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EXTENDS HIS STAY

MAN ON A MISSION . Shaun Bartlett. Backpagepix

As he's tasked to take team back to glory days

By CHARLES BALOYI

UNIVERSITY of Pretoria coach, Shaun Bartlett, is on a mission to help AmaTuks return to the Absa

Premiership next season. Bartlett, who helped Golden Arrows return to the top flight, is determined to help the Tshwanebased side gain automatic promotion to the elite league

The 44-year-old former Bafana Bafana striker failed to take AmaTuks, who were relegated in the 2015/2016 season, back to the Premier Soccer League (PSL) in his first

But Bartlett has vowed to get it right in his second season in charge of the National First Divi-sion (NFD) outfit.

Bartlett said: "We've made some changes as we didn't achieve our goal of gaining promotion to the PSL last season.

"But we've been mandated to bring the team where it belongs

in the PSL.
"We're on a mission to make that happen.

"We brought in 10 new players that we believe will add value. For me, the target is promotion. I know it'll be tough, but we can't afford another year in the

Bartlett sees Royal Eagles, Jo-

mo Cosmos, Highlands Park and Black Leopards as threats to his quest for promotion. He said: "We're not afraid of

competition, but we have to col-lect as many points as possi-

ble in our first six games.
"We're also targeting home matches."

AmaTuks reported for preseason camp on 1 July and Bartlett is happy with his charges' fitness levels.

AmaTuks will play a friend-ly game against fellow NFD campaigners, Mthatha Bucks,

Bartlett has extended his stay at the University outfit by signing a new one-year deal.

He is beaming with confi-dence ahead of the new sea-son and has full confidence in his squad.

Speaking at the Varsity Football Tshwane Derby between Tuks and TUT on Friday, Bartlett said he would promote two or three players from their development side

to the First team.

Tuks held TUT to a 1-1
draw in the Varsity Derby, and the coach was impressed by a few players.

Added Bartlett: "I'm not

here to watch the boys.

"I also help to train them and a few impressed me.

"I'll make room for them in the First Team.



