

The highs and lows of a football legend

1979



June 2, 1979: Aged 18, Maradona makes his name among British football fans by starring for Argentina against Scotland. He scores his first international goal as Argentina conclude their European tour with a 3-1 win at Hampden Park

September 24, 1983: Breaks left ankle in terrible tackle from behind by Andoni Goicoechea, the "Butcher of Bilbao", when playing for Barcelona at the Nou Camp. Barcelona fans storm the Athletic Bilbao team hotel



1983

1986



June 22, 1986: Argentina and England are goalless six minutes into the second half of their World Cup quarter-final in Mexico City when Maradona's left fist beats Peter Shilton, the goalkeeper, to a high ball and sends it into the net. Argentina win 2-1



1986

1987

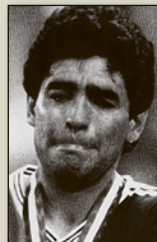


May 10, 1987: Enjoys the best form of his club career when transforming Napoli. They become Italian champions for the first time with a 1-1 draw at home to Fiorentina, and Maradona would lead them to a second title in 1990



1989

1990



July 8, 1990: After Argentina lose the World Cup final 1-0 to West Germany through a late penalty, Maradona is in tears during the medal ceremony and refuses to shake hands with João Havelange, the Fifa president



1991

1993



November 17, 1993: Back to form and full fitness, he captains Argentina to a World Cup play-off victory over Australia, prompting optimism that he will light up the next year's tournament in the United States



1994

June 30, 1994: After impressing in Argentina's opening two World Cup group games, Maradona is kicked out of the tournament for a positive drugs test. His cocktail of substances is designed to improve concentration and physical ability

2004



April 18, 2004: Suffers a heart attack after a cocaine overdose. Spends 11 days in hospital in Buenos Aires, much of the time in intensive care, but he recovers, to the delight of the thousands of fans who besieged the hospital praying for his return to health



2008

October 29, 2008: Despite having almost no managerial experience, it is announced that Maradona will replace Alfio Basile as Argentina coach. His first match in charge will be at Hampden Park on Wednesday

Words: Bill Edgar