

TENNENT'S SCOTTISH CUP FINAL

DUNFERMLINE ATHLETIC VS CELTIC
THE NATIONAL STADIUM, HAMPDEN PARK
SATURDAY 26 MAY 2007 KICK-OFF 3PM
OFFICIAL PROGRAMME £5



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A very good afternoon to you all and welcome to the National Stadium for what is sure to be a memorable Scottish Cup Final. It is a special day in more ways than one, as we say farewell and thanks to sponsors Tennent's whose association with the Scottish Cup comes to an end today.

There have been many special days here at Hampden Park since we welcomed them as Cup sponsors some 18 years ago and we are sure that today's Final between Dunfermline Athletic and Celtic will be no different. Whatever the outcome we hope you all have a day to remember.



DUNFERMLINE ATHLETIC v CELTIC

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FOR YOUR SAFETY:

- First aid duties at this afternoon's match are kindly carried out by the St. Andrew's Ambulance Association.
- Please note that smoking is prohibited within Hampden Park.
- Spectators are urged to exercise the utmost care when leaving the ground, particularly in staircase areas. Your doing so will reduce to a minimum the risk of accident.

We ask you to pay particular attention to this notice.

69 GOALS

692,478 EARLY MORNINGS

432 LUCKY SOCKS

31 NUTMEGS

829,853 SORE THROATS



WELCOME TO THE TENNENT'S SCOTTISH CUP FINAL 2007

>> TODAY, AS A PASSIONATE SUPPORTER OF SCOTTISH FOOTBALL, WE CELEBRATE OUR 18 YEAR ASSOCIATION WITH THE TENNENT'S SCOTTISH CUP, A COMPETITION WHICH BOASTS THE WORLD'S OLDEST NATIONAL FOOTBALL TROPHY AS ITS PRIZE.

In the great tradition of cup football this year's competition has provided many fantastic games and incredible results, including last minute winners and form-defying runs, seasoned with moments of magic and plenty of goals. We now have two worthy finalists in a repeat of the 2004 Final: Dunfermline Athletic v Celtic.

Dunfermline have confounded their league form to enjoy the most inspiring of roads to Hampden. The Pars overcame three of the tournament favourites: Rangers, holders Hearts, and finally Hibs – after a gruelling 180 minutes of football. With such an amazing run to the final, victory today would surely be one of the greatest cup stories in the history of the competition.

Celtic reach the final for the first time under the leadership of Gordon Strachan, and since lifting the trophy in 2005. They are looking to complete a fantastic season as they chase the League and Cup double.

Tennent's Lager pass on our best wishes to both clubs as we look forward to an entertaining and exciting game in what we are sure will be a fitting climax to the Scottish domestic football season.

Today's game marks the 18th and final year of our sponsorship of the Scottish Cup. We will continue our support and commitment to Scottish football through our role as official sponsor of the Scotland National Sides and look forward to sharing our passion for the game with all Scottish football supporters, wherever it takes us, whatever it takes.

We would also like to thank the Scottish FA, the clubs and especially the fans for their passion and commitment through 18 glorious years of the Tennent's Scottish Cup.



**TENNENT'S LAGER:
18 GLORIOUS YEARS
1 FANATICAL SUPPORTER**

Phil McGuire (left) and Jim O'Brien celebrate their 3-2 win over Rangers



SCENESSETTER

It's like waiting for a bus. Nothing for ages then two come along in quick succession.

Celtic and Dunfermline met in the Scottish Cup finals of 1961 and 1965 then, after an absence of almost 40 years, reconvened at the National Stadium in 2004. The Hoops won that day to go 2-1 up in the series. Now Dunfermline are looking for an equaliser.

There are obvious similarities between today's clash and that of 2004. Then, as now, Celtic were champions and there was an emotional farewell as Henrik Larsson signed off his wrecking spree of Scottish defences by scoring a double in his last game.

Right: Dunfermline players celebrate Scott Wilson's late winner against Hearts in the fourth round tie.

Today, Parkhead skipper Neil Lennon will don the green and white for the final time, having arrived on the scene part way through season 2000/01. Like Larsson, he



will be desperate to bow out on a high.

There was another new arrival in the Bank of Scotland Premierleague seven years ago – Dunfermline Athletic. But they too have just bid farewell to the SPL, a 2-1 defeat at Inverness a fortnight ago plunging them into Division One.

It was an example of just how cruel football can be. Pars boss Stephen Kenny was April's Manager of the Month after a superb run of results suggested Dunfermline would claw back a massive deficit and survive against all the odds.

When they whacked Motherwell 4-1 on Holiday Monday it seemed nothing could stop the Pars but the loss of two goals at the Caledonian Stadium, coupled with St Mirren's upturn in fortunes, did for them.

Dunfermline have shown, though, that this afternoon's encounter will be no formality for Celtic and it is hard to envisage such a one-sided encounter as when Gordon Strachan earned his first piece of Celtic silverware with a 3-0 CIS Cup final success against the Pars 18 months ago.

The Fife club's road to Hampden could hardly have been more demanding. Along the way, they have disposed of holders Hearts and CIS Cup winners Hibernian. And, until Kilmarnock's surprise win at Ibrox two weeks ago, they were the only team to inflict a domestic defeat on Rangers in 2007.

Kenny's men will not be short on confidence despite their heartbreaking

Pars boss Stephen Kenny was April's Manager of the Month after a superb run of results suggested Dunfermline would claw back a massive deficit and survive against all the odds.

relegation. They have both the assuredness of experience and the pace and vitality of youth in their squad and will want to enter next season's UEFA Cup as Scottish Cup winners, even although defeat today cannot take away the fact they are assured of European football in 2007/08.

Dunfermline's most recent Scottish Cup triumph was against Hearts four decades ago. Man had yet to step foot on the moon but the fans will be walking on air tonight if their black and white favourites can bring the trophy back to East End Park.