

RANGERS

Rangers Football Club Official Matchday Programme



**BELL'S
PREMIER DIVISION
RANGERS
VERSUS
CELTIC**

THURSDAY JANUARY 2ND 1997

KICK-OFF 6.30PM

PRICE £1.50



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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 Gorman 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.



Designed and published on behalf of RANGERS FC, Ibrox Stadium, Edmiston Drive, Glasgow G51 2XD
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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.