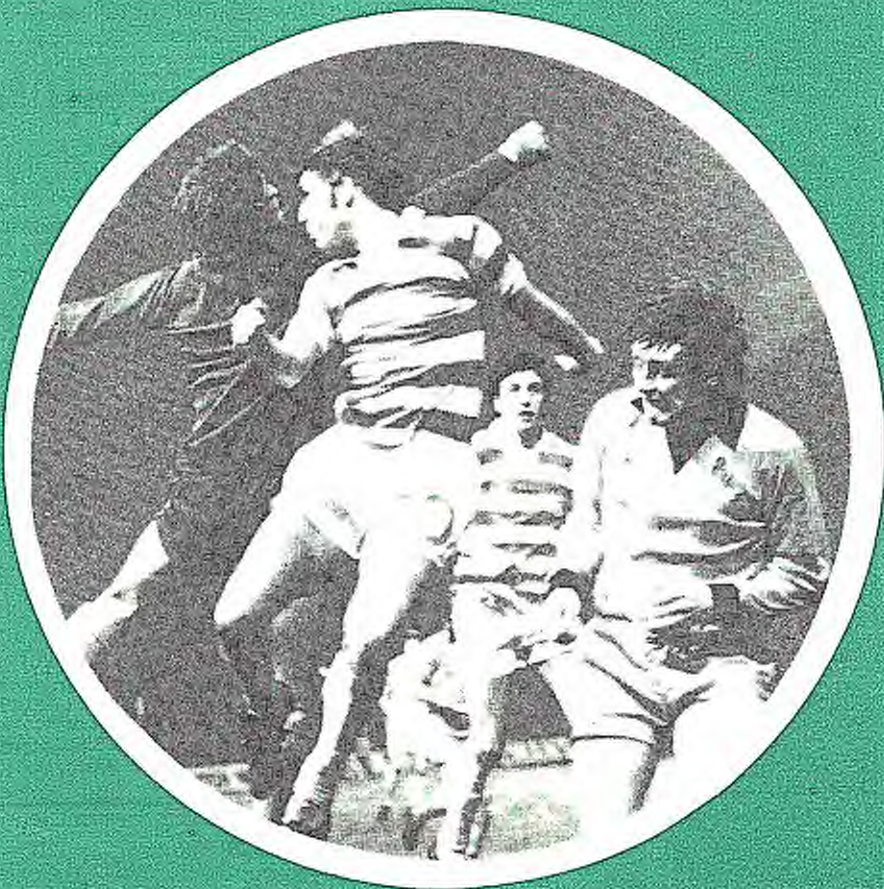


SCOTTISH PREMIER LEAGUE
Saturday, 26th March, 1977



Celtic v Dundee United

KICK-OFF 3 p.m.

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME 10p

DOYLE GOAL DECIDED TANNADICE THRILLER

TODAY'S visitors, Dundee United, remain Celtic's closest challengers in the last lap of the Premier League title race.

The Tannadice Park side fell away slightly during the winter months after a terrific start to the league campaign at the start of the season. However, having won their last three games against Aberdeen (twice) and Hibernian, the Tayside team visit Celtic Park knowing that a victory will bring them to within catching distance of Celtic.

In the first meeting at Tannadice on September 11 Dundee United won by the only goal of the game but it was a different story when the two teams clashed at Celtic Park on Wednesday, October 20. On that occasion Celtic with goals from Ronnie Glavin (3), Joe Craig and Bobby Lennox, really went to town and won the game by 5 goals to one. Paul Sturrock got the consolation goal for a United team that had played some excellent football and didn't really deserve to lose quite so heavily.

When Celtic made the return to Tannadice on January 8 of this year they got revenge for their earlier defeat in a game that still stands as one of the best of the season so far.

In an all-action first half, with play surging from end to end, the only goal was scored by Kenny Dalglish with a brilliant shot from outside the penalty box.

Early in the second half Kenny Dalglish missed from the penalty spot and the 'life'

seemed to spur United on to greater efforts.

A defensive mix-up in the Celtic goal-mouth allowed Tom McAdam all the time in the world to head home an equaliser and Celtic seemed to be in serious trouble.

However with the game swinging from end to end and hanging in the balance it was Johnny Doyle who moved on to a Paul Wilson pass to place the ball past Hamish McAlpine for the winning goal.

Looking back a few years we discovered another occasion on which Dundee United came to Celtic Park lying in second place in the league. The game was on November 4, 1972 and with nine league games played Celtic were on top with 15 points and United were in second place just one point worse off.

The teams on that Saturday afternoon were:-

Celtic: Williams; Hay and Brogan; Connelly, McNeill and McCluskey; Johnstone and Dalglish; Deans; Macari and Callaghan. Twelfth man: Hood.

Dundee United: McAlpine; Rolland and Kopel; Copeland, D. Smith and Henry; Traynor and Fleming; K. Cameron, Gardner and White. Twelfth man W. Smith.

Referee: Mr A. F. J. Webster (Falkirk).

Celtic, with goals from Jimmy Johnstone, Kenny Dalglish and Lou Macari won the game by 3-1. Pat Gardner scored the goal for the visitors.

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THIS ONE CAN POINT TO TITLE WINNERS



WHEN you reach this part of the Scottish football season and are playing important games with challengers for the Premier League championship you expect them to be with clubs like Rangers or Aberdeen or possibly Hibernian.

This afternoon it is with Dundee United. And let it be said straight away they are in their challenging position on merit. This is no flash in the pan show.

I REGARD IT AS A GAME TO GO A LONG WAY TOWARDS DECIDING WHO WILL WIN THE TITLE.

After all they are our nearest challengers. And while we have a game in hand to lose this one would take away that small "cushion".

Of course, there are still matches to go (nine in our case, eight in United's) after today, but one cannot rely on events elsewhere.

We've got to do it ourselves. We've got to play as well as we did in our last two games but finish better and tighten a little at the back. We should have had things sewn up against Motherwell and Rangers, but got a little careless in defence.

Peter Latchford missed today's match, but if the crowd get behind goalkeeping stand-in Roy Baines and give him some encouragement he won't let down the team or the support.

I hope we can get on top of United much more quickly than we did at our last Parkhead match — even though we did win 5-1. Despite scoring an early goal it took us a long time to subdue them.

We'll have our work cut out this afternoon to get the result we want. But get it we must if we are to fulfill the ambition of title-winning that has been with us since the first game of the campaign.

United haven't been beaten since we played them in January at Tannadice and their form since then commands the highest respect. They will get that from the Celtic side, though we'll not be altering our attitude to the task. **JOCK STEIN**

CELTIC



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Kevin Kelly

Manager:

John Stein, C.B.E.

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HONOURS:

League Champions (29 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.

Cup Winners (24 times)

1892, 1899, 1900,
1904, 1907, 1908,
1911, 1912, 1914,
1923, 1925, 1927,
1931, 1933, 1937,
1951, 1954, 1965,
1967, 1968, 1971,
1972, 1974, 1975.

League Cup Winners (8 times)

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

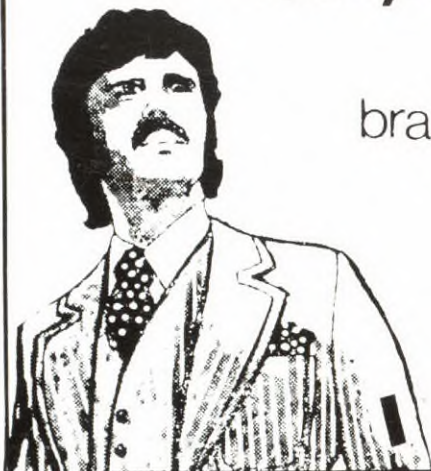
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European Cup 1967



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JOE BEATS THE BARRIER



Celtic centre Joe Craig evades the last link in a four man Dundee United defence screen at Parkhead to get away a shot at goal.

TODAY'S VISITORS

UNITED HAVE THEIR "SECOND WIND" NOW

MANAGER JIM McLean brings his clever Dundee United squad to Parkhead this afternoon a mere three points behind table-topping Celtic, the result of a ten-match run without defeat.

So it would look as if the Tannadice boys have got their "second wind" for the run in to the highly-competitive and exciting Premier League championship of 1976-77.

When they last visited Celtic Park (in October) United were top of the table and Celtic in second spot, and while the Parkhead squad romped home by 5-1 (including a hat-trick from Ronnie Glavin) no United supporter would agree that there were four goals between the sides.

And certainly Celtic fans were taken by the play of Jim McLean's team. Indeed Celtic boss Jock Stein paid tribute to the United squad. "They revealed a high degree of skill and showed they were in no false position at the top of the table", he commented.

United didn't quite hold on to the top spot and cynics were quick to see their early season successes as a flash in the pan.

Celtic's manager didn't feel that way about them. Early this year after winning 2-1 at Tannadice he was making this observation about United: "They are a well-organised, entertaining team that will cause problems to lots of sides."

United have justified that comment. "We haven't been beaten since that match", said manager Jim McLean.

That was ten fixtures back and United hope to set Celts plenty of problems this afternoon.

Their manager looks back on the last meeting of the clubs with jaundiced eyes. For he still feels that the result line did not reflect the pattern of the game and the part United played in it.

However, he's a resilient character. That's a quality that is vitally necessary at Tannadice where winning fans is as tough as selling sand in the Sahara.

"We've just to keep battling away at that though it is hard to take at times," he says ruefully.

This week United gained a sponsor. A contract has been signed with an international sports equipment firm. It starts from next season.

Was the step taken because of falling attendances at Tannadice — despite splendid efforts and play? "Not at all", says manager McLean. "Even though we had been getting economic crowds we would still have accepted the sponsorship. Football needs all the money it can get.

"Mark you sponsorship cash, however welcome, doesn't bring atmosphere. That is created by fans. You've got to have crowds for bringing the best out in players."

Yet despite the frustration of meagre gates, here's United still challenging for the title and turning away English clubs who want to grab the youthful talent that has been developed by manager McLean.

It is a dilemma that has faced Scottish clubs often enough though not in the

same sharp or extensive manner that perplexes United. Andy Gray's success with Aston Villa has increased English pressure, but all credit to United for standing firm. . . thus far.

The skills of the young men at Tannadice have been recognised by Scotland manager Willie Ormond. He has three of them in the Under-21 squad selected for the European tie in Berne next week with Switzerland.

It is the largest club representation in the squad and the naming of their big defender Dave Narey, the always busy and imaginative midfield flyweight Graeme Payne and striker Paul Sturrock is a tribute to United that the public of Dundee don't acknowledge with their presence at matches.

If Dundee doesn't rate United a big attraction a lot of other centres fancy them. Celtic Park does. That's why manager Jock Stein anticipates a pretty stiff examination today.

HAMISH McALPINE who skips the side from goal also gets very heavily

involved in a critical stage of the outfield play. HE'S THE CLUB'S PENALTY KICK EXPERT.

BILLY WILLIAMSON who was transferred recently from Aberdeen at a modest fee by the cash standards of 1977, has fitted snugly into the defensive formation which has the experienced ANDY ROLLAND as his full back partner flanking central defenders NAREY and WALTER SMITH.

The midfield of GEORGE FLEMING, DOUG HOUSTON and the alert and clever PAYNE can hold its own with the best in the country and the striking force of STURROCK, PAUL HEGARTY and TOM McADAM is dangerous on the ground and in the air.

Proven players who make up the pool are FRANK KOPEL, ALEXRENNIE and WILLIE WALLACE and they provide "cover" in every department of the side.

Despite the sell-to-survive situation which may come to United — later than sooner, it is hoped — their ambition to capture prizes hasn't been dimmed one whit.

"ONE EACH AT HALF TIME!"
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TODAY'S TEAMS

CELTIC

ROY BAINES
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 TOMMY BURNS
 ANDY LYNCH
 PAT STANTON
 JO EDVALDSSON
 RODDY McDONALD
 ROY AITKEN
 JOHNNY DOYLE
 RONNIE GLAVIN
 JOE CRAIG
 KENNY DALGLISH
 ALFIE CONN
 PAUL WILSON

Ref
 Mr E. H. ...
 (Edin)
 Lines
 Mr J. H. B. ...
 (Pai)
 Mr J. C. M. ...
 (Pai)



Spectators are
 care — particu
 ground after

HALF-TIME S

A	ABERDEEN AYR UNITED		E	AIRDRIE DUMBARTON	
B	HIBERNIAN MOTHERWELL		F	CLYDEBANK Q.O.S.	
C	KILMARNOCK RANGERS		G	DUNDEE ARBROATH	
D	PARTICK TH. HEARTS		H	EAST FIFE ST. JOHNSTONE	

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 GEORGE FLEMING
 WALTER SMITH
 DAVE NAREY
 PAUL STURROCK
 DOUG HOUSTON
 PAUL HEGARTY
 TOM McADAM
 GRAEME PAYNE
 FRANK KOPEL
 ALEX RENNIE
 GORDON WALLACE

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SIDELINES

Injured Celts improving

INJURED Celts Roddy McDonald and Andy Lynch (who was also hit by the 'flu bug) are improving. They had a chance of playing in today's match, and the team selection was held until late in the week.

Peter Latchford, injured at Ibrox last week, has the plaster removed from his damaged ankle this week-end. After that there will be assessment of how long it will require to make him 100 per cent. The big Englishman is hoping for a quick return.

Celtic's two conquerors

ONLY Dundee United and Aberdeen have beaten Celts in Premier League games this season. The Dons have two victories and one draw from three games against the Parkhead men, scoring two goals on each occasion.

This is the sixth meeting of Celts and United. There were two League Cup ties and this is the fourth fixture in the Premier Division. Of the five games played Celts have won 3, lost one and drawn one.

It's 50-50 Celts during March

IN THE four League games to date this month, Celtic have a 50-50 record . . . four points from the eight at stake. However, manager Jock Stein hasn't been disappointed in the overall quality of the team's play though expressing the view that results-wise things should have been better.



Let's face it . . .

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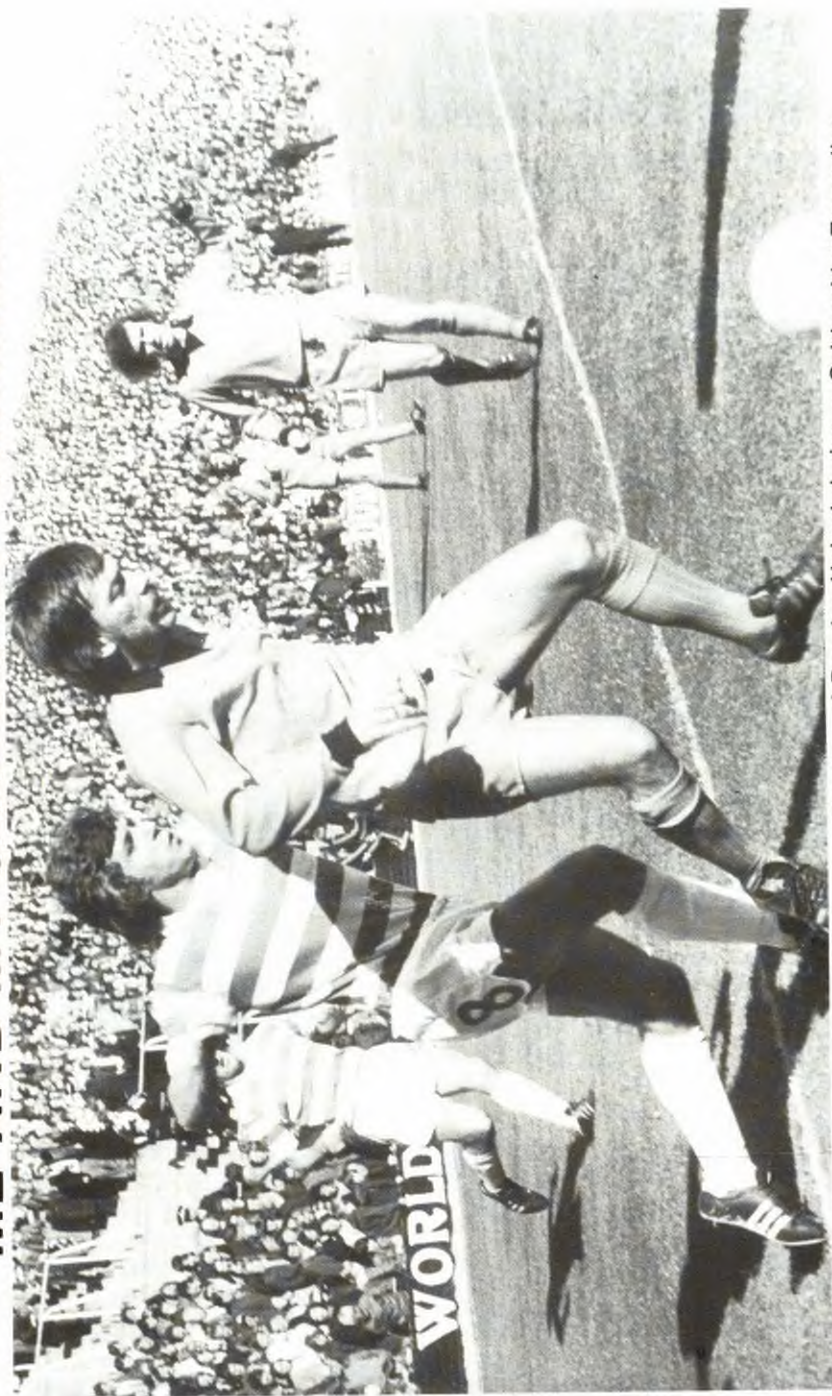
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ME AND MY SHADOW AT TANNADICE



Ronnie Glavin stays close with George Fleming of Dundee United during a Celtic raid at Tannadice.

"PREMIER" SEASON FIXTURES

1976

JULY

30—Inverness Thistle (A) 6 2

AUGUST

2—Ross County (A) 4 0

7—PENAROL (H) 3 0

GLASGOW CUP (1975-76 final)

AUGUST

10—RANGERS (H) 1 3

CHALLENGE MATCH

NOVEMBER

14—IPSWICH TOWN (H) 1 2

LEAGUE CUP

AUGUST

14—Dundee United (A) 1 0

18—DUMBARTON (H) 3 0

21—Arbroath (A) 5 0

25—Dumbarton (A) 3 3

28—ARBROATH (H) 2 1

SEPTEMBER

1—DUNDEE UNITED (H) 1 1

22—Albion Rovers (Q-Final) ... (A) 1 0

OCTOBER

6—ALBION ROVERS (Q-F) ... (H) 5 0

25—HEARTS (Hampden, S-Final) . 2 1

NOVEMBER

6—ABERDEEN (Hampden, Final) 1 2

UEFA CUP

SEPTEMBER

15—GKS WISLA KRAKOW ... (H) 2 2

29—GKS Wisla Krakow (A) 0 2

SCOTTISH CUP

Third Round

JANUARY

29—Airdrie (A) 1 1

FEBRUARY

2—AIRDRIE (replay) (H) 5 0

Fourth Round

27—AYR UNITED (H) 1 1

MARCH

2—Ayr United (Replay) (A) 3 1

Fifth Round

13—QUEEN OF SOUTH (H) 5 1

PREMIER LEAGUE

SEPTEMBER

4—RANGERS (H) 2 2

11—Dundee United (A) 0 1

18—HEARTS (H) 2 2

25—Kilmarnock (A) 4 0

OCTOBER

2—HIBERNIAN (H) 1 1

16—Ayr United (A) 2 0

20—DUNDEE UNITED (H) 5 1

23—Aberdeen (A) 1 2

30—MOTHERWELL (H) 2 0

NOVEMBER

20—Hearts (A) 4 3

24—Rangers (A) 1 0

27—KILMARNOCK (H) 2 0

DECEMBER

4—Hibernian (A) post.

18—AYR UNITED (H) 3 0

26—ABERDEEN (H) 2 2

1977

JANUARY

1—Motherwell (A) post

3—RANGERS (H) 1 0

8—Dundee United (A) 2 1

22—Kilmarnock (A) 3 1

FEBRUARY

5—HIBERNIAN (H) 4 2

7—HEARTS (H) 5 1

12—PARTICK THISTLE (H) 2 0

19—Ayr United (A) 4 2

22—Partick Thistle (A) 4 2

MARCH

5—Aberdeen (A) 0 2

9—PARTICK THISTLE (H) 2 1

16—MOTHERWELL 2 2

19—Rangers (A) 2 2

26—DUNDEE UNITED (H)

APRIL

2—Hearts (A)

9—KILMARNOCK (H)

13—Motherwell (A)

16—Hibernian (A)

20—ABERDEEN (H)

23—Partick Thistle (A)

30—AYR UNITED (H)

RESERVES by JOHN CLARK



DECISION TIME ON STAFFING IS HERE

THE END of the season looms and while we have a number of fixtures to fulfil the major consideration is the decision about staffing of the reserve side.

There are positions we have to improve on. Everyone has had a fair show and plenty of games. Now is the time for decision.

The basic thing about a reserve side is that you get players who will improve after a couple of years. Yet it is part and parcel of the system that a great many do not make the grade and they have to move on.

The aim is to get a few players of the right kind for the club every year to sustain the flow to the first team squad.

Our staff can hardly say they haven't had a chance to make the grade, but now other players must come under consideration and be given an opportunity to show their paces.

In our last two games we've scored five goals, but only got one point. The match with Queen of the South was a thriller which finished 4-4 after we'd been 3-1 down.

Defensive slackness caused that position, and the same complaint plus failure to put away scoring chances saw us beaten 3-1 by Dundee in midweek.

Next week three games are scheduled for Parkhead — Clydebank (Monday), Airdrie (Wednesday) and St. Mirren (Saturday).

HALF-TIME QUIZ

1. Name the five Celtic and Dundee United players in the Scotland Under-21 squad.
2. Who is to referee the Scottish Cup final on May 7?
3. Which Scottish 'keeper takes his team's penalty kicks?
4. Name the American boxer who defeated British heavyweight champion Joe Bugner this week.
5. Who scored Celtic's goals against Dundee United on January 8 at Tannadice?

- ANSWERS
1. Aitken, Burns (Celtic), Narey, Payne, Sturrock (Dundee United).
 2. Mr R. Valentine (Dundee).
 3. McAlpine (Dundee United).
 4. Ron Lyle.
 5. Dalglish and Doyle.

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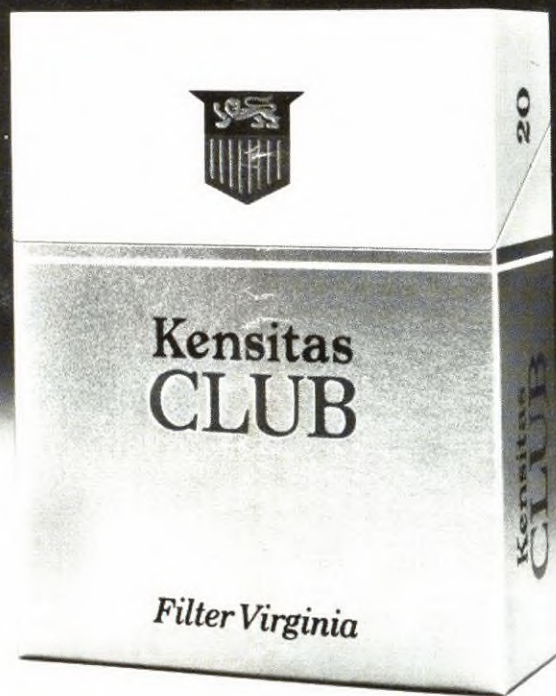
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