



Alex . . . footie pundit

## Warning on Euros trolls rise

By **STEPHEN MOYES**

ENGLAND'S top female footballers face racist and sexist abuse at this year's Euros, experts warn.

Scientists who analyse social media saw a 600 per cent rise in abuse after England lost to Italy in the Euro 2020 final.

And Prof Matthew Williams, of Cardiff University's HateLab, warned "trigger events" would see the trolls pile in. A star like pundit Alex Scott could also be a target.

He said: "Sadly, it will be female players who will be targeted by both racists and misogynists.

"More abuse directed at female presenters combined with the rise of the women's game has created a perfect storm for the Euros this summer."

England hosts the women's tournament in July. Prof Williams has told the FA of concerns.

An FA spokesman said: "We have plans to address online abuse."

