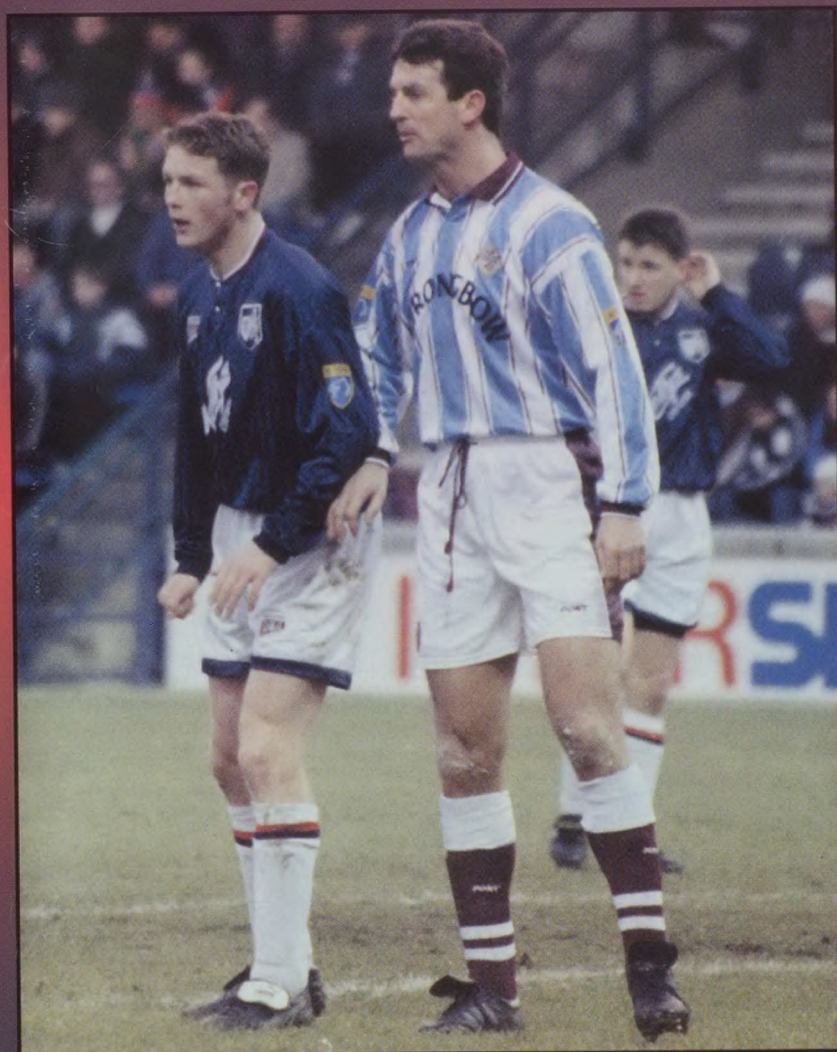


RAITH



v. CELTIC FOOTBALL CLUB



INSIDE TODAY

COLIN
SCOTT
IN THE
SPOTLIGHT



PROFILE
OF BOBBY
EVANS



Tuesday
14th January
'97

Kick-off
7.30 p.m.



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Second Division
Champions
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1909-10
1907-08

Scottish Cup
Runners up 1912-13
League Cup
Winners 1994-95
Runners up 1948-49



TEAM TALK

THANKS FOR THE GREAT SUPPORT

WELCOME to
Stark's Park
for what is
another important
game for the club.

It was not the best of festive seasons for us but I was delighted with your reaction to my plea for the fans to get behind us.

The backing you gave the team in the match against Hearts was great and the players really appreciated it.

I felt we played well and were a bit unlucky not to take something from the game.

However, we are still in there fighting and we will keep trying to turn things around.

Every game just now is



difficult but matches against Celtic and Rangers are always a bit different with a big crowd and a great atmosphere.

Of course, tonight's game should have taken place in December when we were on a good run and it might have suited us better to play it then.

However, rules are rules and we have just got to get on with it.

Tommy Burns' side is packed with top-class players but, after our recent disappointments, the match couldn't really come quick enough.

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**Record defeat: 0-8 v
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**Most capped player:
Paul McStay (73)**

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**European Cup winners
1967**

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35 times**

**Scottish Cup winners
30 times**

**League Cup winners
Nine times**

TEN-YEAR RECORD

	League	Scottish Cup	League Cup
1986-87	2nd	4th rd	Final
1987-88	1st	Winners	4th rd
1988-89	3rd	Winners	4th rd
1989-90	5th	Semi-final	Final
1990-91	3rd	Semi-final	Final
1991-92	3rd	Semi-final	4th rd
1992-93	3rd	4th rd	Semi-final
1993-94	4th	3rd rd	Semi-final
1994-95	4th	Winners	Final
1995-96	2nd	Semi-final	4th rd



CELTIC

DEFEAT in the Old Firm derby earlier this month left Celtic trailing their great rivals by 14 points.

With two games in hand over Rangers, Tommy Burns' side had the chance to cut that gap slightly and tonight provides them with the second of these opportunities. The game was scheduled to take place in December but was called off at the Parkhead club's request with strikers Pierre Van Hooijdonk and Jorge Cadete away on international duty and their availability this evening will ensure a tough time for the Raith defence.

Currently holding on to the goalkeeper's jersey at Celtic Park is 22-year-old STEWART KERR, an under-21 internationalist who made his competitive debut against Motherwell after GORDON MARSHALL was sent off.

The youngster, who signed for the club on an X form in 1991, has been the first choice ever since and performed heroics in November's Old Firm derby despite finishing up on the losing side.

Marshall will undoubtedly be disappointed at losing his coveted No.1 spot having battled hard to win it from Pat Bonner. The



Jorge Cadete



Paolo Di Canio

former East Stirling and East Fife keeper, who was with Rangers as a youngster, was signed from Falkirk for £270,000 in 1991. Now aged 32, he has one Scottish cap to his name.

Celtic's defence has come in for some criticism over the years but, with the back unit now boasting three full Scottish caps, Burns certainly seems to be getting it right.

The latest recruit to the international ranks is JACKIE McNAMARA (23), a £800,000 signing from Dunfermline just year ago, who has made such an impression during his short time at Celtic Park that he is already being touted as the new Danny McGrain and was recently introduced into the Scotland set-up.

TOSH McKINLAY, who turned 27 earlier this month, had been linked to Celtic several times before he eventually signed from Hearts in a £350,000 deal in November 1994. The former under-21 was a surprise call-up to the international scene but has performed well in his outings at that level.

The final member of the Scotland trio is 31-year-old TOM BOYD who joined from Chelsea in a swap deal which saw Tony Cascarino make the opposite journey.

CELTIC AIM TO CUT THE GAP

Boyd, who can slot in anywhere in defence, began his career with Motherwell and captained them to the 1991 Scottish Cup.

In an effort to find his best combination at the back, Burns has occasionally teamed up with BRIAN O'NEILL with ALAN STUBBS in the centre of the defence.

Although only 24, O'Neill is one of Celtic's longest-serving players having joined from the Boys' Club in 1989. He suffered under former boss Lou Macari who shunted him about the team but he now seems to have found his best position.

Stubbs (25) turned down offers from several leading English clubs to move from Bolton during the summer in a £5.5 million deal.

The robust stopper made his debut for Wanderers during the 1990-91 season taking over as captain while just 21.

Injuries have deprived Burns of two of his most influential midfielders this season, club captain PAUL McSTAY (32), who has been with the Hoops all his career, and 24-year-old PHIL O'DONNELL, a £1.75 million capture from Motherwell in September 1994 but both are now back in action.

In their absence, the creative role in the middle of the park was taken by PAULO DI CANIO, a £3 million summer signing from AC Milan.

The 28-year-old former Lazio and Juventus star, who has also had loan spells with Ternana and Napoli, is one of the most talented foreigners playing in Scotland and had been the scourge of many defences already this season.

While Di Canio is enjoying his first season at the club, teammate PETER GRANT (31) is now in the 14th year of his Parkhead career.

He looked set to leave the club when he signed monthly deals for over a year but is now an important part of the side, where



Pierre Van Hooijdonk

he plays a sitting role in the middle of the park, and he can also deputise in defence.

Next midweek his loyalty will be rewarded when Celtic take on Bayern Munich in his testimonial match.

Others to have featured this season have been SIMON DONNELLY and MORTEN WEIGHORST.

Donnelly, 22 this month, made an instant impact when drafted in to the first team, scoring both goals in a 2-1 win over Rovers on his home debut in 1994, while 25-year-old Weighorst is a Danish internationalist bought for £600,000 from Dundee last December.

BRIAN McLAUGHLIN (22), another Boys' Club recruit, is a tricky winger in the old-fashioned mould but has been in and out of the team recently, while the club bolstered their squad recently with the signing of DAVID HANNAH from Dundee United.

Celtic's strength has always been their attack and this season is no exception with the foreign trio of ANDREAS THOM, PIERRE VAN HOOIJDONK and

JORGE CADETE posing plenty of problems for Premier League defences.

Thom (31), who cost £4 million to lure from Bayer Leverkusen last July, is a German internationalist who has played for both the East and unified teams.

He has delighted the Celtic fans with his creative play and he links well with Van Hooijdonk (27), a bargain £1.5 million signing from NAC Breda in January 1995.

The 6' 4" striker is beginning to make his mark in the Dutch team and topped the Premier League scoring charts last season. However, he is still in dispute with the club over a new contract and all Celtic fans will be hoping things can be sorted out quickly.

Portuguese internationalist Cadete's move to Celtic from Sporting Lisbon in February hit problems but after the red tape was cleared he hit five goals in six games and, despite injury problems, has shown some impressive form this season.

Others who may feature are MALKY MACKAY and STUART GRAY.

CELTIC PAST RESULTS

The clubs met four times in the Premier League and once in both the Coca-Cola Cup and Scottish Cup last season with Rovers managing to take just one point from Celtic.

STARK'S PARK

Raith Rovers 0 Celtic 1

(Van Hooijdonk)

Raith Rovers 1 Celtic 3

(Cameron) (O'Donnell, Collins, Van Hooijdonk)

CELTIC PARK

Celtic 2 Raith Rovers 1 (aet)

(Van Hooijdonk, Rougier)

Donnelly)

Celtic 0 Raith Rovers 0

Celtic 2 Raith Rovers 0

(Thom, Donnelly)

Celtic 4 Raith Rovers 1

(Cadete 2, Duffield)

Gray, Grant)



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saturday then.



THE SPIRIT OF SCOTTISH FOOTBALL.



BYGONE DAYS

A CELTIC LEGEND REBORN IN FIFE

David Potter looks back on the careers of some of Rovers' greatest ever players.

THERE was a certain amount of incredulity on the eve of season 1965-66 when it was announced that manager George Farm had persuaded Bobby Evans to join Raith Rovers.

True, Evans had been a household name in the 1950s, earning 48 Scottish caps and loads of medals with Celtic, but he was now 38, having been a professional footballer for over 20 years.

Moreover, since leaving his beloved Celtic in 1960 under a cloud, his career had apparently fizzled out. Chelsea, Newport County, Morton and the doomed Third Lanark had not been great successes for the ageing redhead who had been such a classy and stylish centre-half.

But he was still a big name and Kirkcaldy in 1965 thirsted for such players to get Rovers out of the mire of the Second Division.

In the first big game of the season, Rovers were torn apart in a League Cup game against Celtic with Evans visibly outpaced by the speed of Bobby Lennox and the other men who would soon tear all Europe apart.

At full-time, however, Evans was seen to talk for a long time with former comrade in arms Jock

Stein and some cruel Langtonians hoped that Jock was offering him a job at Parkhead which would take this old man out of their sight.

But Evans was still a fine professional and, as he and Farm developed a mutual respect, the form of the team settled.

Evans, although now lacking the pace he once had, used his brain and exercised a calming influence on the developing talent around him in the shape of Ian Porterfield and Pat Gardner. There was something re-assuring about Evans, the famous red hair now going grey, at the back, reminiscent of McNaught a decade earlier.

But Rome was not built in a day and respectability was all that 1966 brought. The following year, however, would do it. With the astute signing of Gordon Wallace in the autumn, as well as one or two other good buys, Rovers peaked at the right

time and by thrashing Queen of the South at home on the last day of the season edged the second promotion spot from Arbroath.

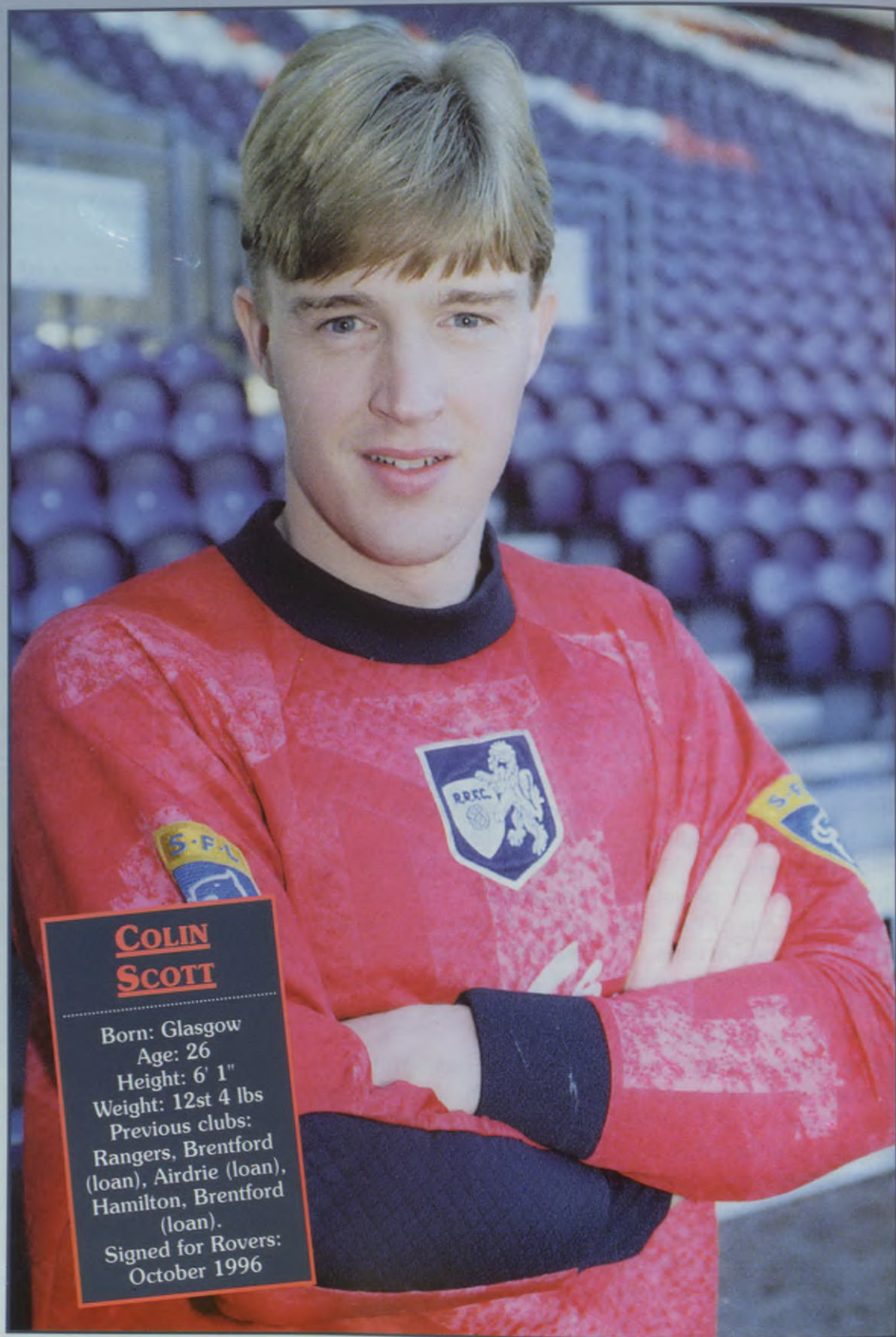
Evans was visibly in tears at the full-time whistle and probably felt that this was as a fine moment in his career as any.

Certainly the veteran had given a conspicuous and conscientious lead to the youngsters in the team and it was felt that if only he had come to Stark's Park on leaving Celtic in 1960, the horrors of the 1963 relegation would have been avoided.

In retrospect, Evans should perhaps have announced his retirement on that bright April evening but he continued into the next season.

The First Division however was a different matter and the whole team struggled, Evans more than most.

He was well past his 40th birthday when he decided to call a halt in December 1967.



COLIN
SCOTT

Born: Glasgow
Age: 26
Height: 6' 1"
Weight: 12st 4 lbs
Previous clubs:
Rangers, Brentford
(loan), Airdrie (loan),
Hamilton, Brentford
(loan).
Signed for Rovers:
October 1996



IN THE SPOTLIGHT

SCOTT AIMS TO MAKE FULL USE OF EXPERIENCE

IN nine seasons with Rangers, Colin Scott was forced to sit on the sidelines as first Chris Woods and then Andy Goram laid claim to the goalkeeper's jersey.

But the Raith No.1, who returned to the first team against Hearts last Saturday, picked up plenty of tips from the internationalists and he's determined to put everything he's learned to good use now he's finally made the break from Ibrox.

Signed from Dalry Thistle in 1987, Scott came through the ranks with Rangers and actually made around 30 first team appearances for the club - including one match at Stark's Park - before moving on at the end of last season.

On a couple of occasions it looked like he would be on his way to Bradford but when he wasn't down south he was impressing at Hamilton and it proved to be his two and half months with the Accies that paved the way for his return to the Premier League.

For when Iain Munro took over the managerial reins at Stark's Park he didn't wait too long before moving to sign Scott.

He went straight into the first team and made his debut in the narrow 2-1 defeat at Kilmarnock in October.

An unlucky 1-0 reverse at Pittodrie followed before Scott got the chance to face up to his former club when Rangers visited Kirkcaldy.

On the day, Rovers turned in one of their best performances of the season to earn a 2-2 draw with the champions.

'We might even have won the game but we hit the bar in the last few minutes,' Scott recalls.

'The rub of the green went against us then and that seems to be

what happens when you're struggling a bit.'

Luck certainly wasn't on the 26-year-old's side when he injured himself on the morning of the derby match with Dunfermline a couple of weeks later and Scott Thomson seized his chance as Raith went on to enjoy their best spell of the season.

However, now he's back in the side, Scott is determined to make the most of it.

'When I played for Rangers every game was a big one and I want to use the experience I gained to prove I'm as good as I know I am.

'Things haven't been going well for us recently but we've got to believe we can turn things around.

'We've just got to dig in and keep our chins up.'

Ian and Linda

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VIEWPOINT

GREAT SAVES - BUT STILL NOT THE BEST

WAS Peter Schmeichel's save for Manchester United against Rapid Vienna a couple of months back better than Gordon Banks' stop from Pele during the 1970 World Cup.

For my money, Banks' effort was the best although Schmeichel's may have proved to be slightly more important.

But to say that either of them, impressive as they were, was the save of the century is surely taking things a bit too far.

My footballing memory only goes back 20 years or so but even I can come up with some saves that would rank alongside both of them.

Remember, for example, Alan Rough's stop from John Toshack at Anfield when Scotland faced Wales in a vital World Cup qualifying match.

Although we eventually won 2-0 and travelled to Argentina the following year, Rough's save came with the score still finally balanced at 0-0.

Then, not so long ago, Jim Leighton pulled off several important stops to defy Sweden as Scotland clung desperately to a slender lead

in another World Cup qualifying tie.

It is usually said that Andy Goram's saves are worth at least a dozen points a season to Rangers and he has also produced some scintillating form in his games for Scotland.

And what about our own Scott Thomson. Given the situation, his match-winning save from Paul McStay in the Coca-Cola Cup finally certainly ranks alongside any stops made by Schmeichel or Banks - especially as far as Rovers fans are concerned!

Even then we are still confining the quest to find the save of the century to our own shores and teams - and to televised games at that.

Who knows, maybe there was a better stop from a keeper in a league match in Argentina in 1956 or just the other week across at the Beveridge Park.

Yes Banks' save was amazing, yes Schmeichel's stop was important but none could be ever be classed as the save of the century.

The same goes for the goal of the century although, to us Scots, Archie Gemmill's effort against Holland still takes some beating!

Colin Hume

Looking Back ...

10 Years

A SNOW-covered Stark's Park left Rovers still frustrated in their attempts to play their second round Scottish Cup tie with Vale of Leithen. In the meantime, the third round draw had taken place with Queen of the South waiting to take on the eventual winners of the tie at Palmerston.

50 Years

RAITH were preparing for the visit of Alloa to Stark's Park for a Division B match with manager Bert Herdman set to recall fit again keeper Willie Bruce in place of Bobby Brown. The Fife Free Press also reckoned a trialist might feature at centre-forward after the boss' scouting mission in the west.

100 Years

ROVERS travelled to Dumbarton to face the local side in a Scottish Cup tie and things looked to be going their way when they led 1-0 at the interval thanks to what The Fife Free Press described as a 'soft goal'. However, Dumbarton turned things around in the second half and progressed to the next round thanks to a 2-1 win.

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PREMIERSHIP clubs in England are getting greedier and greedier. Of that there is no doubt.

Money is flowing in left, right and centre to the biggest, most powerful clubs in the land - and the pound signs materialise before chief executives' eyes with a real sheen.

So it's a worrying time when these already massive clubs set their sights on taking over smaller clubs as feeder teams. I understand that Newcastle, Aston Villa and Blackburn are among the clubs to have expressed an interest in such proposals. Tottenham and Everton have been linked with the feeder team idea in the past.

The positive aspects for a smaller club are quite attractive, I'm sure. They could benefit from association with say Manchester United and attract bigger crowds with all the attendant publicity.

But the real danger is that the small clubs, who have produced a vast number of top players down the years, will lose their own identity - and virtually become a reserve side for their 'owners'.

This is surely not the way for our game to go. Many people - mostly chairmen of big clubs - insist that we have too many clubs, with particular emphasis on these little clubs getting cash which they feel they have no right to.

But I can't see how the existence of Scarborough, Hartlepool and Darlington would affect the success of a monied club like Newcastle, for example.

It's folly to suggest that the small clubs are holding the big ones back.

And what about the

BORDERLINES

DON'T LET OUR SMALL CLUBS BE TAKEN OVER

production line that some teams, notably Crewe and, going back to the 1960s and '70s, Burnley, have brought through.

Crewe rescued David Platt from the abyss of being freed by Manchester United in the days before Alex Ferguson resurrected the youth set-up.

And he's just the tip of the iceberg. Geoff Thomas was a top-flight player alongside other Crewe men like Middlesbrough's Craig Hignett and Neil Lennon of Leicester.

Ian Rush started at Chester and Chris Armstrong at Wrexham. Under a feeder system; these players would never have been seen at the top level - and it surely can't be allowed to happen.

Players with promise, but not

picked up by the big clubs, will have nowhere to go, nowhere to develop their skills and eventually impress enough people to win a transfer to the big time.

Under a feeder system, lower-division football will cease to exist as a breeding ground for talent or as a community base. It will turn into a mish-mash of Premier players not good enough for a big club's top team - with all the atmosphereless attraction that is reserve-team football.

And what about the clubs not snapped up by the big teams? Where do they go? They'd be as well giving up if the feeder system goes ahead. Lunatics taking over the asylum, for sure.

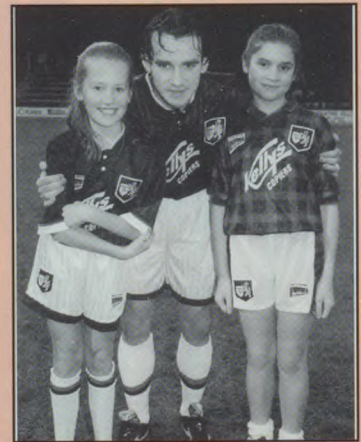
Ian McCaskill

A DAY TO REMEMBER

THE RESULT may not have been what they wanted but it was a special day for two young ladies when they led Rovers out for the match against Hibs prior to Christmas.

Markinch 10-year-olds Nicola Smith and Emma Reid are pictured prior to the game with midfielder Danny Lennon who was up against his former team that afternoon.

However, Rovers found the Easter Road side on top form and slipped to a 3-0 defeat.



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QUESTION TIME

1. Which Scot won the English Professional Footballers' Association player of the year and young player of the year awards in 1977?

2. Prior to Pierre Van Hooijdonk, who was the last non-Scot to top the Premier Division's scoring charts?

3. After Paul McStay, who is Celtic's longest serving player?

4. Did Scotland ever beat the former Soviet Union?

5. From which club did Celtic sign Pierre Van Hooijdonk?

6. How many times have Aberdeen won the Premier League championship?

7. Which street links Dens Park with Tannadice?

8. Who is Celtic's most capped player ever?

9. With which club did David Craig begin his senior career?

10. For which German side did Partick Thistle boss Murdo McLeod play?



David Craig

11. Name any three of the four other Scottish clubs Celtic keeper Gordon Marshall has been with.

12. What colour is Inter Milan's top?

13. Did Jim Baxter cost Rangers £18,000, £28,000 or £38,000 to sign from Rovers in 1960?

14. Which player did Celtic sign from Manchester United during the 1993-94 season?

15. Who were Scotland's first representatives in the European Cup?

Answers

1. Andy Gray (Aston Villa). 2. Mark Hateley. 3. Peter Grant. 4. No, but we beat the CIS in the 1992 European Championships. 5. NAC Breda. 6. Three. 7. Tannadice Street. 8. Paul McStay. 9. Partick Thistle. 10. Borussia Dortmund. 11. Rangers, East Stirling (loan), East Fife and Falkirk. 12. Blue and black stripes. 13. £18,000. 14. Lee Martin. 15. Hibernian.

Whistler's Corner

1. When a goalkeeper is injured and leaves the field for treatment, another player takes his place in goal. After treatment, the goalkeeper is allowed to return but he wants to play as an outfield player. Do you (a) insist he returns into goal, (b) have him replaced by a substitute or (c) take no action?

2. A player complains about a stud injury. You stop play, find the culprit and send him off to have the studs corrected. Do you restart with (a) a drop ball, (b) an indirect free-kick or (c) a direct free-kick?

3. A goal-kick is taken. Before the ball passes outside the penalty area, an attacker runs into the area and is struck by a defender. After dismissing the defender, do you restart with (a) another goal-kick, (b) a penalty kick or (c) a drop ball?

Bill Hume

ANSWERS

1. (c) Take no action.
2. (a) Play should be restarted with a drop ball.
- 3 (a) Restart with a goal-kick because the incident took place before the ball was in play.



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TODAY'S TEAMS

RAITH ROVERS

- Colin Scott
- Steve Kirk
- John Millar
- David Craig
- Andy Millen
- Graham Mitchell
- Danny Lennon
- Vetle Andersen
- Peter Duffield
- Derek McGill
- Tony Rougier
- David Kirkwood
- Carsten Hallum
- Scott M. Thomson
- Paul Harvey
- Soren Andersen
- Scott Y. Thomson

Referee

A. FREELAND
(Aberdeen)
Assistant Referees

R. T. TAIT
(East Kilbride)
J. LOVE
(Glenrothes)

Raith Mascot

LEADING the team out for today's match with Celtic will be ALISTAIR GRANGER from Forth Court, Dalgety Bay. Six-year-old Alistair attends Dalgety Bay Primary School and tells us his favourite players are Danny Lennon and goalkeeper Scott Thomson. Alistair is also the proud owner of the shirt David Sinclair wore in his last game for Rovers, coincidentally against Celtic in the final game of last season.

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CELTIC

- Stewart Kerr
- Tom Boyd
- Tosh McKinlay
- Jackie McNamara
- Alan Stubbs
- Phil O'Donnell
- Paolo Di Canio
- Paul McStay
- Pierre Van Hooijdonk
- Jorge Cadete
- Andreas Thom
- Stuart Gray
- Malky Mackay
- David Hannah
- Morten Weighorst
- Brian McLaughlin
- Simon Donnelly

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News in Brief

AIRDRIE TIE

THE DRAW for the third round of the Scottish Cup has handed Rovers an away match with Airdrie.

The Diamonds, of course, ended Raith's interest in the Coca-Cola Cup earlier this season when they won 3-2 after extra-time, with Tony Rougier netting twice for Rovers.

The sides have met regularly in cup competitions over the past few years and faced each other three times during the 1994-95 season.

Alex MacDonald's side triumphed in the Scottish and B&Q Cups but Rovers won on penalties in the Coca-Cola Cup semi-final before going on to win the trophy.

PRICES CUT

ROVERS have cut prices for the unemployed and students attending matches at Stark's Park.

On the production of a UB40 or student card, supporters will now have to pay only £6 instead of £12 to gain entry to the ground.

The arrangement will remain in place for the remainder of the season and the concessionary turnstiles must be used.

The offer is only valid for home supporters and will not apply at all-ticket matches.

DENNIS LEAVES

DEFENDER Shaun Dennis has left the club in a deal which also sees Andy Millen arrive at Stark's Park.

Dennis signed for Hibs on Thursday with the former Kilmarnock stopper making the opposite journey.

Other new arrivals at Rovers are Danish strikers Carsten Hallum and Soren Andersen who have come from Hvidovre on two-month contracts.

A fuller feature on Dennis will appear in the Aberdeen programme.



IN THE GROUND

FESTIVE SEASON FAILS TO BRING ROVERS CHEER

IT proved to be a disappointing festive season for Rovers as they failed to take a point from any of their matches and found themselves back at the foot of the table after Kilmarnock's revival.

The postponement of the match with Celtic halted a fine run and the side seemed to suffer when Hibs came to Stark's Park and left with all three points after a 3-0 victory.

Raith started brightly but couldn't find the target and were made to pay in the second half when Darren Jackson scored twice and Pat McGinlay also netted.

The Boxing Day meeting with Rangers at Ibrox was never going to be easy and so it proved with goals from Richard Gough, Paul Gascoigne, Jorg Albartz and Ally McCoist earning the points for the champions.

Next up came the visit of Dundee United and Rovers suffered their first defeat against the Tannadice side this season when Kjell

Olofsson's second minute free-kick was the difference between the sides.

The January 1 derby with Dunfermline piled on the misery for Rovers on a bitterly cold afternoon at East End Park.

The deadlock remained unbroken at the interval but two goals in two minutes from Gerry Britton after the break turned the match the Pars' way and cut short the Raith fans' New Year celebrations.

The hectic holiday programme ended with another defeat when Hearts were the visitors to Stark's Park last Saturday but the performance gave some hope of better things to come.

Good work by Derek McGill, who had also impressed against Dunfermline, set up Danny Lennon for the opener after just 25 seconds but Jim Jefferies' side hit back through John Robertson a few minutes later.

Both sides scorned good chances before the on-form Jim Hamilton struck the winner.

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Dream League

THERE'S been plenty of matches since our last Dream League update and the new league table sees **Muir's Mechanics** leading the way.

Richard Muir's side were the main beneficiaries of a festive season which saw Stephen Pressley of Dundee United pick up an amazing 24 points from five games.

The other top points scorers were Hearts striker John Robertson and Jorg Albertz of Rangers who both collected 18.

The top 10 teams prior to Saturday's matches were:

- 1 Muir's Mechanics (Richard Muir) 172
- 2 Rover Blades (Michael Garrett) 155
- 3 Corries All Stars (Ian Doig) 142
- 4 Athletic Hopeless (Lee Hutton) 140
- 5 Cyril's Nutcrackers (Lesley Millar) 139
- 6 Kyles Rovers (William Robertson) 137
- 7 Rosan Cobar (Alex Edmiston) 136
- 8 Scottish Mix (Steve Mitchell) 130
- 9 Lennon is the Messiah (Steven Mitchell) 130
- 10 Token Rover? (Brian Kayes) 125

The preliminary round of the cup will take place on January 25.



SUPPORTERS' NOTES

FANS PLAN THREE AWAY DAY TRIPS

FOLLOWING Saturday's match against Aberdeen, Rovers face three weeks on the road starting with the now customary visit to Broadwood for the Scottish Cup third round tie with Airdrie.

Supporters' Club buses for Cumbernauld will leave Glenrothes and the Novar Bar at 12.30 p.m. and Templehall and Dalgety Bay at 1 p.m.

Fares are fixed at £4 for members and £5 for non-members.

Places can be booked at the Supporters' Club shop in the South Stand tonight or at Templehall Old People's Centre on Friday evening from 6-7.30 p.m.

HIBS v RAITH

For the trip to Easter Road on Saturday, February 1, buses will leave Glenrothes and the Novar Bar at 12.30 p.m. and Templehall and Dalgety Bay at 1 p.m.

Seats cost £4 for members and £5 for non-members and can be booked at Templehall Old People's Centre on Friday, January 24.

CELTIC v RAITH

Buses for the match at Parkhead will leave Glenrothes and the Novar

Bar at 12 noon and Templehall and Dalgety Bay at 12.30 p.m.

Fares for this trip are members £5 and non-members £6. Places can be booked at Templehall Old People's Centre on Friday, January 31.

ON THE SPOT

THE FIFE Free Press penalty kick competition continues this evening with the last of this season's first round ties taking place at half-time.

Scott Ayling from Glenrothes and William Hall, Graeme Lister and Callum Laing all from Kirkcaldy will compete for a place in the next round.

Over the festive period another six lucky lads qualified for the next round.

They were Steve Douglas and Ross Samson (Hibs), Stuart Balfour and Graham White (Dundee United) and Gordon Stanford and Ian Grieve (Hearts).

Staying with the penalty competition, referee Ian Stewart is appealing to Kevin Sommerville who qualified at the Hearts game on October 12 to get in touch.

Kevin's personal details have been lost and Ian requires his telephone number before he can take any further part in the competition.

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Statistics



Date	V	Opponents	Comp	F	A	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	14	15
Aug 10	Rangers	League	0-1	Thomson	Kirkwood	Bonar	Browne	Dennis	Craig	Thomson	McInally	Rougier	Lennon	Harvey	Twaddle(11)	Dargo(9)	Geddes		
14	Airdrie	C.C. Cup	2-3	Thomson	Kirkwood	Bonar	Browne	Dennis	Craig	Thomson	McInally	ROUGIER(2)	Lennon	Harvey	Twaddle(7)	Duffield(11)	Millar(3)		
17	Celtic	League	1-4	Thomson	Kirkwood	Bonar	Browne	Dennis	Craig	Thomson	McInally	Rougier	Lennon	Millar	DUFFIELD(7)	Twaddle(2)	Harvey(9)		
24	MOTHERWELL	League	0-3	Thomson	McInally	Bonar	Millar	Dennis	Browne	Rougier	Harvey	Duffield	Lennon	Twaddle	Thomson(8)	Craig	Kirk		
7	ABERDEEN	League	1-4	Thomson	McInally	BONAR	Kirkvokapic	Dennis	Craig	Thomson	Kirk	Rougier	Lennon	Rougier	Millar (6)	Twaddle (3)	Harvey (7)		
14	Hibernian	League	0-1	Geddes	McCulloch	Bonar	Kirkvokapic	Dennis	Craig	Thomson	Kirk	Duffield	Lennon	Rougier	Millar (6)	Twaddle (3)	Harvey (7)		
21	DUNDEE UTD	League	3-2	Geddes	Kirk	Bonar	Kirkvokapic	Dennis	Craig	Taylor (2)	Millar	Duffield	Lennon	Rougier	Twaddle (4)	Harvey (3)	McCulloch		
28	Dunfermline Ath	League	1-3	Geddes	Kirk	Bonar	Kirkvokapic	Dennis	Twaddle	Taylor	Millar	Duffield	Lennon	Rougier	Thomson (10)	Harvey (3)	McCulloch (6)		
Oct 12	HEARTS	League	1-1	Thomson	Kirk	Millar	Kirkvokapic	Dennis	Mitchell	Taylor	Harvey	THOMSON	Duffield	Rougier	Twaddle (10)	Bonar (11)	Lorimer		
19	Kilmarnock	League	1-2	Scott	Taylor	Millar	Kirkvokapic	Kirk (4)	Dennis	Mitchell	Twaddle	Harvey	Thomson	ROUGIER	Duffield (10)	Bonar (9)			
26	Aberdeen	League	0-1	Scott	Taylor	Bonar	Millar	Dennis	Mitchell	Twaddle	Harvey	Duffield	Lennon	Rougier	Thomson (3)	Kirk (2)	Lorimer (8)		
Nov 2	RANGERS	League	2-2	Scott	Kirk	Millar	Andersen	Dennis	Mitchell	THOMSON	Thomson	Rougier	Lennon	Bergesen	Bonar (4)	Browne	Duffield (7)		
16	DUNFERMLINE	League	1-2	Thomson	Craig	Miller	Andersen	Dennis	Mitchell	Rougier	Aleid	Thomson	Lennon	Bergesen	DUFFIELD (8)	Lorimer	Bonar		
23	Dundee Utd	League	2-1	Thomson	KIRK	Miller	Andersen	Dennis	Mitchell	Twaddle	Duffield	Thomson	Lennon	Bergesen	McGill	McCulloch (8)	Bonar (11)		
30	KILMARNOCK	League	1-0	Thomson	Taylor	Millar	Andersen	Craig	Mitchell	Rougier	Duffield	Thomson	Lennon	Bergesen	Taylor (11)	Harvey (8)	Lorimer		
Dec 7	Hearts	League	0-0	Thomson	Kirk	Miller	Andersen	Craig	Mitchell	Rougier	Duffield	Thomson	Lennon	Bergesen	McGill (8)	Harvey	Bonar		
10	Motherwell	League	1-0	Thomson	Kirk	Miller	Andersen	Craig	Mitchell	Twaddle	Duffield	Thomson	Lennon	Bergesen	McGill (11)	Taylor (2)	Harvey		
21	HIBERNIAN	League	0-3	Thomson	Kirk	Rougier	Andersen	Craig	Mitchell	Twaddle	Duffield	Thomson	Lennon	Lorimer	McGill (11)	Taylor (2)	Harvey		
26	Rangers	League	0-4	Thomson	Kirk	Craig	Andersen	Dennis	Mitchell	Twaddle	Taylor	Thomson	Lennon	Rougier	McGill (9)	Duffield (4)	Kirkwood		
28	DUNDEE UTD	League	0-1	Thomson	Kirk	Craig	Andersen	Dennis	Mitchell	Twaddle	Duffield	Thomson	Lennon	Rougier	McGill (7)	Taylor	Kirkwood		
Jan 1	Dunfermline	League	0-2	Thomson	Kirk	Craig	Andersen	Dennis	Mitchell	Twaddle	Thomson	Thomson	Lennon	Millar	Rougier (4)	Duffield (7)	Harvey (9)		
4	HEARTS	League	1-2	Scott	Kirk	Millar	Andersen	Dennis	Craig	Thomson	Duffield	McGill	LENNON	Rougier	Kirkwood (4)	Harvey (9)	Lorimer		
11	Kilmarnock	League	1-0	Scott	Kirk	Millar	V. Andersen	Craig	Millen	THOMSON	Hallum	Rougier	Lennon	Rougier	Thomson (7)	Duffield (9)	Taylor (2)		
14	CELTIC	League																	
18	ABERDEEN	League																	
25	Airdrie	S.F.A. R3																	
Feb 1	Hibernian	League																	
8	Celtic	League																	
11	MOTHERWELL	League																	
15		S.F.A. R4																	
22	Hearts	League																	
Mar 1	KILMARNOCK	League																	
8		S.F.A. R5																	
15	DUNFERMLINE	League																	
22	Dundee Utd	League																	
Apr 5	CELTIC	League																	
12	Motherwell	S.F.A. S/F																	
19	RANGERS	League																	
May 3	Aberdeen	League																	
10	HIBERNIAN	League																	
24		S.F.A. Final																	

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CELTIC	21	14	3	4	53	22	45
DUNDEE UNITED	23	10	6	7	31	20	36
HEARTS	23	9	6	8	34	33	33
ABERDEEN	23	8	6	9	32	36	30
DUNFERMLINE ATH.	22	8	5	9	34	43	29
HIBERNIAN	23	6	5	12	24	38	23
MOTHERWELL	22	5	6	11	22	39	22
KILMARNOCK	21	6	2	13	25	42	20
RAITH ROVERS	22	5	3	14	17	39	18

BELL'S FIRST DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
ST JOHNSTONE	20	15	2	3	47	11	47
DUNDEE	22	10	7	5	32	20	37
AIRDRIE	20	8	8	4	32	21	32
PARTICK THISTLE	21	8	8	5	34	24	32
ST MIRREN	19	9	4	6	30	24	31
GREENOCK MORTON	21	8	6	7	27	22	30
FALKIRK	21	8	6	7	20	20	30
STIRLING ALBION	23	5	7	11	29	42	22
CLYDEBANK	21	5	4	12	18	34	19
EAST FIFE	22	1	4	17	13	64	7

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Please note that the club shop in Links Street closes a 1 p.m. on Wednesdays.

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For more information, contact the club office on (01592) 263514.

MASCOT REQUIRED

WOULD you like to be the mascot for the F.C. Bayern Munchen game on Tuesday January 21? All you have to do is answer two simple questions.

Entry forms are available from the ticket office or club shop, Monday to Friday, 9.30am-4.30pm, when purchasing your match ticket.

Those who have already purchased a ticket can still participate. Simply show your match ticket at the club shop or ticket office.

All entries must be returned no later than Saturday, January 18.

IN RESERVE ROVERS SUFFER DERBY DEFEAT

IT'S been a busy festive season for the first team but the reserves have managed just one outing since our last update.

Just prior to Christmas the rescheduled match with Dunfermline took place at Warout Stadium in Glenrothes and there was more derby misery for Rovers when they went down 3-1 in front of a sizeable crowd.

Despite Colin Scott saving a penalty, Raith were 2-0 down at the interval and Dunfermline added a third just after the break.

Rovers salvaged some pride when David Lorimer scored a superb individual goal after working his way past three defenders.

Raith: Scott, McCulloch, Millar, Krivokapic, Browne,



David Lorimer... on target.

Kirkwood, McPherson, Taylor, Lorimer, Harvey, Bonar.

The second string were due to play Hearts at Tynecastle last Tuesday evening but the match was called off.

At the time of writing, no dates have been fixed for outstanding matches.

Results and Fixtures

Aug 10	Rangers	L0-4	Dec 26	RANGERS	
Aug 17	Celtic	W3-2	Dec 28	Dundee United	
Aug 24	Motherwell	L0-2	Jan 1	DUNFERMLINE	1-3
Sep 7	Aberdeen	D2-2	Jan 4	Hearts	
Sep 14	HIBERNIAN	L0-2	Jan 11	KILMARNOCK	
Sep 21	Dundee United	L1-2	Jan 18	Aberdeen	
Sep 28	DUNFERMLINE	W2-0	Feb 1	HIBERNIAN	
Oct 12	Hearts	L0-3	Feb 8	CELTIC	
Oct 19	KILMARNOCK	W3-0	Feb 11	Motherwell	W3-0
Oct 26	ABERDEEN		Feb 22	HEARTS	
Nov 2	RANGERS	L0-4	Mar 1	Kilmarnock	
Nov 16	Dunfermline	L1-3	Mar 15	Dunfermline	
Nov 23	DUNDEE UNITED		Mar 22	DUNDEE UNITED	
Nov 30	Kilmarnock		Apr 5	Celtic	
Dec 7	HEARTS	L1-4	Apr 12	MOTHERWELL	
Dec 10	MOTHERWELL	D1-1	Apr 19	Rangers	
Dec 14	CELTIC		May 3	ABERDEEN	
Dec 21	Hibernian		May 10	Hibernian	

Dates given are as per the first team fixture list but clubs will decide on what days the matches will be played.

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MATCH ACTION

A FIRST-minute Danny Lennon goal raised the hopes of the Raith fans during the last match at Stark's Park.

The midfielder capitalised on the endeavour of Derek McGill to fire Rovers into the lead only for John Robertson to level the scores just minutes later.

Tony Rougier and Scott Thomson both went close in an action-packed second half but it was Hearts who sealed the points when Jim Hamilton curled in the winner from an acute angle.



ON THE SPOT... Tony Rougier places the ball for a free-kick.



WING WIZARD... Rougier again but this time in a more typical pose.



MIDFIELD MAESTRO ... Man of the match Danny Lennon holds off Steve Fulton.

RAITH supporters will be tactful enough, in view of the sensitivities of today's visitors, to avoid any mention of penalty shootouts and so on, particularly with reference to the events of two years ago at Ibrox. Our guests today, however, will have noticed that, in the penalty which they missed a couple of months ago at Parkhead against Rangers, Andy Goram was about a yard off his line.


It is a common problem. Law 14 (more honoured in its breach than its observance, one feels) states: 'The opposing goalkeeper must stand (without moving his feet) on his own goal line, between the goal posts, until the ball is kicked'.

That seems clear enough but just watch the next time a penalty kick is awarded!

It is, of course, very easy to criticise the referee but he has other things to watch out for at this crucial point of a match, notably the encroachment of players into the area, another part of the law that is not observed as strictly as it might be.

Yet the problem of the goalkeeper moving or not moving can be easily solved by detailing the linesman (sorry, assistant referee, I should have said) to move in to the goalpost and raise his flag if the goalkeeper has jumped the gun.

This seems to be common practice in Italy's Serie A but is not yet uniform throughout Europe.



THE LAST WORD

TO MOVE OR NOT TO MOVE, THAT IS THE QUESTION

It may be, however, that the referee is worried about offside and needs his linesman to watch for this unlikely, although not impossible, development form the aftermath of an unsuccessful penalty kick.



With
DAVID POTTER

In that case, providing it is a big game, he can ask the fourth official (a gentleman who does not always give the impression of being over-employed) to do the needful for the penalty.

We would thus avoid the situation of seeing a law so fragrantly flaunted. Yet, perhaps we should tackle the problem another way. Why not allow the goalkeeper to move not when

the ball is kicked but when the referee blows his whistle? (The other players would have to wait until the ball was kicked, however).

This might give the goalkeeper more of a chance and give the crowd more of a spectacle.

It does seem to be a fact of life that the better a player you are, the more chance you have of missing a penalty. Conversely, slotting away a penalty may not have very much to do with the skills of the game.

The fact that the goalkeeper could run at you might introduce an element of footballing acumen into the question.

Certainly, the penalty kick (or, as one old Stark's Park worthy would say, 'A penalty, that's a penalty kick, referee') is an important part of the game.

Silence usually reigns in a pub among those whose interest in the game on TV is minimal while a penalty is taken.

And, of course, there are those penalty shootouts! (Or as John Greig called them in his radio commentating days, 'penalty kickouts!').

Trust us to help football

The Football Trust is helping the game at all levels - from providing kit for school teams, pitches and changing rooms for grass roots football, safety and improvement work throughout the game right up to providing vital assistance to help League clubs complete the essential task of redeveloping their grounds in line with the Taylor Report.

Over the last 20 years the Trust has received and distributed £250m from Littlewoods, Vernons and Zettlers Pools and Littlewoods Spot the Ball competition for the benefit of football.

Up and down the country, clubs are building new grounds and stands, installing seating, and providing safe and comfortable facilities for their spectators to enjoy. Every club depends on the support of the FOOTBALL TRUST and the success of the pools companies. Both are crucial for football's future.



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24 south mount street aberdeen AB25 2TB tel: 01224 638689 fax: 01224 649009



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