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Single-minded Bartlett ready to take a leap of faith with Tuks

Sibongiseni Gumbi

University of Pretoria coach Shaun Bartlett (right) is looking to guide the side back to the Absa Premiership, but got off to a slow start as his side were held to a 1-1 draw by Mthatha Bucks on Saturday.

Bartlett introduced himself on the local coaching scene with a bang when he guided Golden Arrows back into the Premiership in the 2014/15 National First Division season.

This is partly why Tuks' management saw the former Charlton Athletic striker as the right man for the job.

"It is about the goals I set myself. If you go according to other people's expectations you will never achieve anything. I think I have to set realistic goals," Bartlett told Phakaaathi.

His team lost two important players in Sibusiso Mthethwa who was the captain last season and Anthony Gordinho. Mthethwa is

now with Platinum Stars while Gordinho - who is Kaizer Chiefs defender Lorenzo Gordinho's younger brother - has joined Bidvest Wits.

Bartlett said despite losing the duo his team will throw everything they have at opponents as they seek promotion.

You have to take the leap of faith and also be ready to sacrifice in order to succeed in football. It's small steps for now and the Golden Arrows achievement is now history. I need to see how



we can get the team back to the Premiership," he said.

Jomo Cosmos owner Jomo Sono has, meanwhile, said his team will get it right as the season progresses after suffering a 1-0 defeat to Highlands Park in their first match last weekend.

New boys Tshakuma Tsha Madzivhandila and Super Eagles got off to bad starts. Madzivhandila were beaten 1-0 by Cape Town All Stars and Super Eagles lost 2-1 to Witbank Spurs.



