

# Celtic

**V ABERDEEN**

**PREMIER DIVISION  
SATURDAY SEP 4  
1993. KICK-OFF 3PM**

**INSIDE**

**COLOUR SPECIAL  
ON CUP THRILLER**

**Plus++Plus++Plus**



**RUDI  
VATA**



**PAUL  
MCSTAY**



**UMBRO**  
OFFICIAL KIT SPONSORS

**OFFICIAL PROGRAMME £1**





# Club Directory

**Chairman – Kevin Kelly, Deputy Chairman – David D Smith,  
Directors – Chris White, Michael Kelly,  
John C McGinn, Thomas Grant, James Farrell**

**CLUB ADDRESS:** Celtic Park, 95 Kerrydale Street, Glasgow G40 3RE  
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● Celtic Pools 041 551 9922 ● The Celtic View 041 551 8103  
● The Celtic Shop 041 554 4231 or 041 332 2727  
● Ticket Enquiries 041 551 8653

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**ASSISTANT MANAGER**  
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**HEAD OF YOUTH  
DEVELOPMENT**  
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**RESERVE TEAM COACH**  
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**YOUTH TEAM COACH**  
Tom McAdam

**PHYSIOTHERAPIST**  
Brian Scott

**RESERVE TEAM PHYSIOTHERAPIST**  
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**CLUB DOCTOR**  
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**COMMERCIAL MANAGER**  
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**CELTIC DEVELOPMENT POOL LTD  
MANAGING DIRECTOR**  
John Maguire

**SECRETARIES**  
Desmond White Arbuckle & Co

## ROLL OF HONOUR

**European Cup: 1967**

**League Champions (35 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, 1979, 1981, 1982, 1986, 1988.

**Scottish Cup Winners (29 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, 1980, 1985, 1988, 1989.

**League Cup Winners (9 times)**

1957, 1958, 1966, 1967, 1968, 1969, 1970, 1975, 1982.

**Empire Exhibition Cup: 1938**

**St Mungo Cup: 1951**

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# JOE JORDAN



**A** WARM welcome to our third home league game of the season and what promises to be a thoroughly entertaining clash.

Willie Miller's Aberdeen finished runners-up in all three domestic competitions last term so our performances against them will obviously be a good measure of our ability to challenge on all fronts this season as we are determined to do.

Aberdeen, like ourselves, have made a solid start to the league programme, unbeaten after four games but having dropped a couple of points they would have been looking to avoid.

I have been reasonably satisfied with our performances so far, with the exception of the opening 45 minutes against Motherwell who caught us on the hop a little.

Our performances have been good, albeit the three points we took from our opening three league fixtures don't accurately reflect what we put into those games.

I believe we are making progress, although this must continue. There are definitely areas where we can – and will – improve.

## Positive

Our last two matches have resulted in single-goal victories against Partick Thistle and Airdrie. Those are pleasing results, but I don't think anyone who was present will dispute that we should have had a few more goals in each game.

Bearing in mind that these were the sort of games where we possibly gave away a goal and had to settle for a draw last season, the results are certainly acceptable.

We must reflect on the plus side of things. Our play has been very positive and we've

created plenty of chances.

**‘ We have to produce more clinical finishing to match our performances so far ’**

Now we have to add a degree of ruthlessness by producing more clinical finishing than we showed against Thistle or Airdrie. It was part of our make-up when we played Arbroath 10 days ago and if we can recapture it on a regular basis then we'll record the scorelines to match our performances.





# BACK

# UPFRONT



**CRSMITH IT'S GREAT TO BE BACK.**





# THE TEAMS



**1 PAT BONNER**



**2 TOM BOYD**



**3 DARIUSZ WADOWCZYK**



**4 PETER GRANT**



**5 MARK MCNALLY**



**6 MIKE GALLOWAY**



**7 STUART SLATER**



**8 PAT MCGINLAY**



**9 FRANK MCAVENNIE**



**10 CHARLIE NICHOLAS**



**11 JOHN COLLINS**



**12 ANDY PAYTON**



**13 BRIAN O'NEIL**



**Referee:**  
L.W. Mottram  
(Forth)



**Linesman:**  
M.A. Clark  
(Edinburgh)



**Linesman:**  
W.G. McKnight  
(Newton Stewart)

**STAND-BYS:**  
Celtic -  
Stewart Kerr  
(GK), Gary  
Gillespie,  
Rudi Vata,  
Barry Smith.  
Aberdeen -  
Michael  
Watt (GK),  
David  
Winnie, Andy  
Roddie, Theo  
ten Caat,  
Roy Aitken.



**Mascot:**  
Stephen  
Butler (9)



**THEO SNELDERS**



**STEWART MCKIMMIE**



**GARY SMITH**



**PAUL KANE**



**ALEX MCLEISH**



**BRIAN IRVINE**



**EOIN JESS**



**LEE RICHARDSON**



**SCOTT BOOTH**



**DUNCAN SHEARER**



**ROBERT CONNOR**



**MIXU PAATELAINEN**



**JOE MILLER**





# +TODAY'S VISITORS+



SPOT KING ... Brian Irvine



JUST CRUISING ... Theo Snelders

*ABERDEEN* come to Celtic Park today still smarting from Wednesday's 2-1 League Cup defeat by Rangers at Ibrox.

A travelling army of around 3,000 took the long road home in anguish after an extra-time strike by Ian Ferguson dumped them.

Here are the men who hope to pick themselves off the canvas in the league today...



**DUTCH** keeper **THEO SNELDERS** is one of the top shot-stoppers in the game today - and one of the most popular with the ladies, who reckon he's a dead ringer for film star Tom Cruise.

Back in the team after injury is right-back **STEWART MCKIMMIE**, a £90,000 buy from Dundee back in 1984. He'll always be remembered as the man whose stunning long-range drive dumped World Champions Argentina at Hampden in 1990.

On the other flank is **GARY SMITH**, the brainbox of the side. The former Falkirk defender turned down the chance to go to university to become a full-time footballer. His tragic own-goal cost the Dons the Skol Cup last season.

In the middle of defence today will be **ALEX McLEISH** and **BRIAN IRVINE**. Big Eck, as his mates know him, is respected all over the country for his never-say-die attitude for club and country. He has battled back from a string of injuries to regain a regular place.

Irvine's career is becoming littered with vital penalties - it was his strike in a marathon shootout which won Aberdeen the Scottish Cup over Celtic in 1990. And on Wednesday



night, he gave away a spot-kick inside 15 SECONDS when he brought down Ian Durrant at Ibrox.

Also waiting to come into defence if Smith fails to recover from a knock picked up on Wednesday is **ROBERT CONNOR**. The former Ayr United star - Roger to his mates - is back after injury and knocking on the first team door.

On the right of midfield, **PAUL KANE** has been enjoying a fresh lease of life. In the summer, it seemed that he would be heading to join Hearts, but Willie Miller has brought him back in and he is repaying the boss's confidence.



Next to him will be **JIM BETT**, the much-travelled former Scotland star. Bett returned to the side on Wednesday night and his touch in the Cup-tie hurly-burly was a joy.

Providing the steel will be Aberdeen's own Yorkshire terrier, **LEE RICHARDSON**. The goatee-bearded star arrived last season from Blackburn Rovers for £150,000 and was an instant hit. Landed in hot water with referees too often for his boss's liking.

On the left of midfield is likely to be the man the fan's know simply as The Big Finn - **MIXU**





# +TODAY'S VISITORS+



**JESS ... Cap in hand**



**KANE ... New lease of life**

**PAATELAINEN.** The burly former Dundee United man works his heart out for the team wherever he is asked to play.

On Wednesday, he started through the middle, but moved out wide on the left at the start of the second half. A handful wherever he plays.



And up front will be the Terrible Twins – **EOIN JESS** and **SCOTT BOOTH**.

Without doubt, these two are among the best young strikers in the game – and they have the Scotland caps to prove it.

Jess made a superb start to his international career in the 3-0 World Cup win over Malta, while Booth created an instant impact with an excellent cameo

role as a sub against Germany in February.

A former Rangers schoolboy signing, Jess returned to his native North-East after a bout of homesickness and made the first team breakthrough as a raw teenager.

He played in the 2-1 win over Rangers in the 1989 Skol Cup Final and has never looked back.



Booth, meanwhile, took over the main striking role when Jess broke his ankle in the Scottish Cup clash with Aberdeen last March.

It was his persistence which led to Aberdeen's penalty equaliser at Ibrox on Wednesday.

It's a tribute to both these youngsters that **DUNCAN SHEARER** spends much of his time on the bench these days.

A £500,000 signing from Blackburn 16 months ago, the Highlander is one of the finest finishers in the game.

A self-confessed Celts fan, he started his career at Huddersfield, before moving to Chelsea, Swindon and then Blackburn.

When his namesake Alan arrived at Ewood Park for £3.6 million, he was seen to be surplus to requirements – and Willie Miller was only too glad to snap him up.



Also waiting in the wings this afternoon will be someone only too familiar at Celtic Park – **JOE MILLER**. The pint-sized winger said goodbye to Glasgow a few weeks ago in a £250,000 return to the club where he started his career.

And he proved that he is finding his feet with vital contributions to consecutive League Cup ties. First, he struck the goal which took the third round match with Motherwell into extra-time.

Then he smashed home the equaliser from the penalty spot just four minutes after coming on as a half-time sub at Ibrox.

Last but not least is the man who'll be desperate to get in among the action today ... the one and only **ROY AITKEN**. Now No.2 to Willie Miller, The Bear still loves nothing better than to pull his boots on. And we all know what HE can do when he's in the mood.

## LOWDOWN++LOWDOWN

### THEO SNELDERS

Age 29, signed from Twente Enschede, 6ft 2in, 14st 2lb

### STEWART McKIMMIE

Age 30, signed from Dundee, 5ft 8in, 10st 7lb

### GARY SMITH

Age 22, signed from Falkirk, 6ft, 10st 4lb

### PAUL KANE

Age 28, signed from Oldham, 5ft 8.5in, 10st 10lb

### ALEX McLEISH

Age 34, signed from Glasgow United, 6ft 1in, 12st 4lb

### BRIAN IRVINE

Age 28, signed from Falkirk, 6ft 2in, 13st

### EOIN JESS

Age 22, signed from Rangers, 5ft 7.5in, 10st 10lb

### LEE RICHARDSON

Age 24, signed from Blackburn Rovers, 5ft 11in, 11st 8lb

### SCOTT BOOTH

Age 21, signed from Deeside BC, 5ft 7.5in, 10st 3 lb

### DUNCAN SHEARER

Age 31, signed from Blackburn Rovers, 6ft, 13st 8lb

### ROBERT CONNOR

Age 33, signed from Dundee, 5ft 11in, 11st 4lb

### MIXU PAATELAINEN

Age 26, signed from Dundee United, 5ft 11in, 11st 7lb

### JOE MILLER

Age 22, signed from Aberdeen, 5ft 8in, 9st 12lb

### THEO ten CAAT

Age 28, signed from Groningen, 5ft 11in, 11st

### ROY AITKEN

Age 34, signed from St Mirren, 6ft, 13st





# THIS IS YOUR LIFESTYLE

**MOST** people encounter changes to their lifestyle throughout their lives – but very few run head first into a complete culture shock.

However, that is exactly what happened to Rudi Vata when he defected while on international duty with Albania in France.

He claimed political asylum – and his life has never been the same since.

Not one to let the grass grow under his feet, he trained with French club Tours even though back in Albania, Dinamo Tirana wouldn't release his registration.

Though he wasn't playing competitive football, and was a source of annoyance to the political powers in Albania, the country's football authorities continued to select him for international duty.

In the circumstances, he understandably only played away matches but fortune smiled on him when one of these away matches was in Dublin.

Sitting in the stand was Liam Brady and the manager saw enough that day to turn the page to another chapter in the young Albanian's eventful and colourful life.

He played as a trialist for Celtic in pre-season games in Ireland before some diplomatic work by Brady as well as the carrot of a £200,000 fee finally persuaded Dinamo to part company with Rudi's all-important registration forms.

Fifteen months on, the 24-year-old has settled into his new Scottish lifestyle and the dramatic change in his life has been made easier by the visit of brother Alex to these shores.

## RUDI VATA



Rudi explained: "Alex has been over here for a few months but his visa runs out at the end of September. It has been great to have him in Scotland because we are pretty close.

"He has helped me a lot – even if he is two years older than me and looks younger!"

The main difference between East and West when Rudi first arrived was public access to commodities that we all take for granted.

Even the music we hear daily on the radio was new to the ears of the Celt.

He said: "In Albania it was mainly Greek and Yugoslavian music that we heard. It wasn't folk music so much as popular music so there was a lot of Demis Roussos and Nana Mouskouri.

"It wasn't much fun being a

youngster when you couldn't buy the music you liked.

"Even the stuff you could buy was only available on tape. It's all changed now though and you can buy anything on tape, record or even CD.

"I like Dire Straits very much. I also like reggae, especially Bob Marley, but my favourite singer is Whitney Houston.

"You couldn't hear this sort of music in Albania when I was there so the national radio wasn't very popular with young people.

"It was the same with the cinema. The films had to be approved by the communist regime and were mostly educational.

"They were not entertaining so I like to go to the cinema here and watch whatever I want."

Westerns, and Clint Eastwood in particular, are firm favourites and Rudi is also enthusiastic about The Godfather series featuring Al Pacino.

He's become accustomed to hiring videos and watching videos in the comfort of his Hamilton home.

He added: "TV in Albania wasn't good either. We could get three or four Italian channels as well as some Yugoslav TV."

There he was actually a step ahead of Britain – for he could watch football from the Italian Serie A, which now has a cult following on these shores courtesy of Channel 4.

He said: "Italian football is very big in Albania and everyone is glued to their screens when it is on the TV. Here, I enjoy watching soaps

*Continued on Page 10*



