



Nizam (standing right) gives words of encouragement to the players during training.

UMS to play Kepayan Tigers in final

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KOTA KINABALU: Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) Rugby team have qualified for the final of the Kota Kinabalu Rugby League Championship which will be held at the Sukma field here on May 10 at 2.30pm.

They will meet Kepayan Tigers who finished second in the group stages, said UMS rugby team adviser, Dr Mohamad Nizam Nazaruddin here yesterday.

"Kepayan Tigers were defeated by UMS in the preliminary round of the tournament," he said here.

He said UMS were competing in the tournament for the first time after taking part in the UMS Open La Salle Championship last year.

"Our team have prepared early, two months before the tournament and the majority of players this time are first year students.

"In addition, international students from Fiji will add power

to the team," he said.

Nizam said UMS had performed well and were confident of playing consistently to enhance their chance of winning in the final.

According to him, the team had won all their matches in the group stages.

The team started their first game against the Pride team but the match 'turned' ugly and had to be stopped.

UMS HERON who were leading before the match was stopped were given a 10-0 victory based on the rules of the competition.

Nizam said that in the second match against Kepayan Tigers, UMS dominated and won 28-8.

In the third match, UMS beat Karamunsing Monster.

Meanwhile, UMS captain, Deirdre Daryl Dasing said they were to play in the finals, and hoped the players would keep up their momentum to emerge champions.



The Pride players were trying to block the Fijian UMS player (holding the ball).