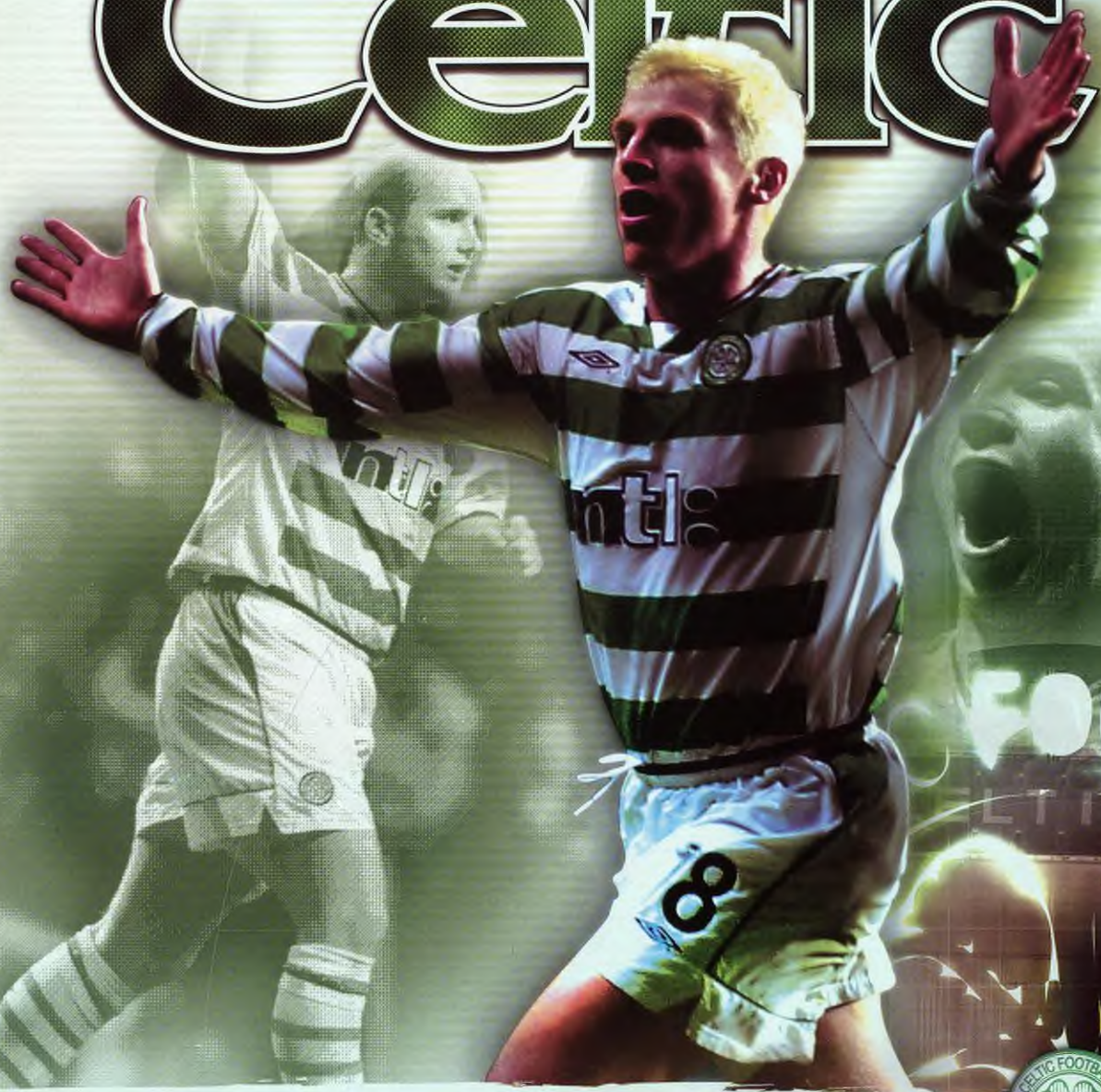


Celtic



Verve 



ntl:



CELTIC
v **DUNDEE**
SCOTTISH PREMIER LEAGUE
CELTIC PARK
SATURDAY DECEMBER 15 2001
KICK-OFF 3pm



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We have learned from our European adventure

'AN EXPERIENCE never to be forgotten' was how I described the amazing atmosphere at Celtic Park when Juventus were here in the Champions League.

I honestly didn't expect to witness anything so splendid for quite some time.

Yet, unbelievably, last Thursday evening rivalled and at times even surpassed that fantastic occasion against Marcello Lippi's side.

Valencia, Champions League finalists for the previous two seasons, finally reached the last 16 of the UEFA Cup when Mista hit the winning goal to give them victory – ironically in the same circumstances in which they had been beaten by Bayern Munich just months earlier.

We played brilliantly and, if we had enjoyed an ounce of luck, would have won the game convincingly.

The team rose majestically to the occasion and swarmed all over Valencia. The football we played was of the very

highest calibre, rightly earning generous plaudits from the Spanish journalists, who admitted afterwards that their team had indeed been outplayed on the evening.

The players have certainly gained both great experience from this season's 10 European matches and confidence from having victories over all of our European opponents.

It would have been interesting to know what the Valencia players thought of the atmosphere at Celtic Park.

The support the crowd gave to the players was immense and, as I've said before, European football this season has been so worthwhile even if only to sample that type of atmosphere.

I was naturally concerned, after the exertions of our tussle with Valencia, that we would feel the effects at East End Park, but the attitude of the players was excellent.

Another two goals from John Hartson and one each from Bobo Balde and Alan

Thompson gave us a resounding win, and helped maintain our lead in the SPL.

Today's game sees us up against Dundee, the only SPL team who managed to win three points here last season.

They arrive buoyed by a victory over St Johnstone not to mention a recent draw with Rangers.

It is always good to be back at Celtic Park and the backing of a full house gives the players a boost. We have a busy schedule over the festive period, starting on Wednesday with the re-arranged CIS Cup tie against Livingston.

But today's game will be our last at Celtic Park before Christmas, so I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas and thank you on behalf of everyone at the club for your continued support.

We all remain focused on bringing you further success and our experiences in Europe have only whetted our appetite for more of the same next season.

I never thought I would see anything so splendid for quite some time

As seen on NTL and STV

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today's squads

CELTIC | DUNDEE

| | | | |
|-------------------|----|--------------------|----|
| RAB DOUGLAS | 20 | JAMIE LANGFIELD | 1 |
| DIMITRE KHARINE | 23 | BARRY SMITH | 2 |
| JONATHAN GOULD | 1 | LUCAS GATTI | 3 |
| TOM BOYD | 2 | MARCELLO MARROCO | 4 |
| MOMO SYLLA | 3 | BETO CARRANZA | 5 |
| JACKIE McNAMARA | 4 | TEMURI KETSBAIA | 6 |
| JOOS VALGAEREN | 5 | FABIAN CABALLERO | 7 |
| DIANBOBO BALDE | 6 | GAVIN RAE | 8 |
| HENRIK LARSSON | 7 | JUAN SARA | 9 |
| ALAN THOMPSON | 8 | GIORGI NEMSADZE | 10 |
| CHRIS SUTTON | 9 | MARK ROBERTSON | 11 |
| JOHN HARTSON | 10 | JULIAN SPERONI | 12 |
| MORTEN WIEGHORST | 11 | ZURA KHIZANISHVILI | 13 |
| PAUL LAMBERT | 14 | BETO GARRIDO | 14 |
| BOBBY PETTA | 15 | STEVEN MILNE | 15 |
| OLIVIER TEBILY | 16 | COLIN BOYLAN | 16 |
| DIDIER AGATHE | 17 | WALTER DEL RIO | 17 |
| NEIL LENNON | 18 | JAVIER ARTERO | 18 |
| STILIAN PETROV | 19 | BETO NAVEDA | 19 |
| COLIN HEALY | 24 | UMBERTO FATELLO | 20 |
| LUBOMIR MORAVCIK | 25 | ALESSANDRO ROMANO | 21 |
| SHAUN MALONEY | 29 | DAVID MACKAY | 22 |
| STEVE GUPPY | 30 | STEVEN ROBB | 24 |
| SIMON LYNCH | 32 | GAVIN BEATH | 25 |
| MARK FOTHERINGHAM | 34 | BARRY FORBES | 26 |
| JOHAN MJALLBY | 35 | MASSIMO BEGHETTO | 30 |
| JAMIE SMITH | 39 | FAN ZHIYI | 31 |
| STEPHEN CRAINEY | 40 | PAUL MATHERS | 40 |
| JOHN KENNEDY | 41 | | |
| LIAM MILLER | 43 | | |

Referee: JOHN ROWBOTHAM
 Assistant Referees: WILSON IRVINE
 PATER CRILLEY
 Fourth Official: CAMMY MELVILLE

Match Mascots
 THOMAS McNAB from Bargeddie
 SHANNON McENROY from Cambuslang

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ROAD HOG
It may have been a long time but Morten wants back on the park

Getting Closer

Morten Wieghorst will happily wait in the wings if a chance doesn't present itself against his old club
Words: Alison McConnell



EX-Dundee midfielder Morten Wieghorst is desperate for his old club to enjoy a consistent run of form in the SPL – as long as Ivano Bonetti's side don't dump Celtic this afternoon.

Wieghorst, who signed for the Dens Park side from Lyngby nine years ago, has been delighted with the excitement Dundee have stirred up but knows his old club will be keen to get one over Martin O'Neill's side.

Dundee were the only Scottish team to win at Celtic Park last season, and despite the fact it was academic by then as the league was over and done with, the dark blues made life exceptionally difficult for Celtic.

"They are always a dangerous side," explained Wieghorst, "and they really raise their game when they play against Celtic and Rangers, as any other team do, but this team is capable of doing some damage if you don't approach the game in the proper manner.

"I have a lot of fond memories from my time there and I always like to see them doing well, apart from when they play us of course!

"They have a few good footballers in their side and have been playing some nice stuff, although they've not had the consistency they



HAPPY DENS
Morten was no more than a new fresh-faced young talent when he arrived on Tayside

would have wanted. It's been a while since I've been at Dundee and Gavin Rae is the only existing player from my time there but I always like to see them picking up points."

Since recovering from Guillain-Barre Syndrome, Wieghorst has found it immensely difficult to break into the Celtic first-team in the face of powerful and consistent performances from the regulars in Martin O'Neill's squad.

He remains determined to fight for his place in the team but, more than anything, Wieghorst is delighted at the fact he is fit, healthy and only has to concern himself with strengthening his match fitness.

"All through the team we have quality players," he admitted, "but the guys who have been playing in midfield have been doing very well.

"Paul Lambert, Neil Lennon and Stilian Petrov have done fantastically well since the manager has been here and it's great to see that they are doing great for the team but it's definitely hard to break into the side.

"The boys that have been playing have been doing very well and everyone wants to be playing all the time. The manager said at the time of the CIS Insurance Cup game against

Stirling Albion that the boys who were given a rest weren't too happy.

"That's the feeling at the minute and once you're in you don't want to be rested, you just want to keep on playing. The fact we are winning consistently is a massive factor, but there are a lot of people in the squad who are hungry to play. I think all the boys look forward to every single game they play in.

"As long as we keep playing well and winning the games I'll be happy. Obviously I want to be playing but I'm still just finding my feet after all that's happened and once we get into the New Year hopefully there'll be a few opportunities.

"I am competing at a different level to what I was six months ago and my aim is to get into the squad and do my bit and the second half of the season should be interesting. I'm certainly looking forward to it.

"I've still got a wee bit to go but I feel that with every game I play, the closer I get. It's a case of match fitness now as well as a wee bit of physical presence but I'm getting closer all the time and I'm training away."

It has been a long struggle for Wieghorst who has never really had the chance to show

My aim is to get into the squad and do my bit in the second half of the season

the manager what he is capable of. He was on the injury list when O'Neill first arrived and was then on the threshold of a return to action last September when he was struck down with the virus.

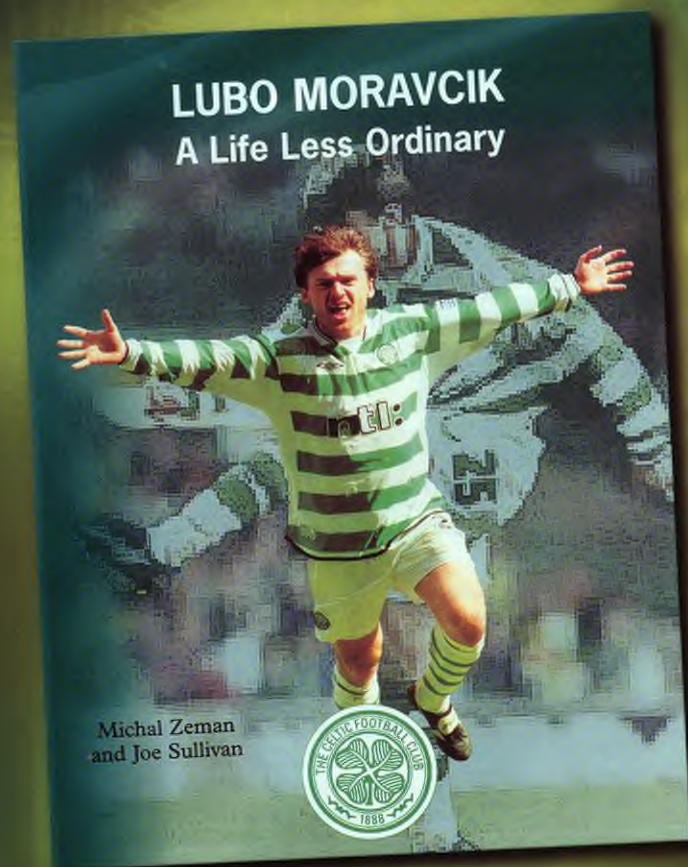
He revealed the atmosphere around the ground boosted him when he was fighting for a full return to fitness, and wants no sympathy votes as the manager picks his team.

"There's a really good spirit on the training ground and in the dressing room and that has helped me a lot," Wieghorst admitted, "as have the games that I have been involved in. I'm not too far away but it's up to the manager to look at me in training and the games I get to play in, and he'll judge me on that.

"Ever since I started to get better it's been great to feel myself going from strength to strength and now that I can see the finishing line, I can begin to think about challenging for a place in the first team and that's fantastic because I've felt an improvement. However, I'm ready to step it up again."

As a fresh year beckons Wieghorst, more than most, is ready to ring the changes and prepare himself for the challenge that the next 12 months will bring.

"WHAT DO I WISH FOR MOST?"



"For all the fans to remember after I've gone, that I once played here and when they recall my name, to remember that I played well."

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Celtic



celticquiz

- 1 Against which club did Celtic last miss two penalties in a competitive match?
- 2 Which two holders of FA Cup winners medals and a combined total of 76 caps between them played for Dundee in 91/92 season?
- 3 Other than Henrik Larsson which two Celts have netted on eight occasions against Rangers in post-war League matches?
- 4 Which were the first and last team to qualify for the World Cup Finals in Japan/Korea?
- 5 Which four goalkeepers have conceded hat-tricks to Celtic players in Scottish League Cup finals?
- 6 From which English club did Dundee sign Chinese International captain Fan Zhiyi?
- 7 Who is the only Scandinavian footballer to win the European Player of the Year Award?
- 8 Which five Celts played in the opening match of the 1998 World Cup in the Stade De France between Brazil and Scotland?
- 9 Which team did Dundee play against in this season's Intertoto Cup back in July?
- 10 Prior to Dougie Freedman against Larvia in October who was the last Scot to score on his international debut?

- 11 Who was the manager of Dundee when they won the Scottish League Cup in December 1973, defeating Celtic 1-0?
- 12 Who since the war is the youngest Celt to score in a Scottish Cup final?
- 13 Former Dundee midfielder Morten Wieghorst recently made a long awaited comeback for Celtic in the CIS Cup but against whom did he make his Hoops debut in Nov 1995?
- 14 Which former Dundee forward established a record in becoming the first person to play in the European Cup for three different clubs?
- 15 Who are the only Celtic players to have scored in the European Championship Finals Tournament?

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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.

Who was the first player to score a goal against Dimitre Kharine at Celtic Park?

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



Answers

1. Craig Burley and Simon Donnelly v Aberdeen at Prudhoe in Aug 1998 2. Kevin Ratchie and Graham Rix 3. Tom McAdam and Charlie Nicholas 4. Cameron and Urquay respectively 5. George Niven (Rangers 1957/58), Thomson Allan (Hibs 1968/69), Jim McArthur (Hibs 74/75), Gordon Marshall (Kilmarnock 00/01) 6. Crystal Palace 7. Allan Simonsen 1977 8. Tom Boyd, Craig Burley, Paul Lambert, Darren Jackson and Tom McKinlay 9. FC Sardin of Yugoslavia 10. Steve Crawford v Ecuador May 1995 11. Davie White 12. Bobby Murdoch v Rangers 1963 (18 years nine months) 13. Hibernian 14. Gordon Smith - he also played for Hibs and Hearts in the tournament between 1955 and 1962 15. Paul McStay 1992, Johan Mjallby and Henrik Larsson 2000

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