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WALK ON

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football

celtic football club

v
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Scottish Premier League
Saturday
May 15,
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3.00 pm



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pep talk

Of course this is our last home game of the season and therefore the last Walk On Pep Talk of this term. It has really been a privilege for me to see you, the supporters, turn up here at Celtic Park for every home game throughout the season.

We can't tell you what your support and backing has done for the players on the field, the team as a whole and of course the club.

I hope the players can respond on the field today by acknowledging your help and delivering a quality performance as a way of saying thank you for the season and see you next term.

Our last two games of course were not easy for reasons which obviously make me want to mention that I hope our players use fair play today.

We have played fair as a team all season by not resorting to unfair play in using elbows or other such tactics.

But some of our players have to learn to improve their response and control their reaction to such play by controlling themselves and using the same qualities and attributes they show when playing football.

Of course we welcome Aberdeen here today as our opponents and we know that we will be in for a difficult afternoon.

They have shown their will to



survive by fighting to stay away from the relegation area but we also know they won't be relaxing in the knowledge that they have safely climbed up the table.

They will still present a tough test for us and we have to go into the game with the proper

“We can't tell you what your support and backing has done for the players”

attitude and earn these three final home points.

Of course we still have two very difficult games to come after this with our final league game against Dundee United next week and the Cup Final at Hampden to come right at the end.

But as this is our last Celtic Park game until next term, I hope you all enjoy the holiday period with your families and I wish you and the players an excellent summer.



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IT'S NOT WHAT YOU
WANT TO BE
WHEN YOU GROW UP.

IT'S WHO YOU WANT
TO PLAY FOR.




UMBRO

cast list



- 1 Jonathan GOULD
- 2 Tom BOYD
- 3 Stephane MAHE
- 4 Jackie McNAMARA
- 5 Marc RIEPER
- 6 Alan STUBBS
- 7 Henrik LARSSON
- 8 Craig BURLEY
- 9 Harald BRATTBakk
- 10 Phil O'DONNELL
- 11 Morten WIEGHORST
- 12 Tommy JOHNSON
- 13 Simon DONNELLY
- 14 Paul LAMBERT
- 17 Rico ANNONI
- 18 Tosh McKINLAY
- 20 Regi BLINKER
- 21 Stewart KERR
- 22 Brian McLAUGHLIN
- 23 Andy McCONDICHIE
- 24 Colin HEALY
- 25 Lubomir MORAVCIK
- 27 Mark BURCHILL
- 28 Barry ELLIOT
- 30 Vidar RISETH
- 35 Johan MJALLBY
- 36 Mark VIDUKA
- 38 Barry John CORR
- 40 Scott MARSHALL



- Jim LEIGHTON 1
- Mark PERRY 2
- Derek WHYTE 3
- Nigel PEPPER 4
- Gary SMITH 6
- Jim HAMILTON 7
- Eoin JESS 8
- Andreas MAYER 10
- Ilian KIRIAKOV 11
- Andy DOW 12
- Derek STILLIE 13
- Paul BERNARD 14
- Russell ANDERSON 15
- Jamie BUCHAN 16
- David ROWSON 17
- Ricky GILLIES 18
- Darren YOUNG 19
- Dennis WYNESS 20
- Derek YOUNG 21
- Michael HART 22
- Ryan ESSON 23
- Russell DUNCAN 24
- Stuart McCaffrey 25
- Robbie WINTERS 26
- Baldur BETT 27
- Iain GOOD 28
- Darren MACKIE 29
- Fergus TIERNAN 31
- Tony WARNER 40



Referee: ALAN FREELAND (Aberdeen)
Assistant: GORDON McBRIDE (Erskine)
Assistant: WILLIE McKNIGHT (Newton Stewart)
Fourth Official: GEORGE CLYDE (Bearsden)



spill the beans

...All the latest lowdown on today's opponents

Reds face Don of a new era

Aberdeen have endured another difficult time of it this week with the news that caretaker boss Paul Hegarty will not have his contract renewed beyond the end of the season.

Heggy will continue as manager for today's game and his final match will be against Hearts at Pittodrie next Sunday.

The Dons form has been up and down in the last couple of games to say the least. A good 1-0 win at home to St Johnstone was followed by a dreadful performance against Dundee last weekend, with Jocky Scott's side emerging 2-1 victors. With that in mind, the Dons team for today's match is anyone's guess but the players set to take part will have a big challenge on their hands.

TONY WARNER is likely to receive a great welcome from the home support in his first appearance at Celtic Park since the 5-1 demolition of Rangers earlier in the season. The 24-year-old Liverpool goalie has been in assured form for the Dons and, with his contract up in the summer, may earn himself the opportunity to land a permanent move.

With Derek Whyte suspended, **MARK PERRY** should return to the starting line-up. Perry has had a difficult first season and has missed a couple of games through injury but the former Dundee United man poses a real threat in the air and will need to be watched at set-pieces today.



MAN IN THE MIDDLE... German midfielder Andreas Mayer is set to face Celtic for the first time today

His partner in the defence is **GARY SMITH**. The quiet man at Pittodrie has featured in every defensive position throughout the season but should turn out in central defence today.

ANDY DOW is probably the in-form Dons player at the moment and has been in great form for the last couple of games. The former Hibeer has had an up and down season but will be looking to finish the season on a high.

Youngster **RUSSELL ANDERSON** has been in and out of the team this season but, having played well in the last couple of games, the 21-year-old defender's chances of regular football next season look promising.

ANDREAS MAYER is a player who will be facing Celtic today for the first time. The German midfielder is a great passer of the ball and his shooting ability from distance means he will need to be



MAN FOR ALL SEASON... Quiet man of Pittodrie Gary Smith has featured in every defensive position this season for the Dons

“Their form has been up and down in the last few games”

watched carefully. His partner in midfield, **PAUL BERNARD**, will also be facing the Celts for the first time this season after missing almost a year due to injury. The former Oldham player made a scoring return against Hearts at Tynecastle in March and his strong tackling will present a physical presence to the Dons midfield today.

Also likely to feature in midfield is Dons favourite **EOIN JESS**. The Portsoy native has played most of the season up front which was recognised by his recall to the

international set-up against the Czech Republic. He is a big game player and will be the big player for the Dons today.

JAMIE BUCHAN has played in the last two games in the absence of Darren Young and should continue on the right of midfield for the Dons today. A very quick player, Buchan has scored once this season, against St Johnstone in January.

Up front today should be **ROBBIE WINTERS** and **JIM HAMILTON**. Winters is another Dons player in form at the moment, having scored in the last

two games and the Celtic defence know exactly what he is capable of, having scored a cracker at Pittodrie against them earlier in the season. Hamilton has also made a good start to his Dons career, scoring against St Johnstone in his second game in a red shirt. The former Hearts striker's move to Pittodrie from Edinburgh raised a few eyebrows as he had been the club's top scorer this season.

On the bench today is likely to be **NIGEL PEPPER**, **DENNIS WYNESS**, **MICHAEL HART**, **JIM LEIGHTON** and **DEREK YOUNG**.



Hegarty will not have his contract renewed beyond the end of the season



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Tony Hamilton

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