



IN: Milton Dlamini is Platinum Stars' new assistant coach.

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# Bucs lack pride — M

By CHARLES BALOYI

FORMER Orlando Pirates striker Phumudzo Manenzhe has launched a scathing attack on the current crop of *Bucs* players after this past 2016-17 season was one they would rather forget.

Manenzhe, who is now a television pundit, did not hold back as he tore into the *Bucs* players involved in the

worst season the club has had in 80 year of existence.

*Bucs* did not pick up any silverware and most recently were embarrassed 4-1 by SuperSport United in the Nedbank Cup final at the Moses Mabhida Stadium in Durban last month.

The Soweto giants also suffered two heavy league defeats when they were

# DIKWENA REVVED UP!

## Dlamini in, Jackson out, as senior players fall

By MTHOKOZISI MKHONZA

PLATINUM Stars have made wholesale changes at their Royal Bafokeng Holdings club.

They have signalled that they mean business as they look ahead to the 2017-18 Absa Premiership season.

■ *Dikwena* confirmed the acquisition of Milton Dlamini as assistant coach yesterday.

■ Dlamini, who was sacked by Baroka FC after disagreements with then co-coach Kgoloko Thobejane, will assist new head coach Peter Butler.

■ To show how serious *Dikwena* are about breathing new life into the choking North West outfit, they showed long-serving technical dinosaur, Willem Jackson, the door on Tuesday.

■ All these technical changes come after Cavin Johnson's contract with the club was not renewed following *Dikwena* missing out on an MTN8 berth and getting thrashed in the Caf Confederation Cup.

Now some senior players have also felt the wrath of general manager Senzo Mazingiza and chairman Cliff Ramoroa as they wield the axe.

*Dikwena* have confirmed the departure of veteran midfielders Tintswalo Tshabalala, Solomon Mathe and striker Ndumiso Mabena, whose contracts were not renewed.

*SunSport* can reveal that Dlamini was destined to join Free State Stars but they could

not agree on terms, which led to his move to Stars as Jackson's replacement.

Dlamini made an impression when he helped Baroka escape automatic relegation to the National First Division (NFD) after joining them towards the end of the 2016-17 season. He was later suspended at Baroka after a bust-up with Thobejane, which saw his short-term contract expire without renewal on 30 June.

Dlamini said: "There were a few offers from different clubs in the PSL and NFD. Free State Stars are one of the clubs that have contacted me. They offered me the head coach position before the appointment of Sammy Troughton but I did not take it.

He added: "I opted for Platinum Stars because they came with a better offer and the challenge will help me grow.

"To be a better head coach I need to be a good assistant," added Dlamini.

Former University of Pretoria captain Si-busiso Mthethwa has also joined the Phokeng based club on a three-year deal.



OUT: Willem Jackson has parted ways with *Dikwena* after years of service.

