

THE DON



Inside ... FOCUS on
DAVIE DODDS

Matchday Magazine Price 50p

ABERDEEN v

CELTIC

Fine Fare League Premier Division
Wednesday 26th November, 1986



FINE FARE
LEAGUE



ABERDEEN FOOTBALL CLUB

(Founded 1903)

PITTODRIE STADIUM

ABERDEEN AB2 1QH

Telephone: 632328

CHAIRMAN R. M. DONALD
VICE-CHAIRMAN I. R. DONALD
MANAGER IAN PORTERFIELD
SECRETARY I. J. TAGGART
PHYSIO DAVID WYLIE
TRAINER TEDDY SCOTT
CLUB DOCTOR Dr. C. L. FORBES

HONOURS

European Cup-Winners' Cup Champions:
1983

Super Cup Winners:
1983

League Championship:
1954-55, 1979-80, 1983-84, 1984-85

Scottish Cup Winners:
1947, 1970, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1986

Southern Scottish League Cup Winners:
1945-46

Scottish League Cup Winners:
1955-56, 1976-77, 1985-86

Drybrough Cup Winners:
1971, 1980

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FRONT COVER

ALEX McLEISH, one of the many experienced, top quality players inherited by Dons' new manager Ian Porterfield. McLeish is bidding hard to regain his place for Scotland.



(Above) Celtic Goalkeeper Pat Bonner baulks Billy Stark during our Skol Cup meeting in September. (Below) Joe Miller beats Aitken but his shot is blocked. (Bottom) It's a goal for Bobby Connor as Celtic defenders look suitably stunned.



IAN PORTERFIELD

● **New manager IAN PORTERFIELD will have absorbed a graphic insight of life in charge at Pittodrie tonight, three home games having been played in his first week.**

Mr. Porterfield has not merely joined the club. He has plunged into the action headfirst with successive home games against Rangers and Celtic within the space of five days.

Dunfermline-born and with experience as a wing half for Raith Rovers he knows plenty about the Scottish football scene but involvement in the pressure cooker of 'new firm' versus 'old firm' games is something entirely new.

Not that he is unused to the experience of life in the full glare of football at the top.

The fact that he scored the winning goal at Wembley in 1973 to capture the FA Cup for Sunderland against Leeds has been well documented already.

So, too, has his wonderful achievement in winning the



Picture: Sheffield Newspapers

championship of the Fourth Division and the Third Division for Sheffield United in 1981 and 1982.

During that period, having formerly been player manager of Rotherham United, he earned the massive respect of a Yorkshire soccer public who are not easily impressed.

However, at Pittodrie he accepts that he has quite an act to follow.

For a period of eight full seasons major honours have been lined up at the club and it is not a record which anyone will wish to see diminish.

It is a fact, though, that he arrives at a period when Aberdeen FC are not riding high at the head of the Premier Division nor have they succeeded this season in either the League Cup nor the European Cup Winners Cup.

Thus, his immediate challenge is to bring about a more stable sequence of results than has been evident so far this season.

If he can do that then he inherits a situation whereby he can still challenge for the Championship and in which the defence of the Scottish Cup lies ahead commencing in January.

Supporters, in the meantime, will well appreciate that a 'settling in' period is required during which time he assesses the strength of the playing staff and makes his own judgements on tactics and playing style.

Mr. Porterfield impressed the directors by his business-like approach, his ambition to win honours and by his clear record of hard work and professionalism.

These are the qualities required at Pittodrie to maintain the club's high status in football both in Scotland and in Europe.

Ian Porterfield will introduce himself to supporters and make observations on his early days at the club and some thoughts about the future in future issues.

Talk of the Town

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- Saturday Celebration Night - Live - George Duncan, Dilys Cooper and City Lights
- Sunday - All Day, All Night Spectacular - Live Music



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DAVIE DODDS 'signs in' for Aberdeen fans. Davie, the subject of today's 'Focus' feature is in the process of moving his family to Aberdeen from Dundee.

CLUBS CALL

Welcome Ian

● The 4,500 members from forty-one branches of the Aberdeen Association of Supporters' Clubs today combine to say a collective "welcome" to new manager Ian Porterfield.

"We shall look forward hopefully to continuing the same kind of relationship that we enjoyed with his predecessor who was very Supporters Club minded," said secretary Isobel Fyfe.

The arrival of the new manager has brought to an end the sudden period of uncertainty which hit everyone connected with the club as Alex Ferguson's long and successful reign came to such a shock ending.

Now branches and members are asked to put that spell behind them and to get behind Ian Porterfield in a unified effort to make the club's new era as successful and enjoyable as the previous one.

"When Mr. Porterfield has had time to settle in and feel his feet we are hoping that we can arrange for the committee to meet him and start what will hopefully be a long and mutually beneficial relationship between him and the association," added the AASC secretary.

Player Visits

● Of particular importance to branches is the firm club policy of ensuring that players attend those annual branch functions for Player of the Year awards and the like.

Officials and staff of Pittodrie have always willingly joined in these social events in order to cement relationships. They look forward to these arrangements continuing.

What is a REAL fan?

● With the festive season ahead followed by 1987 and a new round of branch functions the time is appropriate to remind members of their responsibility as a member of the AASC.

Unfortunately some folks join the Supporters Club simply as a means of securing their match tickets and/or booking their trips to away games.

These are among the most important facilities offered to members but there is much more to it than that.

Attendance at annual meetings in order

to help select the right officials for the respective posts is important. So, too, is the need to support social events.

It is interesting to thumb through the constitution of the association for a reminder of what the Supporters Club is all about.

To summarise it is a non-political non-sectarian organisation the object of which is to support Aberdeen FC in every possible way whilst pursuing a policy of good relationships with supporters of other clubs and the general public.

It is also to promote good comradeship by arranging and supporting whatever social events are deemed to be appropriate.

With the season of goodwill coming up, what better time for members to show their loyalty to the club, the new manager and their fellow football enthusiasts by entering wholeheartedly into branch and association affairs.

Why not Join?

● Branches throughout the AASC are constantly seeking to recruit new members. For information contact: Isobel Fyfe, 63 Corrennie Circle, Dyce, Aberdeen. Telephone: Aberdeen 722935.

Advance Planning

● Among the events scheduled for 1987 will be the second Fun Day following the success of the inaugural affair on August 31, 1985.

The lessons of that pilot scheme have been considered by the committee and plans are already afoot to stage an even better event early next season.

To make the day go with a swing and to maximise on the potential income to give the association funds a welcome boost, long-term planning is a must.

This time it is hoped that the day will give a nice lift to a well deserving charity. More of that in a later issue.

Doncat

● Not all fans are of the human variety!

This is "Scottie", brought up as a true Don by Stephan Goff (14) his 13 year old sister Denise and Scott Henshaw (14).

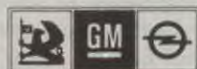
They say his favourite player is Peter Weir because the nine-year old feline winger is better than Davie Cooper.



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CELTIC

• The reigning Scottish champions, Celtic, are tonight's visitors to Pittodrie. The game was scheduled for the last Saturday in October. However Celtic won through to the Skol-League Cup final the following day so the League match had to be put into cold storage until tonight.

This is Celtic's first league visit to Pittodrie since they so dramatically snatched the title from under the noses of Hearts on the last day of last season.



MO JOHNSTON

Unlike most top sides, Celtic have undergone very little change in personnel since that momentous day at Love Street last May. In fact if Tommy Burns has recovered from injury, Celtic are liable to field the same side tonight.

As Celtic have made most of the early running in the race for the title this season, this is obviously manager David Hay's secret.

Find a successful blend and leave the players to get on with it.

Because lets face it, on their day, Celtic are a most exciting team to watch. They have some of the best mid-field and forward players in the country.

In fact right through their side, everyone is committed to playing open, attacking football.

Goalkeeper Pat Bonner is now firmly established as the Republic of Ireland's number one choice. He's had a long hard slog to earn total recognition. However the Republic's new manager — former England centre half Jack Charlton — rates him very highly indeed.

Danny McGrain, now in his 37th year, is back in the side after a spell in the reserves. It just



MANAGER DAVID HAY

shows you can never keep a good man down.

Danny almost went to Airdrie as player-manager during the summer. However a last minute hitch put paid to that. Many thought Danny would struggle to get back into Celtic's side.

However, he's proved them all wrong recently and has been playing as well as ever.

To balance Danny's experience in defence, Celtic have the youth and enthusiasm of Derek Whyte. Just turned 18, Whyte looks like having a great future in the game.

A gentle giant of a man, he's equally happy playing either left back or centre-half. Most respected judges reckon he'll end up permanently at number five.

Celtic also have the infectious drive of Roy Aitken. He is always

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looking to surge forward from defence and drive the game on.

Recently Aitken has been captaining Scotland too. An honour he takes very seriously indeed.

With midfield players of the calibre of Paul McStay, Murdo MacLeod, Tony Shepherd and Brian McClair, it is no wonder Celtic have found the road to goal relatively easy on many occasions this season. They are away out in front as Scotland's leading scorers.

When these players are not setting up goals for their forwards, they are just as likely to

figure on the scoresheet themselves.

Up front Celtic can perm any three from Mo Johnston, Alan McNally, McClair, Mark McGhee, Owen Archdeacon and hopefully Davie Provan when he finally shakes off his virus problem.

Mo is obviously their main man. He's banging in goals right, left and centre. It was good to see him back among the goals for Scotland too recently.

So all in all Celtic are truly formidable opponents. A team who won't give up their grip on the League championship easily.



ROY AITKEN AND DONS' JOE MILLER

BACKTRACK

A glance at Aberdeen v Celtic clashes in the past 5 Premier League seasons.

1981-82	
Aberdeen 1 (Strachan)	Celtic 3 (Burns, McGarvey(2))
Celtic 2 (McGarvey, McCluskey)	Aberdeen 1 (Strachan)
Aberdeen 1 (McMaster)	Celtic 3 (McCluskey, MacLeod, McStay)
Celtic 0	Aberdeen 1 (Kennedy)

1982-83	
Celtic 1 (Nicholas)	Aberdeen 3 (Strachan, Simpson, McGhee)
Aberdeen 1 (McGhee)	Celtic 2 (MacLeod, Provan)
Celtic 1 (Nicholas)	Aberdeen 3 (Black(3))
Aberdeen 1 (McGhee)	Celtic 0

1983-84	
Aberdeen 3 (Hewitt, McLeish, Strachan)	Celtic 1 (Aitken)
Celtic 0	Aberdeen 0
Aberdeen 1 (Hewitt)	Celtic 0
Celtic 1 (McLrose)	Aberdeen 0

1984-85	
Celtic 2	Aberdeen 1 (McDougall)
Aberdeen 4 (Black(2), McGinnie, McDougall)	Celtic 2 (Johnston, McGarvey)
Celtic 2 (Johnston, McStay)	Aberdeen 0
Aberdeen 1 (Miller)	Celtic 1 (Aitken)

1985-86	
Celtic 2 (McClair)	Aberdeen 1 (McDougall)
Aberdeen 4 (McDougall(4))	Celtic 1 (Provan)
Celtic 1 (Grant)	Aberdeen 1 (J. Miller)
Aberdeen 0	Celtic 1 (Johnston)

Aberdeen's Premier League Record v Celtic is as follows:

P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
45	19	12	15	68	56	48

Aberdeen's All-time League Record v Celtic is as follows:

P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
167	51	37	79	212	282	-



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