

TENNENTS SCOTTISH CUP FINAL

SATURDAY 29th MAY 1999

HAMPDEN PARK, GLASGOW KICK-OFF 3.00 pm

CELTIC v RANGERS



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HISTORY IN THE MAKING



It is my great pleasure, on behalf of the Scottish Football Association, to welcome the officials, players and supporters of Celtic and Rangers, and the representatives of the tournament sponsor, Tennent Caledonian Breweries, to Hampden Park for this afternoon's historic 114th Tennents Scottish Cup final.

This is a momentous day for Scottish football, with the first major event at our national stadium since its rebirth. I am sure everyone here, whether they are spectators watching from the stands, players sampling the atmosphere, media, officials, backroom staff, police or sponsors, will be impressed by the venue.

It is an opportunity for Scotland to demonstrate to the world that our football is something to be proud of. A thrilling cup final is anticipated this afternoon, watched not only by a capacity crowd here at Hampden Park, but also by millions throughout the United Kingdom and around the world on satellite television.

I hope, therefore, that the players and supporters of both teams will rise to the occasion and provide a match that is exciting and enthralling, and that football will be the winner.

Today gives both clubs the opportunity to put the seal on a remarkable season. Celtic and Rangers have both shown this season that they are capable of great performances, and their challenges for the Scottish Premier League title provided some memorable moments. Although Rangers are to be congratulated on having already captured the League flag and the Scottish League Cup, I am sure everyone here recognises that past form has little bearing on any Old Firm encounter, and there is everything to play for.

This is the tenth Scottish Cup final to be sponsored by Tennent Caledonian Breweries, a remarkable record. The Scottish Football Association is most appreciative of the support which our sponsor has provided for Scotland's top cup competition over these years and we all look forward to enjoying their continued support in the years ahead.

In making this match possible, there have been considerable efforts from a huge number of people over a long period of time. I would like to thank all those who have contributed to this historic event.

Above all, I sincerely hope that this afternoon's match will be a credit to Scottish football, and continue in the exciting tradition of Tennents Scottish Cup finals.

JACK MCGINN
President
Scottish Football Association.





TEN FOR TENNENTS

On behalf of Tennent Caledonian Breweries I would like to extend a warm welcome to supporters of both Celtic and Rangers for this historic Tennents Scottish Cup Final.

In a double celebration today's Final marks Tennents tenth anniversary as sponsors of the Cup and the return of the fixture to its spiritual home. The National Stadium – Hampden Park.

With the stadium having received a £50 million facelift, a capacity crowd of 52,500 and a nationwide TV audience there could be no finer backdrop for an Old Firm Final.

Tennent's Lager has a long association with Cup football in Scotland supporting events like the Tennents Sixes and the Highland League Cup through to what many consider the jewel in Scotland's football calendar – The Scottish Cup.

Both teams have lifted the Cup since Tennent's first sponsored the tournament in 1989, however Celtic and Rangers have not met in a Final for over a decade – a contributing factor to the sense of anticipation as we approach today's Hampden Final.

Celtic and Rangers will be hoping to create their own piece of history as they compete to lift the Cup in the last Scottish Cup final of the millennium.

Tennent's Lager wishes both teams and their supporters well as we look forward to another chapter in the history of the Tennents Scottish Cup.

Gordon Brown
Director of Brands
Tennent Caledonian Breweries

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THE ROAD TO THE FINAL



169 goals, 61 matches, 51 man-of-the-match awards and a season of blood, sweat and tears have brought us to where we are today. The 114th Tennent's Scottish Cup has come down, as it has so often in the past, to a renewal of rivalries between the biggest and most successful clubs in the country.

The cup flames of the likes of Dalbeattie Star, Civil Service Strollers and Spartans have all been extinguished, glorious cup runs have fizzled and died, and worthy outsiders have seen their dreams crushed under the wheels of the Old Firm juggernaut as the Glasgow giants ground their way towards today's Tennent's Scottish Cup final. Some would say there is a certain correctness – and a measure of inevitability – that Scotland's two premier clubs collide today.

But when this tournament kicked off, 174 days ago, dreams of Hampden glory were in the minds of only the most romantically-inclined of participants. The real hope of the eight clubs who contested first round ties that day was progress into round two, and thereafter the potentially lucrative third round. As it turned out, one of the opening day battlers would indeed progress to a windfall akin to a lottery win – albeit one which took them four matches to land.

Stenhousemuir, at the time still in the care of Terry Christie and the best-known duffel-coat in football, seemed on the way out when they could manage only a first round draw at home to Alloa Athletic, veteran Albert Craig's goal earning them a replay. But the following week, second-half goals from Mickey Hall and the much-travelled Willie Watters sent Stenny into round two along with fellow first round victors, Queen's Park, Partick Thistle and Livingston.

The men from Larbert succeeded in making life difficult for themselves in the second round, Craig again having to rescue them with an equaliser after East of Scotland League Whitehill Welfare's lively performance had given them an early fright on January 2nd. However, by the time the replay arrived seven days later, both clubs knew the prize which awaited them in round three: a visit to Rangers at Ibrox. Tensions ran high as Whitehill battled to earn their day in the cup sun, but although Dougie Samuel's titanic performance earned him the Man of the Match award, two second-half goals from Kenny Miller got Stenhousemuir through and put the widest smile of the year on the face of the club accountant. Elsewhere in the second round, Albion Rovers, East Stirlingshire, Brechin City, Clyde, and Queen's Park

all saw off non-league opposition – though in Queens' case it took a replay and a last-minute winner to subdue battling Clachnacuddin. They were joined among the heavy artillery of the cup by Livingston, Partick Thistle, Ross County, Forfar Athletic and Stirling Albion, with Huntly the sole non-league qualifiers.

Stenhousemuir's adventures continued with the revelation that the Ibrox visit would be 42-year-old defender Graeme Armstrong's 1,000th senior match and it was little surprise when the veteran's steady and assured performance earned him the Man of the Match award to put alongside the gifts presented to him by Rangers and the SFA to commemorate the occasion. First-half goals from Stephane Guivarc'h and Rod Wallace ensured there wasn't to be a Premier League scalp joining his mementoes. The other half of the Old Firm made heavy weather of it at Celtic Park where those doughty cup fighters, Airdrieonians, turned in their usual stuffy display. Steve Cooper's bulleting



Graeme Armstrong holding one of the gifts presented to him on his 1,000th senior match; against Rangers in the Tennent's Scottish Cup.

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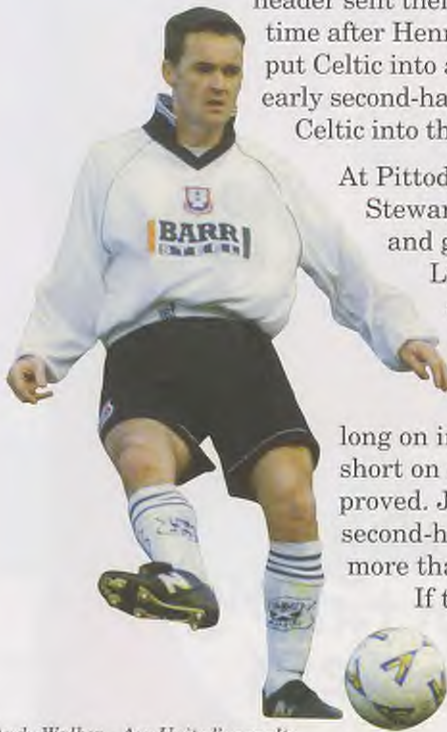
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THE ROAD TO THE FINAL – Continued

header sent them in level at half-time after Henrik Larsson had put Celtic into an early lead, but early second-half goals eased Celtic into the fourth round.

At Pittodrie, Ray Stewart's experienced and good-going Livingston side always looked likely to be a handful for an Aberdeen team long on inconsistency and short on morale. So it proved. John Robertson's second-half goal was little more than they deserved. If that was a minor surprise, events



Andy Walker – Ayr United's penalty hero against Kilmarnock

at Somerset Park were a major one, as the 1997 winners exited amid the frenzy of a local derby.

Kilmarnock found Ayr a bit too bracing for their liking and two late Andy Walker goals – the second from the cheekiest penalty of this or any other season – sent the Premier side out at the sharp end of a 3-0 caning. Dundee were another Premier side to come a cropper, beaten 2-1 by Greenock Morton, but Albion Rovers, Falkirk, Dunfermline Athletic, Clyde, St. Johnstone, Hamilton Academical and Stranraer all progressed. But there was more drama to come after the first set of third round matches on January 23rd. Stirling had battled well to earn their draw at Easter Road and John Philliben's side completed the job at Forthbank, Chris Jackson's winner given extra spice by being scored by a player who'd been deemed surplus to Hibs' requirements.

The first live TV match of the competition proved a good choice. Hearts' visit to Motherwell had the look of a match where the holders could find it tough, and when Ged Brannan's thundering drive put the home side ahead early on, their exit looked inevitable. Although Jim Hamilton levelled, Motherwell always held the whip hand and goals from Owen Coyle and Tony Thomas proved it.

Dundee United's dream of cup success was given a rude awakening against Third Division Queen's Park at Shyberry Excelsior Stadium. The amateurs called the tune for long spells and headed north for the replay nursing a sense of grievance that they hadn't

won. Billy Dodds' goal earned United a nervous passage to round four, and in another replay, an extra-time goal got Clydebank through against Ross County whose (now former) striker, Neil Tarrant, claimed the noteworthy achievement of scoring in every tie his side played.

With one exception, the fourth round ties were decided in no-nonsense style. A first-half onslaught saw Celtic crush Dunfermline; Gary Teale's late goal for Ayr saw off Albion Rovers; Roddy Grant's double helped St. Johnstone edge out Livingston in a keenly-contested tie; on-song Morton thrashed Clyde 6-1; Motherwell ended old boy, John Philliben's hopes for a successful Fir Park return in professional style; Falkirk won at Stranraer, and Hamilton boss, Colin Miller, saw his former club maul his current one horribly, Rangers winning 6-0 at Firhill.

The other match produced the fireworks, Clydebank twice going ahead against Dundee United, who needed a late Darren Patterson goal to earn a replay.

United's 3-0 win at Tannadice seems emphatic but the Man of the Match award given to Bankies' Davie Nicholls, underlines how difficult Ian McCall's side made it for Paul Sturrock's team.

Only one of the four quarter-finals was played on a Saturday – and it saw Motherwell exit at home to St. Johnstone, two late goals from Darren Dods and Miguel Simao confirming the Perth men's superiority. The following day, First Division Falkirk put up a decent show at Ibrox, the ground where they'd contested the 1997 final. Neil McCann put the home side ahead after a well-contested first-half, but Bairns' skipper, Davie Moss, thrashed in an equaliser after hesitation in the home defence. Lorenzo Amoroso won the Man of the Match award and the tie with 15 minutes remaining, but Alex Totten's side had again shown the big stage to be to their liking. Morton, managed by former Celtic player and assistant boss, Billy Stark, were despatched in brisk fashion the following evening, Mark Viduka scoring twice on his first start in a 3-0 victory, but in the last tie of the round, Dundee United again ran into problems. Confident Ayr put them through the mill at

Owen Coyle – Motherwell's 3rd round goal-scorer, now with Dunfermline Athletic





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THE ROAD TO THE FINAL - Continued



Stefan Klos of Rangers is beaten by a David Moss shot for Falkirk's equaliser in the quarter-final tie

Somerset, and United keeper, Sieb Dijkstra, was the busier of the two goalkeepers. Ayr passed up a great chance to make the semis when they were awarded a penalty in the closing minutes, but Andy Walker's previous sure-footedness in the competition deserted him and Dijkstra touched his spot-kick on to the bar. United struggled to subdue their opponents in the replay, even after Neil Murray put them ahead. Walker equalised with a characteristically neat close-range finish and United were delighted Magnus Skoldmark's goal put them back ahead before jitters could take hold.

The fact that no United player had won the Man of the Match award in any of their six ties hinted at the indifference of their form and they made little impression in going out to Celtic at the semi-final stage. First-half goals from Regi Blinker and Mark Viduka settled Celtic into the driving seat and United had neither the fight nor the finesse to dislodge them. The other semi was similarly one-sided, Rangers disposing of a St. Johnstone side who'd just trounced them in the Premier League. Rod Wallace and Gio Van Bronckhorst put them ahead – Van Bronckhorst's



Neil McCann of Rangers beats Falkirk goalkeeper, Paul Mathers to score Rangers' first goal in the quarter-final tie

making him the ninth nationality to score for Rangers in the competition – and second-half goals from Jonatan Johansson and Neil McCann completed the rout.

Neither the ill-tempered, controversial league encounter of four weeks ago nor their relative routes to the final – Rangers have scored two goals more – will have a bearing today. Rangers' quest for the domestic treble and Celtic's desire to avoid a barren season will be incentive enough. Let the fun begin!

KENNY MacDONALD
News of the World

CELTIC'S PROGRESS

Third Round, 23rd January, 1999

Airdrieonians (h) 3-1

Scorers: Larsson 3, Stewart own goal 49, O'Donnell 51.

Team: Gould, Boyd, Mahe, Donnelly (Burchill), Lambert, Stubbs, Larsson, Moravcik (Blinker), Riseth, O'Donnell, Mjallby (Hannah).

Fourth Round, 13th February, 1999

Dunfermline Athletic (h) 4-0

Scorers: Larsson 23, 32, 40, Brattbakk 38.

Team: Gould, Mahe, McNamara, Larsson (Burchill), Brattbakk, O'Donnell (Blinker), Lambert, McKinlay, Moravcik, Riseth, Mjallby.

Fifth Round, 8th March, 1999

Greenock Morton (a) 3-0

Scorers: Viduka 9, 82, Larsson 57.

Team: Gould, Boyd, Mahe (McKinlay), Stubbs, Larsson, Burley, Lambert, Blinker, Riseth, Mjallby, Viduka (Brattbakk).

Semi-Final, 10th April, 1999

Dundee United (Ibrox Stadium) 2-0

Scorers: Blinker 29, Viduka 39.

Team: Gould, Boyd, Mahe (Wieghorst), McNamara, Annoni, McKinlay, Larsson, Burley, Lambert, Blinker, Viduka (Donnelly).

RANGERS' PROGRESS

Third Round, 23rd January, 1999

Stenhousemuir (a) 2-0

Scorers: Guivarc'h 5, Wallace 38.

Team: Klos, Porrini, Wilson, Vidmar, Hendry, Kanchelskis, Albertz (Van Bronckhorst), McCann (Ferguson), Miller, Guivarc'h (Amato), Wallace.

Fourth Round, 14th February, 1999

Hamilton Academical (a) 6-0

Scorers: Johansson 4, 73, Albertz 43,

Vidmar 56, Kanchelskis 65, McCann 75.

Team: Klos, Porrini, Amoruso, Vidmar (Wilson), Van Bronckhorst, Ferguson, Kanchelskis, Albertz (Miller), Wallace (Guivarc'h), Johansson, McCann.

Fifth Round, 7th March, 1999

Falkirk (h) 2-1

Scorers: McCann 52, Amoruso 75.

Team: Klos, Porrini, Amoruso, Vidmar (Amato), Ferguson, Kanchelskis, Van Bronckhorst, Albertz, Guivarc'h (Johansson), Wallace, McCann (Wilson).

Semi-Final, 11th April, 1999

St. Johnstone (Celtic Park) 4-0

Scorers: Wallace 15, Van Bronckhorst 33,

Johansson 62, McCann 71.

Team: Klos, Porrini, Amoruso, Hendry (Wilson), Vidmar, Wallace, Van Bronckhorst, Albertz, Kanchelskis (McInnes), Guivarc'h (Johansson), McCann.

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How today's teams reached the final

FIRST ROUND

5th December, 1998

Arbroath 1 Partick Thistle 2
 Stenhousemuir 1 Alloa Athletic 1
 Dumbarton 1 Livingston 1
 Queen's Park 2 Berwick Rangers 0

Replays: Tuesday, 8th December
 Livingston 3 Dumbarton 0

Saturday, 12th December
 Alloa Athletic 0 Stenhousemuir 2

SECOND ROUND

2nd January, 1999

Civil Service Strollers 0 Albion Rovers 3
 Montrose 0 Stirling Albion 0
 Whitehill Welfare 1 Stenhousemuir 1
 Keith 0 Brechin City 0
 Dalbeattie Star 1 East Stirlingshire 2
 Inverness Caledonian Thistle 1
 Livingston 2
 Huntly 3 Peterhead 0
 Partick Thistle 5 Cowdenbeath 2
 Spartans 1 Clyde 1
 Forfar Athletic 2 East Fife 2

Replay: Wednesday, 6th January
 Clyde 5 Spartans 0

Saturday, 9th January
 Queen of the South 1 Ross County 3

Replays:
 Stenhousemuir 2 Whitehill Welfare 0
 Brechin City 3 Keith 1
 East Fife 0 Forfar Athletic 1

Monday, 18th January
 Queen's Park 1 Clachnacuddin 1

Replay:
 Stirling Albion 2 Montrose 1

Replay: Saturday, 23rd January
 Clachnacuddin 2 Queen's Park 3

THIRD ROUND

23rd January, 1999

Greenock Morton 2 Dundee 1
 Ayr United 3 Kilmarnock 0
 Stranraer 1 East Stirlingshire 0
 Falkirk 3 Huntly 0
 Brechin City 1 Albion Rovers 1
 Hibernian 1 Stirling Albion 1
 Partick Thistle 1 Dunfermline Athletic 2
 St. Johnstone 1 Forfar Athletic 0
 Raith Rovers 0 Clyde 4
 St. Mirren 1 Hamilton Academical 1
 Celtic 3 Airdrieonians 1
 Rangers 2 Stenhousemuir 0
 Aberdeen 0 Livingston 1

Sunday, 24th January
 Motherwell 3 Heart of Midlothian 1

Tuesday, 2nd February
 Queen's Park 0 Dundee United 0

Replays:
 Albion Rovers 3 Brechin City 1
 Stirling Albion 2 Hibernian 1
 Hamilton Academical 1 St. Mirren 0

Wednesday, 3rd February
 Clydebank 1 Ross County 1

Replay: Tuesday, 9th February
 Dundee United 1 Queen's Park 0

Replay: Monday, 15th February
 Ross County 2 Clydebank 3

FOURTH ROUND

13th February, 1999

Ayr United 1 Albion Rovers 0
 Greenock Morton 6 Clyde 1
 Motherwell 2 Stirling Albion 0
 Stranraer 1 Falkirk 2
 Livingston 1 St. Johnstone 3
 Celtic 4 Dunfermline Athletic 0

Sunday, 14th February
 Hamilton Academical 0 Rangers 6

Monday, 1st March
 Clydebank 2 Dundee United 2

Replay: Saturday, 6th March
 Dundee United 3 Clydebank 0

FIFTH ROUND

6th March, 1999

Motherwell 0 St. Johnstone 2

Sunday, 7th March
 Rangers 2 Falkirk 1

Monday, 8th March
 Greenock Morton 0 Celtic 3

Saturday, 13th March
 Ayr United 0 Dundee United 0

Replay: Tuesday, 16th March
 Dundee United 2 Ayr United 1

SEMI-FINALS

Celtic 2 Dundee United 0 (Played at Ibrox Stadium, 10th April 1999)
St. Johnstone 0 Rangers 4 (Played at Celtic Park, 11th April 1999)

TODAY IS 'D' DAY FOR CELTIC FANS

A victory over their greatest rivals in this Tennents Scottish Cup final can make it an unforgettable season, after all, for those in green and white.

A loss, and the Parkhead faithful can put season 98/99 down to experience.

That's just how important this showpiece tie is to everybody in those particular colours.

All are consoling themselves, however, the famous old trophy can be safely on the sideboard at Celtic Park later on this evening.

Hope springs eternal.

It has to after the up and down time of it the lads in the hoops have given their people in the stands so far.

It was certainly a case of, "Glory, Glory, Glasgow Celtic" in the opening Premier League match of the season.

Dunfermline were the visitors at Celtic Park. They fancied they might give the Celts a tough time of it.

Talk about calling all the WRONG shots.

It ended Celtic 5, The Fifers 0, and the delighted Parkhead camp followers were already wondering who would end up second in the table.

One Premier League game later those sky-high fans hit the ground with a dull, worrying, thud.

The team which looked like steamrolling all before it fell at the second hurdle.

But Aberdeen 3, Celtic 2 was only a minor set-back, or was it?

The lads would be back on the rails three days later.

There's absolutely no way First Division Airdrieonians would knock Celtic out of the League Cup, even if the tie was being played in their fancy new stadium.

Hope continues to spring eternal.

The Diamonds won 1-0, and even the diehards were beginning to have their doubts.

A 2-1 victory over Dundee United, followed by 1-1 draws against Dundee and Kilmarnock, and a 0-0 with Rangers had the punters laughing and crying at the same time!

When would a spot of consistency actually creep into the team's play?

Suitably buoyed by a 1-0 win over St. Johnstone, the first 60,000 plus crowd arrived at Celtic Park to see, most hoped, the demise of Hearts.

The 1-1 draw didn't have the paying public rushing to send letters to relations in Canada and America about that one.

In fact, the performance wasn't really anything even to write home about!

The turning point came just in time to set up fans with deeply furrowed brows for a half decent Christmas, and a Happy Easter.

From December 19 to April 17, the side which had been up and down like a fiddler's elbow all season, suddenly hit the high spots.

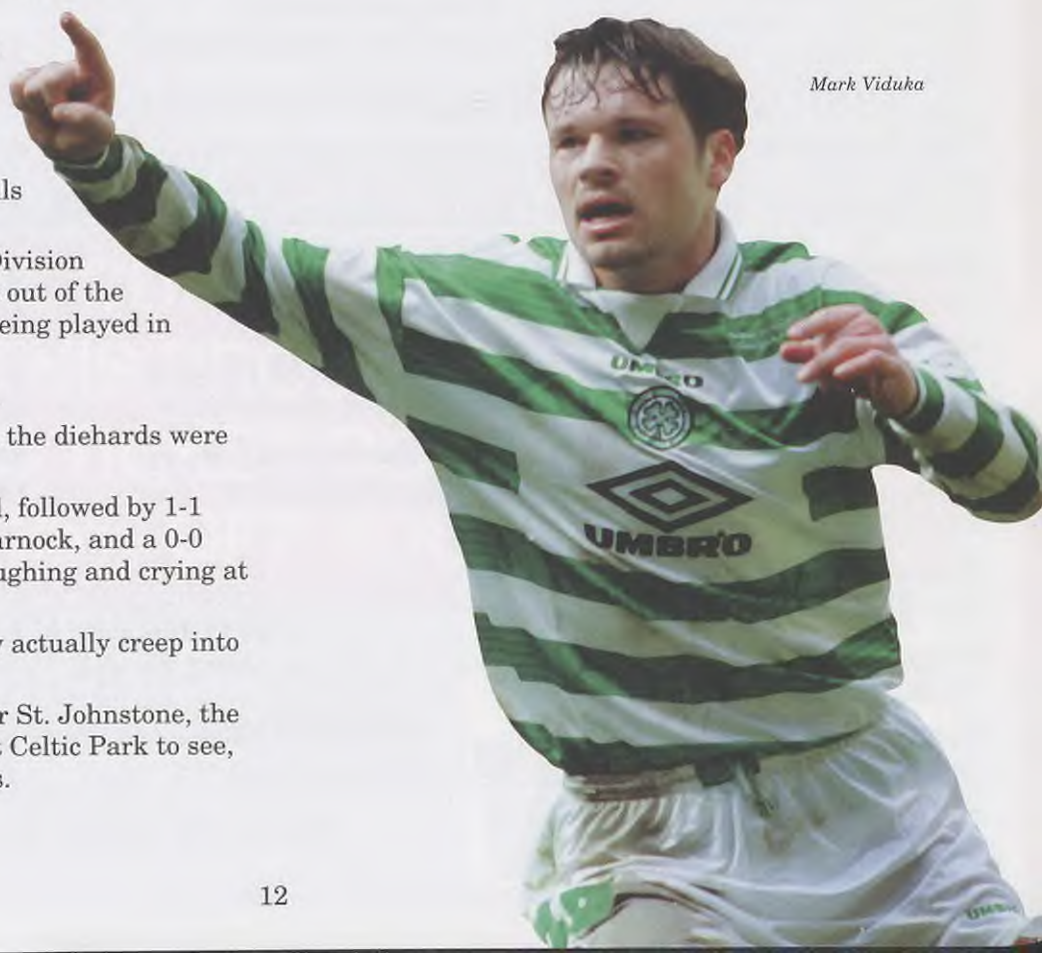
Tom Boyd and the boys went an amazing 17 matches unbeaten in Tennents Scottish Cup and Premier League games.

Once again it was a case of, "Glory, Glory, Glasgow Celtic."

Despite an abysmal start, a League and Cup double was back within their grasp.

Thanks to events since then, that's no longer the case. This Tennents Scottish Cup final is now an all-or-nothing afternoon.

It can, quite rightly, be said the players in the hoops have toyed with the emotions of their faithful following all season long.



Mark Viduka



Johan Mjallby

Few in green scarves and replica jerseys would put up much of an argument about that.

Those aforementioned camp followers, however, have their own ideas about what went wrong 'way at the start of this campaign.

While Rangers seemed to be signing new star men at the drop of a hat, with the minimum of fuss, it was a major production persuading anybody to come to Celtic Park.

If only Mark Viduka had been in the colours a month or two earlier. What a difference he would have made.

If only Johan Mjallby had been brought in quicker to shore up the defence, so many daft goals wouldn't have been lost.

If only the much maligned Harald Brattbakk had been able to do with Celtic what he did with Rosenborg in Norway.

If only Lubo Moravcik hadn't fallen by the wayside with a serious hamstring injury.

If only League titles and trophies were won with 'if onlys'.

Undoubtedly Celtic would have cleaned up.

Meantime, Doctor Jozef Venglos must be sitting

wondering what Scottish football is all about at the highest level.

The first team coach is a decent, quiet spoken, deep thinker who has his own ideas on how the game should be played.

He feels players should be able to show a fair bit of intelligence in their play, and should not forever be tripping over coaching manuals.

He likes his men to be 'sporting', 'hard working', and 'honest', and give their fans something to really shout about, and be proud about.

To be fair to him, and his players, that's what the supporters got, for the most part.

In their finest 90 minutes Celtic are the most outstanding side in Scotland.

They are terrific value for money, and as often as not sent their mass of followers home like dogs with two tails . . . both wagging!

If only they had been able to do that more often!

Yes, it's been an 'If Only'

season for all connected with Celtic Park so far, if ever there was one.

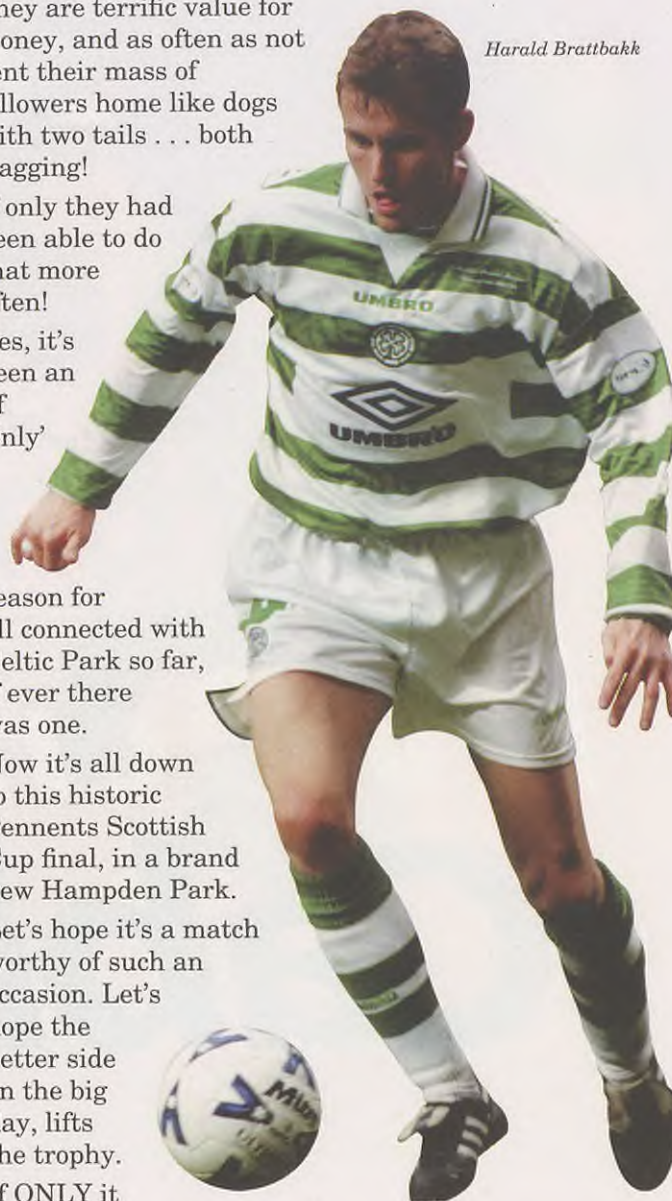
Now it's all down to this historic Tennents Scottish Cup final, in a brand new Hampden Park.

Let's hope it's a match worthy of such an occasion. Let's hope the better side on the big day, lifts the trophy.

If ONLY it was all as straight forward as that. It never is, and never will be, however!

If ONLY it was.

Harald Brattbakk



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TOSH McKINLAY

"ONE THOUGHT ON HIS MIND"

Tosh McKinlay arrives at this splendid arena this afternoon in search of only his second Tennents Scottish Cup winners medal to end a four year wait.

The Scotland international defender enjoyed that winning feeling first time around in a Celtic jersey just months after his signing from Hearts when a Pierre Van Hooijdonk goal was enough to beat off the brave challenge from Airdrieonians and take the trophy back to Celtic Park. That was in 1995.

McKinlay, in this era of record levels of spending in Scottish football, has proved to be one of the bargain buys of the decade in that it cost only £350,000 to lure him away from Tynecastle.

Now in his 35th year, Tosh is aware that time is not on his side to add to his medal tally after losing out at the semi-final stages all too often for his liking.

After spending much of the season with limited first team involvement, he has come to the fore in the latter part of the season, always ready and willing to do his bit for his beloved Celtic – and he rarely lets them down.

This afternoon there will be only one thought on his mind – and that is being part of a winning Celtic team to end the season on a high after the bitter disappointments of losing their grasp on the League Championship.

Tosh said: "They don't come any bigger than this – an Old Firm cup final at the end of the season. These are the games players love, the big occasion with the big prize for the winners.

"It's been a long wait for me to get back here for, following the cup win over Airdrie in my first season with Celtic, I had hoped to have had a lot more winners' medals. It has not happened so when you do eventually get there you have to grab the opportunity. Finals are all about winning . . . and I would dearly love that feeling of triumph again . . . but it has to be earned."

He added: "We had hoped we would have been able to pull off the League and Tennents Scottish Cup double



but it was not to be. However, we have this chance to lift the Scottish Cup again and end the season on a real high.

"This is the time when the thinking has to be very focused and concentrated – it is all about trying to win the trophy for ourselves, the fans and Celtic Football Club.

"It is not about us trying to stop Rangers winning the treble. That is not the way to approach it. It is all about Celtic winning on a day when football is to the fore."

JIM McLEAN
Scottish Express

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JOZEF VENGLOS



Jozef Venglos is as much explorer as manager. His passport must be dilapidated from use, but he has also made a journey of the imagination. At 63, his curiosity about football is unabated and, in coaching circles, he is one of the most distinguished figures on the world scene.

If he was undervalued when he came to Celtic last July, the limitations were in the public's knowledge rather than in his career. Here, he was known primarily for an unhappy season at Aston Villa, but that was a tiny interlude in the career of a person who entered management 32 years ago.

In any case, Villa players such as Ian Ormondroyd and Gordon Cowans were eager to apologise, explaining that Venglos had been ahead of his time while they were still set in their old-fashioned ways. The Slovak, born in Bratislava in 1936,

has an adventurous turn of mind and a track record of trusting teenagers.

While in charge of Sporting Lisbon, he gave Paulo Futre his chance and it was Venglos who introduced Dwight Yorke to the first team at Villa. Mark Burchill, at Celtic, has a great deal yet to prove, but he, too, has been invited to demonstrate his talent at a high level.

When making his decisions about team selection and all other matters, Venglos calls upon vast experience. In international football, he achieved enduring fame in his own homeland as coach to the Czechoslovakia side that beat West Germany in the European Championship final of 1976.

Yet that is only one of his countries. He has also managed Australia, Malaysia, Oman and Slovakia. At club level, FC Kosice, Slovan Bratislava, Sporting Lisbon, Aston Villa and Fenerbahce have all been under his control. As Venglos understands, however, coaches always have to prove themselves anew.

In Glasgow he earned increased respect from the supporters when Celtic defeated Rangers 5-1 in November. Before kick-off, pundits and punters were united in criticising a team selection that put his 33-year-old countryman, Lubomir Moravcik, into the attack. The tactic worked perfectly, with Moravcik scoring twice as Celtic ran up their biggest Old Firm victory since 1966.

It was the perfect means of catching the eye in Glasgow, but his employers needed no evidence of Venglos's worth. They had already been impressed by his refusal to be sucked into the whirlpool of panic so often found in Scottish football. The outcry for new players at Celtic was followed by approaches from many agents, but Venglos insisted on being patient.

When he did make his moves, he secured men who have all made a favourable impression at Celtic: Vidar Riseth, Moravcik, Johan Mjallby and Mark Viduka. This is a manager that a club will be happy to trust with the chequebook. Celtic supporters were relieved when he confirmed that he will remain in his post until next year.

Despite his composure, Venglos is still passionate in his work and, after a disappointing result in an evening match, has been known to insist on gathering his colleagues to discuss and analyse a poor performance until the small hours of the morning. He and the other coaches will hope that it is only celebration that keeps them up late today.

KEVIN McCARRA
The Times

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PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

An exciting new phase in the re-development of the National Stadium will occur this autumn with the opening of a museum to house Scotland's football treasures.

But project director, Ged O'Brien, is quick to stress it will not just be home to "cups, caps, trophies and medals."

The 40-year-old is aiming for a much broader picture of the nation's favourite sport.

"Football is so important to so many people," he says. "It touches their lives in so many ways.

"It is the biggest spectator sport and the biggest participatory sport in the world.

"That's why we want to hear from supporters. They are an integral part of the game.

"People have said to me 'I don't think the museum would be interested in photos of my trips to watch Scotland or my programmes' but we are.

"Those mementos and others like them are part of the overall fabric of the game and items the museum would love to have."

O'Brien and his staff regularly visit Scottish grounds themselves to build up their collection.

"Recently we've been to Livingston and taken pictures of their mascot, Livvy the Lion, amongst other things," he says.



Some of the memorabilia on view at Hampden Park last Friday night

"We also visited a junior match between Lanark United and Pollok and took some photographs. We want to cover all strands of Scottish football."

At the moment the football collection is housed at the Museum of Transport at Glasgow's Kelvin Hall.

However, by the turn of the year O'Brien and his team of eight will move across the city to take up 1500 square metres of floor space at Hampden Park. The museum has the full backing of the Scottish Football Association, which has donated its football collection.

"The biggest selling point for the museum is the National Stadium itself," says O'Brien.

"Where better to reflect the history of Scottish football?"

The museum already stores some fascinating memorabilia, including a ticket for the 1872 international between Scotland and England, played at the West of Scotland cricket ground.

Part of the old Hampden Park press box has also been retained along with both dressing rooms and a couple of turnstiles from the old ground.

But like all museums, the collection of football memorabilia is an on-going process and a lengthy one at that.

The museum will also show how the power of satellite television and the worldwide web changed the face of football in the 1990s.

O'Brien knows the benefits of the internet with ten million ex-pats spread around the globe.

"They will be able to access us through the web and take a virtual reality tour of the museum," he says.

"Modern technology is part of the game and part of our educational package." He adds: "We are building the museum from the ground up. I would like to think we are blazing a trail and that we are a unique organisation.

"A library and archive are vital to our long-term planning and we hope to have them up and running by next year.

"We are embarking on an extremely long and exciting journey and one I am proud to play a part in."

Do you want to contribute to the museum? Contact the staff on 0141 287 2746, or write to The Scottish Football Museum, Museum of Transport, 1 Bunhouse Road, Glasgow G3 8DP.



Ged O'Brien, blazing a trail with the Scottish Football Museum

KEN GAUNT
Press Association

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HISTORIC REMINDER THE 1973 FINAL

It was in the Scottish Cup final of 1973 that the Old Firm served up what is generally considered to be one of the four best Glasgow derbies of the last 30 years – the others being Celtic's 4-2 win at Parkhead in the game which clinched the league title in 1979, and the 3-3 and 4-4 draws between the pair at Ibrox in 1986 and 1995.



Kenny Dalglish opens the scoring in the 1973 Cup Final

But what distinguishes the 1973 final from every Old Firm match which has followed was the sheer scale of the crowd.

The Scottish Football Association had sold 126,000 tickets for the game but 3,286 would-be spectators fell sick or found something better to do (yes, it does sound mighty improbable) or else discovered that after a hearty liquid lunch their legs would not function as far as Hampden Park.

At any rate, a mere 122,714 made their way to Mount Florida and had the privilege of being in the last six figure crowd to attend a football match in Scotland. They travelled with great expectations and deep anxieties.

For Celtic fans, there was the prospect of a glorious double. Under Jock Stein, their team had already won the eighth of nine successive championships and they were looking to finish the season with the Scottish Cup heading to the east end of Glasgow.

Rangers were less carefree. The club had actually reached its 100th birthday the year before but 1972-73 had been declared its centenary season and to finish without a trophy in the cupboard was not a pleasant prospect. It was also the SFA's centenary year and to mark the occasion the cup final was to be graced by the presence of Princess Alexandra. On an afternoon of warm sunshine the dowdy old stadium took on

renewed grandeur, with its terracings and stands split down the middle, swathes of blue, red and white to one side, a sea of green and white to the other.

Celtic got off to a sprint start and took the lead after 24 minutes when Dixie Deans sent Kenny Dalglish scampering clear to beat Peter McCloy with a well placed drive. As the Celtic fans – even though they made up only half the crowd, there were more than could squeeze into the current Celtic Park – roared their celebratory songs, the outlook for Rangers was ominous. Ten minutes from half-time, though, Alex MacDonald broke clear on the right and crossed for Derek Parlane to steer a header away from Ally Hunter at the near post. Now it was the legions of Rangers fans who split the sky with thunderous acclaim.

At half-time both contingents were in high spirits, each believing that the game would now flow their way. Nobody could possibly have anticipated the drama which would follow. Celtic restarted but immediately lost possession and Rangers' Quinton Young knocked the ball deep into their half for Parlane to nod into the path of Alfie Conn, who had only to beat Hunter to give Rangers a sensational lead after all of 17 seconds. Celtic were stunned but gathered their wits and forced their way back into the game when John Greig hurled himself across the Rangers goal line to punch away a Deans shot.

Nowadays he would have been sent off but in that era a booking and a penalty kick were deemed sufficient punishment. Greig watched as George Connelly converted the spot kick with his customary coolness. After an hour the sides were all square once more. The decisive moment came when Celtic conceded a free kick inside their own half. Tommy McLean, precise as usual, placed it on to the head of Derek Johnstone and the ball beat Hunter to his right but bounced off the post.

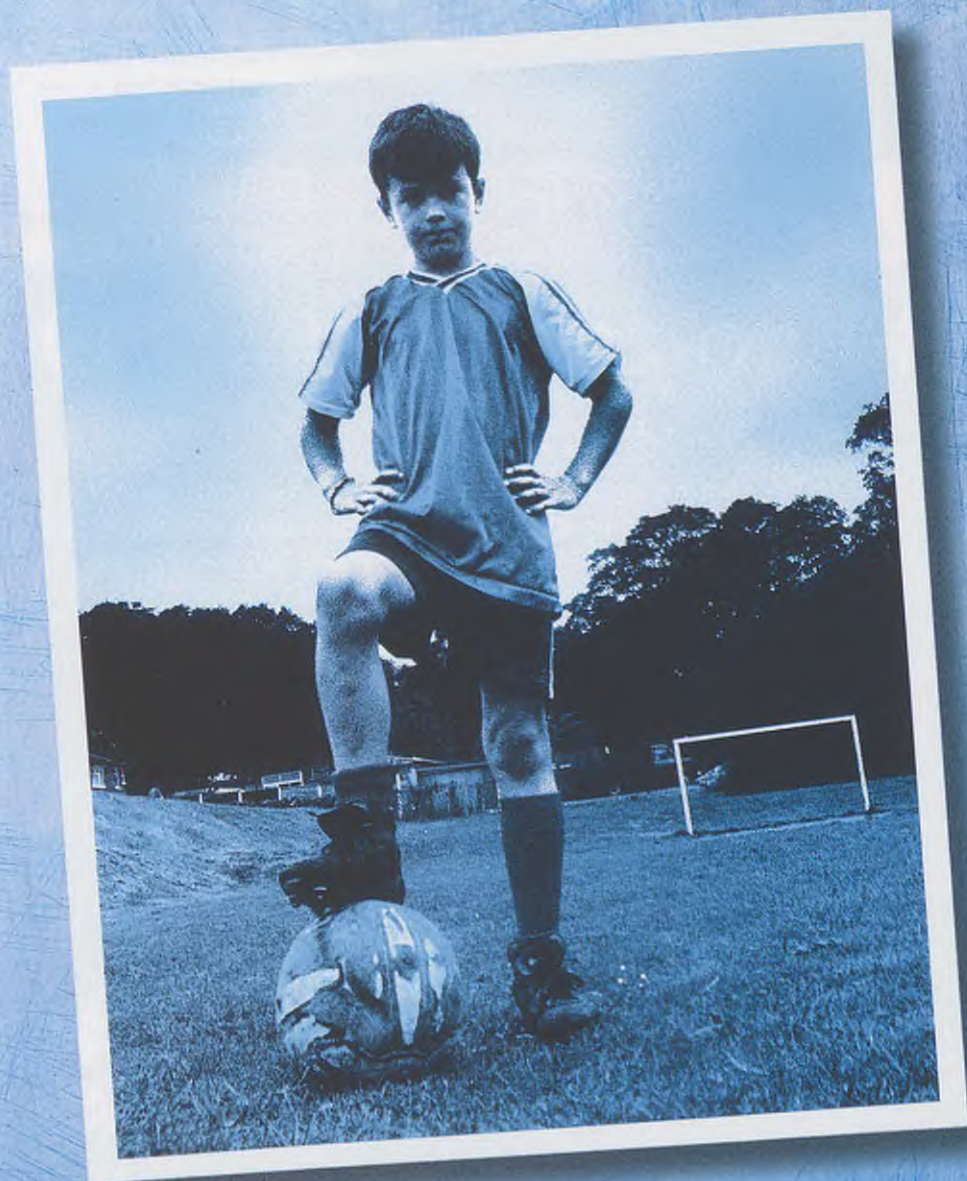
With 122,714 spectators and a Princess riveted by the sight, it bobbed across the Celtic line and off the other upright. Tom Forsyth, an iron defender but a marksman whose attempts at scoring in training guaranteed his team-mates a laugh, stretched to turn the ball gently across the line.

"It was just as well big Tam was wearing long studs or the ball would never have gone in," John Greig said later. But go in it did . . . and Rangers had won an epic victory on an afternoon which remains etched in the memories of all who were there.

RODDY FORSYTH
Sunday Telegraph

IT'S NOT WHAT YOU
WANT TO BE
WHEN YOU GROW UP.

IT'S WHO YOU WANT
TO PLAY FOR.




UMBRO

CELTIC F.C.



Top Row - L-R: Simon Donnelly; Tommy Johnson; Alan Stubbs; Jonathan Gould; Stewart Kerr; Stephane Mahe; Craig Burley; Henrik Larsson
 Middle Row - L-R: Jim Henry; Peter Latchford; Harald Brattbakk; Enrico Annoni; Barry Elliot; Darren Jackson (now Hearts); Marc Rieper;
 Malky Mackay (now Norwich); Phil O'Donnell; Jackie McNamara; Colin Healy; Morten Wieghorst; Eric Black
 Bottom Row - L-R: Danny McGrain; Brian Scott; Paul Lambert; Regi Blinker; Mark Burchill; Tom Boyd; Dr Jozef Venglos;
 David Hannah (now Dundee United); John Paul McBride (now St. Johnstone); Brian McLaughlin; Tosh McKinlay; John Clark; Graham Quinn.

INTERDUNING

CELTIC



JONATHAN GOULD Born London 18.7.68
Height 6ft 0in. Weight 13st 7lbs
The big keeper has been a revelation since being plucked from Bradford City reserves in August 1997 and has beaten off competition to become undisputed first-choice. In the last 12 months, he has also established himself in the Scotland squad and is rivalling Wimbledon's Neil Sullivan for the Number One jersey as the national side homes in on Euro 2000.

STEWART KERR Born Bellshill 13.11.74
Height 6ft 2ins. Weight 13st 0lbs
The 24-year-old goalkeeper was floored by injury two seasons back, but has shown this term that he still has plenty of ability by returning to the side in place of the injured Gould. He is attracting interest from Chelsea and other sides south of the border, but it would be a surprise if Parkhead bosses do not make an effort to keep him in Glasgow.

TOM BOYD
Born Glasgow 24.11.65
Height 5ft 11ins. Weight 12st 4lbs
Mr Consistency, not only for Celtic, but also for the Scottish national team, having appeared in the last 36 internationals. Captained Celtic to the League flag last season, and today is looking to add to the cup medals he won in 1991 (with Motherwell) and 1995.

ENRICO ANNONI Born Gloussand 10.7.66
Height 5ft 10ins. Weight 13st 0lbs
The Italian ace played a major role in last season's championship campaign and achieved cult status among the fans with his distinctive shaved head and goatee beard. The 32-year-old, brought in from AS Roma in February 1997, is a tough-tackling defender who can play in several positions at the back.

STEPHANE MAHE Born Puteaux 23.9.68
Height 5ft 11ins. Weight 11st 11lbs
Signed from French side Paris St. Germain in July 1997, Mahe has been a solid performer for Celtic in the left-back role. He has been affected by injuries this season, but plays with his heart on his sleeve and makes no secret of his love for life at the Glasgow club.

TOSH McKINLAY Born Glasgow 3.12.64
Height 5ft 10ins. Weight 11st 9lbs
The 34-year-old full-back has spent almost five years at Celtic Park, and has shown this season that he remains one of the best crossers of a ball in the Scottish game. The former Hearts player made it to last year's World Cup finals with Scotland and has been a committed servant to the Celtic cause.

ALAN STUBBS Born Kirkby 6.10.71
Height 6ft 1ins. Weight 13st 7lbs
Following a difficult first season, Stubbs has gone on to justify the record-breaking £3.5 million fee Celtic shelled out to bring him from Bolton in July 1996. He has become a firm favourite among the supporters because of the technical ability he couples with his fine defensive work.

JOHAN MJALLBY Born Sweden 9.2.71
Height 6ft 3ins. Weight 13st 0lbs
A Swedish internationalist, signed from AIK Stockholm earlier this season, who can play both in the heart of midfield and at centre-half. He is powerfully built and brings a tremendous physical presence. A valuable utility man.

MORTEN WIEGHORST Born Glostrup 25.2.71
Height 6ft 3ins. Weight 13st 0lbs
The Danish midfielder damaged ligaments in a friendly with Kilmarnock at the beginning of the season and has spent most of the campaign on the sidelines. However, he has shown his class over the past few weeks and is a cultured player of tremendous value to Jozef Venglos.

REGI BLINKER Born Surinam 4.6.69
Height 5ft 8½ins. Weight 11st 7lbs
The Dutch midfielder arrived from Sheffield Wednesday in a swap deal involving Paolo di Canio two years ago and has enjoyed some of his best form over the past few months. He has suffered from injury recently, but will be hoping to get back on the right track today.



Paul Lambert



Simon Donnelly

PAUL LAMBERT Born Paisley 7.8.69
Height 5ft 11ins. Weight 10st 6lbs
Undoubtedly, one of the most accomplished Scottish players around. Cultivated his continental style during a year-long spell with German side Borussia Dortmund and performs a vital holding role just in front of the defence. Also a stalwart of the Scottish national team.

PHIL O'DONNELL Born Bellshill 25.3.72
Height 5ft 10ins. Weight 10st 5lbs
The former Motherwell star is a dangerous player thanks to his surging runs from midfield and his ability to stick the ball in the net. O'Donnell will leave Celtic for Sheffield Wednesday this summer after completing almost five years of service.

LUBOMIR MORAVCIK
Born Slovakia 22.6.65
Height 5ft 6ins. Weight 11st 7lbs
Was written off in some quarters following his transfer from German side Duisburg earlier this season, but silenced the critics with some wonderful displays. The talented 33-year-old can control the play in midfield and possesses a lethal shot in either foot.

VIDAR RISETH Born Levanger 21.4.72
Height 6ft 2ins. Weight 12st 6lbs
Norwegian World Cup star, who has been forced to play in a number of different positions since arriving from Austrian side LASK Linz earlier in the campaign. He is good in the air with a keen eye for goal and will cause Rangers some problems, particularly from set-pieces, this afternoon.

SIMON DONNELLY
Born Glasgow 1.12.74
Height 5ft 9ins. Weight 10st 12lbs
Like team-mate, O'Donnell, Donnelly will be on duty for the last time for the club this afternoon before moving to Sheffield Wednesday on a free transfer. The 24-year-old has established a reputation as a talented, attacking forward during his six years at Parkhead and is now a regular in the Scotland international squad.

MARK VIDUKA
Born Melbourne 9.10.75
Height 6ft 2ins. Weight 14st 6lbs
The burly Australian's footballing skills have left a positive impression since his protracted £3 million move from Croatia Zagreb was completed in January. He provides a physical presence in the forward line that Celtic had been missing earlier in the campaign and should give the Rangers defence food for thought today.

HENRIK LARSSON
Born Sweden 20.9.71
Height 5ft 10ins. Weight 11st 11lbs
The 27-year-old Swede delighted all Celtic fans when signing a new contract this season and has been the undisputed Player of the Year. A wonderfully-gifted striker, who can set up goals and put the ball in the net with equal ease.

HARALD BRATTBAKK
Born Norway 1.2.71
Height 5ft 9ins.
Weight 11st 0lbs

The Norwegian striker arrived in a £1.8 million transfer from Rosenborg in December 1997 and remains part of the plans. He scored the goal against St. Johnstone that clinched the league title last season and has a proven record at the highest level.



Henrik Larsson

MARK BURCHILL
Born Broxburn 18.8.80
Height 5ft 8ins.
Weight 9st 9lbs
The 18-year-old striker was tied up on a new, long-term contract this season and is widely regarded as the brightest prospect we have in Scotland at the moment. He has played several first-team games and stamped his name on the scoresheet this term. Today's match could be just the first of many cup finals for Burchill.

TOMMY JOHNSON
Born Newcastle 15.1.71
Height 5ft 9ins. Weight 12st 4lbs
The former Aston Villa striker has been out through injury for most of the season, but made a sensational return when scoring twice against Dunfermline at East End Park earlier this month. He has a good chance of making the squad today and provides a serious goal threat.

GARY KEOWN
The Scottish Sun



CELTIC FOOTBALL CLUB

Celtic Park,
Glasgow G40 3RE

CHAIRMAN
Frank O'Callaghan

MANAGER
Dr Jozef Venglos

TEAM CAPTAIN
Tom Boyd

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THE SQUADS

CELTIC

1999 TENNENTS SCOTTISH CUP

APPEARANCES GOALS

1	Jonathan GOULD	4	
2	Tom BOYD	3	
3	Stephane MAHE	4	
6	Alan STUBBS	2	
7	Henrik LARSSON	4	5
9	Harald BRATTBAKK	1+1	1
10	Phil O'DONNELL	2	1
11	Morten WIEGHORST	0+1	
12	Tommy JOHNSON	-	
13	Simon DONNELLY	1+1	
14	Paul LAMBERT	4	
17	Enrico ANNONI	1	
18	Tosh MCKINLAY	2+1	
20	Regi BLINKER	2+2	
21	Stewart KERR	-	
25	Lubomir MORAVCIK	2	
27	Mark BURCHILL	0+2	
30	Vidar RISETH	3	
35	Johan MJALLBY	3	
36	Mark VIDUKA	2	3



THE SQUADS

RANGERS

1999 TENNENTS SCOTTISH CUP

APPEARANCES GOALS

2	Sergio PORRINI	4	
3	Lorenzo AMORUSO	3	1
7	Andrei KANCHELSKIS	4	1
8	Giovanni Van BRONCKHORST	3+1	1
10	Gabriel AMATO	0+2	
11	Jorg ALBERTZ	4	1
13	Antti NIEMI	-	
15	Stephane GUIVARC'H	3+1	1
16	Rod WALLACE	4	2
17	Derek McINNES	0+1	
18	Neil McCANN	4	
19	Stefan KLOS	4	
20	Jonatan JOHANSSON	1+2	3
22	Scott WILSON	1+3	
24	Barry NICHOLSON	-	
25	Tony VIDMAR	4	
35	Colin HENDRY	2	



RANGERS FOOTBALL CLUB

Ibrox Stadium,
Edmiston Drive,
Glasgow G51 2XD

CHAIRMAN
David Murray

MANAGER
Dick Advocaat

TEAM CAPTAIN
Lorenzo Amoruso

• Spectators are urged to exercise the utmost care when leaving the ground, particularly in the staircase areas. Your doing so will reduce to a minimum the risk of accident. We ask you to pay particular attention to this notice.

• First aid duties at today's match are kindly carried out by the St. Andrew's Ambulance Association.

• Today's Mitre Ultimax match ball has been supplied by Mitre Sports International Ltd., the official ball suppliers to the Scottish Football Association, the Scottish Premier League and the Scottish Football League.

Today's Match Officials

Referee: **Hugh Dallas** (Motherwell)

Assistant Referees: **David Doig** (Tranent), **John Love** (Airdrie)

Fourth Official: **Kenny Clark** (Paisley)



INTRODUCING RANGERS



STEFAN KLOS Born Dortmund 16.8.71
Height 6ft 0ins. Weight 13st 8lbs
First identified as a Rangers target in Walter Smith's days. Klos finally signed in December for £700,000 after he failed to win a protracted court battle for a free transfer last summer. He brought with him a wealth of experience at the very top level, gleaned from triumphant Bundesliga and European campaigns with Borussia Dortmund. Has kept a clean sheet in 50 per cent of his appearances for Rangers.

ANTTI NIEMI
Born Oulu 31.5.72
Height 6ft 1ins.
Weight 14st 0lbs
Keen to leave Rangers this summer after playing second fiddle to Andy Goram, Charbonnier and Klos since signing for £1 million in June 1997. Is the number one for his country, Finland, and demonstrated his international class with a wonderful save against Parma at Ibrox earlier this season. His reward was a drop to the substitutes' bench one month later.

SERGIO PORRINI Born Milan 8.11.68
Height 5ft 11ins. Weight 12st 4lbs
Has been called upon to operate in both full-back positions this season, as well as in central defence, on the way to over 50 appearances in all competitions. Steady without being spectacular, Porrini was signed for £3.5 million from Juventus, where he won Serie A and European Cup honours.

COLIN HENDRY Born Keith 7.12.65
Height 6ft 4ins. Weight 13st 0lbs
Scotland's new captain after the retirement of Gary McAllister, Hendry has had ups and downs in equal measure since his summer signing. Injury and the improved form of Craig Moore contrived to keep him on the bench for spells during the season but has been inspirational in the big games and will relish this afternoon's occasion.

LORENZO AMORUSO Born Bari 28.6.71
Height 6ft 2ins. Weight 13st 10lbs
Amazingly, this man, who could make history by lifting the treble this afternoon, was booed by his own supporters earlier this season. Amoruso, however, has bounced back from that crushing disappointment and shown full recovery after suffering a year out of football with an achilles injury. A stand-out in the last Old Firm game.

TONY VIDMAR Born Adelaide 4.7.70
Height 6ft 1ins. Weight 12st 13lbs
Has unexpectedly played a major role in Rangers' double-winning season by virtue of injuries to first choice left-back, Arthur Numan. An Australian internationalist, Vidmar was signed on a free transfer from NAC Breda by Walter Smith and

scored his first goal for the club in the Scottish Cup defeat of Hamilton.



Stefan Klos

BARRY NICHOLSON
Born Dumfries 24.8.78
Height 5ft 8ins.
Weight 10st 11lbs
This youngster has enjoyed several first team outings under Dick Advocaat plus a most impressive appearance in Alan McLaren's testimonial game against Middlesbrough. Recently represented Scotland's Under-21 side in Germany after helping Rangers to a 3-1 win over Aberdeen at Ibrox.

GIOVANNI VAN BRONCKHORST
Born Rotterdam 5.2.75
Height 5ft 10ins. Weight 11st 10lbs
A real class act, Van Bronckhorst is back in favour with the Dutch national team after a terrific first season with Rangers. Van Bronckhorst was a member of the World Cup semi-final squad when he agreed to become a £5.25 million signing and join countryman, Advocaat, at Ibrox. Only 24, there is more improvement to come.

JORG ALBERTZ Born Monchengladbach 29.1.71
Height 6ft 2ins. Weight 13st 5lbs
His explosive shooting power has made him one of the favourite foreign purchases ever among the Rangers support. Albertz has a habit of scoring against Celtic – last season he did so twice within eight days in Scottish Cup and Premier League victories. Signed from Hamburg for £4 million in July 1996, Albertz loves life in Scotland and has bought his own kilt to prove it!

ANDREI KANCHELSKIS Born Kirovograti 23.1.69
Height 5ft 11ins. Weight 13st 4lbs
Has failed to live up to his billing as the most expensive player in Scottish football history since

signing for £5.5 million but is always capable of producing the spectacular on his day – like his stunning volley at Dunfermline in February. Kanchelskis was at his peak for Manchester United before spells with Everton and then Fiorentina in Italy.

DEREK McINNES Born Paisley 5.7.71
Height 5ft 7ins. Weight 11st 4lbs
McInnes has been bedevilled by injuries since winning a move to Rangers in 1995 and looked to be heading south permanently after impressing on a loan spell with Stockport County. Back in favour for substitute roles recently.

JONATAN JOHANSSON Born Stockholm 16.8.75
Height 6ft 1ins. Weight 12st 8lbs
This Finnish internationalist has flourished under the Dick Advocaat regime. Largely ignored by Walter Smith after being bought for £500,000 in 1997 from Estonian club FC Flora, the pacey Johansson made rapid strides early this season while new signings failed to settle. His spectacular goal against Bayer Leverkusen in the UEFA Cup tie at Ibrox was the highlight of his season.

GABRIEL AMATO Born Mar Del Plata 22.10.70
Height 6ft 1½ins. Weight 13st 0lbs
Hugely skilful and powerful forward whose failure to settle quickly into the Rangers team early this season cost him his place for most of the winter months. The Argentine may return to Spain this summer but Rangers supporters are unlikely to forget him for his headed goal against Celtic in the 2-2 draw at New Year and one blinding moment of skill against Parma that set Gordon Durie up for what should have been a match-winning header.

ROD WALLACE
Born Lewisham 2.10.69
Height 5ft 8ins.
Weight 12st 11lb
The free signing of

the season. Wallace was in the running for Player of the Year honours after scoring over 25 goals this term. Can operate as an out-and-out forward or drop in behind the main striker with equal effect. His success should be no surprise, however, for he cost Leeds £1.6 million from Southampton and scored 66 goals in 221 appearances for them.



Gabriel Amato



Sergio Porrini

STEPHANE GUIVARC'H Born 6.9.70
Height 6ft 0ins. Weight 12st 8lbs
Cost Rangers £3 million last autumn after spending only two months with Newcastle. A prolific scorer in the French First Division for Auxerre, Guivarc'h won a World Cup winners' medal last year but has failed to reach the heights in Britain. Scored in the League Cup final victory over St. Johnstone.

NEIL McCANN Born Greenock 11.8.74
Height 5ft 10ins. Weight 10st 0lbs
Has improved with every game since making a mid-season £1.6 million switch from Tynecastle. McCann was first spotted by Dick Advocaat in 1997 on the Dutchman's first fact-finding trip to Ibrox when Rangers drew 2-2 with Hearts. Made his Scotland debut in Lithuania in September and is now a regular for the champions at club level and for Craig Brown's international side. Scored twice at Parkhead to win Rangers the title.

SCOTT WILSON Born Edinburgh 19.3.77
Height 6ft 2ins. Weight 12st 6lbs
Broke through to the Rangers first team during the ill-fated Champions League run of 1996 but was denied the occasional game at domestic level until the arrival of Dick Advocaat. Wilson was sent off in the 5-1 defeat at Celtic Park in November but has recovered from that devastation to win Scotland Under-21 honours and stay in the Rangers first team squad.

FRASER MACKIE
Mail on Sunday

Beyond Comparison



SCOTLAND *on* SUNDAY

THE sports section

1873 **RANGERS F.C.** 1873



Top Row – L-R: Jonatan Johansson; David Graham (now Dunfermline Athletic); Tony Vidmar; Antti Niemi; Lionel Charbonnier; Theo Snelders; Jorg Albertz; Gordan Petric (now Crystal Palace); Craig Moore

Middle Row – L-R: Bert Van Lingen; Sergio Porrini; Rod Wallace; Stale Stensaas; Gabriel Amato; Colin Hendry, Daniel Prodan; Gordon Durie; Andrei Kanchelskii; Ian Ferguson; Tommy Moller Nielsen

Bottom Row – L-R: Barry Nicholson; Giovanni Van Bronckhorst; Lorenzo Amoroso; Dick Advocaat; Arthur Numan; Rino Gattuso (now back in Italy); Charlie Miller; Derek McInnes.

BACK TO THE BRINK

FLASHBACK: Celtic Park, May 16, 1998. A tear-stained squad of Rangers players trooped off after a 2-1 Tennents Scottish Cup final defeat from Hearts. It wasn't just the end of a rare trophyless season for Rangers, it was the end of an era.

The list of players leaving the Ibrox club read like a roster for their newly-established Hall of Fame. Andy Goram, Richard Gough, Ian Durrant, Ally McCoist, Stuart McCall and Brian Laudrup were all following manager, Walter Smith, out the exit door.

Chairman, David Murray faced one of the most important decisions of his 11-year reign at the club. And the multi-millionaire steel tycoon got it right.

Every revolution needs a leader, every reconstruction needs an architect, every Rangers fan needed Dick Advocaat.

The former Holland coach had shown a core of steel himself when he refused to bow to Ruud Gullit's ego and ended the Dreadlocked One's international career during a 3-1 friendly win over Scotland in 1994.

And the man they call the Little General had taken that iron-willed desire back into club management at PSV Eindhoven and drawn covetous glances from the likes of Spanish giants Real Madrid.

Murray, though, wooed a blue-chip coach to Ibrox and after a £25 million spending spree on this recreated side he could reap the ultimate dividend with the 'Treble' this afternoon.

So how has a man who had to build a completely new team taken Rangers back to the brink of the clean sweep?

Advocaat baulks at suggestions that it is all down to the chequebook and he reasoned: "You cannot always go back and say the money did it.

"Manchester United have more money than everyone else yet they don't win every single game."

The Dutchman now yearns for the sort of summer Alex Ferguson had 12 months ago, shelling out the entire transfer budget on just three top drawer players in Jaap Stam, Dwight Yorke and Jesper Blomqvist.

He may even have that after this titanic collision of Scottish football's superpowers but his quickfire mission of rebuilding Rangers since he took over in June bears close inspection.

IN GOAL: French World Cup deputy keeper, Lionel Charbonnier, was the choice to clasp what many regarded as the poisoned chalice of replacing Goram.



Lionel Charbonnier – back in action next season?

He soon emerged as a cult hero and one Sunday in September was moved close to tears at Dunfermline as the fans belted out *La Marseillaise* in his very own song of praise.

Sadly, cruciate ligament damage wrecked his season and – after Finn, Antti Niemi, had carried the gloves in the League Cup final win over St. Johnstone – Advocaat went into the market once more for Borussia Dortmund's Stefan Klos.

The European Cup winner still faces a daunting battle to win over the Ibrox legions and the battle for that jersey with Charbonnier next season promises to be intriguing.

IN DEFENCE: Colossal captain, Gough, was gone and Advocaat controversially chose Italian, Lorenzo Amoroso, as his successor ahead of Scotland skipper, Colin Hendry.

After a soul-searching spell in October when his own fans turned on him the former Fiorentina star has flourished alongside the rock-solid Hendry.

The resurrection of his Rangers career was sealed with a commanding display when the league was clinched at Celtic Park earlier this month.

Once more, though, injury has cruelly hampered Advocaat's plans at the back with £5 million Dutch World Cup left-back, Arthur Numan, missing much of the season with ankle trouble.

IN MIDFIELD: For me, the area where Advocaat's coaching brilliance has shone through. Starved of first-team opportunities, Barry Ferguson was on his way out of Rangers until the new boss built the team around a player destined to be THE Scottish star of his era.

The curse of the crock, this time a pelvic injury, has called a halt to his development for now but Giovanni Van Bronckhorst – a simmering mix of poise and passion, guile and grit – has shouldered the burden superbly.

At £5.5 million, Scotland's record transfer fee, more could have been expected from Andrei Kanchelskis but he has played his part and given fleeting glimpses of his class. It is refreshing, though, that in this League of Nations side he has been outshone by a Scot.

Neil McCann has added swagger to his skills since moving from Hearts and the two goals that

inspired that 3-0 title win over Celtic confirmed a once erratic winger's new-found status as a player who can be relied on to produce when the chips are down.

IN ATTACK: More evidence that with Advocaat coaching comes before chequebook in his priorities. Jonatan Johansson's natural pace has been harnessed,

his first touch improved beyond recognition and now the Finn who looked lost on the wing is a potent striker.

For the bulk of the season he has proved a perfect foil for the footballing intelligence of Rod Wallace who has constantly dropped into deep spaces off his markers to plunder a sackful of goals.

Rangers' wildcard here is, of course, fans' favourite, Gabriel Amato, who has left some amazing moments – who could forget that turn in the UEFA Cup against Parma? – etched on the memory. Yet for £4.2 million from Real Mallorca there hasn't been enough return.

Advocaat openly admits some of the buys, like French World Cup winner, Stephane Guivarc'h, haven't paid off but the fact remains that he is now 90 minutes away from the Grand Slam.

And 12 months ago as those nine-in-a-row heroes trudged off Celtic Park that would have been

considered impossible.

They'll be there in the Hampden stands this afternoon, the likes of McCall, who is now captain of Bradford City and masterminded their return to England's top flight after a 77-year absence.

Durrant, who had one of the seasons of his life at 32, and McCoist will be there too, fresh from a campaign inspiring the continuing resurgence of Kilmarnock. They are players who will never be forgotten by the Rangers support.

But today they are simply part of the red, white and blue throng looking out at the magnificent new Hampden and at the game that, whatever the result, we pray will be the showpiece we crave.

For the New Rangers this is the chance to take the first step towards exorcising the ghosts of the past and matching the legends they took over from.

For The Team That Dick Built greatness awaits.

IAIN KING
The Sunday Mail



Giovanni Van Bronckhorst



Colin Hendry



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ROD WALLACE

"THE ETERNAL DIPLOMAT"

Rod Wallace has had a variety of labels hung round his neck this season – 'bargain buy', 'steal of the season' and 'Dick Advocaat's best signing' to name but three – but there is one tag that the striker would really enjoy.

How about Rod Wallace – treble winner.

He's two-thirds of the way there after helping Rangers to the League Cup and the Premier League Championship and today he can complete the equation.

But Wallace, maybe more than most at Ibrox, is a cautious man.

He rarely speaks in headlines and every sentence is carefully crafted to ensure he gets his point across with the minimum of fuss and bother.

Any number of times this season he has been asked, for instance, if his glut of goals for Rangers might herald an England call-up.

Each time he has insisted his first priority is the Ibrox club and that anything else would be a bonus.

He really is the eternal diplomat.

When you analyse him you discover that the old football adage of "doing his talking on the pitch" fits him perfectly.

And, to be fair, that's where the follow-follow brigade want to hear from him most. That being the case, he has delivered exactly what they have been looking for in the shape of a barrowload of goals.

Wallace, signed for nothing from Leeds United last summer, was originally expected to be a makeweight in the multi-national, mega-bucks Ibrox squad being pieced together by new coach, Dick Advocaat.

His pedigree, admittedly, couldn't be called into question.

A decade previously he had started out at Southampton where over three seasons he scored enough goals to prompt the Elland Road club to secure his services.

And in Yorkshire, he enjoyed seven magnificent seasons when he always weighed in with a fair-sized contribution to the Leeds United cause.



Never more so, indeed, than when Leeds won the league in season 1991-92. Wallace scored regularly that year and when the going got tough, the tough got going in the last few matches as Manchester United were overtaken and Rod scored crucial goals in the penultimate game against Sheffield United and then the only goal of the last match against Norwich City.

He was hardly an unknown, then, when he arrived at Ibrox on July 17 last year, but it's fair to say Rangers fans didn't exactly fall over themselves with enthusiasm when they heard he had signed.

They were much more interested, for instance, in costly buys such as Arthur Numan, Daniel Prodan, Lionel Charbonnier and Gabriel Amato who all signed around the same time.

Now, of course, we are virtually a full season on and Wallace, as befits a man with that surname, has become an Ibrox hero while the others, through no fault of their own, have contributed a whole lot less.

The man expected to be a bit player has become a star.

"I've enjoyed it all and this is easily my best-ever season for goals," admitted Rod. "You never really know how things will work out at a new club but they could hardly have gone better at Ibrox."

"It's been a memorable season."

The one blot on an otherwise impeccable year was his ordering-off in the infamous Old Firm match at Celtic Park at the beginning of this month but that was, by any standards, an unusual day.

Now, Wallace wants to resume normal service and if he can grab a goal or two in this Tennents Scottish Cup final it will be the icing on the cake – and another medal to put alongside the other two in what would be a remarkable first season at Ibrox.

GRAHAM CLARK
Sunday Express

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DICK ADVOCaat



You'd think Dick Advocaat might be getting fed up with football by this time. He has, after all, seen and done just about all there is to see and do in the job since he first pulled on the boots as a professional 32 years ago.

But anyone who has witnessed this little Dutchman prowling and patrolling the technical area around his dug-out this season will realise that his passion for the game burns as brightly as ever.

The sight of Advocaat racing out from under the perspex canopy to the Ibrox touchline, his trenchcoat billowing behind him like a cape, to berate one of his players or one of the officials, has become a feature of the season.

He wears his desire to win like a badge of honour and woe betide any of his players who do not share his commitment.

His reputation for discipline arrived in Scotland ahead of him. It was even cited as a reason for the likes of Andy Goram and Paul Gascoigne not being around at Ibrox to welcome his arrival.

But for all the fines that are imposed for shoddy timekeeping – in Advocaat's book being 60 seconds late constitutes that particular crime – and for all the banning of mobile phones from Ibrox, the Rangers players are 100 percent behind the guy.

The reason? He backs them and fights for them. Even when they are in the wrong.

Remember the stick Lorenzo Amoroso took in the first quarter of the season from the Rangers support? They wanted him stripped of the captaincy and shipped back to Italy but Advocaat kept throwing him the armband and his faith has been repaid handsomely.

Then there was his defence of Rod Wallace following his recent red carding at Celtic Park, followed by his even stronger insistence that his players had done nothing wrong by imitating the Celtic 'huddle' at the end of that game. Advocaat might have trouble proving that one but it showed his players that they have a man who will defend them. That kind of loyalty breeds respect and there's not a player in a blue jersey today who will not give his all for their boss.

He might have won a league and cup double with PSV Eindhoven, he might have led his native Holland to a World Cup quarter-final and he might have aided the development of Ronaldo into the world's greatest player but Advocaat still has goals to achieve.

Like making Rangers a force in Europe again.

Today the 51-year-old goes into the Tennents Scottish Cup final in the knowledge that he is 90 minutes away from achieving the Treble in his first season in Scotland.

By anyone's standards that would be a remarkable achievement. By Advocaat's it is little more than has come to be expected.

He wants to win the lot domestically before tackling the continent.

This season he has already begun to re-establish Rangers' tattered reputation in Europe. Defeating the likes of PAOK Salonika and Bayer Leverkusen before giving Parma their biggest test in the UEFA Cup does that for a club.

Next term, a run in the Champions League is the aim. To that end, one signing has been made already and no doubt others will arrive with Utrecht's Michael Mols.

That's for the future. This afternoon Advocaat's attention will be focused entirely on Celtic and the Tennents Scottish Cup.

If he is successful, it will be just another trophy in a glittering career. But he will celebrate it as if it is the first silverware he's won in his career.

No, Dick Advocaat is a long way away from the day when he becomes fed-up with football.

DAVID McCARTHY
Daily Record

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PREVIOUS OLD FIRM FINALS

The Old Firm have met on 13 previous occasions in the showpiece of Scottish football's calendar, the Scottish Cup final. There have only been 12 victors, however, as the cup was withheld after the crowd rioted in the 1909 final. Currently the honours stand with seven victories for Celtic, and five for Rangers - although past form is never a useful guide for the Old Firm.

Here are the full details of those finals, and you can read in more detail about the 1973 and 1977 classics in Roddy Forsyth's articles on pages 21 and 41.

1894

Rangers 3 (H. McCreadie 55, Barker 65, McPherson 68),

Celtic 1 (Maley 75). 15,000

Rangers: Haddow, Smith, Drummond, Marshall, A. McCreadie, Mitchell, Steel, H. McCreadie, Gray, McPherson, Barker.

Celtic: Cullen, Reynolds, Doyle, Maley, Kelly, Curran, Blessington, Madden, Cassidy, McMahan, Campbell.

1899

Celtic 2 (McMahon 57, Hodge 75), **Rangers 0**. 25,000

Celtic: McArthur, Welford, Storrier, Battles, Marshall, King, Hodge, Campbell, Divers, McMahon, Bell.

Rangers: Dickie, N. Smith, Crawford, Gibson, Neill, Mitchell, Campbell, McPherson, Hamilton, Miller, A. Smith.

1904

Celtic 3 (Quinn 34, 37, 82), **Rangers 2** (Speedie 10, 12).

64,323

Celtic: Adams, McLeod, Orr, Young, Loney, Hay, Muir, McMenemy, Quinn, Somers, Hamilton.

Rangers: Watson, Smith, Drummond, Henderson, Stark, Robertson, Walker, Speedie, Mackie, Donnachie, Smith.

1909

Cup withheld after two draws

Celtic 2 (Quinn 30, Munro 80), **Rangers 2** (Gilchrist 72, Bennett 75). 70,000

Celtic 1 (Quinn 70), **Rangers 1** (Gordon 20). 60,000

Celtic: Adams, McNair, Weir, Young, Dodds, Hay, Kivlichan, McMenemy, Quinn, Somers, Hamilton.

Rangers: Rennie, Law, Craig, Gordon, Stark, Galt, Bennett, McDonald, Reid, McPherson, Smith.

1928

Rangers 4 (Meiklejohn pen 55, McPhail 68, Archibald 70, 85),

Celtic 0. 118,115

Rangers: T. Hamilton, Gray, R. Hamilton, Buchanan, Meiklejohn, Craig, Archibald, Cunningham, Fleming, McPhail, Morton.

Celtic: J. Thomson, W. McStay, Donoghue, Wilson, J. McStay, McFarlane, Connolly, A. Thomson, McGrory, McNally, McLean.

1963

Rangers 1 (Brand 43), **Celtic 1** (Murdoch 45).

29,527

Rangers 3 (Brand 7, 71, Wilson 44), **Celtic 0**. 120,263

Rangers: Ritchie, Shearer, Provan, Greig, McKinnon, Baxter, Henderson, McMillan, Millar, Brand, Wilson.

Celtic: Haffey, McKay, Kennedy, McNamee, McNeill, Price, Craig, Murdoch, Divers, Chalmers, Hughes.

1966

Rangers 0, **Celtic 0**. 126,559

Rangers 1 (Johansen 70), **Celtic 0**. 96,862

Rangers: Ritchie, Johansen, Provan, Greig, McKinnon, Millar, Henderson, Watson, McLean, Johnston, Wilson.

Celtic: Simpson, Craig, Gemmell, Murdoch, McNeill, Clark, Johnstone, McBride, Chalmers, Auld, Hughes.

1969

Celtic 4 (McNeill 2, Lennox 43, Connelly 44, Chalmers 75),

Rangers 0. 132,870

Celtic: Fallon, Craig, Gemmell, Murdoch, McNeill, Brogan (sub Clark), Connelly, Chalmers, Wallace, Lennox, Auld.

Rangers: Martin, Johansen, Mathieson, Greig, McKinnon, Smith, Henderson, Penman, Ferguson, Johnston, Persson.

1971

Celtic 1 (Lennox 40), **Rangers 1** (Johnstone 86). 120,092

Celtic 2 (Macari 24, Hood pen. 26), **Rangers 1** (Craig o.g. 58). 103,332

Celtic: Williams, Craig, Brogan, Connelly, McNeill, Hay, Johnstone, Macari, Hood (sub Wallace), Callaghan, Lennox.

Rangers: McCloy, Denny, Mathieson, Greig, McKinnon, Jackson, Henderson, Penman (sub

D. Johnstone), Stein, MacDonald, W. Johnston.

1973

Rangers 3 (Parlane 35, Conn 46, Forsyth 61), **Celtic 2**

(Dalglish 25, Connelly pen. 52). 122,714

Rangers: McCloy, Jardine, Mathieson, Greig, Johnstone, MacDonald, McLean, Forsyth, Parlane, Conn, Young.

Celtic: Hunter, McGrain, Brogan (sub Lennox), Murdoch, McNeill, Connelly, Johnstone, Deans, Dalglish, Hay, Callaghan.

1977

Celtic 1 (Lynch, pen. 19), **Rangers 0**. 54,252

Celtic: Latchford, McGrain, Lynch, Stanton, McDonald, Aitken, Dalglish, Edvaldsson, Craig, Conn, Wilson.

Rangers: Kennedy, Jardine, Greig, Forsyth, Jackson, Watson (sub Robertson), McLean, Hamilton, Parlane, MacDonald, Johnstone.

1980

Celtic 1 (McCluskey 107), **Rangers 0**. After extra time. 70,303

Celtic: Latchford, Sneddon, McGrain, Aitken, Conroy, McLeod, Provan, Doyle (sub Lennox), McCluskey, Burns, McGarvey.

Rangers: McCloy, Jardine, Dawson, Forsyth (sub Miller), Jackson, Stevens, Cooper, Russell, Johnstone, Smith, J. MacDonald (sub McLean).

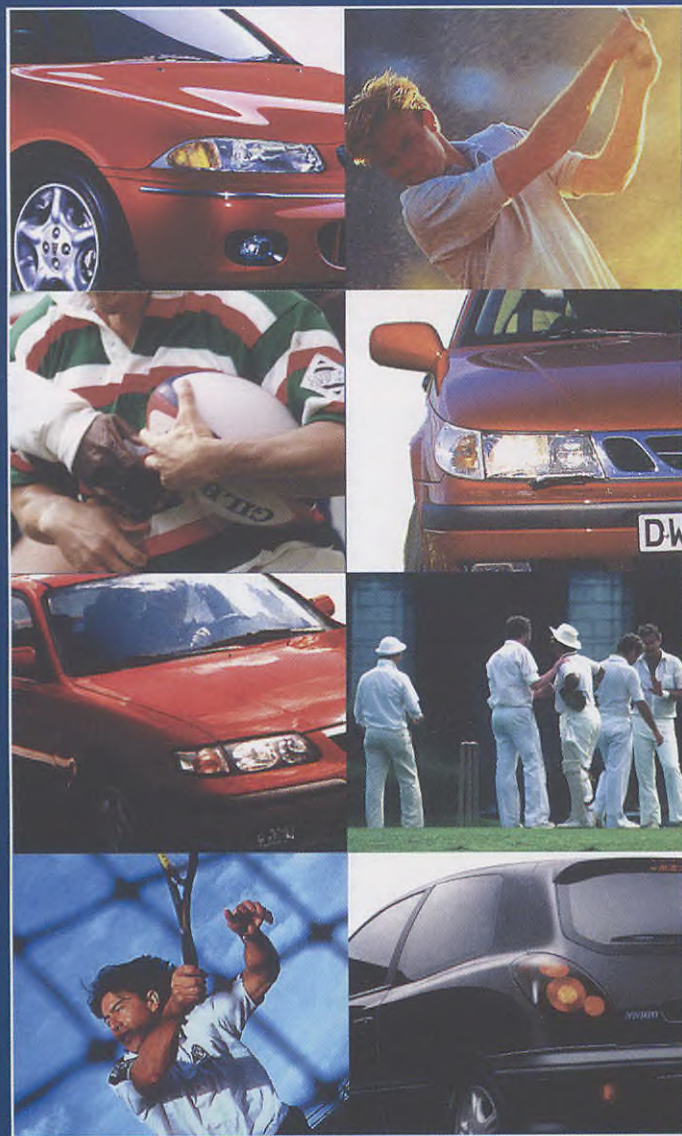
1989

Celtic 1 (Miller 42), **Rangers 0**. 72,069

Celtic: Bonner, Morris, Rogan, Aitken, McCarthy, Whyte, Grant, McStay, Miller, McGhee, Burns.

Rangers: Woods, Stevens, Munro (sub Souness), Gough, Sterland (sub Cooper), Butcher, Drinkell, Ferguson, McCoist, Brown, Walters.

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HISTORIC REMINDER THE 1977 FINAL



Rangers' Johnny Hamilton holds off Celtic's Roy Aithen, with Alfie Conn and Sandy Jardine looking on

Compared to, say, the 1973 Scottish Cup final, with its colossal crowd and seesawing spread of goals, the 1977 meeting of Celtic and Rangers at Hampden Park seems on paper to have been much less memorable. But its significance has grown over two decades and more because now it can be seen as the start of an intriguing sequence of collisions between these perennial rivals in the final of Scotland's most venerable football tournament.

Outsiders readily believe that Old Firm Scottish Cup finals come along like fleets of buses but, in fact, there have been only two in the last 19 years. The '70s saw them come together a little more frequently but it remains a remarkable statistic that Rangers have not beaten Celtic in the final for 26 years. When Celtic won 1-0 in 1977 it marked the first of three finals – the others were in 1980 and 1989 – in which Rangers lost the trophy to their rivals by a single goal.

If the '73 final had been a flurry of dazzling activity at both ends of the field, played out before a vast host of spectators, the '77 version was a chessboard affair with the two Jocks – Celtic's Stein and Rangers' Wallace – setting each other measured tactical problems.

So it was that the crowd of 54,252 who endured a day of lashing rain – when they might have stayed in and taken advantage of the comfort of live television – saw Danny McGrain and Alex MacDonald cancel each other out, as did Sandy Jardine and Alfie Conn. Roddy McDonald, voted man of the match, took care of Derek Parlane but still managed to create menace when he

moved upfield for corners and free kicks.

Conn, who had scored for Rangers four years previously, made history by winning a cup medal with Celtic on this occasion, although he was not to net. Instead, the only goal of the game fell to Andy Lynch in controversial circumstances. Celtic won a corner kick on the left which Conn took. McDonald headed back across goal and Stewart Kennedy, the Rangers goalkeeper, reached the ball but could not hold it. Johannes Edvaldsson – 'Big Shuggie' of fond memory as far as Celtic fans are concerned – pounced on the rebound and shot.

Edvaldsson did not score with his attempt – and from Celtic's point of view it was probably just as well that the Icelfander's attempt was blocked before it crossed the line. He had already scored in three Old Firm games and would do so again in the Scottish League Cup final the following season – and on each occasion Celtic lost!

This time, though, his effort was more productive. The drive beat Kennedy but was blocked on the line by Derek Johnstone. Referee Bob Valentine ruled that the Rangers defender had used his hand to stop the ball crossing the line and although Johnstone and his team-mates hotly disputed his decision, it was useless to protest.

While the referee was surrounded by Rangers players, an impromptu conference took place amongst the Celtic team. Ronnie Glavin was the regular penalty expert but he was absent and most fans guessed that the responsibility would be assumed by Kenny Dalglish, who was captain. They were wrong. To widespread surprise, it was Celtic's left-back, Andy Lynch, who picked up the ball and stepped forward. Rangers supporters abruptly perked up and many Celtic fans groaned.

Lynch had only ever taken two penalties in his career. They were for his previous club, Hearts – and he missed both! This time, though, Lynch kept his nerve and hit the mark, cracking his effort beyond Kennedy. The argument about Valentine's decision to award the penalty inevitably continued long past the final whistle.

Next day at Celtic Park, Jock Stein took his usual nonsense view of the affair.

"There is always a controversy when a match is won in such a fashion but we are all convinced it was a penalty. Andy Lynch scored," said Stein. Pausing for dramatic effect, he pointed towards the trophy room, adding the punchline: "... and the prize is in there."

RODDY FORSYTH
Sunday Telegraph

THE WONDER OF IT ALL



When we look around at the splendid new Hampden today, those of us who can remember through the mists of time peering over the wall that served as a border between the terracings and the running track, the front-line position usually accepted as reserved for children, will have to conclude that some startling progress has, indeed, been made. Admittedly, crowds of more than 100,000, which were commonplace then, are impossible now, but it is also true that in those good old days turning a full circle on the spot needed admirable agility.

Safety and comfort were words rarely heard from above in those times, a lack of foresight throughout the UK and many other areas of Europe that was to pay a bitter penalty some decades later. However, Hampden then, as Hampden now, was and is the memory bank for all football fans in Scotland.

It would be a tough task to find a lover of the game who has not a Hampden tale to tell, of delirium or despondency or somewhere between the two. It is the spiritual home of our game.

When you see the result of the £57 million project before your very eyes today, whatever side of the great debate on its advisability you take, you would be a rough old cynic if you could not concede that it is rather special.

Thanks to monumental determination by those committed to its place in the Scottish scene, in particular Austin Reilly, the leader of the Stadium Development Programme, and the former SFA Chief Executive, Jim Farry, Hampden will be a stadium whose name will continue to be synonymous with the People's Game throughout the world. It is, of course, so state-of-the-art that ex-players, ex-managers and not so ex-sports writers will shake their heads at the wonder of it all.

There are six dressing rooms, a number which, admittedly, mystifies the writer (how many teams can play on the park at one time?) but can no doubt be explained; an underpass for the 'safe and discreet arrival of players and official guests', which means we can't shout at the fat cats any more.

This is only the beginning. There are also warm-up areas for players where they can tweak their hamstrings in private, as well as well-furnished comfortable lounges and more well-furnished and comfortable lounges. It seems there are also Royal Boxes, plural, presumably in case Balmoral is deserted for the cup final one fine day.

For those of us who earn a living offering our thoughts on the great game, the media facilities appear to be remarkable. The word 'appear' in this context allows for personal experience of the brave new technological centre before final verdict is pronounced. However, it



is hard to see how it can fail. Phones, fax machines, modems, recording booths, TV studios, dark-rooms, wire facilities and other technical resources will be readily available.

Ally this to media conference halls and a press box area which will include televisions to allow us to make life even more difficult for referees and you can see that the homework on what will be required to become one of Europe's most wanted venues has been done thoroughly.

For others who will not be at their work in the stadium when the great occasions take place, there are 26 executive boxes, 13 on each side of the Royal Box area.

Much of this has been achieved with the help of the Millennium Commission who provided a grant of £23 million, while further contributions came from the Lottery Sports Fund, The Football Trust, The Scottish Office, the European Regional Development Fund, Glasgow Development Agency and Glasgow City Council.

The innovative features go on and on. For instance, there will be hospital facilities on site, a Sports Medical Research and Rehabilitation Centre and a lecture theatre-cum-conference hall. The medical department will be available to private clients as well as football clubs and national sporting organisations.

The Scottish National Museum of Football, a project that perhaps should have been established many years ago, will inevitably provide a magnet for

nostalgia sufferers. But the modern fan will be just as fascinated as it will provide an interactive visitor centre aimed at all generations, with simulated activities, films and videos and displays of memorabilia. It will also be able to be used as a study centre for students and schoolchildren who wish to follow themes based on the game.

Numerous bars and restaurants will make the new Hampden a complete little world of its own on the south side of Glasgow.

The capacity will be 52,000, less than half of the throngs that used to pack into its sloped terracings. They will be a deal more comfortable, but whether or not they will be better entertained is a question that is best left for a later date.

The new South Stand holds 17,500 and, as with the West Stand, has been constructed with a cantilevered roof to guarantee uninterrupted viewing.

It would be nice to think that today's Tennents Scottish Cup final, which marks the rebirth of the national stadium, would do so for all the right reasons. We can but hope.

In the meantime, whatever angle you took when the rebirth of the national stadium was mooted, the great deed is done, and maybe doubters and supporters alike will feel a tingle of pride when we see what has been achieved.

IAN PAUL
The Herald



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Regi Blinker challenges Joe Miller for the ball



Jorg Albertz shoots for the goal watched by the referee



ACTION FROM THE SEMI-FINALS



Neil McCann celebrating after scoring for Rangers



Jackie McNamara skips through the United defence





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SHOW US YOUR MEDALS!

You can understand why come footballers might not be able to bear to look at the medal pressed into the palm of their hand following today's match when, as the Tennents Scottish Cup runners-up, they suddenly find themselves the outcasts at a party.

When given the small presentation box emblazoned with the badge of the Scottish Football Association, their first instinct might be to throw the case as far away as possible, as if the runners-up medal was actually a contractible disease.

A runners-up medal represents tears of sadness rather than joy. But, unlike in most sports, where finishing first and second is marked by gold and silver, the medals given to the runners-up in the Scottish Cup are almost identical to those given to the winners. Except for the inscription on the back, that is.

"Both medals are gold with the winner's medal slightly thicker," begins Graeme Horn of the Glasgow-based jewellers who have been making the cup final medals for as long as anyone can remember. "The design is the same, the blue enamel around the words 'Scottish Football Association' is the same, the Lion Rampant in the middle of the medal is the same."

Tradition is part of the Scottish Cup appeal. Graeme is the latest generation of the family firm, Robert Horn, who have been top of Scottish football's medal-making league for almost a century. "We were established in

1882 and have been based in Glasgow's St. Enoch Square since day one. And although we didn't make the medals during the first years of the Scottish Cup, we've been doing it for decades, at least 50 years, maybe a lot more, I don't have the exact date."



Each year, the order comes in from the Scottish Football Association and, each year, the same manufacturing process – little changed from the Middle Ages – begins. A mould punches the basic design onto softened gold which is then cut to size before being enamelled, polished and engraved. This year, 14 winners' medals, 14 runners-up medals and four slightly-different looking medals (without enamel) for the match officials. No more, no less.

Each medal is no bigger than a fifty pence piece, costs £200 to make and – especially if you are a winner – is potentially priceless.

Horn's client list includes the Scottish Football League, the Highland League, the Scottish Junior Football Association and now the Scottish Premier League.

Though the Football Association in England began its cup competition two years ahead of its Scottish counterpart, the actual trophy handed over to the captain of their winning team is version number three, made as recently as 1910/11.

This means that the trophy being contested for today by Celtic and Rangers is the oldest of its type in the world.

And though Robert Horn, jewellers were not even in existence when the Scottish Cup enjoyed its first final – in 1874, when Queen's Park defeated Clydesdale – they are now inextricably linked with that piece of silverware too.

Continues Graeme Horn: "You know at the Open Golf Championship, there is an engraver on standby to inscribe the name of the winner onto the famous Claret Jug just before it is handed over.

"It is the same for the Scottish Cup: between the full-time whistle being blown and the cup being held aloft by the winning captain, the name of the winning team will be on the trophy. This year, it shouldn't take too long to do the engraving.

"We would have been a bit more worried had Inverness Caledonian Thistle made it to the final!"

Some of the coveted Scottish Cup medals



MIKE WILSON

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT IN GLASGOW



Tommy Wilson

Tommy Wilson is the hot-gospeller of Scottish soccer . . . taking the good word to every part of the country.

And the good word is: **all for football – football for all.**

This is the slogan the Scottish Football Association is using to put across the message of their nationwide scheme run by their Community Coaches and Football Development Officers.

And ex-Kilmarnock and St. Mirren full-back Tommy – he was a member of the 1987 Saints side which beat Dundee United to lift the Scottish Cup at Hampden – is happy to confirm that the message is being spread far and wide.

“I’ve been to parts of Scotland I have never seen before” says 37-year-old Tommy who is ostensibly based in headquarters inside the Glasgow Council offices in Glasgow’s High Street.

“I can be in Campbeltown one week – the Orkneys the next . . . Arran the next. It can mean long days, but it is worth it.”

Since it was started in 1990 under the direction of coordinator, Jim Fleeting, up in the SFA offices in Park Gardens, the Community Scheme has flourished to

such an extent that it has gone from the original squad of four or five coaches to the point now where there are around 30 working in all airts and parts of Scotland.

And included are two women coaches, Angela Hind and Nicola Barbour.

In the early stages, the coaches were mainly ex-footballers.

“But now there are more and more P.E. graduates from university coming into the scheme. But they all have a background in football,” says Tommy.

“A big part of the job is putting your thoughts down on paper, doing presentations and organising admin.”

The aims of the scheme are wide-ranging. Fostering football across all levels of the community trying to develop players and coaches. Football for anyone, boy or girl, regardless of their social background.

“And we are also trying to help the Scottish clubs develop their own young players” says Tommy.

“We have recreational football for women and the over 50s as well as children and the disabled.”

The funding for the scheme comes from various sources – the Glasgow operation is a joint operation between the City Council and the SFA.

There are also private sponsors who support the scheme and organisations like Scotland against Drugs and British Telecom.

Kids enjoying some football practice





Craig Brown and Colin Hendry coach some youngsters in Glasgow

In Glasgow alone there are 70 coaching sessions a week with around 1,500 children involved, and the aim is to double that figure.

And throughout the country 1,000 adults – parents, teachers, boys club managers, students – have been through the SFA coaching scheme.

It is too early yet to see if the coaching will produce any young talent which will make it through to big time football.

“We only started seven years ago, so it will take a long time to see how eight-year-olds progress” says Tommy.

“But a couple of years ago we had a development squad in conjunction with Glasgow Schools football. We had around 20 players working at Hampden thanks to the help from Queen’s Park and now I think 15 of them have gone on to join full time clubs.”

One of the expanding areas in football is the development of the women’s game. It is reckoned to have the biggest growth of any women’s sport in the country.

“It is huge in America” says Tommy. “The biggest women’s participation sport of them all in the States.”

The community scheme works all year round – outdoors in the summer and inside in the winter. And there are various courses during the holiday period . . . come and try sessions, football festivals.

One of the main concerns is the battle against drugs, with a festival last year in the Strathclyde region having 8,000 people take part.

Planned are play the game centres for youths where

they can play football at night, but will also be given advice on healthy living by an expert. And there will be night leagues based on the idea in operation in Chicago whereby youngsters at risk from crime and drugs are taken off the street and involved in organised sport.

Part of Tommy’s remit now is to take a big van loaded with all the goals, balls and equipment to places up north like Orkney, Portree, Wick, Dingwall, Barra, Benbecula and down to the Borders, Girvan and across to Arran and Mull.

“I thought I was going to be a coach, not a coach driver” jokes Tommy. “I don’t think there is anywhere indeed where we are not taking football for all . . .”

DIXON BLACKSTOCK
Saturday Times

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TODAY'S MATCH OFFICIALS

IN THE MIDDLE - HUGH DALLAS

Happiness - and not ugliness - will be the enduring memory of a refereeing career for Hugh Dallas.

And Scotland's outstanding referee is adamant that the ugly events of one Sunday evening in the east end of Glasgow earlier this month will not cloud his refereeing career.

As he prepared to take charge of today's Old Firm Tennents Scottish Cup final the Motherwell whistler reminisced and said: "Refereeing has given me the opportunity to be involved in so many outstanding occasions and taken me to so many places I would not have visited - the World Cup, the Olympic Games, Hong Kong for the Carlsberg Cup are simply a few of the many."

On the World Cup Dallas remembers: "It has to be the highlight as it was a wonderful occasion when I took charge of the quarter-final tie between France - the eventual winners - and Italy in the Stade de France in front of 80,000 very excited fans. Even going to the stadium that day was special for there was such a feeling of anticipation and excitement among the supporters as they streamed along the streets.

"There is a great rivalry between the two countries - it is like a local derby - and yet that day both sets of supporters got on so well."

On the Olympic Games: "Another outstanding occasion with all the excitement of the games being held at Atlanta in America and to be part of such a huge event." He took charge of three matches in four days, but was back on UEFA Cup duty just a week later.

On Hong Kong: "I have been at the tournament in Hong Kong twice and it is so pleasant - the watching supporters actually applaud decisions being made by the referees! I don't know how they treat their own local referees but it was quite an experience to be applauded. Having travelled a fair bit I know that spectators generally are not so harsh in their judgement of visiting referees but those in Hong Kong really do not heavily criticise."

But despite the difficulties and the ever expanding European and World programme the Motherwell whistler does not believe that full-time referees will become standard in his own country.

"I know that other countries including England are looking at that possibility but I believe we are a long way off from that here in Scotland.

"There are too many questions still to be solved - a three year contract is not long and would people who have a good job outside the game be prepared to give that up?; what about pension rights?, and so on and on.



"I am sure there would be benefits in full-time referees but can you imagine the pressure they would be under?"

Hugh's latest major assignment was the UEFA Cup final earlier this month, played between Parma and Marseille in Moscow which Parma won 3-0. Coming between two Old Firm matches, it has hardly given him a chance to draw breath, far less hide from the intense media scrutiny he has undergone.

But this was, in fact, the seventh UEFA match this season he has handled - earlier trips have taken him to Norway, Spain, Turkey, Italy, Greece and Israel - and his season concludes next Saturday, military action permitting, with the Euro 2000 qualifier between Macedonia and Croatia.

His season has also taken him to Egypt for the local derby between Al Ahli and Zimalek, a match which he had to stop twice when missiles were thrown on to the pitch. So, all things considered, whatever he encounters this afternoon, it is likely Hugh has seen it before.

He would be the first to acknowledge that a referee is part of a team, and Hugh's colleagues today are Assistant Referees, **David Doig** from Tranent and **John Love** of Airdrie, while the Fourth Official is experienced Grade One referee, **Kenny Clark** from Paisley.

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