



CELTIC v DUNDEE

SCOTTISH PREMIER LEAGUE

CELTIC PARK

SUNDAY, MAY 13, 2001

KICK-OFF 3.00PM



£2

THE NEW CELTIC SHIRT IS DESIGNED TO PREVENT OVERHEATING (NOT STRICTLY NECESSARY FOR AWAY GAMES IN, SAY, MOSCOW OR HELSINKI).

Because we spend all our time thinking about football, our football shirts are about as technologically advanced as they can get. The new Celtic top is lighter, more comfortable, and better at keeping moisture away from the body. So the players can concentrate on playing, and the fans can concentrate on trying to keep warm.



Thanks for everything

MAY I take this opportunity on our final home match of the league season, on behalf of staff and players, to thank you very much indeed for your unwavering support throughout this campaign.

While not every moment at Celtic Park has been to your liking, you have consistently displayed your undying love for this football club by turning up in your droves to play as big a part as anyone in helping us record 52 out of 54 points here thus far.

We'll do well to get remotely close to that again in the next decade, so thank you very much indeed.

Away from home, whether it was in turning up in your thousands to Ibrox or being squeezed into a tiny enclosure at Easter Road, you created a truly incredible din and helped us to two terrific victories.

It would be wonderful to reach 100 points and the players themselves would love to do it. But if someone had mentioned to me last July we'd take the championship on goal difference, I'd have accepted it without flinching.

Winning titles is never easy. A couple of seasons ago, Wim Jansen and his players performed wonderfully to wrest the title away from Ibrox and I am as pleased as any Celtic supporter that we have managed to do so again.

Retaining the title next term will be, as well all know, exceptionally difficult but that is in the comparatively distant future. We have a cup final to look forward to and if last Sunday's game is anything to go by, it will be exciting.

Before that, we have two league games to complete, starting today against one of the most talented outfits in the SPL and one of the most gifted Dens Park teams in recent years. I've described them as being 'gloriously inconsistent' and it has been that inconsistency which has obviously prevented them from making a serious challenge for this season's title. But on their day, they're capable of winning any single game.

Our matches with them this season have all been close and they were particularly good for sustained periods here at Celtic Park on their last visit. It has the makings of a terrific game this afternoon. I hope it lives up to its billing.

MAY I take this opportunity to thank the whole backroom staff for their work, commitment, knowledge and energy throughout the year.

Although they wouldn't admit it, the players have

appreciated their efforts and I certainly know how much I have benefited from everything they have done for me since my arrival last June.

I'm sure that no-one will mind me mentioning my two colleagues John Robertson and Steve Walford, both of whom have been monumental at the club since being persuaded that the cause of Celtic was one worth pursuing.

The three of us have aged considerably in that time - if only in cajoling Tommy Boyd that heading the ball is something he should have thought of years ago! Talking of the club captain, if there is a more deserving testimonial than Tuesday's, I have yet to see it.

Tommy has missed out on the modern day footballer's salary but has been a terrific influence in all his time at the club. I was naturally concerned that someone almost as

ugly as me and with two major back operations to contend with, may not come through.

I should have known better. His input both on and off the field has been substantial and I am delighted that he will reap at least some reward next Tuesday.

It's also a measure of his standing in the game that Sir Alex Ferguson had no hesitation at all in bringing the best side in Britain to Celtic Park to reward Tommy.

Last but by no means least, our terrific players. Their ability and application, so strongly criticised last season, have shone like

beacons all season. I have been pleased with those players who have arrived at the club this season but those excellent footballers already here have shown their true value.

We would have achieved absolutely nothing without their terrific desire to compete and win. I hope we can carry that same desire to the end of the season and into cup final day.

A WORD of consolation for our youth side, who were unfortunate to lose 2-0 to Aberdeen in the SFA Youth Cup final on Wednesday.

Despite that cruel defeat, I'm well aware their efforts this season have been excellent and I'll be expecting one or two of the lads to come through and show us what they can do.



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celtic:
probable formation 3-5-2

dundee:
probable formation 4-4-2



subs	
celtic	dundee

Referee: TOM BROWN

Assistant Referees: DAVID DOIG

WILLIE DISHINGTON

Fourth Official: JOHN GILMOUR

celtic squad

- 1 Jonathan GOULD
- 2 Tom BOYD (captain)
- 3 Stephane MAHE
- 4 Jackie McNAMARA
- 5 Joos VALGAEREN
- 6 Alan STUBBS
- 7 Henrik LARSSON
- 8 Alan THOMPSON
- 9 Chris SUTTON
- 10 Eyal BERKOVIC (Blackburn)
- 11 Morten WIEGHORST
- 12 Tommy JOHNSON
- 14 Paul LAMBERT
- 15 Bobby PETTA
- 16 Olivier TEBILY
- 17 Didier AGATHE
- 18 Neil LENNON
- 19 Stilian PETROV
- 20 Rob DOUGLAS
- 21 Stewart KERR

- 22 Stephane BONNES
- 23 Dimitre KHARINE
- 24 Colin HEALY
- 25 Lubomir MORAVCIK
- 26 Paul SHIELDS
- 27 Mark BURCHILL (Ipswich)
- 29 Shaun MALONEY
- 31 Rafael SCHEIDT (on loan)
- 32 Simon LYNCH
- 33 John CONVERY
- 34 Mark FOTHERINGHAM
- 35 Johan MJALLBY
- 36 Ramon VEGA
- 37 Liam KEOGH (on loan)
- 38 Barry John CORR (on loan)
- 39 Jamie SMITH
- 40 Stephen CRAINEY
- 41 John KENNEDY
- 43 Liam MILLER

dundee squad

- 1 Marco ROCCATI
- 2 Barry SMITH (captain)
- 3 Lee MADDISON
- 4 Marcello MARROCCO
- 5 Marco DE MARCHI
- 6 Steven TWEED
- 7 Fabian CABALLERO
- 8 Ivano BONETTI
- 9 Juan SARA
- 10 Georgi NEMSADZE
- 11 William FALCONER
- 12 Shaun McSKIMMING
- 13 Jamie LANGFIELD
- 14 Gavin RAE
- 15 Steven MILNE
- 16 Michael YATES

- 17 Frank VAN EIJS
- 18 Javier ARTERO
- 19 Patrizio BILLIO
- 20 Lee WILKIE
- 21 Graham BAYNE
- 22 Christopher COYNE
- 23 Mark ROBERTSON
- 24 David MacKAY
- 25 Alberto CARRANZA
- 26 Walter DEL RIO
- 28 Marco RUSSO
- 29 Alessandro ROMANO
- 30 Zura KHIZANISHVILI
- 33 Claudio CANIGGIA
- 36 Beto GARRIDO

Great expectations

FOR weeks - perhaps years - Shaun Maloney has dreamt of running out the tunnel at a packed Celtic Park. But keeping his feet firmly on the ground recently has been another image.

It involves an ill-timed lunge sending him sprawling across the muddy surface of a near-deserted public park which, just for good measure, is being battered by a howling wind and torrential rain. Yet while this bleak picture could hardly be in more stark contrast to his sun-kissed first-team debut, it doesn't represent the worst nightmare of Celtic's latest youth sensation.

Indeed, Maloney's fully expecting it to become a reality in the not too distant future. For, in spite of the excitement generated by his explosion on to the first-team scene against Rangers, the down-to-earth youngster has stubbornly refused to believe his own hype. With another season at under-18 level still ahead of him, Maloney is already preparing himself to step back from the limelight and prove, both in his performances and his attitude, that he's worthy of a return ticket to the first team.

In the meantime, he'll likely have to become re-accustomed to little more than an occasional kind word in the *Celtic View* in terms of press exposure, although he insists that moving away from glare of the media spotlight is something he's happy to do.

Shaun Maloney tells Stephen Sullivan of his hopes for the future after his first team debut in the Old Firm victory

He explained: "All the media interest was a nice compliment to start with but it became a bit harder to cope with when they started bothering my family all the time at home. The gaffer had only wanted me to speak to the *View* and, even when I did that, the newspapers took the quotes and made a big fuss about it all.

"That caught me a bit by surprise and seeing that, it made me realise he had done the right thing in not allowing me to speak to anyone else. At the end of the day, I only played 23 minutes at Ibrox and it's impossible for people to judge me on that alone.

"It's nice to be known but all I care about is what the gaffer and the rest of the backroom staff think. Martin O'Neill hasn't spoken to me too much about what happened but I know he's keen for me to keep my feet on the ground - which I think I've done. I know I'm still a youth player and, as well as all the top strikers in the first team, there are also some really talented players at under-21 level.

"Basically, what I'm saying is that I won't be upset if I'm back playing under-18 football next season. I expect that to happen and, when it

does, I'll just keep working harder and prove to everyone that I'm going to be a good player for this club."

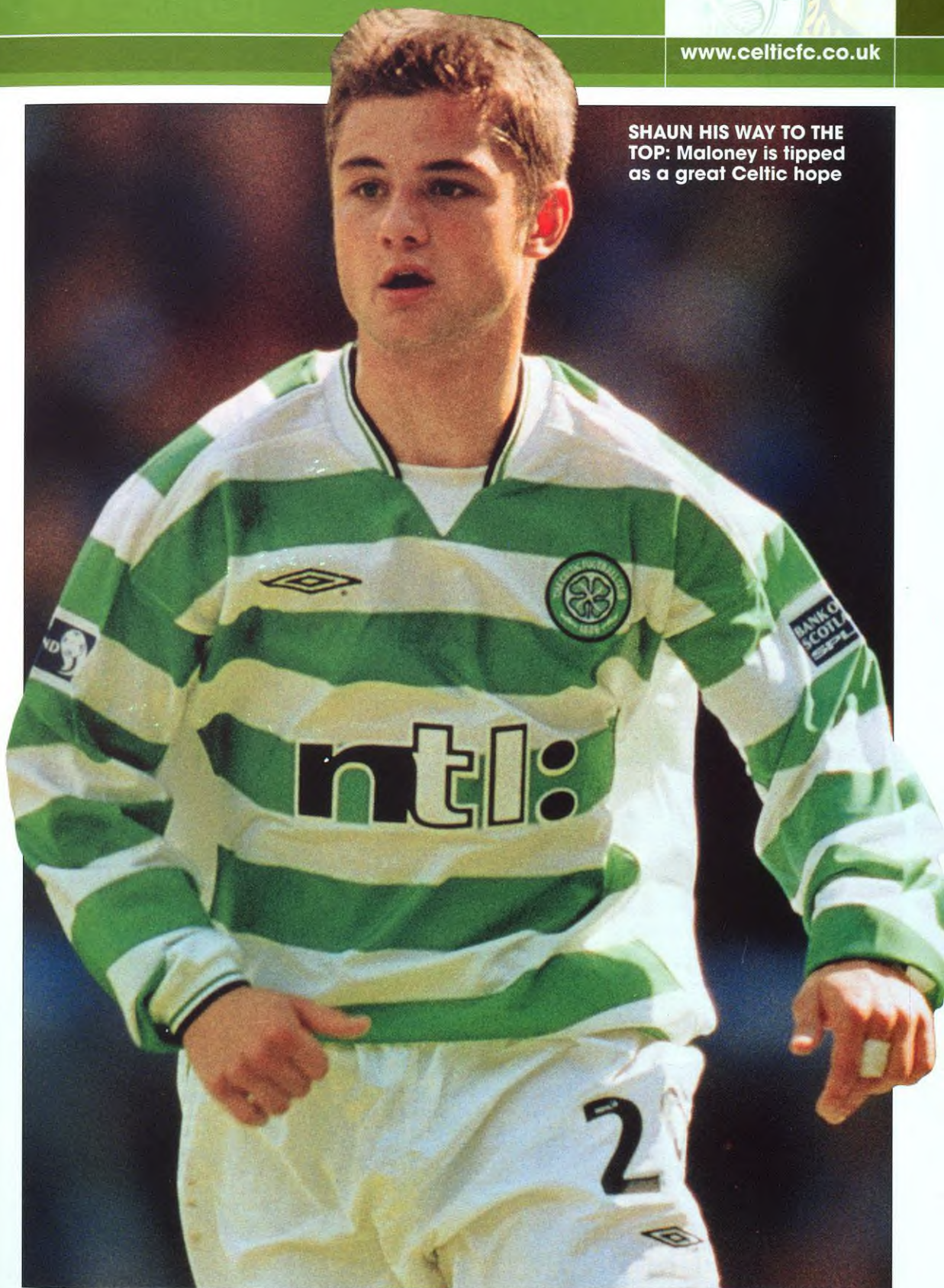
When he returns to the distinctly unglamorous world of youth football, it could well be that the memories of those 23 minutes at Ibrox act as an inspiration to him. Certainly, as debuts go, the Celtic-daft youngster could hardly have written the script better - save perhaps editing in an emphatic drive into the top corner when he went one-on-one with Stefan Klos!

"That chance will probably haunt me for the rest of my days!" he joked. "But the whole experience was just unbelievable. I began training with the first team on the Friday before the match and, at first, I was completely in awe. After all, I used to have posters of those players on my walls! It was very strange but I'm coming out of my shell a wee bit now and doing my fair share of shouting out there on the training pitch.

"It's been the most amazing few weeks for me. I only found out I was on the bench less than an hour before kick-off and I was a bit nervous at first because the Old Firm is the biggest game in Britain if not Europe. But it was the kind of thing I'd always dreamed about when I was a kid so I went out determined to make the most of it and enjoyed every minute."



SHAUN HIS WAY TO THE TOP: Maloney is tipped as a great Celtic hope





EARLY START: Maloney just fails with a fantastic chance at Ibrox only minutes after coming on a sub

Maloney has no intention of being a one-match wonder, however. He knows that he's far from the finished article and views it very much as his own responsibility to develop what is a genuinely special talent.

Already, having recognised that his main weakness is a lack of height, he has spent countless hours toiling in the gym with the club's physiologist, Kenny McMillan and fitness coach, Jim Henry on his strength, power and spring.

What all that hard graft has given rise to is a dynamic striker whose natural awareness, touch and close control has been supplemented by enough strength and doggedness to hold off the toughest defenders.

Furthermore, while his record of 22 goals in 26 youth games pays tribute to his goalscoring prowess, Maloney has more strings to his bow than your average striker. Indeed, when Simon Lynch was fit and partnering Bryan Prunty up front, Shaun slotted into the hole behind the front two.

And it's that positional versatility, allied to the fact that he offers something different to any of the strikers currently on the Celtic payroll, that he hopes will make him a permanent fixture in Paradise.

"I'd love to think that the manager sees something in me that he can use and that he can help turn me into a

top player," he said. "I enjoy playing both positions and I would have no problem moving between them. So far, the manager has used me up front at Ibrox and Easter Road and I do feel that's where I'm most effective.

"But I also believe my style of play allows me to slot into Lubo's position just behind the strikers quite easily.

"I played there a good few times for the youths this season and still managed to keep up my scoring record as well as setting up a few.

"I expect to be back in the under-18s and I'll just keep working hard"

Shaun Maloney

"It's a role where you are in possession a lot and I like that. Even when I'm playing up front, I drop deep a lot to pick up the ball because I prefer to be facing the goal so I can really drive at defenders.

"Lubo's a phenomenal player and someone I can only learn from but, at the end of the day, he's not the youngest so perhaps there might be a wee opening there for me soon. At a club like this, though, you always know that new players will be brought

in and Tony McParland has been playing really well in that position for the youths so I might have wee a bit of competition there."

On Wednesday, Maloney lined up with McParland and the rest of his under-18 team-mates for the first time since his first-team call-up to turn out in the SFA Youth Cup final against Aberdeen. And although it saw him miss out on the first-team trip to Marbella, he enjoyed being back.

"I've been the lucky one this time around but, if I'm being honest, it could have been almost any of the youth side at Hampden Park," he said.

"We've a great team with some really talented players and Willie McStay deserves a lot of credit for developing the lads the way he has this year.

"At the start of the season, we were playing badly and losing a lot of goals but he and Chris McCart worked really hard with us on the training ground and have turned us into, in my opinion, the best youth team in the country."

Maloney, like Celtic in general right now, exudes optimism. Currently, anything seems possible for both him and his club and, with the talent and attitude of a seasoned pro, only a fool would bet against him going all the way to the top.

Open an Account before KICK OFF

and receive a **FREE** £10 SCORECAST on today's game

TODAY'S MATCH

1/4 CELTIC
7/2 DRAW
15/2 DUNDEE

TOTAL GOALS IN MATCH

0-1 13/5
2-3 EVS
4+ 15/8

TOTAL CORNERS IN MATCH

0-7 6/4
8-11 13/8
12+ 6/4

DOUBLE RESULT

H/T F/T
CELTIC - CELTIC
4/7
DRAW - CELTIC
9/2
DUNDEE - CELTIC
33/1
CELTIC - DRAW
22/1
DRAW - DRAW
7/1
DUNDEE - DRAW
14/1
CELTIC - DUNDEE
66/1
DRAW - DUNDEE
18/1
DUNDEE - DUNDEE
16/1
SPECIAL HANDICAP
CELTIC (-1.5GOALS)
CELTIC 8/11
DUNDEE EVS

CORRECT SCORE

CELTIC TO WIN

1-0	15/1	9/1	3-1
2-0	6/1	40/1	3-2
2-1	9/1	10/1	4-0
3-0	7/1	12/1	4-1

DUNDEE TO WIN

1-0	11/1
2-0	50/1
2-1	28/1

DRAWN MATCH

0-0	12/1
1-1	8/1
2-2	22/1



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