



**Fist-pump.** Jinja SSS players celebrate their semifinal victory over King's College Budo in the ongoing Schools' Games in Mukono. PHOTO/AMINAH BABIRYE

## Smack, Jinja SS disrupt order to set up rugby final in Schools' Games

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**KAMPALA.** Namilyango College succumbed to hosting pressure to lose 13-11 to rivals St. Mary's College Kisubi (Smack) in Wednesday's boys' rugby semifinals at the Uganda Secondary School Sports Association (USSSA) Ball Games I in Mukono.

The teams were initially greeted by a dark cloud for the early morning match but the skies cleared to give way for a pulsating affair.

Smack had promised to take the game to the hosts and they struck first and early through Christian Chono's 5th and 13th minute penalties. However, Titus Nyonyintono gave the perfect replies on both occasions to pull Namilyango level - first with a 10th minute penalty and then a 20th minute drop goal to make it 6-6. The bench's reaction was that the team should have pressed for a try and that outcry later came to haunt them. But before that, Ambrose Ssebalijja gave Namilyango hope for control with a try at the stroke of half-time. The angle, however, was too tight for Nyonyintono to convert.

### Level

Ten minutes into the second half, Daniel Onek's try pulled Smack level to 11-11 and Trey Gajeja made no mistake with the boot.

Namilyango twice had Smack defending the line for dear life and a drop goal could have sufficed but that ingenuity had already been killed by the bench. Semifinal places get teams slots to the Federation of East Africa Secondary School Sports Association Games in Morogoro, Tanzania in August so, it is understandable that wins there are quickly put behind in search for the Nationals title.

"We are all calm and putting the result behind us for now," Smack coach Alvin Nkamba, said. "The win was a great morale booster for the final and we are turning all our arsenal to that. Everything else can come after the final whistle. Smack will battle Jinja SS who came from 3-0 down to have a rather easy semifinal against King's College Budo, which won the last three titles.

### BOOT

Jeremy Kayondo gave Budo a fifth minute lead from his boot. But Jinja's reaction was positive and was awarded with two penalties from Timothy Mawanda Kizito to make it 6-3. At the stroke of half-time, Marvin Tegike's try to make it 11-3 made things worse for Budo. John Mathew Oluka 35th minute try was converted by Kizito to make it 18-3. Emmanuel Enoha made it 21-3 from another penalty before Kizito also crossed the try-line.

Gideon Kisingala got a consolation try for Budo that Kayondo converted for a respectable 26-10 score. Kakungulu chases hockey double Budo's problems were compounded by a 4-1 loss to Ntare School in the boys' hockey semis. Ntare will meet Kakungulu Memorial which beat last year's champions Mbarara High School 2-1 in the other semifinals. Kakungulu have a chance to take two trophies home as their girls also beat Sacred Heart.