



Leopards look to claw their way into play-offs

Their next matches are vital, says coach

By **Sihle Ndebele**

Black Leopards coach Jean Francois Luscuito says Lidoda Duvha will have to play for their lives in their three remaining National First Division (NFD) matches to make it into the play-offs.

After Thanda Royal Zulu were crowned NFD champions and gained automatic promotion last week, it is still diffi-

cult to predict which teams will secure play-off berths.

The NFD runners-up and a third-placed side will fight for a Premier League spot against an Absa Premiership club that finishes 15th.

"I have told my players that all the remaining games are as important as our lives. If we can win them all we will be guaranteed a spot in the play-offs. The most important things for us now is to stay focused," Luscuito told Sowetan yesterday.

"Our next game against University of Pretoria [tomorrow] will determine our destiny."

Second-placed Leopards are a point ahead of fellow play-offs hopefuls Stellenbosch.

• Thanda will be handed over the NFD trophy on Sunday, the PSL announced yesterday.

FIXTURES: (All at 3pm)

Tomorrow:

AmaTuks v Leopards,
Tuks Stadium;
Santos v Spurs,
Athlone Stadium;
AmaZulu v Cosmos,
King Zwelithini
Stadium;
Thanda v FC CPT,
Umhlathuze Sports
Complex,
Milano v Stellenbosch,
Blue Downs Stadium;
Eagles v Mbombela,
Sugar Ray Xulu
Stadium;
Magesi v Kings,
Peter Mokaba Stadium;
Bucks v All Stars,
Mthatha Stadium.

NFD Log

Team	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
1 Thanda	28	15	11	2	46	22	56
2 Leopards	28	13	8	7	43	34	47
3 Stellenbosch	28	13	7	8	38	28	46
4 Eagles	28	12	8	8	49	36	44
5 AmaZulu	28	13	5	10	47	35	44
6 Spurs	28	12	8	8	39	35	44
7 Mbombela	28	11	7	10	40	30	40
8 Bucks	28	8	13	7	35	36	37
9 Kings	28	9	9	10	35	32	36
10 AmaTuks	28	10	6	12	32	38	36
11 Cosmos	28	9	8	11	29	31	35
12 All Stars	28	8	11	9	23	26	35
13 FCCPT	28	7	10	11	33	45	31
14 Milano	28	9	2	17	33	55	29
15 Magesi	28	7	7	14	28	43	28
16 Santos	28	3	10	15	15	39	19

