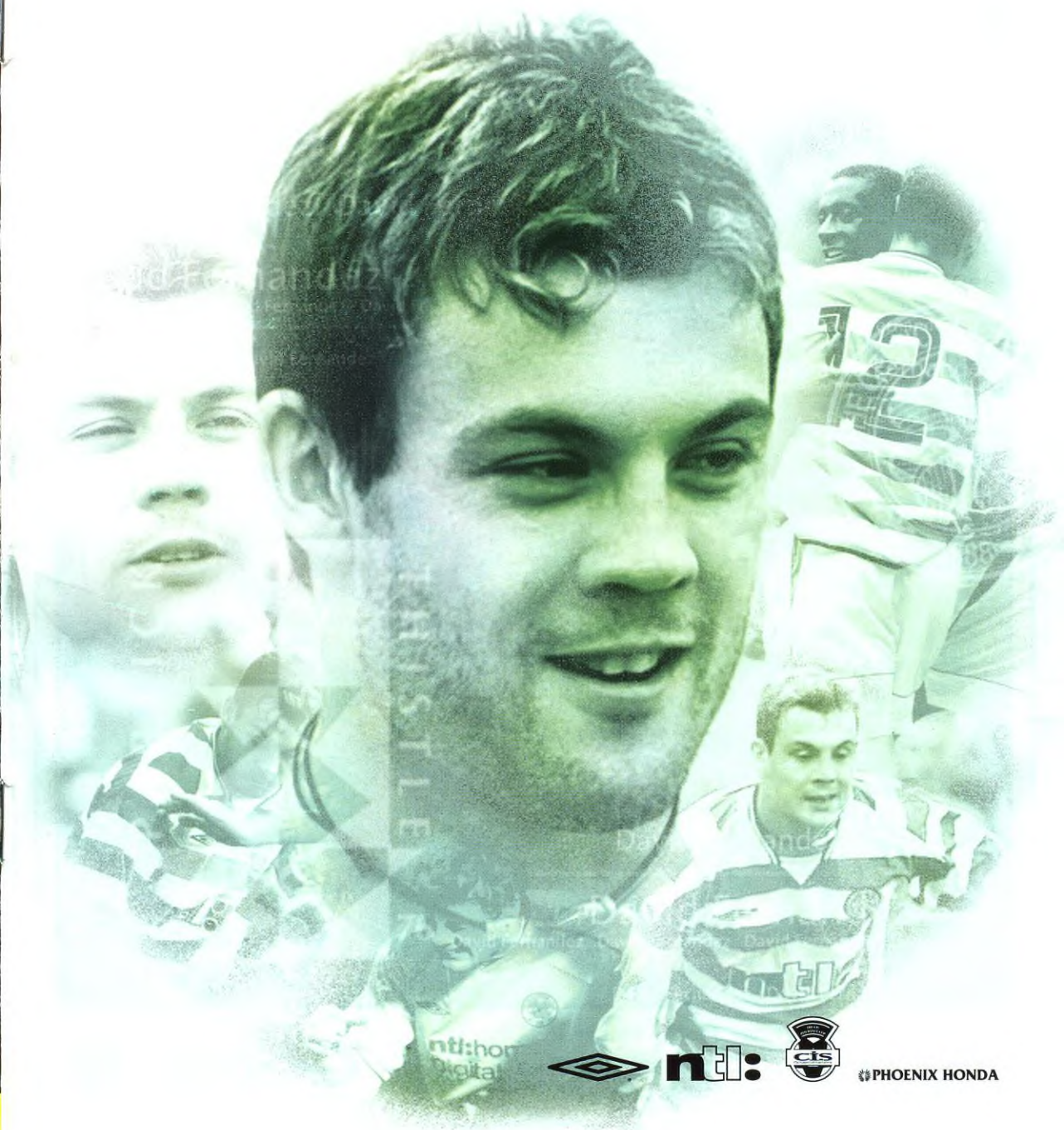


Celtic

v PARTICK THISTLE

CIS League Cup 4th Round
Wednesday 6th November 2002 k.o. 7.45pm



  **nti:**  

Dick Whittington at Celtic Park

Saturday 23 November, Sunday 1 December
and Monday 23 December

Adults: £8 Children: £5

Under 16s Celtic World Huddle Members: £3

Family Ticket (2 adults/2 children): £23

Family Ticket (inc Under 16s Celtic World Huddle Member): £20

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Celtic 



“The whole team played very well against Aberdeen and that result puts us in good spirits for this evening’s clash with Partick Thistle.”

It was an excellent performance by the team on Sunday against Aberdeen here at Celtic Park.

Our visitors, the only club to have beaten us in the league last season, arrived in obviously buoyant and confident mood as their early play demonstrated.

But from our own viewpoint, concerns beforehand that the exertions of the previous Thursday’s evening UEFA Cup game against Blackburn might have taken much out of the players proved unfounded as we chalked up an impressive 7-0 victory.

John Hartson opened the scoring with a powerful header. His second goal was also brilliantly taken and from that moment onwards we were in complete control of the game.

John went on to add another two goals to his tally and enjoy an almost perfect game. Two brilliant free-kick goals by Henrik Larsson and Shaun Maloney and a rare but nevertheless very welcome left-footed drive by Bobo Balde

rounded up a splendid afternoon for us.

Despite the heavy defeat, great credit must go to Aberdeen who came to attack us. They started very brightly indeed and Rab Douglas had to make an important save within the first few minutes of the game, otherwise the complexion of the match might have changed.

Aberdeen had taken some criticism last season for sitting back but there were no signs of this at all in their play on Sunday. As for ourselves, the whole team played very well and puts us in good spirits for this evening’s CIS Cup tie against Partick Thistle.

I watched them play very well to beat Motherwell on Saturday at Firhill and there is no doubt that John Lambie has imbued the players with great spirit and determination. They showed all of these qualities against us earlier on in the season.

A second-half goal by Henrik Larsson from a John Hartson

pass was eventually enough for us to win the game but it was a hard fought match. I expect much the same from our visitors again this evening.

The game will be concluded this evening, and as I said in the previous round when we played Inverness Caledonian Thistle, we want to try and win the competition.

I’d also like to express my thanks to every one of you for your efforts last Thursday night and also on Sunday afternoon.

Last season the Sky games were on a Saturday night, and I understand that so many Sunday fixtures must play havoc with your weekends so, again, thank you for your continued efforts.



Celtic FC Factfile

Formed: 1888

Stadium: Celtic Park
(capacity 60,506)

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

Away strip: Gold shirts, green
shorts, gold socks

Third strip: White shirts, black shorts and 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 (38)

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

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

1. On November 4, 1949, Tommy Docherty was sold to Preston North End. As a youngster his only ambition was to pull on the hooped jersey and, after a spell with the HLI in Palestine, he signed for Celtic in 1948. Celtic lost to Rangers on his debut and he only made another eight appearances.

2. Joe McBride was sold to Hibs for £15,000 on November 5, 1968. He had joined Celtic from Motherwell in June 1965. Injured first while playing for Scotland, his knee eventually gave out against Aberdeen on Christmas Eve 1966 yet he still finished the league's top scorer for the season with 33 goals. In his 94-match Celtic career, Joe knocked in an astonishing 86 goals.

3. After 571 appearances and 273 goals, Bobby Lennox retired on November 8, 1978 to become reserve team coach. In 17 years at Parkhead, Bobby won 10 Championships, eight Scottish Cups, four League Cups and a European Cup, plus an MBE for "services to Celtic FC". He and Jimmy Johnstone shared a testimonial at Celtic Park on May 17, 1976.

PARTICK FACTS

1. Partick Thistle FC was founded in 1876 and played their first matches on a pitch beside Glasgow University. The club moved to Jordanvale Park in 1881 then two more venues before settling at Meadowside Park near the Clyde in 1887. When this ground closed 19 years later, Thistle were forced to play at Ibrox for 12 months before they found their present home.

2. Thistle had their first taste of success in 1921, when they won the Scottish Cup, beating Rangers 1-0 in the final at Celtic Park. The choice of venue proved ironic, as ex-Celt Jimmy McMenemy was the architect of the club's fine win. The SFA had doubled the usual 1/- ground admission money so the fans boycotted the match, only 28,000 turning up, compared to 95,000 for Kilmarnock v Albion Rovers the previous year.

3. Thistle's record win was 16-0 against Royal Albert in the first round of the Scottish Cup in January 1931. Their biggest defeat came in 1958/59 when Dunfermline won 10-1. Firhill's largest attendance came a year later - 49,838.

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TODAY'S SQUADS

TODAY'S VISITORS **PARTICK THISTLE**



SEASON 2002/03
CURRENT LEAGUE POSITIONS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
8. Kilmarnock	13	3	4	6	13	27	13
9. Livingston	13	3	3	7	18	21	12
10. PARTICK THISTLE	13	2	6	5	11	19	12
11. Dundee Utd	13	2	4	7	11	23	10
12. Motherwell	13	2	3	8	14	26	9

TEAM SPONSOR: D.H.MORRIS

 MANAGER JOHN LAMBIE	STADIUM FIR HILL	CAPACITY 13,300	PREVIOUS RESULT PARTICK 0 v CELTIC 1
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CELTIC

JONATHAN GOULD	1	1
TOM BOYD	2	2
MOMO SYLLA	3	3
JACKIE McNAMARA	4	4
JOOS VALGAEREN	5	5
BOBO BALDE	6	6
HENRIK LARSSON	7	7
ALAN THOMPSON	8	8
CHRIS SUTTON	9	9
JOHN HARTSON	10	10
DAVID FERNANDEZ	12	11
PAUL LAMBERT	14	12
BOBBY PETTA	15	13
ULRIK LAURSEN	16	14
DIDIER AGATHE	17	15
NEIL LENNON	18	16
STILIAN PETROV	19	17
ROBERT DOUGLAS	20	18
MAGNUS HEDMAN	21	19
COLIN HEALY	24	20
PAUL SHIELDS	26	21
JON PAUL McGOVERN	27	22
SHAUN MALONEY	29	
STEVE GUPPY	30	
SIMON LYNCH	32	
MARK FOTHERINGHAM	34	
JOHAN MJALLBY	35	
JAMIE SMITH	39	
STEPHEN CRAINEY	40	
JOHN KENNEDY	41	
LIAM MILLER	43	

PARTICK THISTLE

KEVIN BUDINAUCKAS
JAMES McKINSTRY
ALAN ARCHIBALD
STEPHEN CRAIGAN
SCOTT PATERSON
KENNETH MILNE
JAMIE MITCHELL
DANIEL LENNON
SCOTT McLEAN
MARTIN HARDIE
ALEX BURNS
KENNY ARTHUR
PAUL WALKER
JAMES DOLAN
MARTIN BUCHAN
DAVID LILLEY
DEREK FLEMING
GERRY BRITTON
DEREK WHYTE
ANDY GIBSON
BARRY ELLIOT
CHIC CHARNLEY

CLUB SPONSORS



RECENT FORM

SCOTTISH PREMIER LEAGUE 3 NOVEMBER, 2002
CELTIC 7 v ABERDEEN 0 (Hartson 4, Larsson, Balde, Maloney)

UEFA CUP 2nd ROUND 1st LEG 31 OCTOBER, 2002
CELTIC 1 v BLACKBURN ROVERS 0 (Larsson)

SCOTTISH PREMIER LEAGUE 27 OCTOBER, 2002
DUNFERMLINE 1 v CELTIC 4

CIS CUP 3rd ROUND 1st LEG 23 OCTOBER, 2002
CELTIC 4 v INVERNESS CT 2 (Maloney, Hartson 2, Thompson)

SCOTTISH PREMIER LEAGUE 20 OCTOBER, 2002
HEARTS 1 v CELTIC 4 (Larsson 2, Sutton, Petrov)

SCOTTISH PREMIER LEAGUE 6 OCTOBER, 2002
CELTIC 3 v RANGERS 3 (Larsson 2, Hartson)

FORTHCOMING FIXTURES

SCOTTISH PREMIER LEAGUE
DUNDEE UTD v CELTIC SUN 10 NOVEMBER 2002

UEFA CUP 2nd ROUND 2nd LEG
BLACKBURN ROVERS v CELTIC THURS 14 NOVEMBER 2002

SCOTTISH PREMIER LEAGUE
CELTIC v PARTICK THISTLE SUN 17 NOVEMBER 2002



CELTIC FOOTBALL CLUB
CELTIC PARK,
GLASGOW
G40 3RE
0141-556 2611

CELTIC plc DIRECTORS Brian Quinn, Ian McLeod, Eric Riley, Dermot Desmond, Sir Patrick Sheehy, Kevin Sweeney, Tom Allison
CFAC DIRECTORS Ian McLeod, Eric Riley, Jim Hone, John Keane, Michael McDonald, Kevin Sweeney
CHIEF EXECUTIVE Ian McLeod **MANAGER** Martin O'Neill **ASSISTANT MANAGER** John Robertson **COACH** Steve Walford
PLAYER DEVELOPMENT OFFICER Tommy Burns **HEAD YOUTH COACH** Willie McStay **UNDER-21 COACH** Kenny McDowall
PHYSIOTHERAPIST Brian Scott **CLUB DOCTOR** Roddy Macdonald **KIT CONTROLLER** John Clark

WORDS: Alison McConnell



SPAIN BARRIER

Fernandez is desperate to prove his talent and burst from the sidelines into first-team action

DAVID FERNANDEZ must be sick of answering the same questions.

The Spaniard has struggled to hold down a regular starting role in Martin O'Neill's first-team squad since arriving from Livingston and is forced continually to re-iterate the mantra that he is willing to knuckle down in training and take his chances when they come.

Realistically though, tonight's encounter is an opportunity for those who haven't been playing week-in, week-out to show what they are capable of – and it doesn't need repeated that Fernandez hopes to be involved against Partick Thistle.

The 26-year-old stood out a couple of weeks ago as Celtic exorcised one particular ghost when they knocked out Inverness Caley 4-2.

And although Fernandez is looking forward to tonight's game, he is wary of taking the Jags too lightly.

If the sides' previous encounter



“My time will come so I must be patient, work hard and keep focused”

this season at Firhill is anything to go by, Celtic could be in for a stuffy 90 minutes as Thistle do what they can to cause a hiccup.

Having spent time with Airdrie and Livingston, Fernandez is well equipped to understand how a trip to Celtic Park can be the impetus for opposition players to attempt to raise their game.

"It will be a hard game for us," he said. "Everyone who comes here tries to give their best because it is a chance to show you are a good team and to prove you can do it here at Celtic Park in front of the home fans.

"Our game against Partick at Firhill earlier this season was very difficult. We had to work really hard to get anything. It was tough to break them down.

"It was the same when we played Inverness in the last round. They had nothing to lose and it can be dangerous when that happens.

"I have to wait for my chance. I'll give my best and do everything I can when I

play. At the end of the day I try to do my job and the manager is also trying to do his.

"I look forward to being involved in every game. It doesn't matter to me what games I'm playing in because I want to be out there whether it is in the cup or league games.

"My time will come and I must be patient. I try to keep working hard in training to get my chance and I need to keep on doing that and keep my focus."

Meanwhile, Fernandez stated he is confident that Celtic can go all the way by performing a clean sweep on the domestic trophy front this season.

Martin O'Neill's first season in charge of the Hoops was Celtic's first Treble-winning season for 32 years and Fernandez would love to be part of something equally momentous.

The CIS Insurance Cup has lost plenty of its razzmatazz since the European spot disappeared but, having lost the trophy to Rangers last season, Celtic would obviously love to return the trophy to the East End.

"We have to start off by looking at tonight's game against Thistle," said Fernandez.

"We must go out to do our best against them and make sure we win.

"I want to win as many medals and



"Celtic are capable of winning all three trophies – we are the best team"

competitions as I can. We are capable of winning the three trophies this season because we have the best team, but it will be very difficult.

"We have to take things step by step and keep working hard. I don't think we can afford to look

LIVVY AND DANGEROUS Fernandez's scoring skills at Livingston impressed Martin O'Neill



DAVID FERNANDEZ



beyond one game - and first up are Partick.

"We will be favourites for tonight's match but it would certainly be a bit easier for us if we could get an early goal to settle us then we could go on from there."

Tonight's game is a double Thistle header with O'Neill's

side facing John Lambie's squad again in the next home game in less than a fortnight's time.

Not that Fernandez is too perturbed.

"It happened last season when I was at Livingston and we played Celtic a couple of times on the trot in the cup

HAPPY DEZ

The striker celebrates a goal with John Hartson

and then in the league," he remarked. "We won't be concerning ourselves too much with that and will take each game individually."

So long as Celtic answer any questions that are put to them tonight, Fernandez doesn't anticipate any problems.