

Celtic



ntl:



CELTIC
v **MOTHERWELL**
SCOTTISH PREMIER LEAGUE
CELTIC PARK
WEDNESDAY JANUARY 2 2002
KICK-OFF 3pm



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The title is the only road open to our aims

A BIG welcome to Celtic Park and I hope everyone had a really excellent Christmas and a happy Hogmanay.

Once again I must apologise for the festive season putting paid to an up-to-date results service.

As we entertain Motherwell today, I don't know the outcome of our last two league matches or, indeed, the result of our CIS Cup game against Livingston.

In these days of great inventions, perhaps someone could look at how programme notes could find themselves put into the correct pages on the very day of the game.

Still, 2001, regardless of the outcome of the last couple of matches, has been a terrific year for the club.

This time last year I was looking forward to the January break. It gave us all an opportunity to slow down for a week or so and reflect for a little while on our position, and then focus on the coming

months ahead in an effort in to stay top of the SPL.

I am delighted to report that such things came to pass. This year, with no winter break to look forward to, there is little time for reflection.

However, our aim is exactly the same as this time last year. We are a few points ahead in the SPL and our ambition is to retain the Championship.

The winning of the competition this season is the only avenue opened to te qualification stages of the Champions League.

That in itself should be enough incentive to spur everyone associated with the club to fulfil that ambition.

History suggests that Motherwell always present Celtic with very difficult games. Certainly, in my time as manager, today's opponents have caused us all sorts of problems.

I remember the 3-3 draw at Fir Park very clearly as I also remember Lubo Moravcik's extraordinary

piece of skill from a free-kick to give us a very big win here in March.

There were only about seven or eight minutes to go when he stepped up to bend a brilliant shot into the net, not only to send 60,000 fans delirious but also to give us three vital points in our quest for the championship.

This season again, he stunned everyone with another superbly taken free-kick. Motherwell had more time to recover on this occasion and they equalised themselves, and the game was evenly balanced thereafter.

Henrik Larsson's penalty, when Shaun Maloney was upended in the box eventually gave us an important win.

Motherwell have had a change of manager since then, and Eric Black has maintained that spirit since he took over, and as they showed against Rangers recently, they don't give up easily.

Needless to say, your support today will be greatly appreciated.

Our aim is exactly the same as this time last year

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today'ssquads

CELTIC | MOTHERWELL



RAB DOUGLAS	20	MARK BROWN	1
DIMITRE KHARINE	23	MARTYN CORRIGAN	2
JONATHAN GOULD	1	ANDY DOW	3
TOM BOYD	2	EDDIE FORREST	4
MOMO SYLLA	3	KARL READY	5
JACKIE McNAMARA	4	GREG STRONG	6
JOOS VALGAEREN	5	KEVIN TWADDLE	7
DIANBOBO BALDE	6	SCOTT LEITCH	8
HENRIK LARSSON	7	DAVID KELLY	9
ALAN THOMPSON	8	ROBERTO MARTINEZ	10
CHRIS SUTTON	9	STUART ELLIOT	11
JOHN HARTSON	10	DEREK ADAMS	12
MORTEN WIEGHORST	11	JOHN CONNELLY	13
PAUL LAMBERT	14	ERIC DELOUMEAUX	15
BOBBY PETTA	15	STEVEN HAMMEL	16
OLIVIER TEBILY	16	STEPHEN WOODS	17
DIDIER AGATHE	17	STEPHEN COSGROVE	18
NEIL LENNON	18	STEPHEN NICHOLAS	19
STILIAN PETROV	19	DOUGIE RAMSEY	20
COLIN HEALY	24	PAUL HARVEY	21
LUBOMIR MORAVCIK	25	KEITH LASLEY	22
SHAUN MALONEY	29	ANGE OUEIFIO	23
STEVE GUPPY	30	MARTIN WOOD	24
SIMON LYNCH	32	JOHN FALLON	25
MARK FOTHERINGHAM	34	STEPHEN PEARSON	26
JOHAN MJALLBY	35	JAMES McFADDEN	27
JAMIE SMITH	39	BRIAN DEMPSIE	28
STEPHEN CRAINEY	40	DAVID CLARKE	29
JOHN KENNEDY	41	SCOTT WILSON	30
LIAM MILLER	43	KEVIN McDONALD	31

Referee: ALAN FREELAND
 Assistant Referees: MARTIN DORAN
 GRAEME ALISON
 Fourth Official: IAIN BRINES

CELTIC FOOTBALL CLUB

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joosvalgaeren

The Dizzy Heights

Defensive rock Joos Valgaeren is playing mind games to make sure Celtic reach new levels

Words: Alison McConnell



LIFTED
Joos what the doc
ordered – a goal
against Rangers!

AN Old Firm derby was once as traditional as turkey and trimmings around this time, but in the last few seasons that has been laid to rest with this year's first footers hailing from Fir Park.

Eric Black returns to the East End of Glasgow with his Motherwell squad in tow, but the former Celtic assistant manager could well find that the time when the Hoops were known for bearing gifts has faded into the past in the same way as the New Year derby.

But matches between Celtic and Motherwell have frequently been torrid exchanges and Joos Valgaeren is confident this afternoon's match will provide another exciting 90 minutes to greet the New Year.

The Belgian defender's introduction to Celtic Park was a tempestuous clash against Motherwell that left the 25-year-old wondering what he had let himself in for.

Celtic collected the points courtesy of a narrow 1-0 win, with Stilian Petrov providing the solitary goal, but in the process Jackie McNamara and Chris Sutton were dismissed in what proved to be an explosive encounter.

He said: "The first time I played at Celtic Park was against Motherwell on the second day of the season. It was a difficult game for us and we had two players sent off. I thought that it



TALK TIME
Valgaeren reckons his Celtic buddy scored a great goal against the Fir Park side last season but the ref thought otherwise

was a bit crazy because it was so different to what I had been used to in Dutch football."

"We played there last season in a 3-3 draw although we should have won because Johan [Mjallby] scored a 'goal' that was at least a foot over the line, but it was disallowed.

"Motherwell games are always quite difficult, as are all the matches, but I'm hoping it'll be an exciting game for the fans to watch and that we can start the New Year the way we mean to go on by picking up three points."

Since lifting the Championship trophy last

season, Celtic have grown in strength as well as confidence and the league table shows just how consistent the Hoops have been throughout the campaign to date.

Valgaeren, however, rubbished suggestions that he and his colleagues focus on anything other than following their manager's advice and taking each game as it comes.

He remarked: "As soon as the game starts we don't think about anything like beating records or how many games we have won or why, we just want to go out on the park and get on with the game.

"It doesn't matter if we are playing in the SPL, the Scottish Cup, the CIS Insurance Cup, the Champions League or the UEFA Cup, whenever we play and whoever we play we want to win.

"We have played well this season but that certainly isn't in the minds of the players when they take to the field. In football you are always judged by your most recent result.

"We prepare for each game individually and we prepare for all of them in the same way. Certainly we always go out to attack, especially at Celtic Park and it'll be nice to start the year by playing here in front of our own fans."

It promises to be a long few months for Valgaeren who revealed that throughout his

We have played well this season but that certainly is not in our minds when we take to the field

football career he has always had a mid-season break period.

Last season the players jetted off to Florida after a gruelling festive period, but this season there is no respite and for those involved in World Cup duty at the end of the season it will be an exerting period.

Not that Valgaeren is complaining.

"I have to wait and see if I'm selected for the Belgian squad for the World Cup, but even if I am, I won't be thinking about it until after the season has finished," he said.

"So many things can happen between now and the World Cup finals and everyone here is only concerned with making sure that we do as well as we possibly can between now and the end of the season.

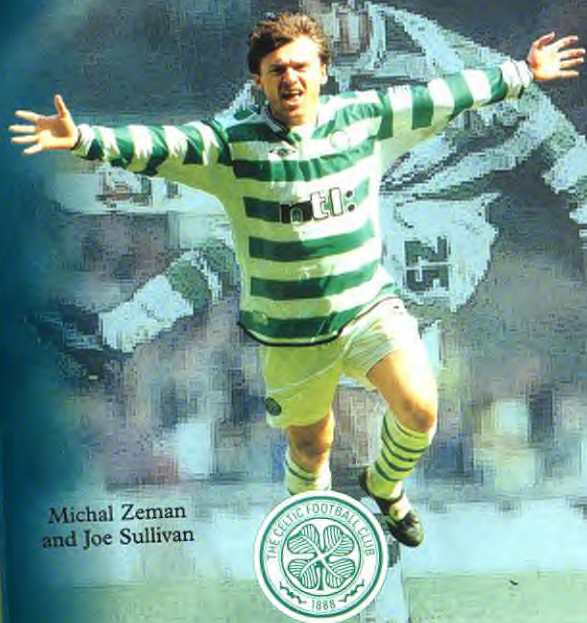
"It was nice last season to be able to look forward to going to Florida and we had a few days break beforehand, and this is the first season I will play without a break.

"However, I'm sure I will manage and at the minute everyone just wants to be involved for every game."

Some of the football festive traditions may have fallen by the wayside recently, but so long as Martin O'Neill's side continue their winning ways this afternoon there's unlikely to be too many complaints.

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Celtic



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celticquiz

1. Who was the only player last season to score twice against Celtic in the league?
2. Which testimonial match involving Celtic has been watched by most spectators?
3. Which French club did Motherwell coach Eric Black play for in the '80s?
4. Which two players did Jock Stein sign from Wolves when he was at Celtic?
5. Who are the only two sides to have lost all their matches in the opening phase the Champions League?
6. Who was the last Motherwell player to score an international goal for Scotland?
7. Which three ex-Celts and holders of Scottish League Championship medals have this season played for Sheffield Wed?
8. With which club did Steve Walford win an FA Cup winners' medal in 1979?
9. Which was the last side that Motherwell faced in Europe?
10. Who are the only two players to have scored more goals in European Football for Scottish clubs than Henrik Larsson

who has netted 17 in his time with Celtic?

11. From which club did Celtic sign Mick McCarthy in 1987?
12. Which two English clubs did Well coach Terry Butcher manage in the '90s?
13. Which three Celtic keepers have played England at Wembley Stadium?
14. Which two clubs this season were the first from one city to reach the second round of the Champions League?
15. Prior to Michael Owen, who was the last British player to be awarded the European Player of the Year award?



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

Which two current Celtic players have scored international goals at Rugby Park?

Answers to Celtic Anorak Quiz, Celtic View, PO Box 2413, Glasgow G40 3YB.

(indicate size of anorak S, M, L, XL, XXL)



Answers

1. Fabian Caballero; Celtic 11 v Dundee 2.
2. Alfredo Di Stefano 1967; Over 100,000 people watched Celtic defeat Real Madrid 1-0 in the Bernabeu.
3. FC Metz; 4. Ewan Williams & Frank Munro; 5. Kostas Kiriakopoulos & Fenerbahce.
4. Willie Ferrie; 6. Willie Ferrie & Tommy Johnson; 7. Simon Donnelly, Phil O'Donnell & Tammie.
8. Arsenal defeated Manchester United 3-2; 9. My Pa of Finland 95/96; 10. Ally McCosker (Rangers) 20 & Willie Wallace (Hearts & Celtic).
11. Manchester City; 12. Coventry City & Sunderland; 13. Willie Miller (Scotland) 1947; Ally Hunter (Scotland) 1973; Pat Bonner (Republic of Ireland) 1985 & 1991; 14. Porto & Boavista; 15. Kevin Keegan 1979.

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