

# UMS off to flying start

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**KOTA KINABALU:** UMS kicked off their challenge on the right footing in the Borneo Division Higher Learning Institution (IPT) Football League after defeating Tawau Community College 3-0 in the opener at its Sports Complex field on Saturday.

A. Habbibbi Ambo drew first blood for the host after 21 minutes of play before Muhammad Fuad Mamat scored the second four minutes later.

Fuad extended UMS lead by netting his second from a spectacular freekick in the 36th minute.

"Both teams were equally

matched in the second half but UMS did well to defend their lead until the end," said Mohd Asyraf Fong Abdullah, who revealed that two international students were among the players in the UMS squad.

"Centre back, Abdurrahman Burak from Turkey was influential in the team's solid defence. We also have another foreign student on the team, Muhammad Ali from Tanzania," the UMS Sports Centre Director added.

The UMS squad is coached by David Johnny @ Mohd Ayman.

They will face UiTM Sarawak at the UMS Stadium on Friday (May 17) before hosting Politeknik Mukah in another match two days later.

They then travel to meet

Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS) on May 24.

A total of seven teams are competing in the Borneo Division.

The other two are Politeknik Kuching and Kolej Yayasan Sabah.

The IPT League also has three other divisions for Peninsular Malaysia state teams. The winners of the Borneo Division will compete in the knockout stage where 15 other teams will join the fray.

They include all eight teams from Division I, the top four teams from Division II, top two teams from Division III and the winners in the play-off between the runners-up in the Borneo Division and the winners from the Qualifying Zone Final Round.