



CELTIC v DUNDEE UTD

Celtic Park, Sunday 16 May 2004, Kick-off 3.00pm

Scottish Premierleague 2003/04

Programme No.29



BANK OF SCOTLAND
PREMIERLEAGUE CHAMPIONS

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PREMIERLEAGUE
CHAMPIONS 2003 - 2004

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2003-04

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Carling are proud to be supporters of Celtic FC.

LOVEFOOTBALL



“It has been a long and hard campaign but ultimately a very rewarding one. We set out with the aim of winning the Championship and this was achieved in considerable style”

A BIG welcome to Celtic Park today for our final league game of the season.

It has been a long and hard campaign but ultimately a very rewarding one. We set out at the start of the season with the aim of winning the Championship and this was achieved in some considerable style.

After dropping two points on the opening day of the season away to Dunfermline, the team went on to record twenty five consecutive league victories - a new Scottish record - which put us in a strong position to win the title.

And when victory was gained at Rugby Park in the 32nd league match, the Championship was claimed. The disappointment of losing the league last season seemed to evaporate that very afternoon and it has been a good feeling ever since.

We have also had some special evenings in both our Champions League ties and UEFA Cup matches this season. I thought our home performances against Lyon and Anderlecht were particularly terrific, as was our victory over Barcelona recently in the UEFA Cup.

We were so close to progressing to the last 16 of the Champions League, but automatic qualification into next season's competition has been our reward for winning the league, a considerable tonic.

Domestically, we have reached the Scottish Cup final, and the game against Dunfermline is one we are all looking forward to.

Dunfermline have shown themselves to be a good side, having beaten us here at Celtic Park recently, and we have a great respect for them and everything they have achieved.

However, the Scottish Cup final is a showpiece occasion and one that we want to play well in.

Everything we achieve is due to a great team effort. The players have often been praised for their dedication, determination and desire to bring success to the football club and these qualities were once again to the fore throughout the season.

Chris Sutton, Jackie McNamara and Stephen Pearson were are rewarded with various Player of the Year Awards. It is an acknowledgement of their performances this season but I

know they would all be quick to praise the efforts of their team-mates in helping them to achieve that recognition.

I would like to thank the whole backroom staff here at the football club for their wonderful efforts and a special word of thanks to John Robertson and Steve Walford who've been magnificent yet again.

Finally, a word of thanks to you, the supporters. Your backing for the team, home and away, domestically and in Europe, is vitally important and is something that everyone at the football club appreciates.

Today we face a Dundee United side who have done very well this season. Ian McColl's side secured a well-deserved top six finish and have already shown this season that they will be difficult opponents.

We would like to finish this league campaign on 98 points and the only way to achieve that is by winning today's game.

CELTIC FOOTBALL CLUB FACTFILE

Formed: 1888

Stadium: Celtic Park
 (capacity 60,506)

Home strip: Green/white hooped shirts,
 white shorts, white socks

Away strip: Black shirts, black shorts and socks with
 gold trim

Third strip: Gold shirts, green
 shorts, gold socks

Record attendance: 92,000 (v Rangers, 1938)

Record victory: 11-0 (v Dundee, 1895)

Record defeat: 0-8 (v Motherwell, 1937)

Most league goals (1 season): 50, Jimmy McGrory,
 1935/36

Most Premier/SPL goals (1 season): 35, Brian McClair
 1986/87, Henrik Larsson 2000/01

Website: www.celticfc.net

HONOURS

Scottish League (39)

1892/93, 1893/94, 1895/96, 1897/98, 1904/05, 1905/06,
 1906/07, 1907/08, 1908/09, 1909/10, 1913/14, 1914/15,
 1915/16, 1916/17, 1918/19, 1921/22, 1925/26, 1935/36,
 1937/38, 1953/54, 1965/66, 1966/67, 1967/68, 1968/69,
 1969/70, 1970/71, 1971/72, 1972/73, 1973/74, 1976/77,
 1978/79, 1980/81, 1981/82, 1985/86, 1987/88, 1997/98,
 2000/2001, 2001/2002, 2003/2004

Scottish Cup (31)

1892, 1899, 1900, 1904, 1907, 1908, 1911, 1912, 1914,
 1923, 1925, 1927, 1931, 1933, 1937, 1951, 1954, 1965,
 1967, 1969, 1971, 1972, 1974, 1975, 1977, 1980, 1985,
 1988, 1989, 1995, 2001

League Cup (12)

1956/57, 1957/58, 1965/66, 1966/67, 1967/68 1968/69,
 1969/70, 1974/75, 1982/83, 1997/98,
 1999/2000, 2000/2001

European Cup (1) 1967 **Coronation Cup (1)** 1953

CELTIC FACTS

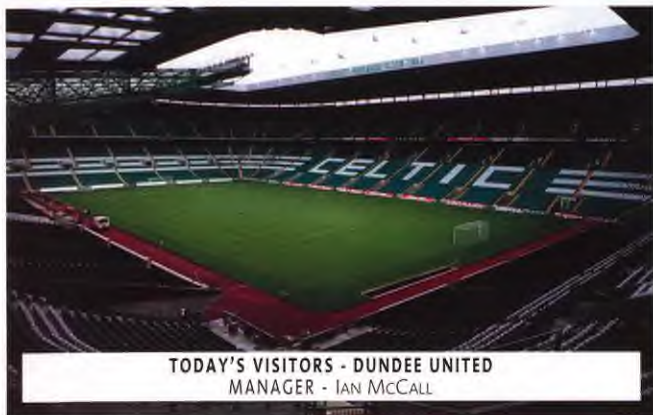
- May 16th has been a significant date in Celtic's history for a number of reasons.
- In 1905, at the end of the 18-match league campaign, Celtic and Rangers were tied on 41 points. The deciding method of the time was a play-off, held at Hampden. Celtic won 2-1 to collect their fifth Championship.
- In 1907, at Parkhead, Rangers won 2-1 in the benefit match for St Mary's Convalescent Home in Lanark.
- Celtic travelled to Ibrox in 1967 knowing that a point would bring them a league title. 78,000 were packed into the ground and Jimmy Johnstone scored the two goals which gave Celtic their 22nd championship.
- There was, unfortunately, a bad night for Celtic fans in 1970, when Feyenoord proved too strong in the final of the European Cup in Milan.
- At Hampden, on a sunny afternoon in 1972, Dixie Deans scored a hat-trick as Celtic crushed Hibs 6-1, equalising the biggest-ever score in a Scottish Cup final.
- And in 1974, at Cappielow, when Celtic drew 0-0 with Morton, Davie Hay and Evan Williams played their last matches in the Hoops. The club had just won a ninth consecutive league championship, the 29th in Celtic's history.



DUNDEE UNITED FACTS

- Originally founded in 1909 as Dundee Hibs, the club came into the Scottish Second Division as Dundee United in 1923. They won the title in 1924/25 but finished bottom of the First Division in 1926/27 and were relegated. Two years later, they again won the Second Division Championship and were promoted along with Morton but had a see-saw existence in the following years. Relegated 1929/30, back up 1930/31. In 31/32, they went down again and this time stayed in the lower division until 1959/60.
- Dundee United's best moments came after the arrival of Jim McLean in the early 1970s. McLean stamped his ideas on the club, bringing in very good young players and wielding them into an effective system. Domestically, they won the Premier Division title in 1982; and the League Cup in 79/80 and 80/91. Ironically, after defeats in Scottish Cup finals in 1974, 1981, 1985, 1987 and 1991 with McLean in charge, the Terrors won the trophy in 1994 under Ivan Golac.
- Since 1974, Dundee United have had 21 seasons of European competition, playing 8 matches in the European Cup, 10 in the Cup-Winners' Cup and 84 in the UEFA Cup. The highlight was their appearance in the UEFA Cup final in 1986/87, when they played Gothenburg over two legs, losing 0-1 in Sweden and drawing 1-1 at home.





TODAY'S VISITORS - DUNDEE UNITED
 MANAGER - IAN MCCALL

CELTIC   **DUNDEE UNITED**

Momo Sylla	3	1	Paul Gallacher
Jackie McNamara	4	3	Jim Paterson
Joos Valgaeren	5	4	Derek McInnes
Bobo Balde	6	5	Alan Archibald
Henrik Larsson	7	7	Mark Kerr
Alan Thompson	8	8	Charlie Miller
Chris Sutton	9	9	Collin Samuel
John Hartson	10	10	Jim McIntyre
Stephen Pearson	11	11	Barry Robson
David Fernandez	12	12	Scott Paterson
Paul Lambert	14	14	Billy Dodds
Ulrik Laursen	16	15	Stuart Duff
Didier Agathe	17	17	Tony Bullock
Neil Lennon	18	18	Craig Easton
Stilian Petrov	19	19	David McCracken
Robert Douglas	20	20	Jason Scotland
Magnus Hedman	21	21	Mark Wilson
David Marshall	22	22	Andy McLaren
Stanislav Varga	23	25	Chris Innes
Shaun Maloney	29		
Ross Wallace	33		
Johan Mjallby	35		
Craig Beattie	37		
Jamie Smith	39		
John Kennedy	41		
Liam Miller	43		
Stephen McManus	44		
Kevin McBride	45		
Aiden McGeady	46		
Michael McGovern	47		

Celtic Football Club, Celtic Park, Glasgow G40 3RE 0141-556 2611

CURRENT SCOTTISH PREMIERLEAGUE 2003/04

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
CHAMPIONS	37	30	5	2	103	24	79	95
Rangers	37	24	6	7	73	31	42	78
Hearts	37	18	11	8	53	38	15	65
Dunfermline	37	14	11	12	43	49	-6	53
Dundee Utd	37	13	10	14	46	58	-12	49
Motherwell	37	12	10	15	40	46	-6	46
Hibernian	37	11	11	15	40	56	-16	44
Dundee	37	11	10	16	46	56	-10	43
Kilmarnock	37	12	5	20	49	72	-23	41
Livingston	37	9	13	15	44	56	-12	40
Aberdeen	37	9	7	21	38	61	-23	34
Partick Thistle	37	6	7	24	37	65	-28	25

CLUB SPONSORS



FORTHCOMING FIXTURES

Scottish Cup final, Hampden Park
CELTIC v DUNFERMLINE SAT 22 MAY 3:00pm

RECENT FORM



Scottish Premierleague, May 12, 2004
MOTHERWELL 1 v CELTIC 1 (Beattie)

Scottish Premierleague, May 8, 2004
CELTIC 1 v RANGERS 0 (Sutton)

Scottish Premierleague, May 2, 2004
CELTIC 1 v DUNFERMLINE 2 (Larsson)

Scottish Premierleague, April 25, 2004
HEARTS 1 v 1 CELTIC (McGeady)

Scottish Premierleague, April 21, 2004
CELTIC 1 v ABERDEEN 2 (Larsson)

TODAY'S MATCH OFFICIALS

Referee: **John Underhill**
 Assistant Referees: **Graeme Allison**
Lawrence Kerrigan
 Fourth Official: **Colin Hardie**

CELTIC plc DIRECTORS Brian Quinn, Peter Lawwell, Eric Riley, Dermot Desmond, Tom Allison, Eric Hagman

CFAC DIRECTORS Peter Lawwell, Eric Riley, John Keane, Michael McDonald, Kevin Sweeney

MANAGER Martin O'Neill **ASSISTANT MANAGER** John Robertson **COACH** Steve Walford

HEAD OF YOUTH Tommy Burns **YOUTH TEAM COACH** Willie McStay **UNDER-21 COACH** Kenny McDowall

PHYSIOTHERAPISTS Tim Williamson & Gavin McCarthy **CLUB DOCTOR** Roddy Macdonald **KIT CONTROLLER** John Clark

GREAT EXPECTATIONS

Before Stilian Petrov leads out his country at this summer's European Championships, the Bulgarian international is hoping to bring the Scottish Cup back to Celtic Park

FOUR years ago Celtic rounded off a disastrous campaign with a final home game against Dundee United.

It was a glorious day and what, with the sunshine and the first appearance of Henrik Larsson from a broken leg and a clutch of youngsters turning out for the senior side, optimism hung in the air, despite the trail of despair left in the wake of ten months of relentless torment.

Yet few would have anticipated not only the extent of the turnaround but the rapidity with which the change in fortunes came. Anyone in any doubt about just how much Celtic have been propelled forward under the guidance of Martin O'Neill need only look at where the club has been and where it is now.

There are not many survivors from the side who faced Dundee United on that balmy May afternoon which seems longer ago than a mere four years.

Paul Lambert and Johan Mjallby featured while Stilian Petrov, whose personal fortunes mirrored that of his new club in a desperate first year in Glasgow, didn't even

Exclusive Interview: ALISON MCCONNELL

put in an appearance. The Bulgarian will go into this afternoon's tie against the Tannadice side already having chalked up a half century of appearances for Celtic this season, and this summer he will lead out his country at the European Championships in Portugal.

If Celtic worried about what the future held as the new millennium began, it was a source of constant torment for Petrov.

"Yeah, I remember that day," sighed Petrov. "The stadium was full and even though it had been a bad season the supporters were good. Now, to be in the position that we are in as a team is amazing and we want to build on that."

"Even though the league has been won we still want to win this one because it is the final league game of the campaign and we want to thank the fans for the support they have given us, not only this season but all the time."

"It is a special game because it is our chance to finish off what has been a good domestic season with a win over Dundee United because

"Winning the Scottish Cup would be an ideal way to finish the season"



that is the way we approach every game.

"We lost our momentum a little bit after we won the title but after doing so well against Rangers last weekend, we want to keep that kind of form going ahead of the Scottish Cup final."

Having won three Championships in the four years that O'Neill has been at the club, Petrov has found himself a pivotal figure in the middle of Celtic's midfield.

Arriving with a reputation as one of Bulgaria's finest rising talents, the teenager toiled under the weight of expectation as well as being asked to fulfil unfamiliar roles.

He has flourished under O'Neill and this season has nine goals to show for his bursts forward. As the cup final looms against Dunfermline next weekend he is keen to add another bauble to his collection.

The Treble was won in O'Neill's first season in Glasgow but Petrov missed the bulk of the celebrations as he recovered from a broken leg sustained against St Johnstone. This year the Hoops could claim a domestic double and Petrov is looking forward to next week's trip to the National Stadium.

"It would be great to get the win this afternoon because we want to go into the final on the back of a good result and a good performance.

"The team is desperate to do well – we want to win everything we can – and if we finished off our season by winning the Scottish Cup it would give us the perfect end to the season.

"We know that it will be hard but after the events of last season which were so difficult to take at the time, this would be the ideal way for this season to finish.

"Over the summer I am sure that the manager will be thinking ahead to the new campaign and thinking about who will



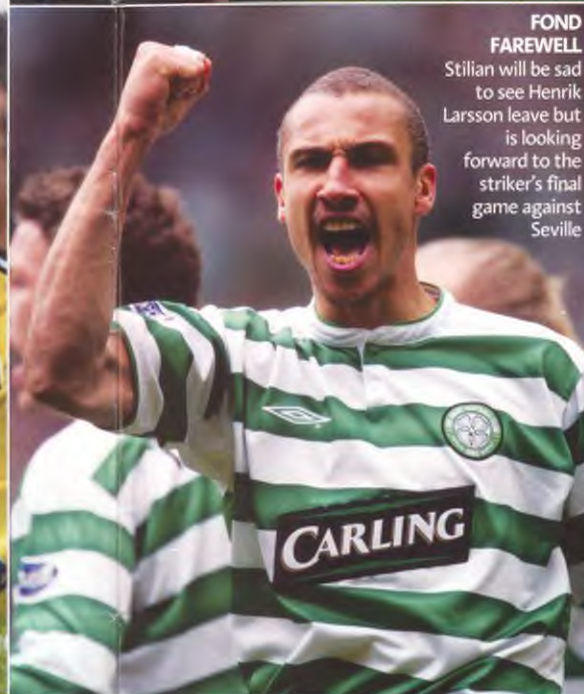
CHAMPION FEELING

Stilian Petrov celebrates his strike against Kilmarnock that wrapped up the League Championship for Celtic



FOND FAREWELL

Stilian will be sad to see Henrik Larsson leave but is looking forward to the striker's final game against Seville



NATIONAL HERO

Petrov won the Bulgarian Player of the Year Award last year and is looking forward to leading out his country in Portugal this summer

"It would be great to win today and go into the final on the back of a good performance"

strengthen the side and hopefully we can use this season to build for the future."

Petrov will barely have time to savour the success this season has brought to Celtic before he jets off to Portugal. The Bulgarian squad

are due to meet up on May 25 to begin their preparations for the European Championships but Petrov has special dispensation to remain in Glasgow for Henrik Larsson's final appearance in a Celtic shirt.

The Swede will take his final bow against Seville at Celtic Park and Petrov is all set for an emotional evening.

"It will be very hard for everyone to say goodbye to Henrik," he said. "I wanted to stay for the game because I am sure that it will be a special night and I want to be part of it.

"I am sure it will be tough for Henrik to say goodbye to the fans

and to his team-mates because he has been such an important part of this club for such a long time. Obviously we all wish him the best of luck whatever he decides to do next but it will be nice for the players to be able to show our appreciation of what he has done in the game against Seville.

"After the game I will go and meet my Bulgarian team-mates and start to think about the European Championships. I am looking forward to it because it is a chance to play against some of the best players in the world and it

is also a good chance to do as well as you can for your country."