

RANGERS

Rangers Football Club Official Matchday Programme



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CELTIC**

THURSDAY JANUARY 2ND 1997

KICK-OFF 6.30PM

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10 IN A ROW!



TONIGHT'S SQUADS

RANGERS

MANAGER: Walter Smith

OTHER CANDIDATES: McInnes, Moore, Steven, Miller, McLaren, Shields



CELTIC

MANAGER: Tommy Burns

OTHER CANDIDATES: Donnelly, Wieghorst, McStay, Hay, McLaughlin, Marshall

Smith hopes for New Year cheer



'No-one could deny the last Old Firm game was incredible'

EXTEND a warm welcome to both sets of fans for this Old Firm match and I wish you all the best for the New Year.

I also welcome Tommy Burns and his team to Ibrox this evening for this, the third Old Firm game of the season.

There is no introduction needed to such a historic match – at whatever time of the year – but the Ne'erday fixture is traditionally the biggest

match between the two clubs all season.

In recent games we have managed to get the better of Celtic but, as usual, I predict a very difficult match.

In our last encounter at Parkhead, a Brian Laudrup first half goal secured victory.

But I don't think there is any supporter here who would deny that game was incredible.

The second half burst into action with Paul Gascoigne having the chance to make it 2-0 from the spot, but his effort was well saved by Stewart Kerr.

Then, minutes later, at the other end of the park, Andy Goram was our saviour as he kept out a Pierre van

Hooijdonk penalty which would have levelled the scores.

It was, indeed, a match to remember and it made fantastic viewing for the millions watching on satellite television – especially the neutrals!

The tension for supporters of both sides was unbearable, however.

I would hope the teams will once again serve up another action-packed match tonight at Ibrox.

In our other clash here at the start of the season we had a successful 2-0 win with goals from captain Richard Gough and Paul Gascoigne.

That was another closely fought match and both our goals were scored in the second half – the second a breakaway towards the end after Celtic struck the bar.

I think if you look at a number of the Old Firm encounters from recent years, most have been entertaining.

That is without the doubt the most important aspect of all when supporters go and watch a game.

Sure, a win is top priority for the players and the clubs, but a poor match, in my opinion, helps no-one.

But it is not often you see a dull Old Firm affair and I hope that will be the case again this evening.

Once again, I hope you all have had a good festive period, and please enjoy the game.

Thanks for your support.



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COVER PIC... Paul Gascoigne



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European Cup Winners' Cup
Winners 1972
Runners-up 1961, 1967
Scottish League Champions (46)
1891*, 1899, 1900, 1901,
1902, 1911, 1912, 1913,
1918, 1920, 1921, 1923,
1924, 1925, 1927, 1928,
1929, 1930, 1931, 1933,
1934, 1935, 1937, 1939,
1947, 1949, 1950, 1953,
1956, 1957, 1959, 1961,
1963, 1964, 1975, 1976,
1978, 1987, 1989, 1990,
1991, 1992, 1993, 1994,
1995, 1996.

*The Championship was shared with Dumbarton in 1891.
Scottish Cup Winners (27)
1894, 1897, 1898, 1903,
1928, 1930, 1932, 1934,
1935, 1936, 1948, 1949,
1950, 1953, 1960, 1962,
1963, 1964, 1966, 1973,
1976, 1978, 1979, 1981,
1992, 1993, 1996.

Scottish League Cup Winners (20)
1948/49, 1948/49, 1960/61,
1961/62, 1963/64, 1964/65,
1970/71, 1975/76, 1977/78,
1978/79, 1981/82, 1983/84,
1984/85, 1986/87, 1987/88,
1988/89, 1990/91, 1992/93,
1993/94, 1996/97



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TONIGHT'S VISITORS



FOR the third time this season the two big guns of Scottish football go head to head and just like the previous two meetings it is of vast importance for both sides.

Since the big kick-off on August 10 there has been very little to separate the Glasgow giants and Rangers' two league victories over Celtic are proving more and more significant as each ball is kicked.

Manager Tommy Burns and his Bhoys have had their fair share of problems off the park with injuries to captain **PAUL McSTAY** and fellow midfielder **PHIL O'DONNELL**.

But it is the much speculated issue with Dutch international **PIERRE VAN HOOIJDONK** that is causing most misery for Tommy Burns and the Celtic followers.

The last time these sides clashed the Dutchman was a notable absentee from the Celtic line-up and ever since that day the drama of a pay dispute between Hooijdonk and the club has unfolded causing major unrest.

Although dropped from that match back in September Pierre has chipped in with some vital goals since then as well as making a name for himself on the international scene. He should start tonight's match despite his problems.



The continental partnership should be completed with Portuguese international **JORGE CADETE**.

Cadete has gone through a lean spell in recent weeks and he knows there will be no better place to get back on tracks than tonight at Ibrox.

Tommy Burns knows the strength of his frontline's ability – so much so that in December he proceeded to call off two league matches as a result of the duo being away on international duty.

Italian hot-head **PAOLO DI CANIO** will attempt to dazzle on

Celts aim their Gers

TONIGHT'S VISITORS

one of the wings with German ace **ANDREAS THOM** on the other.

Passionate Di Canio made the headlines for the wrong reasons in November, getting sent off against Hearts.

The Ex-AC Milan and Juventus star was saint and sinner on the day having just levelled the match at 2-2 only to be sent off seconds later.

Thom scored a total of five goals last season, the pick of the bunch coming against Rangers when he hit a screamer past Goram in the 3-3 thriller at Ibrox.

The battling **PETER GRANT** will play the holding role for the midfield and **SIMON DONNELLY** is likely to provide the attacking dimension from the centre of the park.

Donnelly missed only one league match from last season, scoring a total of six goals.

Ibrox will bring back nightmares for Scotland full-back **TOSH MCKINLAY** who was sent off in the September game.

Celtic were reduced to 10 men when McKinlay was given his marching orders for deliberate hand ball so he'll be out to make amends for that tonight.

Opposite full-back **JACKIE MacNAMARA** has been suffering from an injury which

'Paolo made all the wrong headlines in November'



he picked up against Motherwell but he is on the road to recovery and should feature this evening.

Deputy captain and record signing **ALAN STUBBS** will be in the centre of defence along with Scotland international **TOM BOYD**.

Stubbs has become a firm favourite with the Celtic fans since his move from Bolton for £3.5 million. Boyd is always a cool head at the back.

The No 1 jersey is up for grabs at the moment and is being fiercely contested by **STEWART KERR** and **GORDON MARSHALL**.

Marshall, who was Celtic's only ever present last season has been understudy to youngster Kerr ever since he was sent off against Motherwell earlier in the season.

Kerr has put in a string of solid performances - his highlight coming in the recent Old Firm clash when he saved a Paul Gascoigne penalty.

Front man **CHRIS HAY** is another option - he scored Celtic's only goal in the 2-1 defeat against Motherwell.

MORTEN WIEGHORST and **BRIAN McLAUGHLIN** are alternative candidates for a midfield role this evening.

to bust hoodoo!

TONIGHT'S VISITORS

Nickname: The Bhoys
Manager: Tommy Burns
Year of formation: 1888
Most capped player: Paul McStay (73 caps)
Most league points in a season: 83 (Premier League season 1995/96)
Most league goals scored by one player in a season: Jimmy McGrory (50, 1935/36)
Record Attendance: 92,000 (v Rangers, Jan 1938)
Record Victory: 11-0 (v Dundee, Oct 1895)
Record Defeat: 0-8 (v Motherwell, Apr 1937)
First strip: Green and white hoops, white shorts

Lowdown on the Bhoys...

Second strip: Yellow and black hoops
Ground: Celtic Park, 95 Kerrydale Street, Glasgow G40 9RE
Capacity: 50,600
Pitch Dimensions: 120yds x 74 yds
Ticket Office: 0141 551 8653

THIS SEASON

League Position - Second
Tennents Scottish Cup -
Coca-Cola Cup - Quarter-final (Hearts 0-1)

RESULTS MAKE GOOD

READING



IT is now eight matches since Celtic last tasted the sweetness of an Old Firm victory – and you can be sure they will be determined to put that right today.

And with two derby matches in the bag already this season it's the Gers who have come away with six vital championship points.

A 2-0 win was recorded at Ibrox early in the season, thanks to goals from captain Richard Gough and the irrepressible Paul Gascoigne.

And then in November it was Brian Laudrup's turn for glory as he fired home the only goal of an amazing game at Parkhead.

Gasza and Pierre van Hooijdonk both had penalties saved and a fox raced across the pitch and halted play for several minutes.

Will it be another night where Richard Gough and Andy Goram combine to break Celtic's hearts or will the Parkhead Bhoys finally lay their hoodoo to rest?

It's sure to be a breathtaking game.

EVERY OTHER SATURDAY

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AN EXPLOSIVE video production from Rangers featuring some incredible goals and spectacular action. ● With unrestricted access to Ibrox Stadium, the 'Every Other Saturday' cameras capture exclusive footage of the Rangers training schedule – in the gym and at the training ground – in the build-up to a dazzling match day at Ibrox. ● And Walter Smith, Richard Gough and Brian Laudrup choose their most memorable matches. ● 'Every Other Saturday' also includes a fascinating look at the treatment of players injuries by club physio Grant Downie. ● An in-depth profile of midfield dynamo Stuart McCall and a review of a tense and exciting season so far rounds up a candid and superbly entertaining production. ● 'Every Other Saturday' is a 'must' for all Rangers supporters and an insight for football fans everywhere.

The first ever look behind the scenes at the Rangers training schedule plus footage of Rangers' sensational 1-0 win over Celtic at Celtic Park on 14 November 96

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WHAT'S GOING ON...



Awards flow for Rangers players

A CLUTCH of Player of the Year awards have been handed out recently by supporters.

Brian Laudrup was the choice of the Mossley Loyal in Manchester while Paul Gascoigne got the vote of the Castle Lock RSC.

The Harp & Crown RSC in Northern Ireland, meanwhile, plumped for Captain Courage Richard Gough.

Members from all three clubs are pictured handing over their awards to the players at Ibrox.



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INSIDE IBROX INFO...

NO SMOKING

Please note in accordance with the stadium safety certificate smoking is prohibited in the Main Deck of the Main Stand and in the Club Deck concourse area, also in the Main Stand.

CROWD SAFETY

A high-pitched pronounced horn signal will precede all important messages relating to crowd safety to catch the attention of all the supporters.

This signal, followed by a police voiceover transmission, is different to and distinct from any other message signals.

This ground is equipped with closed circuit television installed with the help of a grant from the Football Trust.

FIRST AID

First aid cover at Ibrox on matchdays is provided by volunteer members of St Andrew's Ambulance Corps.

If you would like to book first aid cover for your event, contact the St Andrew's Ambulance Association on 0141 332 4031.

WHAT'S GOING ON...



Get along to support Scotland's 'Bravedart'

TOP darts players will be battling it out on the Ibrox oche at the end of next week.

The Edmiston Suite is the venue for the inaugural Scottish Masters, organised by the World Darts Council.

The WDC's top 10 ranked players in the UK will be competing for a £21,000 prize fund on Saturday January 11.

Among those likely to feature are Jamie Harvey (pictured above left) plus other top names like Dennis Priestley, Phil Taylor and Bob Anderson.

The event will be broadcast by Sky in a series of one-hour transmissions from January 30 so expect the usual razzmatazz!

This darting spectacular is sure to be a popular draw and tickets (priced at only £5) are available from the Box Office Hotline on 0141 427 8995.

As well as the 10 WDC professionals taking part, there are six remaining places open to Scotland's best players.

Qualifying for Scots-born resident players takes place at the Edmiston Suite on Friday January 10 from 7pm.

Why don't you get yourself along and cheer on Local Hero Jamie Harvey from Barrhead - Scotland's very own "Bravedart"!

Baby joy for the Clelands



IBROX defender Alex Cleland got an early Christmas present when his wife Debbie gave birth to a baby boy.

Alexander Peter arrived just two weeks before Christmas and is the first addition to the Cleland household.

Mother and baby are both doing well and we wish the family all the best for the New Year.

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A-Z OF RANGERS

Q

QUEEN, JOHN

John Queen was tipped as a successor to the famous inside-forward Torry Gillick but found it difficult to break into the Rangers team of the mid-1950s.

Queen only played two first team matches for the Gers — one was a friendly against Manchester City in which he scored the winner.

QUEEN OF THE SOUTH

The Dumfries side were founded in 1919 but it was not until September 1933 that they first visited Ibrox.

Rangers won that game 5-1 — Willie Nicholson hit a hat-trick — and in November the Gers completed the double over Queens with a 4-0 triumph at Palmerston.

There was a shock when the teams first clashed in the Scottish Cup tournament in January 1936 — Queens won 1-0 to end Rangers' three year grip on the trophy.

The 1930s and 40s were something of a glory period for



'The Doonhamers' and they were regular First Division opponents for Rangers until the late 1950s.

In May 1953 the Gers clinched the Scottish championship after a tense 1-1 draw at Palmerston — Willie Waddell's goal gave Bill Struth's side the point they

needed to take the title on goal average.

Three years later Rangers and Queens made history together when Ibrox staged the first-ever floodlit Scottish League match.

The visitors were obviously dazzled because they crashed 8-0, five of the goals coming from Don Kichenbrand.

You have to go back to 1983-84 for the last competitive meeting of the sides, in that season's League Cup tournament.

Rangers won both matches of the two-legged tie and 20-year-old Alistair McCoist notched his first goal for the club in the 4-1 win at Palmerston.

QUEEN'S PARK

The famous amateur club were Scotland's leading side during the early days of football.

Initially, the Hampden aristocrats treated the fledgling Rangers team with disdain and refused to play them with their first eleven.

The teams first met in November 1875 at Hampden and, although the Gers lost 2-0, they impressed onlookers with the quality of their play.

Queen's, winners of six of the first nine Scottish Cups, undoubtedly held the upper hand over Rangers until the onset of professionalism in the 1890s.

The Glasgow sides last clashed on League business in season 1957-58 when the Light Blues triumphed in both games, 4-2 and 5-1.

More recently, the Spiders visited Ibrox for a 1991 Skol Cup tie and were on the receiving end of a 6-0 defeat with Mo Johnston hitting four of the goals.

Many famous Rangers began their careers with the Spiders — RS McColl, Alan Morton, Bobby Brown, Ian McColl and Derek Parlane to name a few.

QUEENS PARK RANGERS

Rangers met their West London namesakes in a 1969 friendly at Loftus Road.

A rather tempestuous match ended 3-3 with the Gers' goals

DJ is so quick off the mark

A-Z OF RANGERS

Ally, king of the quips and queries

BY THE NECK ...
Ally McCoist and
fellow Question of
Sport captain John
Parrott at Ibrox
recently

coming from Willie Henderson, Dave Smith and an own goal by defender Ron Hunt.

Several big name stars have played for both the Glasgow and London Rangers — Chris Woods, Nigel Spackman, Mark Falco, Trevor Francis (pictured above left), Ray Wilkins, Mark Hateley and John Spencer.

QUEENSLAND

Rangers first played in this Australian state in June 1975 when they lost 1-0 to the Aussie national team in the capital, Brisbane.

The match was part of a 27 day world tour, covering 30,000 miles and eight matches in Canada, New Zealand and Australia.

QUESTION OF SPORT, A

The BBC quiz show has been running for 26 years and, in recent times, our own Ally McCoist has proved a highly-popular guest and team captain.

QUESTIONNAIRES

In 1989 the *Rangers News* ran a questionnaire asking readers who they considered to be

Scotland's top referee.

6.9% voted for Aberdeen skipper Willie Miller!

QUICK GOALS

Rangers' fastest goal of modern times was scored by Gordon Durie in the April 1995 win at Tannadice.

'Jukebox' was on the mark against Dundee United after only 11.28 seconds of play!

Derek Johnstone, meanwhile, claims to have scored even BEFORE kick-off time in 1976.

DJ planted a header in the Hearts net after just 42 seconds of the Scottish Cup Final and, since the match started a minute early, the Gers were actually 1-0 up before 3 o'clock.

QUIZ BALL

Between 1967 and 1970, Rangers appeared three times on BBC's Quiz Ball, the TV show which featured a general knowledge contest between football teams.

Defender Dave Smith was an ever-present in the Gers line-up which was eliminated in the first round on each occasion.

Guest supporters who took part included actor Rikki Fulton

(The Rev I.M. Jolly) and songwriter Bill Martin.

QUIZ QUESTIONS

One of the most popular and enduring Rangers quiz questions of recent years is the following:

'Which player scored five goals past Chris Woods during the English keeper's time at Ibrox?'

The Answer: Terry Butcher (five own goals!)

QUIZZES, RADIO

Ibrox midfielder Bobby Russell was a member of the Rangers fans team which competed in Radio Clyde's 'Kick-Off' football quiz in 1982.

QUOTATIONS

Perhaps not surprisingly, the irrepressible Ally McCoist is the Gers' biggest contributor to the book of *Scottish Football Quotations*, published in 1994.

One of Coisty's classic lines is his reply to the news that he had come fifth in a 'world's best-looking sportsman' poll:

'I was thrilled until I learned that Ivan Lendl had finished above me!' he quipped. Nice one, Ally.

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RANGERS FUN PAGE



RANGERS Family Club

HI TEDS

HAPPY New Year and welcome to Ibrox for this evening's big game against Celtic.

I would like to offer a big Broxi welcome to young **STEVEN SCOTT** in particular.

The seven-year-old is our mascot for the game with Tommy Burns' side.

I'm sure tonight's big match will be a real cracker for all the fans present in the stadium.

Let's hope we can get the result we want tonight to start 1997 with a real bang!

Hope you like our new-look page with some puzzles and quizzes to keep you scratching your heads at half-time!

And we want to hear from **YOU** so we can feature some of your ideas and letters as well.

Send them to the usual address and I look forward to receiving them as the season progresses.

All the best

BROXI

TONIGHT'S MASCOT

Name: **Steven Scott**

Age: **Seven**

Town/City:

Fallin, by

Stirling

Hobbies:

Football

Favourite

Player: **Ally**

McCoist

Favourite Goal:

Any of Ally's

Ambition: **To**

play for Rangers



WHO'S IN THE BROX?

Which three Ibrox youngsters are hidden in the following anagrams?



I DO DUG NAVY



GRAFH GRAY TANK



NOSY BARN CHOIR L



GUESS WHO?

RANGERS FUN PAGE



QUIZWORD

Take the first letter in the surname of these famous football stars and re-arrange them to form the surname of a famous Rangers player:

1. AUXERRE MIDFIELDER
.....
2. AC MILAN DEFENDER
.....
3. GRASSHOPPERS MIDFIELDER
.....
4. AJAX MIDFIELDER
.....

PICTURE PUZZLE

Who is the odd one out between these four Gers players and why?



GORDON DURIE



IAN DURRANT



TREVOR STEVEN



STUART McCALL

ANSWERS

PICTURE PUZZLE: The answer is GORDON DURIE - HE IS THE ONLY ONE NOT TO HAVE PLAYED FOR EVERTON DURING HIS CAREER
 WHO'S IN THE BROX: David Young, Frank Haggarty, Barry Nicholson
 QUIZWORD: MOUSSA SAIB, MAURO TASSOTTI, ANTONIO ESPOSITO, RICHARD WITSCHEG = COLIN WEST
 GUESS WHO?: ALLY McCOIST

STEP BACK IN TIME

Five days of a 1910

RANGERS, like most of the top clubs, carry a group of qualified coaches and a team of physiotherapists armed with state of the art equipment to combat the injuries which are a consequence of the rigours of the modern game.

The coaches take the players through various fitness regimes while

never a day goes by without some activity in the treatment room with the players working feverishly to return players quickly to the fray.

In each *Matchday Programme* we have examined fascinating documents recovered from the Ibrox archives.

In this edition, club historian David Mason reveals the trainer's diary

of Season 1910-11 which provides an illuminating insight to the day to day life of the backroom staff and players at Ibrox in that period.

The meticulous records of trainer James Wilson indicate a quite strict and varied training regime around that period, with quite primitive but apparently successful treatments used to deal with injuries.

Due to work commitments some players trained during the day and others in the evening. Only rarely did players attend both sessions.

The typical week's training included the following regime:

MONDAY – "four mile walk in country with heavy sweaters" followed by sprinting then "punching the ball, skipping rope and other exercises."

TUESDAY – "shooting practice at goal for an hour" followed by sprinting, skipping rope, punching the ball etc.

WEDNESDAY – "running and walking on the track followed by skipping rope, punching the ball, Indian clubs etc."

THURSDAY – "one hour's practice shooting for goal and afterwards had a hot bath." In the afternoon they had the

The Ibrox baths that even played an important part in the team's routine in the early 1900s



usual sprinting and exercises and "most of them had their legs massaged with olive oil."

FRIDAY – sprinting and legs massaged.

During the season as players sustained injuries, which appeared to be largely muscle strains, the treatment included the application of hot treatments and massage.

For any cuts or more serious problems, the Doctor (Cassie) was on hand to administer stitches.

In the midst of the season as bruises accumulated, the players enjoyed "hot soda baths"

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TO QUALIFY

Scottish players wishing to qualify can do so on Friday 10th January at the Edmiston Suite. Register 7pm. Entry £5.00. Spectators free. First 64 entries are guaranteed to play. Six will qualify to the last 16 to be played on Saturday 11th where the minimum guaranteed Prize Money is £500.



STEP BACK IN TIME

in the life Gers doc



after training.

One of the first team and a notable player at the time, George Law, sustained a wrench to his knee ligaments early in the season.

He had his leg put in the "steamer" for 20 minutes each day. Within a couple of weeks he was fit again, although a little troubled by a corn!

By December, however, some three months after his last injury, he was back in the treatment room with pain arising from "a thickening on the side of the bone behind the knee."

With the winter spell taking its toll, several players were taken to

Tron for "special training". They returned there again in February but Law's troubles continued.

Come April, Law was back in the side playing regularly although others succumbed, including James Bowie, who had just joined from Queen's Park and went on to become Chairman.

Despite the injury traumas, the training routine had prepared the players well and from New Year's Day until the end of the season Rangers lost only one game, a cup tie against Dundee.

It took the club to its first Championship in nine years and only the sixth in its history. They followed that with the title in the next two seasons.

Law had already made his mark in the game winning caps for Scotland against the home nations in 1910.

The following season, tempted by Leeds United, he departed - later ruing the day he left Ibrox.

Trainer Wilson's records provide fascinating reading, including details of his expenses throughout the season.

He took brandy and port along for every game with six lemons and grapes! It was unclear if it was for the players to tipple before, during or

after the game.

He also bought "Monkey brand soap" for the baths and elastic for underpants. He even had to pay the chimney sweep!

All in all, he appeared to fulfil the function of trainer, physio and kit man.

It has to be said, however, that in the 17 years in which he served Rangers the players appeared to be turned out

in sound condition.

During this period he saw the side win the Championship seven times, the Scottish Cup twice and the Glasgow Cup eight times.

He died in 1914 and was replaced by another great trainer - William Struth.

But his diary is a testament to his efforts for the club.

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HALF-TIME QUIZ

1. Brian Laudrup fired Rangers' winner at Parkhead in November. Did the goal come after seven, 17 or 27 minutes play?

2. Can you remember the result of last year's New Year Old Firm clash?

3. From which club did Celtic sign Jorge Cadete?

4. Paul Gascoigne has now scored in derby matches in three major cities. Name them.

5. In the last Old Firm match at Ibrox, the Rangers starting line-up contained only one player born in Scotland. Who was he?

6. In which year did Celtic celebrate

their centenary?

7. Jorg Albertz's old club ended the Celts' UEFA Cup ambitions this season. Who are they?

8. Billy McNeill left Celtic in 1983 to become boss of which English side?

9. Against which team did Scott Wilson make his first team debut for Rangers in October?

10. What are the colours of Celtic's current away strip?

11. Who bagged five goals for Chelsea in a Second Division match at Walsall in February 1986?

12. In what position did Willie Mathieson play for Rangers?

13. Which is the only Scottish club called 'City'?

14. Who captained Rangers in their victorious Scottish League campaigns of 1986-87 and 1988-89?

15. Before he joined Sky Sports as a full-time pundit, Andy Gray was assistant manager of which club?

16. What unusual reason caused the abandonment of the Chester-Plymouth League Cup tie of

September 1981?

17. Who joined Rangers from Queen of the South in October 1984?

18. What was Chris Waddle's first League club?

19. Who was the 'Young Player of the Tournament' at the 1990 World Cup finals?

20. Who celebrated his goal in the 1992 New Year Old Firm game by vaulting the advertising boards and embarking on a mini-lap of honour?

ANSWERS

1. Seven minutes. 2. 0-0. 3. Sporting Lisbon. 4. London, Rome and Glasgow. 5. Alex Cleland. 6. 1988. 7. Hamburg. 8. Manchester City. 9. Ajax. 10. Yellow and black. 11. Gordon Durie. 12. Left back. 13. Brechin City. 14. Terry Butcher. 15. Aston Villa. 16. A broken goal-post. 17. Ted McMinn. 18. Newcastle United. 19. Paul Gascoigne. 20. John Brown.



SHOT ON ... Laudrup scores the only goal of the last Old Firm game but in what minute was it scored?



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THEY PLAYED AT IBROX

RED DEVIL HAS GOT THE BLUES

RUGGED defender Steve Bruce has a display cabinet full of medals in his house after a glittering career which spanned a decade at Old Trafford.

But now he has the more daunting task of lifting silverware for his new side at St Andrew's – home of Birmingham City.

Bruce was left wondering where his future in the game lay after deciding to leave Manchester United.

But he wasn't left contemplating the dreaded soccer scrap-heap, far from it ... it was what direction his footballing career was going to take.

Such is the respect shown to Bruce down south, he was linked with moves to Wolves and Derby. Not as a player – as BOSS!

But the no-nonsense defender was eager to continue playing football and he agreed to join the Blues.

Trevor Francis was delighted to get his man and it's no wonder why after a success-laden 10 seasons in the top flight.

The names Bruce and Pallister in English football were once regarded as the

BEST central defenders in the country.

Like Richard Gough at Ibrox, Bruce is the type of player who keeps a high fitness level and plays EVERY game like it's his last.

Not that that means he's going to hang his boots up quite yet!

He's been joined at City by the likes of Barry Horne, Mike Newell, Gary Ablett and Paul Furlong and after a slow start they've started to knock out some impressive results.

Time will tell how long Bruce continues before he is, undoubtedly, lured into management, for his commitment is unquestionable.

Although he played at Ibrox, he never quite managed to make it onto the field against Rangers!

In fact, Bruce made the trip up the M6 with United to play against Newcastle United when the Reds competed in the Ibrox International Challenge Trophy in 1994.

He was on the bench when a David May own goal gave Gers victory in an explosive match which also saw Eric Cantona being sent off.





Auxerre boss Guy Roux

John's on top of the world!

JOHNS COLLINS experienced a new high when his impressive Monaco millionaires surged clear at the top of the French league.

It's a new feeling for the former Celtic star and it capped a fantastic first half of the season on the continent.

Collins headed for this exquisite corner of southern Europe following a successful Euro 96 with Scotland.

His outstanding displays for Celtic last season impressed Monaco boss Jean Tigana.

And under the new Bosman ruling Monaco, one of

Europe's richest clubs, landed Collins on a free transfer.

He's been an immediate success and this is the first time in over three years that the tiny principality have topped the French First Division.

Tigana's side leapfrogged Paris St Germain into first spot and were immediately installed as favourites to remain there for the rest of the season by the bookmakers.

Monaco are also through to the quarter-finals of both the French and UEFA Cup competitions.

In the European tournament John

Collins' team have been paired with Kevin Keegan's Premiership entertainers Newcastle.

It promises to be the tie of the round with the elegance of the French up against the swashbuckling cavalier approach of the Geordies.

And on recent form Monaco must be favourites to progress after two impressive victories in the earlier rounds over German Bundesliga teams.

They easily disposed of Borussia Monchengladbach and in the last round Hamburg were swept aside 5-0 on aggregate.

Yet considering their wealth and their

superb Louis II stadium, Monaco are not a side filled with household names.

Apart from Collins and a few French internationals they are very much a team of unknowns comprising a host of young new talents from Africa and South America.

Brazilian Sonny Anderson is the best of a great bunch and he's the club's top scorer this season.

But Collins is the man who pulls the strings and he's flourishing in France both on and off the park.

He's enjoying the lavish lifestyle which stardom brings but he's also playing the best football of his career to go with it.

'Collins is pulling the strings'

EUROPEAN SPOTLIGHT



.....
John Collins has been having a ball at Monaco since joining them from Celtic in the summer
.....

Elsewhere in France other Scottish players Jamie Fullarton, Allan Johnston and Gary Smith have suffered mixed fortunes.

Former Scotland Under-21 and St Mirren star Fullarton was one of the first Scots to take advantage of the Bosman ruling.

And the 22-year-old has been one of the finds of the season with shock side Bastia.

The team from Corsica, at the time of writing, were lying in third spot in the league just behind Monaco and PSG.

But things haven't gone so well for Gary Smith and Allan Johnston at Rennes.

Aberdeen old boy

Smith has hardly kicked a ball while Johnston has struggled to hold down a regular first team slot.

The former Hearts man has been on the bench for their last four games although he's still loving life across the Channel.

Rennes, who are currently mid-table, have an outstanding home record yet incredibly they haven't won an away match for nearly two years.

After a good start to the season Auxerre have struggled away from home and faltered in recent weeks.

Guy Roux's side have little chance of retaining their title and look like concentrating all their efforts on the Champions League.

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Sweet memories

of Ne'erday clash



AFTER a career spanning over a decade with the likes of Everton, Marseille and Rangers, Gers midfielder Trevor Steven has a host of memories from the past.

But one of his most endearing, and certainly sensational, was when he scored at Ibrox four years ago today... in the Old Firm clash.

The fixture, which is without doubt the greatest club game in the world, fires up emotions and, at times, brings out the best in players.

The opposite often happens as well – and although it wasn't a scintillating performance that day by Rangers it's one Trev will not forget in a hurry.

He scored the winner against Liam Brady's

Celtic in the 1993 Ne'erday clash as a STRIKER up front with Mark Hateley.

Since then he's missed a bundle of derby games and has only recently got back into the groove – but he'll relish the chance to play against the Celts tonight.

"I have some good memories of that game from the past," he said.

"No matter what the league standings are it's like the biggest game of the season because it's the half-way stage in the league.

"I must admit I had one of my finer moments against Celtic in 1993 when we won 1-0.

"I have many happy memories from football over the years, and that

CONTINUED ON PAGE 30

PLAYER PROFILE



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 29

rates with the best of them.

"But everyone at Rangers knows tonight's match will be a very difficult one – saying that, when do you ever get an easy Old Firm match?"

Steven has gone through all kinds of emotions in the last season or so as he's been fraught with injury problems.

At one stage he even thought his time in the game was up.

After returning at the start of the season against Raith Rovers, Steven had to undergo another calf muscle operation which looked at one time as if it would never heal.

"To be honest I thought the time had come to hang up my boots with the problems I've had," he said.

"Thankfully that's not been the case as I don't know what I would have done instead.

"Now, I'm looking forward to being involved in as many squads as it feels like I've been out of the side for YEARS.

"In the last four

months I have fallen to utter despair. I've hit lows I've never known before."

Trev explained that as hard as he kept on plugging away he would be held back by his injury.

"No matter what I was trying to do I was making no progress at all," he said.

"I set up a schedule for myself and I'm so fortunate it's gone well.

"It was very difficult for me thinking 'I'll never play for Rangers again'.

"It was not a pleasant thought at all.

"A couple of months ago I wasn't sure what I'd be doing with myself; How your fortune can turn.

"There was always something at the back of my mind but I have a routine which I stick to away from the field in my preparation for games."

Trevor admits a few friendly words of wisdom from team-mate Ally McCoist helped him through his troubles – and he's even started copying some of Coisty's training methods!

He added: "I'm a lot happier now with my training and so far it's working.

"I assess the work that is needed for



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SPOTLIGHT

Anguish over for Trevor



games and it certainly seems to be doing the trick.

"Coisty has said before that he prepares for games making sure his body is right and his mind is right – never mind just bursting a gut in training.

"But I understand no footballer can ever say, 'there'll be no more injuries' but I certainly don't feel injury prone or fragile and that's good.

"Who knows what is round the corner?

"But I think I'm now prepared to take anything that comes my way."

Steven realises his ability was brought into question and although it hurt his pride he KNEW he wasn't

finished yet.

And he confesses it has made him a stronger person.

He said: "There are people who have doubted my ability recently because I have not been playing, and that's why I took so much out of my first game back against Dunfermline.

"I think the whole experience for me has made me a mentally tougher person.

"I can't blame people for writing me off but it's nice to refresh a few memories.

"I'm feeling more confident than ever and very much looking forward to the rest of the season – I just hope it continues well for me."

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RESERVE ROUND-UP

RANGERS' second string have been the undoubted Jekyll and Hyde characters of the Premier Reserve League so far this season.

Their performances have either been tinged with brilliance or have been simply quite abysmal.

However after an indifferent string of results John Brown and John McGregor's side have shown a lot more consistency in recent matches.

And the Ibrox side currently lie in second place behind Hearts after securing good wins against Celtic and Raith Rovers.

To be fair Rangers have chosen to blood their promising young players in this year's reserve campaign.

In most second string games this term the Gers have fielded a number of youth players in their line-up.

And already their policy seems to be paying off as a string of talented youngsters continue to rise through the ranks.

Darren Fitzgerald is top scorer for both the youths and the reserves while Michael Stone has been immense following his switch from attack into defence.

Here we look back on the reserves' up and down start to the season:

After an undefeated pre-season campaign Rangers kicked off the defence of their



Jazz Juttla

league title with a convincing 4-0 win over Raith Rovers back in August.

It was a remarkable performance from the Gers babes considering Raith fielded a full strength side.

David Young controlled the match from midfield although the 17-year-old has been out ever since with a groin injury.

Belfast buddies Darren Fitzgerald and Paul McKnight were both on the scoresheet along with Lee Dair and Jimmy Gibson.

In Rangers' next match against Dunfermline Geordie genius Paul Gascoigne made a surprise appearance.

He missed out on the trip to Vladikavkaz through suspension and opted to turn out for the reserves at Bathgate.

In typical Gazza fashion he scored a sensational solo goal, missed a penalty and managed to get himself booked.

The match was an entertaining 3-3 draw and once again Fitzgerald and McKnight were both on target.

Steven Boyack grabbed a late winner to earn the points at Tannadice against Dundee United.

And Aussie Craig Moore marked his comeback, after a five month lay-off, with a well

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Reserves' Jekyll and Hyde term

taken goal in Rangers' 2-1 win.

The side followed up their win over the Tangerines with two draws against Motherwell and Hearts.

The Motherwell match was a terribly dull spectacle which ended 0-0 on a miserable wet afternoon at Bathgate.

But Rangers were unlucky not to beat league leaders Hearts at Tynecastle the following week.

The Gers dominated throughout but in the end had to settle for a 1-1 draw thanks to a Darren Fitzgerald strike.

At the end of September the reserves suffered a humiliating 5-1 drubbing at the hands of Kilmarnock.

And in the first Old Firm match of the season at Celtic Park there could be no complaints as they lost out 2-0.

However they got back to winning ways in their next match with another 2-1 victory over Dundee United.

Substitute Darren Fitzgerald, making his Ibrox debut, secured the Gers win with virtually his first touch two minutes from the end.

Hibs then fell by the wayside as Fitzgerald grabbed a two goal

brace in a 4-0 victory.

Barry Ferguson and Lee Dair also chipped in, as the reserves produced their best display of the season.

But it was back to reality four days later when they were humbled 3-0 by Aberdeen at Pittodrie.

Yet following that defeat they then embarked on a four match unbeaten run which took them to second place in the table.

Brian McGinty was on target three times in two games as Rangers overcame Motherwell 3-1 and disposed of Raith 4-0 at Stark's Park.

They made it three wins on the trot, courtesy of an Ian Ferguson goal, with a 1-0 win over Celtic at Ibrox in the second Old Firm clash of the year.

And in their most recent match Alan McLaren marked his comeback with a wonderful headed effort in the 1-1 draw with Hibs at Easter Road.

The side was then due to take on Dunfermline shortly before Christmas and we'll have full details of that one - plus any other outstanding fixtures - in our next Matchday Programme on December 12 against Aberdeen.



Darren Fitzgerald

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RANGERS STATISTICS

RANGERS versus CELTIC

THE FIVE-YEAR LEAGUE RECORD



This season so far...

Sep 28 Rangers 2 (Gough, Gascoigne) Celtic 0
Nov 14 Celtic 0 Rangers 1 (Laudrup)

1995/96

Sep 30 Celtic 0 Rangers 2 (Cleland, Gascoigne)
Nov 19 Rangers 3 (Laudrup, McKinlay og, McCoist) Celtic 3
Jan 3 Celtic 0 Rangers 0
Mar 17 Rangers 1 (McLaren) Celtic 1

1994/95

Aug 27 Rangers 0 Celtic 2
Oct 30 Celtic 1 Rangers 3 (Hateley 2, Laudrup)
Jan 4 Rangers 1 (I Ferguson) Celtic 1
May 7 Celtic 3 Rangers 0

1993/94

Aug 21 Celtic 0 Rangers 0
Oct 30 Rangers 1 (McCoist) Celtic 2
Jan 1 Celtic 2 Rangers 4 (Hateley, Mikhailitchenko 2, Kuznetsov)
Apr 30 Rangers 1 (Mikhailitchenko) Celtic 1

1992/93

Aug 22 Rangers 1 (Durrant) Celtic 1
Nov 7 Celtic 0 Rangers 1 (Durrant)
Jan 2 Rangers 1 (Steven) Celtic 0
Mar 20 Celtic 2 Rangers 1 (Hateley)

PLAYED	18
RANGERS WINS	7
CELTIC WINS	4
DRAWS	7

TOP SCORER: **Mark Hateley (4 goals)**



MATCH ACTION



This evening's big match is the 243rd league meeting between Rangers and Celtic. The Gers enjoy an advantage having won 95 games to the Hoops' 74. During all that time there have been 73 draws between the sides. They first clashed on league business back in Season 1890-91 and the two Glasgow giants are the only two clubs who have played every season in the top division of the league since its inception. Appropriately enough, perhaps, the first league encounter between the pair ended in a 2-2 draw at Parkhead on March 21, 1891. The return match at Ibrox ended in a 2-1 victory for the visitors.



MATCH ACTION



Trust us to help football

The Football Trust is helping the game at all levels - from providing kit for school teams, pitches and changing rooms for grass roots football, safety and improvement work throughout the game right up to providing vital assistance to help League clubs complete the essential task of redeveloping their grounds in line with the Taylor Report.

Over the last 20 years the Trust has received and distributed £250m from Littlewoods, Vernons and Zettlers Pools and Littlewoods Spot the Ball competition for the benefit of football.

Up and down the country, clubs are building new grounds and stands, installing seating, and providing safe and comfortable facilities for their spectators to enjoy. Every club depends on the support of the FOOTBALL TRUST and the success of the pools companies. Both are crucial for football's future.



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