



1863 **150 YEARS** 2013
of The FA

ENGLAND v MONTENEGRO

2014 FIFA WORLD CUP™ QUALIFIER

8PM, FRIDAY 11 OCTOBER 2013

WEMBLEY STADIUM

OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME £6



IN OUR HANDS

ENGLAND CENTURION
FRANK LAMPARD AND HIS
THREE LIONS TEAM-MATES
ARE FOCUSED ON A PLACE
AT THE WORLD CUP



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THE **BIG** PICTURE

England emerge from the bowels of the Olympic Stadium in Kiev before facing Ukraine last month. Both teams produced a dogged display and the game ended goalless. Qualification remains in England's hands ahead of this double header...





opta

STAT ATTACK!

Everything you need to know about the two sides battling it out this evening

ENGLAND

are unbeaten in 20 competitive internationals, last losing to Germany in World Cup 2010 (W11 D9).

Roy Hodgson's side have conceded just three goals in this qualifying campaign – only Belgium and Spain have conceded fewer (2).



STALE MATE

All three meetings between the two nations have ended in draws, with the only meeting at Wembley Stadium finishing goalless.

QUICK START

Montenegro haven't won any of their last three World Cup qualifiers (D2 L1), having won all of the previous four without conceding.

The Three Lions have lost just one of their last 13 fixtures at Wembley, 3-2 to the Netherlands in February 2012.



Branko Brnovic's side are unbeaten in six away internationals, winning three and drawing three.



Wayne Rooney has netted five goals in his last four World Cup qualifiers. Danny Welbeck has scored three goals in his last two England games.

4

Montenegro have been shown four red cards in this qualifying campaign, more than any other team in Europe.

Only Germany (28) have scored more goals in World Cup 2014 qualifiers than England (25).

25

England failed to find the net in their last qualifier in Kiev, the only time in this qualifying campaign they haven't scored.



MONTENEGRO

After only six years of football independence, the Brave Falcons have had a remarkable rise



Montenegro are no longer European minnows. Admitted to FIFA in May 2007, other young nations have taken time to settle in international football, but the Brave Falcons progressed magnificently.

The qualifying campaign for the FIFA 2010 World Cup, their big-stage debut, was traumatic. The Balkans won only once in ten matches in a pool including Italy, Republic of Ireland and Bulgaria. Since then the Montenegrin football authorities have invested wisely to identify and nurture young talent. This brought a marked change in fortunes.

The fledgling team blossomed during UEFA Euro 2012 qualification. Montenegro finished second to England in a daunting group featuring Switzerland, Bulgaria and Wales. They won three games and didn't concede until their fifth match. Two draws against England and a home victory over the Swiss were highlights of a remarkable effort.

Montenegro were beaten by Czech Republic in the Euro 2012 qualifying play-offs



SQUAD NEWS

THEN AND NOW...

After Montenegro's surprise 4-0 home defeat at the hands of Ukraine in June, Head Coach Brnovic made six changes to his starting line-up for last month's match with Poland. Manchester City's **STEVAN JOVETIC** was missing along with 36-year-old **MILORAD PEKOVIC**, but expect the former to lead the line tonight along with captain **MIRKO VUCINIC**.

Full-back **SAVO PAVICEVIC** and winger **VLADIMIR VOLKOV** were both suspended and recalled were ex-City right-back **STEFAN SAVIC** and winger **MILOŠ KRKOTIC**. All four return tonight.

In this FIFA World Cup 2014 campaign a creditable draw at home to England in March and a 1-1 stalemate in Poland last month are only tempered by a shock 4-0 loss at home to Ukraine in June. Like England, the Montenegrins arrive at Wembley with their destiny in their own hands. Wily, experienced Juventus forward Mirko Vucinic and silky Manchester City new boy Stevan Jovetic are their dangermen. Striker Andrija Delibasic, who has scored four goals in qualifying, is another threat.

Coach Branko Brnovic (46) was assistant to Zoran Filipovic then Zlatko Kranjcar until taking the full position in 2011. The former Partizan Belgrade and Espanyol midfielder is a formidable tactician and fine motivator.

England have met today's guest three times, drawing in each match. But the stakes have never been as high as this evening. Both sides will go for a result, which will produce an entertaining tussle brimming with incident and skill.

IN NUMBERS

A history of Montenegrin football

21

Games Montenegro had to wait for their first competitive win

16

Montenegro's highest FIFA ranking in 2011, one place higher than England's now

2007

Year of Montenegro's first match. Three players from that game played against Poland last month





FIRST ENCOUNTERS

Cast your mind back to England's draw with Montenegro in 2010, when the Three Lions brought on their oldest debutant for 60 years. Step forward Kevin Davies...



"OF COURSE THERE WERE A FEW NERVES TO BEGIN WITH, BUT I THOUGHT I DID OKAY; I REALLY ENJOYED THE EXPERIENCE"

England's first encounter against Montenegro in October 2010 will hardly appear in the annals of Three Lions history as a classic, but for Kevin Davies it's a game that will live with him forever.

After suffering injuries to forwards Jermain Defoe, Darren Bent and Bobby Zamora in the build-up to the Euro 2012 qualifier at Wembley, England coach Fabio Capello raised eyebrows when he called the then-Bolton Wanderers striker, at the ripe-old age of 33 years and 201 days, into his squad.

Davies certainly wasn't the oldest player to have pulled on the Three Lions for the first time, but not since 1951 – Tottenham's Bill Nicholson, aged 32 years and 113 days – had anyone over the age of 32 made their England debut.

"I was shocked," is Davies' recollection of the call-up. "I sat down wondering whether it was a wind-up; then I got home and told my wife and she was like, 'You're in the England squad!'"

"It was a really proud moment for me and for my family. It was a case of just going down and enjoying the experience of being involved with the squad. I also wanted to make an impression and hopefully get the chance to play."

Capello's side had made a flawless start to their qualifying campaign but the Montenegrins proved stubborn opposition on the night. Goalkeeper Mladen Bozovic was a particularly tough nut to crack, as Wayne Rooney and Gareth Barry discovered, and with the game heading for a frustrating stalemate, Davies was told to prepare for action.

The board came up on 69 minutes; Davies on, Peter Crouch off, and the former Chesterfield youngster – who went on to make his name for Southampton – became the oldest England debutant for 60 years.

"It was different coming on as a sub as it was something I'd not been used to

7 OCTOBER
2011

**MONTENEGRO 2
ENGLAND 2**
Stadion Pod
Goricom, Podgorica

England secured their place at Euro 2012 with a draw, dampened by a Wayne Rooney red card, who would miss the start of the Finals. The visitors looked in total control following goals from Ashley Young and Darren Bent inside 32 minutes, but Isak Zverotic gave Montenegro hope with the last kick of the half. When Rooney was given his marching orders, Montenegro piled on the pressure and in stoppage time Dzulovic crossed for Andrija Delibasic to head home – a goal that handed the hosts a play-off place.

26 MARCH
2013

**MONTENEGRO 1
ENGLAND 1**
Stadion Pod
Goricom, Podgorica

It was redemption for Wayne Rooney, whose sixth-minute header was the first goal he'd scored for England in six games. Unfortunately, Roy Hodgson's side could not build on a promising first-half display and Montenegro had a number of good chances before sub Dejan Damjanovic scrambled an equaliser. The point kept the hosts two points ahead of England at the top of the Group H table.

for a few years, but obviously a very proud moment," Davies adds. "With the game at 0-0, the manager told me to get on and try and win the game, but once I was out there everything just seemed to go really fast."

"Of course there were a few nerves to begin with, but I thought I did okay; I had a couple of half-chances, created a couple for Wayne Rooney too and I really enjoyed the experience."

"I found the pace to be a little slower than the Premier League; both sides kept the ball a bit more, they played it around at the back, so you had to be patient and it was just a shame we just couldn't cap the night off with a win."

Davies was still able to catch the eye during his time on the Wembley turf and even managed to pick up a caution for his troubles, for a 'challenge' on Miodrag Dzudovic.

"It definitely wasn't a booking," he recalls with a wry smile. "That was disappointing but maybe another example of the difference between international football and the Premier League. It was all part of the learning process. Montenegro came for a point and in the end they got it."

The result didn't prove too costly with England qualifying for the Finals by topping of the group on 18 points, six ahead of second-placed Montenegro. Yet despite his promising cameo, Davies would not make the showpiece tournament in Poland and Ukraine, indeed he would not play for England again, but that still doesn't dampen the memory of representing his country.

"I loved every minute of it," he ends. "From meeting up with the squad, to training with the boys – some of the best players in the world – and then winning a cap, I was just delighted to be given the opportunity."

"It was always 'I've never played for England' and now I'm very proud to have done that."



Davies' first England call-up went from benchwarmer...



...to a caution...



to a 'half-chance', all in 21 minutes

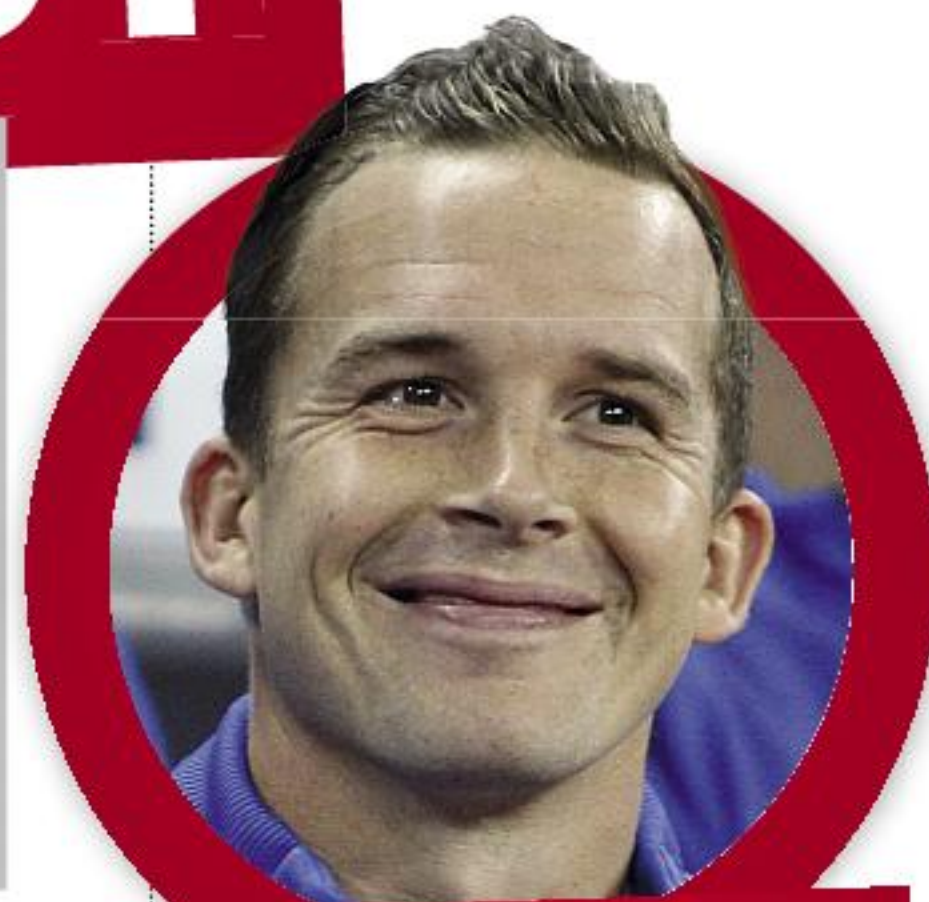
MY PERFECT



IAN WALKER

Ian was a really good pro who didn't play as much for England as he should. A fine shot stopper.

BY...



KEVIN DAVIES

The former Bolton Wanderers forward, who played over 400 times for the Trotters during his ten seasons at the Reebok Stadium, made his international debut – his only England cap – as a substitute against Montenegro in October 2010 (see page 46). Davies, who currently plays for Preston North End, made his name at Chesterfield – where he helped guide the Spireites to The FA Cup Semi-Final in 1997. Here he picks eleven Englishmen he has played with – plus a scattering of his Three Lions heroes – in a 4-3-3 formation...



GLENN JOHNSON

We were at Millwall at the same time and you could see his potential. He'll be the right-back for a long while.



GARY CAHILL

He's strong, quick and a good reader of the game. He can be England's main man defensively for years.



DEAN RICHARDS

He was unbelievable for us at Southampton. He scored goals, defended superbly and put his body on the line.



WAYNE BRIDGE

I saw him come through at Southampton. He's excellent going forward and is really tough if he's marking you.



BRYAN ROBSON

He was my idol growing up! I was in awe of his battling and the way he wore the shirt with such pride.



KEVIN NOLAN

A great captain, superb both on and off the pitch. He's not had a cap yet. It took me a while and I think he can do it!



MATT LE TISSIER

At Southampton I was just amazed by his skills. Just the most gifted, natural football player.



DANIEL STURRIDGE

His potential has been realised at Liverpool. He has a great change of pace and he will play a lot for England.



LES FERDINAND

He's a top guy, and he scored tons of goals throughout his career – he could've played more at international level.



JACK WILSHIRE

He came to Bolton and you could see he was a prospect. He has great skills. They can build England around him.