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the **Hibs**

VOL. 3 NO. 14



FINE FARE
LEAGUE



HIBS v CELTIC
PREMIER DIVISION — WEDNESDAY NOV 19 1986

MATCH MAGAZINE 50p

THE RESPECTIVE CAPTAINS



ROY AITKEN (Celtic)



BILLY KIRKWOOD (Hibernian)

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EDITORIAL BACK-CHAT

Manager John Blackley, ended his long association with the club on Monday afternoon, when he handed in his resignation to Chairman Kenny Waugh.

'Sloop', as he was later nicknamed, was signed in the Summer of 65 from Gairdoch Juveniles, and was initially farmed out to Bo'ness United for a season. The following term he was called up to join the staff, and in the Reserve's opening match at Easter Road, was on the bench as Hibs beat their Ibrox counterparts 1-0. A few months later, after undergoing an operation for a broken nose, John made his Reserve debut in a 2-0 home win against East Fife. By the end of the season, he had made a total of 15 Reserve appearances, and suffered the added misfortune of having to undergo a cartilage operation.

The start of season 67/68, saw John back in the heart of the defence, and his impressive performance throughout the season, resulted in a winning first team debut at home to Dundee.

Further first team appearances followed that season, against Aberdeen, Rangers, Newcastle United and Clyde.

The following season, John made his European debut in the Inter Cities Fairs Cup, as Hibs defeated Olympia Ljubljana 3-0 in Yugoslavia. A series of steady performances, saw John win the first of his International honours in season 71/72. The game was against the English League at Ayresome Park, Middlesbrough, and the Scots were defeated 3-2. Season 72/73 will go down as a milestone in John's career, as Hibs landed both the Drybrough and League Cups, in two cracking finals against Celtic, and repeated the Drybrough win the following season.

Full Scotland caps were gained against England, Czechoslovakia, Belgium, and Zaire in 1974, and against Switzerland and Wales in 1976 and 1977 respectively.

John's last appearance for Hibs, before his £100,000 transfer to Newcastle was in a 1-0 win at Blackburn in the Anglo-Scottish Cup, and to date he had made 424 appearances for the club, scoring 12 goals.

After Newcastle United, John joined Preston North End before returning to Scotland and Hamilton Academicals, where he was appointed player manager in October 1982.

The start of the following season, saw John come home to Easter Road as number two to Pat Stanton, and few would have visualised him resuming his playing career, let alone play a further 16 games for the club. In September 1984, John was appointed manager of the club after Pat Stanton's resignation, and last season guided the club to the Skol Cup Final and the Scottish Cup semi-final.

Sadly, an association which started over 21 years ago has ended, but John Blackley can leave with a clear conscience, knowing he gave everything he had to the club he loved.

The **EASTER** Review

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

On Monday afternoon, as Chairman of the Board of Directors of Hibernian Football Club, I regretfully accepted John Blackley's resignation as manager of the club.

John was and still is a close personal friend, and I know that he always held the club uppermost in his thoughts and actions. It was typical of him that his decision to resign was, he felt, in the best interests of Hibernian Football Club.

Over the last few years we had built up a very good working relationship, and I know that John's vast knowledge and experience, will not be lost to the game he graced as a player.

John Blackley was a great Hibs player, and time is on his side to let him become an even greater manager.

Kenny Waugh,
Chairman.



YOUTH SCENE

Two months have now passed, since I accepted responsibility for Hibs Youth policy. In that short space of time a lot has happened, in that a training school has been started in Stirling, where I know a lot of good young talent abides.

Our training school in the West has been expanded, and the standard of players attending, has risen dramatically in the time I have been there. This is due in no small way to the good work of our Scouts in that area, and a general increase in recruitment for all areas, should result in my knowing about every quality player in the respective areas.

In the last few weeks I have signed 3 boys on 'S Forms' as follows— Joe Verees — Under 14 Hamilton Schoolboy, Andrew Hogg — Under 13 Musselburgh Schoolboy and Gary Ormiston — Under 13 Port Seton Schoolboy.

These boys are important signings for Hibs, as other clubs, notably Rangers, Dundee United, Hearts and in the case of Joe, Portsmouth have shown great interest in these players.

Hibs in the past have set high standards, and it is my aim to make sure that they do not drop.

Billy Russell, Youth Coach

SCOTTISH CUP TIME

Yes, the First and Second Round of this season's competition are due to be played on Saturday December 6 and Saturday January 10. The first two rounds comprise of all the Second Division sides and the four semi-finalists in both the North and South Qualifying Cups. The full draw reads as follows — First Round. Peterhead v East Stirling, Ayr Utd v Annan Athletic, Stirling Albion v Cowdenbeath, Albion Rovers v Abroath, Forres Mechanics v Berwick Rangers, Inverness Caley v Alloa Athletic. Second Round — Stirling or Cowdenbeath v Meadowbank, Raith Rovers v Vale of Leithen, Rothes v Peterhead or East Stirling, St. Johnstone v Queen's Park, Albion Rovers or Abroath v Whitehill Welfare, Stenhousemuir v Forres or Berwick Rangers, Inverness Caley or Alloa v Spartans, Stranraer v Ayr or Annan. The winners of the Second Round go into the hat with the Premier and First Division sides, and it will be 26 years since we last met non-league opposition either home or away in the Cup. That day, or to be more precise the eleventh of February 1961, Hibs beat East of Scotland side Peebles Rovers 15-1, to record our highest score in senior football. Joe Baker's personal tally of 9 is another club record, and it would take a superb performance, irrespective of the opposition, to better these figures.

Roll on the Third Round draw.

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ALL-TICKET GAMES

After discussions with the Police, the match against Rangers on December 6 will be all ticket.

The New Year's Day game against Hearts, will also be ticket only, and fuller details regarding both these games will be issued in the near future.

TEAM OF THE DAY BOOB

The Sunday Mail's 'Team of the Day' last week included Irvine of Hibs in their line up. The player in question was in fact Alan Irvine of Falkirk, the ex-Hibs striker and not our Willie Irvine, who wasn't playing last Saturday.

UPS AND DOWNS

Scotland currently holds two unique records, in that they have the only unbeaten team in the UK in Raith Rovers, and the only team still to record a league win in Hamilton

Academicals.

Tonight, Accies are at Tannadice, and on Saturday they face St Mirren at Douglas Park. Raith on the other hand, are not playing tonight but on Saturday they are at home to Meadowbank Thistle. On current form both records should remain intact, though football being the game it is, anything could happen.

SEVILLE VISIT

Hibs have arranged the return game against Seville in Spain on Tuesday December 9. The official party will fly out after the Rangers game, and as the club is not chartering a plane, any supporters interested in making the trip will have to make their own travel arrangements.

BOBBY SMITH SIGNS

Last week Bobby Smith signed for his third spell with the club. The utility player, has turned out for the club in both full back positions, and all five forward positions in the past.

"PETER DOMINIC" PLAYER OF THE MONTH

Peter Dominic have once again agreed to continue their sponsorship of the "Player of the month" award. We at Hibs are delighted as the prize of a case of wine, acts as an additional incentive to the players to produce their best. In addition to the monthly awards Peter Dominic will present the PLAYER OF THE YEAR with a case of champagne.

**Peter Dominic
Limited**