



Gloves off as NFD's top dogs fight it out in Cape

Sibongiseni Gumbi

Jomo Cosmos will be boosted by the return of winger Sicelo Mkhize when they play Super Eagles in the Free State tomorrow afternoon as the 22-year-old has recovered from a toe injury.

Mkhize has been one of the most influential players for *Ezenkosi* this season and his absence was sorely felt. But he will make a welcome return tomorrow.

Despite Mkhize's absence last weekend, *Ezenkosi* managed to score a 2-1 win over Real Kings and will need their entire arsenal against a gutsy Eagles side.

The Qwaqwa-based new boys have proved a good side and have claimed some good wins in recent week, but their climb up the table was stalled by a 3-0 defeat to Highlands Park last weekend.

A Mpumalanga derby should

serve some scintillating moments for supporters at Kanyamazane Stadium as an in-form Mbombela United host Witbank Spurs who have been blowing hot and cold.

A top-of-the-table clash should also be good on the eye when two coaches who have previously proved their mettle by guiding teams to the Absa Premiership come up against each other.

Steve Barker's Stellenbosch FC host Shaun Bartlett's University of Pretoria at Athlone Stadium in Cape Town tomorrow in what should be an explosive match.

Fixtures

► **Today:** Black Leopards v Highlands Park; Mbombela United v Witbank Spurs; Royal Eagles v CT All Stars

► **Tomorrow:** Real Kings v Mthatha Bucks; Super Eagles v Jomo Cosmos; Uthongathi v Tshakuma; Stellenbosch v University of Pretoria

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