



**Scottish Premier
League**

CELTIC
versus
**DUNDEE
UNITED**

CELTIC PARK
SATURDAY DECEMBER 24, 1977
KICK-OFF 3p.m.

PROGRAMME 10p

DOUBLE BLOW FOR CELTS

THE second half of the Premier League programme gets underway this afternoon when Dundee United, Celtic's opponents on the opening day of the season, face Celtic for the third time in the league.

A terrific crowd of 34,000 attended the game at Celtic Park on Saturday August 13 to see Celtic start the defence of their first ever Premier League title.

Neither team could find a way to open up the oppositions defensive strategy and although the game contained a lot of skilful play it lacked the thrills around the goalmouth that makes a good game outstanding.

This game will be remembered particularly by Alfie Conn and Pat Stanton because it was in this encounter that they both came by injuries that resulted in their requiring cartilage operations.

The Alfie Conn injury came at a very bad time for Celtic just as they appeared to be putting their game together.

However, worse was to follow shortly after the interval when Pat Stanton also had to go off with knee trouble and no one could have realised then that he would still be out of action four months later.

With Johnny Doyle and Bobby Lennox substituting for the injured pair Celtic played it with more orthodox wingers than previously as they sought to score a goal.

Celtic really put the pressure on in the last twenty minutes or so but a brilliant Hamish McAlpine in goal for the Tannadice team was equal to everything that was hurled at him.

The teams that day were:—

CELTIC: Latchford; McGrain and Lynch; Stanton, McDonald and Aitken; Glavin and Edvaldsson; Craig; Burns and Conn. Substitutes: Doyle and Lennox.

DUNDEE UNITED: McAlpine; Rolland and Kopel; Fleming; Hegarty and Narey; Sturrock and Wallace; Kirkwood; Addison and Payne. Substitutes Dodds and Smith.

Referee: Mr W. Anderson (East Kilbride).



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We've got to win all our fixtures



WHILE the point has been made that we maintained our unbeaten run against St Mirren at Paisley last Saturday, no-one at Parkhead dwelt on that aspect of the 3-3 draw.

We regarded it as a point lost, for winning is the name of the game for Celtic. That's the important thing when the Premier League positions are studied.

No matter what is happening elsewhere we've got to get back to securing BOTH points in ALL matches. An unbeaten record studded with draws isn't good enough.

A lot of people have "scrubbed" Celts for the championship. It isn't our outlook. This league is still a highly competitive affair, and, after all, the season is only at the halfway stage.

That is not a case of whistling in the dark. Just look back on the ups and downs clubs have experienced in the last two seasons in this competition. There are bound to be more.

However, to take advantage of any slips we've got to be winners ALL THE TIME.

Our opponents at Celtic Park this afternoon, Dundee United, opened the Premier season here . . . and held us to a draw. They are an attractive side with a lot of talent, and manager Jim McLean has them well "schooled" in a style of their own.

We're not anticipating any Santa Claus act from them. We'll have to go at them all the way to make them surrender the points, and set ourselves up for the vital Ne'erday holiday encounters.

JOCK STEIN



SEASON'S GREETINGS

*The Directors, management,
staff and players of
Celtic Football Club wish every fan
a Merry Christmas and a
prosperous and Happy New Year*



CELTIC



FOUNDED 1888

Directors:

Desmond White, C.A.
(Chairman)
Thomas L. Devlin
James M. Farrell,
M.A., LL.B.
Kevin Kelly

Manager:

John Stein, C.B.E.
Address:
Celtic Park,
95 Kerrydale Street,
Glasgow G40 3RE

HONOURS:

League Champions (30 times)

1893, 1894, 1896,
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, 1977.

Cup Winners (25 times)

1892, 1899, 1900,
1904, 1907, 1908,
1911, 1912, 1914,
1923, 1925, 1927,
1931, 1933, 1937,
1951, 1954, 1965,
1967, 1969, 1971,
1972, 1974, 1975,
1977.

League Cup Winners (8 times)

1957, 1958, 1966,
1967, 1968, 1969,
1970, 1975.

Empire Exhibition Cup 1938

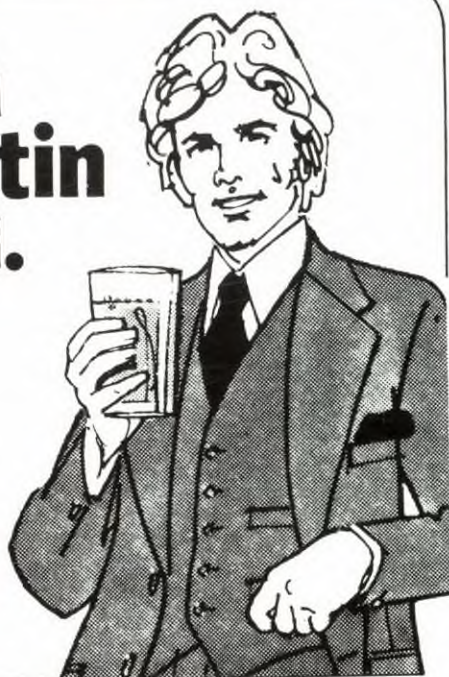
Coronation Cup 1953
European Cup 1967

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Shuggie puts his weight on United



It is the flying Iclander Jo Edvaldsson pressuring the Dundee United goal . . . and Tannadice full back Frank Kopel and 'keeper Hamish McAlpine mirror their anxiety over a near miss.

TODAY'S VISITORS

DUNDEE UNITED LIKE THE PARKHEAD STAGE

DUNDEE UNITED manager Jim McLean rates Celtic as the only club with any chance of catching Premier League leaders, Rangers.

"If Aberdeen lose this week-end to the Ibrox club then no provincial club can catch them. Only Celtic have the resources for that. No club, in my opinion, outwith the Parkhead squad can give Rangers seven or eight points of a start with only half a season to go."

Making that point, of course, doesn't mean he won't have his clever Tannadice outfit motivated to win at Parkhead.

Indeed, he regards Celtic Park with its near-30,000 crowd the ideal stage for his team. There is atmosphere and excitement and his players respond to it.

Tannadice gates he rates "very ordinary". Things looked bright at the start of the season, but he traces the slump from defeats at the hands of Celtic, Aberdeen and Rangers.

"These three results were shattering for us gatewise", he commented.

He believes — and many others agree with him — that his undoubtedly talented side deserve gates well above the 4000 - 5000 mark at Tannadice.

And, of course, smallish gates don't always allow a firm NO when English clubs come along to buy skilful Scots players. It is the tightrope so many clubs have to tread, though United have negotiated it well to date.

But manager McLean recognises that this is likely to become increasingly difficult and admits that some of his players do "require a bigger stage on which to exhibit their skills" to a larger public.

That's why he welcomes a return to Celtic Park for his men.

"We know it won't be easy there. They've

got to be winners all the time now and needless to say we don't like losing."

United have two Gordon Wallaces on their books now. The man who reached them via Dundee (after a spell in USA) is George Gordon Wallace who becomes G. G. Wallace in team lists. The other Gordon Wallace (from Raith Rovers to Tannadice) is G. Wallace in the line-up.

There's no identification problem at the club. G. Wallace is called "Nicholas" by his mates. He was "christened" by Andy Rolland after failing to score from one yard in his first game at Paisley.

"I've heard of the Sale of the Century . . . that was the miss of the century, Nicholas" said Andy alluding to the presenter of the TV programme.

While United players like Paul Sturrock, Graeme Payne and Dave Narey are now too old for the Scotland Under-21 side manager McLean has a couple of first-rate local boys, Billy Kirkwood and Dave Dodds, who have just passed their 19th birthdays.

Their progress through the Tannadice "school" has brought great satisfaction to the team boss and they were in the pool at Parkhead today.

Kirkwood played in midfield against Thistle last Saturday and in midweek was right back in the reserve side against the young Celts. He plays in the side this afternoon.

The advance of Kirkwood, Dodds and others in the Tannadice football "school" represents a lot of hard work on the part of the manager, his backroom staff and the players.

It is understandable if manager McLean wonders on occasion what he has to do to woo the football fans of Dundee. Without them retaining players is difficult.

REMEMBER THESE CELTIC AND UNITED STALWARTS?

Memories . . . this ten-year-old "shot" from a Celtic - Dundee United encounter shows (left to right), Steve Chalmers, Wilson Wood, Jimmy Millar, Jimmy Briggs, Denis Gillespie, keeper McKay and Doug Smith.



TODAY'S TEAMS AND OFFICIALS

CELTIC (from)

PETER LATCHFORD
 JOE FILIPPI
 ANDY LYNCH
 JOHANNES EDVALDSSON
 RODDY McDONALD
 ROY AITKEN
 JOHNNY DOYLE
 RONNIE GLAVIN
 JOE CRAIG
 TOM McADAM
 ALFIE CONN
 PAUL WILSON
 TOMMY BURNS
 JOHN DOWIE

Referee:
 Mr T. MUIRHEAD
 (Stenhousemuir).

Linesmen:
 Mr G. S. BROWN
 (Coatbridge)

Mr J. DUNCAN
 (Gorebridge)



Spectators are requested to take care — particularly leaving the ground after the match.

DUNDEE UNITED (from)

HAMISH McALPINE
 ANDY ROLLAND
 FRANK KOPEL
 ALEX RENNIE
 PAUL HEGARTY
 DAVID NAREY
 PAUL STURROCK
 GORDON G. WALLACE
 BILLY KIRKWOOD
 GEORGE FLEMING
 GRAEME PAYNE
 GORDON WALLACE
 DAVE DODDS
 DEREK ADDISON

HALF-TIME SCOREBOARD

A	ABERDEEN RANGERS	E	ALLOA DUMBARTON	I	HAMILTON STIRLING ALBION	M	BERWICK QUEEN'S PARK
B	HIBERNIAN MOTHERWELL	F	ARBROATH HEARTS	J	MONTROSE ST JOHNSTONE	N	EAST STIRLING FORFAR
C	PARTICK THISTLE AYR UNITED	G	DUNDEE MORTON	K	Q OF SOUTH AIRDRIE	O	RAITH R. DUNFERMLINE
D	ST MIRREN CLYDEBANK	H	EAST FIFE KILMARNOCK	L	ALBION R. FALKIRK	P	STRANRAER CLYDE

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SIDELINES

Celtic View

THE Celtic View will be published through the holiday season. Next week the paper will be on sale on Thursday. The following week publication will be on Friday, January 6. For these two weeks the View will be reduced to eight pages. After that it will be back to normal — 12 pages and on sale on Wednesday.

Casualty corner

CELTIC casualties Danny McGrain and Pat Stanton (out of action since Dundee United played at Parkhead in August) are picking up the training threads. The light ones, of course, but the signs are that early in the New Year they'll be thinking about returning to competitive action. Tommy Burns is expected to be fit again for the holiday programme.

European fixtures

SCOTLAND opens the European Championship campaign with an away match against Austria. The complete fixture list is: 1978 — September 20: Austria v Scotland. October 25: Scotland v Norway. November 29: Portugal v Scotland. 1979 — February 7 — Scotland v Belgium. June 7 — Norway v Scotland. October 17: Scotland v Austria. November 21: Belgium v Scotland. 1980 — February 6: Scotland v Portugal.

Premier League

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Rangers	17	12	3	2	42	19	27
Aberdeen	18	9	4	5	29	19	22
Partick Ths.	17	9	3	5	25	25	21
Dundee Utd.	17	7	5	5	21	13	19
Celtic	16	7	3	6	27	23	17
St. Mirren	17	6	4	7	27	28	16
Hibernian	17	6	2	9	15	18	14
Motherwell ..	18	5	4	9	22	27	14
Ayr Utd.	17	5	3	9	17	30	13
Clydebank	16	2	3	11	10	33	7



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SEPTEMBER

14—JEUNESSE D'ESCH	(H)	5	0
28—Jeunesse d'Esch	(A)	6	1

OCTOBER

19—SSW INNSBRUCK	(H)	2	1
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NOVEMBER

2—SSW Innsbruck	(A)	0	3
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1977 PREMIER LEAGUE

AUGUST

13—DUNDEE UNITED	(H)	0	0
20—Ayr United	(A)	1	2
27—MOTHERWELL	(H)	0	1

SEPTEMBER

10—Rangers	(A)	2	3
17—Aberdeen	(A)	1	2
24—CLYDEBANK	(H)	1	0

OCTOBER

1—HIBERNIAN	(H)	3	1
8—Partick Thistle	(A)	0	1
15—ST. MIRREN	(H)	1	2
22—Dundee United	(A)	2	1
29—AYR UNITED	(H)	3	2

NOVEMBER

5—Motherwell	(A)	3	2
12—RANGERS	(H)	1	1
19—ABERDEEN	(H)	3	2
26—Clydebank	(A)	1	1

DECEMBER

3—Hibernian	(A)	Post.
10—PARTICK THISTLE	(H)	3 0
17—St. Mirren	(A)	3 3
24—DUNDEE UNITED	(H)	
31—Ayr United	(A)	

1978

JANUARY

2—MOTHERWELL	(H)
7—Rangers	(A)
14—Aberdeen	(A)
21—CLYDEBANK	(H)
28—Scottish Cup—3rd round	

FEBRUARY

4—HIBERNIAN	(H)
11—Partick Thistle	(A)

18—Scottish Cup—4th round

25—ST. MIRREN	(H)
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MARCH

4—Dundee United	(A)
11—AYR UNITED	(H)
18—Motherwell	(A)
25—RANGERS	(H)

APRIL

1—ABERDEEN	(H)
8—Clydebank	(A)
15—Hibernian	(A)
22—PARTICK THISTLE	(H)
29—St. Mirren	(A)

LEAGUE CUP

—2nd round

AUGUST

31—MOTHERWELL	(H)	0	0
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SEPTEMBER

3—Motherwell	(A)	4	2
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3rd Round

OCTOBER

5—Stirling Albion	(A)	2	1
26—STIRLING ALBION	(H)	1	1

NOVEMBER Quarter Final

9—St. Mirren	(A)	3	1
16—ST. MIRREN	(H)	2	0

Semi-final

MARCH, 1978

1—Hearts (Hampden)

BIG MATCH DATES

Home Internationals

May 13—Ireland v Scotland
May 17—Scotland v Wales
May 20—Scotland v England

Scottish Cup

April 8—Semi-finals
May 6—Final

European Cup

May 10—Final

RESERVES by JOHN CLARK



SCORING TOUCH IS MISSING

THE reserve squad has been pretty busy with two matches last week and another midweek fixture this week.

We came through that list with one victory and two draws but in the 270 minutes of play we only put away three goals.

It is a nagging problem and one that will be given close attention on the training ground in the search for a remedy.

The team work is pretty good and there has been individual ability shown as well.

But when it comes to putting the ball behind the opposition 'keeper . . . well, things just seem to go wrong.

Consistent scorers have always been worth their weight in gold and a youngster who has the goal flair can be sure of steady employment in football.

We'll plug away at this "problem" though in general things are going fairly well for the young fellows.

They advanced to the next stage of the Second XI Cup against Partick Thistle at Firhill by 2-1 with goals from George McCluskey and Willie Temperley.

Against St Mirren at Parkhead we had the bulk of the play again, but the game ended in a non-scoring draw.



JIM CASEY

True Jim Casey was hurt and the team had to be re-shuffled but that didn't excuse the lack of penetration.

It was substitute John McCluskey (20 minutes from the finish) who salvaged a point for us against Dundee United reserves at Tannadice in midweek. Here again the old finishing fault was in evidence, though the goal we scored for the 1-1 draw was a good one.

But from now on we have to take the goal chances that approach play opens up. Clever leading up work is fine, but there has to be a pay off. Scoring is the name of the game.

HALF-TIME QUIZ

1. Name the League Cup semi-finalists.
2. Which Scottish club plays at Station Park?
3. Name the secretary of the Scottish Football Association.

4. "Six feet two, eyes of blue . . ." Who is he?
5. Who are the current holders of the European Championship?

1. Celtic, Hearts, Rangers, Forfar.
2. Forfar.
3. Ernie Walker.
4. Jim Holton (Coventry City).
5. Czechoslovakia.

ANSWERS

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