



The Pars Programme



Bell's Premier League
Dunfermline Athletic
v. **Celtic**

Sunday 3rd May, 1998
Kick-Off 3.30pm

TODAY'S MATCH SPONSOR

KINGDOM
ENGINEERING (Fife) Ltd
Glenfield Industrial Estate, Cowdenbeath
Tel. **(01383) 512746**

THE OFFICIAL
MAGAZINE OF
DUNFERMLINE ATHLETIC
FOOTBALL CLUB
PRICE £1.50
1997-98 NUMBER 23

DUNFERMLINE ATHLETIC FOOTBALL CLUB

1885-1997

WHO'S WHO



East End Park,
Dunfermline,
FIFE KY12 7RB
Telephone (01383) 724295
Telefax (01383) 723468

CHAIRMAN:

C. Roy Woodrow

DIRECTORS:

W. M. Rennie;

G. Masterton, FIB(Scot);

A. T. Gillies;

J. Meiklem

COMPANY SECRETARY:

Paul D'Mello

MANAGER:

Bert Paton

ASSISTANT MANAGER:

Richard Campbell

COACHING STAFF:

Jimmy Bone

(Coach);

Joe Nelson (Trainer);

David McParland

(Youth Development)

SFA COMMUNITY OFFICER

Graeme Robertson

PHYSIOTHERAPIST

Philip Yeates, MCSP

CLUB DOCTOR

Dr G. D. Gillespie

COMMERCIAL

MANAGER

Audrey Bastianelli

SAFETY OFFICER

David Dickson

*Bank of Scotland
Supporting
football*



Bank of Scotland

1 Bothwell Street, Dunfermline KY11 3AG Telephone 01383 731781



BANK OF SCOTLAND[®]
A FRIEND FOR LIFE

The logo, Bank of Scotland and A Friend For Life are registered trademarks of the Governor and Company of the Bank of Scotland.



THE BERT PATON COLUMN

OUR DISAPPOINTMENT OF BEING DENIED three points against Hibs a fortnight ago was more than made up for by our result at Motherwell last week.

My main reflection on the Hibs game is that the time may have arrived when we have to look at taking the task of timekeeping away from referees. It is very difficult for a referee to keep an accurate check on time when they have so many other things to do and so many distractions. It happens in other sports so I can't see why we can't bring ourselves up to date in football - I'm sure that referees would appreciate all the help they can get. Although Motherwell had beaten us in the earlier part of the season, we were confident going into this one. I think that the players are enjoying themselves again, and for some of them there's no doubt that the season is ending too quickly. It was evident in the Motherwell game that they were playing for each other again, and although the pitch was in very poor condition, I thought we played some good football.

That result means that we have secured our place in the Premier Division again, very much against the expectations of the majority of the media. I would however, genuinely like to thank those members of the media who have had nice things to say about us, and I'd like thank the others for giving us the motivation to succeed! I cannot say that it has been the most enjoyable season that I've ever experienced, and I'm glad that our future is now secure. We now have a major task of building on our strengths by keeping our best players and fixing up new signings for next season. We've already done quite a lot of work towards that goal.

As the fans will know, Dick will not be alongside me in the dugout following his fine and ban until December. I have to say that I believe that the present trend towards severe punishments and sending managers to the stand is wrong. Managers are under immense pressures and can make mistakes like anybody else. But at present and unlike players, there is no

scale, and punishments are far and away greater than a player would receive for a similar offence. There is an argument that this stops us doing our job properly so I hope that the new league can look at this.

Which brings me to today's game. What a great game to have as the last home game of the season. The game's been a sell-out for ages - it reminds me of when we had just won the Scottish Cup in 1968, and Celtic had won the league. We played each other in the following midweek and the crowds that came were enormous. If Rangers did win yesterday, the horrendous pressures which are already on Celtic will have increased. They have spent big money and the fans want results. I would have to say, however, that Celtic are a good team and deserve to be where they are because they have been the most consistent team this season.

I hope that now the pressures are off we can play better, more relaxed football. But if anyone reads this and thinks that means that we won't try then they don't know Dunfermline Athletic. I want to win this game and the next one against Hearts to consolidate our sixth place. More than anything, that would be good for our fans and they're the only ones we want to please.



DUNFERMLINE ATHLETIC F.C. HONOURS	
European Competitions Cup Winners Cup : 1961/62 (quarter final), 1968/69 (semi final) Fairs (now UEFA) Cup: 1962/63, 1964/65, 1965/66 (quarter final), 1966/67, 1969/70	Scottish League Second Division Champions: 1985/86 Runners-up: 1978/79
Scottish League - Highest Position 3rd : 1964/65, 1968/69	Scottish Cup Winners: 1961, 1968 Runners-Up: 1965 Semi-Finalists: 1964, 1966
Scottish League First Division Champions : 1988/89, 1995/96 Runners-Up : 1986/87, 1993/94, 1994/95	Scottish League Cup Runners-Up: 1949/50, 1991/92 Semi-Finalists : 1989/90
Scottish League Division Two (pre-reconstruction) Champions : 1925/26 Runners-Up: 1912/13, 1933/34, 1954/55, 1957/58, 1972/73	Scottish Qualifying Cup Winners: 1911/12 Central League Champions: 1910/11, 1911/12 BP Scottish Youth Cup Winners: 1987/88 Scottish Reserve League (East) Champions : 1986/87, 1992/93

**TODAY'S
MATCHBALL
SPONSOR**

Yvonne and Louise
Henderson from
Dunfermline, in
celebration of your
21st and 18th
birthdays
respectively.
Congratulations
and best wishes
from Dad and Mary.



TODAY'S Celtic VISITORS



THEY SAY THAT THE PREMIER LEAGUE SET UP breeds contempt because of the number of times that teams play each other. In the case of this fixture, this will be the sixth meeting this season - and interestingly, the third to be televised live. But on today of all days there is very little likelihood of either side having anything other than complete respect for each other.

There is a view around that Celtic have slipped into all their old failings - unrest and disputes at Parkhead, discontent among the fans, uncertainty about the future management direction, and so on. The other more accurate view is that Celtic have shown more consistency on the park this year than for many years and are deservedly in pole position with just two games to go. Results elsewhere yesterday will have a big bearing on today's proceedings, with the possibility that Celtic could win the title today. Alternately, such has been the nature of these matters recently that they could also blow their title chances completely!

One of the keys to Celtic's success this season has been Wim Jansen's ability to field a virtually unchanged side each week. While the advantages of that approach are clear to see, some of those players might just be beginning to look a little battle-weary. Following Celtic's tame performance last week against Hibs, it would not surprise if he brings back the likes of McNamara and Weighorst into his starting line-up given that they were fixtures in the side when it was going so well.

It is highly unlikely that we will see any change to the last line of defence where former Bradford and Coventry custodian **JONATHAN GOULD** has had such a brilliant season. The 29 year old keeper capped a superb season with appearances for Scotland's 'B' team, and he may still have a chance of making the World Cup squad.

Celtic's 32 year old skipper **TOM BOYD** will also be hoping for a place in that final 22 for France, the former Motherwell and Chelsea full back is now in his seventh year at Parkhead, and will have to call upon all of his experience and cool to take his side through the last nerve-wracking couple of weeks. **ENRICO ANNONI** has established himself this season as a defender who can cover a number of positions. Currently the 31 year old is filling in for the injured Stephane Mahe. 29 year old Danish internationalist **MARK REIPER** will occupy the central defensive pivot role. The former Brøndby centre half arrived at Parkhead in September from West Ham United and has helped Celtic create their strongest defence in years. The defence is complete with ex-Bolton defender **ALAN STUBBS**. The 26 year old is having a superb season. His ability to provide long searching passes and thunderbolt free kicks make him one to watch at both ends of the park.

We stated in our last issue that former Pars hero **JACKIE McNAMARA** had to be a candidate for Scotland's Player of the Year. Despite being out for a while recently through injury, the 24 year old rightly won that accolade. Although he got quite a reception last time (and may again today!),



Dave Bingham scores for Dunfermline, but Celtic won 2-1 the last time the clubs met here

Pars fans have a great deal of affection for Jackie and will be delighted with his success. McNamara's absence has allowed **SIMON DONNELLY** to stake a place not only in Celtic's line-up, but as a possibility now for France '98. Out of the starting line-up for much of the season, Simon has come back in and now has 15 goals to his credit, showing his potential as a goal threat. Celtic's midfield area was considerably fortified by the important signing of 28 year old **PAUL LAMBERT** last year. The former Motherwell and St Mirren midfielder's career took off when he joined Borussia Dortmund with whom he enjoyed unprecedented success and made his way back into the national side. He will be joined in midfield by that other candidate for Scotland's Player of the Year, **CRAIG BURLEY**. A summer signing from Chelsea, Craig now has 15 goals this term and is vying with Jorg Albertz to see who can be Scotland's highest scoring midfielder this term. **MORTEN WEIGHORST** is on his way back from injury but that can't prevent him from having his most successful spell at Parkhead. Clearly a favourite of Coach Wim Jansen, Morten has had to be satisfied with a place on the bench recently. Former Motherwell midfielder **PHIL O'DONNELL** has made his way back into the Celtic line-up in recent weeks and should start wearing the number eleven jersey.

Swedish striker **HENRIK LARSSON** was signed in the summer from Dutch side Feyenoord. The 26 year old is the Premier Division's third top scorer behind Marco Negri and Andy Smith having scored 18 goals to date, but his best value might be in what he creates for others. Scotland hopeful **DARREN JACKSON** should occupy the other front striking role, having been handed the jersey after the indifferent form of **HARALD BRATTBAKK**. 31 year old Jackson's return to the starting line-up has certainly boosted his chances for France, but the goals haven't been coming as quickly as Celtic would like. The Norwegian internationalist has been at his most successful against Dunfermline, so don't rule him out of the frame. Another contender might be winger **REGI BLINKER**. A summer signing from Sheffield Wednesday, Regi made a rare appearance as substitute last week.



Andy Smith's international debut



Pic B

PIC A: Andy goes through his pre-match warm-up.

PIC B: Lining-up with the rest of the Scotland 'B' team at Tynecastle

PIC C: Andy in the thick of the action against Norway

PIC D: Andy's personal fan club followed him from Dunfermline!

Pic C



Pic A



Pic D



BY ALMOST ALL ACCOUNTS, Pars striker Andy Smith made a very good impression (too good if you ask the Norwegian keeper!) in his international debut for the Scotland 'B' team at Tynecastle on 21st April. Despite the fact that the overall Scotland performance was nothing to write home about, Andy performed really well on meagre rations, as confirmed by Scotland Coach Tommy Burns who said, "Andy caused them all sorts of problems. He used his strength and aerial ability and allowed us to use him as a target for our attacks."

Andy got one real chance which forced the Norwegian keeper into a fine save. All in all a good day for the big man and for the many Pars fans who, as our picture shows, enjoyed themselves as well! Frankly Craig, we can't think of a better alternative to Duncan Ferguson anywhere!

Andy can certainly go into today's match with a lot of confidence. By coincidence, this match is a very significant one for him in his career. It will be his 100th senior appearance for Dunfermline. In the 99 League and Cup games to date he has contributed 48 goals, giving him a splendid strike rate of almost one in every two games played. It will also, remarkably, be the 250th Scottish League appearance of his career.

THE GREAT NEW PARS 3RD KIT - GET IT NOW FROM INTERSPORT



Join The Black Watch TA

*You'll make a lot more
than good mates!*

Earn around £5,300 over 3 years.

Learn to drive up to HGV and be paid
to do it.

Opportunity to travel world wide.

Be a weapons specialist

- Machine Guns • AntiTank Missiles
- Mortars

Push your adrenalin to its limit on
Adventure Training.

Interested? Phone:

Perth:	0131 310 8545
Dundee:	0131 310 4750
Forfar:	01307 468695
Kirkcaldy:	01592 263448



THE PARS NEWSDESK

RELAX! (WELL MAYBE NOT TOO MUCH!)

Warmest congratulations to the Pars management team and to the players for achieving their stated goal for season 1997/98 - survival in the Premier League. It has not been the easiest of seasons for a variety of reasons, but the final piece was put into place last week with a stylish victory over Motherwell away from home.

The main difference between this season and last - statistically speaking at any rate - has been Dunfermline's form at home. While the Pars away record is remarkably similar to 1996/97, home games which were won last season have been drawn this time around. With three points for a win, home victories are essential at this level.

Twenty-seven players have been used this season to date. That is three more than last year, but two less than promotion season 1995/96. It is hard to read anything from these figures since the modern game with so many injuries and suspensions requires clubs to have big first team pools.

Dunfermline have again scored more goals than most of the teams in the Premier League, but not as many as last year. The goalscoring has also been a bit of a one man show for most of the season - well done Andy. The Pars defence has shown considerable improvement but will still almost certainly finish with the worst defensive record in the league. Mind you, with the exception of Raith Rovers, the same happened last year. It just goes to show that East End Park is the place for goals!

Encouragingly, most of Dunfermline's new faces have performed very well. The average age of the side has been reduced and with Premier League status assured, there will be opportunities to attract more talent. The stadium improvements will also provide encouragement to fans to come along in bigger numbers. All in all then, the assessment is one of a moderately successful season which is finishing on a number of high notes.

The credit for these must go to the management team - including of course that other new face Jimmy Bone. Well done and we all look forward to next season with renewed vigour (not to mention relief!).



JIMMY BONE limbers up with **RICHARD HUXFORD**

FASTEST GOAL TROPHY GOES TO HAMISH

It is that time of year again when one of Dunfermline's young fans Stephen Jordan provides the award for the Fastest Goal of the Season. Initiated in memory of his late grandfather in season 1995/96, the competition is always one of the most interesting to see take shape.

In 1995/96 Stewart Petrie won with a goal in 25 seconds



HAMISH FRENCH, winner of the Fastest Goal of the Season Trophy, in action at Perth recently

against Dundee. Last season, it was striker Andy Smith who took the honours (a sign of things to come?) when he scored against Kilmarnock in two minutes. This season, Andy was quick on the scoresheets again, but not quick enough as this table of the top five shows:

12 mins (Hamish French v St Mirren, 20th August)
23 mins (Colin Miller v Edinburgh City, 24th January)
3=6 mins (Andy Smith v Ayr United, 9th August)
3=6 mins (Craig Robertson v Edinburgh City, 24th January)

58 mins (Andy Smith v St Johnstone, 8th November)
Stephen will be coming up from his home in Wiltshire to present the trophy to Hamish French at today's match. It has been a good week for Hamish because last week he made his 250th appearance in a first team jersey for Dunfermline. As it was, his performance against Motherwell was one of his best for some time and a great way to bring up that milestone.

THE PREMIERSHIP LOOMS

Tuesday will be D Day for the proposed new top league for that is when the full SFA Council will be asked to ratify the new top ten. In April the Scottish League accepted the top teams resignation and signed their approval, then later on in the month the Executive Committee of the SFA voted in favour of the proposals.

Although the final composition of the League is yet to be decided, the excitement for all teams involved in this season's Premier League and the resultant increase in attendances is sure to support those who want a ten team league.

Incidentally, talking of attendances, it is likely that Dunfermline's league matches this season will have been watched by around 147,000, a figure which is down around 10,000 from last season. Fortunately, the loss can be more than explained by the reduction in capacity for 'Old Firm' games - many other games were up from last season. Elsewhere it has been a bumper season for attendances with probably only Dundee United likely to be slightly down on last season's figures.

AND FINALLY...

We hope you have enjoyed reading The Pars Programme during 1997/98. Here's to 1998/99!



The exclusive launch of the new Pars 3rd Kit in the Premier Lounge, Sunday 19th April, 12-4pm



TALKING GERRY BRITTON POINTS



WHAT A DIFFERENCE A SEASON MAKES!

Only one year ago, you're a regular fixture in the first team, striding out as top scorer, the next season, you're a virtual spectator throughout the season with an injury failing to respond quickly to treatment. That is the fate that has befallen today's subject for interview, Gerry Britton. Fans' favourite Gerry has had to sit out almost all of this season with a chronic knee injury, managing only a handful of games up to the last few weeks. With Andy Smith shouldering the burden for goalscoring, Gerry's presence has been sorely missed, but already the odd goal or two has come his way to remind us of his striking prowess.

Gerry's path to East End Park began in his native Glasgow, where he progressed from Celtic Boys Club to full senior status at Parkhead. After being unable to make a regular breakthrough to the first team, he moved on to Partick Thistle, finishing as top scorer with the Jags in the 1992/93 season. From there, he moved onto Dundee, where the goals continued to rain in for him in partnership with George Shaw. Injury edged Gerry out of the picture at Dens Park, and despite a tempting offer to play in France, he opted to sign for the Athletic on their return to the Premier League. Bob Storie asked Gerry how his fitness and form were getting along in a recent interview. **Ernie Walker's much vaunted "think tank" has been voted out – is there any chance of a change in the game?**

"It was probably asking too much to take new suggestions to alter the game, when it's not all cut and dried with the new league set up yet. There's been so much debate and arguments about the breakaway, with the numbers in the league set up undecided – we've all been in the dark about how its going to end up, so the "think tank" was probably a move too far at this



point in time. Mind you, I believe there should be some fundamental changes to Scottish football in general, with some funding being made available to develop the youth side in the game – that's the main step forward right now." **Craig Brown has signed a new deal to carry on as Scotlands coach – can he gain more success?**

"Craig has done very well with the national squad, he's given the whole system a major boost by qualifying for both European Championships and the World Cup finals, so we've every reason to believe that he can continue to produce winning sides.. He's proved himself over a period of time, and continuity is the right thing for the team to have. He's got a good overall record, as well, and with major changes about to happen with newer players to bring in after the World Cup, Craig's future thinking should come into its own – he's the right guy for the job!"

Falkirk received great praise for their Cup semi-final performance – is this a good example of how top First Division Clubs can compete with Premier Clubs?

"Definitely, yes! As far as I am concerned, there's nothing between the top First Division sides and the bulk of the Premier Clubs, and I believe that a sixteen team Premier League would demonstrate this quite clearly – the more the merrier, you might say! The ten-ten system has been all played out, and it gets a bit



THE PARS NIFTY 50/50 – UP TO £2,000 CAN BE WON TODAY FOR ONLY £1 STAKE