



The Coca-Cola Cup Semi-Final



Eat Football. Sleep Football. Drink Coca-Cola



**Dunfermline
Athletic v
Celtic**



Tuesday 14th October 1997
Ibrox Stadium, Glasgow
Kick-Off 7.45pm

Official Programme - Price £2.00

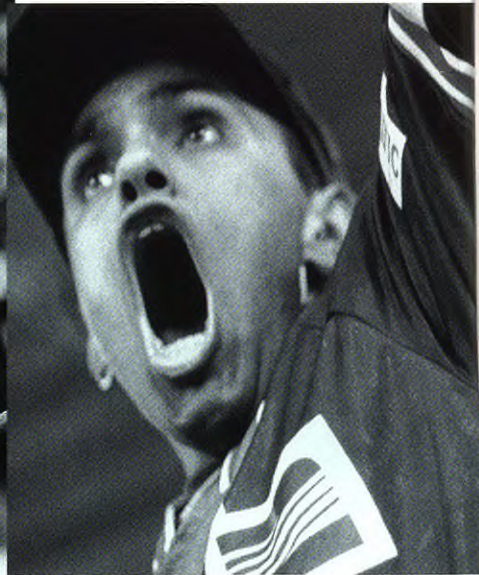




Eat Football. Sleep Football. Drink Coca-Cola.

One day you will see a
goal so beautiful

*you will want to marry it, have children
and move to a small tropical island.*



The Coca-Cola Cup . . . A Tournament full of Excitement and Drama



A very warm welcome to all fans attending tonight's first Semi-Final tie between Dunfermline Athletic and Celtic.

Although the 1997/98 domestic season is still less than three months old, both clubs tonight are only 90 minutes (or 120 minutes should extra-time be required) away from reaching the first major Cup Final of this season and which will also be played here at this magnificent stadium on the final Sunday of next month.

Hopefully, tonight's match will be just as exciting and dramatic as many of the ties played so far during the competition. Once again, fans have enjoyed value-for-money Coca-Cola Cup tie action with an excellent total of 119 goals having been scored from the 36 ties played during the first four rounds, averaging an impressive 3.3 goals per game. So far, seven ties have needed an extra thirty minutes of overtime and indeed, two of these matches required penalty shoot-outs to determine the outcome. Thanks are due to players, coaches and officials for the positive manner in which they have approached this tournament

and as a result, the real winners have been the paying public who have witnessed many enthralling and exciting football matches.

I would at this juncture, like to thank our sponsors, Coca-Cola Great Britain, for their own part in making this such an enjoyable competition. Since their association with The Scottish Football League in sponsoring this tournament began in season 1994/95, they have been extremely enthusiastic sponsors. A close working relationship has developed between the League, its member clubs and Coca-Cola during the past few years which has, in my opinion, been beneficial for all concerned and on behalf of the Management Committee, I would like to take this opportunity in welcoming our sponsors and their invited guests to Ibrox Stadium for tonight's tie. I trust that they will all enjoy an exciting Semi-Final tie and that they will witness plenty of good football played by both teams in a sporting manner.

Tonight's match between Dunfermline Athletic and Celtic will be the first time that both clubs have been paired together at this stage of the competition. The clubs have met on seven previous occasions and from Dunfermline Athletic's point of view, they will be hoping to improve on their record of only one victory against the Parkhead club to date. I have no doubts that Bert Paton and his players will be hoping to improve upon that statistic tonight and in so doing, make up for last season's disappointing result against Rangers at the same stage of the competition.

However, their opponents tonight, Celtic, have also much to prove, not least their players, who will be wanting to prove much to their new Head Coach, Wim Jansen,

as well as rewarding their large support for the loyalty which they have shown in recent years. Following the signing of a number of new players at the beginning of the season, the Parkhead club have now begun to show a high level of consistency which has seen them enjoy a very good run of form in recent weeks. With the Pars having won the first League match of the season between the clubs at Celtic Park, it makes for an intriguing and exciting match.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity in thanking the Chairman, Directors and Staff at Ibrox Stadium for all of their efforts in staging tonight's tie. Their co-operation and assistance is very much appreciated.

ENJOY THE GAME.

Douglas B. Smith,

President,

The Scottish Football League

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Club Captains – Craig Robertson and Tom Boyd

CRAIG ROBERTSON has watched his team-mates reach the Semi-Final of The Coca-Cola Cup without him as he battled back from an achilles tendon injury.

Although he had a recurrence of the injury during the Dundee United match ten days ago, he still hopes to be fit enough to enter the fray just 90 minutes away from the chance to put right one of the biggest disappointments of his long career. The Dunfermline skipper was part of the Pars team that went to Hampden in 1991 for The Skol Cup Final against Hibernian and fell flat on their faces.

With both halves of the Old Firm out of the competition, the Fifers travelled to Glasgow full of hope and left dismayed at their performance. They lost 2-0 and hardly troubled Hibs' keeper John Burridge all afternoon. It's a memory that still makes the Pars' captain shudder.

He said, "Getting to the Final was great and we all enjoyed the build-up to the match but on the day, we simply didn't play at all.

"We had got off to a bad start in the League that season but we went into the Final confident of giving a good account of ourselves but in the end, we didn't even threaten Hibs.

"It seemed everybody outside of Dunfermline wanted Hibs to win that day. They had come close to being taken over by Hearts the previous summer and they definitely had the sympathy vote that afternoon."

The Pars, of course, got to the Semi-Final stage last season as well and even though they were eventually crushed 6-1 by Rangers, Robbo isn't joking when he says his side was unlucky!

He said, "I know people will



Craig Robertson, captain of Dunfermline Athletic

draw their own conclusions from the scoreline, but believe me, we should have been at least two goals up before Rangers scored.

"In the second half, they scored from a deflection and I remember one of the goals coming from a tackle by Brian Laudrup that ended up in the net as well.

"But we've battled back to the same stage this season and although it will be tough, we'll go into the match in a positive frame of mind."

On this occasion, it is likely that the Pars will have the sympathy vote of most neutrals and they'll go into the game with confidence, having gone to Celtic Park earlier this term and returning with a fabulous 2-1 victory.

Robertson watched that one from the stand and loved every minute of it. He said, "We played really well that day and proved to ourselves, as much as anyone else, that Dunfermline can match anyone on our day.

"But we are not getting carried away with that result. It came very early in the season when Celtic had

brought in a lot of new players and they were all still getting used to Wim Jansen's tactics.

"But it was a good result and seeing the team play so well certainly made it easier for me when I was out injured.

"I hurt my achilles tendon badly, just two days into the pre-season training and I didn't come back until the Aberdeen match at Pittodrie at the end of September.

"Of course, it has been frustrating but as well as playing, I am also doing a bit of coaching at East End Park, so I was still able to work with the rest of the players every day, which made things easier."

Robertson will lead the Pars out, injury permitting, tonight knowing it is 29 years since Dunfermline last won a major trophy. The current manager, Bert Paton, was part of that team which won the Scottish Cup back in 1968.

He added, "It would be great for Bert to win a trophy as manager as well as a player.

"But to be honest, we are trying to win this cup for ourselves and

the fans as well as Bert.

"You don't get to many Cup Finals and we are 90 minutes away from one. We're determined to make it this year."

TOM BOYD doesn't need to be told that it's 15 years since a Celtic captain last held aloft the League Cup. The name of the competition might have been changed to accommodate a couple of sponsors over the years but the trophy remains the same.

This season, Boyd, who took over the captaincy from retired skipper Paul McStay in the summer, wants to see The Coca-Cola Cup gleaming in the Parkhead trophy cabinet. The Celtic and Scotland defender knows all about going up to lift a trophy. He was Motherwell's skipper when they beat Dundee United in an epic Scottish Cup Final back in 1991.

Shortly afterwards, Boyd headed south for Chelsea but, before long, he was snapped up by Celtic in a swap deal for Tony Cascarino and he must have imagined that more cups and medals would follow. But only one has - the 1995 Scottish Cup - and Boyd knows it's high time that Celtic became winners again.

They can take a huge step towards that goal by beating Dunfermline tonight to move into The Coca-Cola Cup Final, but when



Paul McStay



Tom Boyd, captain of Celtic

you've had as many disappointments as Boyd has, you don't take anything for granted.

He said, "It's a long time since we did anything in this competition - 15 years without winning it is not good enough - and it would be good to rectify that.

"But we can't afford to think that we just have to turn-up to get to the Final and there's no way we will be doing that.

"We have only to remember that Dunfermline beat us at Parkhead earlier in the season and they deserved to win.

"Dunfermline's performance was probably overlooked because people tended to speak about how poor we were.

"But we know that they played very well, particularly to come back from losing the first goal.

"Obviously, we want to wipe out the memory of that day, but really, we could not be more motivated than we are.

"We are two games away from winning our first trophy in three seasons and we don't need any more motivation than that."

At the time of that defeat, Celtic were still getting to grips with new coach Wim Jansen's tactics as well as the number of new players who seemed to be arriving daily. Boyd was also getting used to wearing

the captain's armband, an honour he admits he was surprised to be given.

He said, "Being captain of Celtic is a special feeling and to go up to be presented with a trophy and turn to show it to our fans would be wonderful.

"Being made captain was such an honour and surprise. I was delighted to accept and now want to be a Celtic captain that wins trophies.

"I captained Motherwell when they won the Scottish Cup, which was great.

"But being in the Celtic team that won the Cup in 1995 was even better for me because I saw what it meant to the fans who had gone so long without something to celebrate.

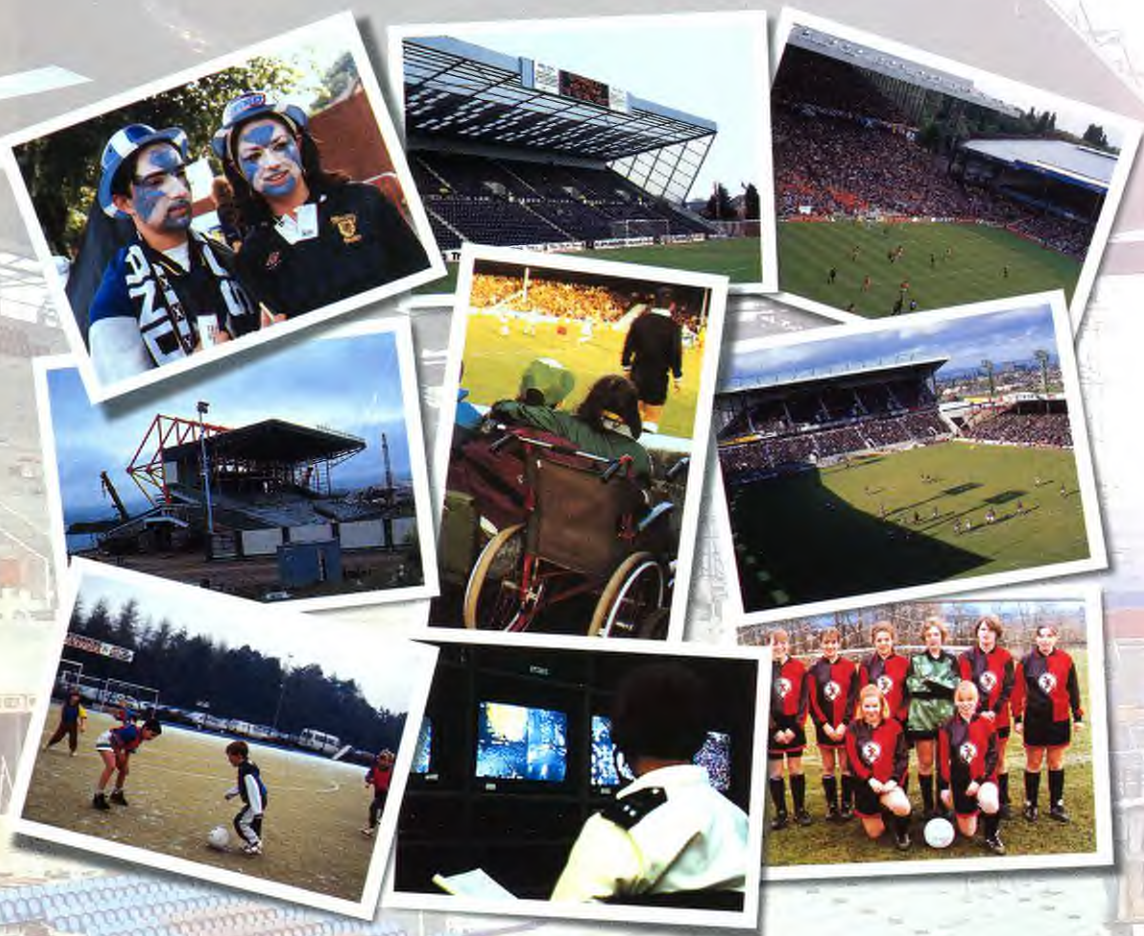
"Since then, it has been disappointing not to add to that victory and the Scottish Cup Semi-Final defeat against Falkirk hurt us badly.

"Throughout it all, our fans have been magnificent and have stayed behind us when many teams' support would have deserted them.

"The time has come for us to repay them for their loyalty and winning The Coca-Cola Cup this season would be a start."

DAVID MCCARTHY
(Daily Record)

Trust us to help Football



The Football Trust has been providing support for the game at every level throughout the UK for over 22 years.

Its present priority task is to help League clubs to complete the implementation of the Taylor Report recommendations.

The Trust has distributed over £67m of pools derived income for the benefit of Scottish football at all levels. Four new grounds have so far been built and over 50 new and refurbished stands have been made possible thanks to the vital

contribution of the Trust and the determination of clubs throughout the Scottish Football League.

Up and down the country, clubs are building new grounds and stands, installing CCTV and providing safe and comfortable facilities for their spectators to enjoy. The Government's commitment to the vital work of the Trust will have the support of everyone who cares about the future of our national game.

The Football Trust will continue to support football in Scotland.



THE FOOTBALL TRUST
Helping the game

THE FOOTBALL TRUST, WALKDEN HOUSE, 10 MELTON STREET, LONDON NW1 2EB

Greg Shields

Greg Shields will afford himself a wry smile when he steps off the Dunfermline Athletic team bus and walks in the front door of Ibrox for tonight's match.

For it was the same door the 20 year old walked out of during the summer after realising he had to quit Rangers to have any chance of playing in a showpiece match like a Coca-Cola Cup Semi-Final.

In four seasons at Ibrox, the fair-haired defender managed just 11 first team appearances, often finding himself fourth choice for the right-back berth. He felt his career was going nowhere and didn't take much persuading to turn his back on Rangers when Dunfermline boss Bert Paton came in for him during the close season.

A few months on, Shields is set for the biggest game of his career and admits it's ironic that he should find himself running out to face Celtic in front of a big crowd at Ibrox.

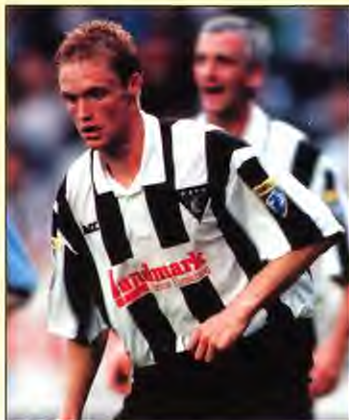
"When I was a young boy, I always wanted to play for the best clubs," he reflected. "That's why I was over the moon when Rangers came in for me.

"After going to Ibrox, I genuinely thought I had a chance of making a name for myself, but, as more and more foreigners started to arrive, I began to wonder if I would be better off pursuing my career elsewhere.

"Apart from three games, I thought I did okay when I got my chance in the first team at Rangers, but a manager is always going to have to play the players he has forked out big money for, especially if they are experienced.

"The youngsters are only really going to get the chance when they are needed and I, for one, couldn't see that being very often and that was before the latest batch of signings over the summer.

"Once you have tasted playing in front of big crowds, you want to do it again and again and that was certainly one of the factors when I



decided to leave Ibrox.

"Some people will say that I should have stayed at Ibrox and tried to learn from all these big name players.

"But you reach an age and a time in your career when playing for the reserves is not enough and that's what happened to me."

Paton had been keen to sign Shields for some time and already, the player has gone a long way to repaying the £100,000 transfer fee which Rangers received for him.

Recently, Paton's assistant, Dick Campbell, said he believed there wasn't a better right-back than Shields in the country and his performances so far this season for the Fifiers certainly merit such lavish praise.

"I am really enjoying myself at East End Park," he admitted. "I'm getting the regular first team football I was looking for and, on top of that, the side has made a good start to the season."

The Pars participating in tonight's match is proof of that and now Shields is determined to help Paton's men make amends for the 6-1 hammering at the hands of Rangers at the same stage last season.

"This is the type of big game I was hoping to be involved in when I made the decision to leave Rangers," he said. "It has probably come quicker than I could ever have expected, but I am determined to

enjoy the occasion.

"It is a superb achievement for Dunfermline to reach the Semi-Final of The Coca-Cola Cup for the second year running and it goes without saying that we'll be looking to improve on the result of 12 months ago.

"There are a few new faces in the side, but the boys who played against Rangers know what it was like to experience such a heavy defeat at this stage of the competition and they'll be determined it won't happen again."

On the evidence of an earlier meeting between the sides this season, it certainly won't, Dunfermline having won 2-1 in the League at Parkhead back in August. But along with everyone else in Scottish football, Shields has watched Wim Jansen's men come on leaps and bounds since then, so much so that he reckons they'll be a lot tougher to beat on this occasion.

"This game will be a lot different to the League encounter," he said. "For starters, Celtic haven't won a trophy for a couple of seasons, so they'll be well and truly fired up for this one.

"Also, they now look a lot better than they did in that game at Parkhead. For instance, Henrik Larsson and Regi Blinker have been starting to produce the goods, while Simon Donnelly has also been in cracking form.

"In the League game, we managed to weather a storm early on and then took over after going in front with a penalty.

"We had a lot of chances in the second half and it will be important again that we don't sit back too much as you can't afford to do that against a side like Celtic.

"We know it won't be easy, but if we can work for each other the way we have in the three previous rounds, then we should be in with a chance.

"For me, I couldn't have asked for more than to be facing Celtic in such a big match at Ibrox and it would be even better if I could return there with my Dunfermline team-mates for the Final."

MARTIN DEMPSTER

(Edinburgh Evening News)

Dick Campbell – the coaches' coach



Dick Campbell, assistant manager of Dunfermline Athletic

Bert Paton and Dick Campbell may not come with a string of big name clubs attached to their CV's like their Celtic counterparts, Wim Jansen and Murdo MacLeod, and they certainly haven't enjoyed spending millions in the transfer market.

However, there is not the slightest suggestion that Paton and Campbell will go into tonight's

Coca-Cola Cup Semi-Final tie with any hint of an inferiority complex as their faith in their own ability as coaches being all they need for the 90 minutes ahead.

Whatever the outcome, and they hope just as much as Jansen and MacLeod that it will be a win for their side, the East End Park management team will take satisfaction, as always, from the fact that they will have done their best. It is that down to earth, pragmatic

approach - both come from large working-class families - which has underpinned the pair throughout their five year long reign with the Pars, a partnership which is the second longest in the Premier Division after Walter Smith and Archie Knox.

Dick Campbell, Paton's assistant, readily admits that neither he nor the Pars boss ever quite hit the heights in terms of the teams they played for as either Jansen or MacLeod did. But he'll point to the fact that while his life in football may not have been the most exotic, he has a knowledge of the game which, he believes, is second to none.

For eleven years, Campbell has "coached the coaches", using the experience he has gained in a lifetime in football, from the days when he was part of the same highly successful Townhill under age team as Jim Leishman in Dunfermline.

A year with Dundee United followed although his father insisted that he "do his time" as an apprentice shipwright. Released by United, Campbell, then a striker, signed the very next day for Cowdenbeath, making his first team debut two months before his 17th birthday.

Five seasons there were followed by a move to Dunfermline where he teamed up with his twin brother, Ian, and Leishman once more. However, the Pars failure to make the Top Ten, allied to cut-backs, saw Campbell spend two years in the Highland League before moving to Brechin City for five successful years.

Billy Little gave him his first taste of coaching, appointing him

Player/ Coach at East Stirlingshire at the age of 31. Then it was off to work under Gordon Wallace at Raith Rovers where he remained for three years before John Ritchie made him assistant at Brechin.

Campbell struck out on his own as boss at Cowdenbeath at the third time of asking but after just 15 weeks, he was back at Brechin again and he also became involved in coaching with The SFA, juggling between owning a pub, bringing up a family of three and working at Glebe Park.

However, four months working for a double-glazing firm in Fife made him realise how lucky he had been in football and when Bert Paton, who had then parted company with St. Johnstone, persuaded him to help coach Junior outfit Rosyth Recreation, today's partnership was born.

A "no nonsense" defender, Campbell admits he never had the technical ability to play at the highest level, but it is in coaching others that he has excelled.

He said, "I love to compete and I was captain of every team I played for so I must be a good motivator and I treat every player the same,



Bert Paton, manager, Dunfermline Athletic



Jim Leishman

whether he cost £500,000 or £5,000.

"I have worked with the top coaches in Scotland and will pitch myself in alongside anyone but, in my opinion, there is no-one better than Bert."

People may say tonight's match is an unequal contest because of the players Celtic have bought while, out of all the Premier sides, Dunfermline have spent the least. But Campbell shrugs off such talk, pointing out that the Pars beat Celtic a few weeks ago at Celtic Park. He said, "We take great pride in being 100 per cent fit, extremely well organised and well coached.

"We are under no illusions and we will make sure we are physically

and mentally prepared, as well as having done our homework.

"You look at all the money that has been spent elsewhere, but that doesn't give Bert or me an inferiority complex as we use it to motivate.

"There have been horrendous restraints put on Bert but the Chairman and his Directors have been magnificent in giving him any spare money.

"Our criterion has been that any player we bring in has to be better than we have. Why shop at Harrods if you cannot afford it?

"But it doesn't stop us having the same desire to win tonight as that of Celtic and reach The Coca-Cola Cup Final."

DAVID HARDIE

(Edinburgh Evening News)

Allan Moore

Little big man Allan Moore is not afraid to put his money where his mouth is. When his Celtic-dad dad Billy bet him that Wim Jansen's side would take THREE goals off Dunfermline tonight, Allan quickly dived into his pocket and grinned.

"Here's £50.00 which says Celtic won't!"

You might have thought that this evening, Billy Moore would have waved aside his love of Celtic and cheered his boy towards a dream Cup Final slot for the first time in his career. You'd be wrong. Allan revealed, "I said to him, 'Surely you want your son to reach the Final. You've got to!'"

"My dad just smiled and replied, 'Sorry, I've supported Celtic for 30 years and I'm not about to stop now.' You've got to admire his honesty."

If Moore has his way, it will be a night of crushing disappointment for his old man.

"I'm 32 now and there won't be too many more opportunities to play in Cup Finals."

"It's a huge opportunity and I'm determined to make the most of it. At this stage of my career, it could be my last chance. Who knows?"

Tonight marks Moore's third appearance in a major cup Semi-Final.

"I played for St. Johnstone when we lost 2-1 to Dundee United, ironically at East End Park in the Scottish Cup a few years ago, and that was a big disappointment."

"Then last season, I played for Dunfermline in The Coca-Cola Cup Semi-Final against Rangers."

"Looking back, that's one game I'd rather forget as we got thumped 6-1."

"That really was a horrible experience, although to be fair, we played well enough until Brian Laudrup broke the deadlock just before half-time."



"After that, the roof just fell in and Laudrup inflicted most of the trouble. Apart from his superb play, he scored two goals while Erik Bo Andersen also hit a couple."

"But that's history now."

"Over the piece, it was a really good season for Dunfermline. Even before a ball was kicked, a lot of people had written us off as relegation material."

"But that sort of rubbish doesn't bother the lads. In any case, we finished fifth which was a good achievement and we did it by playing attractive football, NOT by thumping the ball up the park."

Moore might not be the biggest guy to pull on a pair of football boots, but what he lacks in height he more than makes up with his maverick style. Indeed, Moore is a credit to his profession. He's a decent bloke, always happy to talk to the media, win or lose, and he admits that he could not be happier at East End Park, working away under the guidance of baseball-hatted Bert Paton and his moustachioed number two, Dick Campbell.

"It's just a pleasure being with Dunfermline. You could not ask for a better bunch of people and the support has been superb."

"I've had a few highs and lows in my career. Going out in both of these competitions to Dundee United and Rangers at the Semi-Final stage was hard to take."

"But I have won League Championship medals with St. Johnstone and Dunfermline and I'll always be proud of that."

"It would be magic to appear in a Cup Final and it would also be wonderful to win a Cup at the grand old age of 32, although I don't think my dad would be too happy if we beat Celtic tonight."

"I'd like to see his face if I win that £50 bet!"

Veteran Allan has played for four clubs, Dumbarton, Heart of Midlothian, St. Johnstone and Dunfermline Athletic. Talking about clubs, he admits to having a passion for golf.

"So many players play golf now that I just had to get a set of clubs."

"I'm not the greatest but I do enjoy it."

"A wee while back, I played in an event with funny man, Ben Gunn."

"We finished second and I won a Nick Faldo top. It's just a shame I don't have the same ability."

Tonight, Moore is swinging for Celtic, although he appreciates it's a major task.

"Our confidence is high and we don't fear Celtic. We've already beaten them 2-1 at Parkhead in the Premier Division this season and that was a fantastic result."

"To be fair to Celtic, they were going through a transitional stage at the time with a new manager in Wim Jansen and new players."

"But you only need to look at results since to see that Celtic are doing well and have a lot of quality players such as recent recruits Henrik Larsson and Regi Blinker."

"However, when we are playing well, Dunfermline are a match for any team in the country."

JOHN DOCHERTY
(Daily Record)

Andy Smith



With five Coca-Cola Cup goals tucked safely under his belt, Andy Smith starts tonight's game as one of the favourites to scoop the £1,000 jackpot which goes to the competition's most lethal hit-man.

However, should he land the "grand", the big Dunfermline striker knows only too well that a contract will then be put out on him, with both his team mates and his WIFE chasing him for some of the cash.

"I'm in big enough trouble already over the £300 I won for scoring four goals against Ayr United earlier in the competition," joked Andy.

"The lads were on at me to give some of it to the players' pool, but I just told them to take it up with my wife.

"She's spent most of it by this time I think and she's now got her eyes on the £1,000, so I've promised her half of it if I win."

Personal gain however, will be the furthest thing from Handy Andy's mind tonight as he and his team mates stick by the "all for one, one for all" philosophy which has carried them through three rounds of this season's Coca-Cola Cup competition to tonight's Semi-Final tie at Ibrox and which he says, could yet take them all the way to the Final on 30th November.

"The biggest thing in our favour

is that we've already beaten Celtic this season, although I know that won't count for anything concrete tonight.

"Mentally however, it's a big boost for our lads because the Old Firm used us as a sort of punch bag last season. To actually go to Parkhead and beat them in front of their own crowd was a massive psychological lift.

"It wasn't just the fact that we won, it was the way we did it.

"This is the hardest draw we could have got, but we're looking forward to it and we're ready for it. We've caused them problems in the past and we're very confident we can do it again.

"Being honest, I think we would all have preferred to keep Celtic for the Final if that had been possible, but we certainly don't fear them in any way."

Smith knows, of course, that the win at Parkhead back in August is a two-edged sword as far as tonight's game is concerned and that any chance there was of Celtic treating Dunfermline lightly has now disappeared.

"The way we look at it is that the game is live on Sky, there will be a good crowd and it's going to be a tremendous match.

"We know we'll have to produce at least the same sort of performance as we did that day to get through, and that, if anything,

it will be even harder this time around.

"Having beaten them once, there's no chance of Celtic underestimating us, is there?

"But we haven't come to Glasgow just to make up the numbers. We've had the experience of losing heavily in last season's Semi-Final and we don't want a repeat.

"For some of the boys, last season's game with Rangers was their first major Semi, and it took us a few games to get over it.

"I've played in a few myself, lost a couple and won a couple, but losing 6-1 that night was the sorest one of them all.

"It ended up being more embarrassing than anything else, especially as we played well for an hour of the game," added Andy, who has seen life from both sides of the fence when it comes to the League Cup.

"It would mean a lot to this club and their fans to get into the Final. It would mean a lot to me as well because the last time they managed it, ironically, I was in the Airdrieonians team they knocked out in the Semi.

"To play in any Cup Final is a great thing, and I would love the lads who don't know what it's like just to get a wee taste of it.

"It's an experience every player should enjoy at least once.

"We know what the build up to tonight's game has been like, but believe me, that's nothing to what it's like for the Final itself.

"That is just unbelievable, and with all the media attention you get, it makes you feel like a Celtic or Rangers player for a while.

"You are treated like a superstar which is a great feeling.

"Tonight is the shop window for people like Andy Tod to prove what they're capable of. The big man's an outstanding prospect and this is the sort of platform he should enjoy performing on.

"But hopefully, there's an even bigger stage to come."

JIM KEAN
(Freelance)



The Dunfermline Squad

IAN WESTWATER - Goalkeeper
 Born 08.11.63, Loughborough
 Former Scotland Youth International goalkeeper who had the distinction of playing in the Premier Division at the age of 16 for his first club Hearts. Moved to Dunfermline in 1985 and became a regular in the team which moved from the Second Division to the Premier Division in the 1980's. He moved to Falkirk for a couple of years before returning to East End Park in 1994.

Height 6ft 2in,
 Weight 14st 8lb

ZORAN LEMAJIC - Goalkeeper
 Born 08.11.60, Niksic
 Zoran arrived at East End Park in September, 1996 and following a trial period, signed a two year deal. A native of Montenegro, he played for Yugoslav side FK Pristina before moving to Portuguese football. After spells with Sporting Club Farense and Boavista he joined Bobby Robson's Sporting Club Lisbon in a £600,000 transfer and was part of the Sporting team which defeated Porto in the Portuguese Cup Final in 1994. He made his debut against Raith Rovers in September, 1996 but has yet to establish himself in the first team.

Height 6ft 5in,
 Weight 13st 7lb

COLIN MILLER - Defender
 Born 04.10.64, Lanark
 Experienced full-back who is the captain of the current Canadian international team and has been capped over 50 times. Born in Lanark, Colin moved to Canada at the age of 10 but returned to play for Rangers in 1985. He has subsequently seen service with Doncaster Rovers, Hamilton Accies, St. Johnstone and Heart of Midlothian before moving to East End Park in November, 1995 and playing an important part in Dunfermline's promotion.

Height 5ft 7in,
 Weight 12st 2lb

RAYMOND SHARP - Defender
 Born 16.11.69, Stirling
 Signed last season for the second time after spending two years with Preston North End. A tough tackling defender, Raymond originally signed for Dunfermline in 1986 and was part of the club's BP Cup winning youth

team in 1987/88. He went on to win four Scotland Under-21 caps before being snapped up by Preston.

Height 5ft 11in,
 Weight 12st 5lb

STEVE WELSH - Defender
 Born 19.04.68, Glasgow
 Finally signed by Bert Paton last season after several earlier attempts to get his man. A fitness fanatic, Steve was recruited to the professional ranks after a spell in the Army. Served with Cambridge and Peterborough before moving north to sign for Partick Thistle before returning to Peterborough briefly only for Dunfermline to sign him. A very solid and capable defender.

Height 6ft,
 Weight 12st 2lb

ANDREW TOD - Defender
 Born 04.11.71, Dunfermline
 Another of Dunfermline's adaptable players, Andy has played in midfield and up front as well as the position he currently occupies in the heart of defence. Surprisingly late into the professional ranks when he signed from Kelty Hearts in 1993, he has been virtually ever-present since then and is very popular with the fans. He is dangerous at set pieces and has a keen eye for goal.

Height 6ft 3in,
 Weight 12st

CRAIG IRELAND - Defender
 Born 29.11.75, Dundee
 Craig was signed in February, 1996 from Aberdeen for £70,000. A product of Aberdeen's youth policy, Craig signed for the Dons from Aberdeen Lads Club in 1994. A single first team appearance was all that he



Ian Westwater

had to show at Pittodrie before he joined up to solve a problem in the left central defence area.

Height 6ft 3in,
 Weight 13st 9lb

GREG SHIELDS - Defender
 Born 21.08.76, Falkirk
 One of Dunfermline's latest signings, Greg joined at the end of June from Rangers. A product of Salvesen Boys Club, Greg signed for Rangers in 1993 and last season made a significant breakthrough with ten first team appearances. Bert Paton's most expensive purchase who has had an excellent start to his career at East End Park.

Height 5ft 9in,
 Weight 10st 10lb

DAVE BARNETT - Defender
 Born 16.04.67, Birmingham
 30 year old defender who was signed during the close season after being released by Birmingham City. Initially signed a short term contract and has recently secured his long term future at the club. Has settled well into the frenetic pace of the Scottish Premier Division. Dave is a massive influence on the team, a born organiser, who holds the defence together. Previously with Windsor, Eton, Colchester, Walsall, Kidderminster, Barnet and Birmingham City.

Height 6ft 1.5in,
 Weight 13st

MARC MILLAR - Midfielder
 Born 10.04.69, Dundee
 Signed in October, 1994 from Brechin City as an attacking midfielder, Marc had an excellent season in 1995/96 which was only marred by a disciplinary record which saw him miss the first six matches of the next season. Marc was an instant success in the left back role before returning to a more familiar post in the middle of the park. He scored the all-important winner against Airdrieonians in the final match of the 1995/96 season to enable the Pars to win promotion to the Premier Division.

Height 5ft 9in,
 Weight 10st 12lb

CRAIG ROBERTSON - Midfielder
 Born 22.04.63, Dunfermline
 He originally signed in 1987, having been with Hearts as a youngster then



Raith Rovers for six seasons. He joined Aberdeen for £200,000 in December, 1988, but returned to East End Park in 1991. Great reader of the game and a strong tackler, he has the ability to make late runs into the opposition penalty area. He now has well over 500 senior appearances to his credit. Has taken a while to shake-off an achilles tendon injury picked up in the pre-season, but is now back playing.

**Height 5ft 10in,
Weight 12st**

HARRY CURRAN - Midfield

Born 09.10.66, Glasgow

Signed in March, 1996 from Partick Thistle, injury prevented Harry from making his debut with Dunfermline until October last year. Previously also with Dumbarton, Dundee United and St. Johnstone, Harry took a while to make an impact in the first team but some good performances midway through last season ensured that he was always in contention after that. Always prepared to work hard and take responsibility, Harry also managed to contribute to Dunfermline's goal tally last season with some remarkable strikes.

**Height 5ft 8in,
Weight 11st 8lb**

SCOTT YOUNG - Midfield

Born 05.04.77, Glasgow

A former St. Johnstone youth player who signed for Dunfermline in July last year. After promising performances in the reserve team, he made his debut in the Scottish Cup game against Ross County in January then went on to make a Premier Division scoring debut against Hearts. Finished last season on a high and could make a significant breakthrough this season.

**Height 5ft 8in,
Weight 9st**

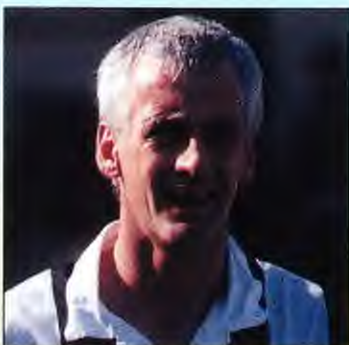
IVO DEN BIEMAN -

Midfield/Forward

Born 04.02.67, Wamel

Dutchman Ivo has played in just about every position since signing from Dundee in August, 1993. He is probably at his most effective operating wide on the right, but was used in a variety of positions last season. Originally came to Scotland to play for Montrose before moving on to Dens Park. His long throw-ins, unconventional style and superb crosses, make him a great favourite with the fans.

**Height 6ft 2in,
Weight 12st 10lb**



Hamish French

HAMISH FRENCH - Midfield/Forward

Born 07.02.64, Aberdeen

Signed from Dundee United in October, 1991, Hamish is now Dunfermline's second-longest serving player. Originally with Highland League side Keith, Hamish was a late entrant into the professional game when he joined Dundee United in 1987. Talented player who is highly regarded at the club and has scored two Coca-Cola Cup goals so far.

**Height 5ft 10.5in,
Weight 11st 7lb**

ANDY SMITH - Forward

Born 27.11.68, Aberdeen

Considered by many to be one of Bert Paton's best buys, Andy was snapped up from Airdrieonians in July, 1995. Although he suffered a broken leg in his first match, he returned to the side to play a crucial role in the club's promotion, scoring ten goals in nineteen starts. In season 1996/97, Andy was almost ever present and played much of his football in the midfield area from where his driving runs created problems for the opposition. A great favourite with the fans, Andy has scored five Coca-Cola Cup goals including four against Ayr United.

**Height 6ft 1in,
Weight 12st 7lb**



Andy Tod

DAVID BINGHAM - Forward

Born 03.09.70, Dunfermline

Signed from Forfar Athletic in September, 1995 after having been top scorer with the Station Park side for two seasons. Born in Dunfermline, David originally stepped up from Fife Junior side Oakley United to St. Johnstone before moving to Forfar in 1992. Tremendously skilful left sided player who has now begun to establish himself as a regular in the first team.

**Height 5ft 10in,
Weight 10st 7lb**

ALLAN MOORE - Forward

Born 25.12.64, Glasgow

Ex-Dumbarton, Heart of Midlothian and St. Johnstone winger who signed for Dunfermline in March, 1994. Allan took some time to settle at East End Park, mainly due to injuries, but in season 1995/96, was the fans Player of the Year with some great match-winning performances. Still has great speed and the ability to turn defenders. Picked up an early injury, but now showing good early season form. Scored the all important extra-time goal against Hearts which took his team to the Semis.

**Height 5ft 7in,
Weight 10st**

STEWART PETRIE - Forward

Born 27.02.70, Dundee

Another signing from Forfar Athletic and another who was top scorer at Station Park before his £70,000 move in August, 1993. Stewart started with Junior club Dundee East Craigie before spending five seasons at Forfar. He can play either through the middle or play in a wide left berth position.

**Height 5ft 10in,
Weight 11st 11lb**

GERRY BRITTON - Forward

Born 20.10.70, Glasgow

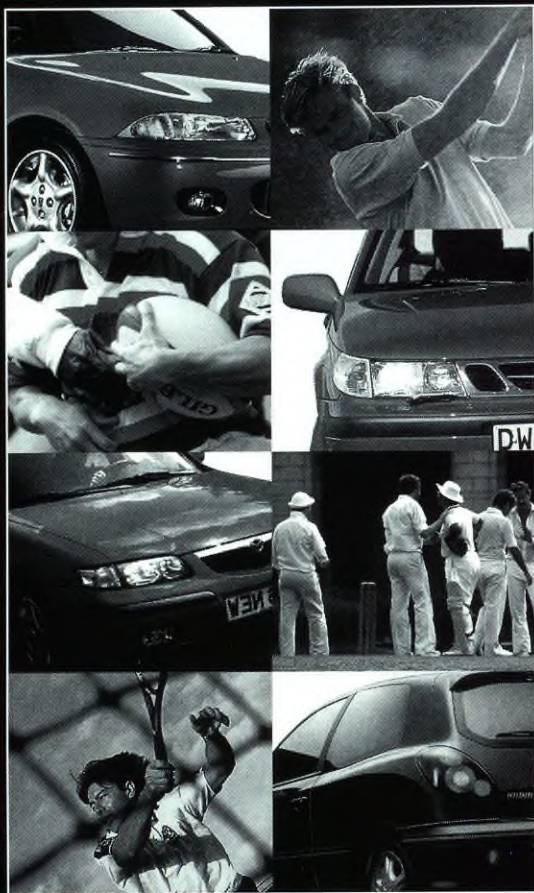
Signed in the summer of 1996 from Dundee, Gerry was an instant hit with the fans and has rewarded their support with some admirable performances. A product of Celtic Boys Club, Gerry moved to Partick Thistle in 1992 before transferring to Dens Park in January, 1994. He was Dunfermline's top scorer last season and also won the accolade of the club's Player of the Year Award.

**Height 6ft,
Weight 11st**

DIXON BLACKSTOCK

(Evening Times)

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The Pars' Road to the Semi

Second Round -

Saturday, 9th August, 1997

Attendance: 3,283

Dunfermline Athletic 5 Ayr United 1
A. Smith (4), D. Wordsworth
H. French

Dunfermline Athletic:

I. Westwater, G. Shields, C. Miller, (R. Sharp), A. Tod, D. Barnett, H. Curran, (J. Fraser), A. Moore, D. Bingham, A. Smith, H. French, (D. Fleming), S. Petrie

Ayr United:

K. McKeown, J. Robertson, P. Bonar, G. Hood, W. Jamieson, (G. Love), W. Mainge, P. Agnew, R. Bell, D. Wordsworth, C. McDonald, (S. Kerrigan), B. Kristensen
Substitute not used: D. Castilla

Not much doubt about the talking point in this one as big Andy Smith's four goal performance destroyed Ayr. Starting as early as the sixth minute, the big striker popped the goals in at regular intervals and had racked up his hat-trick by half-time as the Fifers raced into a 4-1 lead, with Hamish French getting their fourth from the penalty spot just before the break, although Dean Wordsworth's goal

after 28 minutes looked as though it may have sparked an Ayr recovery.

However, the Pars reimposed their authority on the tie and Smith rounded off a personal triumph in the 72nd minute to send the East End Park side into the next round.

Third Round -

Wednesday, 20th August, 1997

Attendance: 4,576

Dunfermline Athletic 2 St. Mirren 0
H. French, A. Smith

Dunfermline Athletic:

I. Westwater, G. Shields, C. Miller, A. Tod, I. Den Bieman, H. Curran, A. Moore, D. Bingham, A. Smith, H. French, S. Petrie
Substitutes not used: J. Fraser, S. Young, Z. Lemajic

St. Mirren:

A. Combe, B. Smith, G. Galloway, (D. Winnie), N. McWhirter, B. McLaughlin, P. Archdeacon, H. Murray, (D. Milne), T. Turner, T. Brown, J. Mendes, R. Kelly, (M. Yardley)

A goal two minutes after the start of play in each half was enough to see the Fifers through

against yet another First Division side and, once again, the combination of Hamish French and Andy Smith did the business.

It was from a Smith cut-back that French banged in the opener in the second minute, although it needed a great individual goal from striker Smith just after the break to settle it all.....he beat three Saints players before sliding the ball home.

Fourth Round -

Tuesday, 9th September, 1997

Attendance: 11,106

Dunfermline Athletic 1 Hearts 0 (AET)
A. Moore

Dunfermline Athletic:

I. Westwater, G. Shields, D. Fleming, A. Tod, D. Barnett, H. Curran, (C. Miller), A. Moore, D. Bingham, (I. Den Bieman), A. Smith, H. French, S. Petrie, (M. Millar)

Heart of Midlothian:

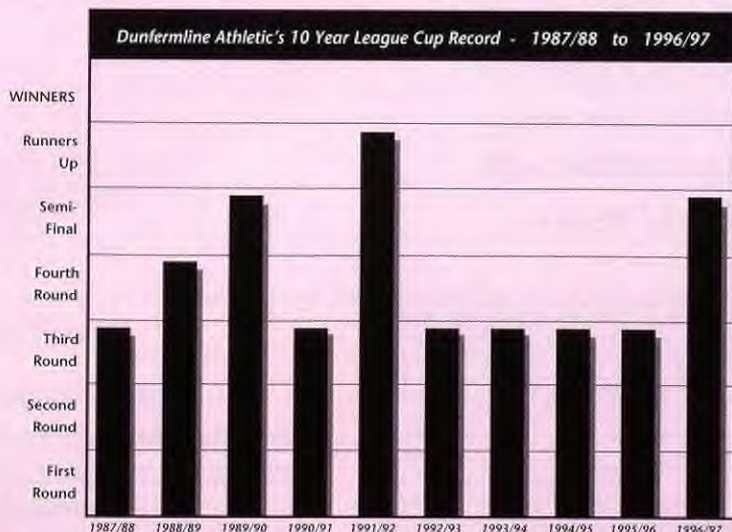
G. Rousset, A. McManus, (G. Locke), N. Pointon, D. Weir, S. Salvatori, (J. Robertson), P. Ritchie, N. McCann, S. Fulton, (T. Fogel), J. Hamilton, C. Cameron, S. Adam

The Pars, at home for the third successive tie, were up against Premier Division opposition for the first time and had to battle through into extra-time before sneaking a place in tonight's Semi-Final tie.

The Tynecastle club dominated the match, missed chance after chance and when they were on target, were thwarted by brilliant work from keeper Ian Westwater. Inevitably when the break came for the Pars, they took it with wee Allan Moore ramming home the winner with only five minutes of extra-time left to break the hearts of the large Tynecastle support.

DIXON BLACKSTOCK

(Evening Times)





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Semi-Final 1997/98



Dunfermline Athletic -v- Celtic

Tuesday, 14th October, 1997, Ibrox Stadium, Glasgow

Kick-Off 7.45pm



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Zoran Lemajic

Greg Shields

Marc Millar

Stewart Petrie

Andy Smith

Sergio Duarte

Andy Tod

Dave Barnett

Steve Welsh

Colin Miller

Ivo Den Bieman

Gerry Britton

David Bingham

Craig Robertson

Allan Moore

Hamish French

Harry Curran

Jonathan Gould

Stewart Kerr

Gordon Marshall

Alan Stubbs

Jackie McNamara

Regi Blinker

David Hannah

Stephane Mahe

Andreas Thom

Phil O'Donnell

Enrico Annoni

Tom Boyd

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Marc Rieper

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Stuart Gray

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In the event of a draw after normal time, extra-time of 30 minutes (i.e. 15 minutes each way) will take place and thereafter, if necessary, Kicks from the Penalty Mark, in accordance with the Rules laid down by the International Football Association Board will be taken.

The Match Ball for tonight's Semi-Final - **THE MITRE ULTIMAX** - has been kindly supplied by **MITRE SPORTS INTERNATIONAL LTD.** This ball has been used throughout the duration of The Coca-Cola Cup Competition and all Bell's League Championship and League Challenge Cup matches. It is also the official ball of The Scottish Football Association.

Tonight's Officials

Referee : Willie Young (Clarkston)

Assistant Referee (Main Stand) : Eric Martindale (Newlands)

Assistant Referee (Govan Stand) : Scott Brown (Bonnybridge)

Fourth Official : Stuart Dougal (Burnside)

Please note:

The Police Authorities will be vigilant in the policing of The Criminal Law (Consolidation) (Scotland) Act, 1995 and The Public Order Act, 1986.

For your own safety and comfort, please walk and avoid pushing when entering and leaving the ground.

We thank St. Andrew's Ambulance for providing First Aid facilities at tonight's match.



The Bhoys' Road to the Semi

Second Round -

Saturday, 9th August, 1997

Attendance: 6,267

Berwick Rangers 0 Celtic 7
D. Jackson,
H. Larsson,
R. Blinker,
M. Wieghorst,
A. Thom,
S. Donnelly (2)

Match Played at Tynecastle Stadium, Edinburgh

Berwick Rangers:

D. Collier, (M. Burgess),
T. Cunningham, D. Finlayson,
G. Fraser, J. Clark, G. McNicoll,
N. Irvine, P. Smith, (M. Laidler),
P. Forrester, K. Walton,
(K. Rafferty), S. Sloan,

Celtic:

J. Gould, T. Boyd, S. Mahe,
(J. McNamara), M. Wieghorst,
M. Mackay, A. Stubbs, H. Larsson,
(P. O'Donnell), C. Burley,
D. Jackson, A. Thom, (S. Donnelly),
R. Blinker

Romp is the only word to describe Celtic's cruise into the Third Round of this competition. Any hopes Berwick had of causing an upset were turned upside down before half-time, by which point Celtic had built up a 5-0 lead with

the goals coming from five different players, in a tie which had to be played at Tynecastle.

When Celtic brought on Simon Donnelly for Andreas Thom in the 65th minute, this only served to offer up two more goals for the talented young striker in the final 20 minutes, as the Parkhead club strolled into the next round.

Third Round -

Tuesday, 19th August, 1997

Attendance: 7,488

St. Johnstone 0 Celtic 1 (AET)
S. Donnelly

St. Johnstone:

A. Main, J. McQuillan, C. Davidson,
A. Sekerlioglu, J. Weir, S. McCluskey,
P. Scott, (G. Farquhar),
K. O'Halloran, (J. O'Neil), P. Kane,
G. O'Boyle, A. Preston, (R. Grant)

Celtic:

J. Gould, T. Boyd, S. Mahe,
D. Hannah, M. Mackay,
M. Wieghorst, (P. Grant),
H. Larsson, C. Burley, S. Donnelly,
D. Jackson, (A. Thom), P. O'Donnell
Substitute not used: S. Gray

Celtic were stretched into extra-time and needed a penalty in the 105th minute from Simon Donnelly to get them through against a

St. Johnstone team which finished up with only nine men as both John O'Neil and Roddy Grant were ordered off after being brought on as substitutes during the extra-time period. Nine players were booked in the tie as well.

Celtic's penalty was given as a result of Saints defender Callum Davidson having been adjudged to have handled in the box and the aforementioned Donnelly coolly slotted the resultant penalty past Saints keeper Alan Main to take the Parkhead club into the Quarter Finals.

Fourth Round -

Wednesday, 10th September, 1997

Attendance: 35,582

Celtic 1 Motherwell 0
H. Larsson

Celtic:

J. Gould, T. Boyd, S. Mahe,
D. Hannah, M. Mackay,
P. O'Donnell, H. Larsson, C. Burley,
S. Donnelly, A. Thom, (T. McKinlay),
R. Blinker, (J. McNamara)
Substitute not used: S. Gray

Motherwell:

S. Woods, E. May, S. McMillan,
(I. Ross), K. Christie, (E. Shivute),
B. Martin, G. Denham, M. Weir,
S. Valakari, (L. McCulloch),
T. Coyne, W. Falconer, O. Coyle

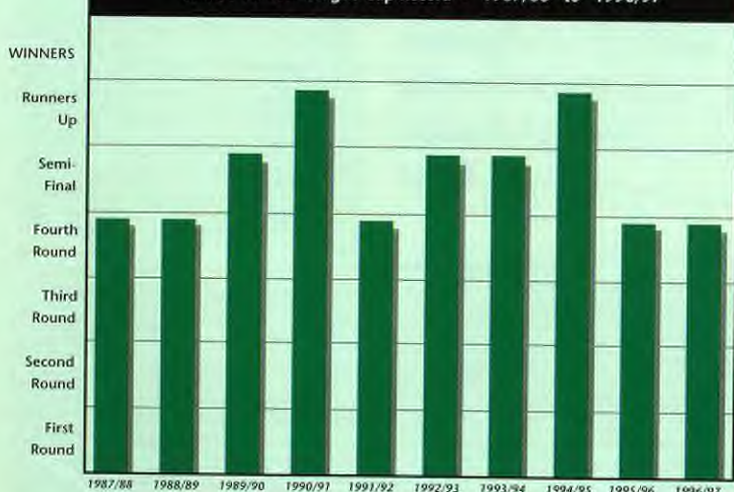
Celtic should have had their Semi-Final place secured very early on based on the considerable pressure applied to the Motherwell defence during the first half. But all they had to show for their efforts was a header from striker Henrik Larsson in the 28th minute. The Swede met a cross from Stephane Mahe and steered in an effort which was helped into the net by Brian Martin.

The Parkhead club missed many more opportunities and nearly paid for that in the last 15 minutes when first Owen Coyle and then Tommy Coyne both squandered good chances, but Celtic held on to reach the last four.

DIXON BLACKSTOCK

(Evening Times)

Celtic's 10 Year League Cup Record - 1987/88 to 1996/97



Henrik Larsson

Henrik Larsson shoots for his first Cup Final appearance in Scottish football tonight with a hat-trick of cup winners' medals his goal.

Larsson, the new darling of the Celtic fans, enjoyed success in two Dutch Cup Finals with his former club Feyenoord before his summer transfer to Glasgow and the Swedish international has another reason for wanting to be a victor this evening, to wipe out the memory of Dunfermline's shock win, at Celtic Park, on his home Premier Division debut for the Hoops.

"That was a bad result and obviously we are looking for revenge against Dunfermline," said Larsson.

"I won the Cup twice in Holland with Feyenoord, the first one coming not long after I had joined the club from Swedish club, Helsingborgs.

"It always gives you a lift to be winning the big prizes in football although the Dutch Cup is not regarded in the same way as the Cup competitions are here in Scotland. I don't think it means as much as it does to people here.

"You always want to play in big games so it would be nice to get through to a Cup Final this early in the season. But I already know how difficult Dunfermline can make it for you after that game at Celtic Park."

Larsson arrived at Celtic at the end of July with General Manager Jock Brown revealing that he was the number one signing target for coach Wim Jansen at a time when a string of new recruits came in. Jansen had personal knowledge of the Swede given that it was he who was instrumental in his move to Rotterdam a few years ago. The pair were together at Feyenoord for about three months before Jansen moved on.

"I can't tell you much about Wim," says Larsson. "He must have seen me playing in Sweden to take me to Feyenoord but when we were there, he was not the first team coach.



"But it was enough to know that he wanted me again and the fact that Celtic were very interested.

"Staying at Feyenoord was no longer an option for me and although it took longer than I expected with the court case, I was happy to get to Glasgow."

A contract wrangle had to be unravelled in Holland before Larsson could cross the channel with the player insisting he had a clause which allowed him to move for a certain fee. It involved a messy dispute with his employers and needed the intervention of The Dutch FA and a "soccer court" before he was "free", but now that he is here, he has no doubts he has made the right choice.

Henrik, his wife, and three month old son, have recently moved into a new house after almost 12 weeks in a hotel and the Larssons are relieved to leave Holland behind. With the kind of soundbite that would have The Scottish Tourist Board drooling, he said, "You have a beautiful country here and we love it already. The air seems very clear in Glasgow too - not like Rotterdam which was polluted."

Indeed, it is not just the air

which has helped the Larsson family feel welcome. Celtic's massive support remains an awe-inspiring sight and sound for those to whom it is a new experience.

"Nothing could have prepared me for the way the Celtic fans back their team at Celtic Park and elsewhere," said Henrik.

"Even if I had spoken to players over here, and I didn't because it all happened quite quickly, I could not have imagined what the atmosphere would be like.

"It is the best I have ever experienced in football, in fact it is the best I will ever experience in football I should think.

"The night we played Liverpool here in Glasgow was amazing. I had, how do you say, goosebumps on my arms listening to the songs before kick-off."

That is a huge compliment to the Celtic support given that Larsson was involved in the Swedish side which finished third at the World Cup Finals in America three years ago and his coolness under pressure should be a comfort to Jansen if the likes of tonight's game was to go to a penalty shoot-out.

"After we beat Saudi Arabia in the States, we played Romania in the Quarter Finals. We were 1-0 up but it went into extra-time at 1-1 and we had to score a late goal to draw 2-2.

"It then went to a penalty shoot-out and I scored the sixth, their man missed their sixth kick and we were through to the Semi-Finals."

Larsson was left out of the Semi-Final match with Brazil but returned in the Third and Fourth Play-Off match against Bulgaria, scoring in a 4-0 win.

It indicates a pedigree at least as high as the likes of his predecessors at Parkhead, Pierre Van Hooijdonk, Paolo Di Canio and Jorge Cadete, and his displays so far suggest as much.

A Coca-Cola Cup winners' medal, after a 15 year barren run in the tournament for Celtic, would merely confirm his quality.

PETER JARDINE

(The Scottish Daily Mail)



The Celtic Squad

JONATHAN GOULD - Goalkeeper

Born 18.07.68, London

Jonathan is London born but qualifies to play for Scotland because of his grandmother! Joined Celtic in August from Bradford City and has also played for Halifax Town, West Bromwich Albion and Coventry City during his career. Has played in all The Coca-Cola Cup ties this season ...and is still to lose a goal.

Height 6ft,
Weight 13st 7lb

GORDON MARSHALL - Goalkeeper

Born 19.04.64, Edinburgh

Has now been six years at Celtic after a £270,000 move from Falkirk. Also played for Rangers, East Stirlingshire and East Fife. Has played 136 first team games for Celts, but lost his place last season to young Stewart Kerr who is currently on the injured list.

Height 6ft 2in,
Weight 13st

JACKIE McNAMARA - Defender

Born 24.10.73, Glasgow

One of the future stars for Scotland. Son of former Celtic player Jackie McNamara - currently assistant boss at Hibernian - he was recruited from tonight's opponents, Dunfermline, for £600,000 in October, 1995 and has improved every step of the way right to the national side.

Height 5ft 8in,
Weight 9st 7lb

TOSH McKINLAY - Defender

Born 03.12.64, Glasgow

Tosh is a Scotland regular. A strong stylish full-back with a precise left foot, he cost Celtic £350,000 from Heart of



Jonathan Gould

Midlothian in November, 1994 and has become a key player. He has just signed a new two year contract.

Height 5ft 10in,
Weight 11st 9lb

TOM BOYD - Defender

Born 24.11.65, Glasgow

Another fixture in the Scotland side and looming up is his entry into the international Hall of Fame for reaching 50 caps. Solid, strong professional who works extremely hard. The former Motherwell man was signed in a swap deal in 1992, with Tony Casarino going to Chelsea. Has played more than 250 games for Celtic and took over as team captain at the beginning of this season following Paul McStay's retirement. He has played in all three Coca-Cola Cup ties this season.

Height 5ft 11in,
Weight 11st 4lb

ALAN STUBBS - Defender

Born 06.10.71, Kirkby

Signed from Bolton Wanderers in May, 1996. His first season was marred by injury problems but under new boss, Wim Jansen, he has been played in a midfield role that suited him more at Bolton and looks like revitalising his career at Celtic. Won an England B cap while playing down south and many observers still think that he can make the step-up to the full national side.

Height 6ft 1in,
Weight 13st 7lb

MARC RIEPER - Defender

Born 05.06.68, Copenhagen

The big Danish international signed for the Bhoys from West Ham in early September for a fee of around £1.5 million. His experience has helped to strengthen Celtic's back line and Wim Jansen is looking to the Dane to maintain the form he has shown for his country in over 40 international matches.

Height 6ft 3.5in,
Weight 14st

MALKY MACKAY - Defender

Born 19.02.72, Bellshill

Signed from Queen's Park in August, 1994, Malky is a determined player, who pushed his way into the first team set-up, knocking back moves to other clubs to fight for his place. Scored a great goal last term that helped Celtic knock Rangers out of the Scottish Cup



Jackie McNamara

and has been involved in the senior squad for almost three years. Recently signed a new contract.

Height 6ft 1in,
Weight 12st 7lb

ENRICO ANNONI - Defender

Born 10.07.66, Gloussand

Signed from AS Roma in March, 1997 for £300,000, having also played for Seregno, Como, Sambenedettese and Torino. He has been on the injury list recently and only made five appearances because of injury last term. The Celtic supporters haven't had the chance to see what this Italian can really do, although he returned to the top team for the recent UEFA Cup tie against Liverpool at Anfield where he turned in a fine performance.

Height 5ft 10in,
Weight 13st

STEPHANE MAHE - Defender

Born 23.09.68, Puteaux

Signed from Rennes in August, 1997, the Frenchman also played with Auxerre and Paris St. Germain. He played against Celtic in the European Cup Winners' Cup two seasons ago. Decided to try Scotland to resurrect his career and occupies either the left-back or the central defensive role. Has played in all Coca-Cola Cup ties this season.

Height 5ft 11in,
Weight 11st 11lb

PHIL O'DONNELL - Midfielder

Born 25.03.72, Bellshill

Signed from Motherwell for £1.75 million in September, 1994 and scored a double on his debut against Partick Thistle, but has unfortunately suffered from injury after injury since. Is now

fully fit, however, and his pace and skill have never been in doubt. Won a Scottish Cup medal against Airdrieonians coming on as a substitute for Simon Donnelly. Has eight Under-21 caps and made his debut for the full international team in the match against Sweden in season 1994/95.

Height 5ft 10in,
Weight 10st 15lb

MORTEN WIEGHORST - Midfield

Born 25.02.71, Glostrup

Signed from Dundee in December, 1995 for £600,000. Has also played for Lyngby in Denmark. A surprise buy at the time, he was in and out of the side due to injury and lack of form at first. Wieghorst has this season, however, now really had the chance to show Celtic supporters what he can do and has been one of Celtic's best players this season to date. Has now fully recovered from a cartilage injury and has recently been recalled to the Danish national side. Scored against Berwick Rangers in the First Round.

Height 6ft 3in,
Weight 14st

CRAIG BURLEY - Midfield

Born 24.09.71, Ayr

Craig was signed from Chelsea in July of this year for £2.5 million, having spent seven seasons with the current English F.A. Cup holders, where he was a regular in the first team from season 1993/94 onwards. Craig won the first of his seven Under-21 Scotland caps in the spring of 1992 against Denmark and the first of his senior caps arrived on 21st May, 1995 when he featured in Scotland's 0-0 draw with Japan in Hiroshima. He now has 20 full international caps and has played in all Coca-Cola Cup ties to date.

Height 5ft 11.5in,
Weight 12st 13lb

DAVID HANNAH - Midfield

Born 04.08.73, Airdrie

He was signed from Dundee United for



Stéphane Mahe

£550,000 last December after being in dispute at Tannadice. Spent six seasons with United and played in the team which beat Rangers in the 1994 Scottish Cup Final. A steady, hard-working midfielder man.

Height 5ft 11.5in,
Weight 11st 8lb

SIMON DONNELLY -

Midfield/Forward

Born 01.12.74, Glasgow

Signed from Queen's Park Boys Club in July, 1992, this talented young player burst onto the scene in 1994 with two goals in his home debut, but suffered from a loss of form the following year, as well as suffering injury which halted his progress. Last season he regained his good form and is now a key player. Now featuring in Scotland's World Cup plans, having already made the top team after eleven Under-21 caps.

Height 5ft 9in,
Weight 10st 12lb

BRIAN McLAUGHLIN - Forward

Born 14.05.74, Bellshill

Has been five years at Celtic Park now and has just signed a new three year contract. Small, tricky winger in the typical old-fashioned Scottish mould. Has eight Under-21 caps. Won a Scottish Cup medal against Airdrieonians three seasons ago.

Height 5ft 4in,
Weight 8st 7lb

TOMMY JOHNSON - Forward

Born 15.01.71, Newcastle

He has been out for some time because of a groin problem, but is still hoping to make it for the Cup game. Cost £2.4 million from Aston Villa in April, having also played for Notts County and Derby County. Scored two goals in his six appearances at the end of last season and notched two goals in three outings at the start of this term before injury took over.

Height 5ft 9in,
Weight 12st 4lb

ANDREAS THOM - Forward

Born 07.09.65, Rudersdorf

The talented German was signed from Bayer Leverkusen in a £4 million deal in July, 1995. Also played with Dynamo Berlin and TSG Herzfelde. A class player who may now be in the twilight of his career, he has been unfortunately plagued by injury but is still undoubtedly a marvellous player with great pace and possesses a lethal shot. Scored against Berwick Rangers earlier in The Coca-Cola Cup competition.

Height 5ft 8.5in,
Weight 11st 10lb



Andreas Thom

REGI BLINKER - Forward

Born 04.06.69, Surinam

Signed from Sheffield Wednesday in August, 1997 in a swap plus cash deal involving Paolo Di Canio. The Dutch international also played for Feyenoord and Den Bosch. Surinam born Regi played under Wim Jansen at Feyenoord and has high respect for the coach - his fellow countryman. He joined Feyenoord as a 17 year old before signing for Den Bosch, but returned to Feyenoord in 1989 and alongside Henrik Larsson, he won a Dutch Championship medal in 1993 and Cup medals in 1991, 1992, 1994 and 1995. Had an up and down time at Sheffield Wednesday after a great start, scoring twice on his debut against Aston Villa. Was injured in the first Euro tie against Liverpool. Is a winger in the old fashioned style.

Height 5ft 8.5in,
Weight 11st 7lb

HENRIK LARSSON - Forward

Born 20.09.71, Sweden

Signed in July, 1997 from Feyenoord, he also played for Swedish sides Hogaborg BK, and Helsingborgs IF, where he came to prominence. Won two Dutch Cup medals with Feyenoord in 1994 and 1995, and with the Swedish international side, he picked up a third place medal in the World Cup Finals in the USA in 1994. Has 28 caps for his country and has scored seven goals. His last cap came against Scotland in the Scots 1-0 win over Sweden at tonight's venue in November last year in the World Cup qualifying game. Has scored two goals in three Coca-Cola Cup appearances.

Height 5ft 10in,
Weight 11st 11lb

DIXON BLACKSTOCK

(Evening Times)

Murdo MacLeod – a previous winner



The League Cup, in its various guises over the years, has been far kinder to Celtic's Assistant Head Coach, Murdo MacLeod, than the Parkhead club. It was MacLeod, with the winning goal against Rangers, who gave Celtic fans their last glimpse of the trophy an incredible 15 years ago.

While Celtic and their massive following go into tonight's Coca-Cola Cup Semi-Final against Dunfermline Athletic hoping ultimately, to end that long wait, MacLeod has savoured such a moment in the intervening period after lifting the Cup as captain of Hibernian, so ending a 19 year gap since the Easter Road club had last

got their hands on that trophy. MacLeod has no doubts what victory on Sunday, 30th November would mean to Celtic.

He said, "Scoring the winning goal against Rangers, Charlie Nicholas got our other in a 2-1 win, was special although I was having a wee run of scoring against them.

"But winning the Final with Hibs, co-incidentally against tonight's opponents, Dunfermline, was also a terrific moment, especially being captain of the side.

"Hibs hadn't won a trophy for so many years and the fact that the club had so nearly gone to the wall just a few months earlier added to the occasion as did the huge number of Hibs fans who were at Hampden that afternoon and the

incredible scenes which followed when we got back to Edinburgh to find the streets packed as we drove through the city in an open-top bus."

MacLeod, back with Celtic as assistant to Head Coach, Wim Jansen, would love a repeat of those triumphs but while acknowledging that The Bhoys are favourites, not only to win tonight's match, but to go on and lift The Coca-Cola Cup, he insisted that to look too far ahead would be foolish.

Accepting that a huge burden of expectation rests on the shoulders of both Wim Jansen and himself, MacLeod pointed out that the club is very much in the middle of a rebuilding process.

He said, "It is important for us having come to the club when it has not won many trophies over the past few years and this is a chance to get one.

"Everyone will be thinking Celtic are favourites, but we have reached this stage and been tripped up far too often. The fans have seen it over the years when we have been expected to win and I think at the



Charlie Nicholas

moment they are realistic about everything.

"You also have to remember that Dunfermline came to Celtic Park earlier in the season and beat us 2-1 so we know how tough tonight will be."

That Pars win, allied to an opening day defeat by Hibs, may have implanted some early misgivings in the minds of Celtic fans but MacLeod is sure that they, like himself and Wim Jansen, have been happy with the progress that has been made over the past few weeks.

However, MacLeod was adamant that it was never going to be plain sailing given the changes made at the club from the top of the management structure down to the playing staff. For a start, MacLeod had never met Wim Jansen before he was unveiled as Celtic's new Head Coach, although he knew the name from Celtic's epic European Cup Final match against Feyenoord back in 1970.

The former Celtic star, who had cut his teeth in management at Dumbarton and Partick Thistle before returning to Parkhead as Assistant Head Coach, however, hit it off straight away with the Dutchman.

MacLeod, who gained experience of the continental way



Wim Jansen, Celtic's Head Coach

of things with Borussia Dortmund, said, "We were in Holland pre-season when Wim arrived. We began working together and almost immediately he asked me to be his assistant.

"There were always going to be teething problems in the beginning because we were playing catch-up and Wim wanted the side playing his way. Now the players are settling in and know what is needed and a lot of credit has to go to them.

"We have also had a number of new players such as Darren Jackson, Henrik Larsson, Regi Blinker and Craig Burley, who have come to the club and the way in which they have settled in has made it all the more pleasing.

"Tonight's match will be just as difficult as our earlier meeting with Dunfermline although that was our first home League game of the season when we were still adjusting.

"We have now played a lot of good games and one thing is certain, they'll see a very different Celtic side whatever system we decide is right for the night."

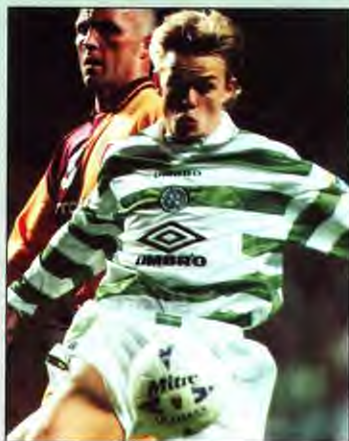
DAVID HARDIE

(*Edinburgh Evening News*)



Craig Burley

Simon Donnelly



Simon Donnelly is desperate to make-up for the biggest disappointment of his career tonight when he lines-up against Dunfermline Athletic. The 22 year old suffered with the rest of his Parkhead teammates when the Hoops crashed out of the Tennents Scottish Cup Semi-Final at the hands of Falkirk last April at the same venue as tonight's Semi-Final tie.

It was a harrowing evening for everyone connected with Celtic as they lost the replay tie 1-0, and the ramifications were severe and swift. Tommy Burns watched the final nail being rammed into his managerial coffin and, just days later, his long association with the club he had supported, played for and then managed, was terminated.

However, that rainy night now seems a long way away for Celtic as they continue to flourish under Wim Jansen's brave new era. In tandem, Donnelly has emerged as one of the most outstanding talents of his age, grasping a first team berth with both hands as well as having thrust his way into the Scotland international set-up.

Securing a Coca-Cola Cup Final place at the expense of the Pars would go a long way to confirming that Celtic are indeed back on the

right road and would also banish the nightmare of last April from Donnelly's mind.

"There are times in everyone's life when there are no words to describe how they feel inside," admitted Simon.

"I'm sure this must happen to everyone at some point in their career and after that Falkirk defeat, that was how I felt," he continued.

"We were stunned. When we got back to the dressing room at Ibrox, nobody could speak. It was absolutely silent. Everyone just wanted to go home.

"To be honest, we really let ourselves down. When it went to the replay, we really thought that we could do it and we were confident we would.

"I have to admit that this has been the greatest disappointment of my career so far. I know that I've only been in the game for three years at senior level but I do, unfortunately, have something to compare it with.

"It's not a day I want to remember, but I played in The Coca-Cola Cup Final when we lost to Raith Rovers almost three years ago. Same venue, different opposition – similar outcome.

"I had only broken into the first team at the time and I didn't really have the same grasp then on what it means to play for a club like Celtic as I do now.

"When we play well, we accept the credit as a team and now we have to accept the criticism that we have played badly.

"The way the Premier Division Championship had gone last season, we were aware that the Scottish Cup was our last chance.

"One of the biggest responsibilities you have as a Celtic player is to realise that what happens at the club affects thousands of people and that is why we will be giving it our all to beat Dunfermline and get through to the first Final of the season."

Donnelly will be a key figure if

Celtic are to do just that. His early season form has been impressive to say the least, forging a potent partnership with Swede, Henrik Larsson, that has had the Celtic fans in raptures. But after losing to Dunfermline in just their second League match of the season, Donnelly is well aware that the scene is once more set for a classic trip-up for Wim Jansen's side.

Occasions like these have too often backfired on them in the past, and it is a danger Donnelly is keen to guard against. He added, "It would be great to get to a Final so early in the season, but there is still some caution about Celtic Park.

"People are surmising that because Rangers have been knocked out, we automatically become favourites, but you won't find any Celtic players looking at it like that, especially after our recent failure against Dunfermline.

"I still remember, though it's with a lot of discomfort, the fact that we put Rangers out of the Scottish Cup last season and then managed to get beaten in the Semi-Final ourselves.

"In that case, if anybody else wants to think that the competition is easier now that Rangers are out, let them.

"We won't be. Getting past Motherwell and St. Johnstone was a hard enough task which we didn't make any easier for ourselves.

"Dunfermline will feel that after beating us 2-1 at Parkhead, they have a great chance to go through.

"They played well that afternoon, especially in the second half, but I feel we are a more settled side now than we were then.

"And you must remember that Bert Paton's side have a good record in the competition, reaching the Semi-Final last season and the Final in 1991.

"We, on the other hand don't, but that is something we aim to put right this season."

DARRELL KING
(Evening Times)

Regi Blinker

Regi Blinker always thought he was destined for a career in management... business management that is...and, until his first chance meeting with Wim Jansen, a nine-to-five routine rather than the glitz and glamour of professional football was looking to be the likely career choice for the "skinny" 16 year old.

As a schoolkid, Blinker spent most of his spare time kicking a ball about in the streets with his pals and trying to emulate the skills of his heroes. But professional football? No, that was what other people did. In fact, a teenage Blinker hadn't given a thought of earning a wage playing the game he loved until his dribbling skills caught the eye of the then Feyenoord coach Jansen.

Now a relationship which started back in 1986 is going from strength to strength with Celtic. Wim Jansen made him one of his first signing targets when he moved into the Parkhead hotseat in July and the old Feyenoord connection with Swedish striker Henrik Larsson and the Head Coach looks like paying dividends for the Hoops.

Now the winger, hoping to be back tonight after a month on the sidelines with a dislocated shoulder, knows Jansen's decision to offer him that professional contract eleven years ago changed the course of his career.

The talented 28 year old Dutch international admitted, "As a 16 year old, it was never in my mind that I would have the chance of playing football for a living with a club like Feyenoord.

"In fact, I didn't expect to make it as a pro.

"I grew up in the town of Delft near Rotterdam and started off playing for junior sides.

"At 16, I was still at school, playing for Delft at the weekend and the next thing on my mind was going to college.

"I was preparing to do a business management course for a year, but then things changed



totally.

"Wim saw me playing in a youth tournament and soon after that he contacted me to offer a five year professional contract!

"I signed in the summer of 1986 and have never looked back. Once I started to earn a wage, I decided football was for me.

"However, I was surprised at how quickly things developed after I signed.

"I honestly thought I was too young at 16 and 17 to be involved. I was far smaller and skinnier than I am now and reckoned I would be doing well to progress from the youth teams to the reserves by my early 20's.

"As for the first team, I felt I'd be ready for that by the time I was 25!

"So, after spending a year on loan to Den Bosch when I was 18, I was totally shocked to be in the first team until the time came for me to leave for England."

Certainly, the Celtic faithful will be glad he grabbed the chance of a contract with Feyenoord with both hands. Dunfermline's defenders, however, might wish he'd plumped for a desk job after 90 minutes tonight.

However, it's clear from watching Blinker play and sharing jokes and views on football with him off the field, he's loving life in Scotland after his early season move from Sheffield Wednesday in a deal which took former fans' favourite Paolo Di Canio to

Hillsborough and the chance of Coca-Cola Cup success so early in the season is a major bonus for the dreadlocked winger.

His experience of the same competition in England ended on a sour note last season when David Pleat's Premiership outfit fell at the first hurdle to lowly Oxford United, but Regi will blank that out tonight when he gears up for the Pars clash and a crack at the team which notched a well deserved League victory against the Hoops at Parkhead just two months ago.

"That was a bad experience and one I'd rather forget," winced Blinker as he remembered his Coca-Cola Cup exit from last season.

"But I've got a good feeling about this tournament. The season has just started and already the Final is in sight, which is an unusual situation for me, but a good one for the club.

"It would be terrific to actually win the Cup and build on that for the rest of the season.

"The new Celtic team needs every boost it can get because there have been so many players arriving at the club.

"But we have been improving with every game and the incentive is there for the team to keep on getting better."

Blinker's playing start to the season was temporarily halted when a crunching, but accidental collision with Rob Jones of Liverpool in the thrilling UEFA Cup tie at Parkhead last month, left him needing hospital treatment for a damaged shoulder. But even injury hasn't put a dampener on his first few months in the Scottish game.

The Dutchman may have expected his first experience of Ibrox to be in an Old Firm game. However, he's more than happy that a Semi-Final has given him an early chance to set foot inside the ground of Celtic's great rivals and give the fans and starmaker Jansen a reason to party.

IAIN MacFARLANE
(Daily Star of Scotland)

Looking to the future of our game

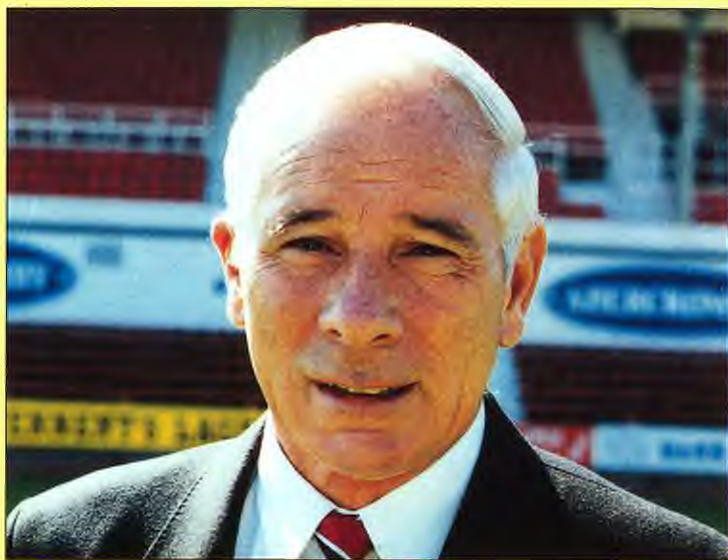
At a time when there is much debate taking place regarding how Scottish football will take shape in the future, there are more clubs now suddenly waking up to the idea that their future well being at the top level depends a great deal on both the number and indeed, quality of youngsters they can bring through their own youth systems.

Davie McParland twiggled that quicker than most, and is working all day, and every day, on doing his bit for his employers in particular and Scottish football in general, in trying to improve the playing standards of young players hoping to aspire to the top level.

The former Partick Thistle manager is the Youth Development Manager with Dunfermline Athletic, a position which has been his task for four, long, hard-working years, and he is loving every minute of it. As the Pars take the field this evening to face Celtic in the Semi-Final of The Coca-Cola Cup, he'll hand himself the luxury of a night off. Therefore, instead of his usual sessions with kids, aged from ten to sixteen, he'll be cheering on Bert Paton's boys.

He is hoping the East End Park side can do unto the Hoops what Thistle, under his command, did to them way back in 1971, in the same competition. The Youth boss has nothing against the Parkhead club, indeed, he raves about the youth set-up gradually being put in place at Celtic Park. But a victory for the Fifers, and an appearance in the Final, would almost certainly make his recruitment drive that bit easier.

"Every time the League Cup reaches the latter stages, fans



Davie McParland

always refer to Partick Thistle's 4-1 defeat of Celtic in the Final of 1971," says Davie.

"I've no complaints about being continually reminded about it, and neither have any of the players who were in Thistle jerseys that unforgettable day.

"Call it selfish if you like, but a Dunfermline victory in this competition could have local kids knocking on the front door at East End Park to get involved in our youth training scheme.

"It's amazing what a bit of success can do, and youngsters love getting themselves attached to clubs who win trophies, and get a higher profile," continued Davie.

"Not that we haven't plenty about the place at the moment, and that's absolutely terrific.

"We have one hundred kids from the various age groups two nights a week, and I'm thankful some of the first team squad, Hamish French in particular, come

along to help out," enthused Davie.

"We've already had John Fraser through the system and into the first team, and Chris Templeman has made it to the first team bench.

"Things like that encourage the other lads no end to give it their full concentration to follow these two up-and-comers up the ladder."

McParland stresses that developing young players is a long, slow, sometimes painful process, and fans really have to show great patience. However, the fruits of his labours are now starting to show and he says, "We're gradually getting there at Dunfermline, and the better the first team squad does in the Premier Division as well as in the cup competitions, the better it will be for everybody in the area.

"We've already got an Under 16 youth side which participates in The Scottish Football League's Youth Initiative Scheme on Sundays, and we have a talented

Under 18 side which plays in The Scottish Football League's Youth Division.

"The future of the club is being built on a good solid base of young footballers, and a win over Celtic in the Semi-Final of The Coca-Cola Cup, would help that cause no end whatsoever."

Davie is hoping that the club can reach the standards set by the club in the sixties and says, "The kids of today don't realise what a power Dunfermline Athletic were in the land in the sixties.

"All they know is what their grandfathers tell them about it. Bert Paton and his players can bring those memories up-to-date by beating Celtic!"

As a midfield action man for both club and country, **David Hay** was usually to be found in the centre of any sorting out which had to be done in that all important area. For Celtic, Chelsea and Scotland, he always gave the game his best effort and few would admit to have ever enjoyed playing against him.

As Celtic team manager, David Hay was a tracksuited modern day hands-on boss, who seldom missed a training session. He could not

envisage the day when he might go a couple of days without rubbing shoulders, or clapping eyes, on a sweat-stained footballer. That day dawned however, when Jock Brown was made General Manager of Celtic and he made David Hay his assistant. Life has never been the same in the Hay household since.....or anything remotely like it. He's given up the life of the rain soaked training ground and the daily get-togethers with players for that of the city gent.

David Hay is now Celtic's 'have briefcase will travel' man in all parts of the globe. If the Hoops want a player watched? Send Mr. Hay. The Celts need an update on a highly recommended performer in Europe? Mr. Hay's the man to go. Should the Celtic coach be desperate to get his hands on a lethal centre forward? Mr. Hay is bound to have some suggestions.

"I've been concentrating mostly in Scandinavia, Holland, France, Italy and Spain," says the gent who's clocking up as many miles as the astronauts on the Russian space station Mir.

"Those are my main stomping grounds at the moment. But it certainly looks like our horizons will

have to be broadened.

"These countries are getting very busy indeed with talent spotters on the same mission as I'm on and sometimes you can hardly move at matches in those necks of the wood for foreigners sitting around taking notes.....and trying to look invisible!

"At Celtic Park, we want to bring in the best, and that could mean shifting our attentions to South America and Africa.

"If we can get into those places quickly enough, and get our pick of the crop, we might just be on a winner and could unearth a few gems."

Although, as Hay pointed out, "I must stress, though, the final decision on a player coming to Celtic Park doesn't lie with me.

"I do the travelling, and the looking, and come back to Glasgow with my recommendations.

"It's then up to Wim Jansen to say if he fancies him, or needs him, and down to Jock Brown to work out the deal to get him."

Hay's remit is given to him by the club's Head Coach and then it is up to him to get out and about and try to find the player which suits the club's style of play.

"But, as I said, that's getting more and more difficult all the time, with scouts from big clubs popping out of the woodwork all over Europe.

"Hopefully, Celtic fans will see some of the fruits of my labours in this Coca-Cola Cup Semi-Final against Dunfermline," continued David.

"There's bound to be one or two of my recommendations playing, and if they can put the club one step nearer winning a trophy, so much the better."

He shares the same views as that of Davie McParland and says, "There's no better way of attracting star players than having a sideboard full of gleaming silver trophies."

DOUG BAILLIE
(The Sunday Post)



David Hay



For the Record – Dunfermline v Celtic

Prior to the beginning of this season, Dunfermline Athletic had played 263 Scottish League Cup games, winning 76, drawing 20 and losing 38 at home, scoring 290 goals and conceding 201 in the process. Away from East End Park, the Pars had won 31 games, drawn 29 and lost 69, scoring 172 goals and conceding 279.

Dunfermline have never won The League Cup, but have reached two previous Finals, the first being in season 1949/50, when they were beaten by East Fife 3-0 after defeating Hibernian in the Semi-Final 2-1, and in season 1991/92 when they lost to Hibernian 2-0.

Dunfermline's biggest home win in the competition to date stands at 6-1, which they achieved

twice, firstly against Dumbarton on 26th August, 1953 and then against Stirling Albion on 13th August, 1958. Their biggest home defeat stands at 7-1 which was inflicted by tonight's opponents, Celtic, on 28th August, 1982.

The East End Park club's biggest away win in this competition so far came on 12th August, 1992 when they won at Montrose 6-0, while their biggest away defeat stands at 7-0, which happened on 12th October, 1946 against Fife rivals, East Fife at Bayview. When Dunfermline last reached the League Cup Final in season 1991/92, they defeated Airdrieonians in a penalty shoot-out 3-2 at Tynecastle Park, after the match had finished 1-1 after extra-time on 24th September, 1991.

Prior to the beginning of this

season, Celtic had played 371 Scottish League Cup games, winning 119, drawing 19 and losing 23 at home, scoring 433 goals and conceding 163. Away from home, Celtic had won 123 games, drawn 32 and lost 55, scoring 449 goals and conceding 252.

Celtic have won The League Cup on nine occasions, the first being in season 1956/57, followed by further successes in seasons 1957/58, 1965/66, 1966/67, 1967/68, 1968/69, 1969/70, 1974/75 and 1982/83. In addition, the Parkhead club have been runners-up on ten occasions.

The Bhoys biggest home win in the competition stands at 10-0, which they achieved on 11th September, 1968 against Hamilton Academical and their biggest home defeat was 6-3, which was inflicted by Clyde on 9th October, 1948. Their biggest away win in this competition so far came on 25th August, 1993 when they won 9-1 at Arbroath, while their biggest defeat away from home stands at 6-3, which happened on 30th August, 1958 against St. Mirren at Love Street.

When Celtic last reached the League Cup Final on 27th November, 1994, they were defeated by Raith Rovers 6-5 in a penalty shoot-out after having defeated Aberdeen in the Semi-Final 1-0, both ties being played at tonight's venue, Ibrox.

Celtic last won The League Cup on 4th December, 1982 when they defeated Rangers 2-1 at Hampden Park, with goals from Charlie Nicholas and Murdo MacLeod, and in that season's competition, they defeated Dundee United in the Semi-Final 3-2 on aggregate over two legs.

PREVIOUS MEETINGS BETWEEN THE TWO CLUBS IN THE SCOTTISH LEAGUE CUP

12th Sept 1956
Celtic 6-0 Dunfermline Athletic
Quarter Final First Leg
15th Sept 1956
Dunfermline Athletic 3-0 Celtic
Quarter Final Second Leg
(Celtic won 6-3 on aggregate)
14th Sept 1966
Celtic 6-3 Dunfermline Athletic
Quarter Final First Leg
21st Sept 1966
Dunfermline Athletic 1-3 Celtic
Quarter Final Second Leg
(Celtic won 9-4 on aggregate)
14th Aug 1982
Celtic 6-0 Dunfermline Athletic
Section Match
28th Aug 1982
Dunfermline Athletic 1-7 Celtic
Section Match
22nd Aug 1984
Dunfermline Athletic 2-3 Celtic
Second Round

THE LAST TIME:

Dunfermline Athletic 2 Celtic 3

Dunfermline Athletic:

Whyte, Robertson, Forrest, Rogers, (T. Smith), Young, McCathie, Perry, Hamilton, Watson, Morrison, Jenkins

Celtic:

Bonner, McGrain, Reid, Aitken, McAdam, Grant, Colquhoun, W. McStay, (Melrose), McClair, Burns, McInally

Scorers:

Dunfermline Athletic: Watson (2)

Celtic: McClair (2), McInally

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The Coca-Cola Cup 1997/98 - Results to date

FIRST ROUND

Saturday, 2nd August, 1997

BERWICK RANGERS 2
P. Forrester, K. Walton

BRECHIN CITY 0

ARBROATH 0

QUEEN OF THE SOUTH 4
D. Townsley,
C. Flannigan,
T. Bryce, K. Eadie

INVERNESS CALEDONIAN THISTLE 5
C. Christie, B. Thomson (3),
B. Wilson

STENHOUSEMUIR 1
J. Henderson

FORFAR ATHLETIC 1
B. Honeyman

ALBION ROVERS 0

ROSS COUNTY 2
G. Wood (2)

MONTROSE 1
S. Taylor

COWDENBEATH 0

ALLOA ATHLETIC 2
W. Irvine, D. Pew

DUMBARTON 1

QUEEN'S PARK 1 (AET -
1-1 After 90 Minutes)
S. Edgar

J. Bruce
Dumbarton won 6-5 on Kicks from the Penalty Mark

EAST STIRLINGSHIRE 3
P. Patterson, C. Campbell,
M. Abercromby

STRANRAER 1
R. Docherty

SECOND ROUND

Thursday, 7th August, 1997

HAMILTON ACADEMICAL 0

RANGERS 1
A. McCoist

Match Played at Fir Park, Motherwell

Saturday, 9th August, 1997

DUNDEE 1
J. O'Driscoll

EAST STIRLINGSHIRE 0

EAST FIFE 0

KILMARNOCK 2
W. Findlay, J. Varelle

HIBERNIAN 3
B. Lavelly, J. Chamley,
P. McGinlay

ALLOA ATHLETIC 1
W. Irvine

LIVINGSTON 0

HEART OF MIDLOTHIAN 2
N. McCann (2)

ST. MIRREN 2
R. Kelly, D. Milne

CLYDEBANK 0

RAITH ROVERS 5
P. Duffield (3),
A. Millen, I. Cameron

FORFAR ATHLETIC 0

QUEEN OF THE SOUTH 2
S. Mallan (2)

DUNDEE UNITED 4
G. McSwegan (3),
S. Thompson

ST. JOHNSTONE 3
G. O'Boyle (2),
D. Griffin

CLYDE 0

BERWICK RANGERS 0

CELTIC 7
D. Jackson, H. Larsson,
R. Blinker, M. Wieghorst,
A. Thom, S. Donnelly (2)

Match Played at Tynecastle Stadium, Edinburgh

PARTICK THISTLE 2
D. Farrell, A. Lyons

STIRLING ALBION 3
S. McLaren (2), C. Taggart

DUMBARTON 1
C. McKinnon

ABERDEEN 5
J. Miller, M. Newell (3),
E. Jess

DUNFERMLINE ATHLETIC 5
A. Smith (4), H. French

AYR UNITED 1
D. Wordsworth

ROSS COUNTY 0

FALKIRK 3
D. Moss (2), S. Crabbe

MOTHERWELL 2

W. Falconer, O. Coyle
Motherwell won 4-1 on Kicks from the Penalty Mark

GREENOCK MORTON 4

W. Hawke (3), S. Aitken

INVERNESS CALEDONIAN THISTLE 2 (AET - 2-2 After 90 Minutes)

B. Thomson, W. Addicoat

AIRDRIEONIANS 1 (AET -
1-1 After 90 Minutes)
P. Connolly

THIRD ROUND

Tuesday, 19th August, 1997

RANGERS 4

A. McCoist (3), S. Stensaas

FALKIRK 1

K. James

ST. JOHNSTONE 0

K. Wright

CELTIC 1 (AET)

S. Donnelly

RAITH ROVERS 1

K. Wright

HEART OF MIDLOTHIAN 2

D. Weir, S. Adam

DUNDEE 0

D. Weir, S. Adam

ABERDEEN 3

W. Dodds (2), M. Newell

Wednesday, 20th August, 1997

DUNDEE UNITED 2

L. Zetterlund, G. McSwegan

HIBERNIAN 1 (AET -
1-1 After 90 Minutes)

B. Lavelly

STIRLING ALBION 6

A. Paterson, J. Gibson,
T. Tait, S. McCormick (2),
C. Taggart

KILMARNOCK 2

J. Varelle, P. Wright

DUNFERMLINE ATHLETIC 2

H. French, A. Smith

ST. MIRREN 0

MOTHERWELL 3

O. Coyle (3)

GREENOCK MORTON 0

FOURTH ROUND

Tuesday, 9th September, 1997

DUNFERMLINE ATHLETIC 1

A. Moore

HEART OF MIDLOTHIAN 0 (AET)

RANGERS 0

A. Moore

DUNDEE UNITED 1 (AET)

G. McSwegan

Wednesday, 10th September, 1997

CELTIC 1

H. Larsson

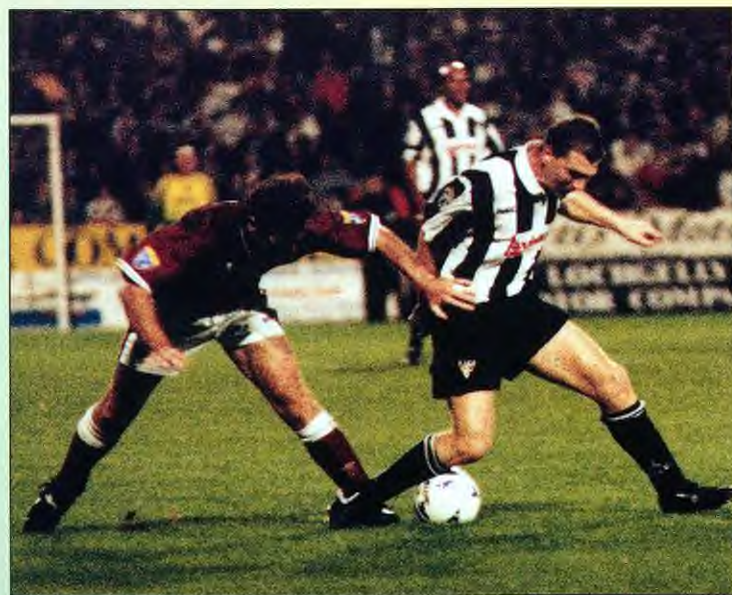
MOTHERWELL 0

STIRLING ALBION 0

A. Moore

ABERDEEN 2

J. Miller, S. Glass



Action from the Dunfermline Athletic v Hearts Quarter Final match

ROUND BY ROUND GOALS ANALYSIS

	No. of Goals Scored	Ties Played	Average Per Game
First Round	24	8	3
Second Round	62	16	3.9
Third Round	28	8	3.5
Fourth Round	5	4	1.25
Total No. of Goals Scored	119		
Total No. of Ties Played	36		
Average Goals per Game	3.3		



Tonight's Referee- Willie Young

It's never too early to call your solicitor, especially when you need a top man to uphold the law. Which is why at domestic, European and world level, **WILLIE YOUNG** is so much in demand. The Glasgow based solicitor is currently racking up enough air miles to leave Richard Branson trailing in his slipstream as he is head-hunted to handle tough games across the globe.

Of course, tonight's Semi-Final at Ibrox is almost in his own back yard, but Willie has had to come a long way to reach this level and has not always enjoyed the luxury of taking the easiest or most direct route. In fact, a sneak peek at a recent extract from this high-flier's diary confirms that the era of the full-time referee might already be upon us, though it's not always plain sailing (or flying).

After handling a League match between Hamilton Academical and Stirling Albion on a recent Saturday afternoon, Willie made his way to Glasgow Airport. He was embarking on a journey to Vladikavkaz where he was due to handle a UEFA Cup tie between Alania and MTK Budapest. However, little did he know the journey would take over 67 hours and that he would get there just in time for the kick-off.....on Tuesday evening!

Willie explained, "Along with my team of officials, we flew to London on the Saturday night. Then the trouble began.

"It took us until the Sunday evening to overcome visa problems which meant we could not catch the flight to Moscow until the following day.

"Once there, we discovered there wasn't a flight on to Vladikavkaz until the Tuesday morning which meant we didn't get there until 1.30 in the

afternoon.....almost three days after we had set out."

Fortunately for Willie and his team, the game went off without a hitch, the Hungarian's snatching the draw which safely saw them through.

The journey home for Willie and the other Scottish officials was also more straightforward, only taking a day and a half. In fact, he was back in Glasgow mid-morning Thursday, went straight to work at his office, headed on to a two hour training session that evening, then finally reached the Clarkston home he shares with his schoolteacher wife Margot.

If he was suffering from jet-lag, Willie showed it in the strangest way possible, by passing his annual fitness check with flying colours on the Sunday, just 24 hours after refereeing the Stenhousemuir v Brechin City Second Division match!

"It was a real surprise to come out of the tests so well," admitted Willie, "especially after all the travelling and handling three games inside eight days.

"The older you get, the harder you have to work to maintain your fitness. And, I have to admit, at 41 I'm working harder than ever."

Which is why he will undoubtedly be fit to travel again very soon. Having just returned from handling the Finland v Hungary Under-21 international last weekend, the bags will be packed again next month in preparation for a trip to Copenhagen where Willie will referee the European Cup Winners' Cup tie between the local side and Real Betis.

Meanwhile, Willie is keeping his feet firmly on the ground tonight and will draw on all his experience to handle what promises to be another cracking cup tie. Willie is no stranger to big Semi-Finals, having been in charge of last season's Heart of Midlothian v

Dundee tie as well as officiating at this stage in the last two season's Tennents Scottish Cup competitions.

Something Celtic fans won't need reminding as he was the man in the middle at this venue when Falkirk knocked out the Bhoys after a replay to reach the Final against Kilmarnock in May which was one of **EIGHT** matches involving Celtic that Willie handled last season!

Accompanying Willie Young tonight will be assistant referees **ERIC MARTINDALE** (technical area side) and **SCOTT BROWN**.

A microbiologist at the Western Infirmary, 44 year old Eric has been a Class 1 official for six years and has run the line on many big occasions, most notably involving the Old Firm and also Real Madrid.

The Glasgow based official will be cheered on by his wife Kathleen and his 11 year old son Ross.

A less well known face belongs to 39 year old Scott from Bonnybridge, who is in his fifth season as a Class 3 official and combines match duties with his full-time job for a stainless steel catering company.

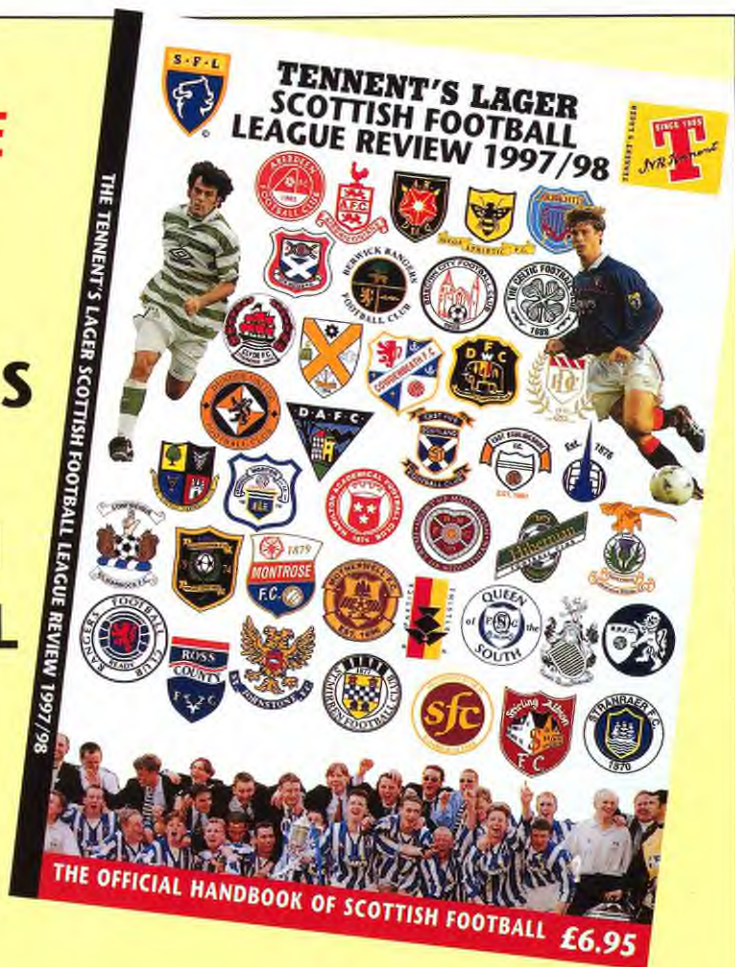
Scott and wife Mary have two children, Cheryl (8) and Scott (2), but the family have been seeing a little less of him this season as he has already been on his travels, running the line at the recent Helsinki v Red Star Belgrade Cup Winners' Cup tie.

Looking after the technical areas this evening will be fourth official **STUART DOUGAL**. Although still only 34 years old, the insolvency manager from Glasgow is already in his fifth season at Class 1.

Stuart is married to Barbara and they have a three year old daughter Emma who no doubt likes all the presents dad buys for her when he is abroad as a FIFA referee.

RONNIE CULLY
(Evening Times)

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