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Programme No. 15



ntl:



PHOENIX HONDA

CELTIC v RANGERS

SCOTTISH
PREMIER
LEAGUE

CELTICPARK
SUNDAY
NOVEMBER 25 2001
KICK-OFF 12PM

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Players have shown unbeatable attitude

We have worked very hard to keep our unbeaten record in the SPL so far this season

OUR trip to Valencia for Thursday night's match means that we missed much of the hype that goes hand-in-hand with Old Firm encounters, and as I write, printing deadlines mean the result of our match against the Spaniards is not known to me.

We are going into the match on the back of a demanding encounter at the Mestalla Stadium, but this is the level of football we wish to be playing at and challenges like these have to be good for the overall development of the team.

This afternoon's Old Firm match marks the second meeting between ourselves and Rangers this season and it promises to provide another exciting 90 minutes for all concerned.

Rangers have been playing well in recent weeks, and they too will have had a testing match against PSG on Thursday, but I have been delighted with the attitude and commitment of the players who have worked tirelessly to maintain our unbeaten run in the SPL.

Last weekend's match against Hearts was another example of our tenacity and constant hunger

to win, but the victory did not come without a cost.

Didier Agathe has sustained a serious knee injury and is liable to be sidelined for at least three months. We will miss him enormously. He has been hugely influential for us since he joined the football club from Hibs last season and his form, particularly in our European venture in the Champions League, has been outstanding. However, I have no doubt that whoever is selected in his place will give everything for the cause of the team.

Ten successive SPL victories has kept momentum going but the forthcoming glut of fixtures taking us beyond Christmas will test us to the full. The fact that so many of our winning goals recently have come in the latter stages of some of these games gives a clear indication of how the team refuses to relent until the final whistle has blown.

It is a characteristic that will hopefully serve us well throughout the remainder of the season as we strive to hold off the inevitable challenge from our rivals.

Victory this afternoon would give some respite going into the

above mentioned run of matches over the festive period, but that is easier said than done.

However, it is impossible to predict how these games will pan out once it gets underway but we know ourselves what we have to do if we want to win the match.

We won the first Old Firm game at Ibrox by 2-0, with Alan Thompson sealing the victory with a marvellous individual goal on the brink of the full-time whistle, and a repeat of that result would please us all.

We have had a few injury problems of our own to contend with this season, and while it has been said that we have a stronger pool than we did this time last year, numerically speaking, we actually have less players at the club than we did 12 months ago.

This game today provides, without doubt, one of the great atmospheres of European football. I am hoping it will provide a passionately entertaining encounter. The support the players have received, both here at Celtic Park and on their travels, has been magnificent. We will need all of that and more today.



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CELTIC | RANGERS

RAB DOUGLAS	20	STEFAN KLOS	1
DIMITRE KHARINE	23	JESPER CHRISTIANSEN	22
JONATHAN GOULD	1	MICHAEL BALL	18
TOM BOYD	2	LORENZO AMORUSO	4
MOMO SYLLA	3	BERT KONTERMAN	15
JACKIE McNAMARA	4	CRAIG MOORE	3
JOOS VALGAEREN	5	FERNANDO RICKSEN	2
DIANBOBO BALDE	6	ARTHUR NUMAN	5
HENRIK LARSSON	7	TONY VIDMAR	25
ALAN THOMPSON	8	SCOTT WILSON	19
CHRIS SUTTON	9	CLAUDIO REYNA	12
JOHN HARTSON	10	NEIL MCCANN	11
MORTEN WIEGHORST	11	CHRISTIAN NERLINGER	8
PAUL LAMBERT	14	BARRY FERGUSON	6
BOBBY PETTA	15	RUSSELL LATAPY	20
OLIVIER TEBILY	16	SHOTA ARVELADZE	24
DIDIER AGATHE	17	RONALD DE BOER	14
NEIL LENNON	18	TORE ANDRE FLO	9
STILIAN PETROV	19	CLAUDIO CANIGGIA	7
COLIN HEALY	24	MICHAEL MOLS	10
LUBOMIR MORAVCIK	25	ANDREI KANCHELSKIS	17
SHAUN MALONEY	29	KENNY MILLER	23
STEVE GUPPY	30	BILLY DODDS	16
SIMON LYNCH	32	PETER LOVENKRANDS	26
MARK FOTHERINGHAM	34	MAURICE ROSS	21
JOHAN MJALLBY	35	STEPHEN HUGHES	27
JAMIE SMITH	39		
STEPHEN CRAINEY	40		
JOHN KENNEDY	41		
LIAM MILLER	43		



PHOENIX HONDA



Referee:
STUART DOUGAL
 Assistant referees:
WILSON IRVINE
ANDY DAVIS
 Forth official:
MICHAEL McCURRY

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