

FSU drops 3 in volleyball

By TERRY HUME

^{Special to The Democrat}

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. — Florida State may have the best women's volleyball team in the Southeastern region, but it still has considerable work to do before becoming national contenders.

That was proved Thursday when Florida lost its three matches in the 10th Annual National AIAW Volleyball Tournament here.

While FSU was having a hard time winning, the top-seeded teams rolled to victory. Hawaii turned back host Alabama and Florida International, and UCLA and Southern California also won easily.

FSU's play Thursday kept alive a tradition of Southeastern teams faring poorly at nationals.

"All the coaches seem to agree that we are in what is by far the toughest pool (group of teams to play in round-robin competition)," FSU coach Cecile Reynaud said. "That's no excuse, it's just true."

Included in FSU's pool are, Southwest Missouri State, a team that has finished in the top ten for the last five years, University of Arizona, an at-large contender, Texas A&M, seeded ninth in the event, Pepperdine, seeded eighth, and UCLA.

Florida State last to Southwest

Missouri 15-12, 11-15, 6-15. The Lady Seminoles lost their second match to Arizona, 15-11, 14-16, 15-1. In the final match of Thursday play, FSU lost to Texas A&M, 9-15, 8-15. FSU had defeated Texas A&M in two games earlier this season.

Reynaud said mental errors, a lack of communication and a giving out of hustle did her team in.

Today, FSU plays Pepperdine and UCLA in its last two matches of round-robin play. The tourney concludes Saturday with the top teams from round-robin play today advancing.