mark was 289.

Ammann admitted he was nervous Thursday against ECU. "You better believe I was," he said. "I really started feeling good about the fourth inning."

"I found out quick the

umpire wasn't calling them," continued Ammann. "He wasn't giving me the low ones so I had to please him first of all.

It was Ammann's seventh shutout this season. "It was bad experience losing to these guys (ECU) two years ago in the opener and I thought about that," he said.

East Carolina's Hal Baird promptly spoiled Ammann's chances for a no-hitter when he singled to center in the first inning. The Pirates' other hit came in the eighth, a base hit by pinch-hitter Mike Aldridge. "I was just trying to throw strikes both times," Ammann admitted.

FSU almost roared off to a big start in the second inning when Larry Cocks and Harry Saferight drew walks and Greg Gromek got on via an error to load the bases. Doug Kasimier fanned, and Ammann bounced into a double play to end the threat, however.

Dick Nichols got the Seminoles' sixth inning uprising going with a double off the rightfield fence.

Greg Schnute then grounded to second. The lanky Grubb followed with a line drive single to center bringing home Nichols, but Cash immediately hit into another double play.

ECU posed a threat in the seventh when Biard walked and stole second, but that was as close as any Pirate runner would get to home. Matt Walker flied to right and Dennis Vick struck out to end the frame.

In the ninth, Schnute led off grounding to third, but Grubb responded with his second hit of the afternoon into center, then stole second and raced home on Cash's line drive, also to center.

Cash was picked off attempting to steal second, and Cocks singled, but he too was nailed trying to steal.

The contest was a fast moving one lasting only one hour and 37 minutes.

Florida State's record is now 43-7-1 while East Carolina is 18-12. Lefty Pat Osburn (10-2) is slated to start in tonight's game at 7:30. The game will be broadcast over radio station WTNT beginning at 7:25.

FLORIDA STATE				EAST CAROLINA			
AB	R	H		AB	R	H	
Nichols 2b	3	1	1	Corrada, ss	4	0	0
Schnute cf	4	0	0	Garrett, c	3	0	0
Grubb, rf	4	1	2	Walker, ph	1	0	0
Cash, 3b	4	0	1	Baird, rf	3	0	1
Cocks, lf	2	0	2	Taylor, lb	3	0	0
Safewright, c2	0	0	0	Walters, lf	3	0	0
Gromek, ss	3	0	0	Vick, 2b	2	0	0
Kasimier, lb	3	0	0	Dowd, 3b, c	3	0	0
Ammann, p	3	0	0	Sneeden, c	1	0	0
TOTALS	28	2	6	Aldridge, ph	1	0	1
				McNeely, 3b	0	0	0
				Hastings, p	2	0	0
				TOTALS	26	0	2

Florida State 000 001 001—2
 East Carolina 000 000 000—0
 E — Carrada, Cash 2, RBI — Grubb, Cash.
 LOB — Florida State 3, East Carolina 3.
 2B — Nichols, SB — Baird, Grubb.
 S — Hastings, DP — East Carolina 3, FSU 1.

IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Ammann (W, 13-0)	9	2	0	0	3
Hastings (L, 8-2)	9	6	2	2	4
U — Boswell, Rountree, Holiar, Fletcher, T — 1.36 A — 500					