



# *The Final 1994*

**RAITH ROVERS v CELTIC**

Ibrox Stadium, Glasgow,  
Sunday 27th November 1994, Kick Off 3pm



THE OFFICIAL MATCH DAY MAGAZINE £2.00





'COCA-COLA' AND 'COKE' ARE REGISTERED TRADEMARKS OF THE COCA-COLA COMPANY.





(clockwise) Alan Lawrence of Airdrie takes the final penalty in The Coca-Cola Cup Semi-Final against Raith.

Alan Lawrence - head in hands after his penalty is saved.

Brian Potter celebrates with Raith team mates after saving the penalty kick.

Shaun Dennis fails to stop Alan Lawrence

Jimmy Nicholl rallies his Raith players before extra time.



The Coca-Cola Cup Final 1994





# A Coca-Cola Cup cracker in prospect

**A** very warm welcome to ALL fans attending today's Coca-Cola Cup Final between Raith Rovers and Celtic.

For the record books, today's match is the 49th Final of this competition since its inception in season 1946/47 and over the past few years, the tournament has built up a fine reputation for producing many exhilarating and memorable moments and, once again, this season has proved to be no exception. Indeed, The Coca-Cola Cup '94 has given fans with a feast of exciting action and indeed, a number of more fancied clubs have suffered the ignominy of acts of "giant killing" at various stages of the competition.

Furthermore, players and club officials have to be commended for the welcome trend of recent years in this competition by adopting a very positive attitude and testimony to this can be shown by the fact that 122 goals have been scored from the 38 ties played to date, averaging an extremely healthy 3.2 goals per game. Excitement, entertainment, shock results, drama and goals galore . . . these are just some of the ingredients that combine to make cup tie football that bit different and so appealing not only to the players, clubs, supporters and the media, but also to sponsors. In a relatively short period of time, The Scottish Football League, its member clubs and Coca-Cola have developed a very good working relationship, which, I believe, has been to the benefit of all parties concerned and hopefully, an exciting finale to this season's competition today will cement the partnership even further.

As I reported in my articles in the match programmes for both Semi-Final ties, The Scottish Football League is extremely delighted that one of the world's largest companies has associated itself with Scottish football and in particular, the League Cup competition and I would take this opportunity in extending a very warm welcome to Coca-Cola and their invited guests and trust that they enjoy a Final

befitting of the occasion. Coca-Cola have also ensured that you, the paying customer, is very much a part of the whole occasion today with a number of Coca-Cola related activities taking place outside Ibrox today prior to the Final itself and, as you will note, for the very first time at a major Final in the United Kingdom, fans inside the stadium will be able to enjoy on the specially erected giant screens, video entertainment before the



game, at half-time and at the conclusion of the match itself.

I am certain that very few supporters or indeed the media, would have predicted that this season's Coca-Cola Cup Final would involve a club from outwith the Premier Division. However, the uncertainty of cup tie football has indeed brought about an intriguing encounter between Raith Rovers and Celtic and is one of the reasons behind the tourney's continued success.

It is a wonderful achievement for the Stark's Park club to have reached today's Final

and has created a tremendous atmosphere in Kirkcaldy since their epic penalty shoot-out win over Airdrieonians at McDiarmid Park a month ago. I have no doubts that Kirkcaldy will be like a ghost town today, particularly as this will be their first major cup Final since season 1948/49, when they reached the Final of this competition. Player/boss Jimmy Nicholl has gained three League Cup winners' medals as a player and will be trying today to add a further winners' medal to his collection, this time, as a manager.

On the other hand, this will be Celtic's 21st appearance in the Final of this competition, although the club have to go back 12 years to the last occasion that they lifted this particular trophy. One of the players that day was Tommy Burns who, of course, is now in charge of team affairs and he, just like his opposite number today, Jimmy Nicholl will now be trying to win the trophy as a manager, and at the same time, helping the club to end a five year spell without a major trophy.

Cup Finals are always very special and Ibrox Stadium with all of its impressive facilities, is a superb venue for one of the most eagerly awaited events of the Scottish football calendar and with today's Final a complete sell-out, the atmosphere inside Ibrox today will be absolutely electric. Today sees the very first League Cup Final being played at Ibrox Stadium and I would take this opportunity in thanking most sincerely, the chairman, directors and staff of Rangers F.C. for their assistance and organisation of today's game.

Who will win today? Will they be "dancing in the streets of Raith" or will the Bhoys enjoy their first trophy success since 1989? Whatever the result, I do hope that both sets of players endeavour to make today's Final an occasion to remember.

ENJOY THE GAME

**YULE CRAIG,**  
President,

*The Scottish Football League.*



# A successful conclusion

**T**he appearance of Raith Rovers in The Coca-Cola Cup Final against Celtic at Ibrox Stadium this afternoon is a major compliment to the success of the new four division format of the Bell's League Championship.

From the outset, the presence of the Kirkcaldy club, Dundee, Airdrieonians, Dunfermline Athletic, St. Johnstone and St. Mirren among others, meant that the competition in the First Division would be fierce.

In fact, the confirmation of the well being of that competition, which will provide the Premier Division with one, if not two new clubs, at the end of this season, comes today with Raith's first appearance in the Final since they were defeated 2-0 by Rangers in March 1949.

That day, Torry Gillick and Willie Paton were the scorers, and the big hope in Fife is that under the astute leadership of Jimmy Nicholl, Rovers can aspire once again to the great days of yesteryear.

This afternoon's Final will, however, be a big test for the team from the lower division, for they are playing against a club who have all the experience and tradition of being involved in big Finals. However, Celtic go into this afternoon's match knowing that this particular competition has not been overkind to them, under various management teams, over the last few years.

Indeed, you have to go back to season 1982/83 to identify the last winning year for the club now under Tommy Burns' instruction, when they defeated Rangers 2-1, in front of over 55,000 fans and, at this afternoon's impressive venue, there are still remnants of that Celtic team bearing influence on the outcome today.

Celtic's goals that day were scored by Charlie Nicholas and Murdo MacLeod, while Rangers reply came from Jim Bett, who is still performing with distinction with Hearts. Four of Charlie's team mates twelve years ago are also likely to be involved today in one capacity or another. On the playing side, Paul McStay is the current Celtic captain and Pat Bonner will probably be on the bench as substitute goalkeeper, while Tommy Burns

will be hoping to gain his first trophy as a manager. The other player who featured that day is Tom McAdam, currently the reserve team coach at the club and no doubt he will be lending his experience behind the scenes today.

So there is a hunger within Celtic for success this afternoon, and not only because the team are without a trophy since they won the Scottish Cup, thanks to a Joe Miller goal against Rangers in 1989.

For Fergus McCann's administration is shortly to tempt the Celtic faithful with a share issue that will, hopefully, provide the capital to fund a new way ahead for the Parkhead side.

From their point of view, they would clearly be so much more confident of asking for support from the fans, if they were able to lay before them the first trophy the club has captured for five years.

Raith, meanwhile, will approach the match with nothing like the same pressure to blight their efforts. Today is a massive bonus for an ambitious club, who will have their priority fixed firmly on a return to the Bell's Premier Division next season. However, that is not to say that they do not arrive in Govan this afternoon without a genuine chance of pulling off what would be a remarkable triumph, both for Fife and the lower divisions.

Nicholl's credentials are not in doubt, for apart from the managerial skills that have brought his team here at the expense of Airdrie, St. Johnstone, Kilmarnock and Ross County, he personally knows what it is like to be a winner in this tournament.

In 1984, he played in the Rangers team that defeated Celtic 3-2 in the Final, after extra time, in a match that saw Ally McCoist score a hat-trick, the last occasion incidentally, that a player has managed to score a treble in the Final of this competition. Then, in 1986, he was a member of the Rangers team that, once again, defeated Celtic, this time by two goals to one in the Final, and the following year gained his third winners' medal when, after an epic encounter with Aberdeen, which ended 3-3 after 120 minutes of pulsating action, Rangers won 5-3 in a penalty shoot-out.

That experience will be vital today for a

Raith squad, which may be competing at a lower level on a week to week basis, but nevertheless, has some tremendous talent about their side to trouble the best.

They have players who can score goals and in Gordon Dalziel, Stephen Crawford, Ally Graham and Colin Cameron, have strikers who will all get into double figures this season and that should be warning enough for any Celtic man who feels that mere attendance today is sufficient to warrant collection of the trophy.

However, those wise old owls, the bookmakers, are in no doubt that Celtic's loftier League status and comfort with the big day make them the clear favourites to adorn their boardroom with a treasured trophy.

But they will also concede that this match today represents the very essence of cup football. The chance for the less fancied runner to have a crack at the better bred favourite over an unpredictable, short distance.

The very appearance of Raith Rovers in a national Final this afternoon betrays the nature of this great game in knockout circumstances. Volatile, uncertain, exciting, sometimes shocking and fun.

**RAY HEPBURN**  
(Freelance)

## COCA-COLA TV AT THE FINAL

For the first time at a football Final in Scotland and indeed, in the whole of Britain, supporters will be treated to 90 minutes of video entertainment on the big screen.

Coca-Cola TV will feature action on the Road to the Final, magic moments from previous Finals as well as some great music videos by bands like Simple Minds, U2 and Guns & Roses on two giant 30 feet x 20 feet screens and on the closed circuit TV monitors throughout the stadium.

There will also be the chance to win a pair of match balls signed by each of the finalists in an easy to enter competition. Coca-Cola TV viewers should send the answers to the three questions that will be featured during the broadcast to:-

Coca-Cola TV, 189 Brompton Road, London, SW3 1NE. The closing date is Friday, 2nd December, 1994.



# Trust us to help Football

## MAJOR PROJECTS

The Trust's main task is to help League clubs to implement the Taylor Report. Since 1990, over £89m has been awarded towards ground improvements costing some £300m. This money comes from the Pools companies, Littlewoods, Vernons and Zettors via the Government's Reduction in Pool Betting Duty which presently produces over £23m each year.



## CCTV

The introduction of CCTV throughout football has been the most important measure in the campaign against hooliganism. CCTV is an initiative pioneered by the Trust. Since 1979 nearly £6m has been awarded towards the installation and upgrading of equipment.



## SAFETY AND IMPROVEMENTS

Initiatives to improve the safety and comfort of spectators and to upgrade facilities for families, for supporters with disabilities, for women and for community use are grant aided by the Trust from the £14m annually donated by the Pools companies from their Spotting-the-Ball competition.



## GRASS ROOTS

The Trust is helping the game at all levels. Part of the Spotting-the-Ball funding is dedicated to assisting clubs outside the full-time leagues. Schemes include safety work, upgrading pitch and changing facilities, constructing artificial pitches and providing kit and equipment to junior teams.



**THE FOOTBALL TRUST**  
*Helping the game*

The Football Trust,  
Walkden House,  
10 Melton Street,  
London NW1 2EJ.