



Mhlontlo snapped up by Tuks

By MFUNDO PILISO

IT only took 12 games in the ABC Motsepe League for former Future Tigers winger Zithulele "Alla" Mhlontlo to get noticed by the University of Pretoria.

Mhlontlo signed with the Pretoria-based National First Division side last week on a six month contract with an option to renew, following a month long trial at the High Performance Centre.

The Zwile-born soccer marvel was at Tigers for two seasons, but only got game time during the first round of the ABC Motsepe League 2017/18 season.

He said that's when he got his golden opportunity to show the football fraternity what he was made of.

Mhlontlo said the move to the NFD couldn't have come at a better time and he was now aiming to help the Hatfield side gain promotion to the PSL.

"When I got the chance to play, I made sure that I gave everything.

"The first game I played was okay even though I was nervous in the first 30 minutes, but I knew I had to calm down and play.

"Now I want to work hard so I can help the team push and go to the playoffs so we can get promotion to the PSL, because the coach really took a chance with me and I want to return the favour."

He said finally getting a call-up from a team like AmaTuks was fulfilling because he has been working on his skills, hoping that a bigger team would pick him.

"It's been a while since I've been trying to get noticed, and luckily enough AmaTuks saw me during the game against City Lads and they invited me to the trials, and they were happy with me."

He attributed his move to Tigers to founder Vukile "Vuks" Mlanjana and former club coach Asanda Mvalo, who parted ways with the Ginsberg outfit three months ago.

"I wouldn't have come back to Future, but because of the relationship I have with Ta Vuks [Mlanjana] I decided to come, and he has really been supporting me with everything.

"It's been a ride for me this past two months. My sister passed away this January and I came home for only three days, because the coach wanted me to play against TTM, where we lost 2-1."

Amatuks will today come up against Jomo Cosmos at the Tuks Stadium.

