

Sport Wrap

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Cristiano Ronaldo



❖ Coach Diergaardt gutted by loss Unam crash to defeat

Unam (in yellow) were defeated by United on Saturday. PHOTO NAMPA

United scraped to a one point win over Unam on Saturday in their premier league semifinal clash.

LIMBA MUPETAMI

Unam's dominance of the local premier league came to an end in spectacular fashion on Saturday, when they were beaten narrowly by United on Saturday at the Hage Geingob Stadium.

The semifinal match ended 32-31 in United's favour.

Unam Rugby Club head coach

Johan Diergaardt said the loss was a great disappointment for the passionate players, who according to him shed tears, as they are accustomed to always winning.

"Every road comes to an end. For four years we had a great run. We lost with one point but that does not mean that we are not a great team.

"The players fought but there was just not enough time to get back.

However, we have produced great players with good characters over the years.

"I'm disappointed with the result but very satisfied with what we have achieved over the years. We have dominated and will dust ourselves off and start again. We have learned a lot and are looking forward to a new season," he said.

Diergaardt added they will now focus on supporting the second team, which is in the reserve league final.

He said the players will be given about three weeks to rest, before they hit the gym to prepare for the start of the next season in October.

The disappointed coach said as management they will keep the players spirits high, as they continue to believe and stand firm on Unam's philosophy of producing the best.

Before the match, Unam was on the back foot as most of their players were not available due to national duty and worrying injuries.

These issues shook the camp, as they lost in April to Wanderers and then again to United 41-36 about three weeks ago.

In their match against Wanderers, Unam had to dig deep to eventually pull off a 39-35 win. On Saturday, United saw the opportunity and rose to the occasion to end Unam's run in the league.

Next weekend United will play Wanderers in the final. This will be the first time since 2014 that the two sides meet in the final.