

## FSU Girls Win State Volleyball

Special to the Democrat

MIAMI — Florida State University captured the state volleyball championship Saturday here at Miami Dade Community College South.

The Lady Seminoles now move on to regional competition, along with second-place Florida International, Friday

and Saturday in Florence, Ala.

FSU, coached by Dr. Billie Jones, defeated Jacksonville University (15-4, 15-5), Florida (15-10, 15-4), Flagler (7-15, 15-6, 15-8), and Florida International (15-17, 15-11, 15-12) in the three-day competition.

FSU's volleyball team now boasts a 33-8 record.

## Regional title 'a toss-up'

# State champ volleyballers advance

By Cindy Thuma

Even though they were plagued by inconsistencies last weekend, the FSU Women's Volleyball team won the state FCIW senior college title.

They lost in the overall competition to Dade-South, but they won the part of the tournament that really mattered. Manatee finished second in the junior college division.

En route to the senior division crown, they walked over Jacksonville University and the University of Florida, but were extended to three games by second-ranked Flagler College, and third-

ranked Florida International. Now it's make it or break it week for the Tribe spikers as they journey to Florence, Alabama for the Region III championship. Coach Billie Jo Jones looks forward to an

exciting weekend. "It's a tossup," she said. "It could go any way, but we should be right in there. We really have a wealth of material to work with, and we've already had our share of bad luck, I think." She was quick to add that "you make your luck, though."

The top two finishers will receive invitations to go to the national tournament in Portland, Oregon during December, and the three main contenders for Region figure to be Mississippi University for Women, West Georgia College, and FSU, which is the defending

champion. FSU is ranked third.

Consistency was the biggest problem facing Jones' team. "We missed a lot of serves by our usually consistent servers, we didn't move to the ball, and just stood around waiting for the other person to get it. Our spikers waited for perfect sets, which never came. You just have to take what you get."

Like before, though, they had streaks of brilliance, which kept their coach's faith alive, and made her prognostication of victory a reality.

A number of seniors are on this year's squad, and will be really working hard so they can make another odyssey to nationals.

"Anything goes," said Jones, "and it's time it did."

## SPORTS



THE LADY SEMINOLES VOLLEYBALL TEAM, who won the Florida State championship last weekend in Miami, are shown in action above against Auburn earlier this year. With their state title in the record books, the Lady Seminoles travel to Florence, Alabama this weekend for the Region III championship, the next step on the road to a national title. Coach Billie Jo Jones rates the Regional clash "a toss-up."



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