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SPORT

Dream debut for Feiteira

>> Mixed fortunes for Toti mixed martial artists at EFC Africa 23

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AMANZIMTOTI mixed martial artist Nelson "No Tap" Feiteira announced himself on the African stage when he celebrated a dream debut at Extreme Fighting Championship (EFC) Africa 23 at Carnival City, Johannesburg last Thursday.

Facing lethal Congo boxer Kanye-ba Anicet, the Team MMA Fighter grabbed hold of a leg and sunk in a textbook heel hook, which saw the more experienced Anicet tap out just three minutes and 50 seconds into the first round of their featherweight fight.

"It feels amazing to get the win on debut and especially awesome to get a first-round submission," an elated Feiteira told the *Fever*. It was a near perfect opening statement by Feiteira, who admitted to feeling the notorious pressure that

Nelson "No Tap" Feiteira sinks in a fight-finishing heel hook on Congo boxer Kanye-ba Anicet.

PHOTO: EFC AFRICA

weighs on a fighter making his debut in Africa's premier mixed martial arts promotion.

"Yes I did feel the EFC hexagon jitters a bit. It's natural to feel it but it settled very quickly once I was inside the cage," he said, adding: "It gave me an extra sense of pride representing Team MMA Fighter and Toti."

Feiteira's teammate and fellow Amanzimtoti standout Craig "Nemo" Ninow was only on the card, which was broadcast live on SuperSport, selected Nu Metro cinemas and via live stream.

Ninow, who dropped a decision in his promotional debut against Charlie Weyer at EFC Africa 20, was locked in a hard-fought bantamweight battle with Francois Groenewald before he got caught with a rear-naked choke in the third and final round.

He was understandably disappointed with the outcome but positive that he would bounce back in his next bout. "I'm not 100% sure about how the fight went, but I know I gave my all which is very important to me."

"I'm always improving my whole game to become the best I can be. I feel as though I have still not shown my full potential in the EFC yet. I still have so much to give and learn, so this is just the beginning," said Ninow.

Team MMA Fighter coach Morné Swanepoel said he was equally proud of his pugilists, who left it all in the cage and had a great work ethic in camp. "I'm really proud of both Nelson and Nemo's performances and know with their commitment and competitive nature, that they will be in gun-



PHOTO: EFC AFRICA

Craig "Nemo" Ninow scores a takedown on Francois Groenewald during their bantamweight battle.

ning for EFC titles in the near future," said Swanepoel.

"Nelson really had a dream debut and I look forward to his second fight, which will hopefully be in the next two months. Both of Nemo's fights were against top contenders who could be fighting for the vacant bantamweight title."

"He's a hard worker and I'm confident that we will soon see Nemo in the top three of the bantamweight division. We are making some adjustments with his training programme and will analyse his two EFC fights and make the needed improvements to ensure we start making progress towards that title," he added.

Umkomaas golfer to represent SA in Amateur World Golfers Championship

UMKOMAAS golfer Ganas Naicker will represent South Africa in the world final of the Amateur World Golfers Championship in Durban

next month.

Naicker earned the right by finishing second in the 16-20 flighting in the national final in Durban last Tuesday.

He carded a first-round 90 (74 nett) and second-round 85 (69 nett) for an overall score of 143 and a comfortable second place.

Naicker and 75 other regional winners from around the country competed for the 10 places in Team South Africa One and Two plus the

coveted glory of wearing the Team South Africa blazer at the world final from 26 October to 2 November. - Supplied

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