

Bartlett fields novices with top players!

By MTHOKOZISI MKHONZA

UNIVERSITY of Pretoria head coach Shaun Bartlett has set a target of 35 points for his outfit before the Christmas break.

AmaTuks have shown a lot of improvement on their second stint in the National First Division (NFD), following a terrible campaign last year.

And this is evident in the seven matches they have played in the league, in which they won four, drew two and lost one.

Today, they host struggling Black Leopards at Tuks Stadium (3.30pm).

With the experience of Henrico Botes, Shane Poggenpoel and others that Bartlett added in the squad, AmaTuks are likely to be more competitive in the NFD this season.

"I brought in some good players, who have experience to help the young ones in the team. So far, I'm happy with the results. They bring in good balance in the team, which is something that is key if you want to win the league," Bartlett said.

"The boys have been in a good form in the past weeks and we're happy with that. Now we need to ensure that we don't drop and try to maintain consistency.

"It would be great if we could at least get more than 35 points before the Christmas break. That would be a great foundation for us. It's possible only if we take each game at a time, starting with Leopards."

On facing Leopards, he believes it will be a tough encounter for them, as the Limpopo-based club have not been getting results.

Said Bartlett: "They are coming to us and we must not take them lightly. We must capitalise on their mistakes."

