

Season 2007 / 8 - Podcast 16 Transcript

The Euro 2008 Qualifiers

By Damon Brewster (November 25th, 2007)

Background

The Euro 2008 qualifying games ended last week and the last places were decided. In total, there will be 16 teams in the competition.

England lost at home to Croatia and will not go to Euro 2008.

Pre-Listening - Vocabulary

Match the words on the left with their meanings on the right.

Word	Meaning
1. ____ hatrick	a. very important, vital
2. ____ strike	b. three goals
3. ____ display	c. performance
4. ____ impeccable	d. terrible
5. ____ awful	e. shot
6. ____ crucial	f. perfect, flawless

Listening

A. Listening for Detail

Fill in the blank spaces below.

Damon: We’ve got five, six questions. Let’s start with the first question here: Who was the _____ player for you?

Damian: Well it is _____, of course, to see all the players playing (Sure), but we did see a lot of football though in Languagecaster Towers

Damon: We did.

Damian: I’m going to go _____ David Healey of Northern Ireland. Scored a _____ against Spain, and he scored a total of 13 goals in the qualifiers and he’s the new record _____. Well played to him. How about you?

Damon: For me? James McFadden. Beautiful left-footed strike against France and _____ and _____ on the ball. Very good all round play.

Damon: OK. Second question: What was the most _____ result for you?

Damian: Well, there are a few around there, but I'm going to for France and Scotland in Paris. No-one _____ the Scots to win, but they beat the French one-nil _____ with a great James McFadden goal. What about you? What was yours?

B. Listening for details

Listen to the rest of the report. Answer the questions.

1. What rank does Damon say Cyprus were?
2. What position does Damon say Poland finished in their group?
3. When does Damian say Croatia lost?
4. Which month does Damon say was terrible for England?
5. Did Ireland lose to Cyprus at home or away?
6. What does Damon think should happen to some of England's players?
7. How far did England get in the World Cup under Bobby Robson?
8. Which countries does Damian say are the top four in Europe?

C. Listening for understanding

Listen and make notes in the table.

	Damon's answer	Damian's answer
Who was the best player?		
What was the most surprising result?		
Which team caught your eye?		
What was the biggest moment for your team?		
What next for your team?		
Who is going to win?		

Season 2007 / 8 - Podcast 16 Worksheet Answers

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Pre-Listening - Vocabulary

Match the words on the left with their meanings on the right.

Word	Meaning
1. b hattrick	a. very important, vital
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5. d awful	e. shot
6. a crucial	f. perfect, flawless

Listening

A. Listening for Detail

Fill in the blank spaces below.

Damon: We’ve got five, six questions. Let’s start with the first question here: Who was the **best** player for you?

Damian: Well it is **difficult**, of course, to see all the players playing (Sure), but we did see a lot of football though in Languagecaster Towers

Damon: We did.

Damian: I’m going to go **for** David Healey of Northern Ireland. Scored a **hattrick** against Spain, and he scored a total of 13 goals in the qualifiers and he’s the new record **holder**. Well played to him. How about you?

Damon: For me? James McFadden. Beautiful left-footed strike against France and **imagination** and **confidence** on the ball. Very good all round play.

Damon: OK. Second question: What was the most **surprising** result for you?

Damian: Well, there are a few around there, but I’m going to for France and Scotland in Paris. No-one **expected** the Scots to win, but they beat the French one-nil **away** with a great James McFadden goal. What about you? What was yours?

B. Listening for details

Listen to the rest of the report. Answer the questions.

1. What rank does Damon say Cyprus were? **73rd**
2. What position does Damon say Poland finished in their group? **First / Top (They topped their group)**
3. When does Damian say Croatia lost? **Last Saturday**
4. Which month does Damon say was terrible for England? **October (2006)**
5. Did Ireland lose to Cyprus at home or away? **Away**
6. What does Damon think should happen to some of England’s players? **They should be dropped / get the chop**
7. How far did England get in the World Cup under Bobby Robson? **The semi-finals**
8. Which countries does Damian say are the top four in Europe? **Italy, France, germany Spain**

C. Listening for understanding

Listen and make notes in the table. (answers will vary)

	Damian’s answers	Damon’s answers
Who was the best player?	Healey, scored a hatrick, record holder thirteen goals	McFadden, beautiful left-footed strike against France, imagination, confidence
What was the most surprising result?	France and Scotland in Paris, no-one expected the Scots to win	Cyprus vs Ireland, 5-2, ranked 73rd, sunday league football
Which team caught your eye?	Croatia, impeccable, played the ball so well, dark horses	Poland, qualified for the first time, topped their group, only lost two games

	Damian's answers	Damon's answers
What was the biggest moment for your team?	low moment, Ireland lost 5-2 away to Cyprus	Choosing McClaren, awful October, losing at home in a crucial game
What next for your team?	looking forward to a new manager and a new world cup qualifying campaign	new manager, get the chop, clean the cupboard, under 21s have done pretty well
Who is going to win?	Spain, I always pick 'em	Spain, live up to their promise

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Damon: We've got five, six questions. Let's start with the first question here: Who was the best player for you?

Damian: Well it is difficult, of course, to see all the players playing (Sure), but we did see a lot of football though in Languagecaster Towers

Damon: We did.

Damian: I'm going to go for David Healey of Northern Ireland. Scored a hatrick against Spain, and he scored a total of 13 goals in the qualifiers and he's the new record holder. Well played to him. How about you?

Damon: For me? James McFadden. Beautiful left-footed strike against France and imagination and confidence on the ball. Very good all round play.

Damon: OK. Second question: What was the most surprising result for you?

Damian: Well, there are a few around there, but I'm going to go for France and Scotland in Paris. No-one expected the Scots to win, but they beat the French one-nil away with a great James McFadden goal. What about you? What was yours?

Damon: Well it's got to be Cyprus 5 Republic of Ireland 2, hasn't it. Cyprus ranked 73rd in the world I think, something like that. I mean, 5 goals! That's like Sunday league football. That's a surprise!

Damian: Damon, which team caught your eye during the qualifiers?

Damon: Poland. Qualified for the Euro Championships for the first time. Only lost two games. Topped their group. Beat Portugal. Held them in Portugal. Pretty good all round display, I think. They caught my eye. How about you Damian?

Damian: Well sorry about this mate, but it's going to have to be Croatia. They played the ball so well around, they, you know... Apart from the defeat away in Macedonia last Saturday. I mean they really were impeccable throughout the tournament. They might be some dark horses in the competition in the summer.

Damian: Now, Damon for your team, England, what was the biggest moment for them?

Damon: Well, unfortunately England had many big moments that lead to their downfall. Was it choosing Steve McClaren as the head coach? Was it the awful October they had in 2006 losing to Croatia, drawing to Macedonia? But I think, well, it's fresh in the memory but to lose at home in a crucial game when you only need a draw that's got to be pretty awful and Steve McClaren choosing to change the line-up and to change the formation just, just was unbelievable. Well, that was mine, how about yours, Damian?

Damian: Um, there weren't too many big moments so I'm going to go for a low moment that defined the group for Ireland. they lost 5-2 away to Cyprus. Um, yeah...

Damon: So after the campaign, what next for your team?

Damian: So, I'm looking forward to a new manager and a new world cup qualifying campaign. How about you?

Damon: Me? Well, we'll be looking for a new manager, I'm sure pretty soon. He might, McClaren might have got the chop as we're speaking. And I think some of the players from England should get the chop too. I think it's time to clean the cupboard. Three years now 'till the World Cup. Of course, the world cup qualifiers we've got to get through, but I think it's time for a bit of forward thinking. the under 21s for England have done pretty well. I think it's time some of them were given their chance. Perhaps they won't be afraid of passing the ball, dribbling with the ball, and maybe scoring some goals.

Damian: Um, Bobby Robson didn't get through his first qualifying campaign and ended up taking England to the World Cup semi-final. Does McClaren deserve a second chance.

Damon: No. So, sixteen teams going next summer. Who's going to win?

Damian: Um, you can't really look outside the top four: Italy, France, Germany and Spain. OK, I mentioned Spain. I always pick 'em. They never do it. I'm going to pick 'em again. Spain. How about you?

Damon. Spain. I agree. Spain are going to win it. Finally, they're going to win a big competition. They're going to live up to their promise.