

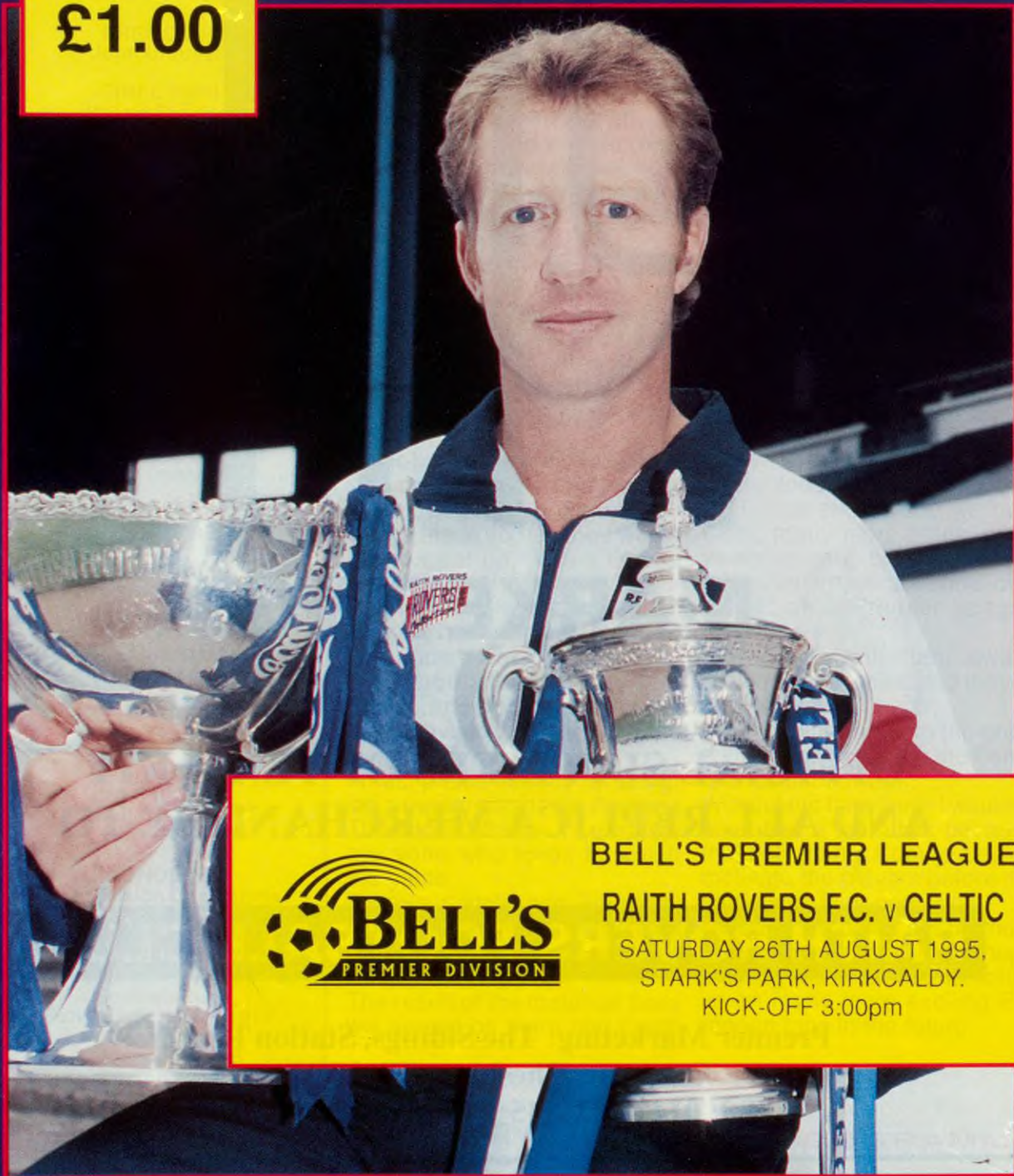
OFFICIAL  
PROGRAMME



£1.00

# Raith Rovers

FIRST DIVISION CHAMPIONS 1994 - 95



BELL'S PREMIER LEAGUE

RAITH ROVERS F.C. v CELTIC

SATURDAY 26TH AUGUST 1995,  
STARK'S PARK, KIRKCALDY.

KICK-OFF 3:00pm

**PREMIER**

**PM**

**MARKETING**

**OFFICIAL SUPPLIERS OF TEAM KIT  
AND ALL REPLICA MERCHANDISE TO**

**RAITH ROVERS FOOTBALL CLUB**

**Premier Marketing: The Sidings, Station Road,  
Goostrey, Cheshire. CW4 8PJ.  
Tel: 01477 535845 Fax: 01477 544485**

## RAITH ROVERS F.C.

Founded 1883  
Turned Senior 1889  
Admitted to League 1902

Ground  
Stark's Park  
Pratt Street  
Kirkcaldy

**CHAIRMAN**  
Alex Penman

**PRESIDENT**  
John Urquhart

**DIRECTORS**  
William Shedden  
Charles Cant  
William Gray

**TEAM MANAGER**  
Jimmy Nicholl

**ASST. TEAM MANAGER**  
Martin Harvey

**GENERAL MANAGER**  
Billy McPhee

**YOUTH COACHES**  
Jimmy Thomson,  
Derek Smith

**PHYSIOTHERAPIST**  
Gerry Docherty

**CLUB DOCTOR**  
Dr G.K.N. Hall

**COMMERCIAL  
ADMINISTRATOR**  
Lynn Penman

**GROUNDSMAN**  
Scott Paterson

**CLUB PHOTOGRAPHER**  
Tony Fimister

**PROGRAMME  
COMPILED BY**  
John Greechan  
Colin Hume

**HONOURS**  
First Division Champions  
1994 - 95, 1992 - 93  
Second Division Champions  
1986 - 87, 1977 - 78, 1975 - 76,  
1966 - 67, 1926 - 27, 1908 - 09  
Scottish Cup  
Runners-up 1912 - 1913  
League Cup  
Winners 1994 - 95  
Runners-up 1948 - 49

# Nicholl's Notes



## You can't change history ...

**WELCOME** back to Stark's Park for the big kick-off - the start of our second Premier League campaign.

I would extend a warm welcome to my old adversary, both from our playing days and from the time he was at Kilmarnock, Tommy Burns.

He and Billy Stark are two of the guys Martin Harvey and I always look forward to seeing and, although a lot of Celtic supporters might not believe it because of who I played for, I was really glad when they won the Scottish Cup.

Celtic have had a good pre-season and must be looking forward to playing in Europe, which brings me to something I would like to clear up. When I made an off-the-cuff comment a couple of weeks ago about Raith possibly being the only team left in Europe, I was of course talking about the preliminary rounds, knowing that Celtic fans didn't have to worry about qualifying.

I must praise Tommy for bringing a quality player like Andreas Thom to Scotland - it's great for everyone who loves to watch the game.

Today's match, and Thursday night's at Parkhead, will be a bit special because of last season's Coca-Cola Cup final.

The result of the match at Ibrox will always be there and Celtic



can never erase it - they can't change history.

All they can do is try to bury it deep down by beating us today and in our other games.

We're looking forward to that challenge and I hope we face Celtic many more times in the years ahead, because it will mean we've established ourselves as a Premier League club.

The games with them always stick out in my mind and they're always good to watch.

My final word goes to the great support we had out in the Faroe Islands in midweek.

Without the fans there I wouldn't have had a team talk because the only thing I could use to motivate the players before the game was their presence.

I'm sorry we didn't put on more of a show for them but I hope they'll get the chance to follow us on many more exciting European trips in the future.



## Celtic aim to mount

**TODAY marks the first of two meetings in six days between Rovers and Celtic.**

And, while the re-run of last year's Coca-Cola Cup final takes precedence in many people's minds, both clubs will be looking for a winning start to their league campaign.

Now back at a new-look Parkhead after a year's exile at Hampden, Celtic have

NER but seemingly the first choice for manager Tommy Burns this season.

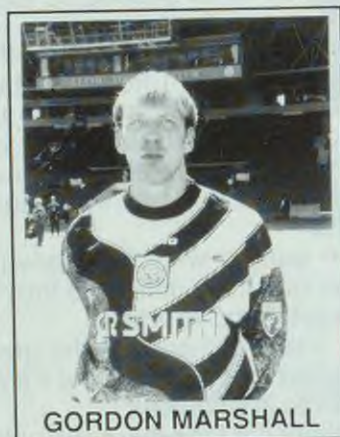
Marshall began his career with Old Firm rivals Rangers, later playing for East Fife and Falkirk.

The Parkhead side's full-back

took 15 years to get to where he always wanted to be in football, the Celtic first team. He was a Celtic Boys Club player before moving to Dens Park back in 1981 and was with Hearts before his dream move to Parkhead.

Completing the defensive line-up today are likely to be RUDI VATA and JOHN HUGHES.

Albanian internationalist Vata was signed from Dinamo Tirana in 1992 but took his time



GORDON MARSHALL



TOM BOYD

berths this season are being filled by TOM BOYD and TOSH McKINLAY.

Boyd captained Motherwell to a Scottish Cup victory in 1991 before moving south to Chelsea.

However, Celtic brought him back to Scotland within a year and he has now settled into the team, playing at either right back or centre-half.

A Scotland regular, Boyd was joined in the national team by McKinlay for the vital match against Greece recently.

The former Dundee player



TOSH McKINLAY

to earn a regular place in the Celtic side.

Hughes, nicknamed Yogi after the Celtic player of the '60s, was only signed from Falkirk during the close season but is already a big favourite with the fans.

He started his career with

strengthened their squad during the summer and will be looking to mount a serious title challenge.

Lining up in goals for the Glasgow side today is likely to be GORDON MARSHALL, originally signed as back-up to the experienced PAT BON-



## a real title challenge

Newtongrange Star before joining Berwick Rangers in 1988.

The six-foot tall stopper had a spell with Swansea before being snapped up by the Brockville club for £75,000, later becoming skipper of the side.

Despite missing skipper PAUL McSTAY through injury, the Celtic midfield is still one of the most creative in the country.

The kingpin is undoubtedly



PAUL McSTAY

JOHN COLLINS who is the rare combination of a skilled play-maker and a goalscoring midfielder.

He cost Celtic £1 million to lure from Hibs in 1990 but has more than repaid that fee as he has starred for both club and country.

PHIL O'DONNELL was Celt-

ic's costliest signing when bought from Motherwell for £1.7 million last September. He scored two goals on his debut and is now a vital cog in the Celtic midfield machine.

Another certain starter today



PHIL O'DONNELL

is PETER GRANT, who joined Celtic as a teenager 13 years ago and provides the grit in the middle of the park. A former Scotland player he has had his run-ins with various managers but no-one can fault his effort.

Leading the line for Celtic today will be the foreign duo of PIERRE VAN HOOYDONK and ANDREAS THOM.

At 6ft 5in, Van Hooydonk has provided plenty of problems for defences since signing for the Parkhead club from Dutch side Breda in January

and scored the goal that won the Scottish Cup against Airdrie last season.

Thom is Celtic's big hope as they bid to wrest the title from Rangers.

Signed from Bayer Leverkusen during the summer, the German international striker opened his goalscoring for the Parkhead side in last week's Coca-Cola Cup match at Ayr.

Joining the two main men up front is likely to be SIMON



ANDREAS THOM

DONNELLY, one of Celtic's great hopes for the future and a thorn in Raith's flesh during their last spell in the Premier League.

Other candidates for a place in the team are BRIAN McLAUGHLIN, ANDY WALKER, MARK McNALLY and BRIAN O'NEILL.





## More swizz than fizz in cup draw

**IMAGINE** the uproar if defending champion Pete Sampras isn't seeded for next year's Wimbledon championships.

Consider the stink that would be kicked up if, all of a sudden, Damon Hill was asked to pre-qualify for the next Grand Prix.

And just picture the stooshie which would surround a decision not to allow Ajax into the European Champions League straight away. Can you see a pattern developing here?

I'm quite sure I wasn't the only one just a bit surprised to discover that Raith Rovers, Coca-Cola Cup holders and First Division Champions, rate somewhere below the likes of Kilmarnock - knocked out by Rovers in the THIRD ROUND of last year's Coca-Cola Cup - in the pegging for this season's competition.

As all members of the Raith army probably know by now, the Kirkcaldy side were not among the eight seeded clubs assured of an easy(ish) draw for the third round of the Cup. In one bag rested numbers representing Rangers, Celtic, Hearts, Kilmarnock, Partick, Hibs, Motherwell and Falkirk.

The second bag contained, as well as Rovers, such luminaries as relegation survivors Aberdeen, relegation losers Dundee United, First Division nearly-men Dunfermline, Dundee and Airdrie - as well as minnows Livingston and Stirling Albion.

Something is amiss here.

We know the argument - seedings went on the basis of the top eight teams in the Pre-

mier League last season.

Obviously no-one in power expected a First Division side to shock Scotland's footballing establishment to the core with an impudent victory in one of the major competitions. Never mind that teams from Scotland's forgotten division have consistently proved capable of competing with the best on one-off occasions (and we only have to look at Airdrie's success in reaching the other showcase final last season).

Worst of all for Rovers fans is the feeling of futility. No matter what their team did last season, they wouldn't have been able to shift lanes into the Coca-Cola Cup fast track.

But, after all that grumbling, it's time to look forward.

When the draw was eventually made, there was a feeling of inevitability.

Somehow we all knew that a replay of the final was on the cards. Raith and Celtic appear to be star-crossed.

Let's hope we get another equally entertaining game - and the same result.

As for today's match, we can only wait and see how the midweek game to come affects players and fans.

Will the Cup tie deflect the tension from the League clash, which had been billed as the big Cup final rematch?

Or will the pressure of giving away a vital psychological advantage simply add to the electric atmosphere?

Can't wait for kick-off to find out.

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## Mighty Mac fuelled on bananas

**FORMER** Scotland midfielder Jim McNally has enjoyed a long and fruitful career - and it's far from over.

Bought for £150,000 from Dundee United during the close season, McNally could prove one of the bargains of the year.

**Name:** Jim McNally **Age:** 31

**Previous clubs:** Celtic, loan spell with Dundee, Nottingham Forest, Coventry City, Dundee United.

**How did you get your big break in football?**

*I came through the ranks at Celtic and Billy McNeil gave me a chance in the first team. And my loan spell at Dundee, when I was getting regular first team games at 19, showed me I could make it.*

**Who has been the biggest influence on your career?**

*I have had a lot but I suppose the person who gave me the biggest lift was Billy McNeil.*

**How do you relax before a big game?**

*I'm not a very good sleeper. I just stick to the same routine, take the dog for a walk, eat and drink as normal.*

**What has been the high point of your career?**

*Winning my Scottish Cup medal with Dundee United. I've been in a lot of losing finals so it was very emotional.*

**And the low point?**

*When I was red carded after we lost to Motherwell in the Scot-*

*tish Cup final.*

**Which is your favourite ground?**

*The Nou Camp is the best I've ever played in and domestically it's Ibrox.*

**Least favourite?**

*It used to be Easter Road but there's a big difference been made there now. A place called Craiova in Romania is the worst I've ever been in.*

**Who is the best player you've ever played alongside?**

*John Robertson at Nottingham Forest. He was different class, could cross with both feet and could dribble past his man on either side.*

**The best you've ever played against?**

*I've actually played against Marco Van Basten and Ruud Gullit when I was younger so it has to be them.*

**And the best of all time?**

*The best I've ever seen in person was Jimmy Johnstone but Franz Beckenbauer wins overall.*

**How much of your ability is natural, and how much is down to hard work?**

*None of it is natural, everything is hard work.*

**Do you subscribe to any special diet or training regime?**

*Over the last few years I've started eating a lot of pasta and bananas. I was a real junk food man for years but the best way to prolong your career is by controlling your diet.*

**Do you ever take notice of what fans shout from the ter-**

**rasing?**

*You can't help it. It gets you down when fans give you stick.*

**Have you ever been tempted to shout back?**

*Never.*

**What has been your most embarrassing moment?**

*I suppose when I'm meant to have thrown my boot at David Syme after the cup final. I was so mad I didn't know what I'd done and I was very ashamed of myself.*

**How do you think the Scottish game could be improved?**

*I think the hot weather has shown how summer football would improve it, slow things down and make teams play a bit.*

**What is your biggest passion outside football?**

*The horses. I love a flutter.*

**Where do you see yourself in five years' time?**

*I would like to be coaching or in management somewhere. I don't have certificates but I'm a great believer in learning through experience.*

**What do you think the future holds for Raith Rovers?**

*It's really promising at the moment. The hardest thing is holding on to the young boys touted about in the papers every day. Even if they do get it's possible to buy people to replace them.*

**If you had to give up football tomorrow, what would you do?**

*I suppose I would like to own a bookie's shop.*