



celtic



THE OFFICIAL MATCHDAY MAGAZINE OF CELTIC FOOTBALL CLUB 2007/08



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>> CONTENTS

SOCIAL MISSION STATEMENT

Introduction

Celtic Football Club is legendary and as with most legends as much myth as fact surrounds its history and what the Club stands for today. The Social Mission Statement aims to simply define what the Club stands for and seeks to promote within society.

History

Celtic Football Club was founded in 1888. Its principal founder was a Marist Brother named Walfrid. The Club had two principal aims: The first aim was to raise funds to provide food for the poor of the East End of Glasgow, an area of the City that was greatly impoverished and had a high rate of infant mortality. Within the East End was a large Irish community and friction was growing between the native Glaswegians and the new influx of Irish. Brother Walfrid saw the need for social integration and his vision was a football club that Scottish and Irish, Protestants and Catholics alike could support. A new football club would be a vehicle to bring the communities together and this was the second aim. The Marist brother sought for the Club to have both a Scottish and Irish identity and hence, the Club's name "Celtic" came about, representing a bridge of cultures across the Irish Sea.

Current Positioning of Celtic Football Club

Celtic Football Club is a Scottish football club with proud Irish links. The primary business of Celtic is as a football club. It is run on a professional business basis with no political agenda. However, the Club has a wider role and the responsibility of being a major Scottish social institution promoting health, well-being and social integration.

Who is Celtic Football Club for?

Celtic Football Club is for people who want to support a football club that strives for excellence in Scotland and in Europe, is proud of its history, supportive of its local community and seeks to support the following aims: "To maximise all opportunities to disassociate the Club from sectarianism and bigotry of any kind. To promote Celtic as a Club for all people, regardless of gender, age, religion, race or ability."

Summary

Celtic is a club for everyone who believes in football as a medium for healthy pleasure, entertainment and social integration. The Club always has been and always will simply aim to be the team of the people.

5	Gordon Strachan
6/7	Celtic Factfile
10/11	Captain's Column
14/17	Today's Visitors
20/24	Georgios Samaras Interview
26/29	On This Day
32/33	Previous Meetings
34/35	Poster
38/41	Former Players
48/49	Celtic Youth Academy
52/54	Michael McGovern Interview
56/59	Dixie Deans Interview
64/65	Celtic Stats
66	Quiz

20/24



26/29



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GORDON

STRACHAN



Our task today and for our remaining league fixtures is a straightforward one - we have to win. Three points is our target today against Motherwell and for our seven other league games between now and the end of the season. That is always the case at Celtic. No matter what tournament we are competing in and regardless of the opposition, we are expected to do everything to win the game.

These demands are what drive us on, the players, the coaching staff and the management, and it has brought us success in the past two seasons. We know that it is a difficult challenge we face, first of all to win all eight of our league fixtures but also, in the process, hope that results elsewhere will go our way in order for us to achieve what we set out to do at the beginning of the season - win the league title.

It's going to be hard for us to win the league but it's possible. We need to win every game now and it's possible that we can do that.

I definitely have the players here who are capable of winning those eight games. When we're on form, our

strikers have scored enough goals and we need to make sure that we keep clean sheets.

With the system of the SPL split, we'll be facing the best teams in the league and that's the same the other way with our title rivals. We're just working on the assumption that we need to win every game and we'll take it from there.

The first of those eight games is upon us today and it is the first of three meetings we will have with Motherwell. Next week, we travel through to play at Fir Park while there is also one, post-split game.

Given Motherwell's position in the league and their form this season, we know that all of these games will be tough for us. Mark McGhee's side are coming to play us on the back on an important victory over Hibernian last weekend while we are determined to get back to winning ways.

You can be assured that we will be giving everything to win today and in all of our remaining league fixtures this season and, as I've mentioned many times before, your support and backing of the team is an important ingredient in any success we've achieved in the past and in any success we might achieve in the future.

>> CELTIC FACTFILE



CELTIC PLC DIRECTORS

Celtic plc Directors:

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Eric Riley
Dermot Desmond
Tom Allison
Brian McBride
Brian Wilson
Ian Livingston

CFAC Directors:

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Eric Riley
John Keane
Michael McDonald
Kevin Sweeney

Manager:

Gordon Strachan

Assistant Manager:

Garry Pendrey

Coach:

Tommy Burns

Head of Youth:

Tommy Burns

Football Development Manager:

John Park

Reserve Coach:

Willie McStay

Youth team Coach:

John McLaughlan

Club Doctor:

Derek McCormack

Kit Controller:

John Clark

CLUB HONOURS

Scottish League Winners [41 times]

1892-93, 1893-94, 1895-96, 1897-98,
1904-05, 1905-06, 1906-07, 1907-08,
1908-09, 1909-10, 1913-14, 1914-15,
1915-16, 1916-17, 1918-19, 1921-22,
1925-26, 1935-36, 1937-38, 1953-54,
1965-66, 1966-67, 1967-68, 1968-69,
1969-70, 1970-71, 1971-72, 1972-73,
1973-74, 1976-77, 1978-79, 1980-81,
1981-82, 1985-86, 1987-88, 1997-98,
2000-01, 2001-02, 2003-04, 2005-06,
2006-07

Scottish Cup Winners [34 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, 1995,
2001, 2004, 2005, 2007

League Cup Winners [13 times]

1956-57, 1957-58, 1965-66, 1966-67,
1967-68, 1968-69, 1969-70, 1974-75,
1982-83, 1997-98, 1999-00, 2000-01,
2005-06

European Cup Winners 1967

Coronation Cup Winners 1953

CLUB DIRECTORY & HONOURS

Celtic Football Club

Celtic Park Glasgow G40 3RE

Telephone: 0871 226 1888

Website: www.celticfc.net

Formed: 1888

Stadium: Celtic Park

Capacity: 60,506

Home strip colours: Green/white hooped shirts, white shorts, white socks

Away strip colours:

Green/black striped shirts, green shorts, green socks

Record attendance:

92,000 v Rangers, 1938

Record victory:

11-0 v Dundee, 1895

Record defeat:

0-8 v Motherwell, 1937

Most league goals in 1 season:

50 - Jimmy McGrory, 1935-36

Most Premier/SPL goals in 1 season:

35 - Brian McClair, 1986-87

35 - Henrik Larsson, 2000-01

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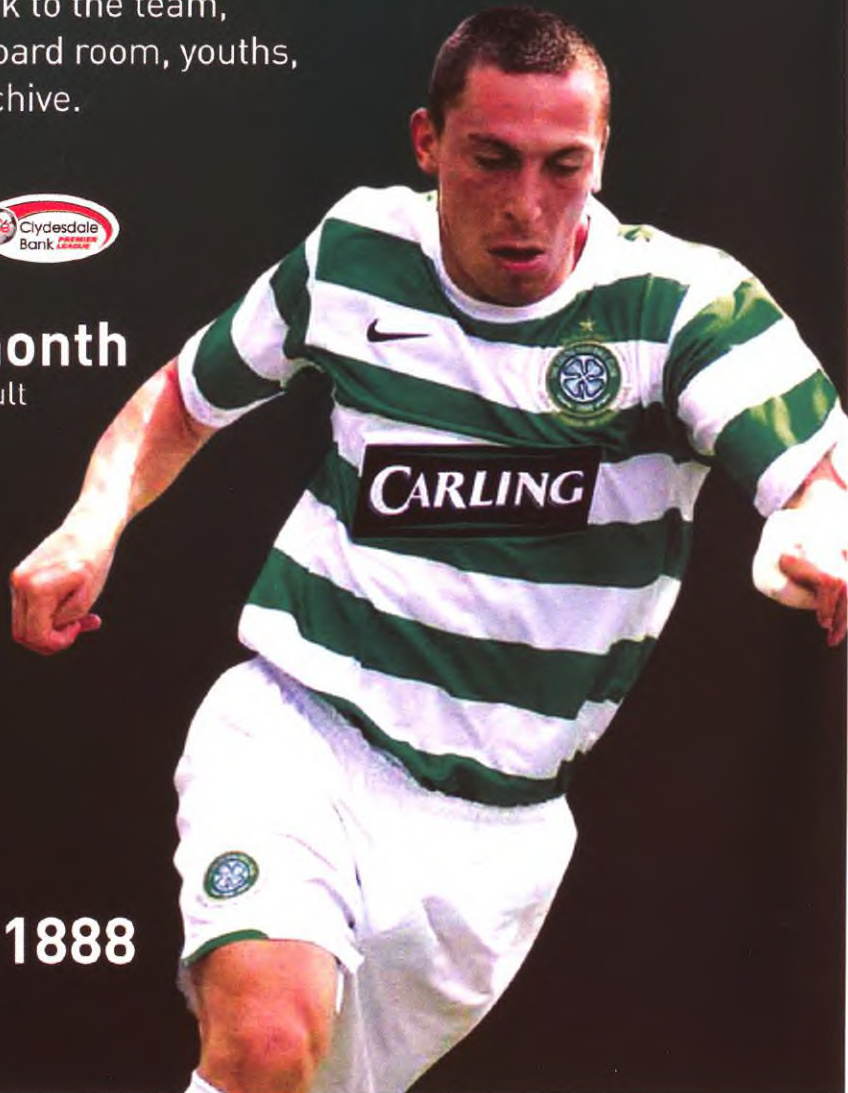
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UNACCEPTABLE CONDUCT AT CELTIC PARK AND AWAY FOOTBALL STADIA

New rules have been introduced by the SFA and SPL in connection with "Unacceptable Conduct" at football stadia. The new rules form part of our Stadium Regulations. It is a condition of entry to stadia that the Stadium Regulations, including these new rules, are followed.

A summary of the new rules is set out below. Full details are available on the Celtic website at www.celticfc.net or by contacting the Customer Service Manager on 0871 226 1888.

CELTIC FOOTBALL CLUB WILL NOT TOLERATE UNACCEPTABLE CONDUCT AT CELTIC PARK OR AT AWAY FOOTBALL STADIA

- Unacceptable Conduct is conduct which is violent or disorderly
- Violent conduct includes any actual, attempted or threatened physical violence against any person, or intentional damage to property

Disorderly conduct includes:

- Conduct which stirs up or sustains, or is likely or is designed to stir up or sustain, hatred or ill will against or towards individuals or groups of people because of:
 - Gender
 - Colour, race, nationality (including citizenship) or ethnic or national origin
 - Membership or presumed membership, of a religious group or of a social or cultural group with perceived religious affiliation
 - Sexual orientation
 - Transgender identity
 - Disability
- Using threatening, abusive or insulting words or conduct

- Displaying writing or any other thing which is threatening, abusive or insulting

This list is not exhaustive and must be read in conjunction with the Stadium Regulations.

ANY PERSON ENGAGING IN UNACCEPTABLE CONDUCT MAY BE SUBJECT TO ANY, OR A COMBINATION OF THE FOLLOWING:

- Removal from the Stadium
- Suspension from attending Official Matches involving Celtic Football Club
- Indefinite ban from attending Official Matches involving Celtic Football Club
- Report to the police and possible criminal proceedings

Celtic Football Club was established in 1888 as a Club open to all.

Further information on the Club's origins and Celtic's Social Mission Statement can be found on www.celticfc.net.

>> A WORD FROM THE CAPTAIN

I hardly needs to be said that every one of the players was extremely disappointed at the result last weekend but we have to focus on what is ahead of us and that means winning every one of our remaining eight league games.

That begins this afternoon when we take on Motherwell but, with Mark McGhee's side chasing third place in the table, we're under no illusions as to how difficult that will be. But we can only be concerned with our own performances and our own aims, so it has to be a victory today.

As a player and as a supporter I've seen the highs and the lows that can come in a title run-in and I know what I'd much rather experience. It also makes me aware that we should not and will not concede anything when there are still eight games remaining of this campaign. We all have to keep the faith and believe that, by winning all of our games between now and the end of the season, we will be rewarded.

Today is the first of the games against Motherwell and it's going to be a tough one. They have been very impressive throughout this season and thoroughly deserve to be in the top six. Their target is obviously to finish third and secure European qualification and, again, it's something that they will deserve.

However, in much the same way that Mark McGhee's squad will only be concerned about their own aims, then the same goes for ourselves. This has all the makings of a great game although it will be only be great for us if we get the three points.

It was also good to hear that Celtic and Motherwell have got together to organise a special tribute match in honour of Phil O'Donnell. His passing is something that all of us can still hardly believe and my thoughts remain with his family.

This game will allow supporters of both clubs to get together and remember a great player and also enable his friends and former team-mates to pay their own tribute to a special man.



Stephen McManus







Celtic v Motherwell

Where & how scored		When for & against		Where & how scored	
Close range	16			Close range	7
Inside 18yd box	44			Inside 18yd box	27
Outside 18yd box	9			Outside 18yd box	6
Shots	38			Shots	21
Headers	14			Headers	8
Volleys	5			Volleys	7
Penalties	4			Penalties	2
Free Kicks	3	Free Kicks	1		
Own Goals	5	Own Goals	1		

Last 6 results			Seasonal progress comparison			Last 6 results		
Opponents	H/A	Score				Opponents	H/A	Score
Rangers	A	0-1				Hibernian	H	1-0
Gretna	A	3-0				Dundee Utd	A	0-2
Dundee Utd	H	0-0				Hibernian	A	0-1
Hibernian	A	2-0				Falkirk	A	0-0
Inverness	H	2-1				Aberdeen	A	1-1
St Mirren	A	1-0				Hearts	H	0-1

Set pieces & discipline		Motherwell's last 10 years		Set pieces & discipline	
Scored from free kick	6			Scored from free kick	2
Conceded from free kick	2			Conceded from free kick	3
Scored from corner	6			Scored from corner	4
Conceded from corner	1			Conceded from corner	5
Fouls committed	330			Fouls committed	392
Average per game	11			Average per game	13.07
Yellow cards	48			Yellow cards	51
Red cards	0	Red cards	0		

Head2Head stats since 1999/00 season

Last meeting at Celtic Park		Previous meetings		Where & how goals scored			
Celtic	3-0	Motherwell					
	McDonald 42, 59, 88 (pen)						
Attendance	57,633	Referee	Dougal				
Boruc, Caldwell, Naylor, Kennedy, McManus, Hartley, Nakamura (Donati 86), Brown Sc, McGeady, Killen, McDonald		Smith, Craigan, Reynolds, Quinn (Mensing 68), Paterson (Fitzpatrick 53), Lasley, Hughes (O'Donnell 10), McCormack, Porter, McGarry, Clarkson					
Booked	McDonald, Brown Sc	Booked	Clarkson				
Sent off	none	Sent off	none				
Att on target	11	Offsides	2				
Att off target	3	Fouls	6				
Corners	10	Fixture date	27/10/07				
		at Celtic	3-0	2007-08			
		at Motherwell	1-1	2006-07			
			5-0	2005-06			
			2-0/2-0	2004-05			
			3-0/1-1	2003-04			
			3-1	2002-03			
			2-0	2001-02			
			1-0/1-0	2000-01			
			0-1/4-0	1999-00			
		Bhoy's goals to left of results line					
		Celtic	12	Goals	5		
		Goals	38	Goals	14		
		For	11	For	6		
		36	Shot	10			
		7	Header	7			
		5	Volley	3			
		6	Penalty	3			
		6	Free Kick	2			
		2	Own Goal	0			

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>> TODAY'S VISITORS

WORDS: JOE SULLIVAN

WITH Gretna now doomed to relegation, there is a definite three-tier look to the SPL table with the top two fighting it out for the championship and the rest of the bottom six sandwiching those teams locking horns in the battle for third place.

Today's visitors are prime contenders for that spot in a season that has witnessed many highs and lows for them.

There is no doubting that their performances this season have merited their top-six status and potential European credentials but almost everything has been overshadowed by the tragic passing away of Phil O'Donnell.

Phil was a star performer with both of today's sides and supporters of both teams were stunned by the sad news back in December.

His final moments on the pitch marked the most poignant moment of this season as we take a look back at Motherwell's term so far.

AUGUST

Motherwell, and Steven McGarry in particular, got off to a flier with, technically, the quickest goal of the SPL season as their opening game was only three minutes old when he opened their account.

Late goals, however, were to prove crucial in their next two games as they came from behind to sneak a last-minute winner against Inverness CT but experienced the other side of the story the following week when Kilmarnock did likewise to them with both games finishing 2-1.

Another 2-1 result saw the Fir Park side win an 'away' game against Gretna and the month ended with a 3-1 home win over Raith Rovers in the League Cup.

At A Glance

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
LG	4	3	0	1	6	3	9
LC	1	1	0	0	3	1	
Total	5	4	1	1	9	4	

SEPTEMBER

A bit of a topsy-turvy month for Motherwell which kicked off with their first no-show in front of goals

as Hearts beat them 2-0 but they followed that up with a 2-1 win over Aberdeen at Pittodrie.

A blip came next though when a Russell Latapy goal cemented home advantage for Falkirk in a 1-0 reverse for Motherwell and a few days later there was a welcome break from the SPL when the Steelmen travelled to Easter Road on League Cup duty.

The holders awaited them but as early as the 24th minute it looked like Hibs' grip on the trophy was slipping as Motherwell raced to a 3-1 lead after being behind and eventually won 4-2.

The month finished with Well's first drawn game of the season as their 1-0 lead over Rangers, thanks to a Chris Porter goal, was levelled by a Kris Boyd penalty just over 20 minutes from the end.

At A Glance

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
LG	4	1	1	2	3	5	4
LC	1	1	0	0	4	2	
Total	5	2	1	2	7	7	

OCTOBER

Another stop-start month for the Fir Park side which finished with a double-header against the big two from Glasgow but started with a 1-0 defeat at Tannadice.

Hibs turned up at Fir Park intent on revenge for their League Cup defeat and seemed to be on the right road when they went ahead from the spot in the 31st minute.

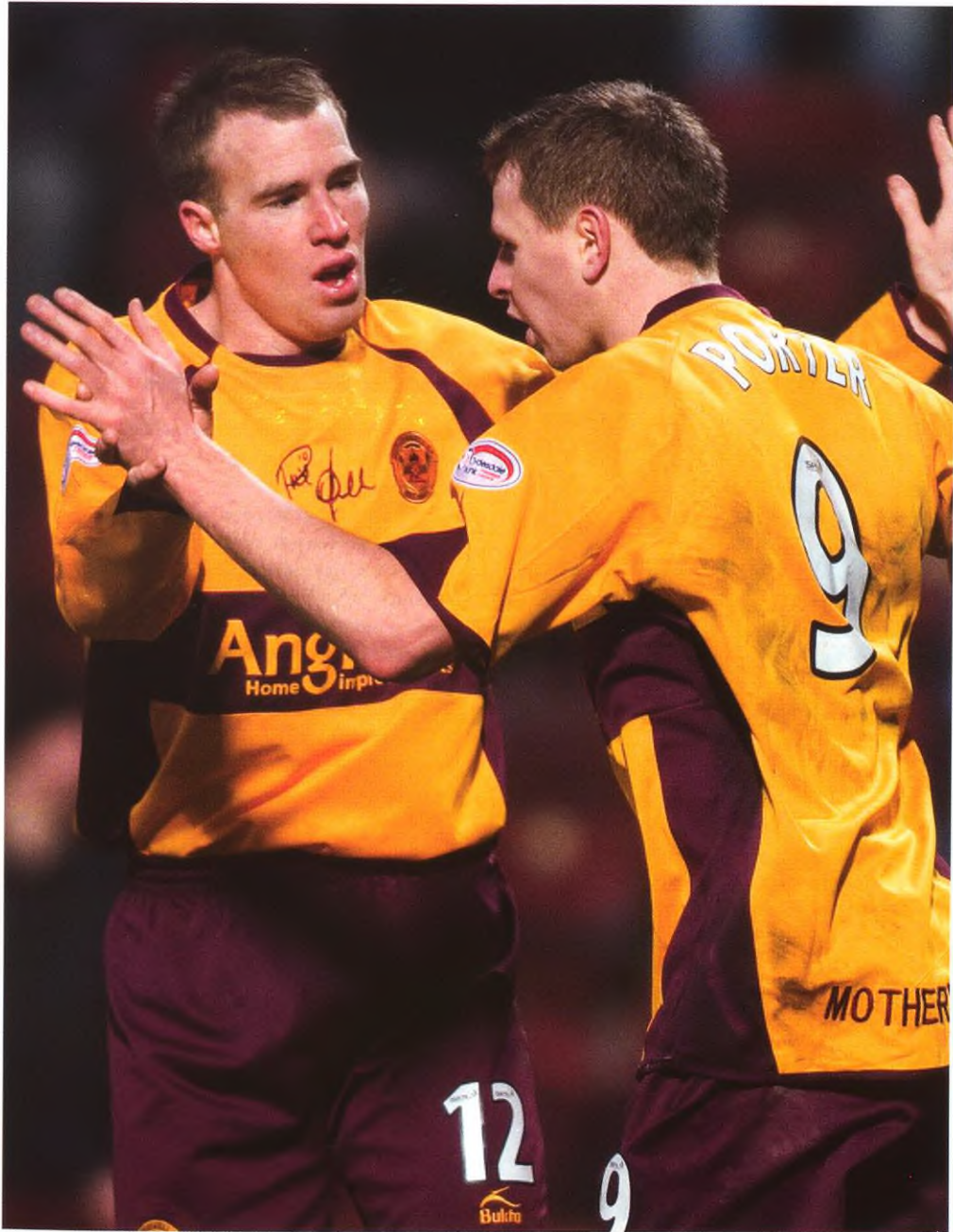
Just six minutes later though, Motherwell were in the lead thanks to two Ross McCormack goals and 2-1 was how the game ended, setting them up for a visit to Celtic Park.

A hat-trick from former Fir Park man Scott McDonald gave Celtic a 3-0 win and Motherwell didn't fare any better in midweek when they lost 2-1 to Rangers in the League Cup.

At A Glance

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
LG	3	1	0	2	2	5	3
LC	1	0	0	1	1	2	
Total	4	1	1	2	3	6	▶

MOTHERWELL'S SEASON SO FAR



>> TODAY'S VISITORS



NOVEMBER

There were only three games played in November as Motherwell survived a month unbeaten for the first time but it started with them dropping points in a 1-1 home draw with St Mirren.

On the road was a different story though as visits to Inverness and Kilmarnock were rewarded with wins - 3-0 in the Highlands while Phil O'Donnell's first goal since the 2-1 win over Inverness at Fir Park gave Motherwell all three points at Rugby Park.

At A Glance

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
LG	3	2	1	0	5	1	7

DECEMBER

Ironically, Motherwell's most productive month in the season so far finished with the news that drew a dark cloud over Scottish football when Phil O'Donnell passed away following the final game of the year.

An average of four goals per game were scored in each of Well's matches during the month as they recorded three consecutive 3-0 home wins over Gretna, Aberdeen and Falkirk with a 2-1 away victory over Hearts thrown in for good measure.

Following that run was a 3-1 defeat at Ibrox on Boxing Day as an own goal and a last-minute counter added to the woe for Motherwell.

For December 29, the record books show a 5-3 home win for Motherwell over Dundee United with Phil O'Donnell

being replaced by Marc Fitzpatrick in the 78th minute - it's what they don't show that rocked Scottish football.

At A Glance

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
LG	6	4	0	2	14	10	12

JANUARY

The first month of the year was a tough one for Motherwell in so many ways but, on the field, they eventually had to get on with the job in hand and first up was the Scottish Cup.

Tynecastle was the venue and Hearts raced to a 2-0 lead but two goals from Chris Porter won a replay for the Fir Park side and next on the agenda was a league meeting with St Mirren.

Paisley wasn't a happy hunting ground though and the Buddies won 3-1 but Motherwell bounced right back in their cup replay.

A penalty in the 23rd minute from Ross McCormack was enough to win the game and put Motherwell into the next round.

At A Glance

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
LG	1	0	0	1	1	3	0
SC	2	1	0	1	3	2	
Total	3	1	1	1	4	5	

FEBRUARY

There was a lot to cram into this month but, after a

MOTHERWELL'S SEASON SO FAR

90th-minute goal by David Clarkson gave them all three points against Kilmarnock, the Fir Park side went crashing out of the Scottish Cup thanks to a 2-1 defeat to Dundee.

They got back on the tracks with two consecutive 3-1 victories at Fir Park although the first of those was an 'away' tie against Gretna while the other was against Inverness CT.

That was followed, though, by a 1-0 home defeat to Hearts while February finished with a 1-1 draw at Pittodrie thanks to a Darren Smith equaliser.

At A Glance

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
LG	5	3	1	1	8	3	10
SC	1	0	0	1	1	2	
Total	6	3	1	2	9	5	

MARCH

Motherwell only scored one goal in March but David Clarkson's third minute effort was enough to win them all three points against Hibernian in the final game of the month.

And, although they didn't score in their first game of the month, they still managed to pick up another point in their 0-0 draw with Falkirk.

In between those games though they dropped points to close rivals in the battle for European football as Hibs won 1-0 at Easter Road and Dundee United beat them 2-0 at Tannadice.

At A Glance

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
LG	4	1	1	2	1	3	4



MOTHERWELL'S RESULTS SO FAR

SPL

St Mirren 0-1 Motherwell
 Motherwell 2-1 Inverness CT
 Motherwell 1-2 Kilmarnock
 Gretna 1-2 Motherwell
 Motherwell 0-2 Hearts
 Aberdeen 1-2 Motherwell
 Falkirk 1-0 Motherwell
 Motherwell 1-1 Rangers
 Dundee Utd 1-0 Motherwell
 Motherwell 2-1 Hibernian
 Celtic 3-0 Motherwell
 Motherwell 1-1 St Mirren
 Inverness CT 0-3 Motherwell
 Kilmarnock 0-1 Motherwell
 Motherwell 3-0 Gretna
 Hearts 1-2 Motherwell
 Motherwell 3-0 Aberdeen
 Motherwell 0-3 Falkirk
 Rangers 3-1 Motherwell
 Motherwell 5-3 Dundee Utd
 St Mirren 3-1 Motherwell
 Motherwell 1-0 Kilmarnock
 Gretna 1-3 Motherwell
 Motherwell 3-1 Inverness CT
 Motherwell 0-1 Hearts
 Aberdeen 1-1 Motherwell
 Falkirk 0-0 Motherwell
 Hibernian 1-0 Motherwell
 Dundee Utd 2-0 Motherwell
 Motherwell 1-0 Hibernian



CIS INSURANCE CUP

Motherwell 3-1 Raith Rovers
 Hibernian 2-4 Motherwell
 Motherwell 1-2 Rangers

SCOTTISH CUP

Hearts 2-2 Motherwell
 Motherwell 1-0 Hearts
 Motherwell 1-2 Dundee

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MAIN
INTERVIEW



EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW: **DAVID FRIEL**

EVERY GAME
IS NOW A
CUP FINAL

GEORGIOS SAMARAS EXPLAINS WHY TODAY'S
GAME AGAINST MOTHERWELL IS THE MOST
IMPORTANT OF THE SEASON SO FAR

GORDON STRACHAN will look around the Celtic dressing-room this afternoon and ask his players to deliver a performance to keep the club's title dreams alive. Georgios Samaras wants to answer his manager's call.

The on-loan Greek striker, currently thriving in Scotland following his January move from Manchester City, is under no illusions about the size of task facing Celtic when they take on Motherwell today.

When the 23-year-old says it's the biggest game of the season to date, he means it. With eight SPL matches remaining and Celtic trailing Rangers by six points, there is simply no margin for error anymore.

"This game against Motherwell is the most important game of the season...until the next game," began Samaras, as he spoke exclusively to the Matchday Programme.

"We are under pressure now but we must show a lot of character and focus on the game. We can't listen to any negative stuff.

"The only thing we can do is focus on this match and try to win it. We must stick together as a group and try to win

"I WANT US TO PLAY GOOD FOOTBALL, I WANT US TO PLAY ATTACKING FOOTBALL AND I WANT US TO SCORE GOALS. THAT'S WHAT I WANT TO DO."

the next few games. If you do that, the negative stuff becomes positive. That's football."

Celtic's current position is simple. With Rangers having a six-point advantage, and a game in hand, the reigning champions will almost certainly have to win every remaining match - including the two derbies at Celtic Park - to retain their title.

A tall order? Of course. But when Samaras looks at his team-mates, he sees a lot of quality and character. He has set a 24-point target and believes Celtic are more than capable of attaining it.

"If we win all the games I think we have a good chance," he said. "We are a young team, with not a lot of experience, and we must learn.

"The only thing we can do is play football and do our talking on the pitch - not to the press or newspapers. All we can do is work hard and try to have a 100 per cent record in the last eight games.

"At the end of that, we will see what we get if we manage to win the games. If we do get eight wins, then we have done the job we set for ourselves at this point and the rest will take care of itself."

Remarkably, with around six weeks of the season remaining, this will be only the second meeting between Celtic and Motherwell in an SPL campaign disrupted by postponements.

Yet, the two clubs will soon be sick of the sight of each other, with this afternoon's match the first of three clashes over the next few weeks.

Next weekend, they meet again in Lanarkshire, while Celtic will also travel to Fir Park one last time before the climax of the season.

Having only been in Scotland since January, Samaras has never faced up to Mark McGhee's enterprising side, but has seen enough of them on television to realise that Celtic will not get an easy time this afternoon.

"I know that Motherwell are a strong side, who are hoping to finish third in the SPL this season," he said. "It will be a hard game, but I really don't think about the opposition, I care about Celtic.

"I want us to play good football, I want us to play attacking football and I want us to score goals. That's what I want to do."

As he spoke about his hopes for the rest of the season, the hurt Samaras felt about losing last weekend's derby was still evident.

Given a starting slot alongside Jan Vennegoor of Hesselink in attack, the Greek internationalist caused Rangers problems with his craft and movement, but was left gutted at Celtic's narrow loss.

He said: "It was a great atmosphere last weekend. It's one of the best derbies in the world and I'm very proud that I got to play in that game.

"Naturally, I was disappointed that we didn't get the result we deserved but that's football. There is nothing we can do about that now.

"Football is always moving - that's what happens in this game. You play one match and then you start to focus on the next match.

"We must put everything into winning today's game against Motherwell. After the final whistle, we then focus on the next game. ▶





"Football moves fast, but I think we will be physically and mentally ready for the match. We will be focused on what we have to do."

With four goals to his name for Celtic, Samaras has already become a firm favourite with the Hoops supporters and revealed he's been overwhelmed by the encouragement given to him by the club's fans.

So far, just one of those four goals came at Celtic Park, but Samaras admits the feeling when he bulleted his header past Inverness Caledonian Thistle goalkeeper Michael Fraser will always stay with him.

"It was very nice," he said. "It's always nice to score goals and, of course, when you play in front of a full Celtic Park, it's a great feeling to score."

"Even away from home though, the fans always travel to support us and sometimes it's like playing a home game. It's the best feeling in the world to score a goal - home or away."

"I like to score goals, every striker does. But at the end of the game, the most important thing is for us to get the win."

"If we win 1-0 and someone else scores, I will be happy. I will go home knowing that I won."

"If I score a hat-trick and we lose 4-3, I will be disappointed because we lost. The most important thing is to win - that comes first."

With eight games of his initial loan deal remaining, Samaras will wait until the end of the season before sitting down with Celtic to discuss his long-term future.

So far, his move to Glasgow has been mutually beneficial for both player and club, but Samaras has vowed not to think too far ahead.

First things first, he wants to help Celtic try to clinch a third successive championship. That's all that matters to him at present - everything else can wait.

"I'm playing regular football just now and I'm happy at the moment," he said. "But I still think I have more to give."

"I think my team-mates will get to know me better, but I don't know what will happen at the end of the season. I'm not thinking about that at the moment - I'm just thinking about helping the team."

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HISTORY

ON THIS DAY IN

WORDS: GREGOR KYLE

2006

BIRTHDAY Bhoys John Hartson sealed the first title victory of Gordon Strachan's reign as manager with the only goal of the game against Hearts at Celtic Park.

With the Edinburgh club having established themselves as credible title challengers, who ultimately finished second and qualified for the UEFA Champions League, this match also proved to be a fitting conclusion to the story of the season. But, to all intents and purposes, this clinching encounter was little more than a formality.

When the two sides met that evening they were separated by 17 points and when the final whistle eventually sounded, the win wrapped up the quickest title victory in the history of the Scottish Premier League.

Hartson's fourth-minute strike was also a cracker, the centre-forward volleying home a Maciej Zurawski knock-down to beat goalkeeper, Craig Gordon.

The Welshman's 18th league goal of the season did not herald the start of a hammering though and late in the game Artur Boruc produced two stunning saves, while the inspirational Neil Lennon slid in with a brave block to deny Deividas Cesnauskis.

Addressing the crowd after the match, captain Lennon declared that 'the trophy is back where it belongs', with the victory going some way toward soothing the previous term's painful last day defeat.

"I could not imagine what it was going to be like, winning the championship," Gordon Strachan later told the *Celtic View*, "but I know I am very proud of the people I have worked with.

"When you can make millions of supporters happy that's great," he added. "To be able to make 60,000 people happy on the night was great but then to make millions around the world happy is even better."

The win was the 40th championship victory in Celtic's history.

2000

CELTIC played Motherwell on this day in 2000 and the Hoops recorded a comfortable 4-0 victory over the Fir Park side.

Eyal Berkovic got on the score-sheet in this game, while Tommy Johnson hit a double and Regi Blinker scored the final goal of the day.

The game is also remembered for the debut of 16-year-old John Kennedy, who became the youngest player to pull on the Hoops in a competitive match.

1972

CELTIC locked horns with an old foe at the San Siro and put on another outstanding display against one of the giants of European football.

'Concentration and application' were two of the words used to describe Jock Stein's men's performance that night, with Internazionale held to a 0-0 in front of a partisan crowd of 80,000.

This European Cup semi-final meeting was the first competitive meeting between the sides since the Lisbon final five years earlier. Unfortunately for Celtic though, it was Inter who ultimately won the day.

When the second leg was played on April 19 at Celtic Park it was the Italians who held their nerve to progress to the final after a penalty shoot-out.

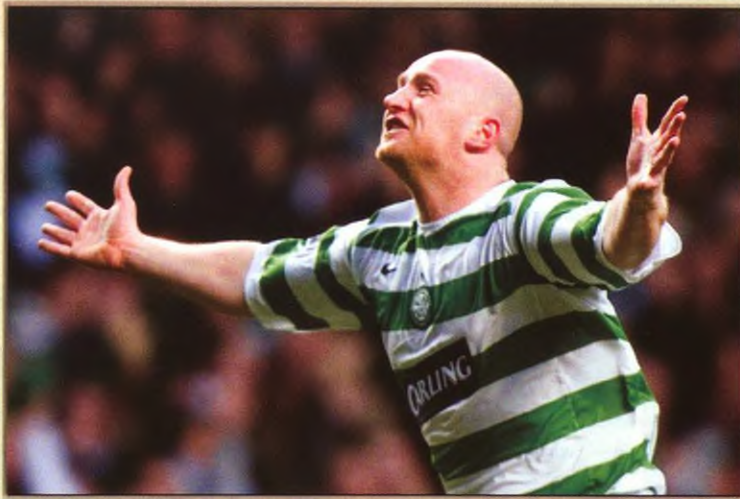
1969

TODAY proved to be a day for real celebration, with Bobby Lennox scoring a hat-trick in a 6-2 hammering of Hibernian in the League Cup final.

But while Jock Stein's men were lifting the trophy as victors for the fourth consecutive season at Hampden that day, Rangers were suffering the defeat up at Tannadice that effectively handed Celtic the title. ►



From left to right: Eyal Berkovic and John Kennedy



JOHN HARTSON



NEILLY MOCHAN

This was an awesome performance from the Lions with Bobby Murdoch and Bertie Auld stealing the show in the centre of midfield.

Willie Wallace, Jim Craig and the irrepressible Auld also got on the scoresheet, with Hibs' goals coming in the 82nd and 87th minutes when the game was dead and buried.

The high-scoring win was just one of many for Celtic in the competition that season, with the total of 41 goals setting a club record that still stands today.

1954

TODAY'S opponents, Motherwell, lined up to face Celtic in 1954 in a Scottish Cup replay during what proved to be the club's comeback season.

Aside from a win in the same competition in 1951, Celtic had endured a barren post-war period despite having players of undoubted quality.

In season 1953/54, however, the players turned it round in the club's most successful season in 40 years, with a league and Scottish Cup double.

Given the pressure on the players that term, their nerves

were evident, particularly in the semi-final of the Scottish Cup where they drew 2-2 with Motherwell.

But on April 5, 1954, Celtic proved to be too strong at Hampden, with Willie Fernie and Neilly Mochan scoring the conclusive goals that booked their place in the final.

1913

ST MIRREN were Celtic's opponents when the club was first in action on this day, with goals from John Browning and Alex Gray sealing a 2-1 league win.

The 1912/13 campaign proved to be a disappointing one for the Bhoys, although there were little hints of the four consecutive championship successes that were to follow.

The form of the uncompromising Browning was one. Ironically nicknamed 'Smiler' due to his permanently dour demeanour, the outside left was described as that year's 'Catch of the Season' and went on to score 65 goals in 217 appearances.

Gray, meanwhile, enjoyed less good fortune at Celtic Park and made just 14 appearances between 1912 and 1918. A moulder by trade, in 1915 he made hand grenades to help in the war effort.

HELLO

- 1912** Actor John Le Mesurier, one of the stars of *Dad's Army*, is born in Bedford.
1917 Robert Bloch, horror writer and author of *Psycho*, is born Chicago, Illinois.
1945 Former Liverpool defender, Tommy Smith, is born in Liverpool.
1950 Abba singer, Agnetha Faltskog, is born in Jonkoping, Sweden.
1975 'Big Bad' John Hartson is born in Swansea, Wales.

GOODBYE

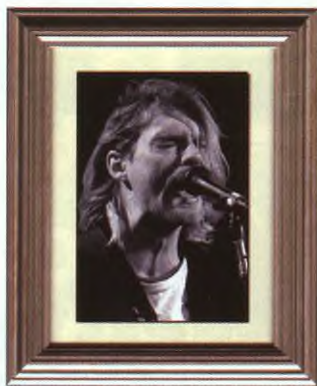
- 1976** Billionaire Howard Hughes dies on a plane bound for Texas after spending nearly 20 years as a recluse.
1994 Nirvana's lead singer, songwriter and guitarist, Kurt Cobain, is found dead in his home in Seattle.
1997 Beat poet Allen Ginsberg dies in New York aged 70.
1998 Legendary rock drummer, Cozy Powell is killed in a car crash in England.

TIMELINE

- 1804** The High Possil Meteorite lands in a quarry near Possilpark.
1874 Birkenhead Park, Britain's first civic public park, opens in the Wirral.
1955 Prime Minister Winston Churchill resigns due to failing health.
1998 The Akashi-Kaikyo Bridge, the world's largest suspension bridge, opens for business in Japan.

NO. 1s ON THIS DAY

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1955 Tennessee Ernie Ford | <i>Give Me Your Word</i> |
| 1960 Lonnie Donegan | <i>My Old Man's A Dustman</i> |
| 1965 The Rolling Stones | <i>The Last Time</i> |
| 1970 Simon and Garfunkel | <i>Bridge Over Troubled Water</i> |
| 1975 The Bay City Rollers | <i>Bye Bye Baby</i> |
| 1980 The Jam | <i>Going Underground/Dreams Of Children</i> |
| 1985 Philip Bailey with Phil Collins | <i>Easy Lover</i> |
| 1990 Snap | <i>The Power</i> |
| 1995 The Outhere Brothers | <i>Don't Stop (Wiggle Wiggle)</i> |
| 2000 Melanie C and Lisa Left Eye Lopes | <i>Never Be The Same Again</i> |
| 2005 Tony Christie featuring Peter Kay | <i>(Is This The Way To) Amarillo</i> |



Above: Kurt Cobain



Above: Melanie C



Above: Peter Kay

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>> PREVIOUS MEETINGS

WORDS: JOE SULLIVAN

CELTIC and Motherwell meet today on league duty for the 225th time since the very first meeting away back in 1903/04 when the Hoops won 6-0.

Of the previous 224 games, the Celts have won 138 with 52 being drawn and there have been 44 wins for the Lanarkshire side.

The 226th meeting will come hot on the heels of this one, next weekend to be precise with another looming just after the break.

So, with three games in quick succession on the immediate horizon, in today's matchday programme we take a look back at the three games played between the clubs last season.

Celtic 2-1 Motherwell

(Craigie og 16, Zurawski 66)

Scottish Premierleague, October 21, 2006

FRESH from an exhilarating 3-0 UEFA Champions League win over Benfica, another full house awaited Celtic just a few days later when Motherwell visited for the first time last season.

The Celts were looking for their eighth consecutive win in all competitions - a run that included the scalps of FC Copenhagen and Rangers - as the last team to beat Celtic were Manchester United in a tight 3-2 affair at Old Trafford...

And the eighth win duly followed but not without a little help from the visitors as Stephen Craigan opened the scoring by turning the ball into his own net.

It was Shunsuke Nakamura who produced the pass that put Maciej Zurawski through and, after taking a touch to take the ball past Colin Meldrum, the striker clipped his shot at goal.

The ball looked to be going wide of the far-post until Motherwell captain, Craigan took a touch that carried it over the line and put his team a goal behind.

Despite a Shaun Maloney 'goal' chalked-off for handball, the score remained 1-0 at the break but as the second period neared its midway point, the Celts went further ahead.

Nakamura was the provider again as he rolled a pass into the path of Maciej Zurawski and the Polish striker made no mistake with his finish, rolling the ball beneath Colin Meldrum and into the back of the net.

Motherwell did pull one back though and it was none other than current Celt, Scott McDonald, who found the net.

The backline didn't deal with a free-kick which was

headed across goal allowed and the striker room to break-in at the back post and knock the ball over the line.

Motherwell 1-1 Celtic

(Riordan 36)

Scottish Premierleague, December 30, 2006

CELTIC saw out the year 2006 with a trip to Motherwell for their seventh game in a packed December when even a 3-1 defeat by FC Copenhagen couldn't halt the Hoops' progress to the last 16 of the Champions League for the first time ever.

Wins over Aberdeen, Dunfermline and Falkirk were balanced by draws with Rangers and Dundee United and the year was to end with another tied game.

Level-pegging it may have been, but it was game that Celtic should have taken all three points from as the home side left it until the last minute before finding the net.

It was a thrilling 90 minutes, full of end-to-end excitement with non-stop entertainment and it was on this day that Derek Riordan chose to break his duck with Celtic by getting on the scoresheet for the first time since joining from Hibernian.

In the end it was an easy tap-in for Riordan as he celebrated his first league start of the season by looking determined to make the most of the day while Scott McDonald was making life difficult for Celtic at the other end.

The opener arrived in the 36th minute following a move started with patient play on the right, which



Maciej Zurawski

eventually led to Shunsuke Nakamura picking up possession on the edge of the box.

Twisting and turning, the Japanese ace made room for a fizzing left-foot shot, which Smith could only parry into the path of Riordan. From two yards out, he made no mistake. As the game went on, Riordan's strike looked to be enough to seal the win but Well's teenager substitute Darren Smith grabbed a shock injury-time equaliser to stun the Hoops and give his side a share of the points.

Thomas Gravesen's fierce drive late in the game smacked off the post as Celtic looked to be easing to victory, but Motherwell had other ideas. McDonald latched on to Paul Telfer's loose pass into the box and Smith converted his cross from close-range in the 90th minute.

Celtic 1-0 Motherwell

(Riordan 52)

Scottish Premierleague, April 7, 2007

THE third SPL meeting of season 2006/07 between today's teams was similar to the first in that, once again, Derek Riordan found the net but there was one marked difference in the Motherwell line-up with Scott McDonald being dropped for the tie.

He wasn't injured or suspended but the reason Well sidelined their star striker was that he had already signed a pre-contract deal with Celtic and would be on his way to the East End of Glasgow at the season's end.

And it was an injury to another striker that allowed

Riordan to notch the goal that really put Celtic in the driving seat for the SPL title.

Stephen Craigan was booked for a tackle on Maciej Zurawski that saw the Polish striker hobble off to be replaced by Riordan who joined Jan Vennegoor of Hesselink up front.

That was in the 35th minute but just seven minutes after the break the move paid off when Riordan put Celtic in front.

Aiden McGeady won possession on the left flank and skillfully rode two challenges before feeding Shunsuke Nakamura. The Japanese playmaker looked up and picked out Vennegoor of Hesselink at the back post.

The Dutchman rose above the Well defence and powered a header across the face of goal, where Riordan - showing a poacher's instinct - knocked the ball over the line.

This time though, there was to be no late, late show from Motherwell and the win meant that Celtic were just three points away from lifting the title for the second consecutive season.

A few days later the Hoops took the next significant step towards the double when they beat St Johnstone 2-1 in the Scottish Cup semi-final at Hampden before travelling to Rugby Park to take on Kilmarnock.

As that game entered its final minute tied at 1-1, it looked like Celtic would have to wait another week before amassing enough points to claim the title - that was until Nakamura fired in that glorious last-gasp free-kick!



Derek Riordan



>> SHUNSUKE

NAKAMURA

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Park Life

WHETHER AT CELTIC PARK OR FIR PARK, THESE 10 PLAYERS PROVIDED SOME GREAT MEMORIES FOR SUPPORTERS OF CELTIC AND MOTHERWELL

It would be fair to say that Celtic have benefited down through the years from former Motherwell strikers. Scott McDonald is currently the top goalscorer in the SPL with 26 goals after three successful seasons at Fir Park.

The Australian follows an illustrious band of strikers who have proved to be very successful at Celtic Park and these men make up a fair percentage of the 10 men we've chosen to feature.

And we also have two great Celtic captains in Tom Boyd and Paul Lambert, who also make it into the list.

Of course, any list of players to have graced the colours of both Celtic and Motherwell would not be complete without Phil O'Donnell.

His tragic loss continues to cast a shadow over proceedings this season and our thoughts and prayers remain with his family.

And on page 42 we've got a special feature which looks back on Phil's wonderful career with both clubs.

JOE McBRIDE

One of the greatest goalscorers ever to have worn the Hoops, Joe McBride spent three years at Fir Park prior to his move to Paradise in June 1965. And it proved to be an astute piece of business by new Celtic boss Jock Stein, as McBride netted an impressive 43 goals in all competitions in his first season with the Hoops. He followed that up with 35 goals in season 1966/67 as Celtic swept the boards, domestically and in Europe. What made McBride's goalscoring achievement all the more impressive was the fact that he only played half the season, getting injured against Aberdeen at Pittodrie on Christmas Eve 1966. Joe McBride scored 84 goals for Celtic in just 94 appearances before moving to Hibernian in November 1968. Jimmy McGrory said he was the best ever centre-forward he'd ever seen playing for Celtic. High praise indeed from the greatest of them all.

VIC DAVIDSON

One of the famed Quality Street Gang who emerged at Celtic in the late 1960s, Victor Davidson had two spells at Celtic, between 1968-75 and again between 1979-81. It brought him a total of 66 appearances for the Hoops, with 24 goals to his name. He made his debut against St Mirren in April 1970 when he scored in the 3-2 victory in what was the last game of another championship-winning season. He was an undoubted talent but never managed to establish himself as a first-team regular. By his own admission, he found the weight of expectation from supporters to be a heavy burden to bear. He joined Motherwell in 1975, staying three years at Fir Park before a year at Blackpool. Then, in 1979, Billy McNeill brought him back to Paradise but, once again, things didn't quite work out for him and he left for the Untied States two years later.

BRIAN McLAUGHLIN

Brian McLaughlin made just 20 appearances for Celtic, scoring one goal for the Hoops in a 1-1 draw against Morton on April 30, 1974, but beyond those statistics lies a tale of what might have been. Certainly Jock Stein believed that McLaughlin had the ability to be a great Celtic player, giving him his debut against Clydebank in September 1971 at the age of just 16. By the start of season 1973/74, McLaughlin was considered a first-team player but an injury suffered after an horrendous tackle from Clyde defender Willie McVie in September 1973 proved to be a catastrophic one as far as McLaughlin's Celtic career was concerned and his goal against Morton came as he made his comeback from the knee injury. He eventually left for Ayr United in 1977 before moving to Motherwell two years later where he continued to show his undoubted ability. ▶

DIXIE DEANS

Motherwell had been Dixie Deans' first senior club when he joined them in October 1966 and his goalscoring exploits with Motherwell earned him a move to Celtic in October 1971. He scored on his Hoops debut a month later in a 5-1 thrashing of Partick Thistle at Firhill, the first of 124 goals he would score for the club over the next five years in just 184 appearances. A Scottish Cup final hat-trick hero against Hibernian in 1972 - he would also hit three against Hibs in the League Cup final in October 1974 - Dixie also famously scored six goals against Patrick Thistle in a 7-0 victory, while just a few weeks later he hit four against Falkirk. A truly great Celtic striker, Dixie was always a favourite with the Hoops support.

Read our exclusive interview with Dixie Deans on Page 56.

BRIAN McCLAIR

Brian McClair's goalscoring exploits for Motherwell, which included a hat-trick against Rangers and a double against Celtic when the Fir Park side enjoyed a double triumph over the Glasgow sides, secured his transfer to Celtic Park in June 1983. The move meant that McClair had to give up his place at university, but over the next four years he proved to be a first-class acquisition for the Hoops, scoring 120 goals in 199 appearances. He won a Scottish Cup medal in 1985 and helped Celtic to an incredible title win 12 months later with a last-day triumph to pip Hearts. But 12 months later McClair was on his way south to Manchester United in what could only be described as daylight robbery, with Alex Ferguson paying a paltry £850,000 for a player who would become the first United striker since George Best to hit 20 league goals in a season.

ANDY WALKER

Striker Andy Walker was one of Billy McNeill's summer signings ahead of the centenary season and he proved to be an instant success for the Hoops, scoring a total of 31 goals as Celtic secured a league and cup double. It was a tremendous start for the young striker, who had spent

three years at Motherwell prior to joining Celtic. He scored 14 goals the following season but missed out on the Scottish Cup final triumph over Rangers through injury. He left the club in 1992 for Bolton, but returned two years later, for another two-year spell at Celtic Park. In total, Andy Walker made 195 appearances for Celtic, scoring 69 goals, and his contribution, particularly during the Centenary season, when he scored two of the goals the day the title was won, as well as his goal in the dramatic Scottish Cup semi-final victory over Hearts, was a valuable one to the Celtic cause.

TOMMY COYNE

Tommy Coyne had spells with both Dundee clubs before joining Celtic in March 1989, and he made his debut for the club that month in a 1-0 victory over Hearts at Tynecastle. In 132 appearances for the Hoops, Coyne scored 52 goals, an impressive tally particularly considering that it was between 1989-93, not exactly vintage seasons for the Celts. He famously scored against Rangers in February 1990 to knock them out of the Scottish Cup. He moved south to Tranmere Rovers in March 1993 but returned to Scotland and

Motherwell later that same year. He proved a great goalscoring success at Fir Park, becoming the SPL's top scorer in 1994/95 and he netted a total of 59 goals in 132 games for Motherwell. Tommy Coyne also won 22 caps for the Republic of Ireland and played for his country at the 1994 World Cup finals in the United States.

PAUL LAMBERT

Paul Lambert's arrival at Celtic Park in November 1997 was one of the key moments in helping the Hoops win the title that season and stopping the 10. By then he had already won a Scottish Cup with St Mirren, played three years at Fir Park with Motherwell and then moved to Borussia Dortmund where he helped the German side win the European Cup. A stylish midfielder, Lambert made 275 appearances for Celtic, scoring 19 goals, though the statistics only tell part of the story. As well as the 1998 title triumph, Lambert was



one of the main players in the treble-winning season of 2000/01, along with subsequent successes at home and in Europe over the next four years, including the drive to the UEFA Cup final in 2003. A genuine world-class player, Lambert also won 40 caps for Scotland, scoring one goal.

TOM BOYD

A legend with both Motherwell and Celtic, Tom Boyd famously began his football career as a YTS trainee with Motherwell and, during an eight-year spell with the Fir Park club, Boyd made over 300 appearances for the club, famously captaining them to the 1991 Scottish Cup triumph over Dundee United at Hampden. A short spell at Chelsea followed before he moved to Celtic Park in a swap deal involving Tony Cascarino. Over the next 11 years, he made 407 appearances for the Hoops and though he only scored two goals, his importance to the club cannot be understated. He

captained the side which stopped the 10 in 1998 and won the treble in 2001, and he was rightly rewarded with a testimonial for his services to Celtic, with Manchester United providing the opposition. He also won 72 caps for Scotland.

STEPHEN PEARSON

Now plying his trade down south with Stoke City, where he has moved on loan from Derby County, Stephen Pearson was one of a number of promising young players to have come through the ranks at Fir Park in recent seasons and his performances over four years with Motherwell were enough to earn him a move to Celtic in January 2004. Over the next three years he would make 76 appearances for the club, scoring seven goals and his commitment to the Celtic cause could never be questioned. However, in the end, his need for regular first-team football saw him leave the club in January 2007 for Derby County.



PHIL O'DONNELL

SUPPORTERS OF CELTIC AND MOTHERWELL UNITED IN THEIR
APPRECIATION OF A WONDERFUL FOOTBALLER AND A GOOD MAN



WHEN the dust settles on season 2007/08, the history books will record the winners of the respective domestic tournaments in Scotland.

Top goalscorers will be acknowledged while every club will compile the relevant statistics from the campaign.

However, this season will be remembered, first and foremost, for the tragic loss of Phil O'Donnell, whose sudden death on December 29, 2007 stunned the footballing world. At the age of just 35, he collapsed during Motherwell's game against Dundee United at Fir Park and died later in hospital.

Phil was enjoying his second spell with Motherwell and his performances in the early part of the season as Mark McGhee's side made a determined push for third place in the league, only served to further endear him to a Motherwell support who still remembered him fondly as one of the heroes of the club's 1991 Scottish Cup triumph.

He had joined Motherwell as a 17-year-old in 1989 and just two years later scored in that famous final when Motherwell beat Dundee United 4-3 at Hampden to secure the club's first major triumph in 39 years. Alongside him that day were Tom Boyd, who captained the side, and Davie Cooper, the former Rangers player whose own life was to end just as tragically and suddenly.

That Motherwell team became, for a support starved of trophy success before or since, revered figures and O'Donnell who left the club in 1994 for Celtic, was assured of the warmest and most affectionate of welcomes when he returned to Fir Park in 2004.

Prior to joining the team he supported, O'Donnell was twice named SPFA Young Player of the Year - in 1992 and 1994 - while in 1994 he earned what would prove to be his only Scotland cap when he played against Switzerland.

His growing reputation, however, had provoked the interest of a number of clubs, and in signing for Celtic, he fulfilled a cherished ambition to pull on the green and white hoops. Tommy Burns had identified the player as one who would be of great benefit to Celtic, and the club paid £1.75million for his services, which remains the biggest transfer fee Motherwell have ever received for a player.

Again, the Scottish Cup proved to be a good tournament for O'Donnell as he helped Celtic end a six-year barren spell with a 1-0 victory over Airdrie at Hampden. However, injuries were to prove a regular blight on his time at Celtic, curtailing what

could and should have been a more illustrious period in his club career but also ensuring he never gained any further international honours.

In total, he played 114 times for Celtic, scoring 20 goals, which included a double against Partick Thistle on his Hoops debut on September 10, 1994.

His finest achievement for his beloved Celtic undoubtedly came in season 1997/98 when he was part of the squad that stopped the 10 and, as much as a supporter as a player, O'Donnell celebrated the title triumph after the 2-0 victory over St Johnstone on the final day of the season at Celtic Park.

While Celtic did not enjoy the same success the following season, the midfielder was in the side which beat Rangers 5-1 in November 1998, a game remembered for Lubo Moravcik's two stunning derby debut strikes.

In 1999 O'Donnell left Celtic, along with team-mate and close friend Simon Donnelly for Sheffield Wednesday, though injuries were once again to prove a difficult opponent for him and he made just 25 appearances for the club over the next five years.

That was when then Motherwell manager Terry Butcher brought him back to the club where it had all began. Initially, it had just been an invitation to train but very quickly Butcher realised that O'Donnell still had much to offer football and Motherwell.

Last season he suffered another serious injury yet, as ever, his spirits remained high and he got himself fit for the new campaign after a summer of intensive training. And his form in the first few months of this season was one of the main reasons for Motherwell's success.

Celtic and Motherwell supporters will get the chance to unite once again in memory of a great player when a special tribute match takes place at Celtic Park on May 25, 2008. It will feature the Motherwell greats from the 1991 Scottish Cup triumph against the Celtic stars of the 1998 Championship-winning game.

The match is certain to be an emotional one but also a time for everyone to remember everything that Phil O'Donnell gave to both clubs.

As ever, our thoughts and prayers remain with his wife, Eileen and their four children, Meghan, Christopher, Olivia and Luc, his parents, brothers, sisters, family and many friends.

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>> CELTIC NEWS

EIGHT-GRAND WINDFALL DELIGHT

STUART Graham was as disappointed as every other Celtic fan to see the team crash out of the Scottish Cup after the 1-0 replay defeat to Aberdeen.

But at least the Hoops fan from Hawick had the small consolation of a cheque for **EIGHT THOUSAND POUNDS** courtesy of the Paradise Windfall.

Because Stuart scooped the top prize in the half-time draw, which was made by Ben Queenan (age 11) from Calton, Glasgow.

The winning number was: C1075.

The other numbers drawn were: Q3925, M3591, F3770, B3259.



THE PARADISE WINDFALL DRAW IS SPONSORED BY THE CELTIC VIEW.

MASCOT JOY FOR MATTHEW

IT wasn't the best result for Celtic but Matthew Connor still had a great night out at Paradise.

Because the nine-year-old from Giffnock was the

team mascot.

And he led out the Bhoys alongside captain Stephen McManus.



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UNDER-12s

The current Under-12 group recently made the transition from 7-a-side to 11-a-side football and Bhoys have they adapted well.

The previous season-and-a-half saw the young Hoops play the wonderful smaller version of the game, giving all the players a great understanding and knowledge to take with them into the game that we all know and love!

Since the turn of the year, the Under-12 squad has continued to develop and produce some wonderful displays at both coaching and in match situations.

This fantastic group of kids is made up of; Reece Govan, Chris Truesdale, Connor Campbell, Kris Chisholm, Liam Anderson, Luke Donnelly, Connor McManus, Dominic Thomas, Jaison McGrath, Alan Forrest, Eamonn Brophy, Calum Waters, Andy Common, Jordan O'Donnell, Ryan Blair, Paul McMullan, Connor Murray & Ross Stewart.

This group receive two nights' of coaching at Barrowfield each week along with a Sports Science session followed by the big Saturday match!

For players this age, support, encouragement and praise are all essential components of their development with some methods including;

Sunday Skills School

During one Sunday each month all players within the Junior Academy (U9-U12) take part in the Sunday Skills School with the main focus being players working on their weaknesses whether it be passing with their left foot, heading or power shooting with their right foot. This initiative is greatly received by all players and parents alike.

Newsletter

Each player receives a weekly newsletter to keep them up to date with events taking place in the week ahead and with any information regarding tournaments, parents' nights and special events.

Help Cards

All players receive specially designed help cards which are made up of carefully planned individual coaching practices in which the Bhoys can practice on their own to further develop their technique.

Positive Comments Sheets

We ask the players to say a few lines about their teammates and this is then transferred into an individual positive comment sheet which is issued to each player. The final sheet is then littered with positive comments about themselves by their team mates which are extremely well received.

Buddy System

A new initiative that was introduced this season is the buddy system that sees players from each age group within the Junior Academy "buddy up" to provide help, support and information to eradicate any fears the young players may have of going on their first tournament, playing 11-a-side football or receiving their first report.

Cub Club Coaching

A Sunday afternoon sees the wonderful Cub Club coaching that incorporates the very best U9 and U10 players in the country. These sessions are delivered by the Head of the Junior Academy, Martin Miller and the U11 & U12 players are encouraged to attend and help "coach" which increases their self confidence and self belief.

Reporting System

Each player is given written feedback on their development on a monthly basis which also provides them with areas of development which will be focused on in the month after.

All of the above mentioned initiatives are designed to provide the young players in the Celtic Junior Academy every opportunity to develop individually, provide support and raise self confidence at every opportunity which at this age is so important.

The last time I wrote an article for the matchday programme, I think I had just completed the Loch Ness marathon with my colleague Martin Miller. As I write this article, I have just recovered!

We somehow managed to raise over £3,000 for the chosen charity of the Junior Academy, Live with Hope which provides opportunities for orphaned children in Motobo, Kericho, Kenya.

Martin has since taken this one stage further and has booked himself and his good lady, Geraldine on to a flight to Kenya to visit the Live with Hope centre in person!

Since announcing his trip to Kenya, the Bhoys of the Junior Academy have been wonderful by bringing in old boots (some of which have never even been worn!), old strips and tracksuits to be passed on to

these extremely under-privileged kids.

I am sure you will agree that this once again highlights the fact that Celtic is much more than a football club and is always looking for ways to help others!

I sincerely hope that you enjoy this afternoon's game.

Hail, Hail!



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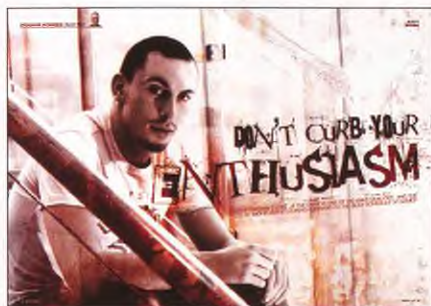
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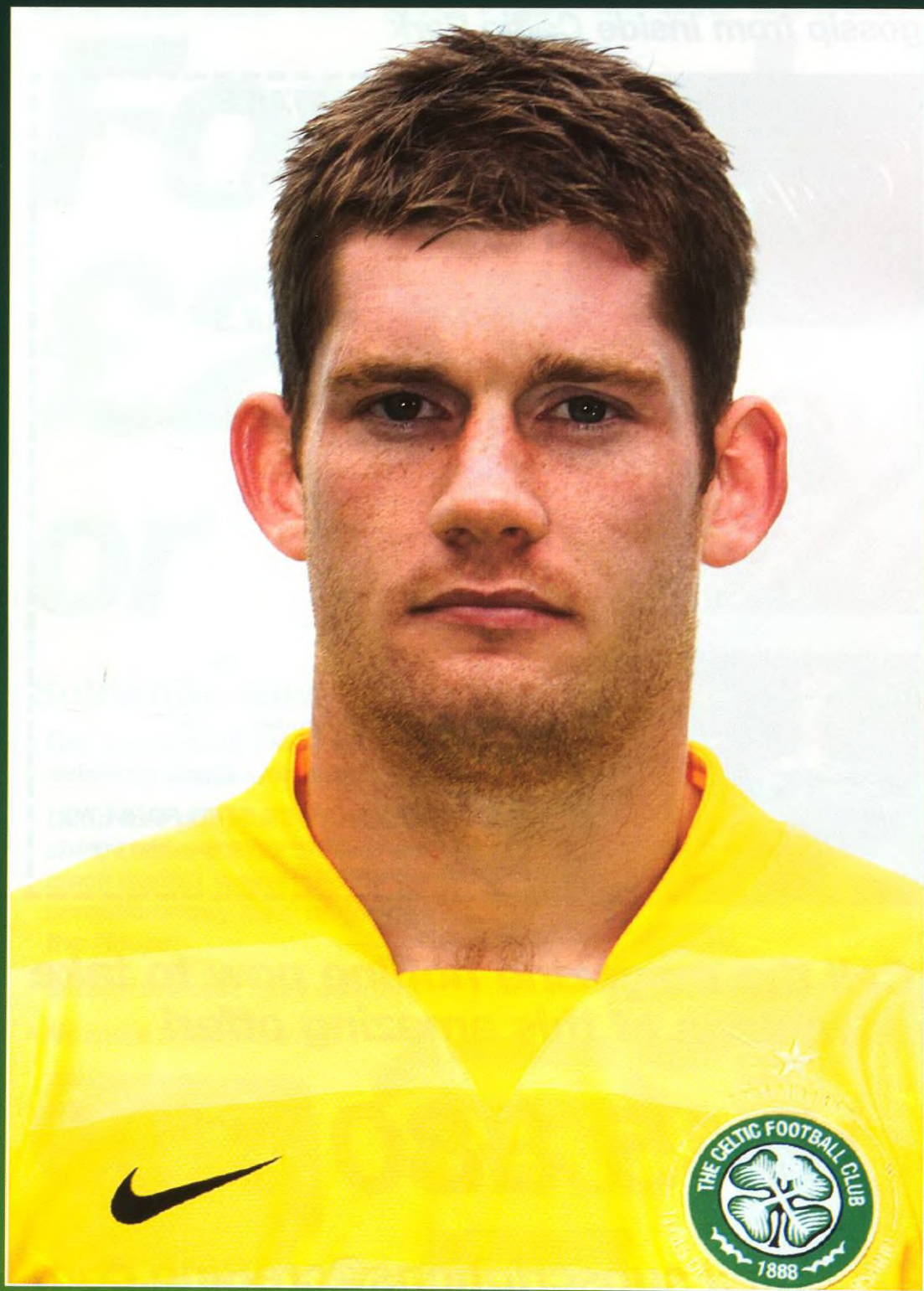
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McGOVERN



EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW: GREGOR KYLE

ROOM WITH A VIEW

MICHAEL McGOVERN MAY BE ENJOYING THE PICTURESQUE SCENERY DURING HIS RECOVERY FROM INJURY, BUT THE CELTIC GOALKEEPER IS JUST DESPERATE TO GET BACK INTO ACTION

AS far as panoramic views go, it is one of the most stunning that the Lennoxtown Training Centre has to offer.

With the Campsie Fells standing imposingly in the background and the training pitches stretched out below, players can quite literally watch the passing of the seasons from the club's state-of-the-art gym.

These pristine surroundings have been Michael McGovern's home from home these past eight weeks, with the Celtic goalkeeper working through his rehabilitation after a broken finger put the brakes on his season.

The injury has meant missed opportunities, with

"I AM STUCK BETWEEN A ROCK AND A HARD PLACE REALLY, BUT ALL I CAN DO IS KEEP MY HEAD DOWN IN TRAINING AND IF I GET CHANCES IN GAMES JUST TRY AND TAKE THEM."

understudy Scott Fox taking his place in the matchday squad and travelling with the first-team to Barcelona.

With this in mind, it's easy to understand McGovern is desperate to get back out in the open and rejoin his team-mates. "I've been up here a lot," he smiled, "although at the start, I couldn't do a lot of gym work because of my finger. So I was doing a lot of leg weights, but lately I've been working on my general strength and fitness.

"I suppose this injury has given me the chance to work on other areas of my general health and fitness and building my strength is one of the positives to come out of this. I do feel fitter and stronger.

"So that's something that you can take from it and that's all you can do, look for the positives in a situation like this."

The Training Centre provides, in McGovern's own words, "a

perfect environment to work in" and since moving from Barrowfield, the players have benefited immensely from the fact that all of their facilities are now close to hand.

Gone are the days when they would have to drive back along London Road. Now everything from the gym, swimming pool, sauna, changing rooms and pitches are all just a short walk from each other.

This environment encourages the players to work on their fitness, while making it easier for the backroom staff to monitor their progress, and McGovern is one of many players who have used the centre to his advantage, so much so that the 23-year-old is in danger of giving goalkeepers, normally

regarded as being more 'laid-back' in their preparation than their outfield team-mates, a bad name.

"Keepers in the modern game have to be just as fit as outfield players," continued McGovern with another smile, "albeit in a different way.

"We don't do the same training and while they do a lot of running we work on our strength and agility.

"That's just as hard to be honest, because I've done both types of training in my time here, but in the gym I've been working more on my legs and more recently on my upper body.

"I've also been doing a lot of Plyometric work with the sports scientists, Greg Dupont and Alan McCormack, which combines speed and power work. It's basically a lot of work on jumps and hurdles and I am really feeling the benefits of it.

"The whole approach to fitness is a lot more detailed than ►

MICHAEL McGOVERN



it was a wee while ago," added McGovern. "It's just a different set-up now and it's a lot more exact, with people working on specific jobs.

"They are meticulous in their work and are obviously very hard-working and talented people. There is a lot more work done on measuring what you do in games and even in training, so you can see the benefits."

Given McGovern's position as third-choice goalkeeper at the club behind Artur Boruc and Mark Brown, this training and fitness is particularly vital and is designed to compensate as best as possible for his lack of match action.

"For the past two years I've really been looking to try and get out on loan," explained McGovern.

"Obviously I've asked, but each time the manager has come back and explained that he really needs three keepers here for the UEFA Champions League and the league and he's been proved right.

"Take December for example, Artur was injured, out for the whole month almost and Mark Brown came into the team with me on the bench.

"Like I said, I can completely understand the situation and I am certainly not complaining about it, but it can be a bit frustrating, particularly when I feel that to progress at this stage of my career, I need to be out and playing games regularly and really challenging for a first team place somewhere.

"I am stuck between a rock and a hard place really, but all I can do is keep my head down in training and if I get chances in games just try and take them."

It is a reflection of the way in which McGovern carries himself, as a player and a person, that he has continued to garner the praise and support of the manager and coaching staff at the club throughout this time.

A genuinely talented shot-stopper who works hard on his game, it would be difficult to find a more down-to-earth and level-headed member of the squad as well.

While waiting in the wings he has never complained, has redoubled his efforts in training and his attitude has also been rewarded with regular call-ups to the full Northern Ireland squad.

"I've been getting in a few international squads recently and I am delighted with that, especially seeing as how I am not playing regular club football," McGovern said. "That does give me encouragement and spurs me on to do better.

"Hopefully that experience will also help me if I start getting games as well and it's great to hear from the manager that I am doing well and it's great to get praise from the likes of Jim Blyth and the other coaches here.

"Like I said, it gives me encouragement to go on, but in saying that, I would still love to be playing football. You never know what's going to happen and I've not missed too many reserve games while I've been out injured.

"There have been a lot of call-offs, so I'd like to get back playing in the reserves. It might take an injury crisis for me to get involved with the first team, but I'd like to think that I'd be ready if the opportunity arose."

Until then McGovern will redouble his efforts in the gym, with one eye on his team-mates training on the pitches below, waiting for his chance.

"It's a great view," he concluded with another smile, "but it's one that I've been getting a bit fed up with.

"That's seven or eight weeks I've been out injured and it's hard for you to watch everyone training and playing without you.

"But I should be thankful, it's just a broken finger and there are hardly any long-term after-effects or problems with that. It's just a matter of ensuring that the time is right to go back."

And when that day finally arrives, you can guarantee that McGovern will be ready.

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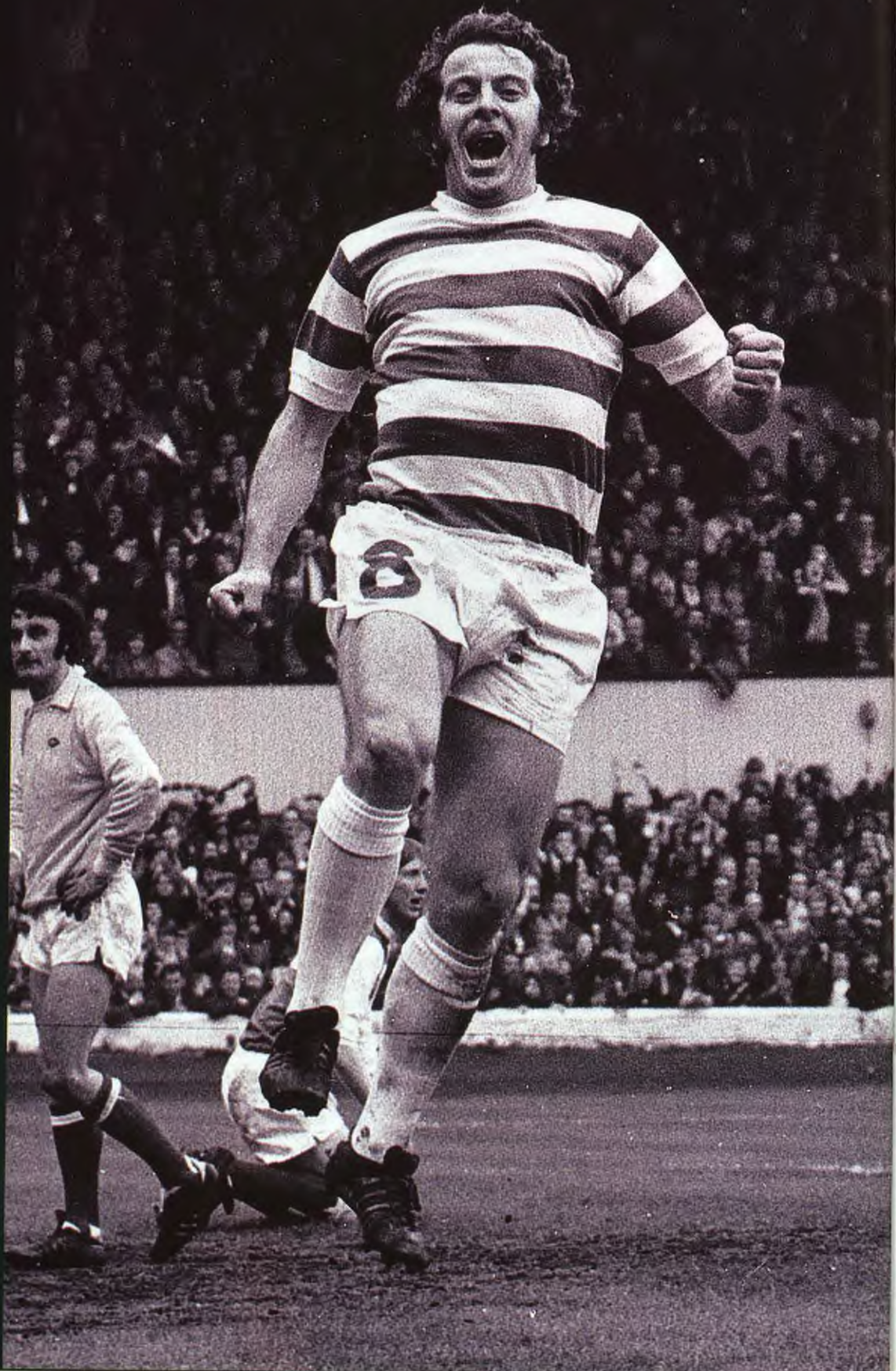
Celtic FC have teamed up with BT FON to help create the world's biggest Mexican Wave, which will be launching at today's match against Motherwell. The players have recorded hilarious individual Mexican waves, which you will be able to see on the big screens, and there will be lots of fun activity before the match which you can get involved in.

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For more information on BT FON, and to upload your own Mexican wave action after the game:

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EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW: DAVID FRIEL

THE GOALS TRAIL

DIXIE DEANS IS ONE OF A HANDFUL OF GOALSCORING GREATS WHO MADE THE SWITCH FROM FIR PARK TO CELTIC PARK WITH INCREDIBLE SUCCESS

THEY have scored a staggering 426 Celtic goals between them and have one thing in common - they all joined the Hoops from Motherwell.

Joe McBride, Dixie Deans, Brian McClair, Andy Walker and Scott McDonald. Five strikers of undoubted prowess, who have all made the trip to Celtic Park from Fir Park with staggering success.

Australian McDonald, with 26 goals to his credit this season, is the most recent ex-Well player to don the Hoops, but the combined total of the four others - an average of 100

"It is unbelievable that so many strikers have gone on to have success at Celtic after signing from Motherwell. I suppose it's just a brilliant place to learn your trade.

"It's a fantastic football club. I spent six years at Motherwell and it's a brilliant family club. They are well-run and I hope they continue to improve, and I hope they also continue supplying strikers for Celtic!"

McDonald, Scotland's top scorer, will be in contention for a start this afternoon and will be hoping to enjoy similar success to the last time he played against his old club - when

"WHEN I JOINED CELTIC, I DID MANAGE TO SCORE A FEW GOALS AGAINST MOTHERWELL AND IT WAS ALWAYS SPECIAL BECAUSE YOU WERE UP AGAINST YOUR OLD CLUB."

goals between them - is simply phenomenal.

Deans, a cult figure for Celtic in the 1970s, grabbed 124 of those 426 goals, and is at a loss to explain why Fir Park has produced such a conveyor belt of striking talent. As well as McDonald's 26 goals, McBride sits on 86, McClair hit 121 and Walker found the net 69 times.

"I don't know why that's happened, but one thing is for sure...Motherwell must have had some good scouts over the years," the Hoops legend told the Matchday Programme.

he netted a hat-trick in a 3-0 win earlier this season.

Traditionally, football players always want to make an impression against their former clubs and Deans was no different - although he admits he never really wanted to inflict too much pain on the Steelmen.

He said: "When I joined Celtic, I did manage to score a few goals against Motherwell and it was always special because you were up against your old club.

"In saying that, I never went in to a game against Motherwell hoping to hammer them. I always wanted to ►



score against them, but deep down I wanted to see them do well and put up a good fight."

After entertaining visitors in the hospitality suites at Paradise before the game, Deans will take his usual place in the Celtic Park stand and watch his former sides do battle.

Will there be divided loyalties for the man who represented both clubs with distinction? Not a chance - Deans will be looking for a green and white triumph.

Not that he expects it to be a straight-forward win for Celtic. Deans has watched with interest as Mark McGhee has transformed Motherwell's fortunes and has been suitably impressed by their progress.

Playing a fluid 4-3-3 formation in most games, McGhee's side are full of craft and invention and are currently locked on 49 points with Dundee United in the race for third place - with two games in hand.

Deans said: "Whenever I was playing for Celtic, the first result I looked for after the game was Motherwell. I always wanted to see how they got on."

"Come Saturday, I'll want Celtic to win. I'll always have a soft spot for Motherwell and I want them to finish as high up the SPL as possible. But I'm a Celtic man and I'll be supporting them on Saturday.

"I work in the hospitality at Celtic Park and I see all the home games. I've only really seen Motherwell on television, but I've been impressed and I think Mark McGhee has done a wonderful job.

"They are up there challenging for third place and I think they have been superb. Football-wise, they knock the ball about and it's superb to see.

"I fancy them to take third place. They've done well all season and they came through a horrendous time with the

death of young Phil O'Donnell.

"It wasn't easy for them and they came through a lot. I'd love to see Motherwell finish on a high by grabbing that European place - I think they deserve it."

As a diehard Celtic fan, last weekend's derby disappointment hit Deans hard, but the former Celt has no intention of throwing in the towel in the SPL title race.

During his own Celtic career, there were times when Deans and his team-mates faced an uphill battle to win trophies, but they got there in the end - as Deans' collection of three league titles, two Scottish Cups and one League Cup shows.

"Last Saturday's result was hard to take, but it's not over yet," he said. "We've got two more games against Rangers at Celtic Park and nothing is certain.

"If Celtic win those two games, it will all be in the balance. Celtic simply can't afford to drop any more points. If they do, it could be finished.

"When I was at Celtic, there were a few similar situations - when there was no option but to win games. The pressure was on but we came through it.

"The boys are capable of winning all the games and Gordon will have them up for it, but it won't be easy.

"Aside from the two Rangers games, Celtic have to play Motherwell three times and all the other sides in the top six. And the same goes for Rangers.

"There will be hard ties, but all the boys can do is look after their own form. They know that and I'm sure the players will be looking game to game, and saying that they must win.

"This is the time when the experienced players have to stand up and be counted. They are capable of winning eight games and that's what they have to do."





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>> NEXT ONE UP

Sunday, April 13, 2008
Fir Park
(kick-off 2pm)

Motherwell

THE greybeards among us with memories long enough to recall the old League Cup sectional games would be forgiven for thinking that those days are upon us once more.

For the uninitiated, the four-team sections were completed at the start of the season home and away, usually in conjunction with league games.

It meant, depending on the draw and the league fixtures, that some clubs could be sick of the sight of each other before the new season was barely a few weeks old.

Zoom forward a few decades, throw in a particularly bad winter, ground-sharing and swap the start of the season for the end and you have something of the same scenario.

Celtic are spending the last four games of the pre-split schedule playing twice each against Rangers and Motherwell and will meet both teams again soon after the league halves in two.

So, after clashing today, Celtic and Motherwell will spend the week preparing to face up to each other again out at Fir Park next weekend.

In truth, there's not a lot that can be said about next Sunday's meeting that can't be said about today's clash.

Celtic are hell-bent on amassing enough points to win the league while the Lanarkshire side will be doing likewise to claim that coveted third spot.

Come to think of it, the League Cup sections were never this nail-biting!



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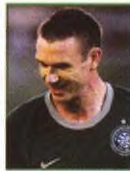


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KEY

Number of Goals scored	CBPL - Clydesdale Bank Premier League
Booked	CL - Champions League
Sent Off	SC - Scottish Cup
Home games in bold	CIS - CIS Insurance Cup
1st 2nd 3rd Sub	

CELTIC STATS 07/08

FIXTURES & RESULTS



CLYDESDALE BANK PREMIER LEAGUE 2007/08

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	GD
Rangers	29	24	2	3	70	21	74	+49
Celtic	30	21	5	4	69	20	68	+49
Dundee Utd	32	14	7	11	45	35	49	+10
Motherswell	30	15	4	11	40	35	49	+5
Hibernian	32	13	8	11	45	38	47	+7
Falkirk	32	11	9	12	39	42	42	-3
Hearts	32	11	8	13	42	48	41	-6
Aberdeen	32	11	8	13	41	52	41	-11
Inverness CT	32	10	3	19	39	57	33	-18
Kilmarnock	32	8	8	16	34	46	32	-12
St Mirren	30	8	8	14	22	46	32	-24
Gretna	31	4	4	23	28	74	6*	-46

* Gretna deducted 10 points

FIRST TEAM APPEARANCES & GOALS 2007/08

	SPL LEAGUE	SCOTTISH CUP	LEAGUE CUP	CHAMPIONS LEAGUE
B BALDE	2 (0) 0	0 (0) 0	0 (0) 0	0 (0) 0
T BJARNASON	0 (0) 0	0 (0) 0	0 (0) 0	0 (0) 0
A BORUC	22 (0) 0	4 (0) 0	2 (0) 0	9 (0) 0
P CADDIS	0 (1) 0	1 (0) 0	0 (0) 0	1 (0) 0
G CALDWELL	28 (0) 1	4 (0) 1	2 (0) 0	9 (1) 0
R CONROY	2 (0) 0	0 (0) 0	0 (0) 0	0 (0) 0
S CUTHBERT	0 (0) 0	0 (0) 0	0 (0) 0	0 (0) 0
M DONATI	20 (3) 3	3 (1) 0	2 (0) 0	7 (3) 1
P HARTLEY	17 (4) 0	1 (1) 0	1 (0) 0	9 (0) 1
A HINKEL	9 (0) 1	3 (0) 0	0 (0) 0	0 (0) 0
B HUTCHINSON	0 (1) 0	0 (0) 0	0 (0) 0	0 (0) 0
J JAROSIK	6 (2) 1	0 (0) 0	0 (0) 0	5 (0) 1
J KENNEDY	5 (2) 0	0 (0) 0	2 (0) 0	4 (1) 0
C KILLEN	2 (16) 1	0 (1) 0	0 (1) 0	1 (4) 0
M BROWN	8 (0) 0	0 (0) 0	0 (0) 0	1 (0) 0
S McDONALD	27 (1) 20	4 (0) 3	2 (0) 1	8 (2) 2
A McGEADY	27 (1) 7	4 (0) 0	1 (0) 0	8 (2) 1
M McGOVERN	0 (0) 0	0 (0) 0	0 (0) 0	0 (0) 0
P McGOWAN	0 (1) 0	0 (0) 0	0 (0) 0	0 (0) 0
S McMANUS	30 (0) 2	4 (0) 0	2 (0) 0	10 (0) 1
K MILLER	1 (1) 3	0 (0) 0	0 (0) 0	0 (0) 0
S NAKAMURA	16 (2) 5	4 (0) 1	0 (0) 0	5 (1) 0
L NAYLOR	26 (0) 1	3 (0) 0	2 (0) 0	9 (0) 0
J O'BRIEN	0 (1) 0	0 (1) 0	0 (0) 0	0 (0) 0
D O'DEA	3 (2) 0	1 (1) 0	0 (0) 0	1 (1) 0
J P DOUMBE	2 (0) 0	0 (0) 0	0 (0) 0	1 (0) 0
S PRESSLEY	5 (0) 0	0 (0) 0	0 (0) 0	1 (1) 0
D RIORDAN	2 (6) 1	0 (1) 0	1 (0) 0	0 (1) 0
B ROBSON	2 (5) 1	0 (0) 0	0 (0) 0	1 (0) 1
G SAMARAS	4 (4) 3	0 (3) 1	0 (0) 0	0 (2) 0
S BROWN	30 (0) 3	3 (0) 0	2 (0) 0	9 (0) 0
E SNO	3 (9) 0	1 (1) 0	1 (1) 0	0 (5) 0
J V O HESSELINK	24 (1) 11	4 (0) 3	2 (0) 1	7 (1) 1
M WILSON	6 (0) 0	0 (0) 0	0 (0) 0	4 (1) 0
M ZURAWSKI	1 (4) 0	0 (0) 0	0 (0) 0	0 (3) 0

COMP	DATE	OPPOSITION	RES.	ATT.	STARTING 11	SUBS
CBPL	04 AUG	KILMARNOCK	0-0	58,730	M BROWN WILSON KENNEDY	McMANUS NAYLOR HARTLEY DONATI S BROWN McGEADY HESSELINK ZURAWSKI
SPL	11 AUG	FALKIRK	4-1	6,329	M BROWN WILSON KENNEDY	McMANUS NAYLOR NAKAMURA S BROWN DONATI McGEADY MILLER HESSELINK
UCL Q3	15 AUG	SPARTAK MOSCOW	1-1	67,000	M BROWN WILSON KENNEDY	McMANUS NAYLOR NAKAMURA S BROWN DONATI HARTLEY McDONALD HESSELINK
SPL	18 AUG	ABERDEEN	3-1	16,232	BORUC WILSON CALDWELL	McMANUS NAYLOR NAKAMURA S BROWN DONATI McGEADY McDONALD HESSELINK
CBPL	25 AUG	HEARTS	5-0	57,300	BORUC WILSON CALDWELL	McMANUS NAYLOR NAKAMURA S BROWN DONATI McGEADY McDONALD HESSELINK
UCL Q3	29 AUG	SPARTAK MOSCOW	1-1	57,854	BORUC WILSON CALDWELL	McMANUS NAYLOR NAKAMURA S BROWN DONATI McGEADY HESSELINK McDONALD
CBPL	01 SEPT	ST MIRREN	5-1	7,840	BORUC WILSON CALDWELL	McMANUS NAYLOR SNO HARTLEY RIORDAN S BROWN McDONALD HESSELINK
CBPL	15 SEPT	INVERNESS CT	5-0	56,020	BORUC WILSON CALDWELL	McMANUS NAYLOR NAKAMURA S BROWN DONATI McGEADY HESSELINK
UCL	18 SEPT	SHAKHTAR DONETSK	0-2	30,000	BORUC WILSON CALDWELL	McMANUS NAYLOR DONATI HARTLEY NAKAMURA S BROWN McDONALD HESSELINK
CBPL	23 SEPT	HIRBERNIAN	2-3	16,125	BORUC DOUMBE CALDWELL	McMANUS NAYLOR HARTLEY S BROWN DONATI McGEADY HESSELINK McDONALD
CIS	26 SEPT	DUNDEE	2-1	8,203	BORUC CALDWELL NAYLOR	KENNEDY McMANUS S BROWN SNO DONATI McGEADY HESSELINK McDONALD
CBPL	29 SEPT	DUNDEE UNITED	3-0	57,006	BORUC DOUMBE CALDWELL	McMANUS NAYLOR S BROWN HARTLEY DONATI McGEADY McDONALD HESSELINK
UCL	03 OCT	AC MILAN	2-1	58,643	BORUC DOUMBE CALDWELL	McMANUS NAYLOR HARTLEY S BROWN DONATI McGEADY JAROSIK McDONALD
CBPL	07 OCT	GRETNA	2-1	6,011	BORUC WILSON CALDWELL	McMANUS NAYLOR NAKAMURA S BROWN DONATI McGEADY KILLEN McDONALD
CBPL	20 OCT	RANGERS	0-3	80,428	BORUC O'DEA CALDWELL	McMANUS NAYLOR NAKAMURA DONATI S BROWN SNO JAROSIK McDONALD
UCL	24 OCT	BENFICA	0-1	35,000	BORUC CALDWELL KENNEDY	McMANUS NAYLOR HARTLEY JAROSIK S BROWN DONATI McGEADY KILLEN
CBPL	27 OCT	MOTHERWELL	3-0	57,633	BORUC CALDWELL KENNEDY	McMANUS NAYLOR NAKAMURA S BROWN DONATI McGEADY McDONALD KILLEN
CIS	31 OCT R4	HEARTS	0-2	21,492	BORUC CALDWELL KENNEDY	McMANUS NAYLOR McGEADY S BROWN DONATI HARTLEY McDONALD HESSELINK
CBPL	03 NOV	KILMARNOCK	2-1	8,260	BORUC CALDWELL NAYLOR	KENNEDY McMANUS JAROSIK HARTLEY S BROWN McGEADY McDONALD HESSELINK
UCL	06 NOV	BENFICA	1-0	58,214	BORUC NAYLOR CALDWELL	KENNEDY McMANUS S BROWN HARTLEY JAROSIK McGEADY HESSELINK McDONALD
CBPL	24 NOV	ABERDEEN	3-0	58,350	M BROWN CALDWELL KENNEDY	McMANUS NAYLOR S BROWN DONATI JAROSIK McGEADY McDONALD HESSELINK
UCL	28 NOV	SHAKHTAR DONETSK	2-1	59,146	BORUC CALDWELL KENNEDY	McMANUS NAYLOR McGEADY S BROWN HARTLEY JAROSIK McDONALD HESSELINK
CBPL	01 DEC	HEARTS	1-1	16,454	BORUC CALDWELL PRESSLEY	McMANUS O'DEA McGEADY S BROWN HARTLEY JAROSIK HESSELINK McDONALD
UCL	04 DEC	AC MILAN	0-1	38,409	BORUC CALDWELL PRESSLEY	McMANUS O'DEA JAROSIK DONATI S BROWN HARTLEY McGEADY McDONALD
CBPL	08 DEC	ST MIRREN	1-1	55,747	M BROWN CALDWELL PRESSLEY	McMANUS O'DEA McGEADY HARTLEY S BROWN JAROSIK McDONALD HESSELINK
CBPL	11 DEC	FALKIRK	4-0	54,291	M BROWN CALDWELL PRESSLEY	McMANUS CONROY McGEADY S BROWN DONATI HARTLEY McGEADY HESSELINK
CBPL	16 DEC	INVERNESS CT	2-3	7,004	M BROWN CALDWELL PRESSLEY	McMANUS CONROY S BROWN HARTLEY DONATI McGEADY HESSELINK McDONALD
CBPL	22 DEC	HIRBERNIAN	1-1	58,016	M BROWN CALDWELL PRESSLEY	McMANUS NAYLOR S BROWN DONATI HARTLEY McGEADY McDONALD HESSELINK
CBPL	26 DEC	DUNDEE UNITED	2-0	12,357	M BROWN CALDWELL BALDE	McMANUS NAYLOR McGEADY S BROWN HARTLEY JAROSIK HESSELINK McDONALD
CBPL	29 DEC	GRETNA	3-0	57,171	BORUC CALDWELL BALDE	McMANUS NAYLOR McGEADY DONATI S BROWN RIORDAN McDONALD HESSELINK
SFA	12 JAN	STIRLING ALBION	3-0	32,310	BORUC HINKEL CALDWELL	McMANUS NAYLOR NAKAMURA DONATI S BROWN McGEADY McDONALD HESSELINK
CBPL	19 JAN	KILMARNOCK	1-0	56,618	BORUC HINKEL CALDWELL	McMANUS NAYLOR NAKAMURA S BROWN DONATI HARTLEY McDONALD HESSELINK
CBPL	27 JAN	FALKIRK	1-0	6,803	BORUC CALDWELL NAYLOR	McMANUS HARTLEY S BROWN NAKAMURA McGEADY DONATI McDONALD HESSELINK
SFA	02 FEB	KILMARNOCK	5-1	6,491	BORUC CADDIS NAYLOR	McMANUS CALDWELL DONATI McGEADY S BROWN NAKAMURA HESSELINK McDONALD
CBPL	10 FEB	ABERDEEN	5-1	14,651	BORUC HINKEL CALDWELL	McMANUS NAYLOR NAKAMURA HARTLEY S BROWN McGEADY McDONALD HESSELINK
CBPL	16 FEB	HEARTS	3-0	56,738	BORUC HINKEL CALDWELL	McMANUS NAYLOR NAKAMURA DONATI S BROWN McGEADY McDONALD HESSELINK
UCL	20 FEB	BARCELONA	2-3	58,345	BORUC CADDIS CALDWELL	McMANUS NAYLOR NAKAMURA HARTLEY ROBSON McGEADY HESSELINK McDONALD
CBPL	24 FEB	ST MIRREN	1-0	7,213	BORUC HINKEL CALDWELL	McMANUS NAYLOR ROBSON S BROWN DONATI McGEADY SAMARAS McDONALD
CBPL	27 FEB	INVERNESS CT	2-1	56,787	BORUC HINKEL CALDWELL	McMANUS NAYLOR NAKAMURA DONATI S BROWN McGEADY McDONALD SAMARAS
CBPL	01 MAR	HIRBERNIAN	2-0	15,735	BORUC HINKEL CALDWELL	McMANUS NAYLOR NAKAMURA S BROWN DONATI McGEADY HESSELINK McDONALD
UCL	04 MAR	BARCELONA	0-1	75,000	BORUC WILSON CALDWELL	McMANUS NAYLOR NAKAMURA S BROWN HARTLEY DONATI McGEADY HESSELINK
SFA	09 MAR	ABERDEEN	1-1	10,909	BORUC HINKEL CALDWELL	McMANUS O'DEA NAKAMURA HARTLEY SNO McGEADY McDONALD HESSELINK
CBPL	12 MAR	DUNDEE UNITED	0-0	45,000	BORUC HINKEL CALDWELL	McMANUS NAYLOR NAKAMURA S BROWN SNO McGEADY McDONALD SAMARAS
SFA	18 MAR	ABERDEEN	0-1	33,506	BORUC HINKEL CALDWELL	McMANUS NAYLOR NAKAMURA S BROWN DONATI McGEADY McDONALD HESSELINK
CBPL	22 MAR	GRETNA	3-0	3,561	BORUC HINKEL CALDWELL	McMANUS NAYLOR NAKAMURA S BROWN ROBSON McGEADY McDONALD HESSELINK
CBPL	29 MAR	RANGERS	0-1	50,325	BORUC HINKEL CALDWELL	McMANUS NAYLOR NAKAMURA S BROWN HARTLEY McGEADY HESSELINK SAMARAS
CBPL	05 APR	MOTHERWELL				
CBPL	13 APR	MOTHERWELL				
CBPL	16 APR	RANGERS				
CBPL	19 APR	TBC				
CBPL	26 APR	TBC				
CBPL	03 MAY	TBC				
CBPL	10 MAY	TBC				
CBPL	TBC	TBC				

>> HALF-TIME QUIZ

- 1 Which player has the distinction of netting in most different domestic cup finals for Celtic?
- 2 For which German side did current Motherwell manager Mark McGhee play for in the mid-'80s?
- 3 Who was the first player to score for Scotland under the management of George Burley?
- 4 In which season since the formation of the SPL did Celtic remain undefeated away from home?
- 5 Which Scottish team other than Celtic did full back Danny McGrain play for during his lengthy career?
- 6 Who scored the winning goal when Motherwell lifted the Scottish Cup, defeating Dundee United 4-3 in 1991?
- 7 Against which team in March did David Beckham earn his 100th cap for England?
- 8 How many European goals did Henrik Larsson score for Celtic to establish a record for a Scottish club?
- 9 Against which four clubs since the Millennium have Celtic clinched SPL titles?
- 10 Prior to Mark McGhee who was the last former Celtic player to manage Motherwell?
- 11 From which Japanese club did Celtic sign winger Koki Mizuno in January?
- 12 Which Motherwell player in 1965 was the legendary Jock Stein's first major signing for Celtic?
- 13 Who in 1992 was the last Scot to be awarded the Football Writers' Player of the Year?
- 14 Who was the last Scot to net for Celtic in three successive league matches?
- 15 Who was the first non-British player to score a goal for Celtic in a domestic final?



ANSWERS 1 Bobby Lennox - six finals 3 Scottish Cup & 3 League Cup, 2 FC Hamburg, 3 Kenny Miller v Croatia, 4 2003/04, 5 Hamilton, 6 Steve Kirk, 7 France, 8 35 goals, 9 St Mirren (2000/01), Livingston (2001/02), Kilmarnock (2003/04 & 2006/07), Hearts (2005/06), 10 David Hay, 11 Jeff United, 12 Joe McBride, 13 Gordon Strachan, 14 Shaun Maloney 2005/06, 15 Johannes Edvaldsson 1997/78 League Cup final.

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TODAY'S TEAMS <<

CELTIC



<input type="checkbox"/>	ARTUR BORUC	1
<input type="checkbox"/>	ANDREAS HINKEL	2
<input type="checkbox"/>	LEE NAYLOR	3
<input type="checkbox"/>	GARY CALDWELL	5
<input type="checkbox"/>	BOBO BALDE	6
<input type="checkbox"/>	SCOTT BROWN	8
<input type="checkbox"/>	GEORGIOS SAMARAS	9
<input type="checkbox"/>	JAN VENNEGOOR OF HESSELINK	10
<input type="checkbox"/>	PAUL HARTLEY	11
<input type="checkbox"/>	MARK WILSON	12
<input type="checkbox"/>	DEREK RIORDAN	14
<input type="checkbox"/>	EVANDER SNO	15
<input type="checkbox"/>	STEVEN PRESSLEY	17
<input type="checkbox"/>	MASSIMO DONATI	18
<input type="checkbox"/>	BARRY ROBSON	19
<input type="checkbox"/>	MARK BROWN	21
<input type="checkbox"/>	BEN HUTCHINSON	23
<input type="checkbox"/>	JEAN-JOEL PERRIER-DOUMBE	24
<input type="checkbox"/>	SHUNSUKE NAKAMURA	25
<input type="checkbox"/>	CILLIAN SHERIDAN	26
<input type="checkbox"/>	SCOTT McDONALD	27
<input type="checkbox"/>	KOKI MIZUNO	29
<input type="checkbox"/>	CHRIS KILLEN	33
<input type="checkbox"/>	JOHN KENNEDY	41
<input type="checkbox"/>	STEPHEN McMANUS	44
<input type="checkbox"/>	AIDEN McGEADY	46
<input type="checkbox"/>	MICHAEL McGOVERN	47
<input type="checkbox"/>	DARREN O'DEA	48
<input type="checkbox"/>	PAUL CADDIS	52
<input type="checkbox"/>	RYAN CONROY	54



MOTHERWELL

1	GRAEME SMITH	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	STEVEN HAMMELL	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	MARK REYNOLDS	<input type="checkbox"/>
5	STEPHEN CRAIGAN	<input type="checkbox"/>
6	BRIAN McLEAN	<input type="checkbox"/>
7	STEPHEN HUGHES	<input type="checkbox"/>
8	SIMON LAPPIN	<input type="checkbox"/>
9	CHRIS PORTER	<input type="checkbox"/>
11	ROSS McCORMACK	<input type="checkbox"/>
12	DAVID CLARKSON	<input type="checkbox"/>
14	KEITH LASLEY	<input type="checkbox"/>
15	LUKE DANIELS	<input type="checkbox"/>
16	MARC FITZPATRICK	<input type="checkbox"/>
17	BOB MALCOLM	<input type="checkbox"/>
18	STEVEN McGARRY	<input type="checkbox"/>
19	TREVOR MOLLOY	<input type="checkbox"/>
20	COLIN MELDRUM	<input type="checkbox"/>
21	DANNY MURPHY	<input type="checkbox"/>
22	PAUL QUINN	<input type="checkbox"/>
23	DARREN SMITH	<input type="checkbox"/>
24	MARTIN GREHAN	<input type="checkbox"/>
26	KENNY CONNOLLY	<input type="checkbox"/>
27	STEPHEN MAGUIRE	<input type="checkbox"/>
29	ROSS FORBES	<input type="checkbox"/>
31	CAMMY MURRAY	<input type="checkbox"/>
32	JAMIE MURPHY	<input type="checkbox"/>
33	MARK ARCHDEACON	<input type="checkbox"/>
43	DAVID McAULIFFE	<input type="checkbox"/>

TODAY'S OFFICIALS

Referee: Calum Murray
 Assistant 01: Chris Young
 Assistant 02: Jim Lyon
 Fourth official: George Salmond