

WOMEN'S FOOTBALL

ISSUE 35

MAGAZINE

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THE FA WOMEN'S CONTINENTAL TYRES LEAGUE CUP

WINNERS

CHELSEA LIFT CONTI CUP!

All the latest from the Conti Cup final with match reports and interviews, Allie Coker looks at the refereeing issues in the WSL, Ali Rampling reports from the thriller between Man City and Chelsea and Marissa has all the latest with 500 days to go until the 2021 Euros.

THE WOMEN'S FOOTBALL MAGAZINE



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Welcome

CONTRIBUTORS

Editor: Helen Rowe-Willcocks

Writers: Emily Cassidy

Bridget Lockwood

Allie Coker

Marissa Thomas

Ali Rampling

Hannah Clarke

Reagan Foy

Georgia Stevens

Claire Wray

Photography: joerdeli

@GOTB

Website designer: Will Ibbetson

Graphic designer: Phil Brooke

SOCIAL MEDIA

Twitter: @womensfootiemag

Facebook:

thewomensfootiemag

Instagram:

Thewomensfootballmagazine

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Hello and welcome to Issue 35!

Hello everyone, welcome to our latest issue.

Did you watch the Conti Cup final or go? What a game it was! Fantastic advertisement for women's football and congratulations to Chelsea for winning the trophy. You can read all about it under the 'Cups' section.

This issue is jam packed with content. Marissa has been out and about and finding out about the England squad, chatting to Phil Neville and finding out the latest about the Euros.

Ali Rampling went to the classic game between Chelsea and Man City, Allie Coker takes us on a different take of referees and I went back to my old school to see how opinions are changing about women's football in schools.

We also have the latest column from Georgia Stevens, all the latest stories, interviews, home nation news and lots more to discover.

Enjoy the issue!

Helen Rowe-Willcocks

Editor-in-Chief

@helenrw11

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WOMEN'S SUPER LEAGUE



Match of the Month:

Man City 3-3 Chelsea



By Ali Rampling

In a game that had everything except a winner, there was ultimately nothing to separate the WSL's top two, as Manchester City and Chelsea played out a thrilling 3-3 draw at the Academy Stadium.

The match was billed as a blockbuster fixture, potentially decisive in this season's tightest of title races. Despite the stakes, there were no signs of this ever being a cagey affair.

In a thoroughly entertaining 90 minutes, the momentum swung one way and then the other as the lead frantically switched hands and both sides refused to be beaten. Manchester City had led twice, only to be pegged back by the visitors on both occasions. Beth England then produced a goal worthy of winning any game for Chelsea, but City found an equaliser themselves through Lauren Hemp.

The first two minutes set the tone for what would be a breathless, end to end encounter. Sam Kerr was played through by Guro Reiten within the opening 30 seconds, but she was denied by the legs of Ellie Roebuck, before Beth England failed to tuck away the rebound from close range.

Moments later, Ellen White found herself baring down on goal, but just as she opened up her body to shoot, her effort was blocked by Maren Mjelde.

The pulsating start to the game continued, as Caroline Weir was presented with a golden opportunity to give the hosts the lead on 10, but she volleyed a fabulous chance over the bar.

Weir was again involved two minutes later, this time turning provider as her dangerous free kick was headed narrowly wide by Ellen White.

Roebuck was again called into action 18 minutes in, pushing Kerr's goal-bound header round the post. From the resulting corner, Georgia Stanway made a crucial tackle on the goal line to deny Erin Cuthbert a certain opener, Stanway's brief stint at right back appearing to have paid dividends.

On 21, City took the lead. Weir fed Janine Beckie on the right flank, and the Canadian international's teasing cross was turned home by White for her sixth league goal of the season.

But Chelsea were not going to surrender their unbeaten record easily, and six minutes before the break, they were level. Kerr's cross was headed clear by Steph Houghton, but only as far as Ji So-Yun on the edge of the area. The South Korean international cushioned the ball with her chest, before sending a low half volley past the out stretched arm of Roebuck, via a slight deflection.

A frantic first half finished with the scores all square. The second would go on to serve up just as much pace, intensity and excitement.

On 53, Roebuck made a superb save to keep out England from point blank range.

City regained the lead on the hour mark via a flowing counter attacking move. Lauren Hemp carried the ball past half way and slipped in Stanway, who charged through and finished emphatically.

The visitors grabbed an equaliser in fortuitous circumstances eight minutes later. England flicked on Jonna Andersson's cross, and Magdalena Eriksson's header was spilled into her own net by Roebuck.

From goalkeeping errors at one end to heroics at the other. Moments after the restart, Weir was brought down in the area by Sophie Ingle, and Stanway stepped up, only to see her penalty magnificently saved by Ann-Katrin Berger.

On 73, Chelsea took the lead for the first time in spectacular style. England found herself 30 yards from goal and let rip, finding the top corner for her 14th WSL goal in what has been a stunning season for the Chelsea striker.

However, Chelsea held their advantage for just three minutes. Weir played an inch perfect pass to Hemp, who stretched to poke the ball into the bottom corner.

Both sides could have won the game in the closing stages. Hemp teed up Weir, but she blasted her shot straight at Berger. At the other end, Eriksson headed over from a corner, and England blazed wide as she raced through, Houghton doing well to stand her England teammate up and deny her a clean run at goal.

However, neither side could find an all important winner, to leave everything tantalisingly close at the WSL summit. First place City are a point clear of Chelsea in second, but Emma Hayes' side have a game in hand over their title rivals. The stage is set for the title race to go right down to the wire.

Manchester City: Ellie Roebuck (Karima Benameur), Demi Stokes, Gemma Bonner, Steph Houghton, Janine Beckie, Keira Walsh, Jill Scott, Caroline Weir, Lauren Hemp, Georgia Stanway, Ellen White (Pauline Bremer)

Chelsea: Ann-Katrin Berger, Jonna Andersson, Millie Bright, Magdalena Eriksson, Maren Mjelde, Sophie Ingle, Ji So-Yun (Ramona Bachmann), Guro Reiten, Erin Cuthbert, Beth England, Sam Kerr (Drew Spence)

Referee: Rebecca Welch

Attendance: 3,542



“If you’re not the managers of the teams you’re having a wonderful time”

By Ali Rampling



Manchester City and Chelsea played out a thrilling 3-3 draw at the Academy Stadium in a potentially pivotal game in the WSL title race.

In an end to end encounter, City led twice but were pegged back on both occasions, before Chelsea went 3-2 up only to be pulled back themselves, while Georgia Stanway missed penalty for the hosts.

Reflecting on an entertaining 90 minutes, Chelsea manager Emma Hayes said: “If you’re not the managers of the teams you’re having a wonderful time!

“I’ve got a sore neck from the constant action and very little midfield action. It’s better than a boring 0-0 game I suspect. It’s both teams going for it, it’s full of drama.

“I thought it was a game played with emotions by both teams. Man City were desperate to win the game and for us we were desperate to prove ourselves and as a result it was more of a basketball match than a chess match.”

Hayes was full of praise for Manchester City goalkeeper Ellie Roebuck, who produced a number of fine saves to prevent Chelsea taking all three points.

However, the Chelsea manager gave a less than glowing assessment of her own side’s defensive display: “If you think about the quality of Roebuck in goal for them; she made a world class save in the first half. They’ve got an unbelievable young goalkeeper in there who’s kept their team in the game.

“We were terrible today defensively. You can’t defend like that. We’ve got to expect more from yourself in those circumstances.

“But defensively we have been tremendous this side of Christmas. I think we had an off day today.”

The draw means it is now advantage Chelsea in the title race, who will claim their fourth WSL title if they win their remaining seven league fixtures. However, Hayes refused to admit that the title was now Chelsea’s to lose.

“I’ve been here too many times to know that’s not the case,” Hayes added. “I’ve lost a title on the last day, in the last game, in the last moment, so there’s never a complacency with me in regards to those

things. We've not won anything today. But we definitely didn't lose it either."

While Hayes would not be drawn to discussing the ramifications for the title race, Manchester City manager Alan Mahon did concede that the result gave Chelsea the upper hand.

However, he said the improved quality of the league means that there are still plenty of opportunities for the Blues to slip up, and their league title run in will not be a formality.

"It's in their (Chelsea's) hands now," Mahon said. "We're just going to concentrate on each game now and not look too far ahead.

"Whereas years ago you'd say there were games that were gimmies where you were automatically going to take points, I think the league's a lot more competitive now, so there's a lot more games to be played from now until the end of the season so there will be a twist."

Like his counterpart Hayes, Mahon agreed that it was a hectic game to watch as a manager.

"Not great for my heart," Mahon joked. "A great game for the neutral. Obviously we'd have liked to have won but we'll take the point. It was an end to end game.

"We had to put the breaks on at certain times to manage it, but it was an enjoyable game for the neutral. For us, it was an enjoyable in parts."

Lauren Hemp turned in another impressive display for City.

Having popped up with the winner against Arsenal at the beginning of February, the 19-year-old set up Stanway's goal, before prodding home the crucial equaliser for the hosts.

Mahon was full of praise for the young winger: "Lauren's been absolutely fantastic. Top, top talent, really, really top, top talent and I'm delighted for her.

"She's nailed down a spot in our team now and I'm really pleased for her."

Hemp received another international call up in the build-up to the game, and her England teammate Ellen White insisted City are still right in the title race, despite Chelsea's game in hand.

"It was pretty crazy to play in," White said. "It was back to front at times, but at times I felt we could control the game and we did control the game.

"There are so many things that can happen in the season, we've still got so many more games so for us we're maybe a little bit disappointed but we've still got a lot of games."



Squad depth will prove vital in Chelsea's quest to regain the Women's Super League title

By Marissa Thomas



Chelsea Women are on a mission to regain the Women's Super League title and their incredible squad depth could make the difference against their rivals.

The Blues have won all of their last five WSL games, along with Manchester City, and are just a point behind City with a game in hand. They signed Sam Kerr, regarded as one of the biggest signings in Women's Super League history. Once she settles in to London, Australia striker Kerr will undoubtedly significantly improve Chelsea's forward line for years to come.

One of the most important things in a title-winning side is that they share the goals between them and are not dependent on a single player. While Arsenal striker Vivianne Miedema (14) is the only player to have scored more WSL goals than Chelsea

forward Beth England (13), other members of the team are contributing.

Guro Reiten, Chelsea's first signing ahead of the current campaign, has scored five goals and registered eight assists as she has slotted into Emma Hayes' side. Ji So-Yun is also on five goals while Maren Mjelde has scored four and Drew Spence has bagged three.

Sophie Ingle has chipped in with four goals this season, after four whole seasons of failing to find the back of the net. Getting on the scoresheet is clearly not her speciality but, in a season, where everything is going right for Chelsea, Ingle is adding goals to her game.

In the 8-0 rout over West Ham, 16-year-old Emily Murphy scored her first WSL goal in the 90th minute. Jess Carter, mostly used as a substitute has also scored her first goal for the Blues this season, in a 6-1 thrashing of Bristol City. Even though their goals came once the game was already won for Chelsea, they will be full of confidence after finding the back of the net. The whole team is in sync and knows their roles.

The strength of Chelsea's squad depth is illustrated by the fact that internationals such as Ramona Bachmann and Maria Thorisdottir regularly have to make do with a place on the bench when they would be in the starting line-up for the majority of the other teams in the league.

Chelsea are the only unbeaten team left in the league, just like when they last won the league in the 2017/18 season. Could history be about to repeat itself?

Georgia Stanway scores WSL 2000th goal

Manchester City forward scored the 2000th Women's Super League goal in the thriller against Chelsea.

Here are some fun facts about the WSL goals since the game began.

Landmark	DATE	MIN	PLAYER	TEAM	OPP	VENUE	WHERE	HOW	SET PIECE TYPE
1st	13/04/2011	35	Gilly Flaherty	Arsenal Women	Chelsea FC Women	Away	in play	right	Corner
100th	06/08/2011	52	Jemma Rose	Bristol City Women FC	Doncaster Rovers Belles	Away	set piece	right	Free kick
500th	29/09/2013	39	Katie Wilkinson	Birmingham City Women	Doncaster Rovers Belles	Away	in play	right	Open
1000th	06/11/2016	49	Kirsty Linnett	Birmingham City Women	Sunderland Ladies	Away	out	right	Open
1500th	21/10/2018	32	Lucy Graham	Bristol City Women FC	Yeovil Town Ladies	Away	in play	right	Open
2000th	23/02/2019	60	Georgia Stanway	Manchester City Women	Chelsea FC Women	Home	in play	right	Open

Some landmark goals:

- First player outside the British Isles & Ireland to score: Hayley Bowden (NZ), for Chelsea on 14 August 2011
- First hat-track: Rachel Williams for Birmingham City on 20 April 2011
- Furthest goal: Danique Kerkdijk for Bristol City on 21 April 2019
- Earliest goal: 14 seconds tied between Jane Ross for Man City on 11 August 2016 and Megan Walsh for Man City on 12 February 2019



Keira Walsh signs new deal



England midfielder Keira Walsh has signed a new three-year contract with Manchester City.

Walsh, who has made 142 appearances for City, handed in a transfer request last year before backtracking in July to say she was "fully committed" to the club.

Speaking to the official website: "It's amazing. It's important I've renewed my contract with the Club I grew up supporting. It's a special moment for me in my career.

"I still have to pinch myself a little bit sometimes when I'm in and around the building and in training.

"There's nowhere else I'd rather be. I feel confident playing here, I seem to play well every game and the team are playing well.

"The team are in a good place at the top of the league and if we can keep going and keep the momentum rolling, there's no reason why we can't finish strongly at the end of the season.

"You naturally improve, playing with top players. I've played for City since I was 17, alongside the best players in the world. I'm quite lucky.

"For me now, it's about pushing on and taking ownership of other people's game, helping them to improve – being more of a leader in the team.

"I'm really happy to have put pen to paper."

Everton play at new home with a sell-out crowd

Everton Women have played their first game at their new home in front of a sell-out crowd.

The Toffees narrowly lost 3-2 to Manchester United on Sunday, February 23 in the opening game.

The WSL side have been playing in Southport but now will play at Walton Hall Park, home of Liverpool Country FA.

The capacity is currently 1,500 whilst work is being completed to upgrade the facilities.



@Everton Women

Going to Walton Hall Park soon?

Here is all you need to know about Everton's new stadium

Everton will play the remainder of their home games at new home venue Walton Hall Park.

The home games for the rest of the WSL season are:

March 29: Everton v Birmingham City, KO 12:30

April 26: Everton v West Ham, KO 12:30

May 3: Everton v Chelsea, KO 12:30

Everton also host Chelsea in the fifth round of the FA Cup on March 15.

Everton v Liverpool – originally to be held at Goodison Park in February – was postponed due to bad weather.

The game will remain at Goodison and now be held on Wednesday, March 25, kick-off at 7pm.

Where is the stadium?

Walton Hall Park is situated in the Walton area of North Liverpool, less

than a mile from Goodison Park.

Address: Walton Hall Park, Walton Hall Ave, Liverpool L4 9XP

How to get there

There is a bus stop (Walton Hall Park) at the entrance of the ground and you can get buses 19 or X3 from the city centre.

Alternatively, Walton train station is about a 25 minute walk from the stadium.

If you are driving, there is parking available at Liverpool Soccer Centre (on Blackthorne Road).

What is the capacity?

The capacity has now risen to 2200, with 500 covered seats available on completion.

Standing supporters will be out in the elements.

Food and drink stands are also available at the stadium.

Steph Houghton awarded 'Personality of the Year'



England and Manchester City defender Steph Houghton was named 'Personality of the Year' by the North East Football Writers' Association and Sir Bobby Robson Foundation.

The award recognised her dedication to the local community through her role and was presented at the awards night in Houghton's home town of Durham.

"This award means everything to me and I'm very proud,

"I like to think that I take being a role model for young girls and boys to start playing football seriously – and to show that anything is possible if you put your mind to it and work hard.

"You can control what you can control, which is your performance off the pitch and being a good person.

"I'd like to think that's what my career has shown over the past few years."

Injury updates

Beth Mead expected to be back by end of season

Beth Mead is expected to be back earlier than originally thought after picking up a knee injury in the Women's Super League game against Liverpool.

The 24-year-old has damaged her medial collateral ligament which sees her missing out on a place in the SheBelieves Cup England squad.

A statement from Arsenal said: "Beth Mead sustained a knee injury during our Women's Super League fixture against Liverpool and scans have since confirmed that she's injured her MCL.

"She has already started her rehabilitation with the club and is expected to be back and available for selection later in the season.

"Everyone at the club wishes Beth a speedy recovery."

Everton's Gabby George

Everton have confirmed midfielder Gabby George as ruptured her anterior cruciate ligament (ACL).

The injury occurred during the Toffees' 5-0 win over Bristol City.

Taking to Twitter the 23-year-old said: "I don't know where to start with this post but just as things were going well and I felt like myself again I got the news I have ruptured my ACL.

"Devastated really doesn't even come close, I've always been a strong character and that's not going to change now.

"It's a long road back but I know I'll be back stronger, fitter and faster. I have the right support around me to make sure that's going to happen.

"Tough times don't last, tough people do. Season 20/21 I'm coming for you with a great big smile along the way (sometimes)!"

Injury updates

Hayley Raso

Everton and Australia midfielder Hayley Raso has broken her nose whilst on international duty.

The injury required surgery and means the forward will now join Everton after March's international break.

It is hoped she will be fit for the Toffees' FA Cup quarter-final tie with Chelsea on March 15.

Lia Walti

Arsenal defender Lia Walti will not be available for a matter of weeks after picking up a hamstring injury.

No official timeline has been given, but in an official statement Arsenal said: "Walti is expected to be back and available for selection later in the season."

Megan Campbell

Manchester City and Ireland defender Megan Campbell has had surgery on a tendon in her right foot.

The 29-year-old suffered the injury in January's 4-1 win at Tottenham and the WSL have issued an update.

Campbell updated her followers: "Another road to recovery and one I never thought I'd have to experience again. It's a horrible feeling when my dream of playing professional football is the thing which has broken me down on a number of occasions.

"It's hard to sit here and wonder why I find myself in this position again but I will give my absolute all to be back out on the pitch again."



Is it time we show Refs the red card?



By Allie Coker

It was the video that set Twitter ablaze at full time. Well women's football twitter anyway. Reading who were 1-0 down to home side Manchester United had been awarded a free kick in a very dangerous area. Free kick queen Fara Williams steps up to try and draw them level, a powerful shot is deflected away behind the goal with a header from Manchester United captain Katie Zelem.

The teams go to set up for the inevitable Reading corner at the Ref's whistle, so imagine everyone's confusion when she is pointing at the spot for hand ball. Reading not to look a gift horse in the mouth, took the pen quickly to level before the referee changed their mind.

This video opened up a debate that has been brewing for a long time, when will the league do something about the subpar officials? Managers have been calling for intervention for a long time.

Players for fear of repercussions who previously had been privately calling for it, now openly discussing it. A professional league deserves professional referees, much has already been said on this and I do feel for them. I really do.

They can't win either way, if they have a brilliant game it will never get mentioned. But if they have an absolute howler, the world and it's wife have an opinion on them. I wouldn't be an official if you paid me and you would certainly have to offer a lot more than a current referee receives.

This article is not about the need for a change, as I have said enough has been written on that and why kick someone when they are down.

Instead I want to look at a specific aspect of officiating that has perplexed me. The act of actually disciplining a player, or rather the lack of. You are more likely to catch me supporting Spurs then seeing cards in a game (although this starting to change a little, the giving of cards not me softening to Tottenham).

What I want to explore is why serious fouls are often ignored, and whether a players reputation can make them more susceptible or immune to going into the little black book.



Firstly a little story time, a tale of two footballers and how similar actions lead to very different outcomes. Let's cast our minds back to last season. Arsenal were hammering Chelsea on their first meeting of the year, 5-0 no less. Kim Little playing for Arsenal goes in for a shot and is cynically taken out by the Chelsea defender Drew Spence. Kim ended up with a broken leg and Drew ended up with yellow card, she also appeared in the Chelsea squad the following week so it appeared no internal punishment either.

Now, let's look into this year's premier league Tottenham vs Chelsea. Son having been tripped lashed out at Rudiger with a two footed kick. After a quick consultation with VAR it was a straight red for the Spurs star. So what was different, I mean Son didn't do any real damage, maybe a bruise or two. Both were acts of petulance in retaliation to losing yet only one found themselves heading to an early bath. I have seen some egregious fouls in my time as a WOSO supporter, nine times out of ten it's ignored or the player is 'talked to'.

So you have to ask what it takes to actually book someone, what are referees afraid of?

Unfortunately it appears one of the biggest reasons for such apprehension is the Aww bless factor. A recent article in The Athletic interviewed some of the officials that had been covering the league games. Worryingly many told of their reluctance to book players due them questioning the intent of the player. That compared to their male compatriots, female players seem to be lacking something in their eyes. Be it strength be it cynicism or more scarily they are underestimating the power of the player due to their sex.

Why ARE cards such a rarity in the women's game can be investigated further by looking into the reasoning behind the bookings that are actually given. In doing so we end up questioning further decisions as it appears a players reputation comes into play on whether they enter the refs little black book.

The most likely player to be cautioned in a game is the goalkeeper, in fact most red cards and a fair number of yellows I have seen have come to the gloved ones. This could well be because goalkeeper fouls are more clear cut. You can see when they handle the ball out of the area or when they take another players legs from under them. Is a 'keeper counting down the clock? Well is the ball still her hands with minutes left. Time wasting!

However can a player's reputation help the referees to make a decision either way. Which does lead to the inconsistency many fans are despairing of. West Ham currently have four players on four yellows for the season, with another one player already served the obligatory suspension for the five. Now, call me biased but I wouldn't say we were particularly dirty players.

Although we do like a good tackle, especially our midfielders who make up the majority of our card holders. However it appears our biggest fault is to argue back, which most players do. Expect our players

seem to be penalised for it much quicker. Maybe it's because of West Ham's fearsome reputation from the 1980's, the East London accents intimidating I don't know.

We are not the only victims of this, Lauren James of Manchester United is currently a victim, it would appear of her size. What would be a normal tackle for one, is a bookable offence for the Red Devil. On the other hand there are some haloed individuals that no matter what they do, can anyone remember when the England captain or the most capped player got booked? Despite the constant and consistent dissent.

A referee's lot is a hard one and I don't plan on jumping on the band wagon calling for all them to be sacked.

However I do believe that some consistent decision making, between not only teams in the same league but also between top flight male and female teams would ease the pressure against the man/women in the middle.



WSL February review

By Bridget Lockwood



TheFA Women's
Super League



Arsenal

Position: 3rd

Results: Manchester City 2 – 1 Arsenal
Liverpool 2 – 3 Arsenal

Arsenal hopes of retaining the title took a big hit when they were beaten by Manchester City, in Nick Cushing last game at the club. Despite being in control for much of the first half and constantly finding themselves in dangerous positions it was City who scored first, with Bremer finishing from close range just before the end of the first half. Soon after the restart City doubled their lead as Hemp's looping header found the top corner. Danielle van de Donk pulled one back for Arsenal after slotting home a rebound, the Gunners kept pushing for the equaliser and came close but were denied by some superb saves from the Roebuck in the City goal. In their second game of the month Arsenal faced Liverpool; Babajide scoring early to give Liverpool the lead. The game was close with both team looking like they might snatch the win throughout. Arsenal equalised through Miedema and just two minutes later Nobbs put them ahead with a powerful header. But seconds before the half time whistle Rachel Furness fired an unstoppable half-volley into the top corner to put Liverpool back level. Arsenal pushed hard for the winner the whole of the second half and despite Liverpool strong defensive efforts, Miedema found the space to head home from close range to get the win.

Birmingham City

Position: 11th

Results: Chelsea 2 – 0 Birmingham
Birmingham 0 – 1 Bristol

Birmingham first match of the month against Liverpool was postponed due to a waterlogged pitch. With storm Ciara hitting hard Birmingham's next match against Brighton was also postponed due to adverse weather. After two weeks off Birmingham faced inform Chelsea, Birmingham were initially strong as Lucy Staniforth fire over the bar to put pressure on the host. However, after Chelsea opening goal from Reiten Birmingham were in trouble as Chelsea gain complete of the game. The Blues, who were without Staniforth who was banned after an altercation in a FA cup tie faced Bristol in their second match of the month. Birmingham looked confident and came close in the first half with some strong efforts from Brianna Visalli and Rachel Williams, but they didn't earn any points after Bristol substitute Ebony Salmon scored late into the second half.





Brighton & Hove Albion

Position: 9th

Results: Brighton & Hove Albion 1 – 0 Everton
Brighton & Hove Albion 1 – 1 Manchester United
Brighton & Hove Albion 0 – 1 Tottenham Hotspur

Albion were dominant throughout in their first game of the month against Everton, with this dominance transpiring into three points. Aileen Whelan scored the only goal of the match as her shot found the bottom corner late into the first half. Brighton next game against Brighton was postponed due to the weather. An early own goal in the first minute of play from Brighton keeper Megan Walsh gave United the lead, but Brighton's top scorer Whelan equalised a minute before half time after some good build up from Kayleigh Green. The seagulls kept creating chances into the second half, and without Earp's quick reactions in the United goal the score line could have reflected differently. An unlucky last game of the month for Brighton as midfielder Lea Le Garrec was sent off after receiving two yellow cards, a player down so early Brighton were lucky to keep the score at just one nil.

Bristol City

Position: 10th

Results: Manchester City 1 – 0 Bristol City
Birmingham City 0 – 1 Bristol City



Bristol first game of the month against Reading was postponed due to the weather. Bristol's first game of the month against Manchester City ended quickly, after conceding in the second minute they struggle to comeback and if it weren't for Baggaley in goal Bristol could have conceded more. Bristol then faced relegation rivals Birmingham in what played out to be a very scrappy game. Despite Birmingham going close in the first half it was Bristol who scored the only goal of the game. Substitute Ebony Salmon came on to slot the ball passed Hannah Hampton, Bristol could have doubled their lead late on after Olivia Chance hit the crossbar.

Chelsea



Position: 2nd

Results: Chelsea 8 – 0 West Ham United
Chelsea 2 – 0 Birmingham City
Manchester City 3 – 3 Chelsea

Chelsea thrashed West Ham in their first game of the month, dominating from start to finish the goals were plentiful. Maren Mjelde opened the scoring after slotting home after West Ham were unable to clear a Cuthbert cross. The second came just five minutes later when another cross from Cuthbert was this time met by Beth England. The goals continued with Ingles, Cuthbert, England again, Mjelde again and Bachman all scoring to make it seven nil. Finally, Chelsea's eighth goal came from substitute Emily Murphy who headed home in the 90th minute for her first WSL goal at just sixteen. Chelsea next match against Manchester United was cancelled due to the weather. Chelsea faced Birmingham next, the first goal came after Ingle's flicked on a cross which fell to Reiten who

neatly slid it home. Chelsea doubled the lead when England drove into the penalty area and calmly slotted it pasted Hampton. A thrilling game against title rivals City produced six goals, three for each side. Chelsea went behind twice but goals from Ji and Eriksson put them level; a sensational strike from England minutes after City missed a penalty put Chelsea in front but they didn't hold the lead for long as Hemp scored to rescue a point for the home team.

Everton

Position: 7th

Results: Brighton & Hove Albion 1 – 0 Everton

Tottenham Hotspur 2 – 2 Everton

Everton 2 – 3 Manchester United



Everton were dominated by the home side in their first game of the month, after conceding in the first half they struggled to create any chances of a comeback. Everton's next home game against rivals Liverpool was postponed due to bad weather. The Toffees looked to be in control going two nil up against Tottenham with goals from Kelly and Kaagman but Tottenham came back. Despite having a player sent off with a straight red Spurs were able to create chances; Addison scoring first and then a beautiful free kick from Mitchell help them rescue a point. Going three nil down Everton showed character against Manchester United as they kept pushing for the points. The comeback started when Turner headed in a cross, the second from Lucy Graham; but to the disappointment of the Everton fans they couldn't muster another and walked away with nothing.

Liverpool



Position: 12th

Results: Liverpool 2 – 3 Arsenal

West Ham United 4 – 2 Liverpool

Liverpool's game against Birmingham was postponed due to a waterlogged pitch, their second against rivals Everton also postponed due to the weather. Liverpool faced Arsenal in their first playable game of the month, to the shock of the away fans Liverpool opened the scoring when Babajide used her pace to latch on to Furness' lobbed ball. Miedema put the visitor's level and a second goal from Nobbs put Arsenal back in front but Rachel Furness equalised on the stroke of half time with a clinical finish. A tense second half with both teams looking for the win, finished with Miedema scoring for Arsenal for them to take all the points. A quiet opening as Liverpool faced was awoken when West Ham scored twice in as many minutes. It looked even worse for Liverpool in the second half after conceding two more goals to put them four nil down with only half an hour left to play. Liverpool showed their battling qualities as Furness' scored two late consolation goals, one from a free-kick and the other headed from a corner.

Manchester City

Position: 1st

Results: Manchester City 2 – 1 Arsenal

Manchester City 1 – 0 Bristol City

Manchester City 3 – 3 Chelsea



Manchester City faced Arsenal in Nick Cushing last game in charge after six years. A good start for City as they opened the scoring through Pauline Bremer, who's close range shot easily found the back of the net. Lauren Hemp's looping header soon after the restart doubled City's advantage. Despite getting all three points City weren't able to keep a clean sheet as van de Donk pulled one back for the visitors. City played Bristol in their second game of the month, scoring in the second minute as Bonner flick in a free kick from Caroline Weir. However, City became frustrated in attack not being able to score despite being in constant attack. A thrilling game against title rivals City produced six goals, three for each side. City lead twice after goals from White and Stanway, only to find themselves 3 – 2 after a beautiful 30-yard strike from Beth England. Stanway could have doubled her goal tally just moments before after a foul in Weir lead to a penalty, but Berger was able to deny Stanway's effort with a well-timed save. Chelsea didn't hold the lead for long as Hemp scored to rescue a point for the home team.

Manchester United

Position: 4th

Results: Reading 1 – 1 Manchester United
Brighton & Hove Albion 1 – 1 Manchester United
Everton 2 – 3 Manchester United



The Reds took the lead in the first half when Lauren James punished Reading's defence for not dealing with Zelem's long ball. The Royals were then award a penalty, but United keeper Mary Earps saved it to keep United in front. However, just fifteen minutes later Reading were awarded another penalty and Williams made no mistake this time striking it into the top left corner. United's next game against Chelsea was postponed due to the weather. It was a quick start for United as the played Brighton, taking the lead after just fifteen seconds; a deflected cross from James forced an own goal from keeper Walsh. But Brighton attacked well, and their top scorer Whelan got the equaliser with a header. United's last game of the month against Everton lead to a tense last twenty minutes, after United who were three up conceded two goals. Leah Galton put them ahead with two in the first half and Ella Toone looked to make the points safe after scoring the third. But the Toffees showed character to score two.



Reading

Position: 5th

Results: Reading 1 – 1 Manchester United
Reading 2 – 0 West Ham United

United took the lead just a half hour in when James was able to slide past the Royals defence to slot it past keeper Rachael Laws. With an hour being play Reading were awarded a penalty but United keeper Mary Earps was able to save Fara Williams. But Williams made no mistake fifteen minutes later when Reading were awarded a second penalty, striking it into the top left-hand corner with ease. Reading second game of the month against Bristol was postponed due to the weather. The Royals played West Ham in their second game of the month, scoring both the goals from the game. The first came from a clever free-kick as Eikeland nodded the ball towards midfielder Jade Moore whose header found the back of the net. Chaplen scored the seconds with an incredible run from the halfway line to beat two defenders before calmly putting the ball in the back of the net.

Tottenham Hotspur

Position: 6th

Results: Tottenham Hotspur 2 – 2 Everton
Brighton & Hove Albion 0 – 1 Tottenham Hotspur

Tottenham looked to have lost control of the game after goals from Everton's Kelly and Kaagman but Spurs kept fighting. Addison scored the first for Tottenham after heading in a cross from Percival, but only a minute later saw Spurs winger Ayane receive a straight red for kicking out. Tottenham were later awarded a free kick 30-yards out, Mitchell stepped up to convert with an excellent strike. Spurs took advantage when Brighton went a player down in the thirtieth minute after midfielder Le Garrec was sent off for a second bookable offence. Halfway through the second half Addison was fouled in the box by Barton, Dean fired to ball into the net for the only goal of the game.



West Ham United

Position: 8th

Results: Chelsea 8 – 0 West Ham United
Reading 2 – 0 West Ham United
West Ham United 4 – 2 Liverpool

The Hammers didn't have a good start to their month after being thrashed 8 – 0 by Chelsea. The misery continued for West Ham when playing Reading, Matt Beards side found it hard to get into the game and after conceding two there was no way back. However, in their last game of the month against Liverpool it was a comfortable win for the Hammers. After a quiet twenty-five minutes West Ham score two in quick succession, the first from Leon, the second Thomas. The home side's third came after fifty minutes when Thomas neatly turned a defender before firing home from outside the box. Thomas was again involved in West Hams last goal as her cross was finished by Leon.



March's WSL fixtures can be found at: www.thewomensfootballmagazine.com/fixtures



CHAMPIONSHIP



Aluko No Further



By Regan Foy

Just a short few weeks ago, former England Lioness and Juventus, Birmingham City and Chelsea forward Eniola Aluko was revealed as the new Sporting Director of the high-flying FA Women's Championship outfit Aston Villa Women.

The Midlands-based side had been looking to add to the hierarchy at the club since the summer, advertising for a 'Head of Women's Football' role that never seemed to come to fruition. Changes have been made to the set-up at the club, with a number of players now training on a more professional basis and a handful of their stars and younger prospects now on professional contracts.

The Head of Women's Football role, however, is essentially what Eniola Aluko will be doing at the club. As a Sporting Director, she will take much of the day-to-day pressures from Head Coach Gemma Davies, allowing for more on-the-pitch concentration from the Boldmere based manager.

Aluko was born in Nigeria, but raised in Birmingham, and as she put it herself 'will start the next phase of her career in the city where she met the game'. There was still the opportunity to continue her playing career over in Italy with Juventus, but Aston Villa approached the forward - who still had two-and-a-half years left on her playing contract - and she made the decision to retire and move into the

boardroom.

Aston Villa are keen on investing in the women's game, highly ambitious, and with owners and a Chief Executive in Christian Purslow who wants Aston Villa to be the dominant force in Midland's women's football first and foremost, before attempting to conquer further reaches. The title of dominant force in the Midlands has long been one held by Birmingham City Women.

Eniola is keen to ensure that the club provides a professional set-up that attracts the best local, but also the best international players. With players like Asmita Ale and Amy West on the books, as well as the recent return of Emma Follis, the local part is already starting to bare fruit, but providing a strong set-up to allow elite players to grow will allow Aston Villa to attract players from all over the world.

Incredibly intelligent, Aluko has been working towards a role like this for some time. She completed a UEFA Master's Degree for International Players across a two-year programme last year, and gained a Law degree over a decade ago. The role at Aston Villa provides the opportunity to come somewhat full circle and use her knowledge about football and law, and her experiences in the game, to help drive both Aston Villa and the women's game forward.

With Aston Villa Women now only four games away from securing their promotion to the upper echelons of English women's football, it will certainly be an exciting summer to watch for fans of the club and the game alike.

As Christian Purslow said in an interview with club media, the real fun for Eni starts in the off-season.



Kathryn Hill named Women's Player of the Year



Durham's Kathryn Hill has been awarded the North East Football Writer's Award for Women's Player of the Year.

The Scottish defender signed for the club in 2017 and was presented the award on February 23 at the Awards night in Durham.

Speaking as she collected the award, she said: It's great to be recognised, especially for the club as well.

"It's nice for a defender to be recognised for a change and it's great to follow in the footsteps of some of the previous winners."



Coventry United sack manager

On February 20, Coventry United confirmed that manager Stuart Wilson had 'parted ways' with the club.

The announcement came after an inconsistent league run of form.

A statement said: "We thank Stuart for his time with the club and wish him all the success in the future.

"General manager Jay Bradford will join the existing coaching staff for the foreseeable future.

"In the interim, Jay's GM responsibilities will be shared between existing club staff to ensure the smooth running of club operations."



Selhurst Park to host Women's Championship game

Crystal Palace Women will welcome Blackburn Rovers Ladies to Selhurst Park for their Championship clash in March.

The game was originally to be held at Hayes Lane, Bromley but will now also see under-16s go free.

Rovers won the reverse fixture 2-0 at Bamber Bridge earlier this season thanks to goals from Serena Fletcher and Natasha Flint.

The game will kick-off at 2pm GMT on March 22.

Ticket pricing:

- Adult: £5 (advanced), £7 (on the day)
- U16s: FREE

Tickets are available on the Crystal Palace website.

Former Charlton player loses battle with cancer



Former Charlton Athletic player Lucy Kerr has lost battle with cancer at the age of 20.

The young footballer joined the club in the 2013/14 season with the U14s where she was awarded 'player of the year'.

Kerr moved up the ranks and joined the development squad to play senior football.

In a Statement on Charlton's website manager Riteesh Mishra, who worked with Lucy in the U16s, said: "The news is tragic. My heart goes out to Lucy's family and friends.

"She was there at the start of my journey with Charlton as a coach with the Under 16s. Her personality and attitude in particular were infectious and she always put a smile on the faces of staff.

"She will be in our thoughts and forever be part of our Charlton family."

The thoughts of everyone from TWFM are with Lucy's friends and families.

Charlton will pay tribute to the young star at their next fixture.

Championship monthly Round-up



By Regan Foy

Aston Villa

Position: 1st

Results: Aston Villa 3-0 Charlton Athletic

Durham P-P Aston Villa

Aston Villa 4-0 Coventry United

Aston Villa continue to look strong at the top of the Championship table with two solid wins and clean sheets in February. All Championship games on February 9 were postponed due to the weather which saw the eagerly awaited top of the table clash with Durham to still be eagerly awaited. In the first game of the month, Shania Hayles got scoring underway with just a minute gone before late goals from Emma Folis and Melissa Johnson secured the victory. Hayles was back again with a hat-trick against Coventry. Jade getting the fourth goal.

Blackburn Rovers

Position: 7th

Results:

Blackburn Rovers 0-2 Durham

Coventry United P-P Blackburn Rovers

Sheffield United 5-1 Blackburn Rovers



Rovers had a difficult February. Two defeats and a postponement saw them sitting 7th in the table. The only positive – they do have two or three games in hand on a number of teams in the league. In the month's opening game against Durham, Rovers held their own in the first half but two goals in the second were enough for the promotion hopefuls. At the Proact Stadium, it was a slightly different story. Early goals saw them 2-0 down after just 15 minutes and in the 45th minute Kayleigh McDonald's was sent off for dissent killing the game.

Charlton Athletic

Position: 11th

Results:

Aston Villa 3-0 Charlton

Charlton P-P Sheffield United

Leicester City 2-2 Charlton



After a 3-0 defeat to top of the table Aston Villa at the beginning of the month, Charlton had a better end. The Championship's bottom side sit on just seven points at the end of February, picking up only one point this month and still awaiting their first win. After a weather postponement against Sheffield United, an away game against mid-table Leicester City came. The visitors took the lead through Lily Woodham but Paige Bailey-Gayle equalised just five minutes later for Leicester. The Foxes then took the lead after former Addick Charlie Devlin scored a penalty but shortly after the away side were awarded a penalty when Woodham was brought down. Charley Clifford equalised from the spot to secure the point.

Coventry United

Position: 10th

Results:

London City Lionesses 3-2 Coventry United

Coventry United P-P Blackburn Rovers

Aston Villa 4-0 Coventry United



Coventry are without a win in February which has seen them slip to 10th in the Championship table. After going 2-0 up through Fiona Worts and Shannon O'Brien, Coventry suffered a 3-2 defeat when Vanessa Sussana scored in injury time to secure the Lionesses three points. After the postponement against Blackburn, Coventry had a tough challenge against top of the table Villa. Three goals in the first half secured the victory for the hosts before Shana Hayles grabbed her hat-trick on 67 minutes.

Crystal Palace

Position: 8th

Results:

Crystal Palace P-P London Bees

London City Lionesses 1-1 Crystal Palace

Due to a postponement and the FA Cup, Crystal Palace have only played one league game in February. On Sunday, February 23 Palace made the short trip to London City and had the worst start. After just one minute, Annie Rossiter put the hosts in front but five minutes before half time Ashleigh Goddard managed to pick up an equaliser for Palace.



Durham

Position: 3rd

Results:

Blackburn Rovers 0-2 Durham

Durham P-P Aston Villa

London Bees P-P Durham

Two postponements have led to a lot of training and not much help for the side pushing for promotion. At the beginning of the month Durham had a 2-0 victory over Blackburn Rovers with second half goals from Eleanor Dale and Molly Sharpe. After the game against Aston Villa got postponed in the week all games were called off, London Bees were forced to postpone their game due to a waterlogged pitch. Unless postponements are re-arranged, Durham are now not set to play until March 22.



Leicester City

Position: 6th

Results: Leicester City 1-0 Lewes

Leicester City 2-2 Charlton

Leicester City went unbeaten in February. The month started with a 1-0 win over struggling Lewes thanks to a second half goal from Annabel Blanchard. Against Charlton, a packed second half saw four goals all in just over 10 minutes. The visitors opened the scoring but Leicester took the lead after two goals in two minutes from Paige Bailey-Gayle and a Charlie Devlin penalty.



Lewes



Position: 9th

Results:

Leicester City 1-0 Lewes

Lewes P-P London City Lionesses

Sheffield United P-P Lewes

With postponements and the FA Cup, Lewes have barely played in the league in February. Just the one game, which ended in a 1-0 defeat to Leicester has seen them slip down the table. They do, however have two or three games in hand on a number of teams in the league don't let the table deceive you.

London Bees



Position: 5th

Results:

Crystal Palace P-P London Bees

London Bees P-P Durham

It's a bit hard to write about a team who have not played in the league in February. Two postponements due to weather and a waterlogged pitch meant Lee Burch's side will go eight weeks without a match. On Twitter, Burch said: "FA Women's Championship continues to be such a tough league for the players. The semi pro nature with some pro sides, travel all over country commitment to training, playing for low £ on top of job, studying, fixture & resource issues. Huge respect to the players, sides & clubs."

London City Lionesses

Position: 4th

Results:

London City Lionesses 3-2 Coventry United

Lewes P-P London City Lionesses

London City Lionesses 1-1 Crystal Palace



London City have moved up the table after an unbeaten February. In the first game of the month the side came from 2-0 down to pick up three points against Coventry United. Vanessa Susanna and Annie Rossiter levelled the scoreline on 31 and 55 minutes respectively before Susanna added her second of the afternoon in the third minute of injury time. After a postponement against Lewes, the Lionesses welcome Palace to Princes Park. The two sides shared the points when Ashleigh Goddard levelled the scoreline after Annie Rossiter scored after just one minute.

Sheffield United

Position: 2nd

Results:

Charlton P-P Sheffield United

Sheffield United P-P Lewes

Sheffield United 5-1 Blackburn Rovers



After a quiet start to the month due to postponements, Sheffield United moved to second in the table with a solid 5-1 win over Blackburn Rovers. A brace from Jade Pennock before 12 minutes got the Blades off to a strong start. In the second half United continued to dominate and goals from Katie Wilkinson, Mollie Green and Rhema Lord-Mears led to a dominant result.

March's Championship fixtures can be found at:
www.thewomensfootballmagazine.com/fixtures



NATIONAL PREMIER LEAGUE



THE WOMEN'S
FOOTBALL
MAGAZINE

WNL Premier Division Round-Up: All the latest from the league



By Leed United's Emily Cassidy

The last week of January saw Hull City ladies pick up 3 points and move off the foot of the table, with a 2-1 away victory at Fylde. The tigresses' left it late to take all 3 points, with both goals coming in the closing 10 minutes of the game. With new manager Adrian Costello at the wheel, things seem to be looking brighter for Hull who are now 3 points above Sheffield FC. Speaking to winger and goal scorer against Fylde, Katie Thompson, she gave us an insight into the team and new manager saying "It's been a mixture of emotions at Hull in recent years, we have enjoyed two amazing promotions however this year has been tough as a squad from the get go."

"We had a handful of top players leave the club for various reasons and we have struggled to attract players which I believe is due to how far away we are from all the other

high quality sides, as well as, a lack of funding as we have an inability to pay players."

Including the recent 3 points, Hull had another reason to celebrate with a new manager coming into the fold and impacting the team positively straight away. Asking her thoughts on the new manager, Thompson went on to say "Adrian has been an amazing addition to the club. At this standard of football, he is exactly what we needed. His understanding of football is mind blowing and he has definitely brought a wealth of skills and resources which has filled us as a group of players with the confidence we need to try and fight our way out of this relegation battle."

Even with all the obstacles in Hull City Ladies way, their fight and desire has never left the dressing room. Speaking about recently moving from the foot of the table, Thompson said "Honestly, it feels amazing. We were

celebrating like we won the league on the back of the win against Fylde, with near tears of happiness from myself and a lot of the other players.”

“It can get very demoralising at the bottom of the table and frustrating, so to know we aren’t sat there anymore it fills us all with hope that we can kick off from this point and carry on climbing up the table.”

In the only other league fixture that took place in the last week of January, West Bromwich Albion picked up a point to move further adrift of the bottom 2 with a 3-3 draw with Loughborough Foxes that proved to be a tasty affair to say the least. However, this will feel like 2 points lost rather than a point gained for the lady baggies who were 3-0 up before Loughborough fought back to level the scores and inevitably share the points.

With recent fixtures coming thick and fast, due to a mixture of cup and league fixtures, the only game to take place the following week in the WNL Premier North was Middlesbrough who hosted Fylde. A fixture that would of saw Burnley face a confident Hull side was postponed due to a waterlogged pitch. Looking to bounce back after a shock defeat to Hull, Fylde will have been looking to put in a performance that would see them take all 3 points back to Lancashire. Fylde made the stronger start to the game, though unfortunately for the Lancashire side, a Tyler Dodds second half strike was enough to keep all 3 points on Teesside soil. All other WNL Premier North teams took part in cup games in that weekend’s fixtures.

A week of weather warnings threatened all Women’s National League Fixtures with storm Ciara set to hit the UK. Due to this, and following advice from the FA Women’s National League, all fixtures were postponed due to the adverse weather which will all take place at later dates to be confirmed.

Another week of weather warnings and storm Dennis meant that more WNL fixtures were cancelled. With only three WNL Northern Premier teams actually playing football the following week, all were cup games of some

form with Sunderland losing out to WSL side Birmingham 1-0 being the fixture of the week. In the county cup, Nottingham Forest eased past Ollerton Town LFC 5-0 and West Brom made 90 minutes seem like light work with a 7-0 win over Sutton Coldfield Town Ladies.

With cancellations due to weather issues, this was the perfect time for midweek fixtures so that teams could get competitive minutes under their belts. Unfortunately, on Wednesday 19th February the weather took its toll again for two WNL Northern Premier games which saw Hull who hosted Huddersfield; and West Bromwich Albion who hosted Stoke City to be postponed for a future date. The following day, with weather permitting, Sunderland faced Middlesbrough in the Wear-Tees derby keeping all 3 points on Wearside with a 6-1 win. On her 200th appearance for the club, Kiera Ramshaw bagged a goal, with other strikes coming from Galloway, Gibson and Barker. Emily Scarr grabbed a conciliation goal for Boro, however it was not enough to ignite a comeback for the away side. In the other fixture taking place, Loughborough Foxes fell to a 2-0 defeat at the hands of promotion battling side Derby County. Derby scored within the first minute which set the tone for the game, and killed the game off with top goal scorer Hannah Keryakolis bagging again from close range for Derby to seal the victory.



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Premier Division News

Brown signs for Middlesbrough

Middlesbrough Women have announced the signing of defender Danielle Brown.



The former Sunderland Ladies defender, who has played in the WSL and in the youth level of England, has been out of the game due to giving birth.

Speaking to the official website she said: "The girls and the staff seem lovely, so I'm really excited to start.

"I want to get into peak fitness and get some minutes in, then hopefully I can pass on my experience to the girls."

All change at Fylde Women

Fylde Women have brought in Jess Holbrook and Bethany Donoghue to the club.

Both Ladies join the club from Blackburn Rovers.

Holbrook, whose previous clubs include Manchester City and Liverpool Ladies and is a former WSL and League Cup winner as well as a four-time County winner.

Donaghue spent two spells with Blackburn Rovers and also had time at Sheffield FC.

Striker Georgia Stevens has also left the club.



Striker Axten joins Derby County

Derby County Ladies have confirmed the signing of striker Rosie Axten from FA Women's Championship side Coventry United.

Axten, made 17 appearances for Coventry after joining from Leicester City in the summer where she had reached a centenary of games.

Speaking to Derby County, she said: "I'm happy to be back playing

in the FA National League.

"I'll be aiming to help them push for promotion, hopefully this year but if not next year.

"There is so much quality in the team and I'm buzzing to be a part of it."

Notts Forest search for new general manager

Nottingham Forest are on the look-out for a new general manager after Lee Billiard announced he was leaving his role.

In a statement on social media, Billiard said: "I have made a decision to take a new and exciting opportunity which I am sure will be announced soon.

"This opportunity means I will soon be leaving my role at Nottingham Forest.

"We have created something really special over the last 13 months and I take great pride in playing a part of that change and the club's exciting future both on and off the pitch."



Premier Division News

Keira Ramshaw makes 200th appearance

TWFM Premier Division Player of the Year 2019's Keira Ramshaw has made her 200th appearance for Sunderland.

Ramshaw, 26, made her debut back in 2010 and is only the second Black Cats player to reach the milestone.

Speaking to the official website, she said: "I have so many memories from the ten years I've played for Sunderland, it's hard to actually single one out.

"The hard work and dedication it took by all the players and coaching staff to reach that point was tremendous and I loved every minute.

"Playing for such a great team helped me create friends for life and I'm lucky to still be creating bonds with the team now.

"When you play for a club for so long and you have nothing but love for that club to actually one day be able to wear that captain's armband and lead Sunderland ladies out onto the field is just an absolutely honour and a moment of pride."



Watford re-sign Renee Hector



Watford have signed former Tottenham and Charlton defender Renée Hector.

She joins the Hornets having previously played for the club and was part of the team that achieved promotion in 2014.

Speaking to the official website, she said: "I played here for 10 years so it just feels like I went on a bit of a vacation for few years and now I've come back home. I feel great!"

"It's a club that's obviously very, very close to my heart, even when I went away and was at other clubs I kept an eye on them and wished them well."

Crawley Wasps sponsorship boost

Crawley Wasps fans can help their favourite club earn money under an exciting new deal announced with insurance firm SportShield.

The company, soon to be Brighton-based, have agreed to become Wasps' first official insurance partner.

As part of the agreement, every policy taken out with SportShield that mentions Wasps will earn cashback for the club.

SportShield are also becoming part of Wasps' family of sponsors and launched their support for the club by sponsoring the home match against Yeovil Town on Sunday February 9.

James Laraman, Wasps' commercial manager, said: "SportShield will be able to offer tailored insurance products to those involved with the club, our sponsors and friends and families.

"Any policies taken out will provide us with a revenue stream, enabling us to continue to grow the most successful women's football club in the local area."





Fylde's Play

with Georgia Stevens

@Stix_Official_9 @FyldeLadiesFC

January finished in the best way as I spent it with my fellow Kick It Out Game Changers in the Premier League Headquarters.

We had yet another brilliant seminar - this one on effective communication, with guest speaker Faye Carruthers. Events like that are always great and leave me feeling so positive about the future of our game.

February has been a busy month, like January was too.

University is well and truly underway, with assignment deadlines and presentation dates steadily creeping up. It's always been a difficult task to juggle academics and football, but it's something that I've been doing for a long time and fortunately I've always had the support of the club I've been at and my school / university.

I've also been featuring regularly on RedMenTV - Liverpool FC's independent fan channel.

To be in front of the camera, instead of behind it, is still something I'm getting used to but it's gradually becoming more and more normal.

I really love being able to share my opinion on there and listen to the feedback of the fans watching. The people who work there are also fantastic and I'm very grateful I've met them.

Alongside this I've also been sharing some of my media work online @gstevensmedia and received some great comments in response to it. It's something we've been encouraged to do at university and it also lends itself to the industry that I'm hoping to head into.

Finally, the biggest change for any footballer, I decided to leave Fylde earlier this month.

After just on 12 months with club, including a loan and then my permanent move, I parted ways with the club. It's been a great experience playing there and I've learned so much as a player and person, it was just time for me to move on.

Recently I decided to join Huddersfield Town, and by the time this comes out I will have made my debut for the side.

I'm really excited to be a part of the squad. I'd like to thank Ashley Vickers (the manager) for giving me such a great opportunity and having such faith in me as a player.

Looking forward to working hard with such an ambitious club and I'm proud to join the Terriers.

Georgia will be back in Issue 36, with a new column following all her new team.



GRASSROOTS



TAKING A TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE

During February, I made the short trip to re-visit my old school.

I spent my whole school life and King Edward VII and Queen Mary in Lytham St Annes, now known as AKS and had a (very short) footballing career there as a junior school pupil.

Sadly it was very short lived as then it was not common for girls to have football teams and despite winning a local tournament and winning the final at Bloomfield Road, Blackpool FC's home ground (a dream for any Seasider), we soon had hockey drilled into us.

Move forwards 20 years and things have very much changed.

Thanks to the vision of Mark Moretti and Mark Walmsley girls' sports are on the rise at AKS.

In 2017, we travelled to St Georges Park to watch the junior school compete in the FA Independent Schools Finals.

Since then girl's football has grown and grown.

Whilst I am down at AKS for the day, over 20 junior school girls turned up for training at lunch time – a 20 minute session which included training drills, technique and short games.

Ability ranged from complete beginner to aiming for professional Lioness in years to come but all the girls there shared one thing – joy.

The happiness and enthusiasm from Mark Moretti taking the training rubbed off on the girls and everyone looked like they were having fun and at that age that is the most important thing.

Away from the training session and sitting down with the two Marks, it is great to see how

passionate they both feel about growing the game.

From local tournaments held at the school to taking girls of all ages to different events across the country and it's not just going to stop in the junior school as it did for us.

There is already talk of setting up senior teams so during the winter girls will have a choice of hockey football, netball or a mixture of all of them.

It's not just girl's football that is changing either. There are so many opportunities now for girls to play cricket or rugby and boys to play hockey or even netball – something which would never have been heard of.

If these are the changes a school, which used to be so set in traditions, is going then it is great to see the impact the growth of the sport in the country is having.

Here's to hoping AKS will one day have a future Lioness amongst its midst.

*It is great to
“ see the
impact the
growth of the
sport is ”
having*



Jess and Keisha receive award at Bloomfield Road



Back in December we announced the winners of our inaugural TWFM Awards.

Over 1,500 of you voted across the eight categories and in one of the most tightly fought contests, Jessica and Keisha Lean were awarded the 'Grassroots Player of the Year'.

Jessica and Keisha play for Blackpool FC Girls and Ladies

On Saturday, February 9, we went down to Bloomfield Road home of Blackpool FC to present the girls with their awards at half time on the pitch.

It was a great experience and we were delighted when Blackpool wanted to give their winners the recognition they deserve.

We will be following Jess and Keisha's careers over the next few years so be sure to watch this space!

Leamington FC



Moreton Morrell College and Leamington FC have joined forces to launch an innovative new women's football academy that will see learners split their time between the classroom and the pitch.

The Leamington FC Academic and Sporting Excellence Programme at Moreton Morrell College, part of WCG, is open to female sports enthusiasts aged 16 to 18.

Successful applicants will study for a Level 3 Extended Diploma in Sporting Performance & Excellence which will allow young learners to pursue a career in the sports industry or higher education.

Philippa Gerrard, Head of Department for Sport at WCG, said: "Following the launch of the football academy in September 2018, we are delighted to be offering this trailblazing programme for young women at Moreton Morrell College.

"WCG has strong ties with Leamington FC and we are very pleased to be building on this partnership.

"The students will benefit greatly from Leamington FC's experienced coaches whilst

on the academic side, the Level 3 Extended Diploma in Sporting Performance & Excellence will prepare them for the next step in their sporting or academic career."

Mark Fogarty, Football Consultant, Leamington FC, said: "This is a fantastic opportunity to join Warwickshire's very first woman's post-16 academy.

"The partnership between Leamington FC and Moreton Morrell College will allow the girls to train throughout the week alongside their academic programme and they will either play games during the week or have the pathway of a route through to Leamington Lions who play on a Sunday.

"We are very excited about this new venture and we are encouraging woman footballers in the region to join us for trials to join the programme."

The first trial will be held on April 17, 2pm-4pm at Moreton Morrell College.

*For more details email or phone Mark Fogarty:
mark.fog@hotmail.co.uk
07564 926 231*

CUPS



Continental Tyres League Cup final: Arsenal 1-2 Chelsea

TheFA Women's
Continental
League Cup



In a final which will go down in history as one of the best in the competition's history.

With chance after chance from both sides, it was clearly going to take something special to separate the two sides.

Chelsea took the lead early on through Bethany England when she turned in a crowded area to fire the ball into the bottom of the net.

In front of a competition record crowd, Blues goalkeeper Ann-Katrin Berger, who has just been called up for the Germany squad, made a number of key saves to stop chances from Louise Quinn Viv Miedema and Jordan Nobbs in the first half to take them into the second 45 still leading.

Miedema had a hat-trick of chances to level after the break, drilling a low shot just wide before Berger twice saved from the Dutch striker - first from a header before making a fine reflex save.

For a long time it looked like Emma Hayes' side would secure the victory but that was put into doubt when Leah Williamson levelled with just minutes to go in the game.

The whole crowd thought the match was going to extra time but Chelsea continued to push on.

Some excellent individual play from Sam Kerr, who had not looked her best all game, set up the injury time goal at the City Ground when England got on the end of a spectacular Maren Mjelde cross.

It is the first time in Chelsea's history that they have won the Conti Cup and remain in a chance of winning the domestic treble.

Chelsea's win took their unbeaten run to 28 games, spanning more than 10 months across all domestic and European competitions since being beaten by Lyon in the first leg of their Champions League semi-final last season.

Arsenal however are continuing to struggle on the injury front – not that you could tell by their performance on the pitch.

Gunners' boss Joe Montemurro was only able to name five substitutes for the final with Kim Little, Beth Mead and Lia Wälti out injured as well as long-term absentee Danielle Carter.

“The better team did not win”



Chelsea boss Emma Hayes says beating an Arsenal side that were better than hers proved the strength of her team.

Speaking after the game, Hayes said: “The better team did not win, the most resilient team won.

“I value defending and resilience and it isn't always about being the best team, it isn't always about possessing the ball the most.

“We won't be talking in three years' time about that dominant Arsenal performance, they will say 'Chelsea won'.

“To win the game knowing that they dominated, they out-possessed us and they out-footballled us, for me, shows what a great team we really are.”

German goalkeeper Ann-Katrin Berger put on a phenomenal display to help Chelsea lift the trophy.

Hayes said: “She was unbelievable.

“There are a lot of players here that have never won a trophy before. Ann is one of them, she is someone who has always finished second. So it mattered. She came to the club to win trophies.

“We always talk about attacking being the most dominant feature of a football match, instead of saying 'why don't Chelsea deserve to win the game on the basis of an outstanding goalkeeping performance?’

“To do it and still come through makes me really proud of my players.”

Arsenal manager Joe Montemurro was defensive after the match about his tactics after some criticised his lack of changing style.

“I'm hearing that I'm very, very stubborn and I am, because I will never play a transition game, I'm really sorry.

“It's not my style. It's not my way. I believe in having the ball.

“I'm going to keep playing football. We have the players to play good football. I won't go away from my style.

“If it's the end of me, it's the end of me, but I've got to stick true to my values and Arsenal's values.

“I'm so proud of the way we play. That's important to us, but in the end you're going to judge me on winning trophies.

“The pundits are all going to have a go at me for small squads and so on. In the end that's the way it goes.

“They had three chances and they scored two goals. We scored one. That was the difference.

“In the end, the history books will say Chelsea won and we lost, that's the reality, we just have to make sure we're there again next year.”





Champions League



The Women's Champions League is back in March.
Here is a little reminder of fixtures and the route to the final.

Quarter-finals

Leg 1 – March 25

Lyon v Bayern Munich (KO 17:00 GMT)
Atletico Madrid v Barcelona (KO 18:30 GMT)
Arsenal v PSG (KO 19:30 GMT)
Glasgow City v Wolfsburg (KO 19:30 GMT)

Leg 2 – April 1

Wolfsburg v Glasgow City (KO 17:00 GMT)
Barcelona v Atletico Madrid (KO 18:30 GMT)
PSG v Arsenal (KO 19:00 GMT)
Bayern Munich v Lyon (KO 19:00 GMT)

Semi-finals

Leg 1 – April 25

Arsenal/Paris v Lyon/Bayern
Glasgow/Wolfsburg v Atletico/Barcelona

Leg 2 – May 2

Lyon/Bayern v Arsenal/Paris
Atletico/Barcelona v Glasgow/Wolfsburg

Final – May 24

SSE Women's FA Cup

FA Cup 5th round results

After Storm Dennis pushed a few games back, the fifth round of the FA Cup has finally been completed.

Championship side Leicester City produced the upset of the season knocking out Women's Super League side Reading in extra time after the sides were drawn 1-1 after 90 minutes.

Elsewhere defending champions Manchester City put 10 past fourth tier Ipswich Town.

Pauline Bremer, Jess Park and Georgia Stanway all scored hat-tricks in the game at the Academy Stadium.

They will be joined in the last eight by 2012 winners Birmingham City, who edged past third-tier Sunderland.

Birmingham's 1-0 win came courtesy of England midfielder Lucy Staniforth's late free-kick against her old club.

Chelsea, Everton, Tottenham, Arsenal and Brighton all booked themselves in the quarter-final draw.

Sunderland	0-1	Birmingham City Staniforth, 84 RED Staniforth, 85
Manchester City Coombs 19; Bremer 26, 50, 64; Park 30, 78, 80; Stanway 57, 66, 86	10-0	Ipswich Town
Chelsea Reiten 26	1-0	Liverpool
Bristol City	0-5	Everton Graham 8, 41; Morgan 18; Kaagman, 52; Cain, 58
Coventry United	0-5	Tottenham Worm 19; Dean 28 (pen), 45 (pen), 90; Leon 78
Leicester City Bailey-Gayle 79, 115	2-1	Reading Chaplen 45+1
Arsenal Foord 54; Van de Donk 84	2-0	Lewes
Crystal Palace	0-3	Brighton & HA Jarrett 14, 46; Umotong 69



Round Dates:

Quarter-finals: Sunday 15 March

Semi-Final - Sunday 19 April 2020

Final - Saturday 9 May 2020



Quarter-final draw

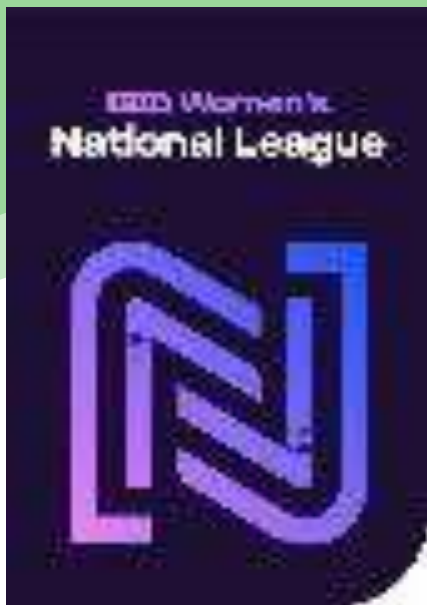
Everton v Chelsea
(KO 14:00 GMT)

Arsenal v Tottenham
(KO 14:00 GMT)

Leicester City v Manchester City
(KO 14:00 GMT)

Brighton & HA v Birmingham City
(KO 14:00 GMT)

*The quarter-final games will take place on
Sunday February 15.*



National League Cup final teams decided



Sunderland and Stoke will battle it out for the National League Cup trophy.

Details of when and where the final will be held are yet to be announced.

Here is a round-up of the two semi-finals.

MK Dons 0-2 Stoke

Stoke put on a dominant performance at Stadium MK with goals from Abby Hunt and Hollie Gibson securing the victory.

After a slow start and a goalless first half, the Potterettes came back out raring to go.

Chloe Jones' side netted two goals in the space of five minutes with Hunt scoring a superb strike before Gibson curled in a free-kick on the edge of the area.

MK Dons thought they had a way back into the game with 20 minutes to go as they got the ball in the back of the net but the referee ruled it out for offside.

Southampton 0-1 Sunderland

In a close fought game, it was Sunderland who narrowly came out on top in the second semi-final.

Claudia Moan made a superb save just 25 minutes in to prevent Saints taking the lead before tipping another over the bar.

Sunderland captain Keira Ramshaw had their first chance of the game but both sides cancelled each other out in the first half.

The Black Cats finally took the lead in the second half when Georgia Gibson headed the ball into the back of the net.

The visitors had the chance to double their lead just after the hour mark but Grace McCatty hit the post from close range.

Crawley Wasps win Sussex Challenge Cup



Crawley Wasps have won the Sussex Women's Challenge Cup for the first time.

The tense final went to penalties against Chichester City with captain Naomi Cole tucking away the deciding spot-kick.

In normal time Ellie Russell gave the Wasps a half-time lead which was nearly doubled when Cole's long-range shot came off the cross bar and Rachel Palmer was denied by a fine save.

Defending champions City were not giving up without a fight and they levelled through Rebecca Bell after she got on the end of Frankie Gibbs initial save.

It meant the trophy would be decided on penalties, the first shoot-out Wasps have been involved in since a Women's FA Cup second-round defeat way back in January 2012.

Chi took first and Priscilla Martins scored, but Russell – the goalscorer in normal time and arguably Wasps' best player over the 120 minutes – sliced wide in response.

However, the scores were then levelled up when Chi's Jess Burke hit the post and Wasps' Sian Heather sent Fisher the wrong way.

Gibbs then saved from Sharna Capel-Watson to give Wasps the advantage, strengthened further when Emma Plewa made it 2-1 after three kicks.

Bell and Fox then netted for Chi, but vice-captain Rachel Palmer converted to set up her skipper Cole for the trophy-clinching moment.

Home Nations



**THE WOMEN'S
FOOTBALL
MAGAZINE**

England youth as he bids to retain SheBelieves Cup



By Marissa Thomas

England Women head coach Phil Neville has injected youth into his squad for the forthcoming SheBelieves Cup as the Lionesses look to retain their title as Champions.

The Lionesses will face 2019 FIFA Women's World Cup winners USA, Japan and Spain in the four-team round-robin tournament between 5 – 11 March.

Six of Neville's 23-player squad competed for England at the FIFA U20 World Cup in 2018.

The inclusion of so many youngsters is an indication of a stepchange in the focus a direction of the England senior set-up with the aim firmly on developing a squad ready to win at EURO2021 in just over 500 days' time.

It is hoped that the younger squad members will benefit from the core group of senior players whose international experience and expertise will continue to be the driving force behind the Lionesses' ambitions for future success.

Grace Fisk receives her first senior call up after impressing Phil Neville at her SEC side South Carolina Gamecocks before earning herself a move to Barclays FAWSL club, West Ham United.

Fisk has made 30 appearances for England at youth level and captained the bronze medal winning 2018 FIFA U20 World Cup squad.

Speaking about the young players, Phil Neville said: "Now they've got to the point where they're playing regularly, they're playing to a level that I think is international level and ultimately they deserve to be in the squad."

"I don't look at age whether you're over 30 or whether you're under 20, I look at the quality and what you can bring to the team and I think we've got the nucleus of an exciting bunch of players to come through."

"When I saw these young players play in France a few years ago in the Under-20 World Cup, I realised then that we've got a special bunch of players and I think, being experienced myself, it's always good when

you're coming together, the nucleus, that team are going to break into the squad together, they're going to hunt in packs together, they're going to protect each other, they're going to support each other and I think now's the right time, I've been planning it for the last 12 months, we've been working with them for the last 12 months and their clubs.

"Until you give young people an opportunity, you never know if they can step up and that's what we're going to do in SheBelieves, we're going to give these young players an opportunity.

"They've trained with us a lot, we've tested them, both physically, mentally and technically.

"They've been put through every kind of test possible and we've watched them a lot of times and I'm a big believer that sometimes young people can surprise you, they can give you that extra bit of boost and energy and quality that you need and with no international fixtures probably from a competitive point of view, I see it as vital exposure for them in terms of Euro 2021 in 12 months times."

Bethany England has been one of the stand out players in the WSL so far this season.

After missing out on the England squad for the 2019 Women's World Cup, the Chelsea forward made her international debut in a friendly against Belgium in August.

Phil Neville said: "What you see in Beth England, she was really unlucky probably before the World Cup, she probably just started to hit her form probably too late."

"We said to her before the World Cup when she came into camps before the World Cup that she will be getting opportunities after Christmas and what we've seen is a girl that's just rapidly improved every single time that I've seen her and she's playing in a team full of confidence but she, in a team full of probably experienced international footballers, looks to

me the standout one and every time I see her play, she's added another little bit of quality to her game."

"Now she's without doubt, her and Ellen White are the best two centre-forwards in England on form and rightly so, deserves her place in the squad and she will be getting her opportunity in SheBelieves to play."

Birmingham City's young goalkeeper Hannah Hampton and US-based striker Alessia Russo, who plays for North Carolina Tar Heels, will also join the squad for training sessions in the US as part of their ongoing development.



England Squad

Player	Club	Position	Caps	Goals	Debut
Carly Telford	Chelsea	GK	24	0	V Scotland (11/03/2007)
Ellie Roebuck	Manchester City	GK	4	0	V Austria (08/11/2018)
Sandy MacIver	Everton	GK	0	-	-
Millie Bright	Chelsea	Defender	34	0	V Belgium (20/09/2016)
Lucy Bronze	Lyon	Defender	81	8	V Japan (26/06/2013)
Rachel Daly	Houston Dash	Defender	33	3	V Serbia (04/06/2016)
Grace Fisk	West Ham	Defender	0	-	-
Alex Greenwood	Lyon	Defender	44	3	V Finland (07/03/14)
Steph Houghton	Manchester City	Defender	117	13	V Russia (08/03/2007)
Abbie McManus	Manchester City	Defender	17	0	V France (01/03/2018)
Demi Stokes	Manchester City	Defender	57	1	V Norway (17/01/2014)
Leah Williamson	Arsenal	Defender	14	1	V Russia (08/06/2018)
Jordan Nobbs	Arsenal	Midfielder	60	7	V Italy (06/03/2013)
Jill Scott	Manchester City	Midfielder	146	24	V Netherlands (31/08/2006)
Lucy Staniforth	Birmingham City	Midfielder	15	2	V Kazakhstan (04/09/2018)
Keira Walsh	Manchester City	Midfielder	26	0	V Kazakhstan (28/11/2017)
Toni Duggan	Atletico Madrid	Forward	76	22	V Croatia (19/09/2012)
Bethany England	Chelsea	Forward	5	2	V Belgium (29/08/2019)
Lauren Hemp	Manchester City	Forward	3	0	V Portugal (08/10/2019)
Chloe Kelly	Everton	Forward	1	0	V Austria (08/11/2018)
Nikita Parris	Lyon	Forward	47	14	V Serbia (04/06/2016)
Georgia Stanway	Manchester City	Forward	16	2	V Austria (08/11/2018)
Ellen White	Manchester City	Forward	89	35	V Austria (25/03/2010)



LIONESSES



SHEBELIEVES CUP

Japan



Coach: Asako Takakura

Goalkeepers: Ayaka Yamashita (Nippon TV Beleza), Sakiko Ikeda (Urawa Red Diamonds), Chika Hirao (Albirex Nigata)

Defenders: Risa Shimizu (Nippon TV Beleza), Shiori Miyake (INAC Kobe Leonessa), Asato Miyagawa (Nippon TV Beleza), Moeka Minami (Urawa Rd Diamonds), Arisa Matsubara (Nojima Stella), Saki Kumagai (Lyon), Mayo Doko (Nippon TV Beleza)

Midfielders: Hina Sugita (INAC Kobe Leonessa), Hikaru Naomoto (Urawa Red Diamonds), Emi Nakajima (INAC Kobe Leonessa), Yuka Momiki (Nippon TV Beleza), Narumi Miura (Nippon TV Beleza), Yui Hasegawa (Nippon TV Beleza), Jun Endo (Nippon TV Beleza)

Forwards: Mami Ueno (Ehime), Yuika Sugawara (Urawa Red Diamonds), Rikako Kobayshi (Nippon TV Beleza), Mana Iwabuchi (INAC Kobe Leonessa), Mayu Ikejiri (Vegalta Sendai)

Spain



Coach: Jorge Vilda

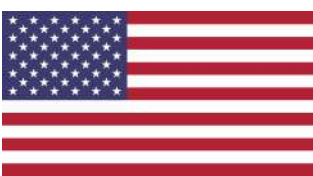
Goalkeepers: Dolores Gallardo (Atletico Madrid), Sandra Panos (Barcelona), Maria Asuncion Quinones (Real Sociedad)

Defenders: Ivana Andres (Levante), Ona Batlle (Levante), Marta Corredera (Levante), Mapi Leon (Barcelona), Leila Ouahabi (Barcelona), Irene Paredes (PSG), Andrea Pereria (Barcelona), Ainhoa Vicente (Atletic Bilbao)

Midfielders: Aitana Bonmati (Barcelona), Patricia Guikarro (Barcelona), Alexia Putellas (Barcelona), Amanda Sampedro (Atletico Madrid), Angela Sosa (Atletico Madrid), Virginia Torrecilla (Atletico Madrid)

Forwards: Mariona Caldentey (Barcelona), Marta Cadona (Real Sociedad), Lucy Garcia (Athletic Bilbao), Nahikari Garcia (Real Sociedad), Shiela Garcia (Rayo Vallrcano), Jennifer Hermoso (Barcelona)

USA



Coach: Vlatko Andonovski

Goalkeepers: Jane Campbell (Houston Dash), Adrinna Franch (Portland Thorns), Ashlyn Harris (Orlando Pride)

Defenders: Abby Dahlkemper (North Carolina Courage), Tierna Davidson (Chicago Red Stars), Crystal Dunn (North Carolina Courage), Ali Krieger (Orlando Pride), Kelley O'Hara (Utah Royals), Margaret Purce (Sky Blue FC), Becky Sauerbrunn (Utah Royals), Casey Short (Chicago Red Stars), Emily Sonnett (Orlando Pride)

Midfielders: Jordan DiBiasi (Washington Spirit), Julie Ertz (Chicago Red Stars), Lindsey Horan (Portland Thorns), Rose Lavelle (Washington Spirit), Sam Mewis (North Carolina Courage), Andi Sullivan (Washington Spirit)

Forwards: Tobin Heath (Portland Thorns), Carli Lloyd (Sky Blue FC), Jessica McDonald (North Carolina Courage), Christen Press (Utah Royals), Mallory Pugh (Sky Blue FC), Megan Rapinoe (Reign FC), Lynn Williams (North Carolina Courage)



LIONESSES

Rehanne Skinner announces Lionesses U21 squad

Rehanne Skinner has announced the England women's U21 squad to play France in back-to-back internationals in March.

The players will meet up early next week with the games scheduled for Thursday 5 and Sunday March 8 March at St. George's Park.

Skinner has selected a squad with plenty of experience in youth international competitions with the majority having played in a major youth tournament for England throughout their international careers so far.

Regular influential performances in the WSL have led to the inclusion of Liverpool's Niamh Charles alongside top-flight Merseyside rivals in Everton's Megan Finnigan, Esme Morgan, Hannah Cain.

Tottenham Hotspur striker Rianna Dean has also been in form with six goals from her first 14 appearances in the league.

Grace Fisk, Hannah Hampton and Alessia Russo were not available for this double-header, having been called up for the seniors' trip to the SheBelieves Cup in the United States after impressing Phil Neville at club level and for the U21s.

Skinner said: "This is a great opportunity for the players to test themselves against strong opposition and to show they have the ability to compete against one of the top nations in Europe at St George's Park.

"We want to develop the players' ability to handle high-pressure matches and thrive. The purpose of this age group is to continue to expose players to experiences that will help them transition and bridge the gap for the next step.

"Recently we've seen multiple under-21 players receive a senior call up by Phil Neville which is a fantastic opportunity for those players and also shows the other U21 players the strong link to our

Senior Lionesses and something for them to aspire to."

Squad: Emily Ramsey (Sheffield United on loan from Manchester United), Charlotte Clarke (Stoke City), Megan Finnigan (Everton), Niamh Cashin (Rider University), Lotte Wubben Moy (Uni of North Carolina), Esme Morgan (Everton on loan from Manchester City), Anna Patten (Uni of South Carolina), Caroline Scofield (Birmingham), Amy Rodgers (Liverpool), Aimee Palmer (Manchester United), Ella Toone (Manchester United), Chloe Peplow (Tottenham), Emily Syme (Aston Villa), Rianna Dean (Tottenham), Niamh Charles (Liverpool), Charlie Wellings (Bristol City), Hannah Cain (Everton), Poppy Pattinson (Bristol City), Mayumi Pacheco (Reading), Taylor Hinds (Everton)

Coates names Lionesses U19 squad for La Manga Tournament

Emma Coates has named the England WU19 squad for the upcoming La Manga Tournament in Spain.

The squad will fly out on Sunday March 1 for the competition, where they will then face USA, Sweden and Denmark in the space of four days before returning home on Monday March 9.

Coates' squad includes in-form forward Ebony Salmon, who has five goals in the Barclays FAWSL so far this season for Bristol City and Molly Pike, who has impressed for Everton in the top-flight.

Arsenal duo Ruby Grant and Mel Filis are also selected with the latter scoring a hat-trick for the Gunners in the FA Women's Continental League Cup late last year and the former doing the same but in the Women's FA Cup last season.

England will face USA first on Wednesday March 4 then Sweden two days later before finishing off with Denmark on Sunday 8 March - with all fixtures to be played at La Manga Club Complex.

Emma Coates said: "It has been a long time since the players have been on camp and we are looking



LIONESSES

forward to getting the group back together.

“La Manga is a fantastic tournament that we participate in every year as it gives the squad experience against tough opposition in a different environment to what they are used to.

“We are hoping to build momentum ahead of the UEFA Elite round fixtures in April and hopefully qualifying for the finals in Georgia.

“It is an exciting time for the players.”

Squad: Frances Stenson (Blackburn on loan from Arsenal), Emily Orman (Chelsea), Jodie Hutton (Aston Villa), Beth Roberts (Stoke City), Keira Skeels (Reading), Naomi Hartley (Sheffield United), Lucy Roberts (Uni of South Florida) Maya Le Tissier (Brighton & HA), Abbie Roberts (Rutgers Uni), Missy Bo Kearns (Blackburn on loan to Liverpool), Molly Pike (Everton), Emma Bissell (Manchester City), Ava Kuyken (Uni of Florida State), Jessica Park (Manchester City), Mel Filis (Arsenal), Rebecca May (Manchester United), Aimee Everett (Leicester City), Ruby Grant (Arsenal), Katie Bradley (Manchester City), Holly Manders (Durham), Libby Smith (Leicester City), Paige Bailey-Gayle (Leicester City), Ebony Salmon (Bristol City), Annabel Blanchard (Leicester City)

England U18s squad announcement

England U18s head coach Mo Marley has named a 23-strong squad for a training camp in March.

The players will meet up at St. George's Park on Tuesday March 3 for a four-day camp.

The squad: Alisha Ware (Southampton RTC), ANdreana Dunbar-Bonnie (Chelsea), Anna Grey (Ipswich), Anna Pedersen (Everton), Blue Wilson (Ipswich), Charlotte Fleming (Chelsea), Eleanor Dale (Durham), Eleanor Hack (Brighton & HA), Ella Morris (Southampton), Ellen Jones (Bristol City), Eloise King (Ipswich), Emma Harries (Reading), Francesca Stables (Manchester United), Gracie Pearse (Arsenal), Katie Robinson (Bristol

City), Keri Matthews (Sheffield United), Lucy Johnson (Leicester City), Mia Cruickshank (Reading), Paige Peake (Ipswich), Rhiannon Stewart (Reading), Sophie Bramford (Wolves), Sophie Peskett (Ipswich), Sophie Quirk (Reading)



England games in March for all Lionesses:

Wednesday March 4 – USA U19 v England U19, La Manga (KO 13:00 GMT)

Thursday March 5 – England U21 v France U21, SGP (KO 14:00 GMT)

Thurs 5/Fri 6 – USA v England, SheBelieves (KO 00:00 GMT)

Friday March 6 – England U19 vs Sweden U19, La Manga (KO 11:00 GMT)

Sunday March 8 – Denmark U19 vs England U19, La Manga (KO 11:00 GMT)

Sunday March 8 – England U21 vs France U21, SGP (KO 14:00 GMT)

Sunday March 8 – England vs Japan, SheBelieves (KO 19:15 GMT)

Wednesday March 11 – England vs Spain, SheBelieves (KO 21:15 GMT)



Shelley Kerr names two uncapped players for Pinatar Cup



Scotland head coach Shelley Kerr has named two uncapped players in the squad for March's Pinatar Cup.

Wet Ham forward Martha Thomas and Glasgow City midfielder Sam Kerr have been included whilst Arsenal midfielder Kim Little, who had foot surgery last week, Fiona Brown and Lana Clelland are out injured.

Speaking about the injuries, Kerr said: "Kim is a glaring omission.

"She's a strong character—her attributes on the field are there for everyone to see. But in training, she expects high standards all the time - she demands, she's a huge loss.

"But surgery has been successful, her focus is now on recovery and as a squad we'll have to hold the fort until she comes back."

March 4	Northern Ireland	vs	Iceland	14:00 GMT	Pinatar Arena, Murcia
	Ukraine	vs	Scotland	18:00 GMT	Pinatar Arena, Murcia
March 7	Scotland	vs	Iceland	14:00 GMT	Pinatar Arena, Murcia
	Ukraine	vs	Northern Ireland	18:00 GMT	Pinatar Arena, Murcia
March 10	Northern Ireland	vs	Scotland	14:00 GMT	Pinatar Arena, Murcia
	Iceland	vs	Ukraine	18:00 GMT	Pinatar Arena, Murcia

Squad

Goalkeepers: Lee Alexander (Glasgow City); Jenna Fife (Rangers FC); Shannon Lynn (Vittsjö GIK)

Defenders: Chloe Arthur (Birmingham City); Jen Beattie (Arsenal); Rachel Corsie (Utah Royals); Hannah Godfrey (Tottenham Hotspur); Sophie Howard (Reading); Hayley Lauder (Glasgow City); Emma Mitchell (Tottenham Hotspur Women); Kirsty Smith (Manchester United)

Midfielders: Lizzie Arnot (Manchester United); Rachael Boyle (Hibernian); Leanne Crichton (Glasgow City); Lucy Graham (Everton); Sam Kerr (Glasgow City); Christie Murray (Liverpool); Caroline Weir (Manchester City)

Forwards: Erin Cuthbert (Chelsea); Claire Emslie (Melbourne City**); Lisa Evans (Arsenal); Abbi Grant (Birmingham City); Jane Ross (Manchester United); Martha Thomas (West Ham United)

Young Scotland

U19 Scotland team

Pauline Hamill has named her U19 squad for two friendlies at the Pinatar Arena in March.

- Belgium: Thursday, March 5
- TBC: Sunday, March 8



Scotland U16s impress in Gibraltar

Scotland U16s impressed by beating Gibraltar 11-0 in a friendly on February 26.

Hat-tricks from Maria McAneny and Hannah Drive and goals from Emma Watson, Abigail Ferguson and Sophia Martin secured an impressive victory.

The result saw three wins from three in the International Development Tournament for Paul Brownlie's side, scoring a total of 22 goals and conceding none.

Results:

Scotland 4-0 Malta

Hannah Robinson, Kenzie Weir, Sophia Martin and Emma Watson

Scotland 7-0 Azerbaijan

Abigail Ferguson 8; Tíre Burchill 26, 30; Eilidh Martin 60; Sophia Martin 79; Hannah Robinson 81; Rosie Slater, 90

Scotland 11-0 Gibraltar

Maria McAneny 2, 17, 33; Emma Watson 8, 44; Hannah Davie 19, 28, 64; Abigail Ferguson 52, 67; Sophia Martin 76

Stories from Scotland

BBC Scotland to stream one SWPL1 match a week

BBC Scotland have announced they will stream one top-flight Scottish women's match a week until at least the end of March.

Scottish Women's Football chair Vivienne MacLaren described the deal as an "exciting development that will be a huge boost to everyone involved".

The coverage will be presented by BBC Scotland's Heather Dewar, with Julie Fleeting joining Stuart Mitchell in the commentary box.

There is an option to extend until the end of the 2020 season in November.

McDaniel completes move to Hearts

Louise McDaniel has signed for Hearts Women for the 2020 season.

The Northern Ireland international signed from Blackburn Rovers and said of her move: "I feel like Hearts is the perfect fit for me and hearing how the manager wants the team to play and the ambitions is really exciting."



Docherty leaves Glasgow City

Nicola Docherty has left Glasgow City after 8 successful years with us, following the club agreeing a deal with Rangers.

She won eight SWPL titles, four SWPL Cups and five Scottish Cups in her eight year career.



McConville snaps up two Northern Ireland internationals

Billie Simpson is the latest Northern Ireland senior women's international to make the move to full-time football in Scotland.

Following Demi Vance's transfer from Glentoran Women to Rangers and Megan Bell's switch from Durham to the 'Gers, Simpson has left Cliftonville Ladies to join Forfar Farmington, who play in Scottish Women's Premier League 1.

Simpson, who can operate in defence or midfield and has won 12 caps for her country to date, spent the past four seasons with the Reds and was Northern Ireland Danske Bank Women's Premiership player of the year in 2018.

Hibs appoint Gibson as head coach

Hibernian Ladies have announced the appointment of Dean Gibson as the new first team head coach.

Dean makes the move up from the Under-23 squad to take on this new opportunity within the club.





Wales friendly squad named

Jayne Ludlow has named her squad for the friendly against Estonia on March 6.

Uncapped Cardiff City Ladies defender Maria Francis-Jones is the youngest player in the squad at the age of 16 as Wales go to Wrexham for the first time since 2012.

Six players aged under 20 are included.

Ludlow said: "I'm really keen to see how they perform and cope in the environment mixed with senior players.

"Obviously we want to try and get a result against Estonia but more importantly we need to practice the things that will be important for us come the April fixtures."

Harding welcomes back Natasha Harding to the squad following injury but midfielder Jess Fishlock remains unavailable.

The Reign FC star tore her ACL in July 2019 but is aiming for a comeback in April's 2021 Euro qualifying games.

Manager Ludlow said: "

Squad: Laura O'Sullivan, Claire Skinner, Olivia Clark, Sophie Ingle (Capt), Hayley Ladd, Loren Dykes, Lily Woodham, Rhiannon Roberts, Anna Filbey, Angharad, Jasmine Turner, Josie Green, Nadia Lawrence (Cardiff City), Georgia Walters, Rachel Rowe, Natasha Harding, Megan Wynne, Chloe Williams, Helen Ward, Kayleigh Green, Grace Horrell, Maria Francis-Jones, Ffion Morgan, Charlie Estcourt.







Northern Ireland squad for Pinatar Cup

Northern Ireland manager Kenny Shiels has named his squad for the Pinatar Cup in March.

Shiels has offered debuts to 16-year-old goalkeeper Lille Crooks (Mid Ulster Ladies) and 17-year-old Danielle Maxwell (Glentoran Women) who have both been part of the under-age squads.

Sheffield United keeper Becky Flaherty misses out on this training camp through injury.

Squad

Goalkeepers: Jackie Burns (IBV Iceland), Lillie Crooks (Mid Ulster Ladies).

Defenders: Kelsie Burrows (Blackburn Rovers LFC), Toni-Leigh Finnegan (Cliftonville Ladies), Ashley Hutton (Linfield Ladies), Julie Nelson (Crusaders Strikers), Rachel Newborough (Charlton Athletic Women), Demi Vance (Rangers Women).

Midfielders: Marissa Callaghan (Cliftonville Ladies), Rachel Furness (Liverpool Women), Danielle Maxwell (Glentoran Women), Chloe McCarron (Linfield Ladies), Sarah McFadden (Durham Women FC), Rebecca McKenna (Linfield Ladies), Emma McMaster (Glentoran Women).

Forwards: Megan Bell (Rangers Women), Casey Howe (Linfield Ladies), Simone Magill (Everton Women), Caitlin McGuinness (Linfield Ladies), Lauren Wade (Glasgow City Ladies).

March 4	Northern Ireland	vs	Iceland	14:00 GMT	Pinatar Arena, Murcia
	Ukraine	vs	Scotland	18:00 GMT	Pinatar Arena, Murcia
March 7	Scotland	vs	Iceland	14:00 GMT	Pinatar Arena, Murcia
	Ukraine	vs	Northern Ireland	18:00 GMT	Pinatar Arena, Murcia
March 10	Northern Ireland	vs	Scotland	14:00 GMT	Pinatar Arena, Murcia
	Iceland	vs	Ukraine	18:00 GMT	Pinatar Arena, Murcia

England Women to open 2021 Euros at Old Trafford



By Marissa Thomas

With 500 days to go until England host the 2021 Women's European Championships, Lionesses manager Phil Neville has announced that the tournament's first game is to be played at Old Trafford.

One of the most historic stadiums in English football, Old Trafford will be a fantastic venue to kick off such a special tournament. Having Old Trafford as the opening venue for such a significant tournament in women's football shows how far the game is growing.

When asked whether the Euros will be more accessible for fans to get to big stadiums,

Neville stated:

"I think it's easier to sell - going to a game at Old Trafford because there's that excitement. There's probably parents of young children that have dreamt to go to Old Trafford. That's why it's such an exciting occasion."

The former Manchester United and Everton defender also mentioned the possible impact that the Euros could have in encouraging more fans to attend Women's Super League matches:

"You hope the spin off from that is that they want to go to Leigh Sports Village when the season starts after. That's the spin-off and

we've not quite had that at some of the venues for WSL games. We have still seen sell-out crowds at Boreham Wood and Kingsmeadow.

It's a fantastic atmosphere at Kingsmeadow, I love going there. It's like a proper game of football.

You go to Old Trafford and sit in the box and hear the supporters in front singing like mad. It's what a football ground should be like. We are getting there in terms of atmosphere. Occasions like we are having in the WSL, at Wembley, at Middlesbrough and soon Old Trafford, inspires people to go to the stadiums for their home clubs."

The fans will undoubtedly be excited by the news, but the players will be delighted to play in such a historic stadium, something that Neville knows all too well:

"When we announced going to Middlesbrough, I will never forget the north east girls in the squad saying 'I have to go to that game, we have to stay in this hotel, there's a Pizza Hut over the road or whatever!'

There is a genuine excitement for them to get to a venue and Old Trafford will be one of those that they will be thinking now will be special. It's ones where they have been watching, growing up, some of the best full-backs in the world play."

The tournament attendance record is 41,301 for the 2013 Women's Euros final in Sweden. Given that Old Trafford is a 76,000-capacity stadium, there is every chance that England could smash that record in the opening game of next year's tournament. With 500 days to go, there is more than enough time to sell out the stadium and get behind the Lionesses as they aim to win the Euros on home soil.





Going for gold

How does qualifying for the women's football at the 2020 Olympics work?

Six teams are already qualified for the 2020 Tokyo Olympics, with six places still up for grabs.

Japan, Brazil, New Zealand, Great Britain, Netherlands and Sweden have qualified already.

So how does it work and when will we know the final teams?

Means of qualification	Dates	Venue	How many?	Qualified
Host country	7 September 2013	N/a	1	Japan
2018 Copa America	4–22 April 2018	Chile	1	Brazil
2018 OFC Nations Cup	18 November – 1 December 2018	New Caledonia	1	New Zealand
2019 WWC	7 June – 7 July 2019	France	3	Great Britain (due to England) Netherlands Sweden
2020 CONCACAF Olympic qualifying	28 January – 9 February 2020	USA	2	USA, Canada
2020 AFC Olympic qualifying	6 – 11 March	Various	2	TBC
2020 CAF Olympic Qualifying Tournament	2 – 11 March	Various	1	TBC
CAF–CONMEBOL play-off	9–15 April	Various	1	TBC

2020 CONCACAF Olympic qualifying

The 2020 CONCACAF Women's Olympic qualifying championship was the fifth edition of the tournament.

USA (as winners) and Canada (as runners-up) have both qualified for the Olympics this summer.

It is the seventh time that the USA have qualified whilst the fourth time for Canada.

Competition stats:

- Goals scored: 77
- Top scorer: Jordyn Huitema (Canada), 7
 - MVP: Christen Press (USA)
- Best goalkeeper: Stephanie Labbe (Canada)

Final: Winner semi-final 1 v winner semi-final 2
 BOTH finalists will qualify for the 2020 Olympics

2020 AFC Olympic Qualifying Tournament

This is now in the third round of qualifying.

Group A: South Korea, Vietnam, Myanmar (North Korea withdrew)

February 3	Australia	vs	Chinese Taipei	04:30 GMT	Juangning Sports Centre, Nanjing
	China	vs	Thailand	07:30 GMT	Juangning Sports Centre, Nanjing
	Myanmar	vs	South Korea	10:00 GMT	Jeju World Cup Stadium, Seogwipo
February 6	Thailand	vs	Australia	04:30 GMT	Juangning Sports Centre, Nanjing
	Chinese Taipei	vs	China		Juangning Sports Centre, Nanjing
	Vietnam	vs	Myanmar	10:00 GMT	Jeju World Cup Stadium, Seogwipo
February 9	Thailand	vs	Chinese Taipei	04:30 GMT	Juangning Sports Centre, Nanjing
	South Korea	vs	Vietnam	06:00 GMT	Jeju World Cup Stadium, Seogwipo
	Australia	vs	China	07:30 GMT	Juangning Sports Centre, Nanjing

Group B: Australia, China PR, Thailand, Chinese Taipei

After the third round, there will then be TWO two-legged finals.

1 st Leg	2 nd Leg			
March 6	March 11	Runner up Group B	vs	Winner Group A
March 6	March 11	Runner up Group A	vs	Winner Group B

TWO winners will qualify for the 2020 Olympics

2020 CAF Olympic Qualifying Tournament

We are into the fifth and final round of the 2020 CAF Olympic Qualifying Tournament.

Two teams remain to battle it out for the one place available from this tournament.

Cameroon and Zambia will play two legs between 2 – 11 March but the official dates are not yet known.

CAF–CONMEBOL play-off

The final team to be decided will be in the CAF–CONMEBOL play-off.

Chile, who qualify for the play-off game as runners-up of the Copa America await their opponents.

The second team will be the runner-up in the 2020 CAF Olympic Qualifying Tournament.

The play-off will be played as home-and-away two-legged tie on 9 and 15 April, 2020.

Around the World





Baird announced as new NWSL commissioner



NATIONAL WOMEN'S SOCCER LEAGUE

The National Women's Soccer League (NWSL) has named Lisa Baird as its new commissioner.

Baird will take up the position at North America's top women's soccer league on 10th March, replacing Amanda Duffy, who stepped down in January to become executive vice president of the Orlando Pride, who compete in the competition.

Baird will be responsible for overseeing all operations for the league and NWSL Media, with a focus on growing revenues and audience while elevating the profile of the league globally.

Baird wrote on Twitter: "Super excited for this new opportunity!"

"We are thrilled to name Lisa as the Commissioner of the NWSL," said NWSL Executive Committee Chair and North Carolina Courage Owner Steve Malik. "Her impressive background at the forefront of sports and commercial business for some of the most iconic properties worldwide will be instrumental to the future success and growth of the league."





News from around the world



Fishlock resigns for Reign FC

Wales midfielder Jess Fishlock has signed a new two-year contract with Reign FC.

Fishlock, 33, has been out injured since June due to a serious knee injury but has signed a new deal for the 2020 and 2021 seasons.

She has played for Reign - the National Women's Soccer League club based in Washington state - since 2013, although she has had a number of spells away from the club on loan and won the Women's Champions League while at Lyon in April 2019.

Speaking to the official website, Fishlock said: "Returning to Reign was an easy decision for me.

"I am excited about the future of this club and I wanted to be part of that. Throughout my whole rehabilitation process, Reign FC has been so supportive and helpful in ensuring I get the best medical care possible.

"I will forever be grateful and hope I can repay that when I get back to full fitness."

AFC Women's Asia Cup to move?

The Asian Football Confederation (AFC), the governing body for soccer in Asia, has recommended that India host the 2022 AFC Women's Asian Cup national team tournament.

Angela Hucles announced as USL advisor

Houston Dash announce new sponsor

National Women's Soccer League (NWSL) franchise Houston Dash have named the University of Texas Cancer Centre as their new official jersey sponsor.

The opportunity to join forces with the Houston Dash provides us the chance to reach even more people in our local community as well as across the nation and all over the world," said Peter WT Pisters, M.D., president, MD Anderson.

"We are proud to team up with these phenomenal organizations to educate both players and fans on ways to reduce their cancer risk and to support our mission to end cancer."





News from around the world

Spain's top women players sign pay agreement

Players in Spain's top women's division have signed a collective agreement on pay and conditions that guarantees them a minimum salary of 16,000 euros (£13,386).

It comes after a strike by players in November that saw eight Primera Division fixtures postponed.

The new agreement also secures benefits for the players that include paid holiday and maternity leave.

"This is an historic day," said Spain's sports minister Irene Lozano.

"This collective agreement is very important for players who were worried about their future.

"It's also important for all Spanish women because when one group of people makes advances then so does everyone else."

Ruben Alcaine, president of the Association of Women's Football Clubs, added: "This is a moment to celebrate."

Spanish media rights and production agency Mediapro has agreed to a further €1.1m (\$1.2m) contribution to women's football in Spain in order to ensure that salary contributions are met.

The agreement covers 11 of the 16 top-tier Primera Iberdrola teams, who will each receive an additional €100,000 that will enable them to comply with salary demands. The Association of Women's Football Clubs (ACFF) said that the new contribution would facilitate a collective bargaining agreement for the women's game.

The announcement raising Mediapro's contribution €2.6m comes after it had already pledged €1.5m in late 2019 after the ACFF threatened strike action over proposed minimum wage increases and demands to basic working rights.

Reign FC midfielder Yanez retires

USA star Beverly Yanez has announced her retirement.

The 31-year-old has played six seasons for Reign, making over 100 appearances.

Taking to Instagram, Yanez wrote: "I fell in love with the game at 5 years old. I attended the WC (World Cup) in 99 and my sights were set on becoming a women's pro soccer player. I committed my life to accomplishing that goal. I made life decisions based on how it would effect the player I wanted to become.

"I was driven. Driven by a love and passion for the game. When I played my whole world stopped and I just smiled.

"To be a part of the NWSL and play for the Reign FC for the past 6 seasons has been such a joy.



News from around the world

"As soon as I arrived to the club I knew that's where I wanted to be for the rest of my career- to be able to do just that is an absolute honor. The club works so hard to create a positive and competitive environment for players to thrive in.

"Seeing the women's game grow has been nothing short of amazing. So much respect for all women in sport and all those women competing everyday to be the best versions of themselves, while fighting for more visibility, equal pay, and so much more.

"This is a very exciting new chapter for me, but it's also an emotional one to close because I cared and loved what I did so much. I'm so grateful to be able to choose when I step away. A lot of players don't get to do that. My family and I will always be Reign fans for the rest of our lives."

Marta honoured at Brazil carnival

Marta and One Win Leads to Another celebrated women's empowerment at the Brazil Carnival in Rio de Janeiro.

She was honoured in the Carnival parade by the samba school Inocentes de Belford Roxo.

In brilliant colour, dance and fanfare, Marta's story of facing challenges, overcoming gender barriers, and inspiring other women and girls was retold along the avenue.

Revellers, floats, and decorations represented milestones in her life, since her childhood playing soccer in the streets of her village in the Northeast of Brazil, to moving to Rio de Janeiro to pursue a career in soccer, and then going on to play in Sweden and, finally, in the United States, where she current lives.





Women's games on TV in March

Here is a list of all the women's games we know that are on TV in March.

Don't forget you can watch the WSL on the FA App.

Thursday March 5: Spain v Japan, SheBelieves
21:15 BBC Red Button

Friday March 6: USA v England, SheBelieves
00:00 BBC Two/BBC iPlayer

Friday March 6: Wales v Estonia, friendly
19:00 BBC Red Button

Saturday March 7: Iceland v Scotland, friendly
14:00 BBC Alba

Sunday March 8: Japan v England, SheBelieves
18:15 BBC Four/BBCiPlayer

Sunday March 8: USA v Spain, SheBelieves
21:00 BBC Sport

Tuesday March 10: Northern Ireland v Scotland, friendly
19:30 BBC Alba

Wednesday March 11: England v Spain, SheBelieves
BBC Four/BBC iPlayer

Thursday March 12: USA v Japan, SheBelieves
00:00 BBC Red Button

Sunday March 15: Hears v Celtic, SWPL
14:00 BBC Sport

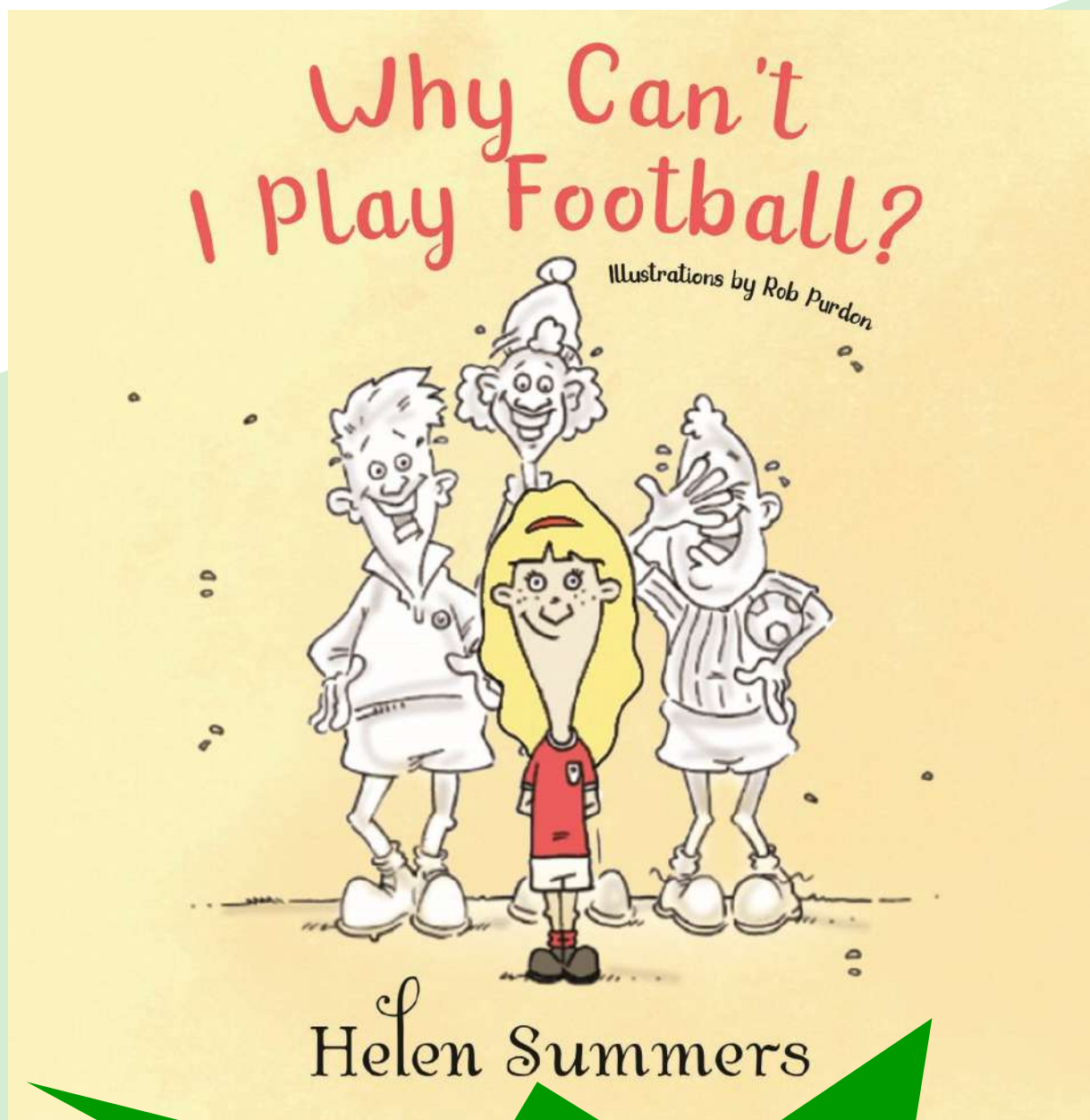
Friday March 20: Hibernian v Rangers, SWPL
19:30 BBC Alba

Saturday March 21: Celtic v Spartans, SWPL
14:00 BBC Sport

Saturday March 28: Man Utd v Man City, WSL
15:00 BT Sport TBC

Sunday March 29: Tottenham Hotspur v Chelsea, WSL
14:00 BT Sport TBC

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