



TENNENT'S
SCOTTISH CUP



Final
CELTIC v HIBERNIAN

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME £4



SATURDAY 26 MAY 2001 • HAMPDEN PARK, KICK OFF 3PM



THE SCOTTISH
Sun

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TENNENT'S SCOTTISH CUP

Final

THE SCOTTISH FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

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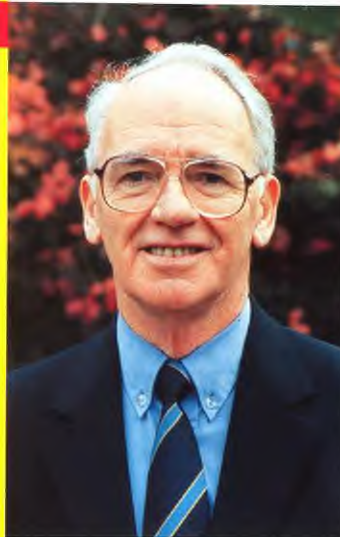
FRONT COVER:

Tom Boyd (Celtic),

Franck Sauzee (Hibernian)



WELCOME



IT IS my great pleasure, on behalf of the Scottish Football Association, to welcome you to Hampden Park for the Tennent's Scottish Cup Final, between Celtic and Hibernian. This is the 116th contest for the oldest trophy in world football.

Today's match provides both clubs with the opportunity for a triumphant end to the season, and there is everything to play for. It will be watched not only by those of you fortunate enough to be part of the capacity crowd here in Glasgow, but also by millions more throughout the United Kingdom and further afield on satellite television.

Celtic have already won the first two parts of the treble, with a runaway victory in the Scottish Premier League and a comfortable retention of the CIS League Cup. To complete the job today would be an outstanding achievement for Martin O'Neill in his first year as manager of the club.

For Hibernian, a successful and exciting season has engendered the strong feeling among their supporters that this year could see an end to their 99 year wait for Scotland's major trophy. Alex McLeish is, of course, a veteran of Scottish Cup success from his playing days and he will be confident of a glorious day today.

This afternoon, the nerves will be fraught but I am sure the skills of both sets of players will shine through and we will see an exciting and memorable match.

I am delighted to welcome, once again, the representatives and guests of the tournament sponsor, Tennent Caledonian Breweries. This is no less than the twelfth year that this competition has been called the Tennent's Scottish Cup, which highlights the mutually beneficial partnership we have enjoyed over the past decade and more.

What is more, we look forward to continuing our relationship in the coming years, as Tennent's signed a deal at the start of this season to extend their sponsorship at least until the 2004 Cup Final.

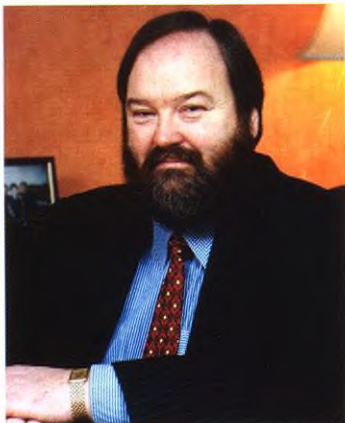
Enjoy today's Tennent's Scottish Cup Final, and may the better team win!

Jack McGinn,
President, Scottish Football Association



Final

WELCOME FROM TENNETT'S LAGER



Tennent's Lager welcomes you to the glorious occasion of the Tennent's Scottish Cup Final 2001 held at the National Stadium, Hampden Park.

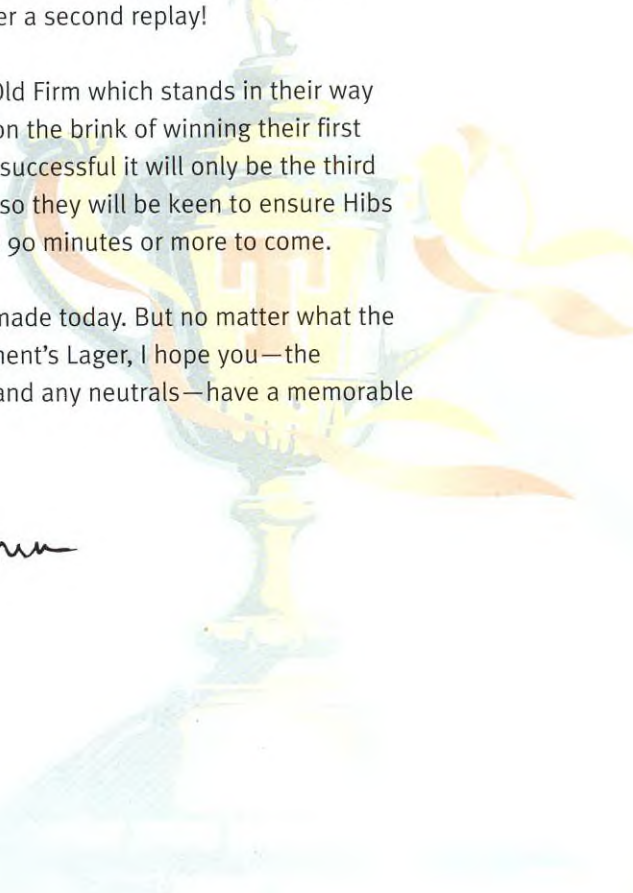
It has been a long and exciting road for the two finalists – Celtic and Hibs – and for their fans, but the prize is well worth the effort.

The Tennent's Scottish Cup 'season' started back in August 2000 when we announced a new four year sponsorship deal with the SFA. Since that time there have been the usual upsets, surprises, incidents and goals that make this competition the best loved in the country.

But now it's crunch time. Only one team can walk away knowing they truly are the best in Scotland—and they will do it by making history here today. Hibs have not won the coveted trophy since 1902 when they beat the very team they face here, and they will be looking to lay to rest their last Scottish Cup final defeat at the hands of Rangers in 1979...after a second replay!

But it is the other half of the Old Firm which stands in their way today. Celtic find themselves on the brink of winning their first domestic treble since 1969. If successful it will only be the third time they have achieved this, so they will be keen to ensure Hibs are left disappointed after the 90 minutes or more to come.

Either way a decision will be made today. But no matter what the result, on behalf of all at Tennent's Lager, I hope you—the officials, players, supporters and any neutrals—have a memorable and enjoyable day.



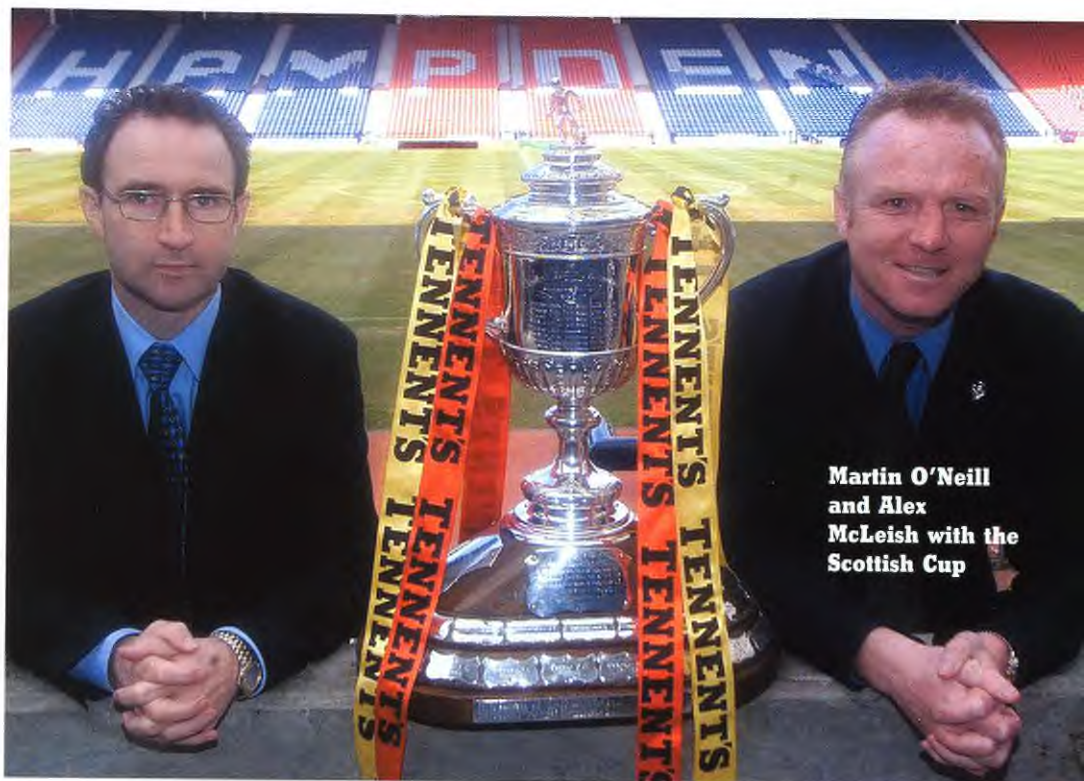
Angus Meldrum

*Angus Meldrum,
Managing Director,
Tennent Caledonian Breweries*



ONCE AGAIN, the Tennent's Scottish Cup manages to conjure a final full of intrigue. Last year, the final involved one club, Rangers, looking to score a league and cup double and another, Aberdeen, looking to turn on its head a tortuous league campaign - where they finished bottom of the Scottish Premier League. This year, history again is about to be made.

We've had family finals and finals where neither club was predicted to make it to the last two. And we've had finals involving First Division underdogs hoping to spring a surprise on Premier Division favourites. Here, we have one club, Celtic, aspiring to win their third treble in the 54 years of its existence. And we have another, Hibernian, looking to win the trophy for the first time in 99 years.



Martin O'Neill and Alex McLeish with the Scottish Cup

History beckons once again for the Bhoys and the Hibeers

Here, we have one club, Celtic, aspiring to win their third 'Treble'. And we have another, Hibernian, looking to win the trophy for the first time in 99 years.



John O'Neil scores against Livingston

Wonderful for the neutral, an emotional roller-coaster for the fans of both contestants. Since the arrival of the League Cup in 1946/47 season, Celtic have won all three domestic honours in a season - i.e. the league, the League Cup and the Scottish Cup - twice already: in 1966/67 and 1968/69, both times under the leadership of their legendary manager, Jock Stein.

How appropriate that Celtic this afternoon are on the verge of repeating these two great achievements with a manager, Martin O'Neill, who - after just one season in charge - stands on the edge of becoming a legend himself. The league wrapped up with five games remaining, a comfortable 3-0 win over Kilmarnock in the final of the CIS Insurance Cup, now Celtic are one game away from picking up the Tennent's Scottish Cup thanks to a semi-final victory over Dundee United.

Similarly, were Alex McLeish to lead Hibernian to their first Scottish Cup victory since a 1-0 win over Celtic in 1902, he would be remembered for



all time as the manager who finally lifted the Cup hoodoo that has hung over the Edinburgh giants for almost a century. Hibernian have contested 10 Cup finals, their last in 1979. They won their first final, in 1887, and their second - that auspicious occasion in 1902. Since then, however, it has been the runners-up prize.

Airdrie became the first club since Leith Athletic in 1954 to fail to honour their fixture

Hibs reached the final after a 3-0 win over First Division high-flyers, Livingston. Given the competition's capacity for shocks, Hibs' passage to the finals was far from assured.

For Cup upsets, this season hasn't quite been the vintage that was last season. Nevertheless, had it not been Livingston reaching the penultimate stage of the tournament, it would have been Third Division Peterhead, who exactly a year before were being beaten by Buckie Thistle in the Highland League.

Notable in Peterhead's fairy tale run this season was the bye they received when - for the first time in fifty years - their opponents were unable to muster a team.

As it happens, Buckie Thistle were among the hopefuls who set out on the first round road to Cup glory back in December, the non-league club qualifying courtesy of reaching the semi-final of the Qualifying Cup (North). Their first round

opponents were another non-league outfit, Edinburgh City, semi-finalists from the Qualifying Cup (South).

This year, however, the first round contained more than just the seeds of cup upset. Controversy also attached itself when - following a typically nail-biting Angus derby between Montrose and Arbroath - the tie was ordered to be replayed, when it was revealed that Arbroath - victors on the day - had fielded two ineligible players. Typically dramatic, the replay went Montrose's way.

If Buckie Thistle were grabbing some of the headlines in the first round by defeating Edinburgh City, they were grabbing almost all of them in the second. Hamilton Academical - famously giant-killers of Rangers under Graeme Souness in 1987 - were tossed out of the competition 2-0 by the Highland League outfit. Challenging that feat for excitement was Cowdenbeath's late fightback to draw 3-3 at

Berwick Rangers and non-leaguers Spartans, from Edinburgh, taking an early lead against Second Division Stirling Albion, even if they were eventually to lose 3-1.

Coldstream from the Borders sadly found life against league opposition tough - their youngsters quickly unpicked by veteran striker Roddy Grant and Lee Bailey, the latter netting the only hat-trick of the tournament so far in a 6-2 mauling. Deveronvale, meanwhile, could hold their heads high, keeping Second Division high flyers, Partick Thistle, at bay until five

minutes after the interval before being knocked out by three, rapid-fire goals in the 50th, 56th and 60th minutes.

And so to the third round, signalling the entrance of the top division clubs. And here Peterhead were to produce a surprise win that would vault them straight into the quarter-finals. In defeating First Division Morton, 4-1,

Peterhead were then drawn against Airdrie for the fourth round, but when Airdrie became the first club since Leith Athletic in 1954 to fail

We'll meet again...

THE FIRST Scottish Cup meeting of today's two finalists took place in Season 1894-95, with Hibernian securing a Second round victory 2-0 at Easter Road before 12,000 spectators. Hibs at that time were a Division Two outfit, and the result was a major shock. Celtic, however, refused to accept defeat and lodged a protest against the result, on the grounds of minor rule infringements by two Hibs' players - Bobby Neill and Mick Murray. Astonishingly, despite the fact that the protest had not been lodged in accordance with Scottish Football Association rules, the appeal was upheld and a replay ordered. Even Celtic's supporters were sickened by their club's actions against a lower league club, staging a boycott of the replay so that a mere 3,000 turned up to see Celtic - not surprisingly - overturn the result by an identical 2-0 margin. Many felt that justice was seen to be done when Celtic lost 0-1 at Dundee in the next round.

Henrik Larsson scores against Kilmarnock in the CIS Insurance Cup Final

