

CELTIC v HIBERNIAN
Bell's Premier Division
Saturday January 18, 1997
Kick-off 3pm

Price £1

Official Programme No.17

Celtic



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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 (30 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.
League Cup Winners (9 times)
1957, 1958, 1966, 1967, 1968,
1969, 1970, 1975, 1982.
Coronation Cup: 1953
Empire Exhibition Cup: 1938
St Mungo Cup: 1951

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John Keane,

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FOOTBALL MANAGEMENT

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Club captain: Paul McStay
Reserve coaches: Tom McAdam,
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Published on behalf of Celtic
Football Club by First Press Publishing
197 Bath Street, Glasgow, G2 4HU

TOMMY BURNS

Keep inspiring us to victory

FIRST of all I'd like to welcome Jim Duffy here in his new role as manager of Hibernian and we wish him all the very best.

Jim of course was a player here as was his new assistant Jackie McNamara senior so the same best wishes go to Jackie also.

But though we want them to do well in their new jobs, that obviously doesn't take in today's meeting as we want the three points.

So with that in mind, we want to get on with the job in hand to reward the fans for their support.

They were simply marvellous in midweek at Kirkcaldy when we really needed them against Raith Rovers.

During the second half they got right behind the team and I can't tell you how important that is for the boys on the pitch.

The players react to the goodwill of the supporters through sheer effort as they don't want to let them down.

And they aim to keep you happy with another win today as we definitely have our eyes set on this championship.

But we go into the game with a few injury worries which have upset the team plans slightly, but that is something we have had to deal with all season.

The most recent of those injuries is Morten Wieghorst who went into

hospital on Thursday for a cartilage operation.

The bad news is that he will be out for about a month but there are better signs for Paolo Di Canio who is making good progress.

Added to that we have Andreas Thom, Alan Stubbs, Brian O'Neil and Peter Grant who are all increasing their efforts to get back in the team.

But it's been great to see that the points keep coming in and that Jorge Cadete seems to be on something of a goal spree at the moment.

It's been a busy fortnight for the team and hopefully we can carry on with our winning streak.

And a victory would set us up nicely for our Scottish Cup campaign which kicks off next weekend when we take on Clydebank.

But before that of course there is the Peter Grant testimonial this Wednesday when Bayern Munich will provide the opposition.

If anyone ever deserves such an honour it is Peter as he is a Celtic man through and through so let's give him a rousing party on Wednesday night.



"The players react to the goodwill of the supporters"



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CR SMITH

ALL IT TAKES TO BE THE BEST



**STEWART
KERR**



**Referee:
A. M. Roy
(Aberdeen)**

**JIM
LEIGHTON**



**TOM
BOYD**

**WILLIE
MILLER**



**TOSH
MCKINLAY**

**GRAEME
LOVE**



**JACKIE
MCNAMARA**

**GORDON
HUNTER**



**MALKY
MACKAY**

**Assistant Ref:
R. Orr
(Kilbarchan)**

**SHAUN
DENNIS**



**PHIL
O'DONNELL**

**CHRIS
JACKSON**



**PAOLO
DI CANIO**

**Assistant Ref:
I. R. Brines
(Erskine)**

**PAT
MCGINLAY**



**PAUL
MCSTAY**

**KEITH
WRIGHT**



**PIERRE VAN
HOOIJDONK**

**STAND-BYS:
CELTIC:**

**KEVIN
HARPER**



**JORGE
CADETE**

**Gordon Marshall
(GK), Chris Hay, Brian
McLaughlin**

**DARREN
JACKSON**



**SIMON
DONNELLY**

**HIBS
Chris Reid (GK), Brian
Welsh, Greg Miller,
Barry Lavety, Graham
Donald, John Hughes,
Joe McLaughlin, Rab
Shannon**

**ANDY
DOW**



**DAVID
HANNAH**

**DARREN
DODS**



**STUART
GRAY**

**IAN
CAMERON**



IN ASSOCIATION WITH CR SMITH

BRIAN O'NEIL should be fit to return to the first team squad this afternoon to face Hibs...

And the defender reckons there is no way the Edinburgh club can have as bad a day as the last time they came to Celtic Park.

Brian scored that day as Hibs were hit for five, the first of Celtic's goals coming from an own goal by Pat McGinlay – who was later ordered off in the second-half.

However, if the Easter Road men did have another nightmare he wouldn't really be complaining.

O'Neil took a bad ankle knock in the New Year Old Firm defeat by Rangers – and it was only really at the end of the game that he realised just how bad the injury was.

Seven stitches had to be put into Brian's open wound, and with defensive partner Alan Stubbs also out injured the back four was changed dramatically.

And O'Neil said: "I hope to be back in contention for this game after all this time out with what I could only describe as an awkward injury. I think because of where it is, right on the inside of my ankle across the bone, any time I tried to kick a ball the wound would open up again.

"It was a late challenge with Charlie Miller and I honestly didn't feel it at the time. I just thought it was more of a knock than anything else.

"I think in a game like the Rangers one your adrenaline just keeps you going and you tend not to even notice injuries.

"So it was disappointing when I realised what was exactly wrong. It's the first injury I've had since my cruciate and it was frustrating."

But O'Neil knows that if he makes his comeback today he'll face a

Defending the Celtic cause

tougher side than the one hammered four and five-nil – and that's down to new manager Jim Duffy and his assistant Jackie McNamara, dad of Celtic's Jackie.

He said: "I scored in the 5-0 game and it was great, and I really enjoyed the 4-0 at Easter Road as well.

"I think Hibs were in a wee bit of turmoil recently with Alex Miller resigning and then Jocky Scott taking over before Jim Duffy was appointed.

"I think now with the new manager there, even though they've not had many good results so far, they'll be out to impress.

"Watching their last few games, I think against Rangers they were desperately unlucky to lose a penalty and against Motherwell they played really well in the second half.

"So they are going to give it their all and they may be looking forward to coming back here to wipe out that nightmare from earlier in the season – but we would be looking to send them back never wanting to return again!"

Celtic have had to adapt their style of play in recent times as the

dogfight that is the Premier Division has out paid to a lot of the silky soccer they like to play.

Dogged determination has won the last two matches against Heart and Raith Rovers, and O'Neil reckons that has a lot to do with the change in tactics at the back.

He said: "We have changed a wee bit, clearing our lines and not playing the ball at feet as much and that is a change for us.

"The team was taking a wee bit of stick for the way they played at the back, but if I come back into the team and the gaffer wants me to play the way the other guys have recently then I will do so.

"A lot of people are having digs at us no matter which way we play, but then those same people go on about Scottish football and how bad the game is here but then they don't want to see the passing game."

Today's game is another that Celtic simply have to win to keep hot on the tails of leaders Rangers.

But O'Neil – one of the longest serving players at the club – reckons the pressure on the players is no greater than it is in any season.

He explained: "You learn just to get on with it here at Celtic. It's never changed in my time here, the pressure hasn't got any less or any more.

"This is a very big season and we desperately want to win the title, but every season is big – last year we wanted to win as well.

"And all this talk of pressure on the players is crazy because I am sure that there are people who have a lot more worries than we do.

"I know a lot of people would enjoy it if this was the only type of pressure they had in their lives."

O'NEIL'S FIRSTS

Date and place of birth: 6.9.72 in Paisley

Height: 6ft 1ins. Weight: 13st

1

FIRST CLUB: Celtic

2

FIRST DAY AS A CELT: November 2, 1989, signed from Celtic Boy's Club

3

FIRST GAME FOR CELTIC: Came on as a sub in a home 4-1 league win over Falkirk on August 17, 1991

4

FIRST GOAL: Scored Celtic's only goal in the UEFA Cup 5-1 defeat by Neuchatel Xamax in October 22, 1991

5

FIRST CAP: Against Australia at Hampden on March 27, 1996

BRIAN O'NEIL



TODAY'S VISITORS...



YOU WHAT? Hibs players argue with the referee after he awarded a penalty to Rangers earlier this season

MANAGERIAL changes at Easter Road have been the big talking point for the Hibernian faithful over recent months.

After a period of speculation and unrest among the supporters, Alex Miller finally left the Hibs hot seat and the bookies started laying odds on who would take over.

Miller's second in command, Jocky Scott, held the reins in a caretaker role for exactly three months until the Hibs board made an announcement on December 30.

And just in time for the New Year, Jim Duffy arrived by helicopter to take charge of his third team after stints with Falkirk and Dundee.

The former Celt didn't take long in appointing another ex-Celt when Jackie McNamara senior became his assistant.

The intervening games haven't been too encouraging though and Hibs and their fans will be looking for dramatic improvements.

However, they may find that hard today as Celtic have had the upper hand in recent meetings between the sides.



NEW BOSS... Jim Duffy

Last season the Celts claimed 10 points from the four meetings, with a draw being the Edinburgh side's only consolation.

And fortune hasn't shone on Hibernian this term either as Celtic have racked up a 5-0 win at Celtic Park in September and a 4-0 win at Easter Road.

However, despite the nine goals put past the Hibeers, there is no doubting the quality of the man between the sticks - **JIM**

LEIGHTON.

He is a proven hero for both club and country, so much so that the next time he appears at Celtic Park he may well be wearing the Scotland No.1 shirt when Austria arrive on World Cup duty.

And Hibs also have international class in back-up for Leighton in former Scotland under-21 star **CHRIS REID.**

In front of the keeper, Hibs have an array of talent to choose from and the likely contenders today could come from **WILLIE MILLER, GORDON HUNTER, SHAUN DENNIS, DARREN DODS** and **BRIAN WELSH.**

The most recent arrival from that bunch is Dennis who became Duffy's first signing when he joined from Raith Rovers in a swap deal earlier this month.

He may link up with either Hunter or Welsh in the centre of defence with the likelihood of Miller and Dods operating in the full-back berths.

Hibs also have **JOHN HUGHES, JOE McLAUGHLIN** and **RAB SHANNON** in the defensive ranks but ex-Celt Hughes hasn't had the best of times through injury

It's Duff at the

the top!

HIBS LOWDOWN

JIM LEIGHTON – (Goalkeeper) Born 24.7.58 in Johnstone.

CHRIS REID – (Goalkeeper) Born 4.11.71 in Edinburgh.

WILLIE MILLER – (Defender) Born 1.11.69 in Edinburgh.

GORDON HUNTER – (Defender) Born 3.5.67 in Edinburgh.

SHAUN DENNIS – (Defender) Born 20.12.69 in Kirkcaldy.

JOE McLAUGHLIN – (Defender) Born 2.6.60 in Greenock.

DARREN DODS – (Defender) Born 7.6.75 in Edinburgh.

BRIAN WELSH – (Defender) Born 23.2.69 in Edinburgh.

JOHN HUGHES – (Defender) Born 6.6.64 in Edinburgh.

RAB SHANNON – (Defender) Born 20.4.66 in Bellshill.

IAN CAMERON – (Midfielder) Born 24.8.66 in Glasgow.

PAT McGINLAY – (Midfielder) Born 30.5.67 in Glasgow.

CHRIS JACKSON – (Midfielder) Born 29.10.73 in Edinburgh.

ANDY DOW – (Midfielder) Born 7.2.73 in Dundee.

GRAEME LOVE – (Midfielder) Born 7.12.73 in Bathgate.

MICHAEL RENWICK – (Midfielder) Born 29.2.76 in Edinburgh.

MICHAEL WEIR – (Forward) Born 16.1.66 in Edinburgh.

KEITH WRIGHT – (Forward) Born 17.5.65 in Edinburgh.

DARREN JACKSON – (Forward) Born 25.7.66 in Edinburgh.

KEVIN HARPER – (Forward) Born 15.1.76 in Oldham.

GRAEME DONALD – (Forward) Born 14.4.74 in Stirling.

BARRY LAVETY – (Forward) Born 21.8.74 in Johnstone.

and suspension since moving to Easter Road in October.

The midfield features the talents of **IAN CAMERON**, **PAT McGINLAY**, **CHRIS JACKSON**, **ANDY DOW** and **GRAEME LOVE**.

Cameron moved to Edinburgh from Partick Thistle at the start of this season after spells with St Mirren and Aberdeen.

McGinlay of course needs no introduction to the Celtic Park crowd after his midfield scoring exploits for the Parkhead club but he will want to forget his last counter here – an own goal in September's 5-0 game.

Jackson and Love came through the ranks at Hibernian while Dow was signed from Chelsea.

There is no shortage of goal-grabbers up front with a quartet in the shape of **KEITH WRIGHT**, **DARREN JACKSON**, **KEVIN**

HARPER and **GRAEME DONALD**.

Wright has consistently topped the Hibernian goal scoring charts since 1991 when he signed from Dundee but he will have a couple of contenders for that No.1 title this season.

And the main threat will come from Jackson and Harper who both have the knack of finding the net on a regular basis.

Speed is an element used by both players and while Jackson is a current internationalist, the early signs are that Harper will be following in his footsteps in the near future.

Donald is another product of the Edinburgh side's youth system but despite his eye for goal he has also been used in defence.

