



Celtic

Programme No. 2

v Motherwell



Scottish Premierleague
Celtic Park, Sunday August 8, 2004
Kick-off 2.00pm

£2



Celtic 





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

LOVEFOOTBALL



OUR pre-season preparations over, the players will this afternoon begin the defence of the league title they won so impressively last season.

As a final reminder of that achievement, we will also see the unfurling of the league flag, which will be a special moment for everyone here at Celtic Park.

But the game moves at such a pace these days as to leave you with little more than a day to celebrate even the greatest of achievements, and the players know that they will be taking the field this afternoon not to reflect in the glory of past achievements, but to attempt to win the first of what I know will be 38 hard-fought Scottish Premierleague matches.

Motherwell are our visitors and we know from experience, some of it painful, just how difficult the game will be for us. Terry Butcher did a phenomenal job in taking a young and talented team into the top six last season and no-one here has forgotten that we have failed to beat them in our last two attempts.

Once again, it appears that we will be asking the same core group of players who've done so much to bring success to the football club over the past few years to bring us through matches such as today's. I would concede that it's a big ask.

Come the end of the season, I think our fate will have been determined by whether those players still have the same hunger and desire that has served them, and us, so well over recent seasons. Rest assured that, if it isn't there, we'll be in real trouble.

I do feel, though, that the players might just need reinvigorated, and I'm hoping that will start this afternoon. Certainly, it's only been when the competitive games have really set in that we've seen the best



of them in the past.

That said, I think it's worth stressing how pleased I have been with the lads' efforts over the last few friendly matches, the most recent of which saw us pitted against Newcastle United on Wednesday evening. It felt like we had barely had time to draw breath since returning from the tour of

Celtic Park will once again be packed this afternoon with season book holders, it really is a testament to how well supported Celtic is.

Those who made it along on Wednesday will testify that it was also a memorable night for our only summer signing so far, Henri Camara. He played excellently in the 32 minutes he was on the field and was rewarded with a goal which, while fortuitous, represented just reward for his willingness to drop deep to collect the ball and drive at the Newcastle defence.

Having done very little serious fitness work during the month of July, Henri remains some distance behind the rest of the lads in terms of full match fitness, but I'm hopeful

"OVER THREE WEEKS REMAIN UNTIL THE CHAMPIONS LEAGUE DEADLINE AND WE ARE DETERMINED TO ENSURE MORE PLAYERS ARE ADDED TO THE SQUAD"

North America, but the players nevertheless put in a performance which belied the draining nature of the schedule which had preceded the visit of Bobby Robson's side.

The Celtic fans were also there, as they always are, and I can't stress enough how grateful I and the team are for their support. It amazes me that, in a day and age in which following football has become more expensive than ever, it seems that a crowd of anything short of 50,000 here is somehow deemed 'disappointing.'

I have a fair idea how much our fans spend on following this football club – some, believe it or now, even made the trip across to watch us in North America – and I thought it was a remarkable achievement that over 20,000 of them paid good money to come and watch us on Wednesday. When you consider that

that he'll prove over the course of the season to be a valuable asset.

Of course, over three weeks still remain until the Champions League deadline and it goes without saying that we are determined to ensure more players are added to the squad during that time. I mentioned earlier the burden of responsibility on the same core group of players at the football club, and I don't think there's any doubt that they want, and deserve, a bit of help.

All I can say on that is that we're working extremely hard in a number of areas and, if things don't progress as we hope, it certainly won't be for the lack of trying.

Terry Butcher



Formed: 1888
Stadium: Celtic Park (capacity 60,506)
Home strip: Green/white hooped shirts, white shorts, white socks
Away strip: Black shirts, black shorts and socks with gold trim
Third strip: Gold shirts, green shorts, gold socks
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 (31)
 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 0141-556 2611

CELTIC

- Momo Sylla
- Jackie McNamara
- Joos Valgaeren
- Bobo Balde
- Henri Camara
- Alan Thompson
- Chris Sutton
- John Hartson
- Stephen Pearson
- David Fernandez
- Paul Lambert
- Ulrik Laursen
- Didier Agathe
- Neil Lennon
- Stilian Petrov
- Robert Douglas
- David Marshall
- Magnus Hedman
- Stanislav Varga
- Shaun Maloney
- Ross Wallace
- Craig Beattie
- John Kennedy
- Stephen McManus
- Kevin McBride
- Aiden McGeady
- Michael McGovern

MOTHERWELL

- Gordon Marshall
- Martyn Corrigan
- Steven Hammell
- Stephen Craigan
- Gary Bollan
- Scott McDonald
- Scott Leitch
- Richie Foran
- Phil O'Donnell
- Alex Burns
- David Clarkson
- David Partridge
- Barry John Corr
- David Cowan
- Jim Paterson
- Paul Quinn
- Kenny Wright
- Shaun Fagan
- Midfielder
- William Kinniburgh
- Chris Higgins
- Marc Fitzpatrick
- Jamie Ewings

TONIGHT'S OFFICIALS

Referee: **KENNY CLARK**
 Assistant Referees: **ANDY DAVIS**
LAWRENCE KERRIGAN
IAIN BRINES
 Fourth Official:

CLUB SPONSORS



RECENT FORM

Pre-Season Friendly, Aug 4, 2004
CELTIC 2 v 1 NEWCASTLE UTD (Sylla, Camara)
 Pre-Season Friendly, July 31, 2004
CELTIC 0 v 1 AS ROMA
 Pre-Season Friendly, July 28, 2004
CELTIC 2 v 1 MAN UTD (Beattie, Sutton)
 Pre-Season Friendly, July 28, 2004
CELTIC 1 v 5 LIVERPOOL (Beattie)
 Pre-Season Friendly, July 28, 2004
CELTIC 2 v 4 CHELSEA (Beattie 2)

FORTHCOMING FIXTURES

Pre-Season Friendly
CELTIC v TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR
 TUESDAY 10 AUGUST 7.45pm
 Scottish Premierleague
KILMARNOCK v CELTIC
 SATURDAY 14 AUGUST 3.00pm
 Scottish Premierleague
INVERNESS CALEY THISTLE v CELTIC
 SUNDAY 14 AUGUST 2.00pm
 Scottish Premierleague
CELTIC v RANGERS
 SUNDAY 29 AUGUST 1.00pm



A season to be cheerful

IT seems like every day brings with it a new football experience for Stephen Pearson.

Since joining Celtic he's collected landmarks in almost as cavalier a manner as Roman Abramovich gathers multi-million pound signings.

There was his Celtic debut, his first Old Firm game, his first goal, his European debut, the first of what he hopes will be many league winners medals, to which he has already added a Scottish Cup one as well and his first taste of pre-season training with the Hoops.



Interview: PAUL CUDDIHY

Admittedly this might not remain as fond or as fresh a memory as the others, but today brings another landmark for the young midfielder when he attends his first flag day at Celtic Park.

It is the opening act of the new campaign but also the final acknowledgement of last season's achievements.

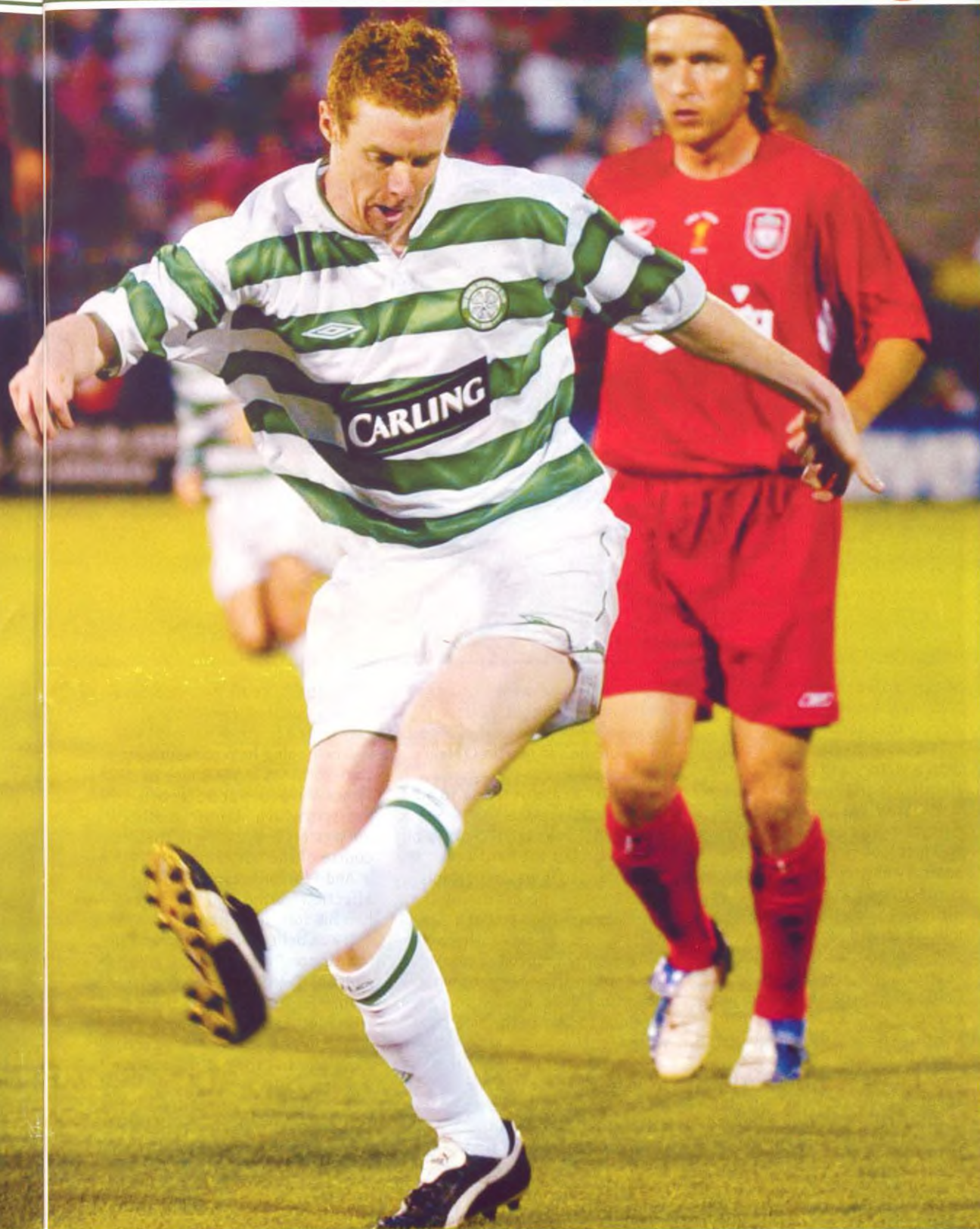
One suspects that it's something which is celebrated more by the fans than

the players. The nature of football is to look forward to the next challenge and savour the successes once the boots are finally hung up.

Pearson, however, admits today's pre-match celebration is one he and his team-mates are relishing.

"I've never been to a flag day before so this will be the first one," he said. "It'll be a new experience for me and I'm looking forward to it.

"It's an acknowledgement of what we achieved last season. Obviously the fans will enjoy the occasion and they will be looking for similar success this





BARÇA BHOY: Pearson was in impressive form last season and played well against the big name players of Barcelona

season, so we're looking forward to today's game and hopefully we can get off to a good win.

"We want to start the season with a victory and get off on the right track and continue on from last season. We can build on everything we achieved last season and just look to progress. Last season was great, winning 25 consecutive games and it will be difficult to do again but we'll be looking to win as many as we can."

It would be fair to say that Pearson's first few months at Celtic Park surpassed everyone's expectations, not least his own. Martin O'Neill had acquired one of Scottish football's bright young stars but the manner in which he adapted to his new surroundings, immediately establishing himself as an integral member of the first-team was impressive.

Having now enjoyed, if that's the right word, his first pre-season at

Celtic, which included a tough North American tour, Pearson knows a lot of hard work is ahead to ensure he's in Martin O'Neill's starting eleven.

"It's just a case of trying to hold down a regular place," he explained. "I managed to play a bit last season but the hard work starts now, so it was important that I tried to impress during the friendlies and tried to get a starting slot against Motherwell.

"This is my first full season and I'll be out to show the fans what I can do. It will be difficult to continue to play in the side but I will be looking to try and do that."

Terry Butcher brings Motherwell to Celtic Park intent on being more than mere witnesses to the celebrations. The Englishman deserves much praise for his team's achievements last season, securing a top six finish despite well-publicised financial

difficulties. The Fir Park side have already nurtured two of the players the Scottish national side will be hoping help to resurrect their fortunes in the shape of James McFadden and Stephen Pearson, with a number of other youngsters impressing in the course of the last campaign.

And Pearson retains a strong affection for the club which gave him his start in football.

"I was delighted for Motherwell last season," he said. "It's a great club and I've got a lot of good memories from my time there. I wish Motherwell all the best and hopefully they can continue and build on what they achieved last season.

"I've still got a lot of friends at Motherwell that I keep in contact with so it will be good to see them again today.

"Terry Butcher's been superb. He doesn't have a lot of money to



spend but he's spent wisely and brought all the young players through, along with Maurice Malpas and Chris McCart. They do a great job at Motherwell."

If today brings with it another new experience for Stephen Pearson, then it's difficult for him not to think about another one looming on the horizon.

Celtic's Championship success brought instant access to the group stages of the Champions League and Pearson is already relishing the prospect.

"It was a step up from the UEFA Cup which I played in last

"TERRY BUTCHER DOESN'T HAVE A LOT OF MONEY TO SPEND BUT HE HAS SPENT WISELY AND HE'S ALSO BROUGHT ALL THE YOUNG PLAYERS THROUGH"

season and that was a new experience," he said, "but the Champions League is where you want to be.

"That's the top level in European football so it will be a great experience for me to come up against big players and big teams.

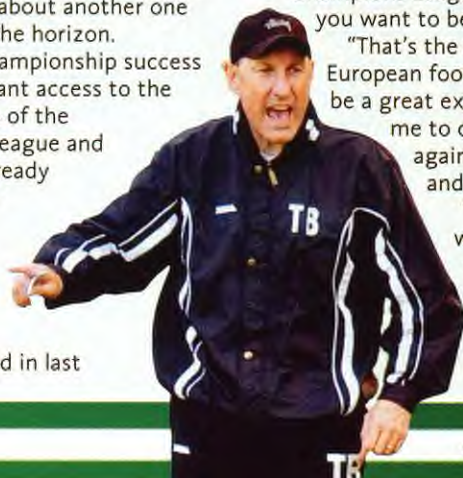
"There are world class teams who have won their respective leagues or

finished near the top. It will be difficult but hopefully we can progress on from last season.

"Pitting yourself against the big names and the big players is what you want to do and try and compete on the same stage."

There are no sure things in football. That is part of its beauty as well as sometimes being part of its pain.

Stephen Pearson is taking nothing for granted, but it's certain there'll be more landmarks chalked up over the coming season. What price the first goal today?





FIXTURES



Season's fixtures 2004/05

Comp	Date	Venue	Opposition	
F	Jul 18	A	Fulham	2-0
F	Jul 24	N	Chelsea	2-4
F	Jul 26	N	Liverpool	1-5
F	Jul 28	N	Manchester United	2-1
F	Jul 31	N	Roma	0-1
F	AUG 4	H	NEWCASTLE UNITED	2-1
SPL	AUG 8	H	MOTHERWELL	2pm
F	AUG 10	H	TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR	7.45pm
SPL	Aug 14	A	Kilmarnock	
SPL	Aug 22	A	Inverness Caley Thistle	2pm
SPL	AUG 29	H	RANGERS	1PM
SPL	SEP 11	H	DUNDEE	
CL	Sep 14/15	tbc	CL match 1	
SPL	Sep 18	A	Hibernian	
CIS	Sep 21/22	tbc	CIS Cup R3	
SPL	SEP 25	H	DUNFERMLINE	
CL	Sep 28/29	tbc	CL match 2	
SPL	Oct 2	A	Dundee United	
SPL	OCT 16	H	HEARTS	
CL	Oct 19/20	tbc	CL match 3	
SPL	Oct 23	A	Livingston	
SPL	OCT 27	H	ABERDEEN	
SPL	Oct 30	A	Motherwell	
CL	Nov 2/3	tbc	CL match 4	
SPL	NOV 6	H	KILMARNOCK	
CIS	Nov 9/10	tbc	CIS Cup R4	
SPL	NOV 13	H	INVERNESS CALEY THISTLE	
SPL	Nov 20	A	Rangers	
CL	Nov 23/24	tbc	CL match 5	
SPL	Nov 27	A	Dundee	
SPL	DEC 4	H	HIBERNIAN	
CL	Dec 7/8	tbc	CL match 6	
SPL	Dec 11	A	Dunfermline	
SPL	DEC 18	H	DUNDEE UNITED	
SPL	Dec 27	A	Hearts	
SPL	JAN 1	H	LIVINGSTON	
SC	Jan 8	tbc	Scottish Cup R3	
SPL	Jan 15	A	Aberdeen	
SPL	JAN 22	H	MOTHERWELL	
SPL	Jan 29	A	Kilmarnock	
CIS	Feb 1/2	tbc	CIS Cup 5th	
SC	Feb 5	tbc	Scottish Cup R4	
SPL	Feb 12	A	Inverness Caley Thistle	
SPL	FEB 19	H	RANGERS	
CL	Feb 22/23	tbc	CL 1st 1/2nd-out L1	
SC	Feb 26	tbc	Scottish Cup quarter-final	
SPL	MAR 2	H	DUNDEE	
SPL	Mar 5	A	Hibernian	
CL	Mar 8/9	tbc	CL 1st 1/2nd-out L2	
SPL	MAR 12	H	DUNFERMLINE	
SPL	Mar 19	A	Dundee United	
CIS	Mar 19/20	N	CIS Cup Final	
SPL	APR 2	H	HEARTS	
CL	Apr 5/6	tbc	CL quarter-final L1	
SPL	Apr 9	A	Livingston	
SC	Apr 9/10	tbc	Scottish Cup semi-final	
CL	Apr 12/13	tbc	CL quarter-final L2	
SPL	APR 16	H	ABERDEEN	
SPL	Apr 23	tbc	SPL 34	
CL	Apr 26/27	tbc	CL semi-final L1	
SPL	Apr 30	tbc	SPL 35	
CL	May 3/4	tbc	CL semi-final L2	
SPL	May 7	tbc	SPL 36	
SPL	May 14	tbc	SPL 37	
SPL	May 22	tbc	SPL 38	
CL	May 25	N	CL Final	
SC	May 28	N	Scottish Cup Final	

Season's fixtures 2004/05

Scottish Premier Reserve League

Date	Venue	Opposition
Aug 10	A	Motherwell
AUG 24	H	INVERNESS CALEY THISTLE
Sep 14	A	Dundee
SEP 21	H	HIBERNIAN
SEP 28	H	DUNFERMLINE
Oct 19	A	Hearts
NOV 2	H	KILMARNOCK
Nov 9	A	Rangers
Nov 23	A	Aberdeen
NOV 30	H	LIVINGSTON
DEC 7	H	MOTHERWELL
Feb 1	A	Kilmarnock
Feb 15	A	Inverness Caley Thistle
FEB 22	H	RANGERS
Mar 8	A	Hibernian
Mar 15	A	Dundee United
APR 5	H	HEARTS
Apr 12	A	Livingston
APR 19	H	ABERDEEN
Apr 26	A	Dunfermline
MAY 3	H	DUNDEE
MAY 10	H	DUNDEE UNITED

*All fixtures are subject to change

All games scheduled to kick off at 2pm on the Tuesday dates

Season's fixtures 2004/05

Scottish Premier Under-19s

Date	Venue	Comp	Opposition
AUG 14	H	L	MOTHERWELL
Aug 21	A	L	Inverness Caley Thistle
AUG 28	H	L	DUNDEE
Sep 5	tbc	YCr1	tbc
Sep 18	A	L	Hibernian
Sep 25	A	L	Dunfermline
OCT 2	H	L	HEARTS
Oct 10	tbc	YCr2	tbc
Oct 16	A	L	Kilmarnock
OCT 23	H	L	RANGERS
OCT 30	H	L	ABERDEEN
Nov 7	tbc	YCr3	tbc
Nov 13	A	L	Livingston
Nov 20	A	L	Motherwell
Dec 5	tbc	YCr4	tbc
JAN 22	H	L	KILMARNOCK
JAN 29	H	L	INVERNESS CALEY THISTLE
Feb 5	A	L	Rangers
FEB 12	H	L	HIBERNIAN
Feb 20	tbc	YCr5	tbc
FEB 26	H	L	DUNDEE UNITED
Mar 5	A	L	Hearts
MAR 12	H	L	LIVINGSTON
Mar 12	tbc	YCr6	tbc
Mar 19	A	L	Aberdeen
APR 2	H	L	DUNFERMLINE
Apr 9	A	L	Dundee
Apr 16	A	L	Dundee United
Apr 24	N	YCr7	tbc

*All fixtures are subject to change

SPOT ON

THE GREAT BALANCE OF TASTE AND ICE COLD REFRESHMENT





Last season was an emotional one for Celtic fans. The club not only secured a league and cup double but also had to say farewell to the Magnificent Seven

CELTIC secured their 39th league title in style last season, winning by a margin of 17 points from Rangers.

The campaign included many highlights – 25 consecutive league wins and four victories over Rangers among them – as Martin O’Neill won his third title in four years.

Losing the league in season 2002/03 by a single goal simply made Celtic more determined to make amends and despite dropping two points on the opening day of the season in a 0-0 with Dunfermline at East End Park, it quickly became apparent the Hoops were in the driving seat in the race for the title.

From the day they beat Rangers 1-0 at Ibrox in the first Old Firm game of the season thanks to a John Hartson goal, Celtic never relinquished top spot.

It was also Henrik Larsson’s final season for Celtic. The Magnificent Seven had announced he would be leaving at the end of the campaign, after giving seven wonderful seasons of service to the club. And he didn’t let anyone down again as he hit 41 goals for the club, including 30 league goals.

And to crown a brilliant season, Celtic clinched the Scottish Cup to make it a memorable double for the Hoops.





ONE hundred years ago, Celtic embarked on a new league campaign that was to prove the start of a then record-breaking six championships in a row.

It was the first of the great teams that Willie Maley was to mould for Celtic, who had only recently begun playing in the green and white hoops that would become famous the world over.

The league-winning triumph of 1904/05 was unique in that it was decided by a play-off match at Hampden between Celtic and Rangers. Both sides had finished level on points and, as was stated in the rules, a decider took place.

Celtic won the match 2-1 and the title returned to Paradise.

The season had started with a 5-0 victory over Partick Thistle and followed up with another away win, this time a 4-1 triumph over Port Glasgow. Jimmy Quinn scored a hat-trick in the latter game and he was to hit a total of 19 goals in 21 appearances.

Three players were to play all 26 games of the campaign – goalkeeper Davy Adams, Jimmy 'Dun' Hay and Willie Loney.

Celtic lost three games all season and only one of them at home, a 3-2 defeat against Airdrie on January 3, 1905.

They remained undefeated against Rangers in the league, drawing the first match at Celtic Park 2-2, Alec Bennett scoring both goals, while in the return match at Ibrox towards the end of the season two

It was 100 years ago this season that Celtic began a record-breaking era which saw the Hoops clinch six consecutive titles under the watchful eye of manager Willie Maley

goals apiece from Quinn and Davie Hamilton gave the Hoops a 4-1 victory. And then there was the victory at Hampden which secured the title.

Quinn finished the season way out in front in the scoring charts. Those 19 goals were to form part of an overall tally of 216 he hit for the Hoops between 1900-15, making a total of 331 appearances. He was

players who were to leave an indelible mark on the history of the club. The famous half-back line of Young, Loney and Hay was an integral part of the six-in-a-row side while Jimmy McMenemy was an important influence on the team, making a total of 515 appearances for Celtic in a career which lasted 18 years.

Peter Somers was an inside-left

“THE LEAGUE-WINNING TRIUMPH OF 1904/05 WAS UNIQUE IN THAT IT WAS DECIDED BY A PLAY-OFF BETWEEN CELTIC AND RANGERS”

the first great Celtic striker but was certainly not the last.

Alec Bennett also hit double figures that season, scoring 10 times. Bennett scored a total of 53 goals in 152

appearances and also played 18 times for Scotland, an impressive total in an era when fewer internationals were played.

Willie Maley's team was full of

who played for the club between 1897-1909, making 219 appearances and scoring 62 goals.

He died in November 1914 at the young age of 36.

Donnie McLeod was a full-back who only missed one league game of 1904/05. He played 155 times for the club before moving to Middlesbrough in 1908, though he didn't ever score for the Hoops.

While the manner of Celtic's 1904/05 triumph was a close-run affair, it was to provide the platform for their complete dominance of the Scottish League over the next five years, setting at the time a world record of six titles in a row.



THE GREAT MAN:
Willie Maley, the man behind the 1904 Celtic side



THREE AND EASY: Jimmy Quinn (far right) scored a memorable hat-trick in a 4-1 victory against Port Glasgow in 1904

DATE	OPPOSITION	SCORE	SCORERS
August 20	Partick Thistle (A)	5-0	Young, Hay, McLean, McMenemy, Bennett
August 27	Port Glasgow (A)	4-1	Quinn 3, McLean
September 3	Hearts (H)	1-1	Somers
September 17	St Mirren (A)	3-2	McMenemy, Quinn, Hay
September 19	Hearts (A)	0-2	
September 26	Third Lanark (H)	2-1	McMenemy 2
October 1	Queen's Park (A)	3-2	Quinn, Bennett, Dick (og)
October 15	Rangers (H)	2-2	Bennett 2
October 22	Third Lanark (A)	2-1	Quinn 2
October 29	Queen's Park (H)	1-1	Quinn
November 5	Kilmarnock (A)	3-0	Quinn, Somers, Hamilton
November 12	Hibernian (A)	2-2	Quinn, Hamilton
November 19	Dundee (H)	3-0	Bennett 2, Loney
November 26	Airdrie (A)	3-1	Bennett 2, McMenemy
December 3	Motherwell (H)	4-2	Bennett, McLean, Quinn, Somers
December 10	Morton (A)	1-0	Quinn
December 17	Partick Thistle (H)	2-2	Somers, Hay (pen)
December 24	St Mirren (H)	1-0	Young
December 31	Kilmarnock (H)	3-1	McMenemy, Loney, 1 untraced
January 3	Airdrie (H)	2-3	Somers, Loney
January 7	Port Glasgow (H)	3-0	Hamilton 2, Ward (og)
January 14	Dundee (A)	1-2	Somers
January 21	Hibernian (H)	2-0	Somers, Quinn
February 4	Morton (H)	5-2	Loney 2, Bennett, Quinn, McMenemy
February 18	Rangers (A)	4-1	Quinn 2, Hamilton 2
March 4	Motherwell (A)	6-2	Quinn 3, Loney, Somers, Hamilton
May 6	Rangers (N)	2-1	Hamilton, McMenemy

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Celtic 

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Celtic 



Celtic and Motherwell have had their share of exciting moments in the past. We cast our eye over a few of the most memorable encounters between the sides

CELTIC and Motherwell have played a total of 223 league games ahead of this afternoon's encounter.

It's the Hoops who are in front in terms of victories, having won 130 of those games. Motherwell have won 43 league games, while there have been 50 draws. The first time the teams met was on January 16, 1904 at Celtic Park and it was Celtic who came out on top.

**January 16, 1904, Celtic Park
Celtic 6-0 Motherwell
(McMenemy 3, Hamilton, Somers, Gilligan)**

A crowd of just 2,000 turned up at Celtic Park for the very first meeting between Celtic and Motherwell. But they were treated to a fine display of attacking football from a Celtic side enjoying their first season in the famous hoops.

It was Jimmy McMenemy who was the star of the show, scoring a hat-trick and tearing Motherwell apart. The other goals came from Jimmy Hay, Davie Hamilton and Sam Gilligan. Sam played 14 times for Celtic that season, scoring 13 times. Celtic finished third but the following year was to be the start of the famous six-in-a-row era.

**April 21, 1951, Hampden
Celtic 1-0 Motherwell
(John McPhail)**

Celtic secured their first post-war

triumph when they beat Motherwell 1-0 at Hampden to win the Scottish Cup.

It was to prove a rare moment of celebration for the Celtic fans, who endured many mediocre seasons prior to Jock Stein's arrival in 1965. Indeed, in season 1950/51 when they won the Scottish Cup, Celtic finished seventh in the league. The only goal of the game, in front of a crowd of 131,943, was scored by John McPhail after just 12 minutes. Big Hookey made 335 appearances for Celtic, scoring 100 goals.

**May 7, 1966, Fir Park
Motherwell 0-1 Celtic
(Lennox)**

In the last minute of the last game on the last day of the season, Bobby Lennox scored the only goal of the game to secure the Championship for Celtic in Jock Stein's first full season in charge at the club.

It was to be the first of nine consecutive titles, it secured entry into the following season's European Cup, and we all know what happened next... It was Celtic's first Championship in 12 years and was won in front of a crowd of 20,000, including many who had clambered onto the roofs of the Fir Park stands. The line-up that day contained 10 of the eleven players who would triumph in Lisbon the following year, Charlie Gallagher playing at Fir Park instead of Willie Wallace, who



"IT TOOK HENRIK LARSSON, MAKING A RARE SUBSTITUTE APPEARANCE, TO SAVE CELTIC FROM THEIR FIRST HOME DEFEAT OF THE SEASON"

didn't join the club until December 1966.

**October 27, 1999, Celtic Park
Celtic 0-1 Motherwell
(Twaddle)**

Motherwell's last victory at Celtic Park came in October 1999 in the ill-fated 'dream team' season'.

A goal by Kevin Twaddle after just 15 minutes was enough to give the Fir Park side all three points. Almost



"IT WAS TO BE THE FIRST OF NINE CONSECUTIVE TITLES, IT SECURED ENTRY INTO THE EUROPEAN CUP, AND WE ALL KNOW WHAT HAPPENED NEXT ..."

59,000 turned up on a miserable midweek night and even though Motherwell were reduced to 10 men after 33 minutes when Shaun Teale was ordered off, it made no difference to the final result. Motherwell's performances against Celtic that season were impressive. Just a month after victory at Celtic Park, they followed it up with a 3-2 win at Fir Park, and while they lost the corresponding Celtic Park

game 4-0, they drew with the Hoops 1-1 in the last league encounter of the season, taking seven out of a possible twelve points against Celtic.

**March 14, 2004, Celtic Park
Celtic 1-1 Motherwell
(Larsson) (Adams)**

The last time the teams met at Celtic Park it ended 1-1.

It took Henrik Larsson, making a rare substitute appearance, to save Celtic from their first home defeat of the season. Derek Adams had given Motherwell a deserved first-half lead and Terry Butcher's side continued to take the game to Celtic. Larsson came on after 56 minutes for Craig Beattie and within 14 minutes he had levelled the scores, heading home from a Ross Wallace corner.

It was the first points Celtic had dropped at home since October 2003 and brought to an end the run of consecutive league victories at 25, but it did not stop the inevitable march to the title.





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half-time QUIZ

Put your football knowledge to the test with our super Celtic quiz

1) In which city last season did Alan Thompson win his first English international cap?

2) Which current Motherwell player has previously featured in the Champions League tournament?

3) Which former Celtic striker is Motherwell's most capped player?

4) Which three teams in Euro 2004 had a pair of brothers in their squads for the tournament?

5) In the last ten years which is the only team to defeat Celtic in their opening match of the season?

6) Who is the only man since the Second World War to manage both Motherwell and Celtic?

7) Which Motherwell player last season missed a penalty against Celtic at Fir Park but later in the season scored the goal that ended Celtic's run of twenty five successive League victories?

8) Who is the only player this century to have played in six FA Cup finals?

9) Which four Celtic players last season made their international debuts for their countries?

10) Which side in Euro 2004 was the only one to



Q15



Henrik Larsson - Q11

win all of its group Matches?

11) Prior to Henrik Larsson who was the last Celt to score in two separate Scottish Cup finals?

12) In the last three decades who are the only two Celts to score hat-tricks in the opening League match of the season?

13) Which player became the youngest captain of Scotland this century, against Estonia in May?

14) Which two players in the last forty years have been sent off playing for Motherwell against Celtic before later signing for the Parkhead club?

15) How many International appearances has Footballer of the Year Jackie McNamara won for Scotland?



Alan Thompson - Q1

ANSWERS

- 1)** Gothenburg. **2)** Brian Kerr. **3)** Tommy Coyne, Rep of Ire, 13 caps. **4)** England (Neville), Switzerland (Yakin), Croatia (Kovacs). **5)** Hibs, 1997/98. **6)** David Hay. **7)** Derek Adams. **8)** Roy Keane. **9)** John Kennedy (Scotland), Alan Thompson (England), Liam Miller and Aiden McGeady (Rep of Ire). **10)** Czech Republic. **11)** Dixie Deans. **12)** Tommy Coyne. **13)** Dixie Deans. **14)** Darren Fletcher. **15)** 25. Pearson.



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Celtic 



Celtic begin the defence of their SPL title today when they take on Motherwell at home. We take a look at the Fir Park side

GORDON MARSHALL

The elder statesman of the Motherwell squad. The 40-year-old joined last season on from Kilmarnock, having previously served a number of Scottish clubs throughout his career, including Celtic. He had racked up well over 500 league appearances before arriving in Lanarkshire.

In a successful first season at Fir Park, Marshall played 33 times in the league, made 3 appearances in the Scottish Cup and played once in the League Cup. Throughout the campaign he had 10 shut-outs.

MARTYN CORRIGAN

Martyn Corrigan managed to take part in every single competitive match Motherwell played in last season – and this for the second season running! Showing his versatility, Corrigan moved from right-back to central defence after David Partridge's enforced absence, and built up a solid and effective partnership with Steven Craigan.

Corrigan is entering his sixth season at Fir Park after Billy Davies signed him from Falkirk. He now has 161 league appearances under his belt for Motherwell and has chipped in with three goals thus far in his Fir Park career.

STEPHEN HAMMELL

When Stephen McMillan was suspended at the tail end of the 1999/2000 season a then 18-year old Steven Hammell filled in for him at left-back, making his debut in a 2-1 defeat against Aberdeen at Pittodrie.

Such was the impact he made that several years on, the Rutherglen-born full back is still there, having made the position his own. One of the most consistent members of the squad, Steven has rarely missed a game since bursting on to the scene and has now made 150 league matches for the club, despite being just 22.

STEPHEN CRAIGAN

Stephen Craigan elected to return to Lanarkshire after a highly impressive three-year stint at Partick Thistle.

Craigian first joined Motherwell in 1995 when Alex McLeish brought a trio of young Irishmen across the Irish Sea to Fir Park but was unable to establish himself as well as he might have hoped. After 11 league starts and 11 substitute appearances he was released and moved to then Second Division Thistle in the summer of 2000. His efforts contributed to Thistle's back-to-back Championship successes and helped the Jags remain in the top flight in their first season back up.

GARY BOLLAN

Bollan signed during the transfer window in January 2004 but barely had the opportunity to make his mark on the Motherwell team before the treatment room beckoned.

Making only a single start, in a 3-1 loss at Almondvale, Bollan's only other appearances came as a substitute against Rangers at Ibrox, in the memorable 5-3 win over Dundee and in the Scottish



MAKING THEIR MARK
Stephen Craigan and Scott McDonald will be hoping to impress coach Terry Butcher this afternoon



Cup against Queen of the South.

SCOTT McDONALD

Scott McDonald came to the club on trial and such was the impression he made that Terry Butcher signed him without having actually seeing him play! It quickly proved to be a wise decision as McDonald quickly established himself in the side and as a favourite of the Motherwell support.

The goals didn't flow quite as easily as the Australian would have hoped as he netted only twice before the season closed. But it has to be remembered that McDonald is still a youngster, and was settling into regular run of top team games for the first time in his career.

SCOTT LEITCH

It's something of an understatement to say it took Scott Leitch a while to make the progression from the 'Well youth team to the first team. How long did it take? Oh just about a decade!

That statistic doesn't tell the full story. Scott left Fir Park as a youngster without having made the first team and only returned to Lanarkshire quite a few years down the line. He signed firstly for Dunfermline where between 1990 and 1993 he played 99 times for the Pars netting 16 times.

A move to Tynecastle followed where Leitch made 55 league appearances in a three-year spell before he tried his luck with Swindon. 124 games later for the Robins and Leitch was on the move once again, this time back where it all began at Fir Park. Leitch is just two games short of having made 100 league appearances for Motherwell.

PHIL O'DONNELL

Fir Park can't be that bad a place to play your football. After all there have been lots of players who have returned for a second spell with the Steelmen and Phil O'Donnell is

one of them. Regardless of how his second spell at the club turns out, O'Donnell will always be held in the highest regard for what he achieved at Fir Park first time around.

As a mere 17 year old O'Donnell fought his way into the side midway through the 1990/91 season and finished it by scoring a goal in the Scottish Cup Final against Dundee Utd and picking up the first silverware of his career. Thereafter O'Donnell played in Motherwell's first ever European fixture against GKS Katowice and after some rebuilding of the side, helped the team to a 3rd place finish in 1993/94.

By this point he had also broken into the Scotland squad earning himself a cap against Switzerland in the last of the 1994 World Cup Qualifiers.

Sadly though O'Donnell was soon to take his talents elsewhere and then Celtic Tommy Burns snapped up the midfielder for a fee of £1.75m just days before Motherwell took on Borussia Dortmund in the UEFA Cup.

Equally sad was that barely had he left Fir Park than O'Donnell was struck down the first of several demoralising long-term injuries that blighted his Celtic and further down the line Sheffield Wednesday career. Released by Wednesday in the summer of 2003 O'Donnell looked for a fresh start and was provided training facilities by his old club. In the weeks and months that followed he began to prove his worth on the training pitch to a sufficient degree that Terry Butcher snapped him up on an 18-month deal during the winter transfer window.

ALEX BURNS

There are currently no less than three players enjoying their second spell at Fir Park and one of those is Alex Burns, who rejoined Motherwell after several seasons and several clubs elsewhere.

In his first time at the club Alex made 74 league appearances



scoring 8 times, including on his debut in a 2-2 draw against Celtic on the opening day of the 1993/94 season. Leaving on a Bosman he followed the path taken by team-mates Paul Lambert and Rab McKinnon by moving to the continent to sign for Dutch side SC Heracles. From there Burns has turned out for Southend, Raith Rovers, Livingston, St Mirren and Partick Thistle before heading home to Lanarkshire.

DAVID CLARKSON

Such was the conveyor belt of young talent at the club that even before the likes of James McFadden and Stephen Pearson had moved on there was new competition for star billing in the Motherwell side, that coming from David Clarkson.

He made his Motherwell debut as a substitute in the 4-1 victory over Kilmarnock at Rugby Park in the penultimate game of the 2001/02 season. Making his first start against Partick Thistle in January 2003 he turned in an excellent display and netted after just nine minutes. Such was the impact he made that Clarkson was a permanent fixture in the squad for the remainder of the season scoring three times.

Last season, despite being just 18 years old Clarkson found the net on 12 occasions in the SPL and twice in the Scottish Cup. He netted the first hat-trick of his senior career against Dundee Utd and played for both the Scotland U18 and U21 teams.

DAVID PARTRIDGE

One of the first moves Terry Butcher made when he was confirmed as manager of the club on a permanent basis was to bring David Partridge to the club from Dundee Utd.

Having worked with Partridge during his time coaching at Tannadice, Butcher was convinced he could develop the player and make him a mainstay of the Fir



READY TO GO: Alex Burns, David Clarkson and Barry John Corr are all hopeful of a successful season ahead



Park team. Partridge had come to Scotland from West Ham United, signing for the Arabs in March 1999 for £40,000. Under an assortment of gaffers at Tannadice he made 62 appearances for the Tayside club. A short loan spell back in London with Leyton Orient saw him make 7 league outings but no permanent deal could be struck and David to Motherwell in the summer of 2002.

In his first season at Fir Park Partridge made 32 appearances playing alongside a variety of central defensive partners such as Martyn Corrigan, Willie Kinniburgh, Daniel Sengewald and Tony Vaughan to name but a few.

DAVID COWAN

Every player looks forward to the start of a new season, but few will

be bursting to get started again as much as David Cowan.

Cowan suffered a serious injury against Celtic at Fir Park towards the end of the 2002/03 season and not only was his season ended at a stroke, but it meant he also missed almost the entire 2003/04 campaign too.

His sole contribution being a very warmly received substitute appearance at Tynecastle on the final afternoon of last season.

Cowan joined Motherwell from Newcastle before the end of the August transfer deadline in 2002 and made slow but steady progress in breaking into the side. He made his debut for the club in the 2-0 win over East Fife in the League Cup and his first league outing came in the 3-0 defeat at Ibrox in October.

The Pemrith born full-back went on to feature 16 times that season in the league before his injury, making 15 starts.

PAUL QUINN

Season 2003/04 was an excellent campaign for Paul Quinn. The young defender was a fixture in the Motherwell line-up from November onwards, making 30 league and cup appearances, scoring once the winner in a 1-0 victory over Kilmarnock at Fir Park. Paul made his Motherwell debut in December 2002 in a 3-1 defeat at Parkhead against Celtic and went on to play 4 times that season.

WILLIE KINNIBURGH

A popular figure and well regarded player amongst the Motherwell support is 19 year old Willie

Kinniburgh. He made his first appearance in a Motherwell shirt in the final fixture of the 2001/02 season against Dundee, where he helped the team to a 2-1 win. By the end of the following season he had gone on to make 16 league appearances for the club. He also managed to open his account, netting a late equaliser in a 1-1 draw at Pittodrie in December.

BARRY JOHN CORR

Terry Butcher's last capture before the 2003/04 season started was Celtic goalkeeper Barry John Corr.

The 23-year-old made a single appearance with the Parkhead club, and was reckoned to be a goalkeeper of some promise. A loan spell at Queen's Park in 2001 saw him make 12 appearances and confirmed his growing stature in

the game. Sadly for Corr, injury halted his development, indeed the severe back injury he suffered almost resulted in Barry's career being prematurely ended.

After two years out with Celtic before signing for the Steelmen on a twelve-month deal. Barry made a couple of appearances in pre-season friendlies but had to wait until January before making his proper first team bow, in a 1-0 defeat against Dunfermline at East End Park.

Both Corr and Gordon Marshall signed on for a further year at the club so the battle for the number one jersey will continue.

Information from official Motherwell website www.motherwellfc.co.uk



CELTIC kicked off the Jersey International Youth Tournament with a thrilling 3-2 victory over Manchester United.

Willie McStay's side came from behind to beat the English side and set up a potential tournament decider with Boca Juniors today if results go their way in their other game.

The Argentinian side also won their opening fixture and will pose a tough test for the young Hoops.

A crowd of over 2,000 saw Celtic take the lead when Jim O'Brien connected with a low cutback and fired a powerful shot into the net.

It was no more than the Hoops deserved after they had dominated the first-half following a bright start by United.

Willie McStay was delighted, not only with the victory, but also with the quality of the football on show.

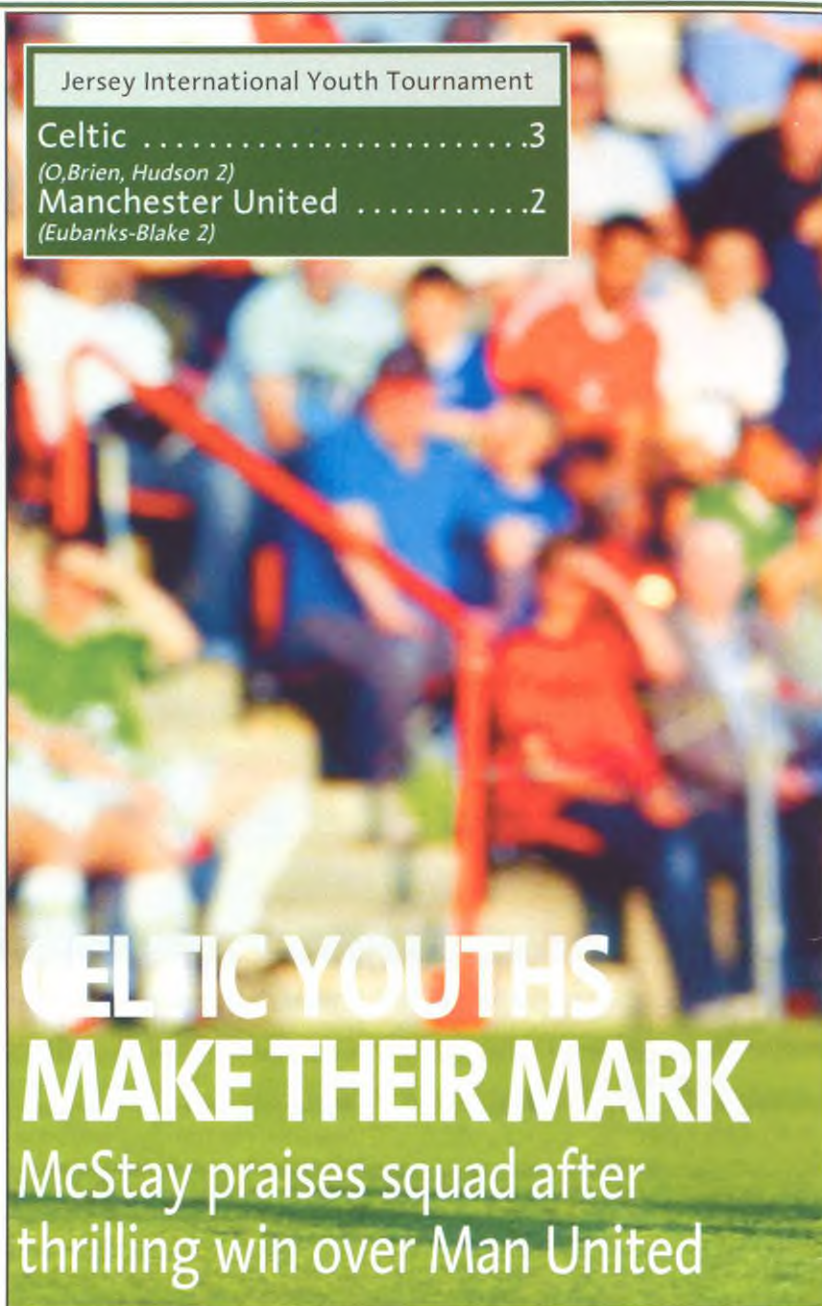
"It was a great game," he said. "I think the highlight was that both sides did very well and played with a lot of flair. I think it's great for the crowd and for us when you get goals in a match. That's a great advertisement for the tournament and the crowd showing their appreciation is a nice touch."

Two lobbed goals from United striker Sylvain Eubanks-Blake put the English side in front but it was Celtic who always appeared the more controlled side.

It was a great team effort, with several players making outstanding contributions, among them Nicky Riley, Ryan McCafferty, Charlie Mulgrew, Charlie Grant and Paul Hutchison.

But it was the English forward Kirk Hudson who grabbed the goals and the headlines to give Celtic the victory.

His first, and Celtic's equaliser came when he fired home from close range while he also showed great composure in lobbing the United keeper Tom Heaten for the



CELTIC YOUTHS MAKE THEIR MARK

McStay praises squad after thrilling win over Man United

winner, though Heaten might consider himself slightly unlucky in slipping as he tried to position himself to deal with the threat from Hudson.

Overall Celtic defended better throughout the match, while United, despite producing some

wonderful passing movements, put in a less complete performance.

Willie McStay added after the game: "There were some current internationals at their own age levels, but there needs to be more maturity in the group of players

Jersey International Youth Tournament	
Celtic	3
(O'Brien, Hudson 2)	
Manchester United	2
(Eubanks-Blake 2)	



HOT SHOT
Jim O'Brien fires in Celtic's opener during their 3-2 win over Manchester United in the Jersey Tournament

before they are ready for the week in, week out demands of first team football. Tonight they showed they can raise their game."

At the end of the game, Celtic collected a trophy supplied by Wave Telecom which was presented by Jersey Telecom chief Bob Lawrence.

CELTIC: Sandy Wood, Ryan McCafferty, Charles Mulgrew, Charles Grant, Paul Hutchison, Craig Reid, Nicky Riley (Marc Miller), Michael McGlinchey, Kirk Hudson, Paul McGowan, Jim O'Brien (Ramon Calliste).

MANCHESTER UNITED: Tom Heaton, Phil Picken, Adam Eckersley, Floribert Ngalula, Lee Lawrence, David Fox (captain), Richard Jones, Mads Timm (David Poole), Sylvain Eubanks-Blake (Kenny Cooper), Coin Heath, Ben Collett.

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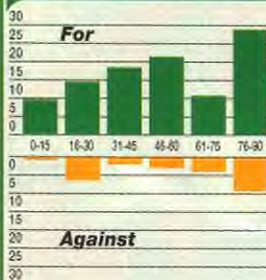
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Celtic v Motherwell



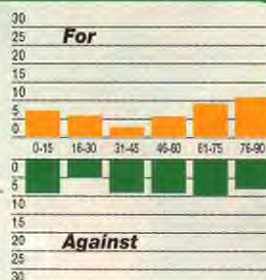
When Scored



How & Where Goals Scored



When Scored



Discipline

Top Scorers in each Category

Discipline

Red Cards	2	Larsson	9	Headed goals	Clarkson	4	Red Cards	1
Yellow Cards	44	Thompson	5	Long range shots	Adams	3	Yellow Cards	49
Fouls Committed	467	Larsson	8	Inside 6 yards	4 players	1	Fouls Committed	521
Average per Game	12.29	Larsson	15	Shots from 6-18 yards	Clarkson	5	Average per Game	13.71
Conceded from Free Kick	2	4 players	1	Volleyed shots	Adams	1	Conceded from Free Kick	8
Fouls Suffered	580	Sutton	7	Penalties	Adams	3	Fouls Suffered	520
Average per Game	15.26	Larsson	7	Scored 1st Goal in match	Clarkson, Adams	4	Average per Game	13.68
Scored from Free Kick	17	Sutton	5	Most goals in last 10	Adams	2	Scored from Free Kick	3
Caught Offside	114	Larsson	24.25	Points gained from goals	Clarkson	13.6	Caught Offside	153
Average per Game	3						Average per Game	4.03

Last 6 & Swings

Seasonal Progress Comparison

Last 6 & Swings

Opponents	H/A	Score
Dundee Utd	H	2-1
Motherwell	A	1-1
Rangers	H	1-0
Dunfermline	H	1-2
Hearts	A	1-1
Aberdeen	H	1-2

Won when Behind: 4
 Drawn when Behind: 3
 Drawn when Ahead: 1
 Lost when Ahead: 1



Opponents	H/A	Score
Hearts	A	2-3
Celtic	H	1-1
Dundee Utd	H	0-1
Rangers	A	0-4
Dunfermline	A	0-3
Aberdeen	A	2-0

Won when Behind: 2
 Drawn when Behind: 4
 Drawn when Ahead: 5
 Lost when Ahead: 1

Motherwell's Last 10 Years

Sir Bobby - Q1

Games Played	456
Won	139
Drawn	121
Lost	197
Goals Scored	534
Goals Conceded	685
Points Total	504
Biggest Win	6-1 Hearts 02/03
	5-0 Raith 96/97
Heaviest Defeat	1-7 Celtic 98/99



Last Season's Top Scorers

David Clarkson	12
Derek Adams	8
Colin McMenamin	7
Stephen Pearson	4
Steven Craig	3
James McFadden	3
Keith Lasley	3
Alex Burns	2
Jason Dair	2



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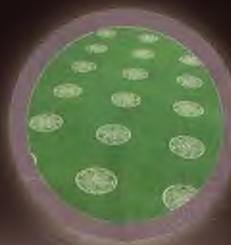
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THUNDERBIRDS (PG)

STARRING BILL PULTON & BEN KINGSLEY
SPIDER MAN 2 (PG)

STARRING TOBEY MAGUIRE & KRISTEN DUNST
SHREK 2 (PG)

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the YOUTH ACADEMY

We will continue to work hard this season in order to bring more home-grown talent through the ranks

TODAY will see the SPL flag unfurled as a celebration of the first-team's success last season.

It was a fantastic achievement and we all can celebrate the terrific job Martin, John and Steve have done. However, we should not forget the incredible fact that not only did the first-team win the SPL, but the U21's and the U19's won their leagues and the U17's went unbeaten throughout the season in the SPL Youth Initiative. In total, the club won four SPL championships.

We should also bang the drum about it because there has been so much effort and hard work put into these achievements from everyone in the club. We are blessed with a fantastic backroom staff and they are to be congratulated for this unique treble.

When John Stephenson and I set out the project plan for the Academy, these championships (U21, U19, U17) were not in our minds. Our objectives were geared

contributions to the first-team squad in recent times.

They are evidence that the plan Martin and the board allowed us to put in place is working.

A review of the Academy's performance over the last 3 years underlines this progress. The number of first team appearances from home grown players has gone up year on year since the Youth Academy began.

The season before we took over (00/01) there were around 47 first team appearances from home-grown players, in our first year (01/02) that increased to approximately 57, in 02/03 it increased again to around 84, and last season (03/04) the total went up again to about 162.

This is good news for any young player thinking about which Youth Academy he should sign for. If he wants to go to a club with a track record of playing young home grown players then he should come to Celtic.

The Manager and his staff have



BRIGHT FUTURE: The hard work continues this season for Tommy Burns and the Youth Academy staff

“MORE AND MORE PLAYERS ARE BEGINNING TO COME THROUGH THE RANKS BUT THERE IS NO ROOM FOR COMPLACENCY”

to getting more home-grown talent into the first team. We are delighted that John Kennedy, Shaun Maloney, Stephen McManus, Craig Beattie, Ross Wallace, David Marshall, Aiden McGeadie, Darren O'Dea, and Scott Cuthbert have all made

shown a belief that if you're good enough you're old enough.

More players are beginning to come through, and as a bonus we have something to show in the trophy cabinet. But there is no room for complacency. The phrase 'conveyor belt' has been used in

conjunction with Youth Academies for a long time. Well as far as I am concerned conveyor belts are no use if they don't work.

Very soon the supply of goods off the conveyor belt stops and the products are not available for market – very soon after that you go out of business. John and I will not allow that to happen.

Everyone in the system deserves congratulations for the work done so far, but the hard work is relentless. That is the message for all of those working in the Academy.

**SCOUTING NETWORK**

AFTER a short break the Scouting Network is back in full swing, with our scouts back on touchlines up and down the country.

Over recent weeks we have covered tournaments all over Scotland, Ireland and England.

A number of our scouts attended the Milk Cup in Northern Ireland, and by all accounts the standard of recent years has been maintained.

We will be monitoring the development of a number of boys who shone during the week-long tournament. Scouts also attended the Edinburgh Cup which featured top class opposition from across Europe.

A number of tournaments have taken place throughout Scotland, particularly for the younger age groups, and our scouts are pursuing a number of boys to attend their local Celtic Development Centre.

This is the first stage in the boys' development as Celtic players, and the first rung on the ladder to the Academy Squads. This weekend sees the Glasgow Cup being played at Glasgow Green, and our scouts have been very active at the Loch Lomond Youth Soccer Festival, organised by Excel Sports, which hosts 58 teams from across Britain, America and Canada.

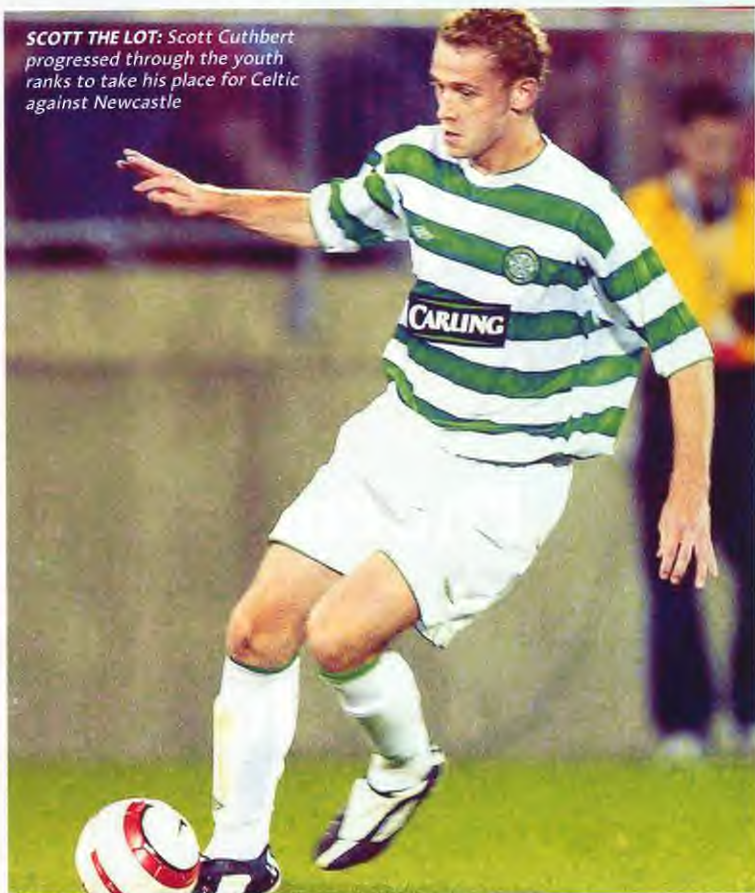
RECRUITMENT

WE have reviewed our recruitment throughout Scotland and Ireland, with a number of changes taking place.

The Recruitment Education Programme has unified our approach, as most of our scouts are near completion of the Scouting Qualification.

We have further strengthened the structure by adding scouts in almost every area of the country, enhancing what Tommy Burns sees as the most crucial part of the academy structure. Our coaching and science programmes

SCOTT THE LOT: *Scott Cuthbert progressed through the youth ranks to take his place for Celtic against Newcastle*



Scouting network back up and running

are second to none, but both are dependent on the players being brought into the system.

If we recruit the best raw material, then the chances of producing players that can not only play in the first-team, but can compete in Europe, are greatly increased.

ACADEMY TO FIRST TEAM

A YOUNG player can only gain access to the first team after he has played regularly over a long period of time.

But it's reassuring for all of the

Academy Staff, to see the large number of players who have played for us at youth level, being given the chance by the manager to perform in the first team.

In our recent victory against Newcastle we had eight players: Marshall, McGeady, Beattie, McManus, McBride, Wallace, O'Dea and Cuthbert, who have played for the club at youth level.

When you add the injured Shaun Maloney and John Kennedy, we have to be hopeful for the future.

Brian Meehan

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