

# The Dons

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Scottish  
Premier League  
Sunday  
1st April 2001  
Kick Off 6.05pm

 Celtic

Hughes Christensen

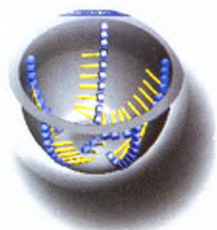
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Telephone (01224) 411000 Fax (01224) 411060

**T**here's no doubt it was very disappointing that we failed to take all three points in Tuesday evening's game here against St Johnstone and yet another draw all but ends any hopes of our making the top six in the table.

Conditions in midweek were far from ideal and it was understandable that there were mistakes from both teams. Having said that, we gave away three goals through poor defending and that was particularly frustrating as our back players have been playing well in recent matches.

On a brighter note, I had called for the need to see others apart from Robbie and Andri scoring goals and I was delighted that both of the young brothers found the net, particularly Darren who had not been on the scoresheet for quite some time.

This evening we have the television cameras with us for the visit of a Celtic side which has every chance of completing the domestic treble, which would be a fantastic achievement in Martin O'Neill's first season in charge at Parkhead. Our supporters do not need reminding that we were comprehensively defeated in Glasgow back in December, although in the first game at Pittodrie earlier in the campaign, we played very well and thoroughly deserved the share of the spoils we achieved.

Auto Guntser again misses out due to ligament damage while Thomas Solberg should be fit for inclusion after recovering from injury. At the time of writing, I have not finalised my thoughts on how we will line up and will leave it until closer to kick-off before deciding on who will start.

This game is the second of our busy spell at home and of course in just three days time, we play again, with Dundee United the visitors this time before their Tayside neighbours Dundee make the trip north next Saturday.

This evening's match will be a very big challenge for us but the players are up for it, make no doubt about that, and having given them a run for their money last time Celtic visited, there is no reason why we cannot do the same again if we approach the game with the correct attitude.

Enjoy the game!

**EBBE SKOVDAHL**



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There's a chance to win some tickets to the Regal Scottish Snooker

Championship at the AECC.

# This is a great club with great fans.

Thomas Solberg joined the Dons in November 1999 as one of manager Ebbe Skovdahl's first signings. The big Norwegian defender's tough-tackling displays have cemented him as a real favourite with the Red Army.

*You were taken off injured at the Livingston game a few weeks ago. What happened?*

I had a recurrence of a calf injury and it kept me out for a few weeks. However I played for the Under 21's down at Tannadice recently and we won. I am back in training and hopefully will be available for selection to face Celtic.

*You started your Dons career as a central defender but have spent part of this season at right back. How do you enjoy the right back role?*

It's a bit different, I look at it as a challenge. It can be more fun playing at right-back because you can get more involved in the attacking aspect of the game than at centre-back. I'm happy to play anywhere the manager wants me to play.

players pick the younger lads up when their form dips. Having said that, the young lads have been exceptional this season and it was no surprise in the dressing room when Ryan, Phil and Derek Young were called up to the Scotland Under 21 squad.

*How are you and your family enjoying life in Aberdeen?*

Very well. I have two small children, a daughter aged 5 who is starting school in September, and a son aged 2 who will be starting nursery soon. They love Scotland and Aberdeen, and have told me that they don't want to leave.

*Celtic have had a great season to date. What can we expect to see from them in this game?*

Yes, they have been a revelation this season and there is no doubt they could well lift the treble which is great for them. However, we showed when they were here last time, on our day, we are a match for anyone.

*You were one of Ebbe Skovdahl's first signings when he joined the club. What are his strengths as a manager?*

Ebbe has a good knowledge of the game, and knows the way that he wants to play football. He's though but fair.

*Finally, what does the future hold for Thomas Solberg?*

It's hard to say. I've just turned 31, but feel I have a few years left. Things happen so quickly in football, it's very difficult to plan ahead. My contract is up next summer, so we will have to wait and see what happens. I'd like to stay because this is a great club, with great fans.

## An Interview with...

# Thomas Solberg

*You are one of the senior players in what is a very young Aberdeen side. Do you feel a burden of responsibility as one of the more experienced players?*

The senior players know that they have to use their experience because we have been in the game for many years. The young guys have been playing really well, and I think it is important that the more experienced

## So You Think You Know...

**Full Name** :- Thomas Solberg

**Date Of Birth** :- 25/01/70

**Birthplace** :- Oslo

**Height** :- 1.87m

**Weight** :- 81kg

**Immediate Family** :- Wife and 2 children

**Senior Clubs Played For** :-  
Moss FK, Viking, Aberdeen

**Favourite Other Team** :- Liverpool

**Honours Received** :- None

**Biggest Influence On Your Career** :- Sigmund Olsen (Youth coach)

**Any Unfulfilled Ambitions In Football** :- Win a trophy!

**Any Regrets** :- Plenty

**Most Difficult Opponent** :- Mark Viduka

**Other Sports** :- Golf

**Favourite Car** :- My sponsored A – Class Mercedes from Morrison Motors

**TV Programmes** :- Friends

**Films** :- Gladiator

**Music** :- Counting Crows

**Actor / Actress** :- Meg Ryan / Anthony Hopkins

**Likes** :- Being with my kids

**Dislikes** :- Macaroni cheese

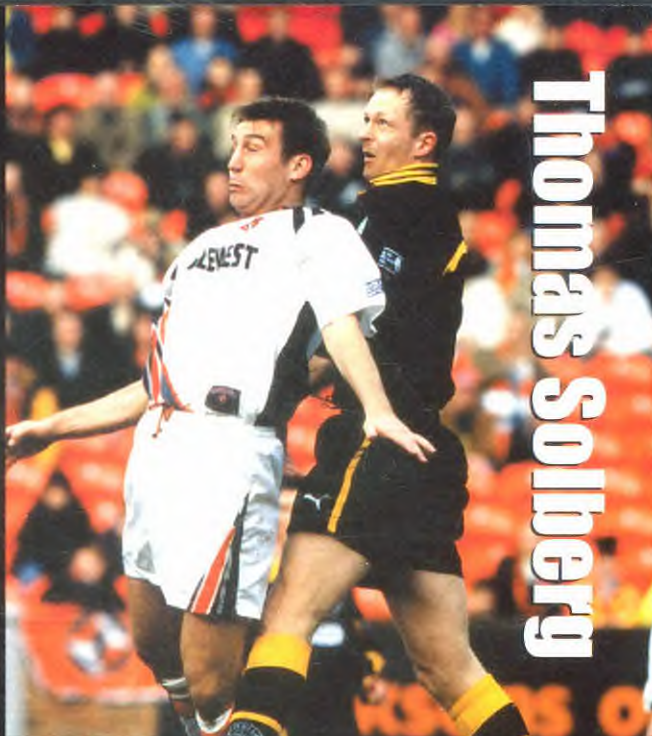
**Best Player** :- Fernando Hierro

**Favourite Ground** :- Pittodrie

**Plans After Playing** :- Probably something to do with football

**Friends In The Game** :- A few!

**Ambitions Away From Football** :- To be a good father



**Thomas Solberg**

## Ticket Office

**W**elcome to the Aberdeen v Celtic match. We hope that those of you who have purchased your ticket through our Ticket Office, Call Centre, or by e-mail found the service to be efficient and helpful to you.

*Did you know that tickets purchased before the match day for all of our home games\* receive a £1 reduction off the price of the ticket? You can do so by visiting the Ticket Office at Pittodrie, by calling our Call Centre on 63 1903\*\*, by e-mailing us on [ticketoffice@afc.co.uk](mailto:ticketoffice@afc.co.uk) or by visiting our web-site on [www.afc.co.uk](http://www.afc.co.uk) Also, job seekers, upon showing their UB40 at the Pittodrie Ticket Office, will be able to purchase tickets at the same reduced prices as Senior Citizens.*

\* Not valid for Friendlies, Old Firm games or Cup Games \*\*Booking charge of £1 applied to telephone bookings

For more information visit the Ticket Office at Pittodrie, contact our Call Centre on 63-1903, e-mail us on [ticketoffice@afc.co.uk](mailto:ticketoffice@afc.co.uk) or visit our web-site on [www.afc.co.uk](http://www.afc.co.uk)

*Andy Ward, Ticketing Services Manager*

Tickets are now on sale for the following home games, and can be purchased immediately after the Celtic game in the Ticket Office.

## **ABERDEEN V DUNDEE UTD.** *Re- arranged Fixture*

WEDNESDAY 4TH APRIL 2001 KICK OFF 7:45 PM BANK OF SCOTLAND PREMIER LEAGUE

*This is a 'Grade B' game* Season Tickets are valid for this game.

## **ABERDEEN V DUNDEE**

SATURDAY 7TH APRIL KICK OFF 3:00 PM BANK OF SCOTLAND PREMIER LEAGUE

*This is a 'Grade B' game* Season Tickets are valid for this game.

*To purchase tickets visit the Ticket Office at Pittodrie, e-mail us at [ticketoffice@afc.co.uk](mailto:ticketoffice@afc.co.uk) or contact our Call Centre on 63 1903.*

### **Ticket Office Opening Hours**

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday: 09:00 – 17:00  
Thursday: 10:00 – 17:00 / Saturday: 09:00 – 12:00

### **Call Centre Opening Hours**

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday: 09:00 – 20:00  
Thursday: 10:00 – 20:00 / Saturday: 09:00 – 12:00

### A full list of all our grade prices are detailed below.

Game Grade	ADULTS				SENIORCITIZENS				UNDER 18's				UNDER 12's			
	A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D
Main Stand Centre	£25	£20	£14	£7	£16	£12	£8	£4	£16	£12	£4	£2	£16	£12	£4	£2
Main Stand Wing	£21	£18	£12	£6	£12	£10	£6	£4	£12	£10	£3	£1	£12	£5	£3	£1
South Stand Blocks S-X	£17	£14	£10	£5	£10	£8	£5	£3	£10	£8	£2	£1	£10	£5	£2	£1
South Stand Block Y (uncovered)	£14	£10	£6	£5	£8	£5	£4	£3	£8	£5	£2	£1	£8	£5	£2	£1
Richard Donald Stand Upper & Lower Front	£18	£15	£11	£5	£10	£8	£6	£3	£10	£8	£6	£1	£10	£8	£6	£1
Richard Donald Stand Lower Rear Centre	£25	£20	£14	£7	£25	£20	£14	£7	£25	£20	£14	£7	£25	£20	£14	£7
Richard Donald Stand Lower Rear Wing	£20	£17	£11	£6	£11	£9	£6	£3	£11	£9	£3	£1	£11	£9	£3	£1
Merkland Family Stand	£14	£12	£6	£5	£7	£7	£4	£3	£7	£5	£2	£1	£5	£3	£2	£1

## Shell Dons Youngstars & Shell Dons Teenstars Away Match Travel

*Did you know that by being a member of either the Shell Dons Youngstars or Shell Dons Teenstars you and your family can travel by coach, to all weekend away fixtures with Aberdeen F.C. for Season 2000 - 01?*

It only costs £2 for members to travel to any Bank of Scotland SPL weekend game, no matter where the game is played. If you have a brother, sister or friend who wants to come along who is not a member, they can come too for just £4, and a responsible adult is only £13.

## Red Army Membership

Join one of the Red Army Memberships Schemes, valid until 30th June 2001 for the now discounted price of **only £5** and you can receive a whole range of benefits, including Discounted prices for Home Match tickets at 'Grade A' games, ticket priority for Home and Away all ticket games, Official Away Match Travel with AFC, and much more.

There are 5 different types of membership schemes available, each one designed for the different needs of the various age groups; **Shell Dons Youngstars, Shell Dons Teenstars, Home Advantage, Reds Rewards and Dons Diamonds.**

*For more details or to join one of our Red Army Membership's visit the Ticket Office at Pittodrie and speak to any of the staff, or just pick up a leaflet. Or, contact our Call Centre on 63 1903.*

Opening Times may vary depending upon fixtures. Check local press for details.  
All information correct at 29/03/01. May be subject to change.