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Gauteng ready to upset

By MTHOKOZISI MKHONZA

THE curtain for the SAB League Under-21 National Championships will finally fall today at the Nike Centre, in Soweto, when host Gauteng meet defending champions University Sports of South Africa (USSA).

The eagerly-awaited match kicks off at 3pm.

The two sides booked their spot in the final on Friday when USSA walloped Mpumalanga 5-2, while Gauteng beat Western

Cape 2-0.
As the host, Gauteng are expected to stamp their authority against the USSA team that produced last year's Player of the Tournament, Tyrone Mondi, who was rewarded by getting a call-up in Amajita, after his dazzling performances in the same competition.

In the past four seasons, Gauteng didn't do well in the tournament as they failed to reach the final. But this time around it's all in their hands

Gauteng coach, Tumelo Ndaba, who guided the province to clinch the Burger King Under-19 Championships last year in Cape Town, is fully aware of what their opponents can do.

He said: "My plan is to get a goal within the first 15 minutes to unsettle the opponents so that we can take control of the game. We'll need to tighten our defence and not allow them room to knock the ball around, or else they will punish

On the other side, USSA coach Godfrey Tenoff says nothing



can stop them from defending their title.

Gauteng are a good team, we know what they're capable of, but we'll give our best shot to ensure that we defend.

The players who are expected to play key role for the hosts include Moreki Senwamadi, Milano Sampson and leading goal scorer Yusuf Bunting who lead the pack with nine goals.

Maguna Mbokane, Thabang Chuene and fan favourite Sibongiseni Hlengwa could play an important role for USSA in this match.

Meanwhile, Western Cape and Mpumalanga will wrestle for a third and fourth spot at 11am.





