



# Varsity Cup bosses sorry



Tuks players celebrating their victory over TUT.

Photo by Backpagepix

By CHARLES BALOYI

VARSIITY Sports CEO Duitser Bosman has issued a heartfelt apology to the victims of the Tshwane derby between the Tshwane University of Technology and the University of Pretoria at the TUT Stadium on Thursday night.

There were chaotic scenes at the fifth edition of the Varsity Football finale as fans invaded the pitch with six minutes of the cup final remaining.

Scores of people were injured and taken to hospital as the TUT fans were unable to stomach a 2-0 defeat suffered at the hands of their bitter rivals.

Buses and cars were smashed as the TUT fans caused mayhem by blocking the visitors fans and guests from exiting the stadium.

The police fired rubber bullets after hundreds of angry fans broke down the safety fence baying for the two teams' blood.

Premier Soccer League referee Daniel Bennett had no choice but to

stop the match 38 minutes into the second half.

It took more than 50 police officers to escort fans and guests safely out around 11pm.

The players received their trophy and medals under a heavily armed police presence.

Simbongile Njokwe broke the ice via a header in the 28th minute, but after Odwa Makha made it 2-0 with 10 minutes remaining, fans started to misbehave.

They threw objects and things soon got out of control.

Said Bosman: "We sincerely apologise to the players, fans and guests for what happened. There have been 155 games played in five years, and it's the first time that this has happened."

Insisted director of sport at TUT Shadrack Nthangeni: "This doesn't give us a good image and we condemn it in the strongest possible terms. We'd like to apologise to those who were hurt and their cars destroyed."

