

FSU has more big innings

Two huge rallies put Cincinnati away 12-3

By David Lee Simmons
Democrat staff writer

Chris Roberts struck out six and walked one over 7½ innings, and Florida State enjoyed big innings for the second straight night for a 12-3 victory over Metro Conference rival Cincinnati on Saturday before 2,538 at Dick Howser Stadium.

The Seminoles scored five runs in the sixth to erase a 2-0 deficit in the second game of this three-game series that concludes today at 2 p.m. That was similar to the four-run rally in the sixth inning of Friday's 6-1 win.

FSU's Kenny Felder, a second-round pick of the San Diego Padres, hit his second grand slam of the season during a six-run eighth.

FSU, ranked No. 4 by Collegiate Baseball-ESPN and No. 8 by Baseball America, improved to 47-12 and 16-4 in the Metro. The Seminoles have won seven straight and are three wins away for their 11th straight 50-victory season, all under Coach Mike Martin.

Martin is also one win away from his 600th career victory, with a 599-201-3 record going into today's regular-season finale.

Cincinnati fell to 20-26 and 5-9.

After today's regular-season finale, FSU will leave Monday for Hattiesburg, Miss., site of this year's Metro tournament which begins on Wednesday.

Roberts, a lefthander making his first start since April 15, gave up only six hits. The former second-round draft pick of the Philadelphia Phillies tied his longest outing of the season, matching his 3-2 win over Florida on March 9. It was also Roberts' first win since April 7, when he won a 9-3 decision over Tulane.

FSU spotted Cincinnati a 2-0 lead with a lineup filled with new faces at different positions. Brad Parker started at first base for the first time since April 23 of last year. He has played left field, right field and hit in the designated-hitter's spot this season.

Garrett Blanton drew a rare start in center. John Marc Tamayo started at third for Rob Bargas, who is still ailing from a flu-like sickness contracted last week in Miami.

The Bearcats scored two runs off Roberts in the third. Mike Mottice led off with a single and reached second when shortstop Rocky Rau couldn't begin a double play on Chris Newton's grounder.

Roberts had trouble fielding Andy Deitschel's bunt

single, loading the bases and prompting a mound conference with Martin.

Mottice then scored on Mike Chumbley's ground-out to second, followed by a sacrifice bunt by Chuck Barlage to score Newton.

Before FSU rallied, the teams traded nice defensive plays in center. Cincinnati's Deitschel made a running catch deep to the warning track to get Allen Bevis' fly ball in the fifth.

Then, in the top of the sixth, Blanton made a diving catch of Mike Chumbley's shot to the warning track.

FSU caught up in a big way

with the five-run sixth, chasing Bearcat starter Everett Brackett. Marc Ronan doubled, moving Cincinnati coach Jim Schmitz to quickly remove Brackett, who had given up five hits.

Parker followed with a single off reliever Pat Murphy and went to second on the throw. Murphy struck out Buddy Cribb before surrendering a dink single to Pete Gri-
fol, scoring Ronan.

Tamayo's RBI double to right put runners on second and third, so Murphy intentionally walked Chris Brock to load the bases.

But Murphy walked Blanton to score a run. Rau, the No. 9 hitter, blooped a single to score two runs, chasing Murphy. Bill Metzinger came in and forced Allen Bevis to hit into a double play to end the inning.

That gave FSU a 5-2 lead. Ronan doubled again in the seventh and scored on Cribb's single

for a 6-1 lead.

FSU will start righthander Gary Painter (3-1, 3.31 ERA) against Bearcat righthander Tim Malone (1-2, 3.83) in today's game.

■ FSU 12, CINCINNATI 3

KENNY FELDER hit a grand slam over the scoreboard in the eighth inning for the final margin as Florida State crushed Cincinnati Saturday in a Metro Conference game. Freshman pitcher Chris Roberts (7-2) allowed six hits and struck out six in 7 $\frac{2}{3}$ innings, walking one batter. John Nedeau finished the game for his first save. Reliever Pat Murphy (2-3) was charged with the loss after relieving starter Everett Brackett in the sixth inning, when the Seminoles broke the game open with five runs. Florida State (47-12, 16-4) has won seven in a row and clinched a share of the regular-season Metro title.

FSU 12, CINCINNATI 3

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Brackett, **Murphy** (6) (2-3), Metzinger (6), Oakes (8), Abbott (8) and Mottice. **Roberts** (7-2), Nedeau (8) and Griffol. **Hitters** — FSU: Ronan 3-4 2 2B, Griffol RBI, Tamayo RBI, Felder HR 4RBIs. **Records** — FSU 47-12.