
The Villa Women
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Aston Villa Women
vs Tottenham Hotspur
Women
Saturday 6th February 2021
12.30pm KO
BARCLAYS
FA Women's Super League
TAKE A STAND.
AVFC
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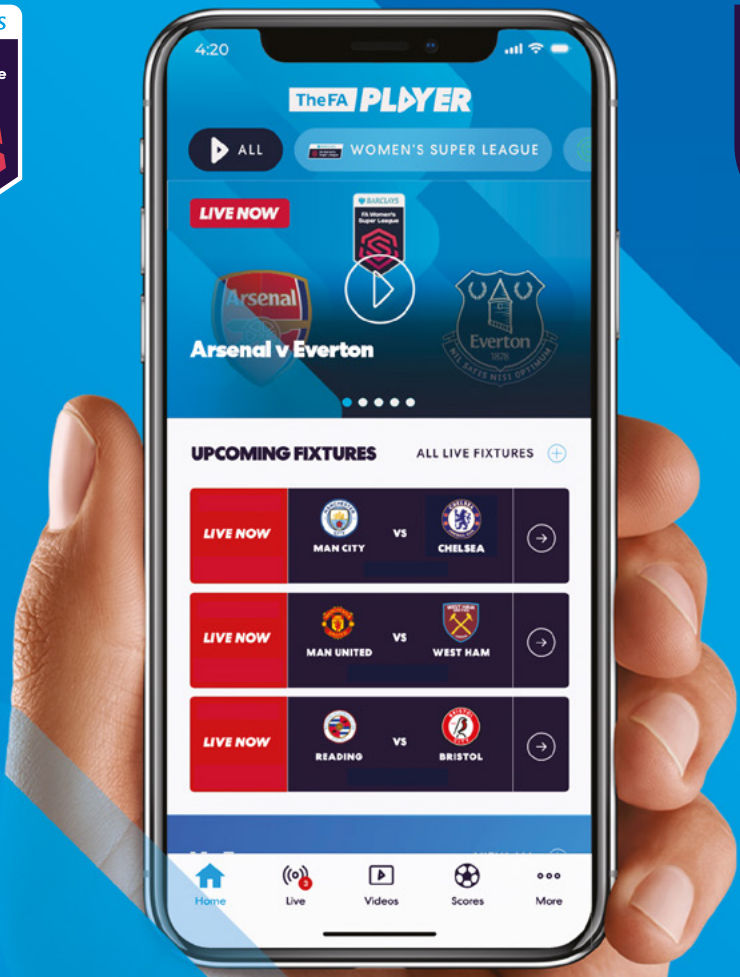
AVFC
TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR

BARCLAYS
FA Women's Super League



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Coach's *Column*

Good afternoon and welcome to today's Barclays FA Women's Super League fixture versus Tottenham Hotspur.

Anybody who watched Spurs last Sunday against Chelsea would have seen a side who, for the first quarter of the game, got themselves into some really good goal-scoring opportunities against the current champions. The game got away from them before the break, and they will have been disappointed that they didn't make the most of their chances at 0-0.

With that being said, we can't hide the fact that this Spurs team suffered their first loss in seven last week, so this will be a difficult fixture for us to claim our first three points of the season at home.

Chelsea are ruthless, and even when they are not at their best, they carry an array of talent and will always pose a threat.

Although both teams today suffered 4-0 defeats to Chelsea last time out, the positive we can take is that we were able to nullify the strengths of Emma Hayes' side for large parts of the game.

So for all of our structure and organisation, we were unfortunately undone by the very basics of football.

Like all good teams do, they exploited an area of improvement needed from ourselves and we as a staff will be looking today to see a shift in mentality to do the basics better and continue to do the good things we did well.

We all know the supporters are kicking every ball behind their TVs, laptops and smart phones.

We just want you to know that we will go above and beyond to work harder than we've ever worked before, and we will give everything to stretch, challenge and support one another to make sure we maintain our WSL status.

Keep that support and see you soon.

Marcus

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Q & A
Marcus Bignot



Recently appointed Interim Manager of Aston Villa Women, Marcus Bignot, recently spoke to the Club about aims and expectations for the remainder of the current campaign:

You have plenty of experience both in the men's and women's game. What kind of qualities are you aiming to bring with you to the Club?

"For me, it's my experiences - being in this situation before. Hopefully, I can add to the culture. I'm very keen on a work ethic, high standards and driving that mentality and desire to win. I'm all for that. Hopefully, I can add to what are already some successful pieces to the jigsaw."

As we look at the current group of players that you're going to be working with, what excites you about getting to work with them for the rest of this season?

"I love working on the grass. I love improving players. I love developing players. I love working alongside players, and ultimately getting that balance between development and results. There's no better feeling than putting the work in during the week and then getting three points at the weekend. As a player, I had that buzz and that adrenaline rush. Your week and life is dictated by the results, whether you've won, lost or drawn. That's carried over into my coaching and management career. Nothing's changed since the day I left school at the age of 16. It's that desire to win."

Could you give the fans an insight and an outline of what your role might entail? And how that may look on a day-to-day basis.

"I've been appointed as Interim Manager. Ultimately, I'll be accountable for the results, they will firmly land at my doorstep. At the same time, I'm really looking forward to developing and supporting the very good young staff we've got. Something I've always been involved in is having an infrastructure from within and promoting from within. As much as I love developing players, I love developing staff as well. Particularly with Gemma, there's a lot of potential there. I'm really encouraged with what I've seen so far; I've got high hopes for her."

Have you had a chance to weigh up your aims and expectations for the group as a whole?

"The remit right now is to make sure we maintain our WSL status. Let's not put all that hard work in for us to take a massive step backwards. For us, there's a league within a league if I'm being honest. We want to finish top of that mini league. For the supporters, I have no doubt there's one particular they will want to finish above. If we do that, we certainly will maintain our WSL status. From the Club's point-of-view, there's a lot of investment that's gone into this season. Our league position now doesn't reflect the investment that's been put in. We've got an idea of where we want to be. We want to support and show that investment that's been put in."

Last Time Out

Aston Villa Women were beaten 4-0 by Chelsea Women at the Banks's Stadium on Wednesday evening.

Sam Kerr opened the scoring early on, before Beth England, Pernille Harder and Magdalena Eriksson also notched to add further gloss to the scoreline.

Despite the result, Villa will take encouragement from their overall competitveness and defensive structure throughout the encounter.

Marcus Bignot opted for a change in formation for his first game in interim charge.

What looked like a 3-5-2 setup was selected to frustrate the star-studded visitors, but Villa's resistance was broken inside three minutes.

Following a lofted ball into the Villa box from Chelsea, Nat Haigh's headed clearance only went as far as Sam Kerr on the edge of the area.

The Australian international wasted no time in striking a thunderous half-volley into the roof of the net to get the Blues off to the best possible start.

The remainder of the first half was an evenly fought one, with neither side creating anything of note.

Or so it seemed, as on 35 minutes, Kerr turned provider and crossed in from the right for Beth England to powerfully head home.

The goal was a suckerpunch for Bignot's side, who had put in a disciplined display up to that point, all things considered.

Villa once again emerged from the break with the right intent and the right desire but were undone by two quickfire goals that well and truly put the game to bed.

Pernille Harder drilled one in from the edge of the area, before Magdalena Eriksson stabbed home a teasing free-kick to add some gloss to the scoreline for the Blues.





The Final Word

Marcus Bignot spoke to VillaTV following Wednesday's defeat...

"Obviously, disappointed by the 4-0 scoreline. In reflection, tonight's not going to define our season. What I've seen tonight is encouraging in terms of moving forward with this group. Really pleased with our off-the-ball organisation. In the second half we grew into the game and I thought we had some big moments. I want to see that transfer into the game on Sunday. We'll take the positives from tonight and move in the right direction ahead of Arsenal."

"I'm disappointed by the goals in all honesty. I said that to the group. If you look at them, they are disappointing goals to concede. Overall, I thought we nullified what Chelsea are good at. They didn't cut us open like they're capable of doing. For them to put that performance in off the back of one session shows me that I'm encouraged."



Aston Villa Women 0

Chelsea Women 4

Kerr 3', England 35', Harder 68', Eriksson 70'

Competition: Barclays FA Women's Super League

Date: Wednesday 27th January 2021

Venue: Banks's Stadium

Aston Villa Line Up

Weiß, Ale, N'Dow, Asante, Haigh, Hayles (Siems 46'), Ewers (C) (West 62'), Haywood (Follis 76'), Hanssen (Silva 84'), Iwabuchi, Larsen

Subs not used

Rogers, Follis, West, Hutton, Siems, Syme, McLoughlin, Silva

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Stine **Larsen**



Ramona **Petzelberger**



Amy **West**



Jodie **Hutton**



Caroline **Siems**



Emily **Syme**



Natalie **Haigh**



Olivia **McLoughlin**



Sophie **Haywood**



Diana **Silva**



Mana **Iwabuchi**



Marisa **Ewers (C)**



Shania **Hayles**



Nadine **Hanssen**



Charlotte **Clarke**



Lisa **Weiß**

Asmita **Ale**

3



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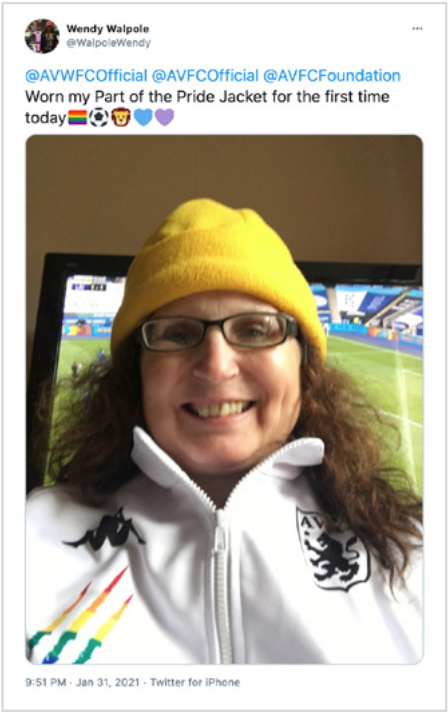







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The *Next* Three



Birmingham City

Wednesday 10th February, 7.30pm

Sportnation.bet Stadium

Barclays FA Women's Super League



Manchester United

Sunday 7th March, 12.00pm

Leigh Sports Village

Barclays FA Women's Super League



Brighton and Hove Albion

Saturday 17th March, 7.30pm

Banks's Stadium

Barclays FA Women's Super League

Barclays FA Women's Super League

#	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Goal Difference	Points
1	Chelsea	12	10	2	0	+32	32
2	Manchester United	13	10	2	1	+21	32
3	Manchester City	12	8	3	1	+31	27
4	Arsenal	11	7	2	2	+30	23
5	Everton	10	5	2	4	+4	17
6	Reading	13	3	6	4	-7	15
7	Tottenham Hotspur	11	3	3	5	-9	12
8	Birmingham city	10	3	1	6	-6	10
9	Brighton & Hove Albion	13	2	3	8	-21	9
10	West Ham United	11	2	1	8	-15	7
11	Aston Villa	11	2	1	8	-20	7
12	Bristol City	12	1	2	9	-40	5



Opposition View
Tottenham

Saturday's visitors to the Banks's Stadium are Tottenham Hotspur.

Marcus Bignot spoke to VillaTV recently about a 'league within a league', one which he would like Aston Villa to sit atop of come the end of the season.

Towards the top of that 'mini league' are Rehanne Skinner's Spurs side, despite being just five points ahead of the Villans going into the weekend's slate of games.

Having picked up points in their last three fixture versus bottom-half sides, Villa will know they are in for a battle, especially given the 3-1 defeat suffered at the hands of the Lilywhites back in December.

Three to watch

Ashleigh Neville

Neville has been a consistent figure in the Spurs lineup since her move from Coventry United in 2017. Predominantly a full-back, the 27-year-old gets forward frequently and has scored on a couple of occasions already this season.

Siri Worm

Also operating in defence is Dutch international, Siri Worm. With over 30 caps for the Oranje, Worm also has plenty of WSL experience following a previous spell with Everton. Worm leads Spurs with two assists so far this season.

Ria Percival

Another esteemed and fully-fledged international. Percival has almost 150 caps to her name for New Zealand, and is a mainstay in the Spurs team. Percival has played a key role at every club she has represented, and currently leads Spurs in minutes played this season (990).

Let The Games Begin!



Can you find the ten words and players related to today's game?

S	R	U	P	S	R	E	D	J	Q	V	D	W	Q	D
C	A	Z	O	O	W	W	T	O	M	J	B	J	I	Q
H	P	G	I	O	J	E	N	V	O	W	S	E	N	J
C	U	B	N	C	T	R	N	C	Z	W	N	C	L	X
L	A	Y	Z	O	W	S	V	I	Y	A	Y	C	E	G
T	E	L	N	K	U	A	B	F	Y	Y	C	A	Z	Z
N	V	G	S	L	B	L	L	A	C	A	U	S	H	R
L	I	M	Z	H	Y	N	A	S	M	X	J	K	T	C
B	P	I	A	O	L	F	B	Y	A	K	M	I	M	K
U	L	O	H	B	Y	C	Z	I	M	L	Y	N	H	L
S	U	P	E	R	L	E	A	G	U	E	L	N	Y	J
M	O	F	F	H	X	P	D	U	W	Z	R	E	K	H
D	R	M	T	Q	W	L	E	V	J	U	X	R	J	V
J	M	O	T	M	X	G	X	V	A	S	A	Z	W	R
L	P	Z	S	Y	Q	L	M	V	F	A	R	N	B	Z

AVANE
BIGNOT
CAZOO
EWERS
HAYWOOD
SKINNER
SPURS
SUPERLEAGUE
WALSALL

Quickfire Questions

Find the answers inside today's programme!

1. **Which Villan scored from long-range in the reverse fixture against Spurs back in December?**
2. **At which men's National League stadium do Tottenham Hotspur Women play their home games?**
3. **In which season were our opponents promoted to the Barclays FA Women's Super League?**
4. **Saturday will mark our final home game for a while – but when will our next game at the Banks's Stadium be?**
5. **Which two Villans celebrate their birthdays next week? (W/C Feb 8th)**

Answers: 1. Nadine Hanssen; 2. The Hive - Barnet 3. 2018/19; 4. 17th March - Brighton 5. Nat Haigh & Jodie Hutton







SIAN ROGERS	1		1	AURORA MIKALSEN (GK)
ASMITA ALE	3		3	SHELINA ZADORSKY
ELLA FRANKLIN-FRAITURE	4		4	JOSIE GREEN (C)
ELISHA N'DOW	5		5	KERYS HARROP
ANITA ASANTE	6		7	GEMMA DAVISON
EMMA FOLLIS	7		8	CHLOE HEPLOW
CHLOË ARTHUR	8		9	RIANNA DEAN
STINE LARSEN	9		10	RACHEL WILLIAMS
RAMONA PETZELBERGER	10		11	CHO SO-HYUN
AMY WEST	11		12	RIA PERCIVAL
JODIE HUTTON	12		14	ANGELA ADDISON
CAROLINE SIEMS	13		15	SIRI WORM
EMILY SYME	14		16	KIT GRAHAM
NATALIE HAIGH	15		17	JESSICA NAZ
OLIVIA MCLOUGHLIN	16		18	ALANNA KENNEDY
SOPHIE HAYWOOD	17		19	LUCY QUINN
DIANA SILVA	19		20	ABBIE MCMANUS
MANA IWABUCHI	20		22	BECKY SPENCER (GK)
MARISA EWERS (C)	21		23	ROSELLA AYANE
SHANIA HAYLES	22		25	HANNAH GODFREY
NADINE HANSSEN	23		29	ASHLEIGH NEVILLE
CHARLOTTE CLARKE	27		32	AMY MARTIN (GK)
LISA WEIß	29		35	ESTHER MORGAN