



VICTORIA FALLS LEAVES AN IMPRESSION ON SA RUGBY LEGENDS

DESPITE a one-sided victory over their Zimbabwean counterparts, the South African Rugby Legends were blown away by Victoria Falls, and made the most of the warm local hospitality.

Zimbabwe's crushing defeat was lightened when Zimbabwe born SA Legends fly half Kennedy Tsimba assisted in scoring Zimbabwe's only try.

The 40-year-old former Zimbabwean rugby union player, who went on to play for the Free State Cheetahs, swapped sides a few minutes before full time and set up a try, executed by Simba Gonese, bringing the final score to 57-7.

"It was a great honour to play against the Zimbabwe Legends team, some of whom I've played with before," Tsimba said.

"I was lucky enough to be given the opportunity to run out and play for both teams today and assist in scoring Zimbabwe's try.

"To be able to play with and against the Zimbabwe team was very special," he said, of his first game on home soil since he left in 1998.

SA Legends captain Jonathan Mokuena said: "It has been a great opportunity to be in Victoria Falls giving back to the kids.

"These training clinics are a perfect setting for us to impart our knowledge and skills to the next generation," the former South African Sevens captain said.

"I've met so many people during our visit, and it's great to know that we're assisting the community and giving these kids a healthy and fun perspective on life by playing sport."

Former Springbok centre Trevor Halstead said: "We've felt very spoilt staying in such luxurious accommodation at Victoria Falls Safari Suites and Victoria Falls Safari Lodge.

"Victoria Falls is a magical place and we've enjoyed the visit and the opportunity to experience what the region has to offer.

"The hospitality has been great and we've met some fantastic people along the way," Halstead said.

While Saturday's 60-minute clash at Victoria Falls Primary School, which drew a large local crowd, was the highlight of the SA Legends three-day visit to the resort town, they also held a coaching clinic for local children.

The rugby greats of yesteryear also visited the Victoria Falls rainforest, enjoyed a Zambezi River cruise and took advantage of some of the numerous adrenaline activities on offer.

Africa Albida Tourism (AAT), the event's Gold Sponsor, accommodated the SA Rugby Legends in Victoria Falls Safari Lodge and Victoria Falls Safari Suites from March 26 to 29.

SA Legends player Eugene Marx said his stay was "absolutely brilliant, an experience never to be forgotten", while Ronnie Uys said it was "one of the best places I have been to, great people, great services, great food, will give you guys more than five stars".

AAT chief executive Ross Kennedy said it was a very special weekend, and there had also been wonderful feedback from the local Victoria Falls community, who watched the game and interacted with the visitors.

"It has been a pleasure to host the South African Rugby Legends in Victoria Falls, and share our remarkable destination and experiences, with them," Mr Kennedy said.

Africa Albida Tourism, a Zimbabwe-owned company, operates lodges and restaurants, which include Victoria Falls Safari Lodge, Victoria Falls Safari Club and Victoria Falls Safari Suites in Victoria Falls and Ngoma Safari Lodge in Chobe, Botswana.

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