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Celtic v. Partick Thistle

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LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP

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JOCK STEIN says...

Any suggestion that there would be ill-effect from the surprising and disappointing defeat in the league at Airdrie has been very quickly answered. Celtic have shown in their two games since that they were willing and eager to make amends.

Both against East Fife in the Cup and at Kilmarnock in the league in midweek Celtic played much more like their real selves. In neither match did the team leave any doubt long before half-time that there would only be one outcome—a Celtic victory. The East Fife defenders were harried into mistakes by the speed and nippiness of our players. The Kilmarnock match was played in very bad overhead conditions and I thought we played remarkably well in the circumstances.

Realistic

The league table now bears a more realistic look, with us having got to within one point of Rangers and still having two games in hand. We can now say very confidently that any team other than ourselves cannot win the championship if we continue to win our matches. In other words, Celtic will lose the title only if we throw it away.

It should be noted that of the 13 fixtures we have left including this



afternoon's against Partick Thistle, only five are away from home—against East Fife, Dundee United, Hearts, Hibernian, and St. Johnstone.

It is pleasing to record that our new goalkeeper, Alistair Hunter, has proved already that he will be an acquisition to the club. He was not troubled very much in either the East Fife or the Kilmarnock game, but he showed that he can go through spells of inactivity and yet maintain his powers of concentration so that his reflexes enable him to bring off valuable saves.

Now we have another newcomer, Andy Lynch from Hearts. This lad is definitely a player of the future. He is only 21 and I have been impressed with him several times when he played for Hearts.

Today we hope not only to score our 6000th league goal but—far more important—we are out to maintain our recent form and beat Partick Thistle, with whom we have had many big-scoring games in recent years. Maybe our eight goals in the last two matches have been scored just at the right time; our players and supporters have a new-found appetite for goals.

CELTIC Honours

Scottish League Champions (27 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.

Scottish Cup Winners (22 times)

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

Scottish League Cup Winners (7 times)

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

European Cup 1967

Coronation Cup 1953

Empire Exhibition Cup 1938

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Thisistle goalkeeper Alan Rough is beaten during the 1971-72 League Cup final at Hampden but no goal resulted. Kenny Dalglish, Lou Macari, Alec Forsyth (Thisistle) on ground between them and Jackie Campbell (Thisistle) are prominent to the right of Rough.

CELTIC AND THISTLE PRODUCE THE GOALS

If it's goals you wish to see go to a Celtic v. Partick Thistle match. That seems to be the lesson to be learned from a study of the results of many of the games between the clubs.

If, for instance, you consider the Scottish League matches between Celtic and Thistle since the war you will find that they have played 25 at Celtic Park and scored an aggregate of 91, of which Celtic have scored 60. The 26 games at Firhill have produced 107 goals, of which Celtic have scored 65.

You will also discover that in only eight of those 51 matches (four at Parkhead and four at Firhill) have Celtic failed to score. Only in 10 of the 51 have Partick Thistle failed to score,

There has been only one no-scoring draw (in season 1954-55).

Scoring goals is one of the principal answers to the problem of how to attract the crowds back to football or how to keep them as spectators. Those who have watched the last seven games (in all competitions) between the clubs have seen the following results (Celtic goals first):-

- Dec. 1969 — 8-1 League
(Celtic Park)
Feb. 1970 — 5-1 League (Firhill)
Mar. 1970 — 4-3 Glasgow Cup
(Firhill)
Oct. 1971 — 1-4 League Cup
(Hampden)
Nov. 1971 — 5-1 League (Firhill)
Apr. 1972 — 3-1 League
(Celtic Park)
Oct. 1972 — 4-0 League (Firhill)

The average goals per game has been almost six!

The December, 1969, match has been the highest-scoring Celtic-Thistle game for a long time. Many of those who took part in it are no longer with one or other of the clubs. Some have retired from the playing scene, including Davie McParland,

now Thistle's manager. The teams were:—

Celtic—Williams; Craig, Hay; Murdoch, McNeill, Brogan; Johnstone, Hood, Wallace, Auld, Hughes. Sub. Lennox.

Partick Thistle—Ritchie; Campbell, Holt; Johnston, McKinnon, Hansen; Rae (T), Smith, Bone, Flanagan, Duncan. Sub. Gray.

The scorers were John Hughes (3), Willie Wallace (2), Bertie Auld, Billy McNeill and Jackie Campbell (own goal) and Charlie Smith. Wallace's second goal (from a penalty kick), was his 100th for Celtic. His first goal for Celtic, a few days after he was transferred from Hearts in December 1966, was against Thistle in a league game that month which Celtic won 6-2.

Thistle's last win at Parkhead

Thistle's last success against Celtic in the league was in April 1965 just over a month after Jock Stein became Celtic's manager. Goals by Tommy Gibb and Joe Hogan to one from Steve Chalmers gave the visitors a 2-1 win. The teams were:—

Celtic—Fallon; Young, Kennedy; Murdoch, McNeill, Clark, Johnstone, Lennox, Chalmers, Auld, Hughes.

Partick Thistle—Gray; Campbell, Muir; Gibb, Harvey, Cunningham; Cowan, Hainey, Hogan, Ewing, McParland.

Thistle became members of the first division in 1902 and have missed only one season in the top league since. That was when they were relegated at the end of 1969-70. Their best performances in the top division have been third in 1947-48, 1953-54 and 1962-63.

PLAYERS & OFFICIALS

CELTIC

(from)

HUNTER
 McGRAIN
 QUINN
 MURDOCH
 McNEILL
 CONNELLY
 JOHNSTONE
 DALGLISH
 DEANS
 CALLAGHAN
 LENNOX
 HOOD
 LYNCH

Referee:

I. D. M. FOOTE
 (Glasgow)

Linesmen:

I. A. MUNRO
 (Glasgow)

J. PROCTOR
 (Cambuslang)

PARTICK TH.

(from)

ROUGH
 HANSEN
 GRAY
 RALSTON
 GLAVIN
 CAMPBELL
 STRACHAN
 McQUADE
 COULSTON
 CHALMERS
 CRAIG
 RAE (A)
 LAWRIE
 GIBSON

QUIZ ON PARTICK THISTLE

1. Which of the players who took part in last season's League Cup final have since been transferred?

2. A former Partick Thistle chairman played International football when he was a player for the Firhill club. Who was he?

3. Name two former Celtic forwards besides Steve Chalmers who have also played for Partick Thistle in recent years.

4. Two Partick Thistle goalkeepers were capped as Thistle players and when they played in England. Who were they and which of the two had the more International appearances for Scotland?

5. Who were Thistle's opponents in the semi-final before they beat Celtic in last season's League Cup final?

6. A famous Celtic player was in the Thistle team who beat Rangers in the 1921 Scottish Cup final. Who was he?

7. Did either of these well-known Thistle outside lefts, Willie Salisbury and Johnny Torbet, play for Scotland?

8. Scotland took only 13 players to take part in the 1954 World Cup in Switzerland. Three were from Celtic and two from Partick Thistle. Who were they?

9. Who is the former Partick Thistle player who is manager of a second division club in Scotland?

10. Which club was relegated along with Partick Thistle in 1970?

(Answers on page 9)

FIRST DIVISION TABLE

	P	W	D	GOALS			PTS.
				L	F	A	
Rangers	28	16	3	4	46	21	35
Celtic	21	16	2	3	58	22	34
Hibernian	21	14	3	4	54	21	31
Dundee United	22	13	1	8	41	36	27
Aberdeen	21	10	6	5	41	26	26
Dundee	22	10	6	6	38	26	26
Hearts	22	11	3	8	33	30	25
Ayr United	23	9	6	8	32	40	24
East Fife	23	10	2	11	34	39	22
Motherwell	22	7	6	9	26	34	20
St. Johnstone	20	6	7	7	33	36	19
Falkirk	22	5	9	8	28	38	19
Partick Thistle	23	8	2	13	30	38	18
Arbroath	23	6	5	12	29	43	17
Morton	20	5	6	9	28	34	16
Dumbarton	22	3	8	11	26	42	14
Kilmarnock	23	4	4	15	24	52	12
Airdrieonians	21	2	5	14	21	44	9

THE CELTIC SEASON SO FAR

FIRST TEAM LEAGUE CUP

			F	A
Aug.	12	(a) Stirling Albion	3	0
"	16	(h) East Fife	1	1
"	19	(a) Arbroath	5	0
"	23	(a) East Fife	3	2
"	26	(h) Stirling Albion	3	0
"	28	(h) Arbroath (at Hampden)	3	3
Sept.	20	(a) Stranraer	2	1
Oct.	4	(h) Stranraer (second round)	5	2
Oct.	11	(a) Dundee	0	1
Nov.	1	(h) Dundee	3	2
		after extra time		
Nov.	20	(h) Dundee (quarter-final)	4	1
"	27	(h) Aberdeen (Semi-final)	3	2
Dec.	9	(h) Hibernian (Final)	1	2

SCOTTISH LEAGUE

Sept.	2	(h) Kilmarnock (at Hampden)	6	2
"	9	(a) Morton	2	0
"	16	(h) Rangers (at Hampden)	3	1
"	23	(a) Dundee	0	2
"	30	(h) Ayr United	1	0
Oct.	7	(h) Airdrieonians	1	1
"	14	(a) Partick Thistle	4	0
"	21	(h) East Fife	3	0
"	28	(a) Aberdeen	3	2
Nov.	4	(h) Dundee United	3	1
"	11	(a) Motherwell	5	0
"	18	(h) Hearts	4	2
"	25	(a) Falkirk	3	2
Dec.	2	(a) Dumbarton	6	1
"	16	(a) Arbroath	2	1
Dec.	23	(h) Hibernian	1	1
1973				
Jan.	6	(a) Rangers	1	2
"	13	(h) Dundee	2	1
"	13	(a) Ayr United	3	1
"	27	(a) Airdrieonians	1	2
Feb.	7	(a) Kilmarnock	4	0

SCOTTISH CUP

Feb.	3	(h) East Fife (third round)	4	1
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EUROPEAN CUP

Sept.	13	(h) Rosenborg (at Hampden)	2	1
"	27	(a) Rosenborg (first round)	3	1
Oct.	25	(h) Ujpest Doza	2	1
Nov.	8	(a) Ujpest Doza (second round)	0	3

SCORERS

30—Dalglish
20—Deans
14—Hood
10—Macari
7—Lennox, Johnstone
6—Murdoch (5 pen.)
3—McCluskey
2—Davidson (V), Callaghan
1—Hay
3—own goal (Cargill, Arbroath, McCallum, Motherwell, Cushley, Dumbarton)

RESERVES LEAGUE CUP

Aug.	12	(h) Airdrieonians	1	1
"	14	(h) Ayr United	4	1
"	19	(h) Motherwell	2	3
"	24	(a) Ayr United	3	2
"	26	(a) Airdrieonians	8	1
"	30	(a) Motherwell	1	2

2ND ELEVEN CUP

Oct.	9	(a) Motherwell (first round)	2	0
"	21	(h) Clyde (second round)	2	0

LEAGUE

Aug.	22	(h) Dumbarton	4	0
Sept.	2	(a) Kilmarnock	2	3
"	15	(a) Rangers	3	1
"	23	(h) Dundee	3	2
"	30	(a) Ayr United	2	1
Oct.	6	(a) Airdrieonians	3	1
"	11	(h) Partick Thistle	5	6
"	17	(h) Falkirk	4	1
"	21	(a) East Fife	1	0
"	28	(h) Aberdeen	3	1
Nov.	2	(a) Dundee Utd.	2	2
"	18	(a) Hearts	2	2
"	28	(h) Ayr United	2	3
Dec.	20	(a) Morton	1	2
Dec.	23	(a) Hibernian	0	3
"	26	(h) Kilmarnock	2	1
1973				
Jan.	3	(h) Morton	3	2
"	6	(h) Rangers	2	0
"	10	(a) Dundee	4	0
"	31	(a) Partick Thistle	2	5

SCORERS

12—Davidson (V)
10—Hood
7—White, Hancock, Wilson, McLaughlin
6—Lennox
3—Franchetti, McNamara
2—Deans, O'Hara, Macari
1—Balmer, Johnstone, McCluskey, McGrain, "Junior"

Good Omen in Scottish Cup

The fourth-round tie at Fir Park a fortnight today will be the fourteenth pairing of Celtic and Motherwell in the Scottish Cup. Celtic have won 11 of the previous ties and Motherwell 2, both at Fir Park. The results of the previous ties have been (Celtic goals first) :—

1913-14	3-1	3rd round (Fir Park)
22-23	2-0	Semi-final (Hampden)
27-28	2-0	4th round (Fir Park)
28-29	2-1	4th round (Fir Park) (after 0-0)
30-31	4-2	Final (Hampden) (after 2-2)
31-32	0-2	3rd round (Fir Park)
32-33	1-0	Final (Hampden)
36-37	2-1	4th round (Fir Park) (after 4-4)

38-39	1-3	4th round (Fir Park)
47-48	1-0	3rd round (Celtic Park)
50-51	1-0	Final (Hampden)
53-54	3-1	Semi-final (Hampden) (after 2-2)
64-65	3-0	Semi-final (Hampden) (after 2-2)

This will also be the fifth time Celtic have been drawn against Motherwell after having beaten East Fife in a previous round. Celtic beat East Fife in 1922-23, 1930-31, 1936-37, and 1950-51 before they won the Cup. So being paired with Motherwell after East Fife this season is a good omen.

Motherwell were the first opponents Celtic had in the Cup after Jock Stein became the Parkhead manager. That was in the semi-final of 1965.

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Answers to Quiz

1. Forsyth and Bone (Partick Thistle) Gemmell, Craig, substitute, and Macari. (Celtic).
2. James Kinloch.
3. Joe McBride, John Divers.
4. Kenny Campbell, Joe Jackson. Neither — both had eight full caps.
5. Falkirk, whom they beat 2-0.
6. Jimmy McMenemy.
7. No.
8. Bobby Evans, Willie Fernie, Neil Mochan (Celtic) and Jimmy Davidson and Johnny MacKenzie (Thistle).
9. Dan McLindon (Alloa).
10. Raith Rovers.

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E FALKIRK ABERDEEN		M LIVERPOOL ARSENAL	
F HEARTS DUNDEE UNITED		N MANCHESTER UNITED WOLVERHAMPTON W.	
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