



Celtic

Programme No. 4

v Rangers



Scottish Premierleague
Celtic Park, Sunday August 29, 2004
Kick-off 1.00pm £2



Celtic 





*Carling are proud to be
supporters of Celtic F.C.*

LOVEFOOTBALL



THE season is still just three games old and already we are faced with an Old Firm derby.

Not since my first term at Celtic Park have we played our great rivals so early in the season and yet, regardless of timing, these occasions are always exhilarating and extremely tense.

This afternoon's match will, I'm sure, be no different. Alex McLeish has made some pretty significant changes during the summer, bringing in some very good players, and there's no doubt that Rangers will be formidable opponents – they always are.

They will naturally have been disappointed at losing their Champions League qualification tie against CSKA Moscow, but that disappointment will disappear within a minute of kick-off this afternoon.

We are all aware at Celtic Park of how close these Old Firm games are and we will have to be at our very best to get anything out of the game.

Forecasts suggest that it will be a tight affair and I probably wouldn't disagree.

However, for all the hype that inevitably accompanies such matches, nothing other than the outcome of one football match will be decided this afternoon.

Both teams go into it in decent domestic form, Rangers having won convincingly against both Hibernian and Livingston in recent weeks, and us with nine points from a possible nine, though with plenty of room still for improvement.



I was delighted with our victory over Inverness Caledonian Thistle last week, but perhaps it may well have typified our start to the season. We have been able to

'WHAT IS BEYOND DOUBT IS THAT WE WILL NEED ALL THE QUALITY AVAILABLE TO US IN THE CHAMPIONS LEAGUE AFTER BEING DRAWN IN AN EXTREMELY TOUGH GROUP'

maintain our goalscoring form, with our three games so far having yielded nine goals, seven of which have come away from home, but we will need to tighten up defensively because today we will suffer the consequences for any lapses in concentration.

Like most teams, even at the start of the year we have a number of

injury problems, and that was one of the reasons why I was so delighted that we succeeded in signing Juninho earlier this week.

He is a player of terrific pedigree and will, I feel sure, add a new and exciting dimension to the team with the ability and vision he so clearly possesses.

We will also continue in our attempts to further strengthen the squad ahead of the deadline and, while this may not happen with time now running short, it certainly won't be for the lack of trying.

What is beyond doubt is that we will need all the quality available to us in the Champions League after being drawn in an extremely tough group.

The draw has pitted us with Henrik Larsson and Barcelona, something which our Executive Director, Peter Lawwell, had predicted would happen.

Personally, I believe that AC Milan should have been in the first pot having won the competition just over a year ago, and there's no doubt the draw could have been a lot kinder to us.

But we will look forward again to some more glorious evenings of European football at Celtic Park and we are delighted to be taking part in such a tremendous tournament.

Peter Lawwell



Formed: 1888
Stadium: Celtic Park (capacity 60,506)
Home strip: Green/white hooped shirts, white shorts, white socks
Away strip: Green shirts, white shorts and green socks
Third strip: Black shirts, black shorts and socks with gold trim
Record attendance: 92,000 (v Rangers, 1938)
Record victory: 11-0 (v Dundee, 1895)
Record defeat: 0-8 (v Motherwell, 1937)
Most league goals (1 season): 50, Jimmy McGrory, 1935/36
Most Premier/SPL goals (1 season): 35, Brian McClair 1986/87, Henrik Larsson 2000/01
Website: www.celticfc.net

HONOURS
Scottish League (39)
 1892/93, 1893/94, 1895/96, 1897/98, 1904/05, 1905/06, 1906/07, 1907/08, 1908/09, 1909/10, 1913/14, 1914/15, 1915/16, 1916/17, 1918/19, 1921/22, 1925/26, 1935/36, 1937/38, 1953/54, 1965/66, 1966/67, 1967/68, 1968/69, 1969/70, 1970/71, 1971/72, 1972/73, 1973/74, 1976/77, 1978/79, 1980/81, 1981/82, 1985/86, 1987/88, 1997/98, 2000/2001, 2001/2002, 2003/2004
Scottish Cup (32)
 1892, 1899, 1900, 1904, 1907, 1908, 1911, 1912, 1914, 1923, 1925, 1927, 1931, 1933, 1937, 1951, 1954, 1965, 1967, 1969, 1971, 1972, 1974, 1975, 1977, 1980, 1985, 1988, 1989, 1995, 2001, 2004
League Cup (12)
 1956/57, 1957/58, 1965/66, 1966/67, 1967/68, 1968/69, 1969/70, 1974/75, 1982/83, 1997/98, 1999/2000, 2000/2001
European Cup (1) 1967 Coronation Cup (1) 1953



CELTIC plc DIRECTORS Brian Quinn, Peter Lawwell, Eric Riley, Dermot Desmond, Tom Allison, Eric Hagman
CFAC DIRECTORS Peter Lawwell, Eric Riley, John Keane, Michael McDonald, Kevin Sweeney
MANAGER Martin O'Neill
ASSISTANT MANAGER John Robertson

COACH Steve Walford
HEAD OF YOUTH Tommy Burns
YOUTH TEAM COACH Willie McStay
UNDER-21 COACH Kenny McDowall
PHYSIOTHERAPISTS Tim Williamson & Gavin McCarthy
CLUB DOCTOR Roddy Macdonald
KIT CONTROLLER John Clark

Celtic Football Club, Celtic Park, Glasgow G40 3RE 0845 671 1888

CELTIC

RANGERS

Momo Sylla	3	1	Stefan Klos
Jackie McNamara	4	2	Fernando Ricksen
Joos Valgaeren	5	3	Craig Moore
Bobo Balde	6	4	Jean-Alain Boumsong
Juninho	7	5	Marvin Andrews
Alan Thompson	8	7	Shota Arveladze
Chris Sutton	9	8	Alex Rae
John Hartson	10	9	Dado Prso
Stephen Pearson	11	10	Nacho Novo
David Fernandez	12	11	Gavin Rae
Paul Lambert	14	12	Robert Malcolm
Bobby Petta	15	14	Dragan Mladenovic
Ulrik Laursen	16	15	Zurab Khizanishvili
Didier Agathe	17	16	Paolo Vanoli
Neil Lennon	18	17	Chris Burke
Stilian Petrov	19	18	Michael Ball
Robert Douglas	20	19	Steven Thompson
Magnus Hedman	21	20	Alan Hutton
David Marshall	22	21	Maurice Ross
Stanislav Varga	23	24	Gregory Vignal
Henri Camara	27	26	Peter Lovenkrands
Shaun Maloney	29	27	Stephen Hughes
Ross Wallace	33	30	Graeme Smith
Craig Beattie	37	31	Hamed Namouchi
John Kennedy	41	38	Bajram Fetai
Stephen McManus	44	39	Tom Brighton
Kevin McBride	45	45	Ross McCormack
Aiden McGeady	46	48	Gary Mckenzie
Michael McGovern	47		
Scott Cuthbert	49		

TONIGHT'S OFFICIALS

Referee: **HUGH DALLAS**
 Assistant Referees: **ALAN CUNNINGHAM**
ANDY DAVIS
 Fourth Official: **DOUGIE McDONALD**

CLUB SPONSORS



RECENT FORM

Scottish Premierleague, Aug 22, 2004
INVERNESS CT 1 v CELTIC 3 (Hartson 2, Petrov)
 Scottish Premierleague, Aug 14, 2004
KILMARNOCK 2 v CELTIC 4 (Hartson 2, Thompson 2)
 Pre-Season Friendly, Aug 10, 2004
CELTIC 2 v 0 SPURS (Beattie, Camara)
 Scottish Premierleague, Aug 8, 2004
CELTIC 2 v 0 MOTHERWELL (McNamara, Sutton)
 Pre-Season Friendly, Aug 4, 2004
CELTIC 2 v 1 NEWCASTLE (Sylla, Camara)

FORTHCOMING FIXTURES

Scottish Premierleague,
CELTIC v DUNDEE
 SATURDAY 11 SEPTEMBER 3:00pm
 UEFA Champions League,
CELTIC v BARCELONA
 TUESDAY 14 SEPTEMBER kick-off tbc
 Scottish Premierleague,
HIBERNIAN v CELTIC
 SATURDAY 18 SEPTEMBER 3:00pm
 Scottish Premierleague,
CELTIC v DUNFERMLINE
 SATURDAY 23 SEPTEMBER 3:00pm



Do you remember the first time

Stan and Juninho have met before – but only one of them was smiling!

JUNINHO might not recognise Stilian Petrov when he takes his seat in the Celtic dressing room this afternoon, but he can rest assured that the Bulgarian remembers him.

It's now almost six years since they first met and, regardless of whether the occasion still registers with Celtic's latest signing, his new team-mate recalls vividly a harsh football lesson that was delivered when, as a mere 19-year-old, he was assigned to a special man-marking job.

The UEFA Cup draw had paired Petrov's CSKA Sofia with Atletico Madrid, and with the big-spending Spaniards boasting a midfielder with the ability to slice open even the tightest defence, it was no surprise that CSKA's manager opted to dedicate his young protégé to the task of shackling the brilliant Brazilian.

Nevertheless, while it

Interview: STEPHEN SULLIVAN

represented a golden opportunity for the talented teenager to further develop his burgeoning reputation, Petrov recalls that it was Juninho who emerged from the tie with all the plaudits.

He said: "I played against Juninho once before – I man-marked him, actually – when CSKA Sofia played against Atletico Madrid in the UEFA Cup.

Unfortunately, we lost at home 4-2 and then 1-0 in Madrid, so I can't have done too good a job!

"Atletico had a great team at that time and our manager had decided that Juninho was a very important player for them, so he asked me to mark him closely. He did well, though, and scored a penalty in the second leg. It was disappointing, but at that time in my career I was just happy to be learning from playing against such

a great player."

Petrov's respect for Juninho hasn't diminished in the time since, and he's praying that Celtic can cut through the red tape to enable the Brazilian to play in this afternoon's Old Firm derby.

"It's great that we've signed him," said the Bulgarian. "All the players know how good Juninho is and it will be a great boost for everyone at the club because he is definitely something special. It will be great to have him in the team and I really hope that the club can get him cleared to play against Rangers."

It's inevitable that the traditional hype which precedes a new season's first Old Firm centres on the derby debutants, and in addition to Juninho and Henri Camara on the Celtic side, Rangers could give no less than six players their first taste of this unique fixture. Dado Prso, Nacho Novo

STAND OFF: Rangers' new signing Marvin Andrews holds off Petrov while playing for Livingston – but the super Celt hopes to come out on top in this afternoon's first Old Firm clash of the campaign



and Jean Alain Boumsong are among those who could make themselves immediate heroes, or villains, with the Ibrox support, and Petrov admits to having been impressed by the calibre of Alex McLeish's new signings.

He said: "I've not seen too much of Rangers so far to be honest, only a little bit of their European games against CSKA Moscow. But every player they bought is of good quality. I know Prso from playing against him with Bulgaria, and I know Nacho Novo and Marvin Andrews from our games against Dundee and Livingston.

"I don't know much about Alex Rae or Mladenovic from Serbia, but I suppose they must be good for Alex McLeish to have bought them, so we will need to be careful.

"Rangers obviously had an important game on Wednesday and I was cheering them on to qualify because it would have been good for Scottish football to have two clubs playing in the Champions League. But when it comes down to playing against them, I treat them as our rivals and play my hardest to make sure we win."

The efforts of Petrov and his Hoops teammates have certainly

yielded plenty of success in recent times, evident in the fact that Celtic are this afternoon bidding for their seventh consecutive victory over their oldest rivals. And while he's now a veteran of such occasions, the Bulgarian admits that the anticipation which precedes Old Firm derbies never dulls.

"Yeah, it's not just the fans – we get excited too," he said. "It's such a big game and, when you play Rangers, you always try to win and give your best because it means so much to everyone in Glasgow. There is so much history to this game and, although we approach it the same as we would



any game, it's always a little bit different.

"I still remember my first experience of the Old Firm – it was so tough! The pace, the atmosphere was so different to any game I had played, and I found it very hard. But I've enjoyed every

there's something unique and very special about the clash of Glasgow's football titans.

"I don't think you can compare it to the derby we have in Sofia," he said. "The rivalry is still there in Bulgaria, but the fans here and the whole occasion make it so

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single game we've played against them since, and we have enjoyed a good record against them recently, so hopefully we can keep that going. We want the three points and, although it will be hard, we all feel confident."

Of course, the Old Firm isn't Petrov's first experience of a derby. In his hometown of Sofia, the matches between Levski and CSKA are often passionate and bad-tempered affairs. Nevertheless, he admits that

massive. The Bulgarian players are very interested in the Old Firm game and always ask me lots of questions about it.

"Sometimes they even joke with me that it's the only game we're looking forward to, but that's not the case. Every game is important here and every team plays even harder against us because we are the champions. Rangers will be the same, but I hope we have enough in our team to stop them doing that."