

Celtic



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CELTIC v HEARTS

SCOTTISH PREMIER LEAGUE
CELTIC PARK
SATURDAY AUGUST 11 2001
KICK-OFF 3.00pm



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Programme No. 4

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AS WORN BY HENRIK LARSSON.



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martino'neill



Breathtakingly brilliant Bhoys blew up a storm

I'M trying to put a few words together on the return flight from the Netherlands in the early hours of Thursday.

The display of the players in the cauldron of the Amsterdam ArenA was breathtakingly brilliant and one that made everyone connected with the club immensely proud. Our goals were of the highest quality and the team could even have scored more. They were simply magnificent.

Once again the support we received in the stadium was of such power and passion that it lifted the players at big moments during the game.

The manner in which they secured victory in this vital game was truly remarkable – and a great testament to their ability and character. However, no-one in the dressing-room will believe the tie is won.

Ajax have some very talented players and will be coming at us in hordes. There will also be no surprise element in our favour next time and we will need to find the same power and panache once again.

Our early morning return on Thursday left precious little time to prepare for our vital league clash with Hearts. However, although Wednesday's match drained the players both physically and mentally, I will expect them to go out and compete with their usual verve and commitment.

We have thus far managed

to get our title defence off to a terrific start, emerging with full points from our opening two league matches.

On day one, St Johnstone were our visitors and, with the atmosphere electric after the unfurling of the league flag, the players rose to the occasion with an excellent performance that yielded a 3-0 victory.

The following week, we made the journey to Rugby Park – one I know has proved treacherous in the past – and again secured all three points. Kilmarnock made us work hard but a great finish from Henrik Larsson was enough to win the game. The boys dug deeply and, although chances were few and far between, with the quality we have up front I always feel that we're liable to score if we get the opportunity.

That goal threat had also been in evidence three days earlier when we took part in an extremely competitive testimonial match with Manchester United. There was a great desire to win on both sides and, with so many top-class players on show, the contest certainly didn't lack entertainment value.

Of course, the occasion was made all the more memorable by the presence of thousands upon thousands of Celtic fans – all of whom were a tremendous credit to the club. The colour you brought to Old Trafford was something to behold and I can't imagine Alex

Ferguson's players will witness another away support like it all season. Fortunately, our team gave a performance worthy of your tremendous backing and thoroughly deserved to come out on top with a 4-3 win.

We have a way to go to be able to compete regularly in big time European football and to do that we will need a big squad. Last week, we made some progress on that front when John Hartson, Steve Guppy and Momo Sylla joined up on the same day, and all three will play important roles in the weeks and months ahead.

Today, our visitors are Craig Levein's Hearts, and they arrive at Celtic Park no doubt buoyed by a great win against Aberdeen last week. Hearts have some excellent international players and our games at Tynecastle last season were always exhilarating affairs. They have also bolstered their squad with the signing of Stephane Mahe, a player whose qualities we all know well.

He will no doubt enjoy being back among friends and I wish him all the best for his career in Edinburgh.

As always, I would ask you to get behind the team from the very start this afternoon. I've already mentioned what an energy-sapping experience Wednesday's match away in Amsterdam proved to be and I know encouragement from the stands could help our lads find that extra yard as their legs feel the strain.

The way in which we secured victory in Amsterdam was truly remarkable



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today's squads

CELTIC HEARTS



RAB DOUGLAS	ANTTI NIEMI
JONATHAN GOULD	STEPHANE MAHE
TOM BOYD	STEVEN PRESSLEY
MOMO SYLLA	KEVIN MCKENNA
JACKIE McNAMARA	SCOTT SEVERIN
JOOS VALGAEREN	THOMAS FLOGEL
DIANBOBO BALDE	AUSTIN MCANN
HENRIK LARSSON	ROBBIE NEILSON
ALAN THOMPSON	DARREN GOLDIE
CHRIS SUTTON	ANDY WEBSTER
MORTEN WIEGHORST	ANTONY SMITH
JOHN HARTSON	KEVIN JAMES
PAUL LAMBERT	COLIN CAMERON
BOBBY PETTA	STEVEN BOYACK
OLIVIER TEBILY	ROBERT TOMASCHEK
DIDIER AGATHE	STEVIE FULTON
NEIL LENNON	STEPHANE ADAM
DIMITRE KHARINE	ANDY KIRK
COLIN HEALY	GARY WALES
LUBOMIR MORAVCIK	KENNY MILNE
STEVE GUPPY	GARY MCSWEGAN
SHAUN MALONEY	JUANJO
JOHAN MJALLBY	RODDY MCKENZIE
JAMIE SMITH	FITZROY SIMPSON
STEPHEN CRAINEY	STEPHEN SIMMONS
SIMON LYNCH	RYAN DAVIDSON
JOHN CONVERY	BARRY SMITH
MARK FOTHERINGHAM	CRAIG GORDON
JOHN KENNEDY	
MARK BURCHILL	
MICK DOYLE	
PAUL SHIELDS	



ntl:



PHOENIX HONDA

Referee: WILLIE YOUNG

Assistant Referees: JOE McDOWALL

BRIAN McDUFFY

Fourth Official: EDDIE MACK



Last season Celtic scored 14 goals in the 4 league matches with Hearts, equalling the previous best from 1976/77 and 1980/81.

Celts are Dutch masters

The Scottish champions secured a stunning victory over Ajax in the Amsterdam Arena

CELTIC recorded one of their best results in Europe in recent years with a stunning 3-1 win over Ajax in Amsterdam Arena.

The victory, in the first leg of the Champions League qualifier, gives Martin O'Neill's side a great chance of progressing to the group stages of the competition.

And the performance was the perfect reward for the massive Celtic support that had travelled to Holland to cheer on the Bhoys. Some 8,000 had made the trip and sang from start to finish as the Hoops served notice of their quality.

Inside the first 20 minutes, the Scottish champions were two goals up, and it was two unlikely candidates who supplied the goals. First, Bobby Petta finished superbly from the left-hand side of the box after Ajax keeper Fred Grim inexplicably punched the ball out when it appeared to be going wide.

Petta, impressive in his home country throughout the night, slotted the ball high into the net to give Celtic the lead.

Just over 10 minutes later, it was 2-0 to the Treble aces and Didier Agathe was the goalscorer. A fantastic move began with a ball up to Chris Sutton on the halfway line. He knocked it inside to Henrik Larsson, whose first-time ball set Agathe free down the right, and the Celtic



Ajax 1
(Arveladze)

Celtic 3
(Petta, Agathe, Sutton)



player rushed in on goal before coolly slotting the ball beyond the Ajax keeper and into the net. In between the two goals, Larsson had hit the bar with a header and O'Neill's troops were in total control of the game.

Before the interval, however, Ajax pulled a goal back through Shota Arveladze. It was to bring false hope to the Dutch side.

Sutton all but put the game beyond Ajax's reach 10 minutes into the second half with a fantastic strike. Some superb possession play by the Bhoys saw the ball played wide to Agathe by the Englishman, and he charged into the box to meet the returning cross and power an unstoppable header into the net.

But the same praise could be heaped on every Celtic player. O'Neill, understandably, tempered the celebrations after the game by pointing out that the task still has to be completed at Celtic Park.

But the most telling comment came from Ajax manager Co Adriaanse, who said: "We were taught a lesson in football and they proved they are a very good team."

● Make sure you check out the goal highlights from Celtic's magnificent victory over Ajax by logging on to the official Celtic website at www.celticfc.net



GRIM AND BEAR IT
Ajax keeper Fred is left straddled as Bobby Petta pounces on his mistake to fire Celtic ahead



SIGN FOR THE CHAMPIONS

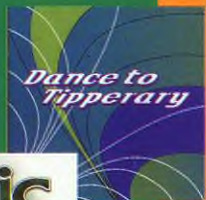
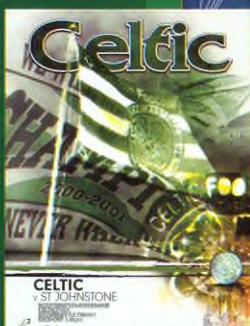
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IT'S the competition that every fan wants to enter – the chance to win a PAIR of season tickets for Celtic Park.

By getting your match programme for every Scottish Premier League game at Celtic Park this season, you could have the chance to win a pair of season tickets for next season 2002/03.

Every home league match, we will print a voucher in the matchday programme. Voucher No.1 was printed in the St Johnstone match programme and Voucher No.2 appears this week, for the Hearts game.

All you have to do is collect 19 individually numbered vouchers from all 19 of Celtic's home league games and you could be in the draw for a fantastic prize worth over £800.

The winner of our previous competition, when over 4,000 Celtic fans entered, was Danny Heaney from Kirkintilloch.

And he was delighted to win a pair of season tickets for Celtic Park.

"I didn't think I had a chance

of winning," Danny admitted, "and I'm even more astonished now I've found out just how many people entered the competition."

And as well as thanking us for organising the competition, a delighted Danny passed on his thanks to Celtic boss Martin O'Neill, who drew Danny's name from the thousands of entries.

"My thanks to Martin O'Neill for selecting my name and giving me the opportunity to attend home games at Celtic Park this season," he said.

So if you want to be in with a chance of winning this fantastic prize of a pair of season tickets, then make sure you get your match programme, and collect those numbered vouchers.

For programme subscription details, including information on a great free gift offer, **see page opposite.**

And don't worry if you can't get a programme for the big game. Every week, we'll publish details in the *Celtic View* of how you can get hold of any programme you miss.

Collect all 19 vouchers and you could be watching the Bhoys free in season 2002/03

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