On this day in the past

1974

Poland defeat Brazil 1-0 in the match for third place, with the competition's top scorer Grzegorz Lato netting his seventh goal of the tournament.

Photo by FIFA Archive
Next matches – 6 July

Quarter-final

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Match #</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Referee designation</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Time (LT UTC +3)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>57</td>
<td>06-07-2018</td>
<td>Nestor Pitana (ARG)</td>
<td>Nizhni Novgorod</td>
<td>17:00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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8 previous head-to-heads (click here for full matchlist)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uruguay</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Facts & figures

- The pair have played each other eight times and Uruguay have the superior head-to-head record, with three wins to France’s one, plus four draws. Their first showdown dates back to the Olympic Football Tournament in 1924, when Uruguay ran out 5-1 winners in the quarter-finals before going on to win the gold medal. The last encounter was a friendly held five years ago, which the South Americans won 1-0 courtesy of a goal by Luis Suarez.

- That Suarez strike was also the only goal scored in the last five meetings between the teams. France have not found the net against Uruguay since posting their only win against the South Americans, which ended 2-0 in 1985 after Dominique Rocheteau and Jose Toure had hit the target.

- France and Uruguay have squared up three times in the World Cup, all in the first round. A 2-1 Celeste win in 1966 was followed by two 0-0 draws in 2002 and 2010.

- France are unbeaten in their last four World Cup games, with three wins and a draw. Meanwhile, Uruguay have won four games on the trot, one short of their record winning streak of five matches which they have achieved twice (between 1930 and 1950 and between 1950 and 1954).

- France have reached the quarter-finals for the second consecutive campaign, having been eliminated in this round four years ago at the hands of the eventual champions Germany. By contrast, Uruguay return to the last eight after an eight-year absence.

- Uruguay have won their last four World Cup duels against European opponents. The most recent victory by a UEFA team over Los Charrúas was achieved by Germany, who prevailed 3-2 in 2010. Since that reverse, the Uruguayans overcame England and Italy in 2014, followed by Russia and Portugal in 2018.

- France have accumulated five wins and four draws since their last defeat by South American opponents in the World Cup, 2-1 at the hands of Argentina in 1978. Uruguay are the third South American side to face France in this edition, after Peru and Argentina.

- France won two of the three World Cup games in which they were taken into extra time, compared with a mixed record (2-2) in penalty shoot-outs. Uruguay have only gone beyond regular time once, outsmarting Ghana on penalties in the 2010 quarter-finals.

- This is the second World Cup fixture that Uruguay have contested on 6 July. The first one culminated in a 3-2 semi-final defeat by the Netherlands in 2010.
A total of eight members of the French and Uruguayan squads were involved in the pair’s showdown in the 2013 final of the FIFA U-20 World Cup, which Les Bleus won 4-1 on penalties after a goalless draw. The South Americans fielded Jose Gimenez, Diego Laxalt, Guillermo Varela, Giorgian De Arrascaeta (who missed a penalty) and Gaston Silva who captained the side, while Ruben Bentancur was on the bench. The French line-up included Alphonse Areola, who saved two penalties, as well as Florian Thauvin and Paul Pogba, who was captain and converted the first spot-kick. Samuel Umtiti was suspended.

This will be the 20th World Cup match overseen by Oscar Tabarez, who moves up to joint-fourth in the all-time coaches’ appearance table alongside Bora Milutinovic and Mario Zagallo. The top three are Helmut Schon with 25, Carlos Alberto Parreira on 23 and Luiz Felipe Scolari with 21.

This is also an important game for Didier Deschamps, as it is his tenth World Cup game in charge of France, taking him level with Raymond Domenech (2006-2010) and Michel Hidalgo (1978-1982) at the top of the rankings. Deschamps is the only one of the trio to have qualified Les Bleus for the second stage twice.

The former defensive midfielder made his debut as France coach on 15 August 2012, overseeing a 0-0 draw against current opponents Uruguay. He then faced La Celeste again in June 2013, losing 1-0. On both occasions, Oscar Tabarez was in the opposing dugout.
Quarter-final

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Match #</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Referee designation</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Time (LT) UTC +3</th>
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<tr>
<td>58</td>
<td>06-07-2018</td>
<td>Milorad MAZIC (SRB)</td>
<td>KAZAN</td>
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4 previous head-to-heads (click here for full matchlist)

<table>
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<tr>
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<td>6</td>
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</table>

Facts & figures

- There have already been four showdowns between the pair and Brazil won three, after Belgium prevailed 5-1 in the first one, a friendly held in Brussels in 1963.
- The teams’ last tussle in 2002 was also their only prior engagement in the FIFA World Cup, with A Canarinho triumphing 2-0 in the Round of 16 in Kobe, thanks to second-half strikes from Rivaldo and Ronaldo.
- With their two goals against Mexico taking their tally up to 228, Brazil return to the top of the World Cup’s all-time scoring chart ahead of Germany, who exited this year’s tournament on 226.
- Brazil enter this game on the back of three straight victories (all by the scoreline of 2-0) and have played 310 consecutive minutes without conceding a goal.
- Meanwhile, Belgium are themselves on a four-match winning streak that equals their longest run established in 2014.
- Brazil have qualified for the quarter-finals in every edition since 1994.
- Brazil have been taken beyond 90 minutes seven times in the World Cup. In the three matches that were decided in extra time, their record stands at one victory and two draws (in 1938 and 1954, before the introduction of penalties). A Canarinho have performed similarly well in penalty shoot-outs, with three wins (including in the 1994 Final) and one defeat.
- This is the first time that Belgium have reached the quarter-finals in back-to-back World Cups.
- The Red Devilshave featured in five World Cup games that were decided in extra time, winning two, losing two and drawing one (with England in 1954, before penalty shoot-outs were introduced). They have been involved in only one spot-kick duel, outsmarting Spain in the 1986 quarter-finals.
- Brazil are contesting a World Cup fixture on 6 July for the second time, after losing the Play-Off for Third Place 1-0 to Poland on this day in 1974.
- Belgium have a poor record in seven World Cup encounters with South American opponents, having mustered two wins, one draw and four defeats, including consecutive losses in the last two meetings, against Brazil in the Round of 16 in 2002 (2-0) and Argentina in the 2014 quarter-finals (1-0). The Red Devils’ two victories finished 1-0 over Argentina in 1982 and 3-1 against Uruguay in 1990.
Next matches – 7 July

**Quarter-final**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Match #</th>
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<th>Referee designation</th>
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<th>Time (LT) UTC +3</th>
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<tr>
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<td>07-07-2018</td>
<td>Sandro RICCI (BRA)</td>
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3 previous head-to-heads (click [here](#) for full matchlist)

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<td>1</td>
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**Facts & figures**

- This is the fourth meeting between the pair, who fought out two 0-0 draws in qualifying for the UEFA European Championship 2008, before Croatia earned a 3-1 friendly win in Rostov-on-Don in November 2015, following goals by Fyodor Smolov, Nicola Kalinic, Marcelo Brozovic and Mario Mandzukic.
- Russia return to the quarter-finals for the first time since 1970, when the Soviet Union lost 1-0 to Uruguay.
- Croatia have not reached the last eight for 20 years, having gone all the way to the semi-finals in France 1998, their all-time best placing in the competition.
- Before the game against Spain, Russia had never experienced penalties in a FIFA World Cup™. Playing as the Soviet Union, Russia lost two games after extra time, 1-0 against Uruguay in 1970 and 4-3 against Belgium in 1986.
- The match against Denmark was also Croatia’s first experience of a penalty shoot-out (and extra time) in the global showpiece.
- The Croats are on a four-match unbeaten run in the World Cup, their longest in the competition, consisting of three wins and a draw. The Balkan team have also scored in eight consecutive games, having last drawn a blank in the 0-0 draw with Japan in 2006.
- Croatia face the host team of a World Cup for the third time in five participations. On both previous occasions, the Vatreni were eliminated despite having taken the lead, losing 2-1 to France in the 1998 semi-finals and 3-1 to Brazil in the Opening Match in 2014.
- If Luka Modric plays this game, it will be his 10th World Cup appearance, making him the second-highest-ranked Croat in the event’s appearance ranking, one behind leader Dario Simic and just above Stipe Pletikosa and Mario Stanić who remain on nine.
Sweden - England

Quarter-final

<table>
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<th>Match #</th>
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<td>SAMARA</td>
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23 previous head-to-heads (click here for full matchlist)

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<td>England</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Facts & figures

- This is the 24th meeting between the two sides, who have an even head-to-head record with seven wins apiece and nine draws. Their first encounter was played in Stockholm on 21 May 1923 and won 4-2 by England. The most recent one produced the same result, but in favour of Sweden, and was a friendly match held in Solna on 14 November 2012. Zlatan Ibrahimovic netted all four Swedish goals during that game, the last of which was a spectacular overhead kick from well outside the area.

- This is the first time that the teams have faced each other in the knockout stage of a major competition. In the group round of the UEFA European Championship, the Swedes prevailed 2-1 in 1992, whereas England ran out 3-2 winners in 2012.

- In the FIFA World Cup™ the pair have fought out two draws. The respective scorelines were 1-1 in 2002 (Sol Campbell and Niclas Alexandersson the scorers), when Gareth Southgate was an unused substitute, and 2-2 in 2006 (goals from Joe Cole, Markus Allback with the 200th goal in World Cup history, Steven Gerrard and a 90th-minute Henrik Larsson equaliser). Swedish tactician Sven Goran Eriksson was in the Three Lions’ dugout for both matches.

- Sweden have won back-to-back World Cup fixtures for the first time since 1958, when they overcame the Soviet Union and Germany FR. The Blågult have only recorded three consecutive victories once, between the 1950 and 1958 editions. The Scandinavians also kept clean sheets in their last two games of this campaign.

- The last time Sweden qualified for the quarter-finals was in 1994, when they went on to outsmart Romania on penalties and reach the last four.

- England return to the quarter-finals of a World Cup after losing a penalty shoot-out to Portugal in 2006.

- Sweden have been involved in just one World Cup match that was decided in extra time, losing to Senegal in the Round of 16 in 2002. By contrast, their only experience of a penalty shoot-out ended in victory over Romania in 1994.

- England boast three wins, one draw (in 1954, before the introduction of penalty shoot-outs) and one defeat in games decided in extra time. Against Colombia the Three Lions finally won a World Cup penalty shoot-out at the fourth time of asking, after losing their first three.

- England have already contested one World Cup fixture on 7 July, losing the Play-Off for Third Place 2-1 in 1990 against Italy.

- Gareth Southgate took to the field against Sweden three times as a player but never beat them, playing in a 2-1 defeat in 1998, a 1-1 draw in 2001 and a 1-0 loss in Gothenburg in 2004. In that last game, Southgate won his 57th and final England cap, replacing Jonathan Woodgate at the start of the second half and wearing the captain’s armband for the final half-hour, after Steven Gerrard was substituted.
Metro to Moscow

A 33-stop journey through Russian and Soviet football history as we countdown towards the FIFA World Cup Final at the Luzhniki on July 15th.

9 days to the FINAL

For 9 almost uninterrupted years, the Russian national team were captained by Viktor Onopko. The towering defender, so dominant in the air, rose to fame at Spartak Moscow and then moved to Real Oviedo in Spain. However, he is better remembered for captaining the Sbornaya for long periods of the 1990s and early 2000s. Onopko played 113 times for his country, including five at the FIFA World Cups in 1994 and 2002, with 86 of those appearances as captain!

Russian Football Dictionary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>How to say…</th>
<th>in Russian</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Socks</td>
<td>Гетры / guetry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boots</td>
<td>Бутсы / bootsy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shirt number</td>
<td>Игровой номер / igravoy nomer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
From Russia with Love

Remembering previous participants missing out in this year’s FIFA World Cup

KOREA DPR

FIFA World Cup™ facts & figures

Participations 2 (1966, 2010)
Best achievement Quarter-finals 1966

In 1966, Korea DPR became the first Asian side to progress past the group round, thanks to a shock 1-0 win over Italy.

Korea DPR are one of two Asian teams that have scored three goals in a FIFA World Cup match, in the 5-3 defeat by Portugal in 1966. The other team are Japan, who overpowered Denmark 3-1 in 2010.

The North Koreans encountered Portugal in both the 1966 and 2010 campaigns. The two games yielded a total of 15 goals (5-3 in 1966, 7-0 in 2010) and both ended in defeat for the Chollima.

IRAQ

FIFA World Cup™ facts & figures

Participations 1 (1986)
Best achievement Group stage 1986

The only goal scored by Iraq in the FIFA World Cup was Rahdi Ahmed’s effort in the 2-1 defeat by Belgium, after a red card had reduced the Iraqis to ten men.

Iraq lost all three of their World Cup fixtures by a single-goal margin, going down 1-0 against Paraguay, 2-1 against Belgium and 1-0 against Mexico.

The Iraqis’ meeting with Mexico at the Azteca stadium in Mexico City was one of 17 World Cup matches attended by over 100,000 spectators. A crowd of 103,763 fans watched the hosts’ 1-0 victory on 11 July 1986.

Photo by Central Press/Getty Images & Bob Thomas/Getty Images
Switching Roles

Nine of the coaches competing in Russia 2018 have playing experience in the FIFA World Cup. They will feature in our Stats of the Day together with other players/managers who have shaped the competition’s history.

HENRI MICHEL

A midfielder who spent almost his entire playing career with Nantes, Henri Michel was part of France’s 1978 FIFA World Cup squad and contested two fixtures, against Italy and Argentina. As a coach he has taken part in no fewer than four editions. In 1986 Michel steered France to the semi-finals, where they lost against Germany FR and went on to finish third. He subsequently returned with three different African teams, namely Cameroon in 1994, Morocco in 1998 and Côte d’Ivoire in 2006, but was unable to take any of them beyond the group round.
Football Fashion

Japan in 1998 ...and now

Photo by Magic / imago & Adam Pretty - FIFA/FIFA via Getty Images
Striking snaps from tournaments past

Hugo Sánchez taking an upside-down view of the Azteca Stadium at the 1986 World Cup.

Photo FIFA Archive

Tantalizing World Cup Trivia

Today’s question

Of all the coaches with experience managing in at least one edition, which one scored the most FIFA World Cup™ goals as a player?

⇒ Solution will be revealed in tomorrow’s edition

Yesterday’s solution

Which coaches have contested a semi-final with two different teams?

⇒ Guus Hiddink (the Netherlands in 1998 and Korea Republic in 2002) & Luiz Felipe Scolari (Brazil in 2002 and 2014, Portugal in 2006)
Memorabilia marvel

Designed to showcase the extraordinary history of the FIFA World Cup, the FIFA World Football Museum in Zurich covers all aspects of international football’s rich heritage and shows how the beautiful game connects and inspires the world. With an interactive, multimedia display of exhibits, the museum explores the emotions that football awakens around the world on a daily basis. Exhibition space of more than 3,000 square meters offers a fascinating journey through time. During the 2018 FIFA World Cup Russia™ we are happy to present a few of the many objects.

1958
Tracksuit worn by Pelé during the 1958 World Cup in Sweden

One of the most iconic artefacts in the FIFA Museum is the tracksuit worn by the 17-year old Pelé at the 1958 World Cup in Sweden. Pele was a popular figure during the finals. Wherever he went, he was photographed talking to the locals and in many of those photos he’s wearing this distinctive tracksuit, which doubled as training gear and everyday wear. The Brazilians came prepared for a Northern European summer: the tracksuit was made of wool! Pelé remains one of the most famous players of all-time, but one contribution he made at the finals in Sweden is less well known. Having scored his first World Cup goal in the quarter-final victory over Wales, Pelé then scored a hat-trick in the semi-final against France. But what makes this hat-trick extraordinary is the fact that it was the last scored by a Brazilian at a World Cup. Since then 28 hat-tricks have been scored at the 15 World Cups played, but none of them by a Brazilian!