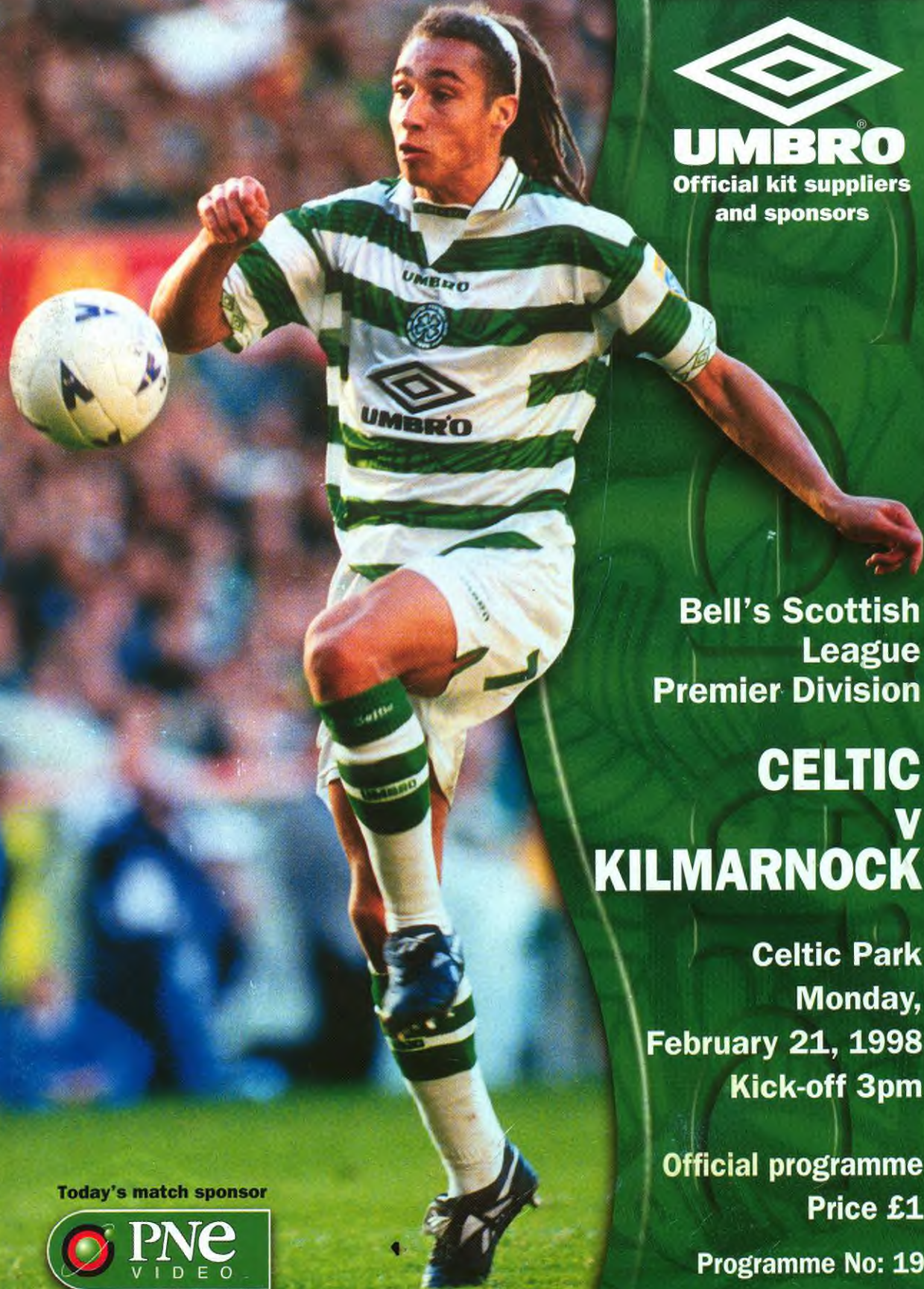




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**Bell's Scottish
League
Premier Division**

**CELTIC
v
KILMARNOCK**

**Celtic Park
Monday,
February 21, 1998
Kick-off 3pm**

**Official programme
Price £1**

Programme No: 19

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Teaming up for the final third

This is our first Saturday home Premier Division game since December 20 and everyone here knows how important this match is.

Every game from now on in is vital – whether that be home or away, league or cup – and we must maintain our level of consistency.

The clear way to keep that up is by teamwork and each and every player here fully realises their part in that plan.

If we are working as a team then we know we can do it by ourselves and we don't have to wait to see how others are getting on.

Determination to carrying on as we have been playing as a team unit is the key to approaching each and every game in the correct manner.

Every team has individuals and we are no different here but the distinct difference at Celtic is that the individual knows he is a singular part of a bigger picture.

Soccer is all about teamwork and that has been one of the single most important aspects of our displays recently.

So that is exactly the type of characteristic we will employ for the visit of Kilmarnock on league duty today. They went out of the cup last weekend but that doesn't mean it will be easy for us today.

Every single game is different

and although we were 4-0 up at half time the last time Kilmarnock played here we mustn't forget the two points we dropped when we travelled to Ayrshire just after lifting the Coca-Cola Cup.

Kilmarnock will take some confidence from that result and far from us expecting an easy ride because of their cup exit...

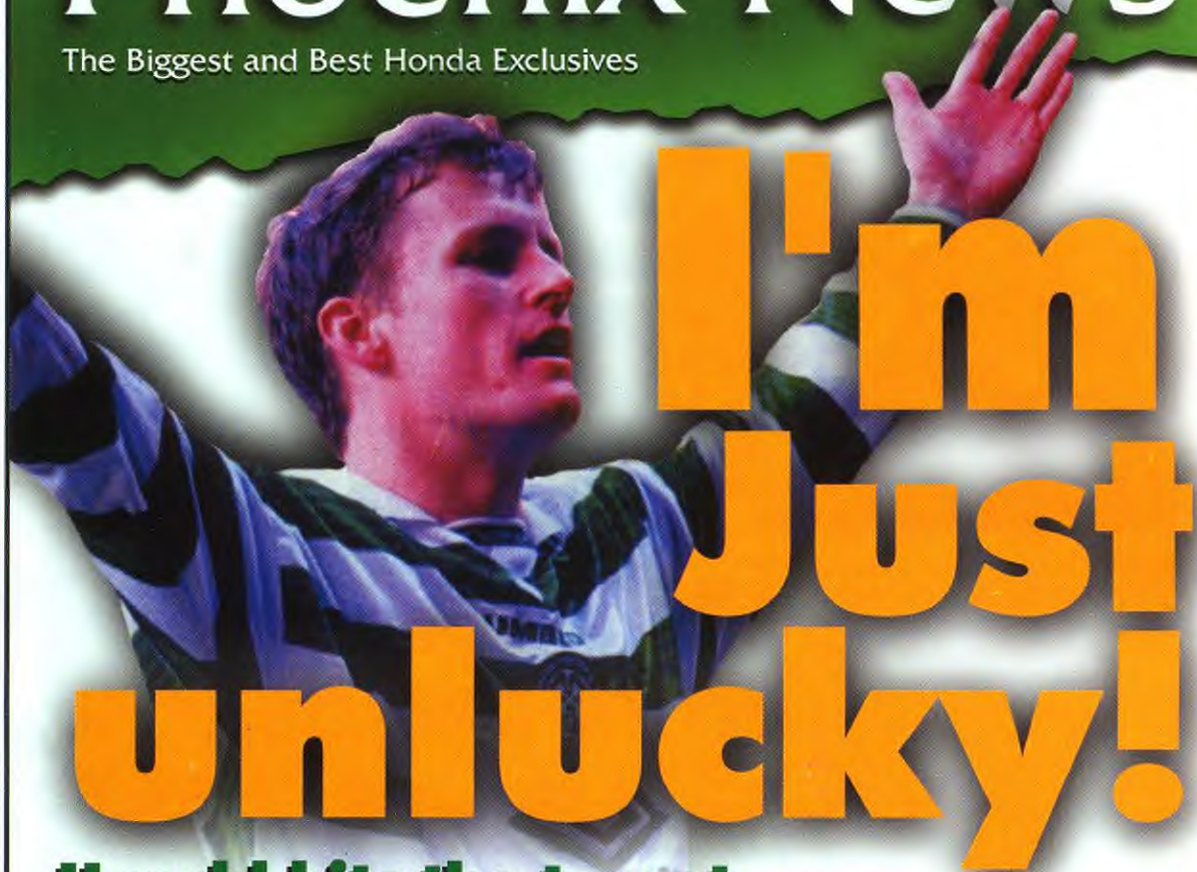
They may well have that extra motivation today to make up for the loss against Ayr United so we have to be ready for that.

But if we approach the game with the same manner that we have taken on to the field in recent matches we should have the confidence to start this final third of the league with a victory.



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**Harald hits the target
in the cup again!
Can he now get a rub
of the green and get
'Lambert Lucky'
against Kilmarnock!**

**JUST AS WELL HIS
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because he'd hit the
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Paul LAMBERT



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Darren JACKSON



Simon DONNELLY



REFEREE:

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CELTIC:

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KILMARNOCK:

Colin Meldrum (g/k), Ray Montgomerie, Dylan Kerr, John Henry, Alex Burke, Mark Skilling

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KILMARNOCK



Gordon MARSHALL



Gus McPHERSON



Martin BAKER



Jim LAUCLAN



Kevin McGOWNE



Mark REILLY



Ally MITCHELL



Gary HOLT



Paul WRIGHT



Mark ROBERTS



Jerome VAREILLE



Jim McINTYRE



David BAGEN



Kilmarnock have not been a favourite opponent of Celtic in recent times, having put a serious spanner in the works of their championship run-ins in the last two years with draws and victories that have left Celtic high and dry.

This term the Rugby Park side have lost 4-0 here at Celtic Park, but the hoodoo struck again on their own patch with a 0-0 draw in the last fixture.

One man who knows all about the pain of playing this never-say-die side, is keeper **GORDON MARSHALL** who moved from Celtic to Killie in January of this month, when Yugoslav Dragoje Lekovic walked out on the club for pastures new.

Marshall played for six-and-a-half years at Celtic Park, and this afternoon's return in the colours of another team is bound to be a strange one for him.

He will no doubt be hoping to show the Celtic support that they were perhaps a little too quick to berate him, and that his new club can still upset the apple cart when least expected – even after their devastating Scottish Cup defeat by bitter rivals Ayr, United last Saturday.

Kilmarnock were the proud holders of the trophy, after a 1-0 victory over Falkirk last May, but cup football can often throw up the shock results and this was certainly one of them.

So, they'll be glad to get back to league business today and will have to ensure they don't let a cup hangover ruin their good league form.

Since his move down the coast, keeper Marshall has failed to make a league appearance for his new team, tearing a calf muscle in training after his debut in the Scottish Cup against Stranraer.

He was fit however, to take part in the Scottish Cup defeat by Ayr at Somerset Park last weekend, and like the rest of his teammates will be anxious to bounce back from that one with a win this afternoon.

Helping him try to achieve this will be a central-defensive pairing



KILLIE'S FORM UP IN THE AYR

By **MERLE BROWN & ADRIAN FILBY**

of **JIM LAUHLAN** and **KEVIN MCGOWNE**.

This pair have linked so well together that club captain **RAY MONTGOMERIE** has been unable to get back into the starting line-up following his suspension.

Talking over the captaincy has been full-back **GUS MacPHERSON** whose loyalty has been rewarded with a new contract that also sees him take on coaching duties.

On the other side of the defensive line-up is former Scotland under-21 star **MARTIN BAKER**, signed from St Mirren last year.

In the middle of the park is another ex-Celt **GARY HOLT** who has carved out a great career for himself in his hometown team.

Alongside him is **MARK REILLY**, one of Kilmarnock's longest serving players and a dedicated midfielder, who is out of contract this summer.

ALLY MITCHELL is another who has been at Killie for seven years, and who has given great service in that time.

Other options in midfield include **MARK SKILLING** and **JOHN HENRY**.

Skilling has suffered greatly throughout his time at the club with injury after injury and has been in and out of the team



ON THE CHARGE... Jim Lauchlan keeps a close eye on Henrik Larsson during the 0-0 draw

in recent times. And Henry has also struggled to get a regular game in the Killie side – despite impressive performances last season.

The skills of **PAT NEVIN** may have come in useful this afternoon, but the veteran winger is still recovering from a fractured cheekbone, and should miss out today.

Kilmarnock have a wealth of frontmen to choose from with no less than four strikers available.

Frenchman **JEROME VAREILLE** is a fans' favourite, as is top scorer with 12 goals, **PAUL WRIGHT**. Hotly tipped for the Scotland squad Wright (pictured left) signed a

STRETCHED TO THE LIMIT... Ex-Celt Gordon Marshall has suffered from injury problems since joining Kilmarnock



They'll be desperate to bounce back today

LOWDOWN.LOWDOWN.LOWDOWN.LOWDOWN

GORDON MARSHALL (Goalkeeper)
Age 33. Signed from Celtic in 1998

COLIN MELDRUM (Goalkeeper)
Age 22. Signed from Kilwinning Rangers in 1993

GUS MacPHERSON (Defender)
Age 28. Signed from Rangers in 1986

MARTIN BAKER (Defender)
Age 23. Signed from St Mirren in 1997

JIM LAUHLAN (Defender)
Age 21. Signed from Kilmarnock BC in 1995

KEVIN MCGOWNE (Defender)
Age 29. Signed from St Johnstone in 1996.

DYLAN KERR (Defender)
Age 31. Signed from Carlisle United in 1996.

MARK REILLY (Midfielder)
Age 29. Signed from Motherwell in 1991

JOHN HENRY (Midfielder)
Age 26. Signed from Clydebank in 1994

GARY HOLT (Midfielder)
Age 24. Signed from Stoke City in 1995

MARK SKILLING (Midfielder)
Age 25. Signed from Saltcoats Victoria in 1991

PAT NEVIN (Midfield/Forward)
Age 34. Signed from Tranmere Rovers in 1997

DAVID BAGAN (Forward)
Age 20. Signed from Troon Juniors in 1995

JAMES McINTYRE (Forward)
Age 25. Signed from Airdrie in 1996

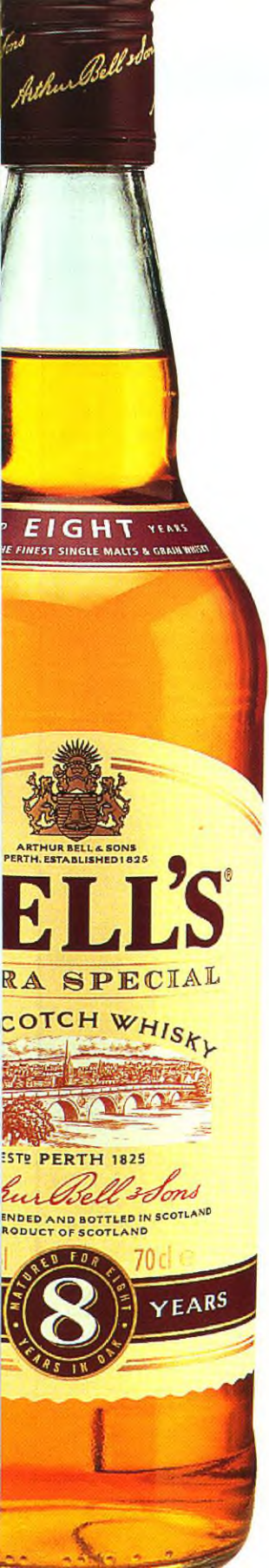
ALLY MITCHELL (Forward)
Age 29. Signed from East Fife in 1991

JEROME VAREILLE (Forward)
Age 23. Signed from FC Mulhouse in 1997

MARK ROBERTS (Forward)
Age 22. Signed from Bellfield BC in 1992

PAUL WRIGHT (Forward)
Age 29. Signed from St Johnstone in 1995

ALEX BURKE (Forward)
Age 20. Signed from Kilmarnock BC in 1995



A
winning
combination.



FOCUS ON THE FANS

**YOU'VE BEEN
HOOPED**



WIN

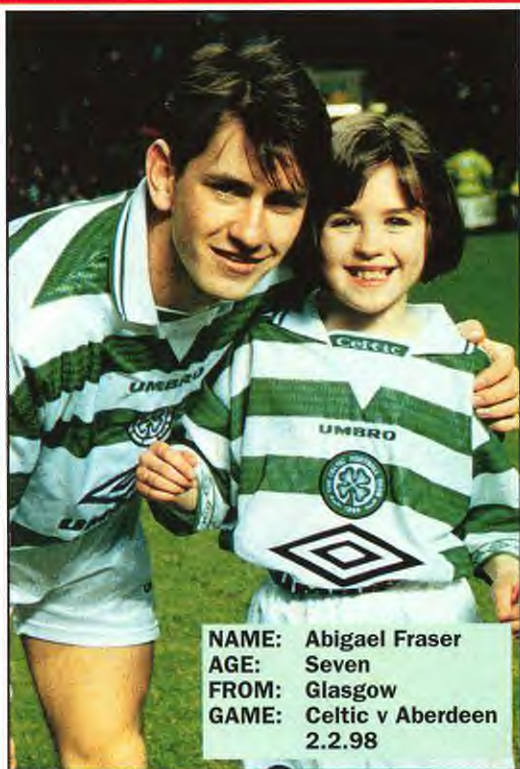
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NAME: Abigail Fraser
AGE: Seven
FROM: Glasgow
GAME: Celtic v Aberdeen
2.2.98

Young Abigail Fraser had a wish that she prayed would come true – to meet Baby Spice and Jackie McNamara.

We managed to help her out with one of those wishes, but as for Baby Spice – well you never know Abigail!

Abigail's luck as a mascot obviously spurred the Hoops into action as they fought back from a goal down to win 3-1.

Abigail wasn't the only one that had a wish come true that day, as her dad was also sprinkled with some Celtic stardust and met one of his

MEET THE MASCOT

favourite Celts, Peter Latchford.

The current goalkeeping coach was only too glad, if not amused, to sign the football sticker of himself that Abigail's dad had kept sacred since Peter held court in the Celtic goal during the 1970s and 1980s.

If you would like the chance to be chosen as a mascot, please contact the Young Hoops, c/o the Commercial Department on **0141 551 4228/4263** for information.



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