



It's coming home



CELTIC V HEARTS

SCOTTISH PREMIER LEAGUE

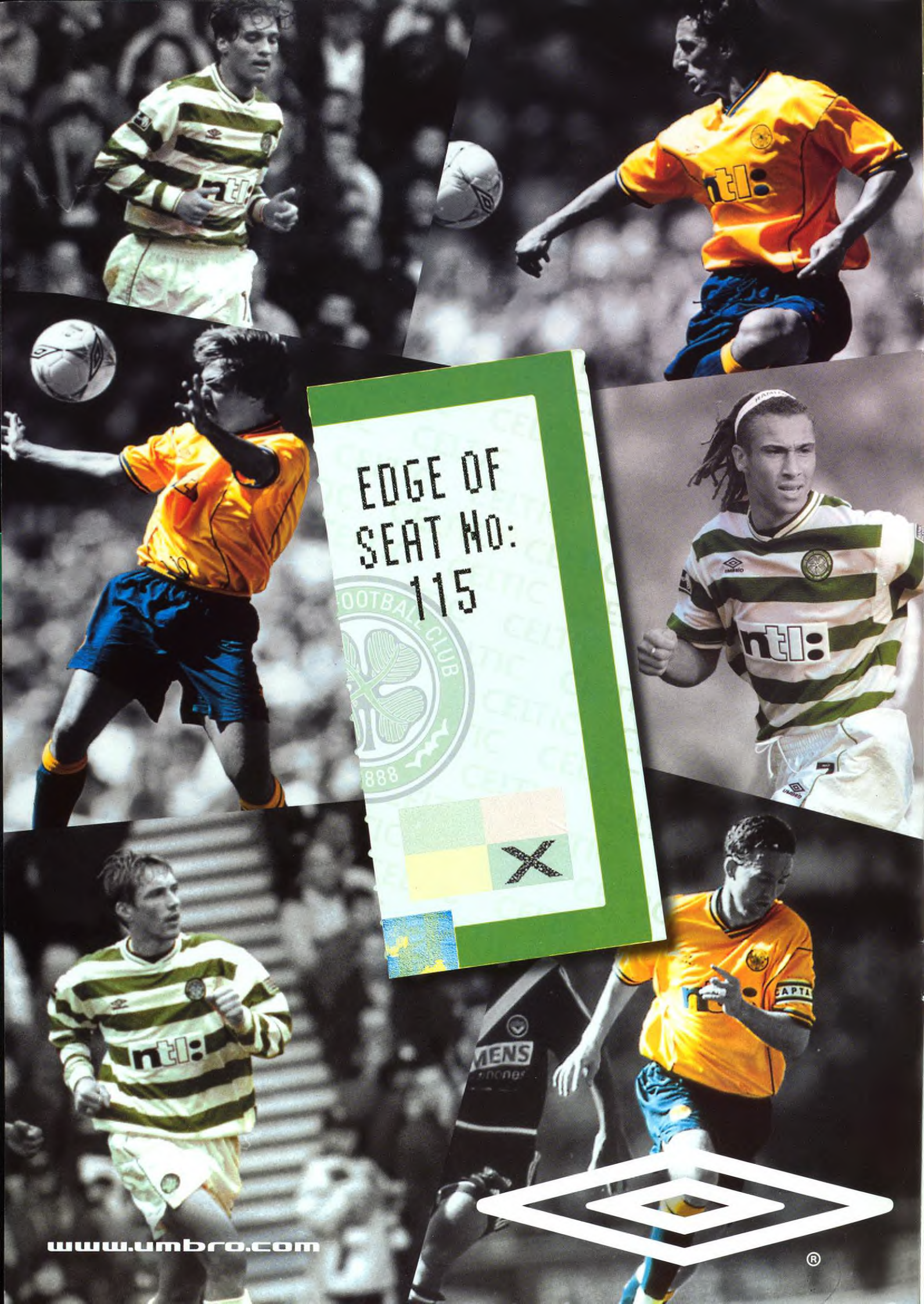
CELTIC PARK

SUNDAY, APRIL 22, 2001

KICK-OFF 6.05PM

PROGRAMME No. 27

£2



EDGE OF
SEAT NO:
115





RECORD BREAKER: Henrik Larsson fires a spot-kick past Dundee United's Paul Gallacher to break Charlie Nicholas' goals tally

PREDICTABLY, another week at Celtic Park is ending with a Sunday match and, I know, causing yet more problems for many of our supporters.

I believe we've only played one home match on a Saturday since returning from our Florida break and, quite clearly, that's far from ideal.

On a personal level, I must admit to enjoying the experience of playing on a Saturday. But it's when thousands of faithful fans are being inconvenienced then it becomes clear that we must at least attempt to find a solution to this problem.

My hope is that most of our supporters will be able to remain behind after this evening's match to witness the presentation of a trophy they have helped to bring back to Celtic Park. At times, I have asked for greater patience to be shown but our support both at home and away has generally been nothing short of magnificent this season.

It must be said, however, that the players have rarely left them wanting for something to be cheerful about. Their efforts have been quite incredible throughout what has been an often energy-sapping season and they have put us in a barely believable position where we are just one victory away from clinching the club's first Treble in over 30 years.

The fact that we secured the most important prize, the title, before the SPL split is certainly something I could never have envisaged and I don't expect such an achievement to be repeated in the near future. But that we have managed it is testimony to our players' quite

Savour taste of SPL title glory

incredible consistency this season and I will be as proud as anyone to see the lads go up to collect the trophy they so richly deserve.

First of all, however, we have a very tough match to negotiate against a Hearts side who have more than earned the right to be playing top-six football. Eventually, I know Craig Levein would like to have his team up there regularly challenging ourselves and Rangers for the honours and there's no doubt that he has a solid base from which to build.

That includes many top-class internationalists as well as a number of young players who seem to be showing a great deal of promise. And while they haven't enjoyed the best of luck against us this season, our meetings have always been entertaining affairs with plenty of goals.

Hopefully, the same will be the case this evening and, if so, it's quite possible that our record-breaking striker will be responsible for some of them. Henrik Larsson has enjoyed a

really phenomenal season and, although I know it improves his contract-bargaining position yet further, I was delighted to see him break Charlie Nicholas' scoring record in the Scottish Cup clash against Dundee United at Hampden Park last weekend.

Having said that, it didn't tell me or our fans anything that we didn't already know - we were already well aware that Henrik is a quite tremendous striker.

He has been just one part, however, of a massive team effort this season and, for that reason, I would love to hear a great reception for all the players tonight.

I know I have spoken about bringing in some youngsters to give some of the lads a rest but, on this occasion in particular, I doubt if the players in question would thank me for it.

They all still want to play and, while I will freshen the side up in the coming weeks, tonight seems the ideal opportunity to let the boys who have put us in this position take a bow.

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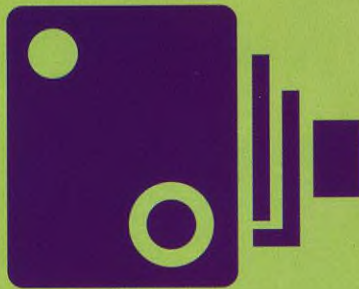
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SPL champions 2000/01

celtic v hearts



celtic:
probable formation 3-5-2

hearts:
probable formation 4-4-2

ntl:



Referee: MICHAEL McCURRY

Assistant Referees: STUART MacAULAY

TOM MURPHY

Fourth Official: GEORGE CLYDE

subs	celtic	hearts

celtic squad

hearts squad

- 1 Jonathan GOULD
- 2 Tom BOYD (*cap*)
- 3 Stephane MAHE
- 4 Jackie McNAMARA
- 5 Joos VALGAEREN
- 6 Alan STUBBS
- 7 Henrik LARSSON
- 8 Alan THOMPSON
- 9 Chris SUTTON
- 10 Eyal BERKOVIC
(*Blackburn*)
- 11 Morten WIEGHORST
- 12 Tommy JOHNSON
- 14 Paul LAMBERT
- 15 Bobby PETTA
- 16 Olivier TEBILY
- 17 Didier AGATHE
- 18 Neil LENNON
- 19 Stilian PETROV
- 20 Rab DOUGLAS

- 21 Stewart KERR
- 22 Stephane BONNES
- 23 Dimitre KHARINE
- 24 Colin HEALY
- 25 Lubomir MORAVCIK
- 26 Paul SHIELDS
- 27 Mark BURCHILL (*Ipswich*)
- 31 Rafael SCHEIDT (*on loan*)
- 32 Simon LYNCH
- 33 John CONVERY
- 34 Mark FOTHERINGHAM
- 35 Johan MJALLBY
- 36 Ramon VEGA
- 37 Liam KEOGH (*Forfar*)
- 38 Barry John CORR
(*Queen's Park*)
- 39 Jamie SMITH
- 40 Stephen CRAINEY
- 41 John KENNEDY
- 43 Liam MILLER

- 1 Gilles ROUSSET
- 2 Steven PRESSLEY
- 3 Austin McCANN
- 4 Austin McKENNA
- 5 Kevin JAMES
- 6 Gordan PETRIC
- 7 Gary McSWEGAN
- 8 Steve FULTON
- 9 Stephane ADAM
- 10 Colin CAMERON (*cap*)
- 12 Grant MURRAY
- 13 Roddy McKENZIE
- 14 Thomas FLOGEL
- 15 Gary WALES
- 16 Lee MAKEL
- 17 Gordon DURIE
- 18 Fitzroy SIMPSON
- 19 Scott SEVERIN

- 20 Juanjo
- 21 Robert TOMASCHEK
(*suspended*)
- 22 Steven BOYACK
- 23 Andy WEBSTER
- 24 Andy KIRK
- 25 Kieran McANESPIE
- 26 Antti NIEMI
- 28 Kenny MILNE
- 29 Robbie NEILSON
- 31 Alisdair GRAHAM
- 32 Steven REILLY
- 33 Darren GOLDIE
- 34 Alan McILROY
- 35 Craig NEESON
- 36 Anton SMITH
- 37 Stephen SIMMONS