



Monday 14th March 2005

ENGLAND NET THREE CONVINCING WINS IN ALGARVE CUP

England have kept up their great start to 2005 with three convincing victories in their opening three games of the Algarve Cup. A much-changed side from the one that beat Italy 4-1 last month opened with a 4-0 win over Northern Ireland thanks to two goals from Vicky Exley, and one each from Karen Carney and Rachel McArthur.

On Friday, a stronger England side although missing captain Faye White with a knee injury, overcame hosts Portugal 4-0. Goals came from Casey Stoney, a brace from Rachel Yankey and Amanda Barr. On Sunday England hit five past Mexico, with Fara Williams (2), Jody Handley, Rachel Yankey and Sue Smith all on the scoresheet.

England will now play China on Tuesday at 11.00am in the play-off for seventh or eighth place. England received an invitation to play in the bottom of three groups for this tournament, meaning the highest they could finish was seventh place – with China finishing bottom of their group.

You can now see full highlights and interviews from England's three matches at www.TheFA.com/women. There will also be a match report and highlights featured from tomorrow's match against China.

ENGLAND TO PLAY SCOTLAND IN APRIL

England's preparations for WOMEN'S EURO 2005 continue next month when they take on Scotland in a Nationwide international at Tranmere Rovers FC on Thursday 21st April 2005, kick-off 7.45pm.

The match, which will be shown live on Sky Sports, will be a tough test for Hope Powell's England team as Scotland narrowly missed out on qualification for the 2005 UEFA European Women's Championship, which is being held in the North West between 5-19 June 2005.

England National Coach Hope Powell OBE said: "Taking on Scotland represents the next step in our preparations for WOMEN'S EURO 2005 and we go into the match having secured a 4-1 victory over Italy in our last home international. We will also have played four games in The Algarve Cup tournament before the match at Prenton Park. With such a tough preparation programme, and every player fighting for their place in the squad, I am confident that the team will put on a great display for the fans."

The Three Lions last faced Scotland at Preston North End FC's Deepdale in November 2003, a WOMEN'S EURO 2005 venue, when England triumphed 5-0 with a brace from captain Faye White.

Tickets are on sale now priced at £3 for adults and £1 concessions, with group discounts in advance, from the ticket hotline on 0870 460 3332. Matchday sales rise to £5 for adults and £2 for concessions.

England will play two further internationals at home in May, with details to be announced shortly.

THE FA NATIONWIDE PREMIER LEAGUE – RESULTS ROUND-UP

There were no National Division results at the weekend due to England's participation in the Algarve Cup tournament. In the Northern Division, Sunderland continued their promotion push with a convincing 3-0 victory at Aston Villa putting Blackburn Rovers out of the title race; only Wolves Women, with four games in hand, are still in contention with Sunderland.

In the Southern Division, Portsmouth made the most of Chelsea not playing to close the gap on the leaders to just three points following a 1-0 win at Watford. Meanwhile, basement side Ipswich Town, already relegated from the league, hit Langford for six in a 6-1 home thriller.

NORTHERN DIVISION

FRI 11 MAR 2005		
Oldham Curzon LFC	0 - 1	Tranmere Rovers LFC
SUN 13 MAR 2005		
Aston Villa LFC	0 - 3	Sunderland AFC Women
Blackburn Rovers LFC	6 - 1	Sheffield Wednesday LFC
Coventry City LFC	4 - 4	Middlesbrough LFC
Manchester City LFC	4 - 0	Stockport County LFC

POS		P	W	D	L	DIFF	PTS
1	Sunderland AFC Women	19	16	0	3	39	48
2	Blackburn Rovers LFC	19	9	8	2	20	35
3	Wolverhampton Wanderers WFC	15	10	3	2	24	33
4	Stockport County LFC	18	7	7	4	2	28
5	Aston Villa LFC	18	7	4	7	-4	25
6	Oldham Curzon LFC	18	6	6	6	-2	24
7	Lincoln City LFC	19	6	4	9	-9	22
8	Middlesbrough LFC	18	4	6	8	-11	18
9	Manchester City LFC	16	4	3	9	-17	15
10	Sheffield Wednesday LFC	18	2	8	8	-15	14
11	Coventry City LFC	17	3	5	9	-18	14
12	Tranmere Rovers LFC	15	3	2	10	-9	11

SOUTHERN DIVISION

SUN 13 MAR 2005		
Ipswich Town LFC	6 - 1	Langford LFC
Millwall Lionesses LFC	1 - 1	Southampton Saints WFC
Watford LFC	0 - 1	Portsmouth LFC

POS		P	W	D	L	DIFF	PTS	
1	Chelsea LFC	17	13	2	2	35	41	
2	Portsmouth LFC	18	11	5	2	16	38	
3	AFC Wimbledon LFC	20	10	2	8	17	32	
4	Crystal Palace LFC	20	8	6	6	3	30	
5	Brighton & Hove Albion WFC	17	9	2	6	10	29	
6	Cardiff City LFC	19	7	7	5	7	28	
7	Millwall Lionesses LFC	17	7	5	5	1	26	
8	Southampton Saints WFC	18	7	4	7	4	25	
9	Langford LFC	21	6	5	10	-19	23	
10	Watford LFC	18	6	4	8	-3	22	
11	Enfield Town LFC	20	1	6	13	-26	9	
12	Ipswich Town LFC	19	2	2	15	-45	8	

ENGLAND UNDER-19 TO FACE POLAND IN FRIENDLY

England Under-19s will meet up on Sunday 27th March for a friendly international away against Poland. The match will act as preparation for next month's Second Group Stage where England will attempt to qualify for this summer's UEFA U19 European Championship. The Second Group Stage will be held in Italy and the Finals in Hungary in July.

Coached by Mo Marley, England U19 will play Poland on Thursday 31st March in Kutno.

Squad: Carly TELFORD – Sunderland, Nicola HOBBS – Lincoln City, Fern WHELAN – Liverpool, Darel POOLE – Bristol City, Hayley KEMP – Arsenal, Sophie CLOUGH – Stockport County, Nicole EMMANUEL – Leeds United, Heather SCHEUBER – Birmingham City, Amy KANE – Everton, Danielle BIRD – Fulham, Bonnie HORWOOD – Langford, Rachel WILLIAMS – Leicester City, Katie HOLTHAM – Bristol Rovers, Gemma DAVIDSON – Arsenal, Jodian CLARKE – Charlton Athletic, Stephanie HOUGHTON – Sunderland, Chantelle PARRY – Everton, Becky HALL – Wolverhampton Wanderers

FA WOMEN'S CUP SEMI-FINALS THIS WEEKEND

Everton v Arsenal, 12.00 noon KO
Southport FC
Haig Avenue

Charlton Athletic v Bristol Rovers, 3.00pm KO
Dagenham & Redbridge FC
Glyn Hopkin Stadium

The final four will compete this Sunday 20th March for the right to play in the 2005 FA Women's Cup Final. Everton will host holders Arsenal at Southport FC at 12.00 noon, then Charlton Athletic, runners-up for the past two seasons, will host Bristol Rovers at Dagenham & Redbridge FC at 3.00pm.

To reserve tickets, priced at £3 for adults/£1 concessions, for the Charlton Athletic v Bristol Rovers game, please call the ticket hotline on 020 8592 7194 or log onto www.daggers.co.uk. Fans wishing to attend the Everton v Arsenal match are reminded that tickets are available on the day.

The Final will be played on Bank Holiday Monday May 2nd, kick-off 1.00pm, and will again be broadcast live on BBC1.

FA NATIONWIDE PREMIER LEAGUE FIXTURES

NORTHERN DIVISION

MON 14 MAR 2005 19:30

Tranmere Rovers LFC	v	Oldham Curzon LFC
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SUN 20 MAR 2005 14:00

Blackburn Rovers LFC	v	Middlesbrough LFC
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Lincoln City LFC	v	Oldham Curzon LFC
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Manchester City LFC	v	Aston Villa LFC
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SOUTHERN DIVISION

SUN 20 MAR 2005 14:00

Watford LFC	v	Chelsea LFC
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For more information, contact Alex Stone, Media Manager, on 020 7745 4704/07903 684673