



Troughton vows to stall Thanda promotion

Royal Zulu can end the contest today

By **Sihle Ndebele**

If the confidence of Stellenbosch FC coach Sammy Troughton is anything to go by, NFD leaders Thanda Royal Zulu will have to wait for the remaining matches to seal automatic promotion to the PSL.

A victory for Thanda against Stellenbosch at Umhlathuze Sports Complex today (3pm) will guarantee the KwaZulu-Natal outfit a place in the top-flight next season.

However, Troughton maintains that his side cannot afford to drop points as the Capetonians have set their sights on a

coveted play-off spots.

Second-placed Stellenbosch are tied on 53 points with Black Leopards, who are third, and Troughton is aware that a slip up will give Leopards the edge in the hunt for play-off spots.

"I am confident that we will get maximum points. We want to play in the play-offs and we must win all our games because the teams behind us are also fighting for the same goal [play-off spots]," Troughton told Sowetan yesterday.

Amabhubesi have not lost at home all season, but Troughton fancies his Cape side will be the first team to get away with full points from Umhlathuze Sports Complex, Thanda's slaughterhouse.

If Amabhubesi draw against the "Stellies" and Leopards

win against Royal Eagles today, Thanda will need two points in their last three matches to gain promotion.

Fixtures: (All at 3pm)

• Yesterday:

Milano 1, AmaZulu 0

• Today:

Santos v Cosmos, Athlone Stadium; Thanda v Stellenbosch, Umhlathuze Sports Complex; Eagles v Leopards, Harry Gwala Stadium; Mbombela v FC CPT, Kanyamazane Stadium; Magesi v All Stars, Peter Mokaba Stadium; Bucks v AmaTuks, Mthatha Stadium; Kings v Spurs, Sugar Ray Xulu Stadium.

