

DUNDEE UNITED F.C.



Premier Division
Wednesday
11th November, 1992
Kick off 7.30 p.m.



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TANNADICE TOPICS

TANNADICE DIARY

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20

Injured duo Victor Ferreyra and Midrag Krivokapic took a step towards full fitness when they resumed light ball work.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21

Manager Jim McLean promised slight changes for Saturday's visit to Brookville.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22

Both Victor Ferreyra and Midrag Krivokapic were set to return in the reserves after coming through a full training session. The youth team met Arbroath in a friendly as a warm-up match from next week's B.P. Youth Cup tie at Ibrox.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23

Youth was to the fore as manager Jim McLean added Andy McLaren, Brian Welsh, Michael O'Neill, Gary Bolland and David Hannah to last week's squad from which Dave Narey dropped out to gain match practice in the reserves, whilst Grant Johnson was an injury victim at Tynecastle and sidelined.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25

A disappointing performance at Brookville earned us no more than a point thanks to a Jim McInally goal. A Victor Ferreyra goal gave the reserves victory despite a poor showing.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 26

There was good news when the plaster case was removed from Grant Johnson's ankle. An x-ray revealed no broken bones. The Youth team crashed out of the B.P. Youth Cup, losing 3-0 to Rangers.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27

John Clark only did light training while Paddy Connolly didn't train at all, but they and Grant Johnson were the only injury worries.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28

'A good work out' was how manager Jim McLean described a closed door friendly with St. Johnstone, in which Scott Crabbe, Michael O'Neill and Christian Dailly got much needed match practice.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29

The first team squad were given a day off, but injured pair Andy Cargill and Grant Johnson were receiving treatment, however Paddy Connolly had fully recovered from his weekend knock.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30

'Victory is vital' was manager Jim McLean's message for the visit of Hibs as he named a 16-man squad which included Victor Ferreyra for the first time in almost six weeks.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31

In the proverbial game of two halves a Jim McInally goal nine minutes from time gave us victory after a fine second half display. The reserves, however, went down 2-1 at Easter Road.

INTERNATIONAL CALL-UPS

Tonight's match has, of course, been brought forward from Saturday due to next week's World Cup qualifier against Italy and four of the players on view this evening are in Andy Roxburgh's 16-man squad which was named on Monday

Maurice Malpas is the lone Tannadice representative, whilst Celtic have Tom Boyd, John Collins and Paul McStay in the frame for the vital tie.

Earlier in the day, the U-21's will face their Italian counterparts at Fir Park.

The Tannadice representatives again number four, but Grant Johnson's recent injury means he isn't included, but there is a first time call-up at this level for Andy McLaren who joins colleagues Gary Bolland, Christian Dailly and Duncan Ferguson who had to drop out of the Portugal match through injury.



ANDY McLAREN... First call-up to the Under-21 squad

Celtic have one player in the U-21's — Brian O'Neill.

FLOODLIGHT OPENING

Last Wednesday we sent a side to play Downfield at Downfield Park to handset the junior club's new floodlights and recent ground improvements.

United's blend of youth and ex-

perience went ahead after ten minutes, when John O'Neil dispossessed their left back, and squeezed the ball home from almost on the bye-line.

Eleven minutes later Billy McKinlay's 25 yard drive slithered past Clark in goal.

The trialist centre-forward nodded in a John O'Neil corner immediately after half-time for our third, but the juniors pulled a goal back from the penalty spot in the last minute.

Both sides deserve praise for serving up such an entertaining game in the very heavy conditions.

The United side was: Van De Kamp, Lindsay, Bolland, P. Clark (Kopel 32), Krivokapic (Perry 56), Welsh, J. O'Neil, Benvie, Trialist (Lamont 63), McKinlay (Hannah 56), Honeyman.

FOUR HUNDRED UP FOR MAURICE

Saturday was a far from auspicious day as far as the result at McDiarmid Park was concerned, but it did mark Maurice Malpas's 400th league appearance for the club.

It will soon be eleven years since the then engineering student broke through to United's first team. Against Airdrie at the end of November 1981.

Almost immediately Maurice became a permanent fixture in the Tannadice defence and was a part-timer when he won a League Championship medal less than 18 months later.



MAURICE MALPAS... Made his 400th appearance last Saturday.

His consistency over the years has been remarkable and not just in terms of his performances on the field of play.

Maurice's name has only been missing on 24 occasions in around 12 seasons of Premier Division football — a truly remarkable record of consistency. As Maurice was only 30 just after the start of this season many further milestones are clearly within his future grasp.

BACK HOME

After being on the road for three of our last four fixtures, travel costs are pegged right back for the next month starting with tonight's visit of Celtic.

Our next fixture which is a week on Saturday is at Dens Park and with two consecutive home fixtures coming up after that we won't leave the city until we face Rangers at Ibrox on Saturday December 5th.

Thereafter comes another clutch of away fixtures with Aberdeen on December 12th our sole game at Tannadice in the last month of 1992.

RESERVE ALTERATIONS

This week's reserve dates both in the Premier Reserve League and Reserve League East have been subject to alteration.

First last Monday's scheduled Reserve League East fixture at Meadowbank was postponed and a new date still to be arranged.

Meanwhile, the Reserves will like the first team be without a match this Saturday as the Reserve game scheduled for Parkhead which was originally brought forward to tonight but will now go ahead at Parkhead tomorrow. Kick-off 7.00 p.m.

HAT-TRICK FOR SCOTT, BUT...

New signing Scott Crabbe hasn't had the best of luck since his arrival at Tannadice just over a month ago.

On two occasions recently he has played in the Reserves to get match practice and both times he has ended up on the treat-



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HONOURS:

UEFA Cup: Runners-up: 1986-87.

Scottish League:

Premier Division Champions:
1982-83;

Division 2 Champions: 1924-25,
1928-29; Runners-up: 1930-31,
1959-60.

Scottish Cup: Runners-up:

1973-74, 1980-81, 1984-85, 1986-87,
1987-88, 1990-91.

Scottish League Cup: Winners:

1979-80, 1980-81; Runners-up:
1981-82, 1984-85.

Summer Cup:

Runners-up: 1964-65.

Scottish Wartime Cup:

Runners-up: 1939-40.

ment table!

He picked up a thigh knock against Hibs Reserves, but happily recovered in time to play last weekend.

By scoring a hat-trick at Tannadice against St. Johnstone last Saturday, he obviously put himself in contention for a place in the side to face Celtic, but he suffered an injury to his knee in the process which unfortunately made him very doubtful for any first team recall this evening.

On the brighter side, of, course, was his hat-trick, which were his first goal in a tangerine jersey and, hopefully, the first of many more in the future.

GLASGOW PROGRAMME FAIR

United supporters based in the west and Celtic supporters may like to note that next Sunday, November 15, sees the staging of the annual Glasgow Football Programme Fair.

The event is being staged from 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. in the Ingram Hotel, Ingram Street, Glasgow and dealers from Scotland and England will be in attendance.

SCHOOLBOY CAPS

Lori Lamont, Ben Honeyman, David Mitchell and Anton Stirling travelled with the Scottish Schools' Under 16 squad to Switzerland and Leichtenstein for international matches against these two countries.

The Scots, with Mitchell, Lamont and Honeyman playing, went down 2-3 to the Swiss in Bern, but registered a record 9-0 victory over Leichtenstein in Balzers, with Lori Lamont scoring four times, and Ben Honeyman scoring a hat-trick. Central defenders Mitchell and Stirling also played in this match as did our Under 16 goalkeeper Kevin Nolan. United coach Graeme Liveston is team manager of the Under 16 international team, assisted by Jim Cullen, our West of Scotland scout.

BALL BOYS

The Ball Boys for this evening's match against Celtic are St Vincent Primary.

JIM McLEAN

Not for the first time this season, the large number of fans who have followed us away from home as you did at Perth last weekend, have had to return home extremely disappointed.

What makes matters even more perplexing is when you compare our fine early season form to Saturday's stuttering display.

Okay, I know we do have a couple of players out just now, but you must be asking yourselves what has gone wrong.

There is no doubt that I am asking exactly the same question, and so far, have to confess that I have not come up with the answer. It must be equally frustrating for you as it is for everyone connected with the club.

Making changes is something I have never been averse to in the past, but this season I have tried to keep these to a minimum, but changes tonight are inevitable.

Unfortunately, my options are curtailed. Grant Johnson will hopefully return in the reserve match at Parkhead this evening, whilst, at the time of writing, Duncan Ferguson's ankle injury persists and Scott Crabbe who scored a hat-trick in the reserves on Saturday has a knee injury. It would be a bonus if either were available to me this evening.

Returning to the disparity in our form this season, there is no doubt that our problems lie in the two most important areas of play — the two penalty boxes.

At the back we have too many defenders not concentrating fully enough, but equally the strikers haven't been effective enough in recent weeks.

Though our crossing was poor at Perth, we got a lot of crosses in against Hibs, yet still finished up only scoring once.

With the glut of games so far this season, the players have certainly not been over trained and with a ten day break ahead of us, I can't envisage many days off until we rectify the current problems.

Whilst highlights on television never tell the whole story, there seems little doubt that Celtic deserved to come out with something from Saturday's old firm match against Rangers.

On the face of it they were outstanding in every facet of the game except when it came to scoring.

Therefore, we'll definitely have to lift our own confidence and get back to some semblance of our early season form if we are to reverse Celtic's recent run of good results against us.



NEXT HOME MATCH:

Saturday 28th November 1992

Premier Division

v

AIRDRIEONIANS

Kick-off 3.00 p.m.

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MATCH REVIEW

v HIBERNIAN

Saturday, 31st October, 1992

Premier Division —
15th match

Venue — Tannadice Park

UNITED (0)1

McInally (81)

HIBERNIAN (0)0

Crowd: 6,951

UNITED: Main, Clark, Malpas, McInally, Van der Hoorn, Narey, McLaren, Bowman, Ferreyra (Connolly 87), Ferguson, O'Neill. (Sub not used: Cleland)

HIBERNIAN: Burridge, Miller, Tortolano, Mitchell, McIntyre, MacLeod (Lennon 87), Weir, Hamilton, Wright, Evans, McGinlay (Sub not used: Farrell)

Referee: D. D. Hope (Erskine)

Bookings: United — Bowman (lunge at Mitchell, 63)

Hibs — Burridge (illegally marking pitch, 45)



Hibs have a fairly abysmal record at Tannadice since the advent of the Premier Division, but in the first half they made

light of any so called jinx, creating a handful of chances which, fortunately for us, went abegging for one reason or another.

The United line for the game drew a few raised eyebrows. Out went Billy McKinlay, Alex Cleland, Gary Bolland and Paddy Connolly from the side which had drawn at Falkirk. Dave Narey returned whilst Dave Bowman was on from the start, but the two other changes were the ones which caused the surprises.

Victor Ferreyra was back in after a five match absence and there was a recall for Michael O'Neill who last figured in the United side over a year ago.

Indeed, the Northern Ireland internationalist produced the first scoring chance of the game when his header from an Andy McLaren cross scraped the top of the bar.

The battling approach called for earlier in the week by manager Jim McLean brought the right response from the side, but not before we endured some remarkable let off's around Alan Main's charge.

The first of a catalogue of misses by the visitors came when Evans wriggled clear, only to prod the ball wide of the post as Alan Main came out to narrow the target.

An even better chance was tossed away midway through the half.

Evans again provided the danger, but he hesitated, allowing Alan Main to block his shot and Hamilton's follow-up effort.

Keith Wright then first-timed a volley over after finding himself unmarked from a corner, but that was nothing compared to his failure to score a few minutes later. The former Dundee striker bore in on goal down the left,

rounded Alan Main, but Dave Narey was on hand to block the net-bound shot on the line.

However, Duncan Ferguson served notice that we were far from out of contention when he sent a header from an Andy McLaren cross against the post as half-time beckoned.

Before the second half got underway, we had the first booking of the game and a bizarre one it was too with Burridge having been spotted illegally marrying the pitch.

For the start of the second half United had a re-shuffled defence, in which Freddy Van der Hoorn and John Clark had switched roles.

This manoeuvre worked so well that Hibs hardly had an attack worthy of note as the pattern of the game showed a complete turn around as we started to carve out the chances.

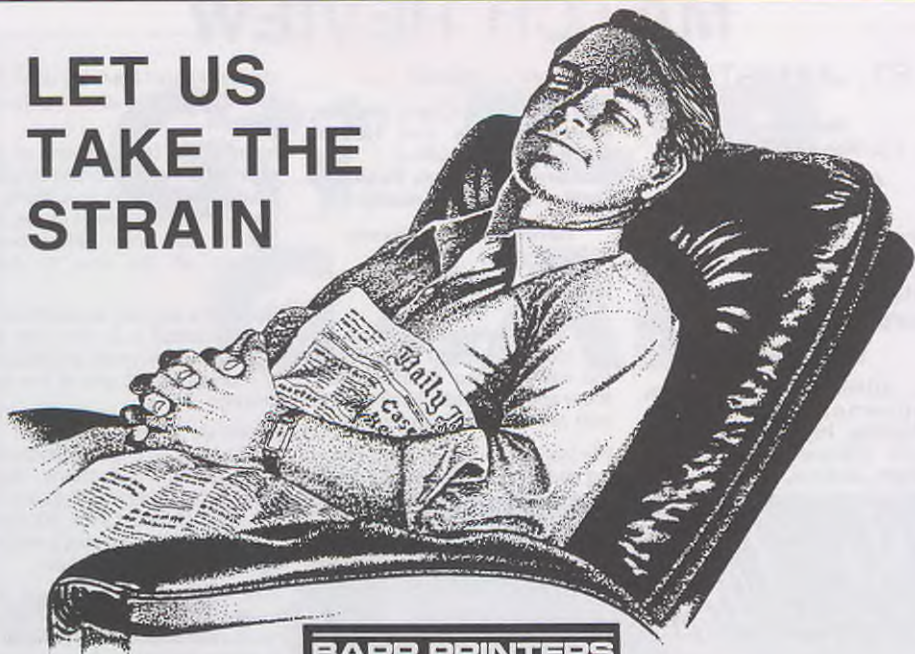
Victor Ferreyra, who all through had been having a fine game, would have put us ahead, but for a fine save. The Argentinian's quick turn left his marker for dead and only a one-handed block low down at his near post by Burridge Victor scoring.

Then the Hibs keeper turned an Andy McLaren shot round the other post as our attacks gained momentum.

With nine minutes left the outcome of the match was decided. Maurice Malpas swung over a cross from the left, Victor Ferreyra chested in down and Jim McInally was first to react, stealing in to nick the ball past Burridge for his second goal in consecutive weeks.

So a game where we could have been counted out by the interval ended with two valuable points and continued Hibs dismal form at Tannadice.

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MATCH REVIEW

v ST. JOHNSTONE

Saturday,
7th November, 1992

Premier Division
— 16th match

Venue: McDiarmid Park

ST. JOHNSTONE (0)2
(Wright 54, Arkins 66)

UNITED (0)0

Crowd: 5,513

ST. JOHNSTONE: Rhodes,
McGowne, McAuley,
Baltacha, Inglis, McLelland,
Davis (Turner 46), Cherry,
Wright, Arkins, Curran. (Sub

not used — Moore)

UNITED: Main, Clark, Malpas,
McInally, Van Der Hoorn,
Clelland (Bollan 82),
McLaren, Bowman, Ferreyra,
Dailly, O'Neill (Connolly 66)

Referee: D.F.T. Syme
(Rutherglen)

No Bookings.

It is seventeen years since we last lost to Saints in Perth and in the early stages of the match, there appeared little likelihood of that record being blemished.

We made a confident start, enjoying plenty of possession, but signifi-

cantly, without breaking down the home side's five man home defence.

Indeed, the best chance of the opening period fell to Saints when Arkins got his head to a McAuley corner, Wright headed it on and the ball hit Alan Main before being cleared off the line by Andy McLaren.

Before the first half ended Maurice Malpas drilled in a shot from the edge of the box which unfortunately rebounded off one of his own strikers.

It took us just two minutes of the second half to improve upon any of those first half efforts. Andy McLaren's corner was flicked on by the head of John Clark, but Inglis blocked Victor Ferreyra's shot to prevent us taking the lead.

Five minutes later we were fortunate to remain on level terms when Alan Main was at full stretch to palm out an Arkins header a goal looked certain as Paul Wright pounced on the loose ball, but Dave Bowman somehow managed to keep his crashing drive from no more than six yards.

Fortune didn't favour us so well a minute later. Paul Wright cut in from the right before shooting home from fourteen yards via the inside of the near post, giving Alan Main no chance.

Worse followed 11 minutes later and again Paul Wright was at the centre of the action. He cracked in a swerving 20 yarder which Alan Main did well to keep out, but Arkins was on hand to rifle in the rebound.

Paddy Connolly immediately replaced Michael O'Neill, but it was Christian Dailly who forced a fingertip save as Rhodes kept out his header as we tried to claw our way back into the game.

Jimmy McInally almost capitalised on a slack pass back, but Rhodes crowded him out and apart from a last minute siege around the goal, Saints held on relatively comfortably to record their first win over us at McDiarmid Park.



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ACTION FOCUS

v HIBERNIAN

Saturday, 31st October, 1992



Duncan Ferguson pops in between Hamilton and McIntyre to get in his header.



Jim McNally hits the ball past Hibs keeper John Burridge for the only goal of the game.



Jim McNally shrugs off the challenge of Pat McGinlay



Dave Bowman and Pat McGinlay in a contest for a loose ball.

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