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Celtic Park, 95 Kerrydale Street,
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Celtic v. Dundee Utd.

CELTIC PARK

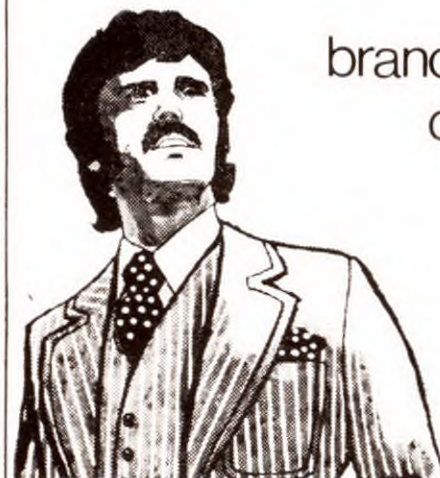
SCOTTISH LEAGUE CUP

Saturday, 17th August, 1974 Kick-off 3.00 p.m.

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JOCK STEIN says...

Today we entertain Dundee United in the match which brings us to the half-way stage in the League Cup sectional games.

The Tannadice team lead the section by one point at present and it is vitally important, therefore, that we secure the points this afternoon.

A lot has happened in the seven days that have elapsed since my programme comments for the opening League Cup match with Motherwell.

As we expected, our match with the Fir Park side was a difficult one and we were pushed all the way to secure both points by the odd goal in three. However, when you consider that we had played a game in Germany in the preceding mid-week it was commendable that the players had raised their game enough to chalk up a victory.

This was followed on Monday last with the Testimonial match for Billy McNeill, when Liverpool supplied the opposition in what turned out to be a tremendously exciting game and a highly emotional night.

Goal

If Liverpool dictated the game in the first half, we more than made up for it in the second period and Paul Wilson's goal was as finely executed a score as we have seen at Celtic Park in a long time.

Much more important for us was the fact that the game saw the return to duty of three of our players, Alistair Hunter, Danny McGrain and George Connelly.

Unfortunately, Alistair Hunter had a most unhappy night at Somerset Park just two nights later when the Ayr side defeated us 3-2 in spite of us



having most of the game and missing chances galore.

Returning to this afternoon's game, we had some very good games with Dundee United last season.

We emerged comfortable winners of our Scottish Cup Final meeting and chalked up a 2-0 win in the League game at Tannadice but our home League match finished in a 3-3 draw.

Dundee United have a mixture of experienced players and half a dozen youngsters and are undefeated so far this season.

Today's game will not be an easy one to win but the players know the importance of the two points at stake and their bid to secure a victory will be a determined one.

Spectators are requested to avoid undue haste in and around the ground and especially when leaving at the end of the match. They are also requested to cooperate with police and stewards in the interest of safety.

●
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TEAMS AND OFFICIAL

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1898, 1905, 1906,
1907, 1908, 1909,
1910, 1914, 1915,
1916, 1917, 1919,
1922, 1926, 1936,
1938, 1954, 1966,
1967, 1968, 1969,
1970, 1971, 1972,
1973, 1974.

Scottish League Cup Winners (7 times)

1957, 1958, 1966,
1967, 1968, 1969,
1970.

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McNEILL
CONNELLY
McCLUSKEY
JOHNSTONE
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HOOD
DEANS
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LENNOX
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S FOR TODAY'S GAME

CELTIC HONOURS

DUNDEE UNITED

ere:
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 (drie)
 smen:
 NAIRN
 (dgate)
 ODGER
 (wick)

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 ROLLAND
 KOPEL
 COPLAND
 SMITH
 NAREY
 KNOX
 GARDNER
 RANKIN
 GRAY
 TRAYNOR
 McDONALD
 PAYNE
 FLEMING

Scottish Cup Winners (23 times)

1892, 1899, 1900,
 1904, 1907, 1908,
 1911, 1912, 1914,
 1923, 1925, 1927,
 1931, 1933, 1937,
 1951, 1954, 1965,
 1967, 1969, 1971,
 1972, 1974.

European Cup 1967.

Coronation Cup 1953.

Empire Exhibition Cup 1938.

SCOREBOARD

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TODAY'S VISITORS

Celtic complete the first half of their League Cup sectional games today with the visit of Dundee United to Celtic Park.

The Tannadice club have been paired with Celtic several times in sectional matches of this tournament, the last of which was in the 1970-71 season.

Four years ago almost to the day, on the fifteenth of August to be exact, the teams produced an excellent match which ended in a 2-2 draw.

Six Celts of the twelve listed for that match are no longer with the Club and even fewer than that number are still on Dundee United's books.

The team line-ups were:—

Celtic—Fallon; Craig and Gemmell; Hay, McNeill and Brogan; Callaghan and Hood; Connelly, Lennox and Hughes. Twelfth man: Wallace.

Dundee United—MacKay; Rolland and Cameron; Markland, Smith and Henry; Wilson and A. Reid; I. Reid; Gordon and Traynor.

Ref.—Mr. W. J. Mullen (Dalkeith)

Callaghan and Lennox were the Celtic marksmen and I. Reid and Gordon scored United's goals.

Determined

Celtic went on to win their section as they have done for the last ten seasons, but the League Cup, which they last won in 1969-70 season, once again escaped them. The Celts who have not won a League Cup medal will be hoping to put that right this season.

Another meeting of the two clubs was on the twelfth of August, 1967, when Celtic displayed the recently won European Cup at the interval.

More than 50,000 fans were attracted to the match which didn't produce the expected Celtic fireworks.

This was due in large measure to the determined defence in depth tactics of the visitors, together with Celtic's finishing, which left a lot to be desired.

In this, Celtic's first home match of the new season, they lined up with all their European Cup men on duty:—

Celtic—Simpson; Craig and Gemmell; Murdoch, McNeill and Clark; Johnstone and Wallace; Chalmers, Auld and Lennox. Hughes was the substitute.

Dundee United—MacKay; T. Miller and Briggs; J. Millar, Smith and Wood; Berg and Gillespie; Hainey; Graham and Wilson. Twelfth man: Mitchell.

Ref.—Mr. A. F. J. Webster (Falkirk)

Non-stop

After almost non-stop Celtic attacking and do-or-die defence by United the game looked like finishing in a goal-less draw when at long last the Tannadice defensive set-up was pierced.

Berty Auld ended the stalemate with an inch-perfect cross on to Jimmy Johnstone's head and although Donald MacKay saved the header, the ball came back to the wee redhead and he made no mistake with his second attempt.



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