

Celtic

V KILMARNOCK

**TENNENTS SCOTTISH CUP
QUARTER FINAL
FRIDAY, MARCH 10
1995. KICK-OFF 7.30PM.**

INSIDE

**BIG MATCH
ACTION SPECIAL**



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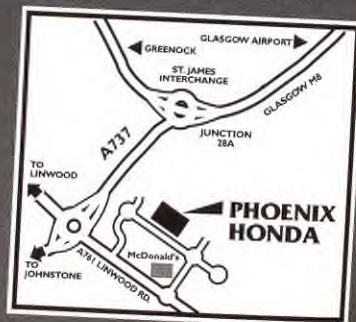
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TOMMY BURNS



A WARM welcome to Alex Totten and Kilmarnock for tonight's Tennents Scottish Cup tie which I'm sure will produce some good entertainment.

I'd like to congratulate the Ayrshire side on doing so well in the Premier Division and I feel that will add to tonight's game which I think should be first class.

They have been playing some very attractive attacking football and obviously I've been looking forward to this tie.

Alex has done well in coming in under difficult circumstances but he has bounced back with his own team and I'm sure there will be plenty of Kilmarnock supporters here tonight to pay testament to that fact.

In fact outside of our Old Firm meetings at Hampden, the Rugby Park side bring the biggest travelling support so there should be a good atmosphere.

That is where I want the Celtic supporters to come in and play their part tonight by getting behind the team from start to finish and encouraging the players to perform as we know they can do.

It was evident that there was some impatience during last Sunday's Aberdeen match and that affected the players on the park.

If the supporters can provide the impetus then I'm sure it will lift the players and that can only help to take us into the semi-finals of the cup.

And we can only get there by gaining a victory tonight as, although it has been well documented that we have too many draws in the league, this is the cup and it is all about winning as we certainly want to avoid any replays.

Tonight's game is a one-off so it is the hungrier team who will go through and we fully intend that to be Celtic.

Of course winning the game tonight will put Celtic only two games from European football but, more importantly, only three games away from lifting the cup.

That is the way I like to think about it and after six years without a trophy I feel that if the players and supporters unite tonight we will be another step closer to ending that famine.

I was at Brockville on Monday to see the reserves beat Falkirk in the Reserve League Cup semi-final 4-1.

With that in mind I'd like to not only congratulate the players but also Frank Connor and Tom McAdam for their input in taking the second string to the final.

And a victory tonight from the first team would take them another step forward in emulating their reserve counterparts.

‘The fans must play their part and help us to the cup semi finals’



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THE SQUADS



PAT BONNER



TOM BOYD



TOSH MCKINLAY



BRIAN O'NEIL



TONY MOWBRAY



PETER GRANT



BRIAN MCLAUGHLIN



PAUL MCSTAY



PIERRE VAN HOOIJDONK



WILLIE FALCONER



PHIL O'DONNELL



ANDY WALKER



JOHN COLLINS



**Referee:
K CLARK
(Paisley)**



**Linesman:
J OHARE
(Glenboig)**



**Linesman:
R WILLIAMSON
(Dumfries)**

STAND-BYS:
Gordon Marshall (GK), Jim Slavin, Marc Anthony, Kilmarnock-Colin Meldrum (GK), Tom Brown, Bobby Williamson



**MASCOT:
BARRY MULLIN**

AGED 12

**FROM
CAMBUSLANG**

DRAGOJE LEKOVIC



GUS MACPHERSON



TOM BLACK



MARK REILLY



NEIL WHITWORTH



DEREK ANDERSON



ALLY MITCHELL



JOHN HENRY



COLIN MCKEE



ROBERT CONNER



STEVE MASKREY



RAY MONTGOMERIE



MARK ROBERTS



IN ASSOCIATION WITH

CR SMITH



+ TODAY'S VISITORS +



Players, pundits and fans alike have described tonight's game as the tie of the round – and with good reason. Kilmarnock are the form side in the Premier Division and Celtic will have to battle for absolutely everything if they are to maintain their cup dream. Below are the Killie team who could make things difficult.



★ TOP STOPPER ...
Neil Whitworth was an inspired buy from Alex Tooten when he plucked him from Manchester United's reserve team.

DRAGOJE LEKOVIC is the newest keeper in the Premier Division and to knock the experienced Bobby Geddes off the number one spot is proof of his capabilities.

The experience gained at Red Star Belgrade has held him in good stead although he has a real weakness when it comes to the pass back rule.

Seems to have overcome the language problem when shouting at his defenders and can perform well whenever the last guard is breached.

GUS MCPHERSON was a real utility player at Rangers before coming to Kilmarnock and making the right back slot his home. Is an important part of the tough Killie defence and a vital part of the Rugby Park sides experienced side.

TOM BLACK has probably scored more goals for a defender than anyone else in the Premier Division this season. Week in week out he gets his name on the score-sheet. A dead ball expert he is capable of firing shots in from any distance. Experienced, reliable and usually one of the Killie stars on the field.

MARK REILLY is a rear breed of naturally left-sided players and as such is a vital cog in the Kilmarnock machine. A real terrier on the park his passion for the game means he battles for every ball. For that reason he would be an important part of any team.

NEIL WHITWORTH was recommended to Alex Tooten by Alex Ferguson at Old Trafford so what better proof of talent is needed. Couldn't break into the first team at Old Trafford but then few people could. Found a new lease of life at Rugby Park and is repaying the club for their faith in him.

DEREK ANDERSON has taken advantage of the Andy Millen situation to break into the first team and now there is no holding him back. Was time the last time Killie faced Celtic when he had to marshall Pierre van Hooijdonk but has no doubt learnt from that experience.

ALLY MITCHELL is always willing to let fly with his cannon of a shot. Full of energy he operates mostly on the wing but tends to cover the entire park. One of Killie's leaders on the park.

JOHN HENRY came from Clydebank and



+ TODAY'S VISITORS +

Totten's troops out to end Celts' cup bid



★ **POWER PLAYER**
... Ally Mitchell has been performing consistently for Kilmarnock for a number of seasons. He is one of the most experienced players in the side and is a leader on the field.

is a truly gifted player. Burns and Stark enquired about him while at Rugby Park so it was fated he would take the trip down the road, has an eye for goal and does his best work on the edge of the box picking out teammates with probing through balls.

COLIN MCKEE came to Kilmarnock with Neil Whitworth from Manchester United. Took a longer time to settle but has started finding the net now and is becoming popular with the fans. Pacy and dangerous in the box.

BOBBY CONNOR is arguably Totten's best signing. Aberdeen must rue the day they allowed the midfielder to leave. Brought to Rugby Park to engineer things in the middle of the park and he is definitely doing that.

STEVE MASKREY was more of a fringe player up until a couple of months ago when he found his goal-scoring boots. Now he is sure to be the first name on the team sheet. Had been with Totten at St Johnstone so it was another inspired purchase. His new found confidence means that the Celtic defence will have to keep a watchful eye on him otherwise they are sure to be punished.

RAY MONTGOMERIE is one of the longest serving Killie players but has drifted out of the first team plans of late although he can always turn it on when asked. A gritty competitor it is a surprise that he is struggling to get into the side this season.

MARK ROBERTS is still a youngster but is helping the Ayrshire side lose the 'dad's army' tag. Skillful and pacy he likes nothing more than to be running full pelt at back tracking defences.

+ Lowdown + Lowdown +

DRAGOJE LEKOVIC (Aged 31)
Signed from Red Star Belgrade, 1994

TOM BLACK (Aged 32)

Signed from St Mirren, 1992

MARK REILLY (Aged 25)

Signed from Motherwell, 1991

NEIL WHITWORTH (Aged 22)

Signed from Manchester Utd, 1994

DEREK ANDERSON (Aged 22)

Signed from Kilwinning Rangers, 1993

ALLY MITCHELL (Aged 26)

Signed from East Fife, 1991

JOHN HENRY (Aged 22)

Signed from Clydebank, 1994

COLIN MCKEE (Aged 21)
Signed from Manchester Utd, 1994

BOBBY CONNOR (Aged 34)

Signed from Aberdeen, 1994

STEVE MASKREY (Aged 32)

Signed from St Johnstone, 1994

RAY MONTGOMERIE (Aged 33)

Signed from Dumbarton, 1988

MARK ROBERTS (Aged 19)

Signed from Bellfield BC, 1992

BOBBY WILLIAMSON (Aged 33)

Signed from Rotherham, 1990

CRAIG NAPIER (Aged 29)

Signed from Hamilton, 1993





Defender wants Celtic in more finals

The big INTERVIEW TOSH MCKINLAY

“ I want to
end the season
on a real high
in May ”

TOSH MCKINLAY believes what Celtic did to Aberdeen last Sunday has to be what they do to every team from now on - kill them off with a second goal.

Tosh sent in a fantastic cross for Pierre van Hooijdonk to head home to make it 2-0 to the men in green and white.

And the former Hearts full-back reckons that killer instinct has what's been missing from Celtic's play this season.

And Tosh said: "Getting that second goal was great last Sunday. That meant we could play out the rest of the game without having to think about hanging on to the lead.

"We haven't been doing that this season at all. If you look at our match the other week at Tynecastle we were leading 1-0 right up until the closing stages and thought we had done enough to win the game. But then they go and score a wonder goal and it's another draw.

"When you're leading 1-0 - the other side are always going to be in with a chance of getting that equaliser."

And Tosh believes that when that happens no-one will care to remember.

He explained: "If you're not a Celtic supporter and you look at our result and see a 1-1 you won't think that we've played well at all when, in a lot of games this season, we HAVE.

"We'd be first to admit if we'd put in a bad display, and I know Celtic supporters always look for high standards.

"But I hope they will recognize that we are trying to dig in and get the results - and I think after that win on Sunday things will now pick up.

"We played a lot of good football in that game. I know possession football is not what the Scottish fan is used to but I believe it can work.

"In the first half last Sunday we knocked the ball around with real composure. People have to understand that if we keep possession we retain a basis to build scoring opportunities from.

"When I used to come to Celtic Park with other teams they were always frustrating to play against because they would get the ball and keep it, play it from side to side, and into the midfield. And that does wear you

Interview: MERLE BROWN

down if you're playing against it.

"And then they may even get a goal. Aberdeen may be struggling but they are not the worst in the league and we showed that we could keep the ball against them. I hope we can do that in most games.

"We have players here like John Collins and Paul McStay who are quality footballers who could fit into a European side and play passing, possession football - we have to try and do that."

The 30-year-old defender has been a Celt for four months now and is hoping he can now retain his place in the side and keep up his recent good form.

And he certainly looked happy enough last Sunday when he dived onto his knees after Pierre's header hit the back of the Aberdeen net.

He smiled: "Well, obviously I'm happy to be in the side again! Of course I expected to come to Celtic and play the way I had been at Hearts, just carrying on from that, but I was injured and then I couldn't get my place back in the side thanks to Stuart Gray's good form.

"So the first few months have definitely been very up and down indeed."

Celtic meet Kilmarnock in the quarter finals of the Scottish Cup at Hampden tonight in what promises to

be the tie of the round.

Tosh though would love to get through and make it all the way to a final - for in his long senior career he has never played in one.

He said: "I've played in about six semi-finals but have always been unlucky and failed to make it to the final.

"I would love to get there with Celtic and end the season on a high in May. When you come to a club like this you expect to be in finals, and it was disappointing back in November when we were in the Coca-Cola Cup final but I couldn't play because I was cup-tied.

"This match with Killie looks like being what they call a good old-fashioned cup tie. But I hope we can play good football, control the match and then go on and win it."

Tosh has more than just wanting to win the game as a reason for hoping Celtic play good football tonight.

For he wants the British TV audience who watch the clash on Sky TV to see an entertaining Scottish game.

He said: "The TV being there won't affect the players and I hope it's a good game.

"I'd like the people down in England to see a good Celtic performance. They've had a few games on Sky so far, some not so good and some great like the Hearts 4-2 win over Rangers the other week. I'd like to think we can serve up another like that.

"A lot of English people see our league as being a bit Mickey Mouse, and I'd like to show them that we can play good football up here.

"They have attractive fixtures every week down there, but here's hoping they'll see a good one from this south of the border tonight - with a Celtic win of course."

