

Publication: DailySunWesternCape (Sport)

Publication Date: 07 Feb 2018

Page: 22

AVE: 3390.31 Circulation: 6664 Part: 1 of 1

Bacela is back

By KGOMOTSO SETHUSHA

ALMOST forgotten Orlando Pirates striker Lennox Bacela is set to emerge from the wilderness when he turns out for Steenberg United in the Nedbank Cup this weekend.

Steenberg face Orbit College in their round of 32 match at Parow Park on Saturday, in one of several Ke Yona cup fixtures this weekend.

Nothing was been heard from Bacela after his brief stint with the University of Pretoria two years ago, until he resurfaced at third tier league side, The Magic FC, last season.

And the former Bucs striker had practically retired when Steenberg came knocking, looking to bolster their squad with his experience.

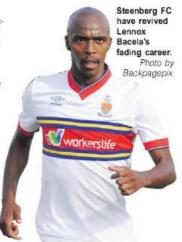
experience.
"We have agreed terms with
Lennox and he is training with
the team," said Steenberg coach
Mike Lukhubene.

"We are not sure if his registration will be completed before this weekend's match. But we are hoping to have him for the same."

A proven goal poacher, Bacela could play a crucial role for Steenberg in their quest for national recognition in the Ke Yona tournament.

The 34-year-old last played competitively at the highest level with AmaTuks, following his mid-season switch from the Buccaneers in the 2015-16 season.

Established 14 years ago, Steenberg are no newcomers to the Nedbank Cup, although they



have never really made a mark.

They come up against Orbit
College in a match which has

College in a match which has no prospects of upsets, as the two teams play in the ABC Motsepe League.

But a place in the lucrative Last 16 round and possibly a quarterfinal spot is at stake for the clubs who have no major financial backers.

The tournament is also fertile ground for scouts looking for rough diamonds hiding in the lower leagues.

Egos are often shattered in the Ke Yona cup, with upsets often the order of the day in SA's version of the English FA Cup.

The upcoming edition not only promises to be another exciting instalment in competition's 11-year run, it could also revive Bacela's career.



