



Day will dawn for Leopards

By MTHOKOZISI MKHONZA

NATIONAL First Division side Black Leopards are targeting promotion play-offs for the fourth time in five seasons.

Lidoda Duvha were relegated from the Absa Premiership during the 2012-13 season after finishing at the bottom of the log. Since then, the Venda-based outfit have been struggling to find their way back to top flight.

In the past four seasons, Leopards have been involved in the promotion play-offs in three occasions: 2013/14, 2014/15 and 2016/17 without success.

But they are not giving up yet. They remain content that their day will come as their Venda nickname states that *Lidoda Duvha*, which means *The day will come*.

Later today, Leopards host Stellenbosch FC at Thohoyandou Stadium at 3pm.

Three points is what they will be hoping for to keep their top three finish dream alive as coach Joel Masutha admitted their only way of returning to top flight is via play-offs.

He said: "Highlands Park have won automatic promotion, top three is our goal. Players understand the importance of getting all points."

Currently, Leopards are among top six teams that are in a fight for second and third spot for another chance to play for a possible PSL spot as Highlands are almost home and dry.

Said Masutha: "Some teams will start cracking closer to finish."

■ **Other fixtures today:** Royal eagles host University of Pretoria (3pm). Cape Town All Stars visit Mbombela United in Mpumalanga.

