

TUT to develop their reign

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"YES, I play a lot of sports! No, I don't have bad grades!" the men and women of Varsity football sing.

And this year's final men's showpiece couldn't get any better as the Tshwane universities are set to meet to secure bragging rights from 6pm tonight.

The anticipation for this encounter between the Tshwane University of Technology (TUT), at home to University of Pretoria (Tuks), is extremely intriguing as these two sides have dominated the competition since its inception. Tuks are the most successful team in the tournament, while TUT are the current title-holders and are undefeated in two years.

"We want to do well. Our mandate is to unite the university with more positives than the negatives," said TUT's coach Bushy Moloi. "The supporters have been amazing and they have carried us through all the games, so doing well and ending up in top position was our way of repaying them."

Even so, Moloi admitted his focus is more on producing quality players than getting the bragging rights.

"We don't want to break or make history. We want development. We want to grow. At least if we can get one or two players to the PSL, then we would be happy"

TUT have already proven to be the best team in town having beaten Tuks 5-4 on penalties in the USSA final earlier this year.

A lot of hype has surrounded TUT's dangerman and captain, Themba Ndlovu, in the lead up to this game as he has won several Man-of-the-Match accolades, while also currently topping the goalscorer chart with seven goals.

"The PSL must recognise his talent," said Moloi. "The boy is still growing and hungry for success."

"If we use the young players, we can go back to the map as South Africa, we can win the Africa Cup of Nations and other tournaments," added Moloi.

Meanwhile, Moloi's counterpart tonight, Thisani Motaung, is all about being the last man standing.

"We feel quite excited to play TUT. It is about bragging rights and winning the final game. It is huge for us. This is the first Tshwane Derby final in Varsity football history," said Motaung.

"We have the second top goalscorer (Odwa Makha with six goals) in our squad, so I trust we can score two or more goals. And we have players that can do the job for us in other departments as well. All the 18 players selected for the matchday squad can produce the results."

