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Ledbetter homer boosts FSU 10-8

Special to the Democrat

TAMPA — Jeff Ledbetter hit a dramatic two-run, two-out home run in the top of the ninth inning to give Florida State a come-from-behind 10-8 win over South Florida here Sunday afternoon.

Ledbetter's shot, which followed a single by Paul Sorrento, deflected off the glove of leftfielder Tom Kriebel who appeared to have the ball measured at the fence-

"I'm not sure whether he touched it or not," said Ledbetter, who drove in four runs on a single and three-run home run in FSU's 10-6 win over South Florida Saturday. "I only know it goes down in the books as a two-run

The stage was set for Ledbetter's heroics as the Seminoles fought back from a 6-1 deficit after three innings of

play

After taking a 1-0 advantage in the game, FSU surrendered six runs to the host Bulls. A two-run home run by Matt Mainini highlighted a four-run third for South Florida.

Florida State scrapped back with three in the fifth. Jody Reed opened the inning with a double and later scored on Luis Alicea's single. Jimmy Jones homered one out later to score Alicea and make it 6-4.

While relief pitcher Ray Revak was holding the Bulls in check, FSU took a 7-6 lead in the seventh. Alicea homered to open the inning and Frank Fazzini reached on a single. Dave Garrison drew a walk off relief pitcher Spud Waters before pinch hitter Greg Dennis moved both runners over with a sacrifice bunt. Fazzini scored on a groundout and Garrison raced home on a wild pitch.

South Florida reached Revak for two runs in the seventh — taking advantage of a two-run double by George Horrnik with one out. Doug Treadway entered the game for Florida State and blanked South Florida for the rest of the way.

FSU tied the game in the eighth. Alan Gentry led off with a walk, went to second on Jose Marzan's pinch-hit single and advanced to third when Reed hit into a double play.

Gentry came around to score when Alicea collected his third RBI on a single off a 2-2 pitch from Walters.

Walters retired the first two batters he faced in the ninth, but Sorrento singled to left on a 2-1 pitch to set up Ledbetter's home run.

FSU, 4-2, returns to action on Tuesday — facing West Florida in the Seminoles' home opener at Seminole Field starting at 3:30 p.m.

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