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UEFA Champions League

Celtic v AC Milan

7th Dec 2004, Celtic Park, ko: 7.45pm



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“AC MILAN ARE A TEAM FULL OF QUALITY AND WE MUST BE AT OUR VERY BEST TO TRY AND GET SOMETHING OUT OF THIS GAME”

TONIGHT we face AC Milan in a vitally important match. While it is our final UEFA Champions League tie of this campaign, we hope it will not be our last European game of the season.

With a UEFA Cup place on offer to the third placed team in the UEFA Champions League groups, there is a tremendous incentive for both ourselves and Shakhtar Donetsk.

The wonderful result against Barcelona has put our future participation in European competition in our own hands. We know that if we beat AC Milan tonight then we will qualify for the UEFA Cup, regardless of how Shakhtar fare against Barcelona.

Let me assure you, however, that this scenario is a lot easier to write about than it will be to achieve.

AC Milan are the reigning Italian champions and are currently in second place behind Juventus in this season's Serie A.

They won the UEFA Champions League in 2003 and we already know from our meeting at the San Siro, that they possess players who are capable of hurting us.

However, our performance that night, particularly in the second-half, gives us confidence that we can compete with one of the best sides in Europe.

Our efforts deserved at least a share of the points that night and the same level of commitment, endeavour and skill will be required for the ninety minutes against an excellent side.

I have said it many times before but your support is vital as we try to ensure European football after Christmas for a third consecutive season.

That would be a fantastic achievement



‘I HAVE SAID IT MANY TIMES BEFORE BUT YOUR SUPPORT IS VITAL AS WE TRY TO ENSURE EUROPEAN FOOTBALL AFTER CHRISTMAS FOR A THIRD CONSECUTIVE SEASON’

in itself and a sign of just how much these players have done in restoring our European reputation.

Our group in this season's UEFA Champions League has undoubtedly been the hardest of all eight groups.

To be drawn against both Barcelona and AC Milan – two teams who are

among the favourites to win the competition – meant it was always going to be a difficult task for us.

This has proved to be the case although we have acquitted ourselves very well against such top class opposition without perhaps enjoying that little bit of luck which is sometimes needed in order to get something from these teams.

However, drawing 1-1 in the Nou Camp – making us the only team to have come away with anything from Barcelona this season – was a fine result, both for ourselves and for Scottish football, which deserves to be praised.

Tonight will be an equally tough challenge, regardless of the fact we are at home.

AC Milan are a team full of quality and we must be at our very best from first minute to last in order to try and get something out of this game.

Saturday's victory over Hibernian showed the resilient side of our team in battling for a victory and our efforts tonight will aim for the same outcome.

It promises to be another special European occasion at Celtic Park, of which there have been so many in recent seasons, with supporters and players each contributing to what we hope will be a successful night.

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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

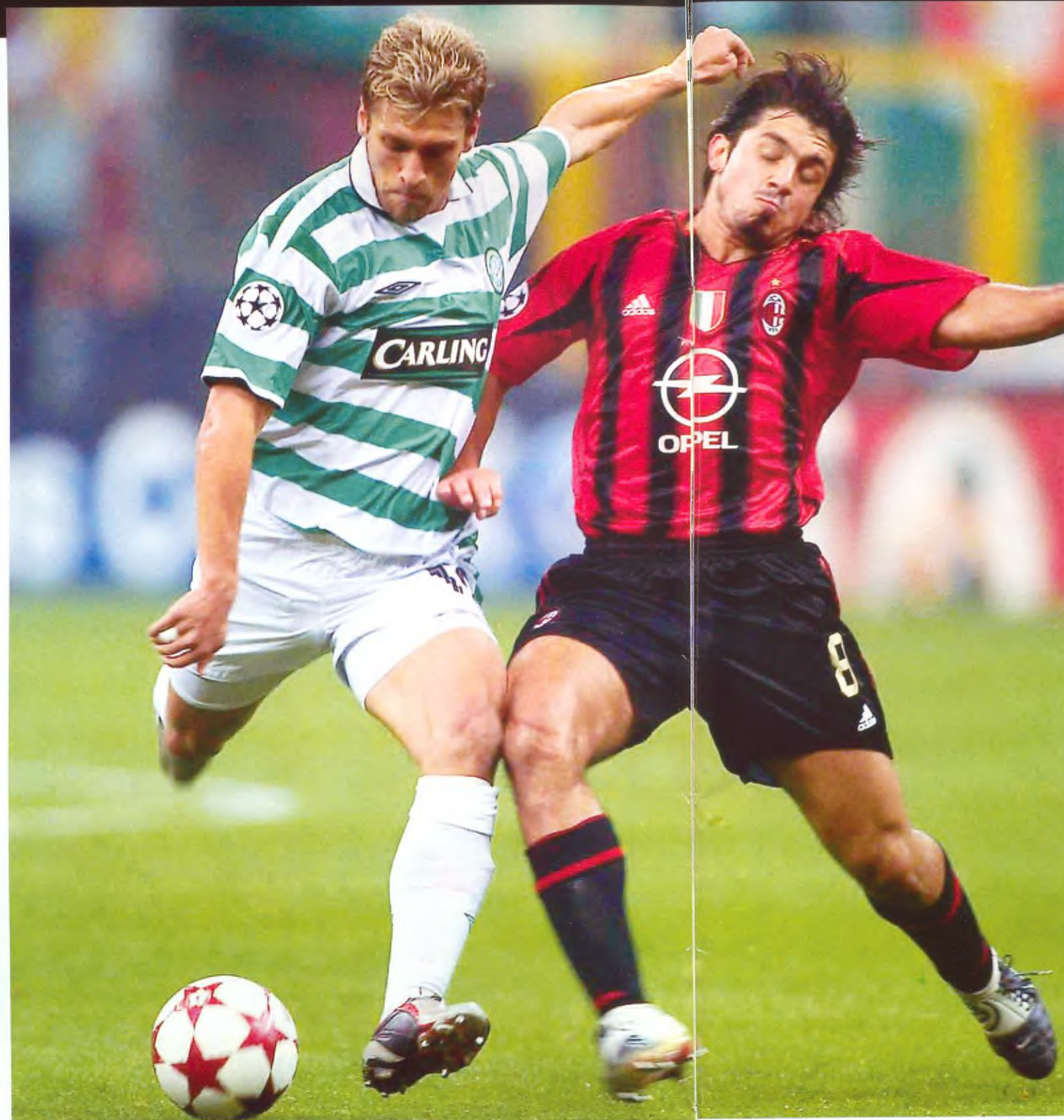
HONOURS

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



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- Stilian Petrov 19 17
- Robert Douglas 20 19
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- David Marshall 22 21
- Stanislav Varga 23 22
- Henri Camara 27 23
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- Ross Wallace 33 26
- Craig Beattie 37 27
- Rocco Quinn 38 31
- John Kennedy 41 32
- Stephen McManus 44
- Aiden McGeady 46
- Michael McGovern 47
- Scott Cuthbert 49

AC MILAN

- Nelson Dida
- Marcos Cafu
- Paolo Maldini
- Kakha Kaladze
- Alessandro Costacurta
- Andriy Shevchenko
- Gennaro Gattuso
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- Ricardo Kaka
- Massimo Ambrosini
- Vikash Dhorasoo
- Giuseppe Pancaro
- Sergio Serginho
- Jaap Stam
- Cristian Brocchi



RECENT FORM	FORTHCOMING FIXTURES
Scottish Premierleague, Nov 28, 2004 DUNDEE 2 v 2 CELTIC (Camara, Hartson)	Scottish Premierleague DUNFERMLINE v CELTIC SUNDAY, 12 DECEMBER 2pm
UEFA Champions League, Nov 24, 2004 BARCELONA 1 v 1 CELTIC (Hartson)	Scottish Premierleague CELTIC v DUNDEE UTD SATURDAY, 18 DECEMBER 3pm
Scottish Premierleague, Nov 20, 2004 RANGERS 2 v 0 CELTIC	Scottish Premierleague HEARTS v CELTIC SUNDAY 26 DECEMBER 3pm
Scottish Premierleague, Oct 24, 2004 CELTIC 3 v 0 INVERNESS CT (Sutton, Hartson2)	Scottish Premierleague CELTIC v LIVINGSTON SUNDAY 2 JANUARY 3pm
CIS Cup, Nov 10, 2004 RANGERS 2 v 1 CELTIC (AET) (Hartson)	

KEEPING EURO DREAM ALIVE

Alan Thompson knows tonight's UEFA Champions League match against AC Milan is a massive one for the Hoops, and he is relishing the prospect of another great European occasion at Celtic Park

IF THERE is one European lesson Celtic have learned the hard way this season, it is that quality sides can turn results in the blink of an eye.

At home against Barcelona in the opening Group F match, they were crushed by two goals in five minutes as Ludovic Giuly and Henrik Larsson carried out a lightning raid to snatch all three points for the Catalan visitors.

Then just two weeks later, AC Milan left it to the 88th and 90th minutes to net two goals and rob the Hoops of a valuable, and deserved, away point at the San Siro stadium.

Since then, Martin O'Neill's men have lost and won against Ukrainian side Shakhtar Donetsk, and just a fortnight ago recorded one of the most memorable results in the club's recent history – a 1-1 draw at the Nou Camp against a Barça side bristling with some of the biggest names in world football.

That point in Catalonia went some way toward healing the wounds opened by Barcelona on September 14 and tonight Celtic have the chance to redress the balance against Milan, this time on home turf.

Exclusive interview: GREGOR KYLE

But with a place in the UEFA Cup up for grabs and a win needed to secure European football beyond Christmas for a third consecutive season, this game is about much more than settling any scores with the Milanese giants.

In his four years at Celtic Park, Alan Thompson has established himself as one of the Hoops' key European performers, and

this season has been at the heart of midfield as the club has faced the sternest of challenges on both the domestic and continental fronts.

And Thompson is confident the best moments of this campaign are yet to come.

He said: "We've got 21 league games left so there's long way to go in the season. But tonight we have to concentrate on getting something from Milan and hopefully stay in Europe, and then we'll see what else happens."

"We've had a tough group this season, but you want to play against the best teams – that is what the UEFA Champions League is all about."

"You want to qualify, but it has been a great experience playing against the likes

"THERE'S A LONG WAY TO GO IN THE SEASON. TONIGHT WE HAVE TO CONCENTRATE ON GETTING SOMETHING FROM AC MILAN, THEN SEE WHAT HAPPENS"





of Barcelona and AC Milan, and we have done okay against them."

Just doing okay against some of the finest sides in European football has not been enough for Celtic this season and the nature of the club's defeats has hurt both Thompson and his team-mates.

"Really we should have taken something from Barcelona at home," he admitted. "We conceded two sloppy goals late on, one of which was my fault, and the same thing happened in Milan as well."

"Shakhtar away was the most disappointing result. But we have tonight's game to play and it's not over yet."

Thompson is under no illusions as to the size of the task facing Celtic this evening. Presently four points off the top of Serie A this season and six points clear of their third placed rivals, AC Milan are undoubtedly one of Europe's form sides.

Striker Andriy Shevchenko has 12 goals in 14 games this season and, alongside Thierry Henry and Ronaldinho, is nominated for the FIFA World Player of the Year award.

Meanwhile, Brazilian Kaka and

"WE HAVE CONCEDED A FEW LATE GOALS AND WE HAVE TO ERADICATE THAT FROM OUR GAME"



midfielder Andrea Pirlo have been the creative forces in a formidable midfield, which is so strong that one of Celtic's foes from a previous term, former Lyon playmaker Vikash Dhorasoo, has been unable to force his way into the side.

But in Celtic's previous meeting with Milan in September, Martin O'Neill's side showed the graft and the guile to fight their way back into the match, albeit to lose out to two late strikes and the Hoops will go into the game tonight confident and determined.

"Obviously we did great to get ourselves back into that game," said Thompson. "But to lose two goals as late as we did when we were so close to getting a point at the San Siro was massively disappointing."

"We've conceded a few late goals and we have to eradicate that part of our game."

"But we've been to Barcelona since then and managed not to concede late on and we have to

take great heart from that. AC Milan have got quality throughout really, but obviously Shevchenko has been named among the top three players in the world at the moment and he's the one that stands out.

"You tend not to really think about the other side's tactics as the game goes on. You are focusing on what you are doing, what your own job is, and hopefully that will be enough."

"They are much of a muchness these teams like Milan, Barcelona, Juventus – they are ruthless and don't give you an inch. We have to try and be more like them."

The psychological benefits of the draw in the Nou Camp cannot be underplayed and that result and the nature in which it was achieved will come as a genuine boost for the players going into this match.

That and the kick that comes naturally from playing in front of a partisan crowd at Celtic Park on another big European night – one which will effectively decide Celtic's fate in Europe this season.

If Celtic win they will automatically be through to the UEFA Cup, but if it's a draw the Bhoys will be waiting to see how

events unfold in Ukraine, where Shakhtar take on Barça.

If Celtic gain a point, the Ukrainian side need a win, while if the Bhoys lose, a draw is all they will require. For everyone concerned with Celtic, victory over AC Milan tonight will make all these other permutations redundant.

After the run to Seville and last season's fine effort that ended at the quarter-final stage against Villarreal, the UEFA Cup holds warm memories for all concerned with Celtic.

And Thompson is hoping to play his part in bringing more memorable European nights to Celtic Park in 2005.

With Liverpool, Real Madrid, Fenerbahçe, Valencia, Porto, Paris St Germain and Arsenal among the teams that may parachute into the competition from the UEFA Champions League, there is still the chance that some of Europe's biggest names could come calling.

"The best UEFA Champions League teams are still in the competition, but the

others finishing third in the group stages will now join the UEFA Cup and that will strengthen that competition even more," Thompson said. "The UEFA Cup is a great competition and if you can win it, then fantastic."

But Thompson is reluctant to look beyond tonight's tie with AC Milan. And while the home support would have perhaps favoured an easier side to be visiting Celtic Park on such an occasion, the English midfielder is relishing the challenge.

He said: "Everyone's on a bit of a high after the Barcelona result. We've given ourselves a chance to stay in European football and have to be positive."

"We're going to be in front of a packed house again, there's guaranteed to be a great atmosphere and these are the ones you look forward to."

"European nights at Celtic Park are great if you get the result. If you don't get the win then they're not so good, but they are certainly the ones all of us look forward to."



FOOTBALL FOCUS FOR 90 MINUTES

Lisbon Lion John Clark was part of a Celtic team made to pay for a lapse in concentration against AC Milan, and he hopes the class of 2004 don't make the same mistake

SEPTEMBER'S 'mugging in Milan' brought back painful memories for John Clark, who has warned that concentration will be vital for tonight's UEFA Champions League match at Celtic Park.

The Lisbon Lion and club kit man looked on from the dug-out as Filippo Inzaghi and Andrea Pirlo bagged the latest of late goals in the dying minutes to deprive Celtic of a priceless point at the San Siro.

The sickening blow was felt by the team and the supporters that night – but for Clark, the twinge of pain was a familiar one.

He was at the heart of the Celtic defence alongside Billy McNeill the last time AC Milan and Celtic met in European competition in 1969, and knows only too well the feelings of regret that a lack of concentration can bring.

With the exception of Jim Brogan, who played in the Celtic midfield over the two legs, every one of the Lisbon Lions ran out to face Milan that year in the third round of the European Cup, holding out bravely for a 0-0 draw at the San Siro.

The result gave Celtic the advantage as they returned to play the second half of the tie at Celtic Park. But a moment's lapse in concentration gave the Italians the opportunity to grab a solitary goal and shut up shop to hold out for the victory.

It was an impressive Milan team who faced Celtic that season, including players like Nevio Scala, German international Karl Heinz Schnellinger, Fabio Cudicini, father of current Chelsea goalkeeper Carlo, and goalscorer Pierlino Prati. Indeed, AC Milan went on to lift the trophy, hammering Ajax 4-1 in the final.

However, the knowledge that they were beaten by the tournament's eventual winners is of no consolation for Clark today as he looks back on that two-leg showdown.

"When we played in Milan back in 1969 it was a really good result," he explained. "Nothing each away from home was an

Exclusive Interview: GREGOR KYLE



excellent score. Then we got them to Parkhead and there are some real similarities between what happened that night and what happened to the present team in Milan in September.

"The concentration had gone for that vital two minutes and we lost a goal from a throw-in that turned out to be fatal.

"The present team were caught by two late goals a couple of months ago and it goes to show you have to concentrate from the first kick to the very last.

"At the top level you've got to be

"WHEN YOU ARE PLAYING AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL IN EUROPE, LIKE WE ARE, CHANCES CAN'T BE MISSED. YOU HAVE TO TRY AND MAKE THE MOST OF THEM"

switched on. People say you've got to be alert for the whole 90 minutes, and that's difficult.

"But when you see what happened in each of those games and see how the results were affected by a lack of concentration, then you know how important it is to keep yourself focused.

"Not only you, but the other players around about you, because you could be wandering a wee bit and you hope that your team-mates are guarding you.

"That's what is meant by team work, and watching out for each other's mistakes. Unfortunately we suffered and they absorbed all our attacks and we couldn't do anything more, other than put the ball in the net, of course. That night we had ample opportunity to do so but it just didn't work out.

"It's painful to look back on every game you don't win, but these boys today know as well how painful it is to get beat."

Clark appreciates that defensive concentration is of vital importance but equally so is the need to take advantage of the few chances that will be presented tonight by what is expected to be a typically miserly Italian defence.

Celtic know victory will guarantee participation in this season's UEFA Cup and will mean European football after Christmas at Celtic Park for a third consecutive season. Given the pedigree of tonight's opposition, however, Lisbon Lion Clark knows it will be a tough task.

"The thing about it is, you see chances going a begging, and these are chances that in a normal league game would have been put in the back of the net," he said.

"But when you are playing at the highest level in Europe, which these boys are just now, these chances can't be missed. You have to try and make the most of them."

Clark also believes the pain of the last-minute defeat in Milan will act as a spur for Martin O'Neill's side – although he's under no illusion as to the size of the challenge facing the Hoops.



URGING CAUTION: John Clark – pictured during his playing career – knows what Celtic have to be wary of and hopes the Hoops can take a chance like Stanislav Varga did against Milan in Italy (left)



SNOW PATROL: Clark watches as Milan's Angelo Sormani comes close in the 1969 clash at Celtic Park while AC keeper Fabio Cudicini is called into action (below, right)

"Over in Milan in the last game the result was there for us and within two or three minutes the whole result had just somersaulted," he said.

"The team knows the disappointment, everybody here does, and when you are playing at European level you are playing against the best – that's what the UEFA Champions League is all about.

"You are playing against a level of player that you wouldn't normally play against domestically. That's not knocking the domestic scene, but some of these boys are not at the level you play in Europe and that's why you have to lift yourself all the time.

"The Milan team are all good individual players. You usually find Italian teams working to a system but they have some great individual attacking players too, including Andriy Shevchenko, who is in line for World Player of the Year.

"They've also got the Brazilians, Kaka and Cafu, while Paolo Maldini has played forever and has so much experience.

"However, we've got players here as well who are capable of rising to the game. We've had a wee injury here and there lately but we have players who are capable at this level and have proved it in the past.

"IT'S DOWN TO THE LADS AND THEY WILL BE PREPARED FOR IT. THEY WILL BE GIVING THEIR ALL BUT WON'T JUST BE FLYING IN AT 100 MILES AN HOUR. THEY'LL BE PATIENT TOO AND IT WILL BE ANOTHER GOOD EUROPEAN NIGHT"

"At Parkhead we have a pretty formidable record and it takes a good team to beat us.

"Our strength is our togetherness. This is a team that plays for one another and back each other up.

"In games like this you just hope you get the wee breaks that are going and if you get a chance in the game you take it. These are the games in which you have to make your chances count.

"Barcelona beat us at Celtic Park and, okay, these things happen – they are a top team in Europe just now. But we have proved we are more than capable of looking after ourselves at home.

"It's down to the lads and they will be prepared for it. They will be giving their all but they won't just be flying about the park at 100 miles an hour. They'll be patient as well and it will be another good European night."

With so much riding on this one game, Clark is hoping that Celtic produce a conclusive result themselves this evening.

After the painful finish in the San Siro, the last thing the Lisbon Lion wants is a bout of post-match nerves awaiting the result from Ukraine, where Shakhtar



Donetsk will be trying to take something from the visiting Barcelona.

"Forecasting football games is a dodgy thing," said Clark. "But you are hoping that you win all your games at home, in Europe especially, and we're hoping for another good night.

"There will be a good atmosphere and the players will respond to that. But we want to get a result ourselves so that we are not hanging on, waiting on a result coming in from Donetsk.

"The most important thing is to do it yourself – get your own result and what happens elsewhere doesn't matter a bit."

Every Saturday Martin O'Neill
picks the line-up.

Now it's the players' turn.



Now you can find out what gets Thompson's toes tapping, Lennon's legs shuffling and Hartson's hips swaying.

The Celtic squad have each chosen their favourite song of all time and we've put them together on this first ever Celtic Players Top Twenty CD.

Featuring twenty tracks from the biggest names in the music world, it makes the ideal gift and there are only a limited number available before Christmas.

Don't miss out, pre-order online at www.celticfc.net or from Mail Order on 0845 077 1888.

Celtic 



EURO STARS: (Clockwise) Milan legend Maldini tussles with John Hartson, the Italians' impressive San Siro home and their supporters, and the team are in jubilant mood after landing the UEFA Champions League in 2003



- OF the 92 clubs to have played in the UEFA Champions League, AC Milan lie in sixth place in the all-time ranking list. Their record is: Pld 81, won 41, drawn 21, lost 19; goals for 114, goals against 66. Celtic's point against Barcelona has lifted them to 42nd.

- This is Milan's ninth UEFA Champions League campaign, the same number as Real Madrid, Barcelona, Bayern Munich, Juventus, Dynamo Kiev and PSV Eindhoven. However, Manchester United and Porto lead the way with 10 appearances.

- Seven Italian teams have played in the UEFA Champions League, with Milan and Juventus way out in front, followed by Lazio, Inter Milan, Roma, Fiorentina and Parma.

- Milan lie in third position in the European Cup/UEFA Champions League all-time ranking list with a record of: Pld 162, won 89, drawn 36, lost 37; goals for 293, goals against 142. A point tonight would lift Celtic up one place to thirteenth, ahead of Rangers.

With six European Cup successes to their name, Milan's UEFA Champions League pedigree is among the very best. Then there's that man Maldini...

- AC Milan have lifted Europe's top club prize an amazing six times, with only Real Madrid having won it more often.

In fact, they are the only two clubs to have won the UEFA Champions League more than once.

Milan's six successes are as follows: 1963 v Benfica 2-1 at Wembley; 1969 v Ajax 4-1 in Madrid; 1989 v Steaua Bucharest 4-0 in Barcelona; 1990 v Benfica 1-0 in Vienna; 1994 v Barcelona 4-0 in Athens; 2003 v Juventus 0-0 (3-2 on penalties) at Old Trafford.

- As well as six victories, Milan have lost three European Cup finals: 1958 v Real Madrid 3-2 in Brussels; 1993 v Marseille 1-0 in Munich; 1995 v Ajax 1-0 in Vienna.

- As well as European Cup wins, Milan have also won the Cup Winners' Cup twice – 1968 v SV Hamburg 2-0 and 1973 v Leeds United 1-0, as well as the Intercontinental Cup three times in 1969, 1989 and 1990.

- In last season's UEFA Champions League, Milan were one of the favourites to win the tournament when, like a few others, they suffered a major shock.

In the quarter-final, they cruised through the first leg over Deportivo La Coruna with a 4-1 victory in the San Siro but, inexplicably, the Rossoneri fell apart in the return, losing 4-0 on the night and 5-4 on aggregate.

- Last season AC Milan won Serie A with a record 82 points, seven more than the

previous best achieved by Roma in 2000/01.

- Over the years Celtic Park has seen some of the all-time greats of football play on its hallowed turf, and not all of them wearing the Hoops.

Tonight, a true legend of the modern game will be in action – Paolo Maldini. The AC Milan captain hold the record for the

most appearances for the Azzurri – the Italian national team – with 126 caps between 1988 and 2002.

Having just turned 16, he made his debut for Milan against Udinese in January 1985, and in November this year he made his 128th appearance in all European competitions – another record.

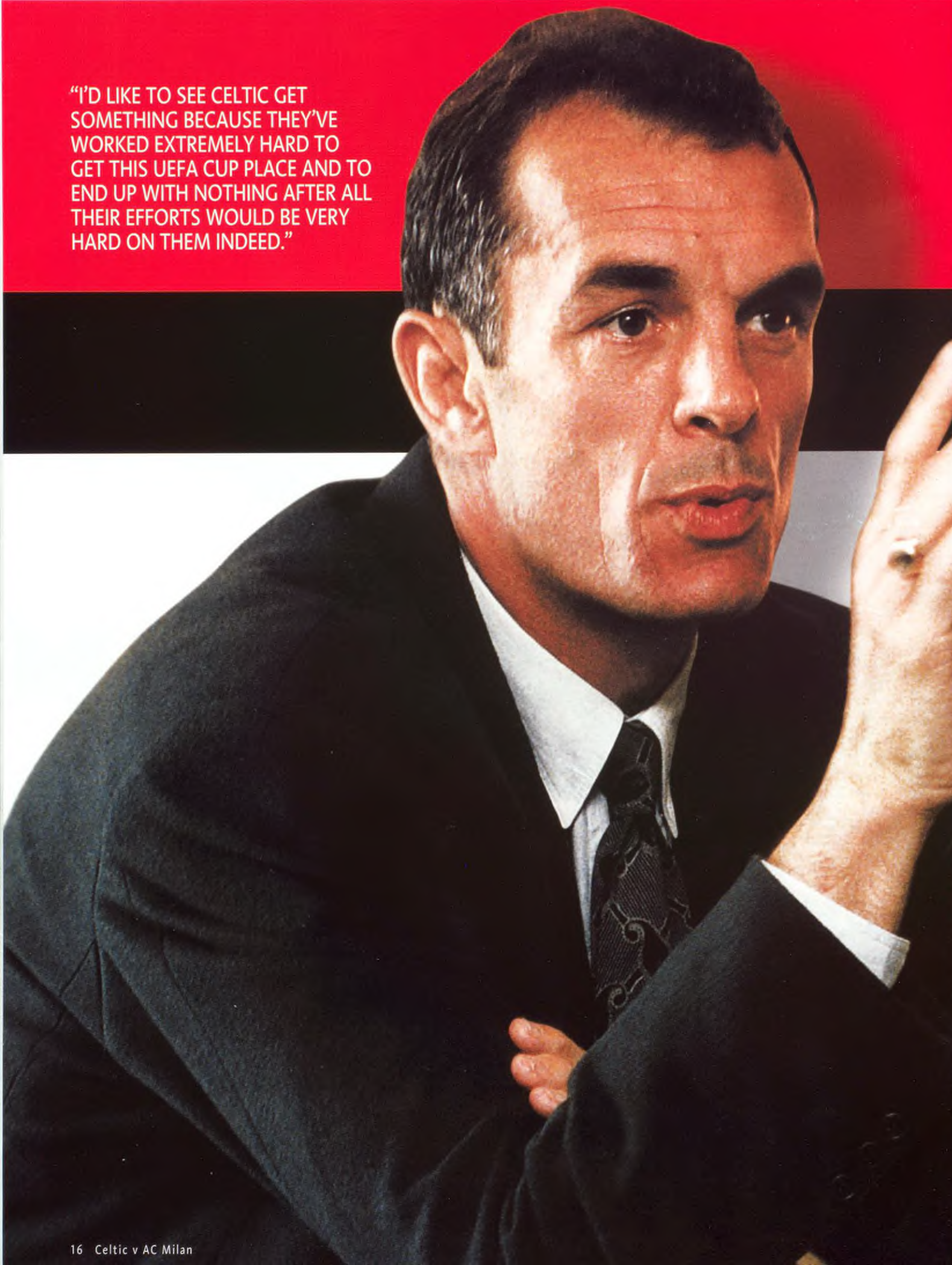
He has played in six European Cup/UEFA Champions League finals, winning four,

won four European Super Cups, two Intercontinental Cups, seven Serie A titles, one Coppa Italia and three Italian Super Cups.

Yet, for all his achievements and brilliance, he has not been voted Italian Footballer of the Year, never mind one of the international awards. However, it's not too late to right that particular wrong.

DAVID McDONALD

"I'D LIKE TO SEE CELTIC GET SOMETHING BECAUSE THEY'VE WORKED EXTREMELY HARD TO GET THIS UEFA CUP PLACE AND TO END UP WITH NOTHING AFTER ALL THEIR EFFORTS WOULD BE VERY HARD ON THEM INDEED."



JOE HAS HOPE IN HIS HEART FOR THE CELTS

Scotland legend Joe Jordan will be cheering on the Hoops tonight despite the fact that he wore the famous red and black of the Italian giants

JOE JORDAN may well consider it a bitter irony that his time with both Celtic and AC Milan coincided with two of the worst periods in the clubs' otherwise illustrious histories, but it has not served to dilute his affection for either.

Just as his ill-fated tenure as assistant to Liam Brady didn't sour him to the club he had supported while growing up in Cleland, where local hero Jimmy Delaney was a boyhood inspiration, neither did a controversy-stained spell in Milan prevent this once fearsome striker departing the San Siro a fully-fledged Rossonero.

There's little doubt, however, that during two-and-a-half stormy years in the red and black, neither the club nor, by his own admission, Jordan himself, enhanced their respective reputations.

It was, on the face of it, a strange alliance from the start, with the fusing of Italy's fashion and culture capital with a rough-and-ready Scot famous for his toothless grimace always likely to be adjudged a little curious.

Yet it all started promisingly enough, with Jordan – Milan's sole foreigner at the time – scoring 10 times before Christmas following his £250,000 move from Manchester United to earn the nickname of 'Lo Squalo' – the Shark – from the club's supporters.

However, as he and his team-mates battled valiantly to restore the Rossoneri to former glories, off the field, the club was becoming embroiled in a murky

Exclusive interview by
STEPHEN SULLIVAN



PARADISE BOUND: Jordan with Liam Brady

bribery scandal that eventually saw it demoted to Serie B, its president having fled to South America with many millions of the club's lire.

Jordan's form dipped, injuries began to afflict him, and the love affair was soon over.

Nevertheless, while he would later move on to Verona before returning to Britain with Southampton, and though he had undoubtedly enjoyed better years with both Leeds and Manchester United, Jordan remains eternally grateful for the time he spent in Italy's foremost northern city.

"It was a different club back then, but not so different," he said. "Milan has always been Milan, and the club has a history and tradition to match anyone in Europe. I actually flew across there for their centenary recently and one of the achievements they're most proud of – and rightly so – is having won more European

trophies than any other Italian club.

"And I thoroughly enjoyed my time there. I still feel fortunate that I was able to leave Old Trafford, where I'd been playing in front of 55,000 every second week, to go to the San Siro, where the crowds were regularly over 70,000. Milan remains a very special club and they have a high regard for people who served them, so I'm treated very well in that respect. That's something I'm very grateful for."

Given this unabashed declaration of affection for Celtic's opponents, one would suspect that divided loyalties might prevent Jordan from backing either side in this evening's eagerly anticipated UEFA Champions League clash.

In fact, the man currently in caretaker charge of Portsmouth insists there isn't even a dilemma.

"No, not tonight anyway – I'll be rooting for Celtic," he insisted. "I'd like to see them get something because they've worked extremely hard to get this UEFA Cup place and to end up with nothing after all their efforts would be very hard on them indeed."

"I've seen most of the games in this section and, really, I think Celtic have done as well as they could to get themselves in this position. Even in the UEFA Champions League, where you never get an easy ride, drawing Barcelona and AC Milan – by anyone's standards, two potential winners – was about as unlucky as they could have got."

"Milan will be looking to win the group and I would like to see them go all the way in this competition. But they're through already, so I won't shed any tears if they lose this evening."

"I said at the start of it all that I'd like to see both teams progressing and, although that won't now happen in the UEFA Champions League, a Celtic win tonight

would keep both involved in Europe, so that's definitely what I'm looking for."

The question of which side he hopes to see win having proved simple, asking Jordan which of the two he expects to emerge victorious provokes a considerably more ambiguous response. He is, however, convinced that Celtic are more than capable of claiming the points they require.

"Oh, they can do it, absolutely," he insisted. "It will be a tough night for Celtic, particularly if you're right about Milan bringing a full-strength team. But they'll have the crowd with them and, although they might not win the match, I think a point might well be enough for them to get that UEFA Cup slot.

"I also think Celtic can take a lot of heart from the way they played in the San Siro. I felt they emerged with great credit from that match. There was a real fluency to their game in the second-half, and to be able to go to places like the San Siro and the Nou Camp and not look overawed says a lot for how far they have come under Martin O'Neill.

"For me, there's no clear favourite tonight. Celtic have home advantage, but Milan are a team full of class, with players who can hurt you in almost every area. They're an excellent side, and now they also have Crespo – who wasn't even getting a game at the start of the season – getting in among the goals.

"You only have to look at their squad to see how difficult it will be and, as well as the 11 who start the game, you can guarantee every player on their bench will be a household name with loads of top-level experience. That, for me, is the biggest difference between Milan and Celtic. Both teams have good players – Milan just have more of them."

And one in particular stands out above the rest. Andriy Shevchenko, at 28 and in

his sixth season as a Rossonero, is currently at the peak of his phenomenal powers and, having seen this recognised with a place on the three-man shortlist for FIFA's World Player of the Year award, Jordan stated the case for the Ukrainian being considered a worthy winner.

"I think he's magnificent," the Scotland legend said of Shevchenko. "It tends to be the norm that, when strikers arrive at Milan, it takes them a bit of time to settle in. But Shevchenko, from his very first season – almost from the moment he stepped off the plane, in fact – has been a consistent source of goals.

"He's undoubtedly one of the best players in the world at the moment and it goes without saying that he'll be a threat to Celtic. He's got everything you would want in a striker and what I admire about him is that he's one of those players who scores in the big games, not just against the weaker teams in Serie A.

"That, I think, comes from his mental focus as much as anything else and, if Celtic can keep Shevchenko quiet tonight, it will certainly go a long way towards getting them a result. Not that it will be the be all and end all, of course."

This qualification is vital for Jordan because he considers Milan, like all great sides, to have remained first and foremost a team, avoiding the self-destructive focus on individualism that appears to have caused Real Madrid's Galacticos to implode. The result, he insists, is that they're genuine contenders for both their domestic title and the biggest club prize of them all.

"They're one of a very few sides who can win this competition," he said. "It's only a year-and-a-half since they did it, after all, and it was only a crazy slip-up against Deportivo that's cost them last year. If they'd been a bit more resolute in Spain, I would have strongly fancied them to become one of a very select group of teams to have won the European Cup back to back.

"As for Serie A, well, they started as one of the favourites, but they've obviously fallen a wee bit behind now. But I wouldn't count Milan out of it yet. With a squad as strong as Ancelotti has, I would expect them to close the gap on Juve and, if they're there or thereabouts at the end of the season, I could see them nicking it."

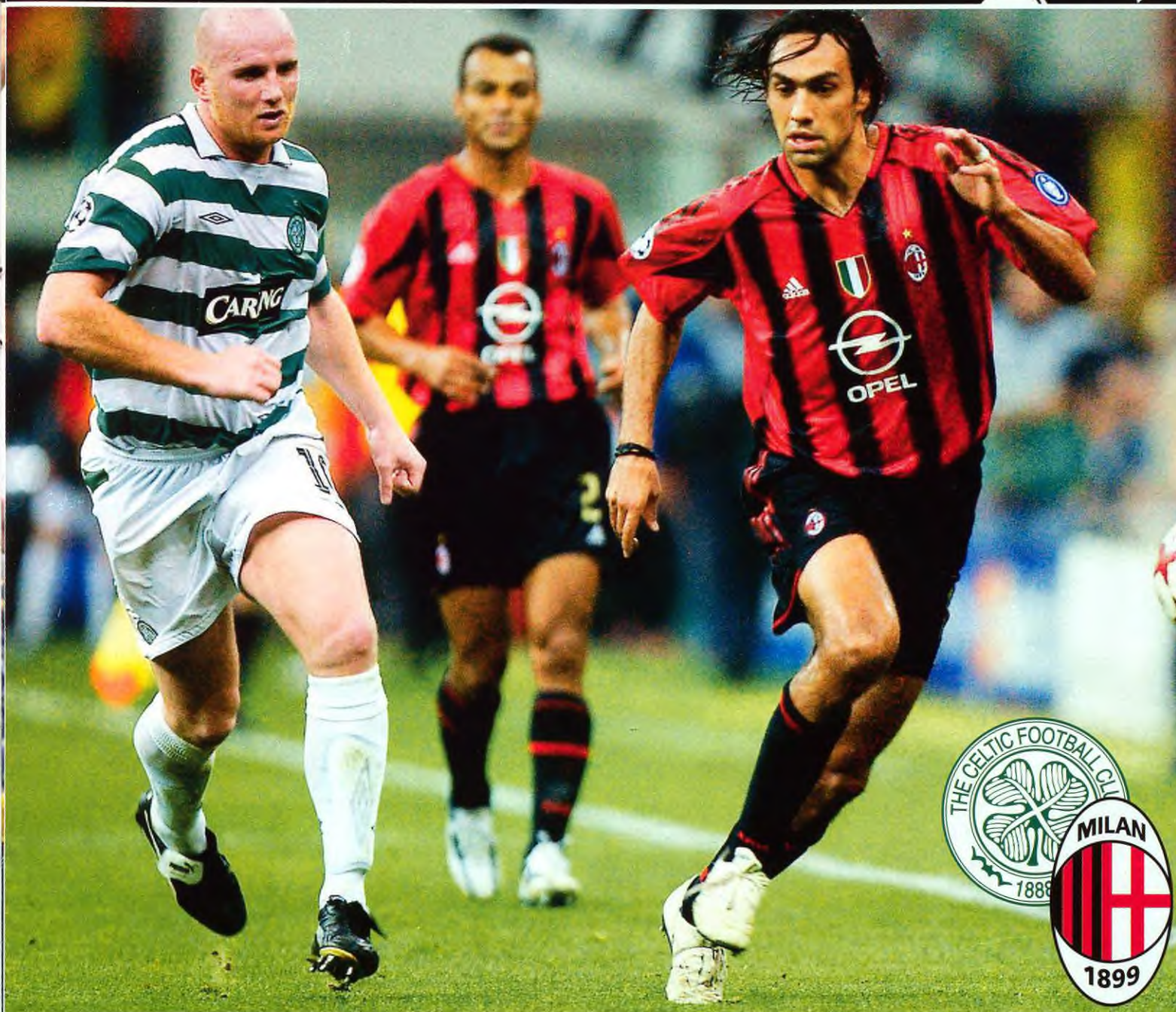
Jordan, meanwhile, is merely hoping to be afforded the rare luxury of a spare couple of hours in order to be able to watch tonight's game. Certainly, not for many years has his schedule been so packed, with book signings north of the border (his autobiography, *Home and Away* is currently on sale) jostling for position with ever-increasing coaching responsibilities at Fratton Park.

Nevertheless, having been thrust back into hectic day-to-day involvement of football management in the wake of Harry Redknapp's departure, Jordan admits he's relishing the challenge.

"Yeah, I'm enjoying it. It was straight from the high to the low in the couple of games after Harry left, of course, but that's what makes football so intriguing. It's certainly been a busy time recently, but I've only been promoting the book in Scotland and there has been a great response to it up there.

"That's been great to see, and hopefully I'll have a bit of time to watch the game tonight because I'm sure it will be a cracker."





THIS WEEK IN THE VIEW



● Get all the reaction from tonight's UEFA Champions League Group F clash against AC Milan, plus all the latest news and views from inside Celtic Park

OUT ON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9



THE ROSSONERI

CARLO ANCELOTTI'S side are the reigning Italian champions and won the UEFA Champions League as recently as 2003. We take a look at the players who have made AC Milan one of the most impressive teams in Europe.

DIDA
Now in his second spell at AC Milan, the Brazilian keeper has no shortage of ability or experience, having won over 50 international caps. He was also a regular starter for Brazil in qualifying for the 2006 World Cup. Dida played a hero's role in the penalties win against Juventus in the 2003 UEFA Champions League final.

CAFU
His achievements speak for themselves – a FIFA World Cup winner twice with Brazil, a runner-up once, and he is the only player to have appeared in three World Cup finals.
He joined Serie A side Roma in 1997

AC Milan won the UEFA Champions League in 2003 and they remain one of Europe's finest teams. We profile the stars they have in their ranks

and the highlight of his time there came in 2001 when they won the Scudetto. He also enjoyed a wonderful debut season for AC Milan, making 28 league appearances and scoring one goal as they won Serie A. At the end of July he renewed his contract until 2006.

PAOLO MALDINI
One day there will be an AC Milan defence without the peerless Maldini, but few can remember what one looks like.

He finally bowed out of the international game after an Italian record 126 caps, stretching back to 1988. Maldini made his Rossoneri debut against Udinese in January 1985, and more than 500 appearances later he has been crucial to the most successful era in Milan's history.

He won his first Serie A title in 1987/88, and he was also part of the team that dominated between 1991/92 and 1993/94. The latter season also saw a Maldini-powered Milan take the UEFA Champions League title after a sensational final performance against

Barcelona, to add to their European Champion Clubs' Cup wins of 1988 and 1989. He also broke Gianni Rivera's record of 501 appearances for Milan and became the player with most appearances in European competition. He capped a club-record seventh championship success last year with the news that he would remain at the club for a further year, extending his contract at the San Siro to 2006.

ALESSANDRO COSTACURTA
An AC Milan defensive legend, Costacurta continues to offer experience to the Rossoneri backline and is as reliable as ever when called upon. He has collected 20 major honours in his career, including six Serie A titles, four European Champion Clubs' Cup and two UEFA Super Cups.

The disappointments of his career were the suspensions that caused him to miss the finals of both the UEFA Champions League and World Cup in 1994.

RINO GATTUSO
Italian international midfielder player who made his professional breakthrough with Rangers before returning home to join newly-promoted Salernitana ahead of the 1998/99 campaign.

His form with the southern club then earned him a move to Italian champions AC Milan. A ball-winner, he is revered by the San Siro faithful, and his performance in the UEFA Champions League final victory against Juventus was outstanding.

"ONE DAY THERE WILL BE AN AC MILAN DEFENCE WITHOUT THE PEERLESS PAOLO MALDINI, BUT FEW CAN REMEMBER WHAT ONE LOOKS LIKE"

RUI COSTA
A brilliant passer with excellent close control, Costa also excels at running with the ball.

Add his prodigious strike-rate and you have one of the finest all-round midfield players in the world. 1994 signalled a move away from his homeland and Benfica, Italian side Fiorentina enticing Rui Costa to Serie A.

He stayed with the Viola for seven years, and joined AC Milan in 2001, although his first season at the San Siro was plagued with injury. Fit again in 2002/03, Rui excelled in Europe as Milan won through to the UEFA Champions League final, beating Juventus. Last season he made 28 league appearances, scoring three goals.

HERNAN CRESPO
Crespo started his career with River Plate in Argentina before moving to Parma in 1996.

Four years later Lazio had to pay a

then world record of £35.4million to acquire the striker. In Rome, after another slow beginning, Crespo again flourished and finished the 2000/01 season as Serie A's top scorer with 26 goals in 32 games.

In 2002 Crespo began his Inter Milan career in explosive fashion, scoring nine goals in the first eight games in the UEFA Champions League.

He joined Chelsea for £24.25m last season but was unable to settle in London, scoring 10 times in 19 Premiership appearances. He was signed on a season-long loan by Milan in July.

ALESSANDRO NESTA

Regarded as one of the best defenders in Europe, Nesta is powerful yet extremely mobile. His elegance conceals his toughness and he possesses an impeccable positional sense.

Born in the Italian capital, the defender was first given a trial at Lazio as a 10-year-old, and until his move north to AC Milan had spent his entire career at the Stadio Olimpico, where he was a hero. Nesta became the first player in the club's history to lift a European trophy when they claimed the last UEFA Cup Winners' Cup in 1999, and the following season led the team to the Serie A title. His first season with AC Milan saw them lift the UEFA Champions League and he was superb in last season's Serie A triumph.

CLARENCE SEEDORF

The only player to have won the UEFA Champions League with three different teams – Ajax (1995), Real Madrid (1998) and AC Milan (2003). Surinam-born Seedorf has also gained over 50 caps for Holland. He joined AC Milan in 2002 from city rivals Inter and has been instrumental in the Rossoneri's success.

ANDREA PIRLO

Pirlo first played in Serie A in May 1995 for his hometown club, Brescia, but did not feature the following term after relegation. A season on he helped lead the club back into the Italian Élite, where four goals in 29 matches prompted a move to Inter Milan. He joined AC in 2001 and is an exceptional midfielder.

KAKA

A tireless worker who is blessed with creativity, good passing skills and a fine shot, attacking midfielder Ricardo Izecson Santos Leite, aka Kaka, moved to Italy in the summer of 2003 vowing to "combine Brazilian fantasy with the tactical



CLASS ACTS: Milan stars Alessandro Nesta (above) and Clarence Seedorf (top) have enjoyed superb careers

discipline of European football". He excelled in his first season in Serie A, quickly establishing himself as regular and scoring 10 times as Milan secured their 17th Scudetto. He was also an ever-present in their UEFA Champions League campaign.

CHRISTIAN ABBIATI

Italian international goalkeeper who emerged as a 21-year-old during AC Milan's championship-winning season of 1998/99. Only played the final two games of last season, with the title already won, following an injury to Dida.

FABRICIO COLOCCINI

Composed in the tackle and cool on the ball, Argentinian Coloccini also possesses a ruthless streak that makes him a fine competitor.

AC Milan saw Coloccini's potential during the 1999/2000 season, signing him from Boca Juniors. He spent a season on loan with Spanish side Alaves, another with Atletico Madrid and was in the Villarreal side which knocked Celtic out of the UEFA Cup last season. He returned to AC Milan in the summer.

MASSIMO AMBROSINI

A hardworking midfield player who took time to break into the AC Milan ranks, Ambrosini always gives 100 per cent.

Although unable to establish himself as a first-team starter due to a series of niggling injuries last season, Ambrosini made 20 Serie A appearances – mainly as a substitute – as Milan captured their 17th Scudetto.

VIKASH DHORASOO

An energetic and creative player who can play across the midfield, Dhorasoo joined AC in the summer of



"KAKA IS A TIRELESS WORKER WHO IS BLESSED WITH CREATIVITY, GOOD PASSING SKILLS AND A FINE SHOT"



GOAL MACHINES: Filippo Inzaghi (left) and Andriy Shevchenko have already shown their scoring prowess against Celtic and will need to be watched carefully tonight

2004 after a long spell at Olympique Lyonnais. He will be used to the Celtic Park atmosphere, having experienced it as Celtic beat Lyon 2-0 in last season's UEFA Champions League.

GIUSEPPE PANCARO

A tough tackling full-back who has played in the UEFA Champions League with both Lazio and Milan. Pancaro made 21 appearances for Milan as they clinched their 17th Scudetto last season, and figured regularly in the run to the UEFA Champions League quarter-finals.

SERGINHO

A talented player who can be deployed as a winger or in a more withdrawn position, Serginho is also more prolific from free-kicks than one of the men ahead of him in the reckoning for the Brazilian national side, Roberto Carlos.

He joined AC Milan in 1999 and made 20 Serie A appearances last season, although 13 were from the bench.

The Brazilian was out for 10 weeks after twisting his ankle and rupturing two ligaments during the 1-1 draw against Juventus in November, and struggled to regain full-fitness.

CRISTIAN BROCCHI

A blossoming talent, Italian midfielder Brocchi is able to operate on either flank. A youth product of AC Milan, he had to leave the San Siro to gain first-team football. He played 15 games for Inter in the 2001/01 season before switching to Milan in a swap deal involving Andrés Guglielminpietro

He then made 12 Serie A appearances and seven UEFA Cup appearances for Milan in his first year with the Rossoneri. In 2003, Brocchi was part of Milan's UEFA Champions League-winning squad – featuring in both legs of the semi-final victory against Inter.

ANDRIY SHEVCHENKO

Shevchenko is one of the most exciting forwards in the game, combining speed and skill with a sharp eye for goal, as he proved in the 2002/03 UEFA Champions League final.

He also scored the opening goal in the 3-1 victory over Celtic at the San Siro this season. The Ukrainian striker was the top scorer in Serie A last season with 24 goals, and sealed another outstanding year by signing a new contract with the champions until 2009.

FILIPPO INZAGHI

A penalty-box predator with a gift for sniffing out goals as Celtic found out to their cost, Inzaghi joined AC Milan from Juventus in 2001.

He netted 12 times in 16 UEFA Champions League appearances as the club were crowned European champions in 2002/03.

Injury, and subsequent surgery on a troublesome ankle, meant Inzaghi was restricted to just 14 appearances and a tally of only three goals, as Milan won the title last season.

JON DAHL TOMASSON

A much-travelled striker with a knack of scoring crucial goals, the predatory Tomasson is Denmark's primary attacking threat.

He moved to AC Milan on a free transfer in 2002. Used mostly as a substitute, Tomasson's key moment was his last-minute winner against Ajax in the UEFA Champions League quarter-finals, which kept alive a campaign that ended in victory in Manchester.

Despite not being a first choice, Tomasson found the net 12 times as Milan romped to the championship last season.



Celtic v AC Milan
UEFA Champions League 07/12/04





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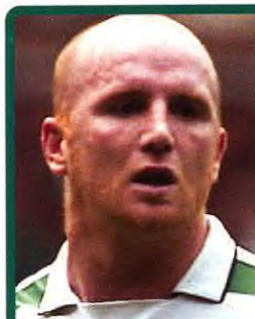
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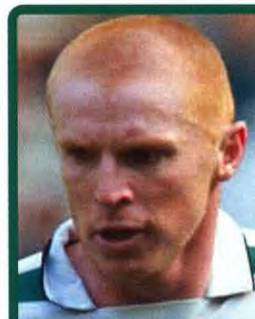


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Exclusive interview by
Danish journalist Ole Dall

"WHEN the season starts the ambition for AC Milan is to win the Italian League, the Cup and the UEFA Champions League. It's quite a challenge."

The words come from Jon Dahl Tomasson, the Danish striker and one of the stars at the Milan club who feels and fully accepts the pressure. For he knows it's always part of the game in Italy – a nation where football is not only an important part of life, but every top player is also aware that success is always expected.

Before the match tonight at Celtic Park, AC Milan know they are already through from the 'Group of Death' and can prepare for the knock-out round in February.

"If we had failed to qualify it would have been a total failure," Tomasson admitted. "Expectations and ambitions are sky high at Milan – and always will be."

What then is the secret of Milan's success in the UEFA Champions League? And what

MILAN'S GREAT EXPECTATIONS

Italians' passion for football is renowned and striker Jon Dahl Tomasson knows AC Milan must deliver success to meet the demands of their supporters

"IF WE FAILED TO QUALIFY IT WOULD HAVE BEEN A TOTAL FAILURE. EXPECTATIONS AND AMBITIONS ARE SKY HIGH AT MILAN – AND ALWAYS WILL BE"





"IT WOULD BE GREAT TO PLAY AT CELTIC PARK - A PLACE WITH SUCH A GREAT ATMOSPHERE. THE MATCH WILL BE A GREAT BATTLE"

could be the key to success for other teams – like Celtic? If you look at the front players in the Milan squad this season you will get part of the answer.

Filippo Inzaghi, Hernan Crespo, Andriy Shevchenko and Jon Dahl Tomasson are all there. Four players with star quality, all of them important international players. A lot of great teams in Europe would love to have just one of them!

And when it comes to the midfield and defence, Milan also have wonderful players, always ready to be part of the team if selected from a star-studded squad.

According to Tomasson, the players accept the necessity of the 'rotation principle', which also means that great players quite often are not in the line-up.

"A club like Milan needs at least four top-class strikers, because we play so many games," he explained.

"Firstly, every club runs into injury problems during the season, and secondly, you would 'die' early in the season if you had to play all the games in the League, cup and in Europe. It also means that, as a player, you always need to show your best."

FACTFILE
Name: Jon Dahl Tomasson
Age: 28
Club: AC Milan since 2002
Former clubs: Koege (-1994), Heerenveen (1994-97), Newcastle (1997-98), Feyenoord (1998-2002)
Honours: 69 caps for Denmark
 UEFA Cup winner with Feyenoord in 2002 and Champions League winner with Milan in 2003

This season, AC Milan, Juventus and Inter are already through for the next round in the UEFA Champions League – but a few years ago Italian clubs had problems in Europe.

"It was because they did not put enough effort into the tournament compared with the Italian League," Tomasson claimed.

"In Italy, Serie A is still something people talk more about than the UEFA Champions League, but the clubs now seem to have learned to focus a lot on the UEFA Champions League as well."

This autumn, Tomasson has had a groin injury, but he hopes to be back at full strength soon – and maybe also in the frame to play at Celtic Park tonight. He played most of the game in Milan against Celtic – and said: "I think we deserved to win and it's always important not to have a

disappointing result in the first home match of the tournament. Celtic worked hard, though, and are a well-organised side.

"It would be great to play at Celtic Park – a place with such a great atmosphere. Celtic will fight until the last minute, and we want to win too. In Italy, prestige for a club is important, and we should be better now than when we met in Milan, because our season had just started at that time. The match in Glasgow will be a great battle."

And looking forward to the rest of the UEFA Champions League tournament, Tomasson believes Milan has a chance of winning the competition.

"It's my dream to win the UEFA Champions League and then to win the tag of being the best club team in the world," he said. "When Milan last won the UEFA Champions League, we lost to the South American winners from Boca Juniors. I would love to put things right in another game."

"That is my ambition, and I think Milan right now are the best team in the world."

WORDS: Stephen Joyce

CELTIC'S huge Italian fan base in Glasgow will have no mixed emotions – no *emozione miste* – when AC Milan arrive in Glasgow.

Like all Hoops fans, they will get behind the team and roar the Bhoys on to a performance we will all be proud of.

And when the Milan players and officials step off the team bus, don't be too surprised if they're wearing tartan scarves and ties. Yes, tartan!

Look out for Signori Ancelotti, Maldini, Gattuso and other superstars displaying the brand new Scottish-Italian tartan, designed by lifelong Celtic fan, Michael Lemetti.

Perhaps even Il Presidenti Silvio Berlusconi might stride through the hallowed entrance to Paradise wearing a tartan scarf himself!

Michael, a prominent Falkirk businessman, will be soon be hotly pursued by the BBC who are making a documentary about Italian immigrants to Scotland, Michael's new design, his love for Celtic and his presentations to the Milan team.

It was Michael's idea to invite some of the Italian players and staff to come to Celtic Park wearing the tartan as they enter one of the most magical football arenas in the world.

Michael, who has been a Hoops fan since boyhood, cannot wait to see the stars proudly entering Celtic Park in his own national creation.

As a third generation Italian, he is proud the tartan reflects the great achievements and struggles of his Italian forefathers and the generations of Italians in Glasgow who left their mark on Scottish business, culture, film and sport.

He feels the Italian and Irish communities who came to the West of Scotland a century ago are kindred spirits.

He said: "The Irish and Italians who came to live in Scotland and who are so proud to be part of the culture have so much in common.

"The immigrants faced similar hardships and challenges to find homes and jobs and to fit into a different and at times very hostile culture. But through their struggles and achievements, both communities are now well integrated and respected, and are part of one Scotland and its many cultures while still remaining proud of their Irish and Italian heritage."



DRESS TO THRILL
Michael Lemetti
with his two sons

MICHAEL DISCOVERS A TARTAN PARADISE

There will be some important Italian eyes glued to this match as it is beamed across the world.

Signor Andrea Macchioni, the Italian Consul General in Scotland will be watching and he has personally honoured Michael's creation, saying: "It is one of the most important symbols of the integration of the Italian community into Scotland."

Also keeping an eye on the game will be Giancarlo Aragon, the Italian Ambassador to the UK –

as will be our own Glasgow Italian Honorary Consul Leandro Franchi.

Michael's tartan is gaining recognition and is officially registered with the Scottish Tartans Authority as the only official design to represent Italians in

Scotland. The new pattern has been given formal, national approval by Brian Wilton, Director of Operations for the Scottish Tartans Association.

Mr Wilton gave it the highest accolade and confirmed that Michael's design is 'the first officially approved tartan for an ethnic group in Scotland' – not bad when you consider that there are more than 5800 different types recorded by the STA.

So when the electric atmosphere of Celtic Park on a European night reaches its peak, Michael Lemetti will know he has added something special to the magic of the night.

He will also know that in the truest legacy of Celtic FC he will have played his part as a faithful supporter and strengthened the bonds linking Celtic with their own Italian support and their homeland.

And Michael hopes his Italian scarves will be waving amongst the sea of green and white across Parkhead this evening, as fans from all over the world hopefully celebrate another fantastic win for the Bhoys in Europe.

“THE IRISH AND ITALIANS WHO CAME TO LIVE IN SCOTLAND ARE SO PROUD TO BE PART OF THE CULTURE AND HAVE MUCH IN COMMON”

THE GROUPS SO FAR...



UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE GROUP A

	Pld	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Olympiakos	5	3	1	1	4	2	10
Monaco	5	3	0	2	5	4	9
Liverpool	5	2	1	2	3	2	7
Deportivo	5	0	2	3	0	4	2

Wednesday's fixtures (08/12/04)
 Liverpool v Olympiakos
 Deportivo La Coruna v Monaco



UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE GROUP B

	Pld	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Dynamo Kiev	5	3	1	1	11	5	10
Leverkusen	5	2	2	1	10	7	8
Real Madrid	5	2	2	1	8	8	8
Roma	5	0	1	4	4	13	1

Wednesday's fixtures (08/12/04)
 Bayer Leverkusen v Dynamo Kiev
 Roma v Real Madrid



UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE GROUP E

	Pld	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
PSV	5	3	1	1	5	3	10
Arsenal	5	1	4	0	6	5	7
Panathinaikos	5	1	3	1	7	7	6
Rosenborg	5	0	2	3	5	8	2

Tonight's fixtures
 Panathinaikos v PSV
 Arsenal v Rosenborg



UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE GROUP F

	Pld	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
AC Milan	5	4	0	1	10	3	12
Barcelona	5	3	1	1	9	4	10
Celtic	5	1	1	3	4	10	4
Shakhtar	5	1	0	4	3	9	3

Tonight's fixtures
 Celtic v AC Milan
 Shakhtar Donetsk v Barcelona

EUROPE AFTER XMAS IS WITHIN OUR GRASP

Celtic's superb performance to gain a point in the Nou Camp has given Martin O'Neill's side a real chance of qualifying for the UEFA Cup, though it will take a tremendous effort against top class opposition in the shape of AC Milan to ensure continued participation in European competition



UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE GROUP C

	Pld	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Juventus	5	5	0	0	5	0	15
Bayern	5	3	0	2	10	3	9
Ajax	5	1	0	4	4	8	3
M. Tel-Aviv	5	1	0	4	3	11	3

Wednesday's fixtures (08/12/04)

Ajax v Bayern Munich
Maccabi Tel-Aviv v Juventus



UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE GROUP D

	Pld	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Man. United	5	3	2	0	14	6	11
Lyon	5	3	1	1	12	8	10
Fenerbahçe	5	2	0	3	7	13	6
Sparta	5	0	1	4	2	8	1

Wednesday's fixtures (08/12/04)

Fenerbahçe v Man Utd
Lyon v Sparta Prague



UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE GROUP G

	Pld	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Inter Milan	5	3	2	0	11	3	11
Werder Bremen	5	3	1	1	10	6	10
Valencia	5	2	1	2	6	8	7
Anderlecht	5	0	0	5	4	14	0

Tonight's fixtures

Inter Milan v Anderlecht
Valencia v Werder Bremen



UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE GROUP H

	Pld	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Chelsea	5	4	1	0	9	1	13
PSG	5	1	2	2	2	5	5
Porto	5	1	2	2	2	5	5
CSKA Moscow	5	1	1	3	2	4	4

Tonight's fixtures

FC Porto v Chelsea
PSG v CSKA Moscow

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BRITISH AIRWAYS



TEENAGE KICKS TO ROCK PARADISE

The Undertones will fulfil a dream when they perform at Celtic Park before this evening's game

WORDS: Joe Sullivan

ASK anyone with a smattering of interest in music what their favourite single is and they will probably hum and haw and discard many worthy candidates before finally answering about 10 minutes later...

Ask the same person if they know what music guru John Peel's favourite single is and they will immediately answer 'Teenage Kicks by The Undertones'.

Those opening two lines are the introduction to a *Celtic View* article I had the honour of doing back in January with The Undertones' John O'Neill.

If the John Peel reference wasn't unashamedly obvious back then, then it certainly is now. It's not often that the passing away of a radio DJ filters through to the culturally diverse and polarised football crowds that gather every week at stadia throughout the country.

Especially when the DJ in question was forever associated with one particular club – in this case Liverpool.

But when John Peel sadly died of a heart attack in Peru at the age of 65 in October, half-time radio and TV reports over the weekends that followed were all but drowned out by the nerve-tingling sound of The Undertones' *Teenage Kicks* blasting out from stadia sound systems up and down the country.

So much so that when bassist and songsmith O'Neill heard about the chance of the Celtic-daft band playing at Paradise before tonight's game, he did think that renewed interest in the DJ's all-time favourite single had prompted the decision.

Not entirely true John, because when the name of The Undertones popped up for tonight's pre-match entertainment, the reaction was unanimous (well, it was



among rapidly ageing punk rockers like myself). And the only association with recent football ground playlists was that we would have the real thing – The Undertones live on the pitch belting out *Teenage Kicks*.

There were a couple of possible stumbling blocks, though. Would they be available and if they were, would they want to play at Celtic Park?

We needn't have worried – as by the bass player's reaction you get the impression that the 'Tones would have pulled out of Glastonbury and walked all the way to Celtic Park from Derry, Irish Sea and all!

"We found out a couple of weeks ago when this e-mail arrived from Celtic Park claiming to be official but we thought it

was a wind-up," said O'Neill.

"But it turned out to be the real thing and we were all walking about on cloud nine for about three days afterwards.

"How long did it take us to make up our minds? It was instantaneous – we honestly didn't even have to think about it. I mean, can you imagine it yourself – playing at Celtic Park?"

"I'm just so glad that we reformed. If we hadn't got back together then this wouldn't have happened and this isn't only the highlight of our comeback, it's the highlight of our entire career.

"It's a compliment and an honour and we have to keep pinching ourselves to make sure that it isn't just a dream."

The 'Tones are well used to being top of



CELTIC-MINDED: The Undertones found fame with the help of late, great DJ John Peel and are now looking forward to following up their last Glasgow gig at King Tuts (bottom left) at Celtic Park tonight before the AC Milan game

"I'M JUST SO GLAD THAT WE REFORMED... THIS ISN'T ONLY THE HIGHLIGHT OF OUR COMEBACK, IT'S THE HIGHLIGHT OF OUR CAREER!"

the bill, but they are delighted at playing the support act to Celtic and AC Milan tonight. However, what can we expect from the Derry band?

Aside from *Teenage Kicks*, there are stompers like *Get Over You*, *Jimmy Jimmy*, *Here Comes The Summer*, *You Got My Number* and *My Perfect Cousin*, which are tailor-made for football crowds.

O'Neill said: "Obviously the final set list will be decided before we take to the pitch, but we will probably play about four of our old hit singles and *Teenage Kicks* is a definite stick-on, you can count on that."

He added: "Well, *Teenage Kicks* will forever be associated with John Peel and it was such a shock when I got the phone call about his passing away. The whole thing was such a shock as he was so vibrant and

energetic that we thought something like this would still be years away.

"Even when I got the phone call it still took a couple of hours for it to sink in. The funeral was very moving but, typical of John, it was quite funny in a way.

"At the end of the service there was an interview with John played over the sound system, then *You'll Never Walk Alone* and *Teenage Kicks* were played as the coffin was carried out."

Peel's obsession with football was well known and in the early '90s, Glasgow band The Orchids phoned in their match report to the DJ from the old *View* office above the original Celtic Shop in what is now the Ticket Office. My memory is a bit rusty but, taking into account the era, they were probably reporting on another painful

defeat. However, times have changed – so much so that we now grudgingly accept the option of the UEFA Cup after the disappointment of the UEFA Champions League.

O'Neill said of tonight's game: "It's vital that we get through to the UEFA Cup, both for team morale and financially as we want to pull in every penny we can. We'd gladly play a return gig here if it was before a UEFA Cup game after the New Year.

"The last time we were in Glasgow was for a gig at King Tut's and the crowd was a bit smaller than what we can expect at Celtic Park. But, the crowd back in February was very much a football crowd and the gig was great so hopefully we can experience something similar to that again for the Milan match."

And one player who might enjoy the pre-match warm-up more than most is Neil Lennon. Because the Irish midfielder has chosen *Teenage Kicks* as his favourite track on the forthcoming 'Players Top 20' CD. Now there's a man with good taste.



DIDIER'S UP TO SPEED FROM BACK TO FRONT

Didier Agathe has saved some of his best performances in the Hoops for European competition and he's hoping for another magical night at Celtic Park against AC Milan

IT IS often when faced with the greatest of challenges that you get to see someone's true qualities, and it is undoubtedly a measure of Didier Agathe's character that some of his finest hours have come on European football's biggest stage.

In three UEFA Champions League campaigns under Martin O'Neill, some of Europe's greatest players have brought their talent to the table at Celtic Park, amazing and disappointing the home support in equal measures.

Barcelona's Ronaldinho, David Trezeguet of Juventus, Bayern Munich's Michael Ballack and a host of other world renowned footballers have all faced Celtic in the past four years, some living up to their reputations, others smothered or overwhelmed by their Scottish opponents.

But one player who has consistently shown his best form in Celtic's European battles has been Didier Agathe.

When the La Reunion-born Frenchman first arrived at Celtic Park in 2000, few could have anticipated the impact he would make on the right hand side of the park, and far fewer would have guessed that a player who cost just £35,000 from Hibs would outshine the likes of Roy Makaay and even Ronaldinho over the course of 90 minutes.

Agathe has been one of Celtic's key performers in Europe and even after four years of playing at this level, few teams have worked out how to handle him.

His searing pace is one asset that any defender would find hard to cope with, but his heart and determination at this level continue to concern and frustrate

Exclusive Interview: GREGOR KYLE



Europe's biggest clubs. He played a major role in the Hoops' push to the UEFA Cup final in Seville and when teams from La Liga came calling in the hope of enticing him to Spain, O'Neill was once heard to comment that it would take at least £29million to acquire his signature!

When Celtic last faced Milan at the San

Siro, Agathe was again in top form, featuring prominently in a second-half rally that took the Scottish Champions tantalisingly close to a memorable 1-1 draw in one of Europe's most famous arenas.

Tonight, as Celtic run out against the Italians in a match that will decide the club's fate in Europe this term, it will almost certainly be a case of unfinished business for Agathe, who plans to more than make up for the disappointment in the San Siro.

"EVERY PLAYER LIKES TO PLAY IN THESE MATCHES BUT I AM A COMPETITOR – I LIKE TO WIN AND FOOTBALL IS ABOUT MORE THAN JUST PARTICIPATION"

UP TO THE TASK: Agathe has held his own, and often more, against the star names from European giants like Barcelona, Juventus and Bayern Munich



The two late goals from Filippo Inzaghi and Andrea Pirlo still hurt Agathe, and tonight is a chance to get an important result and, as a team, make amends.

"This is a very important match to win to stay in Europe and qualify for the UEFA Cup competition," said Agathe. "The problem in the first game in Milan was probably the way we started.

"We came back with no fear in the second-half but in the first-half I think we showed them too much respect. It is important to have respect for teams like Milan, but it can be dangerous to show them too much.

"Tonight we also have to be focused for the full 90 minutes. We lost two goals in the last two minutes in Milan and that was very painful, especially when we played so well to get the score back to 1-1.

"It is sometimes difficult in European games because you are not sure how to start a match. You're playing against the best teams and you have to be careful, but tonight we must start well and concentrate for the whole game.

"FOR ME IT DOES NOT MATTER WHAT MY POSITION IS – IT DOES NOT MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE. I PLAY WHERE I AM ASKED AND DO THE JOB I AM ASKED. I AM MORE BOTHERED ABOUT THE RESULT AT THE END OF THE DAY"

"Every game we play in Europe we want to take something from, no matter who we are playing. So to concede two late goals was very difficult. However, this evening we have to be disciplined."

Agathe is now approaching 200 games for the club and has had a chance to savour almost every kind of football at Celtic Park. He loves the unique atmosphere when the continental sides come calling, and added: "I enjoy playing in the European matches if we get something from them. Every player likes to play in these games but I am a competitor – I like to win and football is about more than just participation."

The role of wing-back or winger can often be a difficult one at Celtic Park, where the wide men at times suffer the frustrations of a support eager to see their

team drive forward to punish teams or push for a winner.

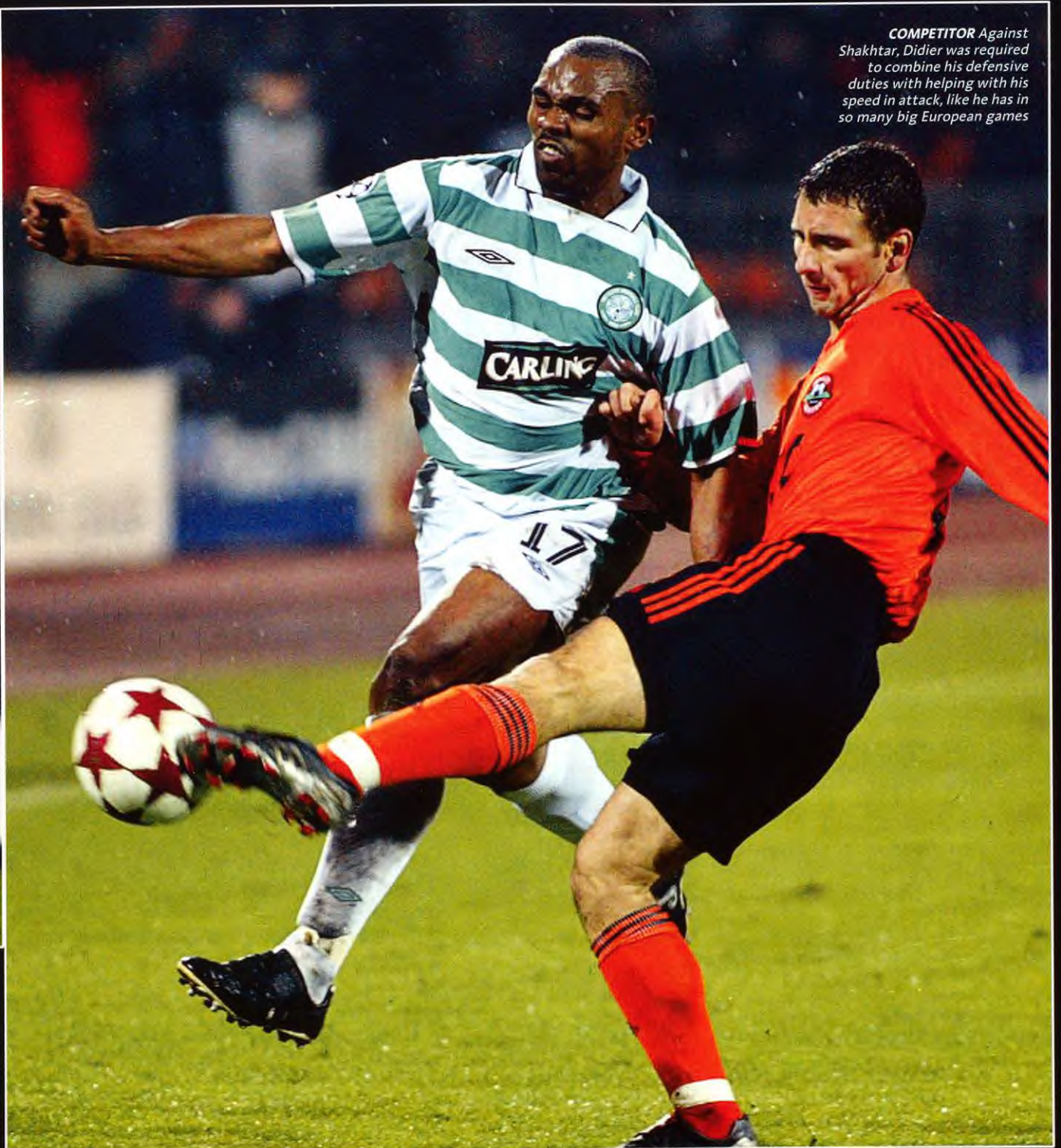
Agathe arrived in the East End of Glasgow as a striker from Hibs, but within weeks it became apparent that his pace and drive could be used with maximum effect in the role of right winger.

As the seasons have progressed, Agathe has moved further back in the Celtic line-up, and it is only now that the supporters are beginning to truly appreciate his qualities as a right-back of real quality.

His tackling and marking have both improved in recent years and his pace still allows him to go forward and support the midfield or strikers.

Some players would be uncomfortable at such an extreme shift from an attacking to defensive role. But, as Agathe explained,

COMPETITOR Against Shakhtar, Didier was required to combine his defensive duties with helping with his speed in attack, like he has in so many big European games



his starting position matters little and he is happy to play wherever Martin O'Neill feels he is best utilised.

Several players in the Celtic line-up – most notably Jackie McNamara and Chris Sutton – have shown this same flexibility, and Agathe is another to have quickly grasped performing in a new role for the team.

He said: "My starting position is at right-back just now, so I have to concentrate as much on defending as going forward. I am asked to defend but sometimes if there are 10-15 minutes gone and we are a goal down I will be asked to go and attack.

"But for me it does not matter what my

position is – it does not make a big difference. I play where I am asked to play and I do the job I am asked to do. I am more bothered about the result at the end of the match."

The result, as Didier notes, is everything, and although he has enjoyed some memorable nights at Celtic Park, these are only sweet if accompanied by a victory at the end.

And this evening he would rather not be commended for another valiant, but ultimately futile effort.

"I have a lot of good memories from the European games I have played in, but the past is the past," he said. "For me the most important game is the next one and

just now I am concentrating on this tie against AC Milan."

In his time at Celtic Park he has also come to understand the European tradition that surrounds the club and realises the importance of a victory tonight, not just for the team, but also for the supporters.

"This is not only an crucial game for the team but also for the whole club, the fans, everybody," he explained. "It will decide if we are staying in Europe after Christmas and that is something which is very important to us.

"All the players must now focus for the whole match to win against a great team like AC Milan."

the YOUTH ACADEMY

THE first-team were very unfortunate in the away fixture at the San Siro and showed that, on their day, they can compete with clubs of AC Milan's stature.

Quite right too. Celtic are a world renowned club just like our illustrious opposition tonight. However, that measure is exactly the same for our Youth Academy.

In January this year Tommy Burns and I took an U17 squad to play against Brescia and AC Milan in Italy.

We felt that the quality of opposition is key in establishing a measure that tells us where we are in terms the standard of players we have.

Beating Scottish youth teams is not a measure of success for this club, but performing well against our European peers most certainly is.

We played Brescia U19s, with our players giving away two years. We drew 1-1 in a fierce contest that gave our players lessons they could never learn in Scotland.

Our lads then played Brescia at U17 level and won the game 2-0. Again it was very competitive as our boys learned to cope with the tight marking and tough tackling that the Italians applied.

We then went to AC Milan's training ground to play against the finest youngsters that the Italian champions could muster.

The first-half was very close with Celtic having the better of the chances, but our biggest fear was tiredness as this was the lads' third game in four days.

Imagine our disbelief when AC Milan fielded a full and fresh new team for the second-half.

The courage of our lads was a pleasure to witness, as a team Christened by Jim McInally as the 'Warriors' lifted their game once more.

Chances fell to Celtic but were not converted and then against the run of play Milan scored.

Great character was needed now and a test that is rarely offered in Scotland was laid before our youngsters.

Character is something that this team had in abundance and with only minutes to go an equaliser gave the lads the very least

"THE COURAGE OF OUR LADS WAS A PLEASURE TO WITNESS, AS A TEAM CHRISTENED THE 'WARRIORS' LIFTED THEIR GAME ONCE MORE... CHARACTER IS SOMETHING THIS TEAM HAD"



HANDYMEN: Goalies David Marshall and Magnus Hedman limber up at the San Siro, and the Celtic U17s passed their own major test against AC Milan

Matching the youth teams against their European peers helps gauge how good the Celtic kids are... and this evidence is very encouraging!

they deserved as the game finished 1-1.

Opposition like AC Milan is a must if our players are going to learn how to play for our first team in the UEFA Champions League.

We must continue to seek out

opposition of this standard to test the quality, and character of our young players. We must produce players who will be capable of playing at the level to which our first-team aspires.

If we don't do that, then what is the point of having an Academy?

Our test this year proved we are on the right lines – but we must do this year on year.

Best Regards
John Stephenson
Youth Academy Manager

CELTIC POOLS - THE DRIVING FORCE BEHIND YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

TEAM WORK:
The medical team at Celtic is second to none, being on hand to treat every player from the first-team down to the Academy youngsters

"THE CLUB DOCTOR HAS DONE AN EXCELLENT JOB IN EXPANDING THE PHYSIOTHERAPY COVER"

It is also policy to have a physio present at every Academy match from Under-10 upwards. When parents are considering which club their boys will commit to, the care and attention their kids receive from our Medical Staff in the Academy is always mentioned as a major factor.

Nyam Mohammed has the thankless job of organising the part-time physios, and does an excellent job in ensuring every age group is covered on every training evening, and that no matter where in the country our squads are playing, we can always rely on first-class cover.

As we arrange our end of season tournaments across mainland Europe, we have to call even further on the time of the physios, as the Doc insists it is essential we have medical support with every squad leaving the country.

Old campaigners Gerry McElhill and John Tierney, along with Nyam, have amassed, between them, almost 20 years with Celtic.

Over the last couple of years, fanatical Celtic fan and experienced UEFA Champions League traveller, Frank Gilroy, has joined the club along with Jim Keenan and Mark Stevens. More recently, Willie Devlin has also been recruited to bring down the average age of the medical staff.

Our club is second to none in terms of medical care in the Academy, and to their credit, our staff are always willing to assist clubs who do not have quite so extensive physio cover.

FIXTURES

LAST weekend, due to a number of our coaches being involved in gaining their Level 4 Coaching Qualification, we were limited to games for the 12s and 14s, both playing Morton at the Science Park.

We hope to play Morton at the other age groups before the SPL fixtures resume in March. This week we will be playing St Mirren at a number of age groups.

IN SERVICE

TOMMY Burns will again run a number of coaching days for staff during January.

It is planned to hold the first of these days at Barrowfield on the 15 and 16 of January next year. Tommy has spent a great deal of time preparing an Academy Coaching Manual, to assist our coaches, and it will be launched at these courses.

Tommy will carry out a number of demonstrations with our squads, to highlight salient coaching points to those in attendance.

Brian Meehan

The complement of physiotherapists at the Academy has increased in recent years and can only benefit the well-being of all our future stars

YOUTH ACADEMY PHYSIOTHERAPISTS

AT this stage of the season I feel it is right and fitting to mention the unsung heroes among the Academy Staff.

Club Doctor Roddy Macdonald, as Head of the Medical Department, has done an excellent job in expanding the physiotherapy cover for the Academy.

Over the past couple of years we have gone from three part-time physiotherapist working in the Academy, to seven physios providing cover at our various coaching sessions and matches throughout the week.

It is club policy to have at least one physio present at every coaching session, and often we have two, with one concentrating on the long-term injuries.

CELTIC POOLS - THE DRIVING FORCE BEHIND YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

CELTIC SEASON STATS

Comp	Date	Opposition	Res.	Att.	Teamsheet
SPL	Aug 8	H: Motherwell	2-0	57,245	MARSHALL McNAMARA VARGA VALGAEREN AGATHE LENNON PETROV (Sylla) THOMPSON SUTTON HARTSON (Camara)
SPL	Aug 14	A: Kilmarnock	4-2	10,500	MARSHALL McNAMARA (Laursen) VARGA VALGAEREN AGATHE LENNON PETROV (Beattie) WALLACE (Pearson) THOMPSON HARTSON (Z)
SPL	Aug 22	A: Inverness CT	3-1	8,736	MARSHALL BALDE (Laursen) VARGA VALGAEREN AGATHE LENNON PETROV (Lambert) WALLACE (Pearson) THOMPSON HARTSON (Z)
SPL	Aug 29	H: Rangers	1-0	58,935	MARSHALL BALDE VARGA McNAMARA VALGAEREN AGATHE LENNON PETROV JUNINHO (Valgaeren) THOMPSON HARTSON (Sylla)
SPL	Sept 11	H: Dundee	3-0	56,936	MARSHALL BALDE VARGA (Laursen) McNAMARA VALGAEREN LENNON PETROV JUNINHO (Sutton) THOMPSON HARTSON (Sylla)
CL	Sept 14	H: Barcelona	1-3	58,589	MARSHALL BALDE VARGA McNAMARA AGATHE LENNON PETROV JUNINHO (Sutton) THOMPSON HARTSON (Valgaeren)
SPL	Sept 19	A: Hibernian	2-2	13,500	MARSHALL BALDE VARGA VALGAEREN SUTTON (Agathe) LENNON PETROV JUNINHO (Pearson) THOMPSON HARTSON
CIS	Sept 21	H: Falkirk	8-1	24,345	DOUGLAS BALDE LAURSEN VALGAEREN McMANUS (Thompson) McGEADY LAMBERT JUNINHO PEARSON SYLLA
SPL	Sept 25	H: Dunfermline	3-0	58,213	MARSHALL BALDE VARGA VALGAEREN SYLLA LENNON PETROV (Wallace) THOMPSON JUNINHO (McGeady) HARTSON (Laursen)
CL	Sept 29	A: AC Milan	1-3	52,648	MARSHALL BALDE VARGA VALGAEREN AGATHE LENNON PETROV SUTTON THOMPSON (Juninho) HARTSON (Sylla)
SPL	Oct 3	A: Dundee Utd	3-0	10,329	MARSHALL BALDE VARGA VALGAEREN (Laursen) AGATHE LENNON PETROV SUTTON 2 JUNINHO HARTSON (Wallace)
SPL	Oct 16	H: Hearts	3-0	58,869	MARSHALL SUTTON VARGA McNAMARA AGATHE LENNON PETROV (McGeady) WALLACE JUNINHO (Lambert) HARTSON (Sylla)
CL	Oct 20	A: Shakhtar Don	0-3	30,000	MARSHALL BALDE VARGA McNAMARA (McManus) AGATHE LENNON PETROV SUTTON (Wallace) JUNINHO (McGeady) HARTSON
SPL	Oct 24	A: Livingston	4-2	7,695	MARSHALL BALDE VARGA (Lambert) McNAMARA McMANUS (Pearson) LENNON PETROV SUTTON WALLACE HARTSON
SPL	Oct 27	H: Aberdeen	2-3	57,151	MARSHALL BALDE VARGA McNAMARA AGATHE LENNON PETROV JUNINHO (McGeady) WALLACE HARTSON (Z)
SPL	Oct 30	A: Motherwell	3-2	10,592	MARSHALL BALDE VARGA VALGAEREN AGATHE McGEADY (Wallace) PETROV LENNON THOMPSON HARTSON
CL	Nov 2	H: Shakhtar Don	1-0	58,347	MARSHALL VALGAEREN VARGA McNAMARA AGATHE McGEADY (Wallace) PETROV LENNON THOMPSON HARTSON
SPL	Nov 6	H: Kilmarnock	2-1	57,348	MARSHALL VALGAEREN VARGA McNAMARA AGATHE McGEADY (Wallace) PETROV LENNON THOMPSON HARTSON
CIS	Nov 10	A: Rangers AET	1-2	47,298	MARSHALL BALDE VARGA McNAMARA AGATHE McNAMARA PETROV (Trio/McGeady) LENNON THOMPSON HARTSON
SPL	Nov 13	H: Inverness CT	3-0	56,594	HEDMAN BALDE VARGA VALGAEREN McNAMARA McGEADY SUTTON (Pearson) LENNON THOMPSON HARTSON 2
SPL	Nov 20	A: Rangers	0-2	50,043	HEDMAN BALDE VARGA VALGAEREN McNAMARA SUTTON PETROV (McGeady) LENNON THOMPSON HARTSON
CL	Nov 24	A: Barcelona	1-1	74,119	HEDMAN BALDE VARGA (Varga) VALGAEREN McNAMARA AGATHE PETROV LENNON THOMPSON (Wallace) HARTSON
SPL	Nov 28	A: Dundee	2-2	9,539	HEDMAN BALDE VARGA VALGAEREN McNAMARA AGATHE McGEADY PETROV LENNON PEARSON
SPL	Dec 4	H: Hibernian			
CL	Dec 7	H: AC Milan			
SPL	Dec 12	A: Dunfermline			
SPL	Dec 18	H: Dundee Utd			
SPL	Dec 26	A: Hearts			
SPL	Jan 2	H: Livingston			
SC	Jan 8	inv: Scottish Cup R3			
SPL	Jan 16	A: Aberdeen 2pm			
SPL	Jan 22	H: Motherwell			
SPL	Jan 30	A: Kilmarnock 2pm			
SC	Feb 5	inv: Scottish Cup R4			
SPL	Feb 12	A: Inverness CT			
CL	Feb 19	H: Rangers			
CL	Feb 22/23	inv: CL 1stKO 1st leg			
SC	Feb 26	inv: Scottish Cup QF			
SPL	Mar 2	H: Dundee			
SPL	Mar 5	A: Hibernian			
CL	Mar 8/9	inv: CL 1stKO 2nd leg			
SPL	Mar 12	H: Dunfermline			
SPL	Mar 19	A: Dundee Utd			
SPL	Apr 2	H: Hearts			
CL	Apr 5/6	inv: CL QF 1st leg			
SPL	Apr 9	A: Livingston			
SC	Apr 9/10	inv: Scottish Cup SF			
CL	Apr 12/13	inv: CL QF 2nd leg			
SPL	Apr 16	H: Aberdeen			
SPL	Apr 23	inv: SPL Game 34			
CL	Apr 26/27	inv: CL SF 1st leg			
SPL	Apr 30	inv: SPL Game 35			
CL	May 3/4	inv: CL SF 2nd leg			
SPL	May 7	inv: SPL Game 36			
SPL	May 14	inv: SPL Game 37			
SPL	May 22	inv: SPL Game 38			
CL	May 25	N: CL Final			
SC	May 28	N: Scottish Cup Final			

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SPL	Sept 11	H: Dundee	3-0	56,936	MARSHALL BALDE VARGA (Laursen) McNAMARA VALGAEREN LENNON PETROV JUNINHO (Sutton) THOMPSON HARTSON (Sylla)
CL	Sept 14	H: Barcelona	1-3	58,589	MARSHALL BALDE VARGA McNAMARA AGATHE LENNON PETROV JUNINHO (Sutton) THOMPSON HARTSON (Valgaeren)
SPL	Sept 19	A: Hibernian	2-2	13,500	MARSHALL BALDE VARGA VALGAEREN SUTTON (Agathe) LENNON PETROV JUNINHO (Pearson) THOMPSON HARTSON
CIS	Sept 21	H: Falkirk	8-1	24,345	DOUGLAS BALDE LAURSEN VALGAEREN McMANUS (Thompson) McGEADY LAMBERT JUNINHO PEARSON SYLLA
SPL	Sept 25	H: Dunfermline	3-0	58,213	MARSHALL BALDE VARGA VALGAEREN SYLLA LENNON PETROV (Wallace) THOMPSON JUNINHO (McGeady) HARTSON (Laursen)
CL	Sept 29	A: AC Milan	1-3	52,648	MARSHALL BALDE VARGA VALGAEREN AGATHE LENNON PETROV SUTTON THOMPSON (Juninho) HARTSON (Sylla)
SPL	Oct 3	A: Dundee Utd	3-0	10,329	MARSHALL BALDE VARGA VALGAEREN (Laursen) AGATHE LENNON PETROV SUTTON 2 JUNINHO HARTSON (Wallace)
SPL	Oct 16	H: Hearts	3-0	58,869	MARSHALL SUTTON VARGA McNAMARA AGATHE LENNON PETROV (McGeady) WALLACE JUNINHO (Lambert) HARTSON (Sylla)
CL	Oct 20	A: Shakhtar Don	0-3	30,000	MARSHALL BALDE VARGA McNAMARA (McManus) AGATHE LENNON PETROV SUTTON (Wallace) JUNINHO (McGeady) HARTSON
SPL	Oct 24	A: Livingston	4-2	7,695	MARSHALL BALDE VARGA (Lambert) McNAMARA McMANUS (Pearson) LENNON PETROV SUTTON WALLACE HARTSON
SPL	Oct 27	H: Aberdeen	2-3	57,151	MARSHALL BALDE VARGA McNAMARA AGATHE LENNON PETROV JUNINHO (McGeady) WALLACE HARTSON (Z)
SPL	Oct 30	A: Motherwell	3-2	10,592	MARSHALL BALDE VARGA VALGAEREN AGATHE McGEADY (Wallace) PETROV LENNON THOMPSON HARTSON
CL	Nov 2	H: Shakhtar Don	1-0	58,347	MARSHALL VALGAEREN VARGA McNAMARA AGATHE McGEADY (Wallace) PETROV LENNON THOMPSON HARTSON
SPL	Nov 6	H: Kilmarnock	2-1	57,348	MARSHALL VALGAEREN VARGA McNAMARA AGATHE McGEADY (Wallace) PETROV LENNON THOMPSON HARTSON
CIS	Nov 10	A: Rangers AET	1-2	47,298	MARSHALL BALDE VARGA McNAMARA AGATHE McNAMARA PETROV (Trio/McGeady) LENNON THOMPSON HARTSON
SPL	Nov 13	H: Inverness CT	3-0	56,594	HEDMAN BALDE VARGA VALGAEREN McNAMARA McGEADY SUTTON (Pearson) LENNON THOMPSON HARTSON 2
SPL	Nov 20	A: Rangers	0-2	50,043	HEDMAN BALDE VARGA VALGAEREN McNAMARA SUTTON PETROV (McGeady) LENNON THOMPSON HARTSON
CL	Nov 24	A: Barcelona	1-1	74,119	HEDMAN BALDE VARGA (Varga) VALGAEREN McNAMARA AGATHE PETROV LENNON THOMPSON (Wallace) HARTSON
SPL	Nov 28	A: Dundee	2-2	9,539	HEDMAN BALDE VARGA VALGAEREN McNAMARA AGATHE McGEADY PETROV LENNON PEARSON



Comp	Date	Opposition	Res.	Att.	Teamsheet
SPL	Aug 8	H: Motherwell	2-0	57,245	MARSHALL McNAMARA VARGA VALGAEREN AGATHE LENNON PETROV (Sylla) THOMPSON SUTTON HARTSON (Camara)
SPL	Aug 14	A: Kilmarnock	4-2	10,500	MARSHALL McNAMARA (Laursen) VARGA VALGAEREN AGATHE LENNON PETROV (Beattie) WALLACE (Pearson) THOMPSON HARTSON (Z)
SPL	Aug 22	A: Inverness CT	3-1	8,736	MARSHALL BALDE (Laursen) VARGA VALGAEREN AGATHE LENNON PETROV (Lambert) WALLACE (Pearson) THOMPSON HARTSON (Z)
SPL	Aug 29	H: Rangers	1-0	58,935	MARSHALL BALDE VARGA McNAMARA VALGAEREN AGATHE LENNON PETROV JUNINHO (Valgaeren) THOMPSON HARTSON (Sylla)
SPL	Sept 11	H: Dundee	3-0	56,936	MARSHALL BALDE VARGA (Laursen) McNAMARA VALGAEREN LENNON PETROV JUNINHO (Sutton) THOMPSON HARTSON (Sylla)
CL	Sept 14	H: Barcelona	1-3	58,589	MARSHALL BALDE VARGA McNAMARA AGATHE LENNON PETROV JUNINHO (Sutton) THOMPSON HARTSON (Valgaeren)
SPL	Sept 19	A: Hibernian	2-2	13,500	MARSHALL BALDE VARGA VALGAEREN SUTTON (Agathe) LENNON PETROV JUNINHO (Pearson) THOMPSON HARTSON
CIS	Sept 21	H: Falkirk	8-1	24,345	DOUGLAS BALDE LAURSEN VALGAEREN McMANUS (Thompson) McGEADY LAMBERT JUNINHO PEARSON SYLLA
SPL	Sept 25	H: Dunfermline	3-0	58,213	MARSHALL BALDE VARGA VALGAEREN SYLLA LENNON PETROV (Wallace) THOMPSON JUNINHO (McGeady) HARTSON (Laursen)
CL	Sept 29	A: AC Milan	1-3	52,648	MARSHALL BALDE VARGA VALGAEREN AGATHE LENNON PETROV SUTTON THOMPSON (Juninho) HARTSON (Sylla)
SPL	Oct 3	A: Dundee Utd	3-0	10,329	MARSHALL BALDE VARGA VALGAEREN (Laursen) AGATHE LENNON PETROV SUTTON 2 JUNINHO HARTSON (Wallace)
SPL	Oct 16	H: Hearts	3-0	58,869	MARSHALL SUTTON VARGA McNAMARA AGATHE LENNON PETROV (McGeady) WALLACE JUNINHO (Lambert) HARTSON (Sylla)
CL	Oct 20	A: Shakhtar Don	0-3	30,000	MARSHALL BALDE VARGA McNAMARA (McManus) AGATHE LENNON PETROV SUTTON (Wallace) JUNINHO (McGeady) HARTSON
SPL	Oct 24	A: Livingston	4-2	7,695	MARSHALL BALDE VARGA (Lambert) McNAMARA McMANUS (Pearson) LENNON PETROV SUTTON WALLACE HARTSON
SPL	Oct 27	H: Aberdeen	2-3	57,151	MARSHALL BALDE VARGA McNAMARA AGATHE LENNON PETROV JUNINHO (McGeady) WALLACE HARTSON (Z)
SPL	Oct 30	A: Motherwell	3-2	10,592	MARSHALL BALDE VARGA VALGAEREN AGATHE McGEADY (Wallace) PETROV LENNON THOMPSON HARTSON
CL	Nov 2	H: Shakhtar Don	1-0	58,347	MARSHALL VALGAEREN VARGA McNAMARA AGATHE McGEADY (Wallace) PETROV LENNON THOMPSON HARTSON
SPL	Nov 6	H: Kilmarnock	2-1	57,348	MARSHALL VALGAEREN VARGA McNAMARA AGATHE McGEADY (Wallace) PETROV LENNON THOMPSON HARTSON
CIS	Nov 10	A: Rangers AET	1-2	47,298	MARSHALL BALDE VARGA McNAMARA AGATHE McNAMARA PETROV (Trio/McGeady) LENNON THOMPSON HARTSON
SPL	Nov 13	H: Inverness CT	3-0	56,594	HEDMAN BALDE VARGA VALGAEREN McNAMARA McGEADY SUTTON (Pearson) LENNON THOMPSON HARTSON 2
SPL	Nov 20	A: Rangers	0-2	50,043	HEDMAN BALDE VARGA VALGAEREN McNAMARA SUTTON PETROV (McGeady) LENNON THOMPSON HARTSON
CL	Nov 24	A: Barcelona	1-1	74,119	HEDMAN BALDE VARGA (Varga) VALGAEREN McNAMARA AGATHE PETROV LENNON THOMPSON (Wallace) HARTSON
SPL	Nov 28	A: Dundee	2-2	9,539	HEDMAN BALDE VARGA VALGAEREN McNAMARA AGATHE McGEADY PETROV LENNON PEARSON

- 3 MOMO SYLLA Midfielder
- 4 JACKIE McNAMARA Defender
- 5 JOOS VALGAEREN Defender
- 6 BOBO BALDE Defender
- 7 JUNINHO Midfielder
- 8 ALAN THOMPSON Midfielder
- 9 CHRIS SUTTON Forward
- 10 JOHN HARTSON Forward
- 11 STEPHEN PEARSON Midfielder
- 12 DAVID FERNANDEZ Forward
- 14 PAUL LAMBERT Midfielder
- 16 ULRIK LAURSEN Defender
- 17 DIDIER AGATHE Midfielder
- 18 NEIL LENNON Midfielder
- 19 STILIAN PETROV Midfielder
- 20 ROBERT DOUGLAS Goalkeeper
- 21 MAGNUS HEDMAN Goalkeeper
- 22 DAVID MARSHALL Goalkeeper
- 23 STANISLAV VARGA Defender
- 27 HENRI CAMARA Forward
- 29 SHAUN MALONEY Forward
- 33 ROSS WALLACE Forward
- 35 PAUL LAWSON Midfielder
- 37 CRAIG BEATTIE Forward
- 38 ROCCO QUINN Defender
- 41 JOHN KENNEDY Defender
- 44 STEPHEN McMANUS Defender
- 46 AIDEN McGEADY Midfielder
- 47 MICHAEL MCGOVERN Goalkeeper
- 49 SCOTT CUTHBERT Defender

Statistics:
 Name - goalscorer
 ● - player booked
 ● - player sent off
 Name⁽¹⁾ - sub used
 * own goal scored
 Recently re-arranged dates in red

FIRST TEAM STATS 04/05

	League	CIS Cup	Scot Cup	Europe	Total
JOHN HARTSON	16 0 13	1 -- 1	-- -- --	5 -- 1	22 0 15
NEIL LENNON	16 0 0	1 -- --	-- -- --	5 -- --	22 0 0
STILIAN PETROV	15 0 3	1 -- --	-- -- --	5 -- --	21 0 3
STANISLAV VARGA	14 0 1	1 -- --	-- -- --	5 -- 1	20 0 2
BOBO BALDE	12 0 0	2 -- 1	-- -- --	4 -- --	18 0 1
DAVID MARSHALL	13 0 0	1 -- --	-- -- --	4 -- --	18 0 0
JOOS VALGAEREN	12 1 0	2 -- --	-- -- --	3 1 --	17 2 0
JACKIE McNAMARA	12 0 1	1 -- --	-- -- --	4 -- --	17 0 1
HENRI CAMARA	12 2 8	1 -- 1	-- -- --	4 1 --	16 4 8
DIDIER AGATHE	10 1 0	1 -- --	-- -- --	5 -- --	16 1 0
ALAN THOMPSON	11 0 5	1 1 --	-- -- --	4 -- 1	16 1 6
JUNINHO	8 2 1	2 -- --	-- -- --	2 1 --	12 3 1
CHRIS SUTTON	9 0 5	-- -- --	-- -- --	3 1 1	12 0 6
AIDEN McGEADY	6 4 2	1 1 1	-- -- --	1 1 --	8 6 3

	League	CIS Cup	Scot Cup	Europe	Total
ROSS WALLACE	4 5 --	1 -- 3	-- -- --	-- 3 --	5 8 3
MAGNUS HEDMAN	3 -- --	-- -- --	-- -- --	1 -- --	4 -- --
STEPHEN PEARSON	1 7 0	1 -- --	-- -- --	-- -- --	2 7 0
MOMO SYLLA	1 5 0	1 -- 1	-- -- --	-- 2 --	2 7 1
STEPHEN McMANUS	1 -- --	1 -- 1	-- -- --	-- 1 --	2 1 1
ULRIK LAURSEN	-- 5 --	1 -- --	-- -- --	-- -- --	1 5 --
PAUL LAMBERT	-- 4 --	1 -- 1	-- -- --	-- -- --	1 4 1
RAB DOUGLAS	-- -- --	1 -- --	-- -- --	-- -- --	1 -- --
CRAIG BEATTIE	-- 3 1	-- 1 --	-- -- --	-- 1 --	-- 5 1
own goals	-- -- --	-- -- --	-- -- --	-- -- --	-- -- --

SPL	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
Rangers	16	12	3	1	33	7	26	39
CELTIC	16	12	2	2	40	17	23	38
Aberdeen	16	9	4	3	19	14	5	31
Hibernian	16	8	3	5	26	23	3	27
Hearts	16	6	5	5	15	13	2	23
Motherwell	16	7	2	7	23	21	2	23
Kilmarnock	16	6	2	8	22	28	-6	20
Dunfermline	16	4	4	8	16	22	-6	16
Inverness CT	16	3	4	9	16	26	-10	13
Dundee	16	3	4	9	17	31	-14	13
Dundee Utd	16	2	6	8	15	27	-12	12
Livingston	16	3	3	10	15	28	-13	12

half-time QUIZ

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



1. Which former Celtic coach, during his career, also played for AC Milan?
2. At which two British stadiums did AC Milan win the European Cup and also the UEFA Champions League tournaments?
3. Which two Celtic players have the distinction of appearing in six major European semi-finals?
4. Which remains the only season that a Scottish club reached the semi-final of all three European competitions?
5. Other than Milan, which other two Italian cities have hosted the European Cup/UEFA Champions League final?
6. For which club has Celtic pre-season trialist Charles Eduard Coridon scored in this seasons UEFA Champions League?



7. Who are the only two Scots to score against Celtic in European competition?
8. Which AC Milan striker was the last to net a hat-trick in a European Cup final?
9. Which was the last team to win the European Cup with all the players coming from the same country?
10. Which former Celt has made more appearances in the European Cup than any other Scot, with sixty eight matches?
11. Which current UEFA Champions League manager scored the winning goal for AC Milan in the 1990 European Cup final against Benfica ?

12. Who are the only three men to score for Scottish teams in three different UEFA Champions League group stage campaigns?
13. Which AC Milan player helped eliminate Celtic from the 1968/69 European Cup at the quarter-final stage and became the first man to claim winners medals in all three European competitions (His son plays for an English Premiership side)?
14. Which two Celtic managers played against the Parkhead club in European competition?
15. Who is the only player to score an 'AWAY' goal in the UEFA Champions League Tournament while playing in his home stadium?

ANSWERS

1. Joe Jordan 2. Wembley 1963 Old Trafford 2003 3. Billy McNeill & Jimmy Johnstone 1964, 1966, 1967, 1970, 1972 & 1974 4. 1966/67 Celtic (European Cup) Rangers (ECWC) 1964, 1966, 1967, 1970, 1972 & 1974 5. Rome & Bari 6. Paris St Germain 7. Billy Bremner (Leeds United) 1969/70 European Cup Colin Walsh (Nottingham Forest) 1983/84 UEFA Cup 8. Perthino Prati v Ajax 1969 9. Steau Bucharest 1986 10. Kenny Dalglish 21 (Celtic) 47 (Liverpool) 11. Frank Rijkaard 12. Chris Sutton (Celtic) 2000/2001 2003/2004 2004/2005 Michael Mols (Rangers) 1999/2000 2000/2001 2003/2004 Alan Thompson (Celtic) 2000/2001 2003/2004 2004/2005 13. Fabio Cudicini: AS Roma 1961 Fairs Cup AC Milan 1968 ECWC 1969 European Cup 14. Wim Jansen (Eindhoven) 1970 Liam Brady (Juventus) 1981 15. Andriy Shevchenko: Inter Milan v AC Milan 2002/2003 semi final



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