

Celtic



ntl:



CELTIC
v HIBERNIAN
SCOTTISH PREMIER LEAGUE
CELTIC PARK
SATURDAY DECEMBER 12 2001
KICK-OFF 3pm



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Programme No. 16

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We have to stand firm under fixture pressure

IT WAS undoubtedly a superb victory over Rangers last Sunday and in the end thoroughly deserved.

Our arch-rivals opened up in strong fashion and controlled the opening period of the match.

Rab Douglas is in great form for us right now and he made a couple of great saves to keep us alive. We enjoyed a little slice of fortune when Tore Andre Flo's effort hit the post.

Almost from that moment we fought our way back into the game and the early stages of the second half saw us at our sharpest point.

Joos Valgaeren reacted superbly inside Rangers' penalty box to stab us into the lead and Henrik Larsson gave us some respite by

scoring from the penalty spot after he'd been fouled.

Rangers rallied late in the match and pulled a goal back, but we stayed firm to claim all three points.

However, important though the victory undoubtedly was, title talk in late November or early December is utter nonsense. I have often said that we will need every point possible over the next six months – yes six months – to keep our challenge going.

I expected we would be going into today's match after a CIS Cup tie, but a power cut forced the game's postponement.

That was disappointing enough in itself, but the most concerning aspect is that it has left us a number of games to negotiate in a

short space of time.

It's an incredible situation and one that, from our perspective, is far from ideal.

However, we will just have to get on with the business in hand and our crazy month of matches kicks-off today with the visit of Hibernian in what I'm sure will be a tough encounter.

Alex McLeish's men were the only side which took points from us both home and away last season and, although they have yet to live up to their own high standards this time around, I am under no illusions as to their quality.

Alex has a number of international players complemented by exciting youngsters breaking through the ranks. Hibs are still a force to be reckoned with.

M
Title talk in late November or early December is absolute nonsense

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CELTIC | HIBERNIAN

RAB DOUGLAS	20	NICK COLGAN	1
DIMITRE KHARINE	23	ULISES de la CRUZ	2
JONATHAN GOULD	1	ULRIK LAURSEN	3
TOM BOYD	2	FRANCK SAUZEE	4
MOMO SYLLA	3	IAN MURRAY	6
JACKIE McNAMARA	4	FRANCISCO LUNA	7
JOOS VALGAEREN	5	GRANT BREBNER	8
DIANBOBO BALDE	6	CRAIG BREWSTER	9
HENRIK LARSSON	7	FREDERIC ARPINON	10
ALAN THOMPSON	8	JOHN O'NEILL	11
CHRIS SUTTON	9	DEREK TOWNSLEY	12
JOHN HARTSON	10	IAN WESTWATER	13
MORTEN WIEGHORST	11	PAUL FENWICK	14
PAUL LAMBERT	14	LYNDON ANDREWS	15
BOBBY PETTA	15	TOM McMANUS	17
OLIVIER TEBILY	16	GARY SMITH	18
DIDIER AGATHE	17	MATHIAS JACK	19
NEIL LENNON	18	DAVID ZITELLI	20
STILIAN PETROV	19	ALEN ORMAN	23
COLIN HEALY	24	MARTIN McINTOSH	24
LUBOMIR MORAVCIK	25	TONY CAIG	31
SHAUN MALONEY	29		
STEVE GUPPY	30		
SIMON LYNCH	32		
MARK FOTHERINGHAM	34		
JOHAN MJALLBY	35		
JAMIE SMITH	39		
STEPHEN CRAINEY	40		
JOHN KENNEDY	41		
LIAM MILLER	43		

Referee: WILLIE YOUNG
 Assistant Referees: DAVID DOIG
 WILLIE DISHINGTON
 Fourth Official: GEORGE THOMSON

Match Mascots
 FRANCESCA HUNT from Stevenston
 CHRISTOPHER MITCHELL from Erskine

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PHOENIX HONDA





johnhartson

Home comforts

John Hartson is enjoying life at Celtic, on and off the park, and is eager to provide a few more goals. Words: Stephen Sullivan

WHEN a player moves to Celtic Park the issue of where to live appears generally to be less thorny than one might expect.

Indeed, an unofficial rule appears to have been established that new Bhoys with young families are drawn to the south side's sedate suburban estates while those without such ties huddle together in the trendy west end.

But there are exceptions and, rather than lay down roots on the outskirts of his adopted city, John Hartson has headed further along the M8 to set up home close to Glasgow Airport.

However, while this location might appear significant given the problems he has encountered since making his £6 million switch from Coventry, the Welshman insists his ticket to Glasgow was one-way.

Indeed, with the pieces of the jigsaw falling into place off the park, Hartson's sights are now set on ensuring his Celtic career, though late in taking off, steers clear of unwanted turbulence.

He said: "I'm settling into things well outside of football, and that has to help when I go on the pitch. I've got a house and I'm happy here. Everyone knows that it's not been perfect so far, and I think a lot of that is down to the fact I've come into a very successful side with players who are already established and popular.

"But that's all the more reason for me to



AIR FARE
John Hartson heads for goal during the home game against Aberdeen

avoid disrupting things, and I certainly won't be knocking on the manager's door to complain. I want to play my part here and fortunately the boys have been supportive to help me do that."

Hartson may appreciate the support of his dressing room colleagues, but he knows that a goal in last Sunday's Old Firm derby would have been just as helpful in his attempts to endear himself to a sceptical support.

Nevertheless, although his dreams of firing home a dramatic last-minute winner failed to come to fruition, the big striker claimed to have



been content at playing a supporting role in a triumphant Celtic show.

"Nothing I've experienced compares with the Old Firm. I'd been looking forward to it so much, but I didn't really know what to expect, so I was a bit worried. I loved it though – every minute of it.

"I would have liked to make a bigger impression, but I felt I did alright once I settled into the pace. A goal would have been lovely, but derby games always seem to go quickly and after I got booked, I had to watch myself a bit.

"The last thing I wanted was to be sent off in such an important game – I mean, could you imagine the headlines?

"I think the only clear chance either myself or Henrik had during the whole 90 minutes was when Henrik went through to win the penalty. But sometimes you just have to work for the team and make sacrifices, and you won't catch me complaining."

Adapting to the demands placed on a Celtic striker after spells with sides who were often content to hit on the break has been a major element of settling into the Hoops frontline. But although he admits to having some way to go on his learning curve, the former Coventry man claims he's ready to begin chipping in with goals to assist the Champions' title push.

TARGET MAN

The Welshman is keen to add a few more goals to his Celtic tally



He said: "The way defences play against Celtic makes the strikers' jobs more difficult because it means that we're relying a lot on other players to run through and get goals. Last Sunday it was Joos who got in behind Rangers' defence, and the likes of Lubo and Stan seem to chip in with their fair share.

"But I'm hoping to start putting the ball away more regularly now, and getting a run in the team should help. I'm gradually becoming used to the fact that when Chris (Sutton) is here I won't be playing every week, so I'm making sure that I'm mentally and physically right for any matches that come my way."

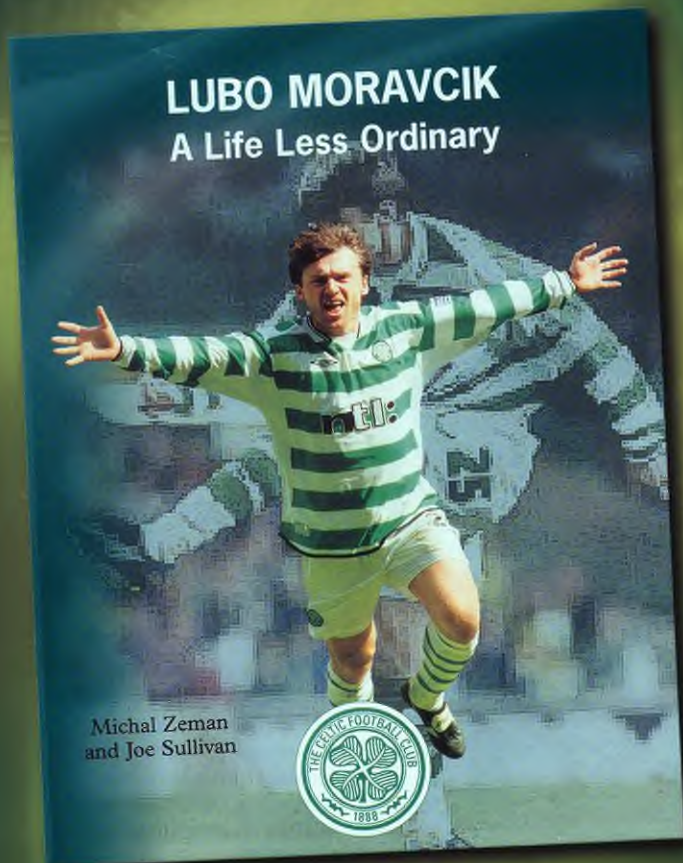
Encouraged though he is by his recent run in the team, Hartson is realistic enough to know that the length of his stay in Martin O'Neill's starting 11 is likely to depend heavily on when Sutton returns to the fold.

Nevertheless, the Welshman claims that he can't wait for his striking rival to walk through the doors again.

"It has felt wrong to get my chance in the way I have," he admitted. "All I can do is play my best now I'm in, but it goes without saying that my thoughts are with Chris and his family.

"I only hope his baby gets better soon. Sutt's a great player and we'll need him if we're to achieve all we can this season."

"WHAT DO I WISH FOR MOST?"



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Celtic



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celticquiz

- Who are the only two Celtic goalkeepers to have won three League Cup medals?
- Who was the last Hibs player to score in an international match for Scotland?
- Which two former Celts have been awarded the English Football Writers Player of the Year award?
- How many goals did Lawrie Reilly score against England?
- Which three current SPL managers have won League Championships with clubs outwith Britain?
- Who was the first Celt to miss a penalty in a European match?
- Which Hibs player was also one time manager of Hearts?
- Prior to Shaun Maloney who was the last Celt to net four in the League Cup?
- In which neutral country did Scotland play Estonia in a World Cup Qualifying match in 1997?

- Which of the Lisbon Lions also played in the Coronation Cup in 1953?
- Who is the only Hibs player to be voted Scotland's Footballer of the Year?
- Which former UEFA Cup finalist was given a 17-match ban in September?
- Who is the only current Celt to have scored against Scotland?
- Which two English clubs have Hibernian played against in Europe on two occasions?
- Who was the last Celt to miss a penalty while playing for Scotland?

Answers

- Ronnie Simpson 65/66, 66/67, 67/68 & 67/68 & 73/74, Liverpool 70/71 & 75/76.
- Pat Stanton.
- Charlie Nicholas v Dunfermline 82/83.
- Clark v Valencia 62/63.
- Dick Advocate: PSV Eindhoven, Ebbe Skodhval: Bronby; David Hay: Lillieston.
- John Collins 1965 & Kenny Dalglish 1979, 1983, 4.
- Bobby Johnston 1965 & Kenny Dalglish 1979, 1983, 4.
- Johnstone 1965 & Kenny Dalglish 1979, 1983, 4.
- Johnstone 1965 & Kenny Dalglish 1979, 1983, 4.
- Johnstone 1965 & Kenny Dalglish 1979, 1983, 4.
- Johnstone 1965 & Kenny Dalglish 1979, 1983, 4.



WIN A CELTIC ANORAK

Just answer this question set by Celtic quizmaster Roddy Stewart and you could win a fantastic Celtic anorak, worth £50 and available at Celtic retail outlets.

Since 1980 which three players have appeared for Celtic, departed the club and then been capped by Scotland?

Answers to Celtic Anorak Quiz, Celtic View, PO Box 2413, Glasgow G40 3YB. (Indicate size of anorak S, M, L, XL, XXL)

● See page 19 for previous anorak answers



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