Neto a strong No. 1 for FSU

The FSU men's netters' newest member is very quickly getting accustomed to playing at the No. 1 position — and winning.

Jose Salibi Neto arrived here a few weeks ago but had to wait until this quarter before he could officially play with the team. He worked out with the team, however, and has also been sparring regularly with Stu Bruner.

He has played three matches so far and has not lost more than three games in any set. Coach Juan Ortiz considers the freshman the best recruit he has received — and a good prospect for the pros:

"Jose has a good all-round game, good serve and volley and is very solid on his groundstrokes."

Neto has had to adjust a little more than some students who go off to college. His home is in Sao Paulo, Brazil, where he was the No. 3 junior in the country.

He decided on Tallahassee for several reasons, not the least of which was the friendliness and support of his teammates.

"The team is so friendly and good to play with," he said. "There is a

good team feeling here."

THE YOUNG Brazilian has added strength to an already strong (12-4) FSU team. Coach Ortiz is looking for one of the best seasons in awhile. With Neto at No. 1, Mohamed Barber Ali-Kahn makes a strong No. 2 and Alan Belamy a tough No. 3 man. Chris Hagman, presently playing No. 4, has the best record for the Seminoles at 12-4. With Bruce Knittle, Scott Gilmore, Peter Prinos and John Dwight alternating in 5 and 6, the Noles certainly have a full hand with plenty of depth. Things don't stop there, however. Ortiz says he has a very good prospect from Puerto Rico, who will be coming here in the near future to check out FSU. To give you an idea of his credentials, he recently took Neto when the two played in Puerto Rico.

Who knows, the way things are going, the varsity courts might even get that promised resurfacing job someday.