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**Bell's Premier Division**

**CELTIC  
v  
ABERDEEN**

**Celtic Park  
Saturday,  
September 20, 1997  
Kick-off 3pm**

**Official Programme  
Price £1**



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**Programme No: 8**

A photograph of two young boys playing football on a grassy field at dusk. The boy in the foreground is wearing a light-colored sweater and dark trousers, running towards the right. The boy in the background is wearing a dark jacket and dark trousers, running towards the left. A football is on the ground in the foreground. The sky is a mix of blue and orange, suggesting sunset or sunrise. The overall scene is captured in a cinematic style with soft lighting.

“Take your coat love, you’ll need it.”



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One thing marked out Tuesday night's game against Liverpool - the backing of the supporters.

And today, as we face Aberdeen in the league, I hope the fans get behind us just as much.

The UEFA Cup-tie was a typical European night inside Celtic Park, but it is important for the team's progression that this is carried through to all our other games.

We got off to a bit of a sticky start against Liverpool, losing the early goal, but the supporters stayed with us and lifted every player to within a whisker of a wonderful victory.

We've played a lot of matches recently and last week was an important one, knocking Motherwell out of the Coca-Cola Cup and then defeating them in the league.

It's great to be in the semi-finals of a competition this early in the season, but the league is of course the most important trophy.

After winning the Motherwell game we've got to keep pushing in the right direction and get another victory this afternoon.

I think everyone can see now the way the team is shaping up and the system we are playing is one that all the players are enjoying.

Our lads have produced some good results for us recently and we hope for another one today.

It's not going to be easy against our opponents Aberdeen who I would like to welcome here, today, particularly

## Cheer us to a vital victory

my old team-mate Roy Aitken.

Knowing Roy, coming back to his old stomping ground he will want to do well. Aberdeen used to come to Glasgow and get good results, and although in recent times they haven't done so well, they will be lifted by their draw against Rangers.

Coming from behind to equalise on more than one occasion at Ibrox is no mean feat and they will all be lifted because of that.

And I am sure that Roy will have his players fired up and ready for today's challenge.

For me, I am once again looking forward to taking my place in the dug-out and savouring the atmosphere that I am delighted to be a part of once more.

It's a great tribute to our supporters that they always get a good press and they are definitely what we need to help push us that step further on in the quest for silverware.



Celtic Football Club,  
Celtic Park, Glasgow, G40 3RE

### Roll of Honour

European Cup: 1967  
League Champions (38 times)  
1893, 1894, 1896, 1898, 1905, 1906, 1907, 1908, 1909, 1910, 1914, 1915, 1916, 1917, 1919, 1922, 1926, 1936, 1938, 1954, 1966, 1967, 1968, 1969, 1970, 1974, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1977, 1979, 1981, 1982, 1985, 1988.  
Scottish Cup Winners (30 times)  
1892, 1899, 1900, 1904, 1907, 1908, 1911, 1912, 1914, 1923, 1925, 1927, 1931, 1933, 1937, 1951, 1954, 1955, 1957, 1969, 1971, 1972, 1974, 1975, 1977, 1980, 1985, 1988, 1989, 1995  
League Cup Winners (9 times)  
1957, 1958, 1966, 1967, 1968, 1969, 1970, 1975, 1982.  
Coronation Cup: 1953  
Empire Exhibition Cup: 1938  
St Mungo Cup: 1951

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the history...*

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# TODAY'S SQUADS



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**Alan STUBBS**



**Marc RIEPER**



**Jackie McNAMARA**



**Henrik LARSSON**



**Craig BURLEY**



**Simon DONNELLY**



**Andreas THOM**



**Phil O'DONNELL**



**David HANNAH**



**Malky MACKAY**



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## STAND-BYS

### **CELTIC:**

*Gordon Marshall (g/k), Tosh McKinlay, Stuart Gray, Brian McLaughlin, John Paul McBride.*

### **ABERDEEN:**

*Derek Stillie (g/k), Russell Anderson, Tzanko Tvetanov, Jamie Buchan, Ilian Kiriakov, Darren Young, Toni Kombouare, Dennis Wyness, Michael Craig*

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**CELTIC ON THE WEB**

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**ABERDEEN**



**Jim LEIGHTON** 

**David ROWSON** 

**Gary SMITH** 

**Brian O'NEIL** 

**John INGLIS** 

**Stephen GLASS** 

**Eoin JESS** 

**Paul BERNARD** 

**Billy DODDS** 

**Mike NEWELL** 

**Joe MILLER** 

**Ricky GILLIES** 

**Dean WINDASS** 



**A**berdeen might not have had the greatest of starts to this term.

But last Saturday at Ibrox they showed they do not lack spirit, coming from behind twice to take a point in an action-packed 3-3 draw with Rangers.

Today they return to Glasgow for the part two of their Old Firm double header, and they will be looking for richer picking than they managed a week ago.

It won't be easy, however, as Aberdeen don't have a great record against Celtic in recent years, and last term they didn't win a single game against the Hoops.

But they will give it their best under the forthright guidance of former Celt Roy Aitken. And one man looking to put on a good show against his old club will be **BRIAN O'NEIL**.

O'Neil was nearly a decade at Celtic and won't want his first trip back here to end in misery. So, he'll be hoping to avoid giving the home side a penalty of a start - his lot at Ibrox.

It was back to the future for Aberdeen in the close season as they gave new starts to a host of old stars.

**JIM LEIGHTON** was a hero of the Pittodrie fans for many a year and they were delighted when he arrived from Hibernian in the summer.

And at 39 years of age, Leighton shows no signs of hanging up his gloves - or



losing his spark.

Another former Don who returned north was **GARY SMITH**. A year ago he opted to take advantage of the Bosman ruling and sign for French club Rennes.

It wasn't the best time for him, however, and, despite leaving Aberdeen under a cloud, Aitken openly welcomed him back.

The third of the prodigal Pittodrie boys is **EOIN JESS**. He was once the shining light of Scottish football, tipped as the next Kenny Dalglish.

But it went wrong somewhere along the line and he headed to the bright lights of the Premiership with Coventry City last term. They didn't shine for him, though, and he came home.

Before he left for Coventry he had formed a formidable partnership with **PAUL BERNARD** and this midfielder has shown a new side to his play this term, after a disappointing time last season.

In the absence of Russell Anderson, **DAVID ROWSON** is covering as a make shift right-back, and not doing too badly either, getting on the scoresheet in the 3-1 defeat by Motherwell.

**JOHN INGLIS** didn't seem to be in the picture at all in recent weeks, but he was called back into action last Saturday at Ibrox and netted the crucial equaliser.

In the left-back position, is Bulgarian **TZANKO TZVETANOV**, second of two men from that country to sign for Aberdeen.

The other was **ILIAN KIRIAKOV** who suffered from injury and illness during the season, but could find himself

involved at some point today.

Out on the wing is a man everyone at Celtic knows, **JOE MILLER** (pictured below). Always a threat, Miller is capable of the odd glorious hit, as he proved recently against Stirling Albion.

**STEPHEN GLASS** had been out through injury for a while this term, and was missed, but he's made a good comeback and will push for a place today.

Up front for Aberdeen, Aitken can choose from a few options, but he shouldn't really make the mistake of leaving **BILLY DODDS** (pictured left) on the bench. He did so at the start of the term in favour of **DEAN WINDASS** and new boy **MIKE NEWELL**, but Windass' lack of form prompted Dodds' call-up to the starting line-up.

Newell is no stranger to the big time, playing for Blackburn Rover and winning himself a Premiership medal into the bargain.

Frenchman **ANTOINE KOMBOUARE** is suffering at the hands of the new defensive signings, and faces a struggle to gain a place in the central defence.

**DARREN YOUNG** was an 18-year-old going places, but he has been put in the shade slightly by the new faces at the club.

Latest signing is former St Mirren starlet **RICKY GILLIES**, a £500,000 buy from the Love Street club a month ago, who is a skilful goalgrabber.

Appeared as a substitute at Ibrox a week ago and heathly returns will be looked for from the highly-rated youngster once he's fully settled in.

# Back with a point to prove



**JIM LEIGHTON** (Goalkeeper)  
Age 39  
Signed from Hibernian in 1997

**GARY SMITH** (Defender)  
Age 26  
Signed from Rennes in 1997

**BRIAN O'NEIL** (Defender)  
Age 25  
Signed from Celtic in 1997

**TZANKO TZVETANOV** (Defender)  
Age 27  
Signed from SV Waldorf Mannheim in 1996

**JOHN INGLIS** (Defender)  
Age 30  
Signed from St Johnstone in 1994

**DAVID ROWSON** (Midfielder)  
Age 21  
Signed from FC Stoneywood in 1994

**EOIN JESS** (Midfielder)  
Age 26  
Signed from Coventry City in 1997

**STEPHEN GLASS** (Midfielder)  
Age 21  
Signed from Crombie Sports in 1994

**ILIAN KIRIAKOV** (Midfielder)  
Age 30  
Signed from Anorthosis in 1996

**PAUL BERNARD** (Midfielder)  
Age 25  
Signed from Oldham Athletic in 1995

**JOE MILLER** (Midfielder)  
Age 29  
Signed from Celtic in 1993

**BILLY DODDS** (Forward)  
Age 28  
Signed from St Johnstone in 1994

**MIKE NEWELL** (Forward)  
Age 32  
Signed from Blackburn Rovers in 1997

**DEAN WINDASS** (Forward)  
Age 28  
Signed from Hull City in 1995

**RICKY GILLIES** (Forward)  
Age 21  
Signed from St Mirren in 1996

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**NAME: KEVIN FARMER**  
**AGE: 11**  
**FROM: BEARSDEN**  
**GAME: UEFA CUP -**  
**CELTIC v LIVERPOOL,**  
**SEPTEMBER 16**

**L**ucky mascot, Kevin Farmer made his debut visit to Celtic Park for Peter Grant's testimonial and the atmosphere has stuck in his mind ever since.

He didn't think he would ever experience anything quite like it again. How wrong he was!

Kevin led the team out for last Tuesday night's UEFA Cup first round against Liverpool and fulfilled one of his life long ambitions - meeting Kenny Dalglish who was a guest at the game.

Kevin said: "It is unbelievable that I am getting to meet all my

## MEET THE MASCOT

heroes in the Celtic team, but to top it all, I am going home with Kenny Dalglish's autograph in my new book. It's brilliant! I don't think I will ever forget this night, it has been totally amazing!"

Well, Kevin has managed to convince us just how special being a lucky mascot is and if you would like the chance to be chosen, contact the Young Hoops, c/o the Commercial Department on 0141-551 4263/4264 for information.



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