

Seminoles get wet to win sixth straight

By BOB COHN
Democrat sportswriter

When you're hot you're hot, and when you're wet, even that works out.

Florida State was leading Northern Kentucky 2-0 in the bottom of the fifth Monday night, when rain began to fall furiously at Seminole Field. The umpires, who twice before had halted the action briefly, waited 15 minutes and called the game — an official game.

That gave the Seminoles their sixth straight victory, their 13th overall, and a two-hit shutout for pitcher Ken Fischer.

It was Fischer's second win of the season without a defeat, and extended his scoreless-inning streak to 13½. He said he would accept the shortened decision.

"Oh yeah, I'll take it," Fischer said. "Hell, yeah."

"Everything felt good tonight. I thought I could throw the fastball for a strike on every pitch. I felt I had complete control of the game. It was the best I felt in three years."

Fischer's support was provided by Rick Figueredo's single that scored Craig Ramsey in the second inning, and a force play by Jim Weaver in the third that brought home Mike Fuentes.

Northern Kentucky, 1-3, a contestant last year in the NCAA Division II World Series, got a good effort from pitcher Tony Hetzer. Working

slowly, Hetzer stranded six Seminoles on the bases while allowing five hits.

Florida State has another home game today at 3 against Mercer-Macon. Ken Smith will pitch.

Fischer, a 5-foot-9, 160-pounder from Lincoln, Mass., a suburb of Boston, is enjoying a new life. As a freshman two seasons ago, he appeared in 18 games and 39 innings, but in 1979 the numbers shrunk to 11 games and 15 innings.

Going into this season, Fischer's record, mostly as a relief pitcher, was 4-2. The earned run average, however, was a juicy 6.11.

"My first year, I wasn't too disappointed, but last year just stung me," he said. "I thought I was being put on a shelf."

Fischer didn't stay in Tallahassee last summer and play for Coloney's, as did most of his teammates. Instead, he went home and pitched in the Cape Cod League.

"I said to myself I'd give it my best shot," he said. "My father said to keep pushing myself. So I did things like wind sprints. They might not be the reason. But I'm also a lot more calm and relaxed."

"It's like I'm starting all over again. I'm making them know I'm still around. The man's giving me a chance. I'm very content."

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"The man," FSU Coach Mike Martin, said Fischer got off on the right foot when he held Miami scoreless in the final inning to save the first FSU victory of the year.

"That gave him a lot of confidence," Martin said. "Kenny Fischer is establishing himself. He's keeping the ball down, working hard on his slider. He's been very impressive."

Martin said he still isn't sure that Fischer is the bona fide starter he's been looking for, but all indications are that Fischer is close to being there.

"Kenny is definitely in the picture," Martin said. "He's in the thick of the battle. He will get his next start."

As for Fischer's preference — starting or relieving — there is little doubt.

"The more I pitch, the better I get,"

he said. "If I throw every four or five days, I'm much more effective."

NO. KENTUCKY					FLORIDA STATE				
AB	R	H	B	I	AB	R	H	B	I
Piening 3b	3	0	0	0	Martinez 2b	3	0	1	0
Roe cf	2	0	1	0	DeLoach ss	3	0	0	0
McDole c	2	0	0	0	Fuentes cf	2	1	1	0
Asalon c	0	0	0	0	Ledbetter dh	1	0	1	0
Bradford dh	2	0	0	0	Weaver lf	2	0	0	1
Geisler 1b	2	0	0	0	Ystrmski rf	2	0	0	0
Ralston rf	2	0	1	0	Ramsey c	1	1	1	0
Kostas lf	2	0	0	0	Alvarez 1b	1	0	0	0
Higdon 2b	1	0	0	0	Figueredo 3b	2	0	1	1
O'Hara ss	2	0	0	0					
Totals	18	0	2	0	Totals	17	2	5	2
No. Kentucky						000	00	— 0	
Florida State						010	1x	— 5	

Game called in bottom of fifth

E — O'Hara, DeLoach 2. LOB — No. Kentucky 4, Florida State 6. DP — Florida State. SB — Roe, DeLoach, Weaver.

		IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
No. Kentucky							
Hetzer (L, 0-1)		4	5	2	2	3	2
Florida State							
Fischer (W, 2-0)		5	2	0	0	1	5
WP — Hetzer. U — Whitmore, Stupski. A — 300 (est.)							