

Celtic

V DUNDEE UNITED

**PREMIER DIVISION
SATURDAY, AUG 20,
1994. KICK-OFF 3PM.**

INSIDE

**DAVIE PROVAN'S
HAPPY MEMORIES**

Plus++Plus++Plus



**JOHN COLLINS
PLAYER PROFILE**



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FIRST of all I'd like to welcome you all to our first competitive game at our temporary Hampden home for the visit of Dundee United.

And I have to comment on how much we appreciate your backing in the great number of season tickets that have been bought for the coming season as it is a magnificent tribute to not only the club but to YOU also.

It's really appreciated by myself and the players and we will continue to go all out to get the club back to the top in this country.

And eventually at a higher level and that means Europe but we have to work on getting things right on the domestic scene first and foremost.

I'd also like to welcome Dundee United as our first Scottish visitors to Hampden and congratulate Ivan Golac and his team on their magnificent achievement in winning the Scottish Cup last year.

Games between United and Celtic have always produced good football and we are hoping that today's match will be no exception to that rule.

Memorable

However, it isn't going to be easy for us and this is where you come in.

At this stage I feel that the support is our 12th man and we very much appreciate the backing we have had so far.

We all have to get behind every player wearing a Celtic jersey and in doing that I hope you enjoy the game.

And we all hope you will enjoy the rest of what we hope will be a very memorable season for Celtic.

In the last week we have played two away ties at Falkirk and Ayr United and I don't think I could have hand picked two more difficult games with which to kick off the season.

‘The support is our 12th man and we very much appreciate the backing we've had ...

However, the players worked hard and competed well as opposed to producing free flowing football.

But these were not the games for that type of football which made it very difficult for us.

The lads adapted though and showed the attitude and heart that we will be looking for throughout the rest of the coming season.



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THE SQUADS



GORDON MARSHALL



Referee:
KW CLARK
Paisley

HENRIK JORGENSEN



LEE MARTIN



Linesman:
J A YOUNG
Thornliebank

JIM MCINALLY



TOM BOYD

GARY BOLLAN



MARK MCNALLY

DAVID HANNAH



TONY MOWBRAY



Linesman:
I CATHCART
Br. of Allan

GORDAN PETRIC



PETER GRANT

BRIAN WELSH



MIKE GALLOWAY

STAND-BYS:
Celtic - Pat Bonner (GK), Pat McGinlay, Paul Byrne,
Dundee United - Alan Main (GK) Christian Dailly
Andy McLaren

DAVID BOWMAN



PAUL MCSTAY

MARK PERRY



WILLIE FALCONER

DRAGUTIN RISTIC



ANDY WALKER

CRAIG BREWSTER



JOHN COLLINS

JERREN NIXON



SIMON DONNELLY

MASCOT
Thomas O'Donnell
Aged 8
Lennoxton

DAVID CRAIG



BRIAN O'NEIL

PADDY CONNOLLY



+TODAYS VISITORS+



WHAT do our players really know about the opposition? This season we'll be asking one of the Celtic lads to give us the lowdown on the men they're about to face. We start with Celts keeper Gordon Marshall who talks us through today's opponents, Dundee United.

After a hiding last Saturday and a narrow win at Paisley in midweek it's hard to guess what Ivan Golac's team will be today. But here's my rundown on the Tannadice squad ...

ALAN MAIN is a very good keeper although I don't know if he'll be playing today. Last season he has a bit of a bad time through injury and I'm sure he'll be hoping that this term is a lot better for him in that respect.

HENRIK JORGENSEN is new to the Scottish scene and I bet he just thought "Welcome to Scotland" last weekend after the Hibs game.

He'll be desperate to settle in as quickly as he can and put that result out of his mind. It's a bit of a nightmare to loser five goals in your first game but you just have to get on with it.

JIM McINALLY is Mr Steady. Celtic are one of his old clubs and you always want to do well against your old club.

He's been at United for along time now and never lets them down, so he's definitely one to watch.

GARY BOLLAN is probably one of the next generation of United players. He's quite a young lad and I think he'll want to get a whole season in the first team this year.

That has to be his main ambition as it is for all young players.

DAVID HANNAH had a great Cup Final against Rangers and that will act as a good platform for him for his future in the game starting this term.

I just hope he's not wearing the Rangers strip he got at the end of the final under his United shirt today!

GORDAN PETRIC is a big, strong lad and very comfortable on the ball. He definitely looks the part and has been a great signing for the Tayside club.

His English is a bit dodgy though - almost as bad as Dave Bowman's.

And what can I say about **DAVE BOWMAN**? He's a great player, a frustrated golfer and nobody will know what to give him stick for now that he's had his hair cut.

Along with McInally he is very important to the shape of the United side. He will enjoy that leading role and is very capable of maintaining his great form for another season yet.



★ **YOU BEAUTY**
... Brian
Welsh celebrates
his semi-final
equaliser against
Aberdeen



+ TODAY'S VISITORS +

Ivan's Hampden heroes back down to earth

BRIAN WELSH looks more than capable of stepping into the defensive slot that Paul Hegarty made him won at Tannadice for year.

He had a good season last term and I'm sure we'll see a lot more of him in years to come.

MARK PERRY is one player I don't really know that much about. I know he played in a few reserve games last season but is obviously breaking into the first team now.

DRAGUTIN RISTIC must be living out of a suitcase with the amount of clubs he's had in his short spell in Scotland. Dundee, Falkirk and now Dundee United.

I'm not too familiar with him and I hope it stays that way today.

CRAIG BREWSTER had a slow start to his season last year after moving from Raith Rovers, but once he had settled in he proved himself to be a good target man.

And he got the goal that put paid to Rangers hopes for a back-to-back treble.

JERREN NIXON had big things expected of him last year, but missed out on a few games through injury. He will be hoping to have a better season this time around and show why Ivan Golac put a £10 million price tag on him.

PADDY CONNOLLY is a player who has been at United since I've been playing football. He's been in and out of the first team and I'm sure his age is dubious. He's more like 34 than 24 I reckon!

ANDY McLAREN is a flying machine and is always going to be dangerous. You have to watch him all the time.

He's definitely another one of Dundee United's youth stars who has a great future ahead of him.

★ *Craig Brewster became an instant Tannadice hero when he scored the Cup Final winner against Rangers*



Lowdown + + Lowdown

ALAN MAIN

Age 25. Signed from Elgin. 5ft 11, 12st 3lb

HENRIK JURGENSEN

Age 28. Signed from Viborg. 6ft, 12st 4 lb.

JIM McINALLY

Age 30. Signed from Nott'm Forest. 5ft 8in, 11st 6lb.

GARY BOLLAN

Age 21. Signed from Fairmuir BC. 5ft 11, 12st 6lb.

DAVID HANNAH

Age 20. Signed from Hamilton Th. 5ft 11, 11st 3lb.

GORDAN PETRIC

Age 25. Signed from Partizan Belgrade 6ft 2in 13st 9lb.

DAVE BOWMAN

Age 30. Signed from Coventry. 5ft 10, 11st 4lb.

BRIAN WELSH

Age 25. Signed from Tynecastle BC. 6ft 2, 13st 7lb.

DRAGUTIN RISTIC

Age 30. Signed from Falkirk. 6ft, 12st 7lb

CRAIG BREWSTER

Age 26. Signed from Raith Rovers. 5ft 11, 10st 7lb.

JERREN NIXON

Age 21. Signed from AFM Motown. 6ft. 11st 11lb.

PADDY CONNOLLY

Age 24. Signed from S Form. 5ft 8, 9st 4lb

CHRISTIAN DAILLY

Age 20. Signed from S Form. 6ft, 11st 8lb.

ANDY McLAREN

Age 21. Signed from Rangers Ams. 5ft 10, 10st 6lb.

MARK PERRY

Age 23. Signed from Cove Rangers. 6ft 1, 11st 3lb.

DAVID CRAIG

Age 25. Signed from East Stirling. 6ft 1in, 11st 8lb.



+ John tips Celts for glory +

The big INTERVIEW JOHN COLLINS

‘We’ll win trophies this season - I’m sure of that’

CELTS’ midfield maestro John Collins wants everyone to know that playing wide left is NOT a problem for him.

Much has been made of the fact that John, who is a natural central midfielder, is being played out wide by new boss Tommy Burns, just as he was by his predecessor Lou Macari.

But although John admits it isn't his favourite position, he insists that he'll play there if he's asked - without complaint.

He said: "Playing wide left is not a problem to me at all, and I'm getting a bit fed-up hearing people mention it all the time.

"I've played there plenty of times before and I'm used to it. It's no big deal. I'll never go moaning to the manager about where I'm played.

"It may not be my favourite position but if that's what the boss wants then that's the way it is.

"He hasn't made it rigid though, so I still have the freedom to come inside and take the ball.

"And I'm just going to get on with it and do the best I can."

John admits that Celtic didn't get off to the best start in their opening 1-1 draw with Premier new boys Falkirk.

Vital

And he believes a win this afternoon in their first home game of the season is vital - although calling Hampden home may take a bit of getting used to from the players AND fans point of view.

John said: "It was a disappointing start, dropping two points at Falkirk.

"WE'VE GOT TO BE LOOKING TO TAKE THREE POINTS FROM THESE SORT OF GAMES.

"But the way we bounced back straight after they scored was pleasing, and Gordon never really had any saves to make.

"The organisation was there and everyone was working well together, on the defensive front anyway.

"I think offensively we could have done a bit better.

Interview: MERLE BROWN

"Now we face Dundee United in our second league match and it won't be easy. They'll have a point to prove after the thumping they took against Hibs last week.

"But we have to win our home games. It's going to take a while to get used to Hampden but it's a great pitch, with plenty of space and should suit us very well."

John believes that Celtic could easily be picking up some silverware come the end of this season.

He said: "We have to start the season believing that we can win something. If we don't think that way we won't win anything.

"YOUR ATTITUDE HAS TO BE RIGHT AND I THINK WE'RE FEELING THAT WAY.

"Tommy Burns and Billy Stark have brought a new harmony to the club, and everyone is believing in themselves again. And there is a real positive attitude.

"The fact that I haven't won anything since joining Celtic is disappointing, but I guess you can't always get exactly what you want. But I think it'll change this season."

John wants success with Celtic first and foremost, but

he wants that to breed success in the international set-up.

The midfielder ace has 18 caps to his name and is eager to add more in this season's European Championship qualifying campaign.

He said: "This is a big season on the international front and I'd love to be part of that.

"But Celtic does come first, and to be in with a chance of a Scotland place I have to do well at the club.

"In the Scotland team I've played wide left and that doesn't bother me at all. I'd like that position for myself.

"As far as qualifying for the European Championships, it has to be done.

"WITH IT BEING IN ENGLAND AND THE THOUGHT OF PLAYING AGAINST THE AULD ENEMY, IT'LL BE AWFUL IF WE DON'T MAKE IT.

"But I think we can. It will be hard but our section isn't too tough and we should make it through.

Winning

"As for the domestic scene, I think this season we have to start winning our matches against the so-called smaller teams.

"Rangers are not unstoppable and we've shown in Old Firm games that we can match them.

"Aberdeen are realistically the ones we have to watch. They are a good attacking side especially now they have Billy Dodds up front.

"They'll be a real threat.

"But we just have to start the season well, winning the Coca-Cola Cup would be great, and personally I hope I can move in to the national team."



