



The
FORTHBANK NEWS

**OFFICIAL PROGRAMME
OF STIRLING ALBION FC
1993/94**

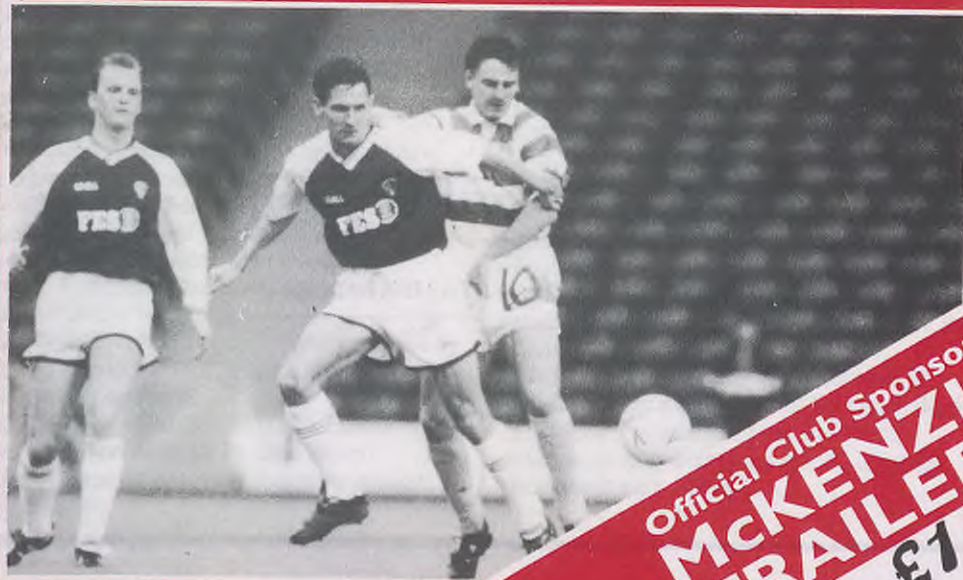


August 7th 1993

**SCOTTISH LEAGUE
CUP ROUND TWO**

v **CELTIC F.C.**

Volume 13 Number 5



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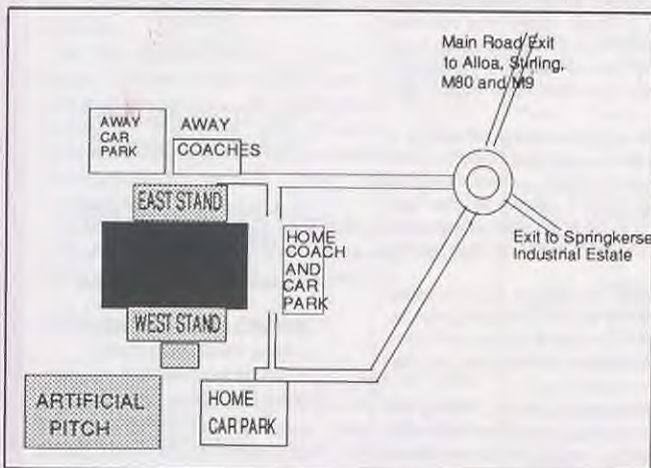
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0786 448592

SAFC 24-HOUR INFO
0891 88 1931

FORTHBANK A-Z

ASTROTURF To book the Astroturf pitch you need to contact Stirling District Council.

BAR The Cafe / Bar at Forthbank Stadium is open from 11am - 11pm daily, but is closed between 1pm and 6pm on Saturday match days, and for two hours before midweek matches.

BICYCLES Cycle racks are to be found next to the main entrance.

BUSES Midland Scottish Omnibuses operate special buses to and from the town centre immediately before and after matches.

CCTV Forthbank Stadium is equipped with Closed Circuit Television.

CRECHE The Match Day Creche, operated by Stirling District Council, is to be found adjacent to the main entrance.

DETENTION CELLS Forthbank Stadium has two Detention Cells, in the East Stand.

ECO Please do not leave litter lying around the stadium.

FIRST AID trained personnel are on duty at each match. Contact a steward if necessary.

PA Announcements can be made over the PA system before matches and at half time. Contact the club office for details.

PIES AND BOVRIL Match day catering from four kiosks, underneath the East and West Stands. Pies, Hot Fogs, Hot and Cold Drinks, Confectionary etc are all available.

POLICE The Police force responsible for arrangements at Forthbank is Central Scotland Police. Telephone 0786 473161. The Police Control Room is located in the East Stand.

PROGRAMMES On sale outside the stadium. Back issues (£1 + postage) from the Club Office.

SOUVENIRS A selection of souvenirs is available from the Club Office on match days.

TOILETS Beneath the East and West Stands, at each end of the stand. Disabled facilities in each stand.

BOSS TALK . . .

The League Cup competition gets underway tonight, and Albion have again drawn a plumb tie against Celtic. Last season we did quite well against the Parkhead side, containing them for over an hour, before finally going down 3-0. I hope that we can do better this evening, and perhaps we might be able to spring a surprise.

I know how unhappy the Albion supporters will be at having to play this match at Firhill. It is annoying to finally move into our new stadium, and then to have to switch the first big match that we have there. However, once the building of the terracing is completed Forthbank will be able to stage virtually any match and Albion fans should end their nomadic travelling.

A match against Celtic is always difficult, but equally it is always a great experience. Regardless of the final outcome I hope that our team can learn something from tonight's match. They have the opportunity to pit themselves against what I regard as the best midfield in Scotland. We cannot afford to be at all slack in our play, and the challenge of tonight's game should prepare us well for the hard League matches to come.

I felt that the final score in last season's League Cup tie really flattered Celtic. Yes, they did deserve to win, but certainly not by three clear goals. I think that Stirling Albion are a better team now than they were then, and should be capable of improving on that result.

My thanks to Partick Thistle for their hospitality and for making the arrangements for tonight's game. I would like to welcome Celtic and their supporters to Firhill, but particularly I would like to say thank you to the Stirling Albion supporters who are here tonight. Make yourselves heard - the players really appreciate vocal support and are well aware of the magnificent good humour of the Stirling crowd.

Finally, whatever the result tonight, let's remember that in many ways Saturday's game at Ayr is more important. Stirling Albion are desperate to finish in the top seven in the League to secure a place in the new "second division" for 1994/5.

HALF-TIME SCORECHECK . . .

LEAGUE CUP RD 2

Ayr United v Motherwell
Airdrie v Cowdenbeath
Hamilton v Dundee United
Kilmarnock v Morton
Brechin City v St Mirren
Hibernian v Alloa / Berwick
Stenhousemuir / Forfar v Falkirk
Aberdeen v Clydebank
East Fife / Albion Rovers v Partick Thistle
Meadowbank Thistle v Dundee
Tomorrow -
Hearts v QOS / Stranraer

Dunfermline v Montrose
/ East Stirling
Clyde v St Johnstone
Raith v Queen's Park / Arbroath
Rangers v Dumbarton

COVER PICTURES

TOP Ian McInnes is beaten to this header in last season's Skol Cup tie
BELOW Jim Kerr gets in front of Charlie Nicholas during the same match.
Final score, 3-0 for Celtic

STIRLING ALBION FC

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THE FORTHBANK NEWS

Official Programme of
Stirling Albion FC
Editor - Allan Grieve
SAFC PROGRAMME
FIRST PUBLISHED, 1949

1993-94

ALBION DIARY

OFFICIAL OPENING CEREMONY

Tiny Wharton, on behalf of the Football Trust, handed over a cheque for £500,000 to Stirling Albion. This represents the input of the trust to the magnificent new facilities at Forthbank Stadium.

Mr Wharton referred to some of the other ground developments taking place in Scotland during his speech. He highlighted the new stands at Montrose and Brechin, Clyde's embryonic stadium at Cumbernauld, and Meadowbank's possible new ground at Livingston.

Peter McKenzie thanked Mr Wharton publicly on behalf of Stirling Albion FC, before Walter Smith officially opened the new stadium.

TO BE ALL-TICKET OR NOT ?

Should the Rangers game have been all ticket or not ? No doubt Albion fans will have their own views on the situation, given the final crowd figure of just over 1500. By the Friday afternoon Albion had sold almost 1000 tickets for the West Stand, and ALL of the 250 that they had available for the East Stand for Rangers supporters. Rangers themselves had sold only 100 at Ibrox. A few more were sold from Forthbank on Saturday morning, taking the attendance to 1534.

Obviously Albion have the potential to sell-out the West Stand this season if they get off to a reasonable start, so the sooner work on the terracing is completed the better !

STIRLING ALBION SUPPORTERS CLUB FOOTBALL CLUB

We have been asked to include the following notice in the programme :-

"The team finished a creditable 11th of 18 in the Forth Valley Welfare League last season. The team has to be congratulated on winning the Fair Play Award for the season.

Training will start on Monday 23rd August at Stirling University, at 7pm. All players must attend. Any person interested in playing for the club contact J.Wyllie on 0786 475118. League games commence on Sunday August 29th 1993.

Match Reports

PRE-SEASON MATCH REPORTS

Saturday July 31st

Friendly Match

STIRLING ALBION V RANGERS XI

2-2 H.T. 0-1 Crowd 1534

Albion : McGeown, McCormack, Watson, Tait, Lawrie, Mitchell, Reilly, Moore, Watters, Armstrong (Sub Docherty), McDonald (Sub Pew). Subs - not used - Kinross, McAneeny, McKenna

Rangers : Scott, Murray, Dickson, Pressley, Kuznetsov, Dodds, Caldwell, S.Robertson, Miller, Durrant, McCulloch. Subs J.Robertson and Kerr

This match was arranged to celebrate the official opening of Forthbank Stadium. Rangers manager Walter Smith performed the honours, along with Football Trust representative Tom "Tiny" Wharton.

Rangers sent through a team made up mainly of reserves, with only Durrant, Kuznetsov, Pressley and Murray of the recognised first team squad.

It was the visitors who took the lead after only 4 minutes, McCulloch capitalising on slack defensive play to nip between McGeown and McCormack to stab the ball home.

The first half was played at a frantic pace, with the exchanges threatening to become heated as Tom Tait clashed with Davie Dodds.

Albion levelled the scores just one minute after the restart. Paul Armstrong stepped up to score a penalty after Watters had been fouled. However, within a minute Rangers had regained the lead - also from a penalty - through Ian Durrant.

The little midfielder was clearly the man of the match, causing Albion a lot of problems at the back. However, Stirling stuck to their task well and as the second half went on proceeded to take control of the match. It was no more than they deserved when David Pew scored an opportunist equaliser in the 67th minute - he was on hand to follow up after Willie Watters had burst through only to be denied by Rangers goalkeeper Colin Scott.

Overall John Brogan was pleased with the performance, and happy that his team had faced a stiff run-out in an important pre-season fixture.

This Page

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in today's programme for latest lists

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The Good Old Days?

ONE, FIVE AND TEN YEARS AGO - 1992, 1988 and 1983 . . .

ONE YEAR AGO . . . August 12th 1992 . . . Coincidentally Albion and Celtic were paired at this stage of the League Cup last year, with the match staged at Hampden Park. Torrential rain kept the crowd down to 7630, and those that stayed at home made the right decision. Albion held on until the 67th minute when Coyne glanced a header past McGeown. Gerry Creaney added two more goals in the last 10 minutes to make the final score 3-0 for Celtic. Albion's Paul Armstrong was voted Man of the Match.

FIVE YEARS AGO . . . August 10th 1988 . . . It was League Cup time in 1988, with Albion travelling along the road to Alloa for a First Round tie. What a cracker it turned out to be ! After eleven years without a competitive win at The Recs, we cruised into a 4-0 lead through Brogan (27), Thomson (34), Gibson (36) and Kemp (62). Alloa rallied to reply through Lytwyn (65) and Rutherford (69), but the comeback was never really on, and Albion went through to play Meadowbank in Round Two.

TEN YEARS AGO . . . August 10th 1983 . . . Albion and Stenhousemuir met at Ochilview in the Semi Final of the Stirlingshire Cup. Charlie McNeil shot Albion ahead in 49 minutes when he was first to the rebound after Hamilton had saved from Colquhoun. Willie Irvine wrapped up the game with a second goal in 57 minutes. Albion's Robert Dawson was sent off with 20 minutes left to play after a clash with one of the Stenhousemuir players.



TOMMY COYNE HEADS IN THE OPENING GOAL IN LAST SEASON'S SKOL CUP TIE BETWEEN THE TEAMS AT HAMPDEN. MOORE AND MITCHELL LOOK ON.



ALBION IN ACTION



Paul Armstrong and Jim Kerr defend desperately in the Hampden clash last season. Armstrong was voted Man of the Match by the sponsors.

Good luck to **Stirling Albion** for
the coming season from everyone at :



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