

AmaTuks turn the corner

Since 5-0 loss to Cosmos, team has not lost a game

By **Sihle Ndebele**

University of Pretoria's 5-0 thumping by Jomo Cosmos in their second match of the NFD season two months ago has proven to be a blessing, according to coach Shaun Bartlett.

Ever since their heavy defeat to Cosmos in August, AmaTuks have gone five matches unbeaten and are second on the NFD standings, one point behind leaders Stellenbosch, who are on 15 points.

"That game against Cosmos was a wake-up call. It made us realise that just because we have a name does not mean we will get results.

"The good thing is that it came very early on the season. We had enough time to recover and I think we have turned the corner," Bartlett said.

"The confidence is very high from the players because we have been doing well since we lost to Cosmos, which is our only loss so far. We have realised that when teams play us they increase their capacity and their performance but we are prepared for all that."

Bartlett is no stranger to guiding a second-tier side to the Premiership. In 2015 he propelled Lamontville Golden Arrows to the elite league. He is upbeat that they can maintain their good form when they welcome fellow ex-Premiership outfit Black Leopards at Tuks Stadium on Sunday.



Mason October of AmaTuks is challenged by Xola Mosiea of Jomo Cosmos in a previous game. AmaTuks welcome Leopards at Tuks Stadium on Sunday. /BACKPAGEPIX

NFD FIXTURES (All at 3.30pm)

Tomorrow
Bucks v CPT All Stars,
Tshakhuma v Stellenbosch,
Spurs v Ubuntu
Richards Bay v Uthongathi,
Highlands v Super Eagles,
Mbombela v Royal

Sunday
AmaTuks v Leopards,
Cosmos v Kings