



KICKING AHEAD: Shaun McKee is heading to Greece to play for Australia in the Special Olympics World Games.

Shaun faces new goals

BRACKEN Ridge's Shaun McKee has joined 131 athletes to show his silky soccer skills in the green and gold for the Special Olympics World Games starting this week.

McKee, 20, has been involved in Special Olympics for three years after being diagnosed with Asperger's at an early age.

His enthusiasm has earned him a spot in the seven-a-side team for the World Games in Athens.

Shaun's guardian Pamela Burrows said he was already "a good mixer and encourager" and would thrive with his new teammates.

"We've taken Shaun all around Australia so he's used to flying and talking to new people," Burrows said.

Shaun, a midfielder, was showing the benefits of intense training over the past few months.

"All his skills are coming

together and you just see the difference," she said.

"He's got a terrific build and he's very athletic ... he's also a great runner and a great basketball player."

Shaun was hoping to try a few local delicacies, she said.

"He watched a video about the Greek Islands and he's looking forward to seeing all the different ways they cook octopus."