



# True midfield general

**He said it is probably his father's influence, because De Almeida senior is passionate about football.**

Keep moving, play quickly under pressure, find space, develop a vision and play the simple pass.

According to the football pundits, these are some of the attributes a good midfielder should have.

Claudio de Almeida, star midfielder from TuksFootball, is ticking most of these boxes if not all. One has to watch him play to realise it.

De Almeida was a true general in the midfield for TuksFootball in their VarsityFootball campaign thus far.

His linking between the forwards and backs is described as top class by many experts.

When complimented on the way he always seems to find a teammate each time he passed the ball De Almeida replied that the secret to playing good football is to keep things simple.

"That is what I try and do," said De Almeida who also plays for AmaTuks.

He also had a stint at SuperSport United and played for Germany's Osnabruck II.

According to De Almeida, regardless of what happens in the final against TUT, he believes his team have already proven themselves by qualifying for this game.

"For some reason, we always seem to be slow out of the 'blocks'.

"Now we are in the final and anything can happen after everyone wrote us off when we struggled in the first half of the tournament," he said.

Football was always the BCom Business Management student's passion.

His first memory of playing was when he was five years old.

He said it is probably his father's influence, because De Almeida senior is passionate about football, and it must have rubbed off.

Asked why he thinks football is so popular worldwide, De Almeida answered: "It is the one sport that gets people emotionally involved.

"Love and anger are part and parcel of the game.

"Football is also the one sport where players get to become 'Super heroes' at a young age.

"In other words, there is a real opportunity to make something of one's life."



Top photo: Claudio de Almeida (left) in action for TuksFootball. Photo: Catherine Kotze/SASPA

Claudio de Almeida was a true general in the midfield for TuksFootball in their Varsity Football campaign thus far. Photo: SASPA

  
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