

CELTIC

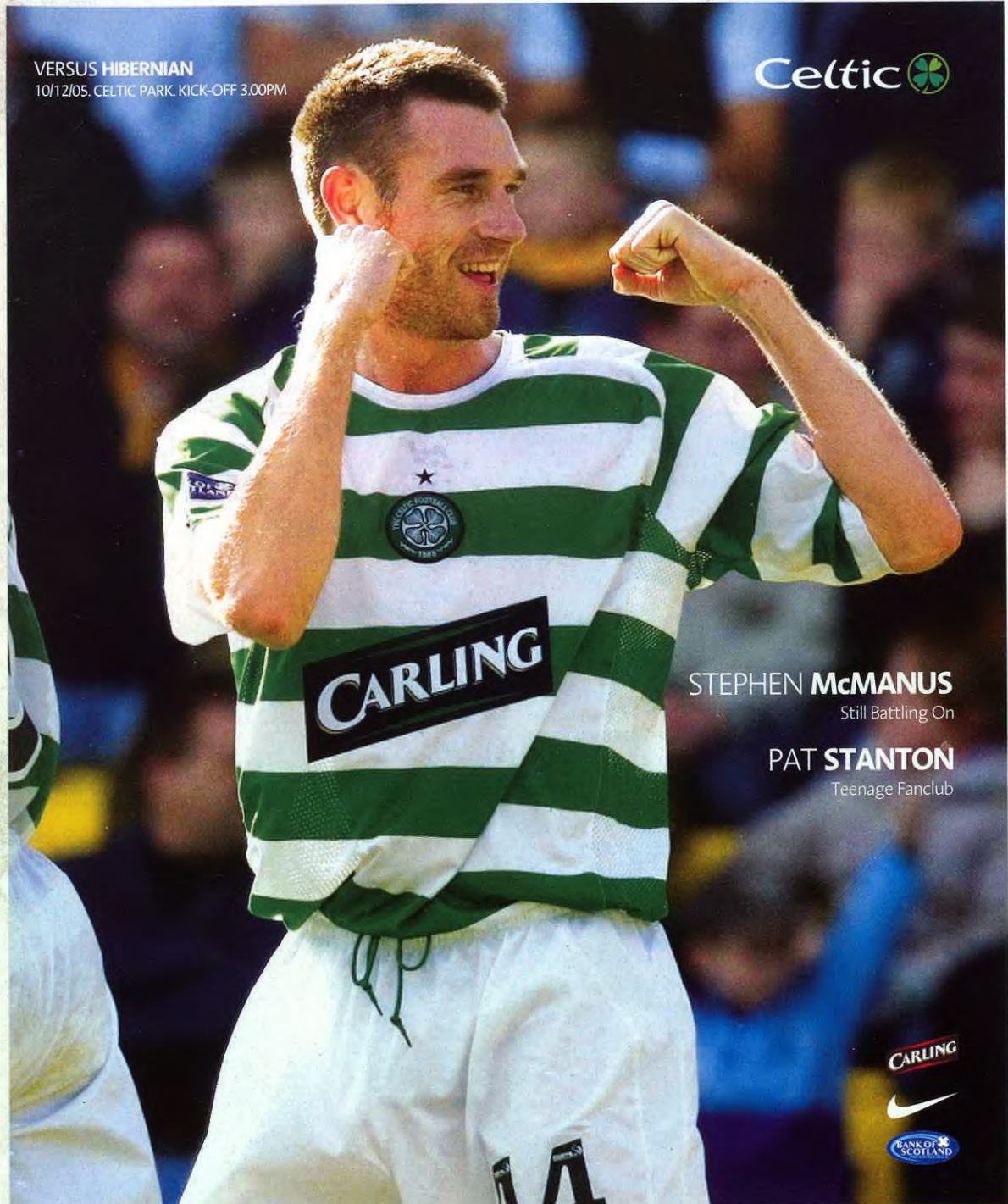


THE OFFICIAL MATCHDAY MAGAZINE OF CELTIC FOOTBALL CLUB 2005/06

ISSUE 14. PRICE £2.50

VERSUS HIBERNIAN
10/12/05. CELTIC PARK. KICK-OFF 3.00PM

Celtic 



STEPHEN McMANUS
Still Battling On

PAT STANTON
Teenage Fanclub

CARLING



**THE GREAT BALANCE OF TASTE
AND ICE COLD REFRESHMENT**

**SPOT
ON**

CARLING
EXTRA COLD

Both of our nearest challengers will be on duty today and again we will need to be on our toes as we are playing host to one of that pair in the shape of Hibernian



GORDON STRACHAN

SAID in our previous home game programme notes that we would be taking nothing for granted as regards our approach to the visit of Dunfermline despite our two previous home wins on the trot against Rangers...

And it would seem that my caution was justified as Jim Leishman's back three made life difficult for us and we paid the price by dropping our first three points at home this season but there were lessons to be learned from that game and, as luck would have it, we had the opportunity to prove that we had learned those lessons.

We knew that the trip to Pittodrie last Sunday would provide us with a very difficult test in any case, but, whether they took a leaf from Dunfermline's book or not, we immediately found ourselves facing a back three again giving us the chance to monitor our improvement against this defensive formation.

Not only that, our self-assessment was doubled when the home side took the lead and put us in the exact same predicament as we had been in the previous week against Dunfermline.

I'm delighted to say that the response from the team on both counts – losing to Dunfermline and going a goal behind at Pittodrie – was excellent and we didn't have any real trouble with something that had been problematic for us a week previously.

So our homework was done properly and the boys on the pitch adapted magnificently to what lay in front of them at Pittodrie and even though we conceded a goal at what is traditionally a very difficult venue to come back

at, we were very quickly back on top of the game as our football in the last 30 minutes was excellent and exactly what was required under those circumstances.

We had three great goals into the bargain from Aiden McGeady, Stan Petrov and, believe it or not, Paul Telfer so I was really delighted with the team's reaction – not just because of normal footballing circumstances, but because we were also back to playing catch-up because we kicked off on the Sunday and that can add a different kind of pressure.

Still, both of our nearest challengers will be on duty today and again we will need to be on our toes as we are playing host to one of that pair in the shape of Hibernian and we already know how much of a threat they will pose.

Tony Mowbray has fashioned a team who are very articulate on the field and who will be keen to bounce back from their 1-0 defeat to Dundee United last week.

I took in their game and if they had any luck they would have won the game. In any case though, under the circumstances, I'm far more concerned with their performances against Rangers and Hearts with regards as to how they will play against us.

I said during the week that they are a team easily capable of beating anybody in this league so we won't be paying too much attention last week's scoreline and although I suppose both sets of supporters today will be tuned into today's events at Tynecastle – our men on the park will be 100 per cent tuned in to what is happening on our own pitch and with your backing I'm sure we can pick up another three vital points.

CLUB DIRECTORY & HONOURS

Celtic Football Club
 Celtic Park Glasgow G40 3RE
Telephone: 0845 671 1888
Website: www.celticfc.net
Formed: 1888
Stadium: Celtic Park
Capacity: 60,506
Home strip colours: Green / white hooped shirts, white shorts, white socks
Away strip colours:
 Green shirts, green shorts, green 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 in 1 season:
 50 - Jimmy McGroory, 1935-36
Most Premier/SPL goals in 1 season:
 35 - Brian McClair, 1986-87
 35 - Henrik Larsson, 2000-01

CLUB HONOURS

Scottish League Winners [39 times]
 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,
 2000-01, 2001-02, 2003-04

Scottish Cup Winners [33 times]
 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, 2005

League Cup Winners [12 times]
 1956-57, 1957-58, 1965-66, 1966-67,
 1967-68, 1968-69, 1969-70, 1974-75,
 1982-83, 1997-98, 1999-00, 2000-01

European Cup Winners 1967

Coronation Cup Winners 1953

CELTIC PLC DIRECTORS

Celtic plc Directors:
 Brian Quinn
 Peter Lawwell
 Eric Riley
 Dermot Desmond
 Tom Allison
 Eric Hagman
 Brian McBride
 Brian Wilson

CFAC Directors:
 Peter Lawwell
 Eric Riley
 John Keane
 Michael McDonald
 Kevin Sweeney

Manager:
 Gordon Strachan

Assistant Manager:
 Garry Pendrey

Coach:
 Tommy Burns

Head of Youth:
 Tommy Burns

Youth team Coach:
 Willie McStay

Reserve Coach:
 Kenny McDowall

Physiotherapists:
 Tim Williamson &
 Gavin McCarthy

Club Doctor:
 Roddy Macdonald

Kit Controller:
 John Clark

CELTIC MATCHDAY MAGAZINE

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CLUB SPONSORS



FIXTURES

Sunday, December 18
 Scottish Premierleague
INVERNESS CT v CELTIC

Monday, December 26
 Scottish Premierleague
CELTIC v LIVINGSTON

Sunday, January 1
 Scottish Premierleague
HEARTS v CELTIC

Saturday, January 7 (TBC)
 Scottish Cup
(TBC)

Saturday, January 14
 Scottish Premierleague
CELTIC v KILMARNOCK

TODAY'S OFFICIALS

Referee: Kenny Clark
Assistant Referees: Alan Cunningham
 Charlie Smith
Fourth Official: Steve Conroy

CELTIC

- 1 ARTUR BORUC
- 2 PAUL TELFER
- 3 MOHAMED CAMARA
- 4 ADAM VIRGO
- 5 DU WEI
- 6 DIANBOBO BALDE
- 7 MACIEJ ZURAWSKI
- 8 ALAN THOMPSON
- 9 CHRIS SUTTON
- 10 JOHN HARTSON
- 11 STEPHEN PEARSON
- 17 DIDIER AGATHE
- 18 NEIL LENNON
- 19 STILIAN PETROV
- 22 DAVID MARSHALL
- 23 STAN VARGA
- 25 SHUNSUKE NAKAMURA
- 29 SHAUN MALONEY
- 31 ANTHONY McPARLAND
- 33 ROSS WALLACE
- 35 PAUL LAWSON
- 37 CRAIG BEATTIE
- 38 ROCCO QUINN
- 39 CHARLES MULGREW
- 40 MICHAEL GARDYNE
- 41 JOHN KENNEDY
- 42 MICHAEL McGLINCHEY
- 43 DIARMUID O'CARROLL
- 44 STEPHEN McMANUS
- 46 AIDEN McGEADY
- 47 MICHAEL McGOVERN
- 48 DARREN O'DEA
- 49 SCOTT CUTHBERT
- 50 GARY IRVINE



HIBERNIAN

- 1 SIMON BROWN
- 2 STEVEN WHITTAKER
- 3 DAVID MURPHY
- 4 GARY CALDWELL
- 5 GARY SMITH
- 6 MICHAEL STEWART
- 7 SCOTT BROWN
- 8 KEVIN THOMSON
- 9 GARRY O'CONNOR
- 10 DEREK RIORDAN
- 11 STEPHEN GLASS
- 13 SAM MORROW
- 14 GUILLAUME BEUZELIN
- 15 CHRIS HOGG
- 16 ANTONIO MURRAY
- 17 IVAN SPROULE
- 18 JAMIE McCLUSKEY
- 19 AMADOU KONTE
- 20 STEVEN FLETCHER
- 21 JONATHAN BAILLIE
- 22 DEAN SHIELS
- 23 KEVIN McDONALD
- 25 HUMPHREY RUDGE
- 31 ZBIGNIEW MALKOWSKI
- 42 STEVEN NOTMAN



STILL BATTLING ON

STEPHEN MCMANUS IS TAKING NOTHING FOR GRANTED

THOUGH it's in seasons, rather than years, that footballers tend to think, as 2005 draws to a close Stephen McManus will surely find cause to reflect on just what a remarkable year it has been.

It began, of course, with doubts and misgivings, and had Stephane Henchoz arrived on the 1st of January rather than the 30th, McManus might well have spent the month speaking to a string of interested clubs only too willing to promise him a considerably more prominent place in their defensive pecking order.

At Celtic, he had, after all, become the club's fifth choice centre-half and, in drafting in Henchoz and handing McManus his sole SPL start of the season at left-back, Martin O'Neill couldn't have made it any more apparent that he harboured real reservations about deploying the reserve team's captain in his favoured position.

Yet, for McManus, this represents little more than a gloomy and ever more distant memory.

EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW STEPHEN SULLIVAN
PICTURES: SNS



Now, a year which began with him peering in at the first team from behind the likes of Henchoz, Bobo Balde, Ulrik Laurusen and Stan Varga is ending with the 23-year-old considered the one constant at the heart of a defence which will inevitably face a degree of upheaval when Balde boards a flight for Egypt following Celtic's New Year's Day trip to Tynecastle.

Nevertheless, despite having been an impressive and ever-present figure in the league-leaders' domestic campaign, McManus is keen to stress that he's far from assured of beginning 2006 in the starting line-up, and pointed to the shock omission of Mo Camara at Pittodrie last week as proof of how swiftly change can take place.

He said: "I'm not even thinking about who might come in when Bobo goes away for the African Nations and I wouldn't be so complacent as to think that I'll be playing alongside whoever does. I know I've got a battle on to keep my place and it's only by doing my job really well that I'll stay in the team.

"We had a period of continuity at the back for a while, which was great, but it was never going to go on forever and none of us expected it to. It was Mo who dropped out last week but I know I could go the same way because you've Stan (Varga), Du Wei and big Virgs (Adam Virgo) all there plugging away, waiting for a chance.

"We all need to keep on our toes because there are plenty of options for the gaffer and he's shown that he's willing to change things if he feels it's the right thing to do."

Indeed, and while Strachan's decision to replace Camara – who, after a horrible start, was becoming something of a cult hero – with the busy and skilful Wallace wasn't widely anticipated, the securing of a comfortable 3-1 victory ensured that it was very quickly vindicated.

The Hoops boss had, it seems, been keeping close tabs on the former winger's increasingly assured performances for the reserves and, having also seen Wallace excel in training, McManus admits he wasn't entirely surprised by his former reserve colleague's unexpected promotion.

"I was pleased for the wee man," he admitted. "I think the change surprised a lot of people, probably even Rosco himself, but I don't think the lads in the dressing room were that shocked.

"We've seen how well he's been doing in training and in reserve games, so the manager's obviously decided that he's deserved it, and he did very well for us at Pittodrie.

"It has been strange seeing him at left-back because you're used to him further up the field, but although Ross will, I think, always be an attack-minded player, he's slotted into the defence really well."

The Bhoys' back four certainly gave Aberdeen precious little with which to work and, having blunted the Dons' attacking threat in open play, it was particularly galling for McManus and co. to watch Jamie Winter fire Jimmy Calderwood's side in front from a free-kick.



“ We all need to keep on our toes because there are plenty of options for the gaffer and he's shown that he's willing to change things ”