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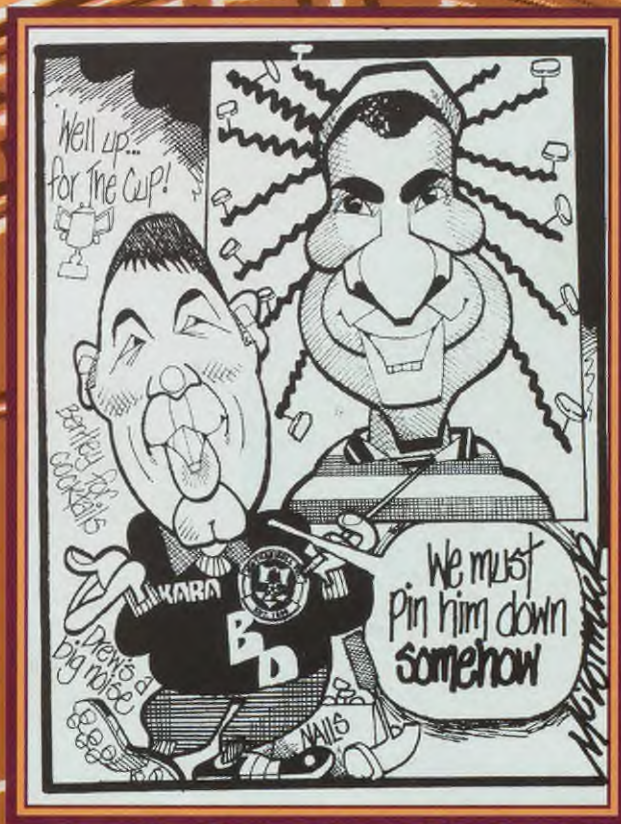
Scottish Premier League  
Sunday, 21<sup>st</sup> February, 1999

# Motherwell v.

Celtic



# The Well



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**T**his evening we welcome Celtic to Fir Park. Traditionally this is always one of the highlights of the season and Dr. Venglos must be enjoying his team's current form.

In our match against Stirling Albion last week we found that John Philliben made things very difficult for us. This was no less than we expected although we eventually secured the result that we wanted. It was great to see all our old mates again and they got a good reception from the fans.

The match this evening will be a very hard fought affair and having beaten Rangers in the League at Fir Park we look forward to taking full points from the other half of the 'Old Firm'. Once again we will be welcoming some former Motherwell players back to Fir Park and Tam Boyd, Phil O'Donnell and my buddy, Paul Lambert will be sure to get a good reception.

By the way, I taught Paul all he knows!

Enjoy the game ...

## Motherwell Football & Athletic Club Ltd

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## HONOURS

Scottish League Champions: 1931/32  
Runners-up: 1926/27, 1929/30, 1932/33,  
1933/34, 1994/95

Scottish Cup Winners: 1952, 1991  
Runners-up: 1931, 1933, 1939, 1951

Scottish 1st Division Champions:  
1981/82, 1984/85

Scottish 2nd Division Champions:  
1953/54, 1968/69

Runners-up: 1894/95, 1902/03  
Scottish League Cup Winners: 1950  
Runners-up: 1954

Scottish Summer Cup Winners:  
1944, 1965

Scottish Second XI Cup Winners:  
1949, 1951, 1957

Scottish Reserve League Cup Winners: 1988  
Scottish Southern League Cup Runners-up:  
1945

UEFA Participation:  
European Cup Winners' Cup: 1991-92  
UEFA Cup: 1994-95, 1995-96

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## Team Mascots

STEVEN KEIR  
Aged 11. Attends Stane Primary.  
His favourite player is John Spencer.

AMY MCGOWAN  
Aged 9. Attends Ladywell School.  
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## IT'S ST JOHNSTONE IN THE QUARTER FINALS

**I**F WE ARE to reach the semi-finals of the Scottish Cup for the first time since 1991 then we will have to defeat St Johnstone to do so. The draw for the Tennent's Scottish Cup quarter finals has paired us with the Perth club and it seems likely that the game will be televised live by BBC Scotland.

Meetings between Motherwell and St Johnstone in the Scottish Cup are not all that common. However, we would settle for a repeat of the 1961/62 clash when we defeated the Saints 4-0 here at Fir Park. A crowd of 10,620 turned up that day and they saw goals by Bobby Roberts, Willie Hunter (2) and Bobby Young seal a memorable win. It is interesting to note that we also met Stirling Albion in that year's competition and only went out at the semi-final stage when we ran up against Rangers.

In season 1964/65 we were up against the Perth Saints again and once more Fir Park was the venue. This time the game was much closer with Joe McBride scoring the

game's only goal. Interestingly only 6,200 turned up.

The run of meetings continued in 1969/70 when home advantage once again lay with Motherwell. And once again we made the most of the Fir Park surrounds. This time it was a 2-1 win, with goals by Dixie Deans and Jackie McNally scoring before a healthier attendance of 8,834.

### Tennent's Scottish Cup Quarter Final draw

Ties to be played on 6/7 March

Motherwell	v	St Johnstone
Ayr United	v	Clydebank or Dundee United
Morton	v	Celtic
Rangers	v	Falkirk

## THE REVEREND REMEMBERS

**I**N THE PREVIOUS two programmes I have reminisced about happy Motherwell cup ties of the past. As we entertain Celtic tonight, let me give you a sad memory – one of the saddest ever for this Motherwell supporter.

When, in 1931, Motherwell competed in their first ever Scottish Cup Final, I was a very small boy. Their opponents were the mighty Glasgow Celtic, cup winners supreme, but Motherwell had a fine team and hopes were high in the town. Very young though I was, I was already a passionate fan and desperately wanted to accompany my father to the match. But he decreed that I was much too young to attend such a big game. So, while he and most of Motherwell's able-bodied males went of to Hampden Park, I was left at home.

This was, of course, long before the broadcasting coverage we are used to now. But a customer-friendly newsagent nearby undertook to keep in touch by telephone with the match and to post up the score on his window at regular intervals. In consequence, I was one of a sizeable knot of people – children, women and old men – who gathered before his window at kick off time on a fine but cold April afternoon.

When the notice of Motherwell 0 Celtic 0 was replaced by one which said, Motherwell 1 Celtic 0, the sun seemed suddenly brighter and the day warmer. When that notice gave way in turn for one which said Motherwell 2 Celtic 0, my heart for one was singing. Surely our heroes could not fail now to bring home the Cup for the first time ever. For me there would be an extra bonus. A family friend had promised that if Motherwell won, she would buy me a pair of football boots, my very first.

It seemed absolutely certain that the Cup would be won and the boots would be mine when Motherwell still led by 2-0 with less than fifteen minutes to play. Even

when a Celtic goal was intimated a few minutes before the end, we scarcely had any time to feel any anxiety before a notice appeared in the window to declare, "Final Score: Motherwell 2 Celtic 1".

We were all ecstatic, but while we were still dancing and singing round the window, our joy was brought to a drastic end. We watched in unbelieving horror as the newsagent's assistant replaced the victory notice with one that said, "Corrected Result: Motherwell 2 Celtic 2". What had happened was that in the closing seconds of the match, with hundreds of Motherwell supporters already on their way home to prepare for the celebrations, disaster struck. Allan Craig, the Motherwell centre-half, although quite unchallenged, headed a harmless cross into his own net in a totally unnecessary attempt to put the ball out for a corner and finish the game.

I can still feel the anguish that was engulfing me as I crawled miserably homewards. On the way home I met my kind friend of the football boots promise. "Cheer up," she said. "I'll give you the boots anyway." In my misery and on the verge of tears, I whispered, "I'm not caring about the boots. We've lost the Cup." And we had. Celtic won the replay 4-2.

It was 1952 before Motherwell finally won the Cup. At the post-match celebration that night in Robb's Restaurant, I was seated across the table from that same Allan Craig. I will never forget him leaning over to me and saying in a voice breaking with emotion, "I've waited twenty one years for this day. I tell you that I'll be able to sleep better tonight."

The Motherwell team, by the way, was: McClory; Johnman, Hunter; Wales, Craig, Telfer; Murdoch, McMenemy, McFadyen, Stevenson, Ferrier.



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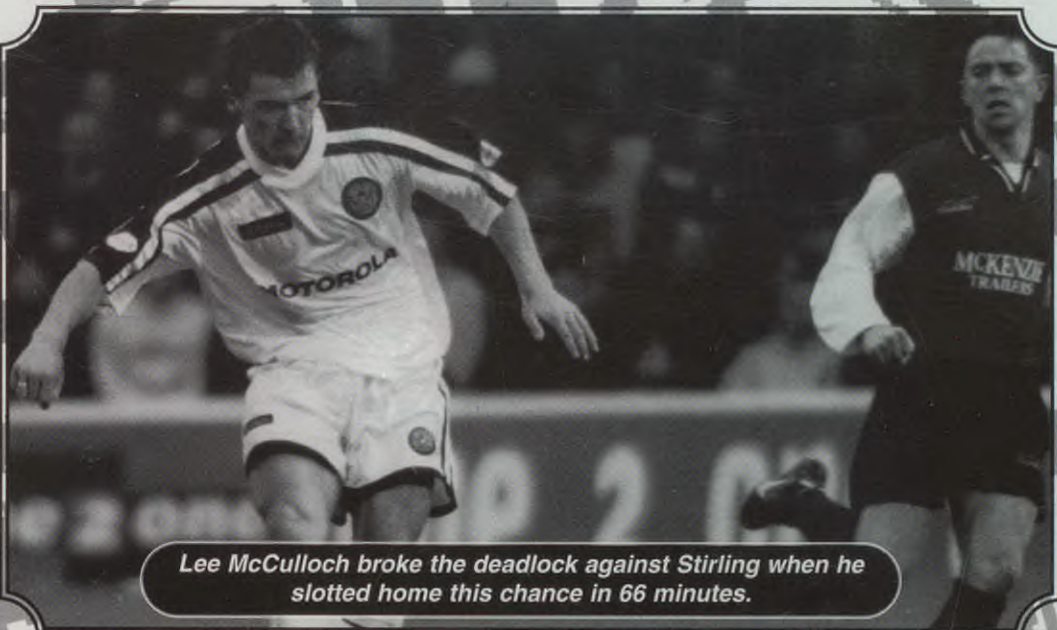
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# Photo Action



*Lee McCulloch broke the deadlock against Stirling when he slotted home this chance in 66 minutes.*



*Andy Goram made two key saves to halt the progress of a lively Stirling attack.*

We moved into the Scottish Cup Quarter Finals by beating Stirling Albion 2-0 here last weekend. Mind you Stirling, superbly marshalled by ex-'Well defenders John Philliben and Brian Martin, made life difficult. Man of the match was Sean Teale and no one could dispute that verdict. The big man was immense.







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**AIRTIME**



## Pat Nevin

This afternoon our chief executive Pat Nevin falls under the spotlight.

**You started your senior career with Clyde. Tell us a little about how you came to join them?**

I was playing boys club football with Gartcosh United at the time. One particular game was apparently against Clyde Reserves. At the end of the game Craig Brown invited me to join Clyde. It turned out that the game was not against Clyde reserves, as I thought, but against the Clyde first team. At the time I was studying and harboured no great desire to be a professional footballer.

**After a couple of years with Clyde you went to Chelsea. Did you have any reservations about that move?**

I was studying for a degree whilst I was at Clyde and when the chance came along to join Chelsea I thought, "Why not? Let's see what it's like for a couple of years". However, I travelled south to join Chelsea with the view that it would be a sabbatical from college, and I fully intended at that time to complete my studies.

**Tell us a little about your time at Chelsea**

I had a good rapport with the fans there, I think they liked my work rate and commitment. During my stay there, which lasted five years, I missed very few games. I played alongside people like Kerry Dixon, Davie Speedie, Doug Rougvie and worked with good managers like John Neil and John Hollins.

In my first year at Stamford Bridge we won the old Second Division. On a personal level I was selected to play at Wembley for the English League against the Rest of the World in the FA Centenary match and was up against the likes of

Maradona and Platini. At that stage of my life London was a fantastically good place to live. But I was single then: now that I am married and have a family I don't think it would suit me nearly so well.

**From the bright lights of West London you upped sticks and moved to Merseyside. You had a spell at Tranmere, did that go well?**

Very much so. I had the chance to join Galatasaray in Turkey, and West Ham were also reported to be interested in me, but I spent a time on loan with Tranmere and really enjoyed it. We had an excellent team at Tranmere with people like John Aldridge and a couple of youngsters called Brannan and Thomas! Three times we came very close to promotion only to be foiled in the play-offs.

Looking back I suppose that was Tranmere's window of opportunity and it never quite worked out. A lot of players left after the third close call and if you look at the Premiership today a good few ex-Tranmere players are there - people like Vickers, Nolan and Rogers. We were getting crowds of upwards of 12,000 at Tranmere, had a great stadium, and although small by English standards achieved quite a lot.

**How does your international career look on reflection?**

I played for Scotland at Youth, Under 21, B and full international level. I scored 5 goals for the full team and that is one of the most pleasing aspects of my career. I was disappointed to miss out on the World Cup finals and I played in the Swedish European Championship finals with a broken ankle. On reflection I have the impression that I would play in the game before a big tournament and the game immediately after it, but not make the tournament itself.

**Before coming to Motherwell you had a stint with Kilmarnock, was that a happy time?**

Yes. I was desperate, and I mean desperate, to come home. Killie gave me that chance. I came back when I was 34. Had I come back when I was 27 or 28 and at my peak I could have done a really good job. However, I had made it known I wanted to come home but nothing happened.

It was unfortunate that when I left Rugby Park there was a degree of unpleasantness about things but I feel nothing but respect and gratitude to everyone at Kilmarnock.

**Are you enjoying your new role at Fir Park?**

I was excited by the prospect of coming to Motherwell and taking up the position of chief executive. John and I certainly have a vision as to where the club should go in the future. We have a lot to do and will take stock a few years down the line.

I love the job and I think the fact that I genuinely like football players is a big help. On a personal level I hope to really do something special at Motherwell.



Pat Nevin

### PAT NEVIN FACTFILE

Born: Glasgow, 6-9-63  
Height: 5'6"  
Weight: 11st 9lbs

Honours: Capped by Scotland at Youth, Under 21, B, and full international level. 28 Scotland caps, 5 goals. Capped by English Football League.

Second Division Championship winner with Chelsea, Scottish Second Division Championship winner with Clyde.

Previous Clubs: Clyde, Chelsea, Everton, Tranmere, Rovers, Kilmarnock

Pat has played over 600 games in the English and Scottish leagues and his goal haul is over 100.



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