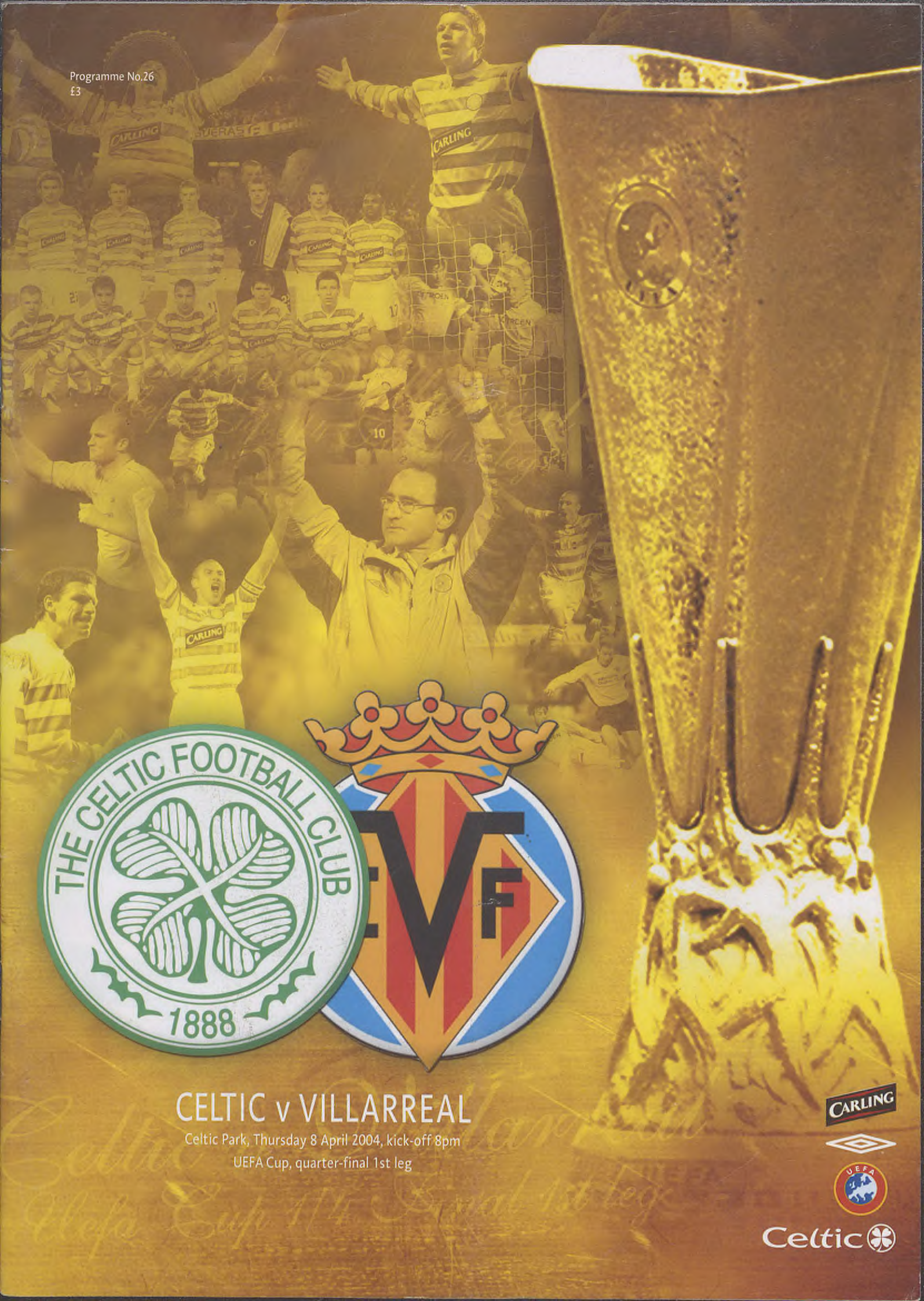


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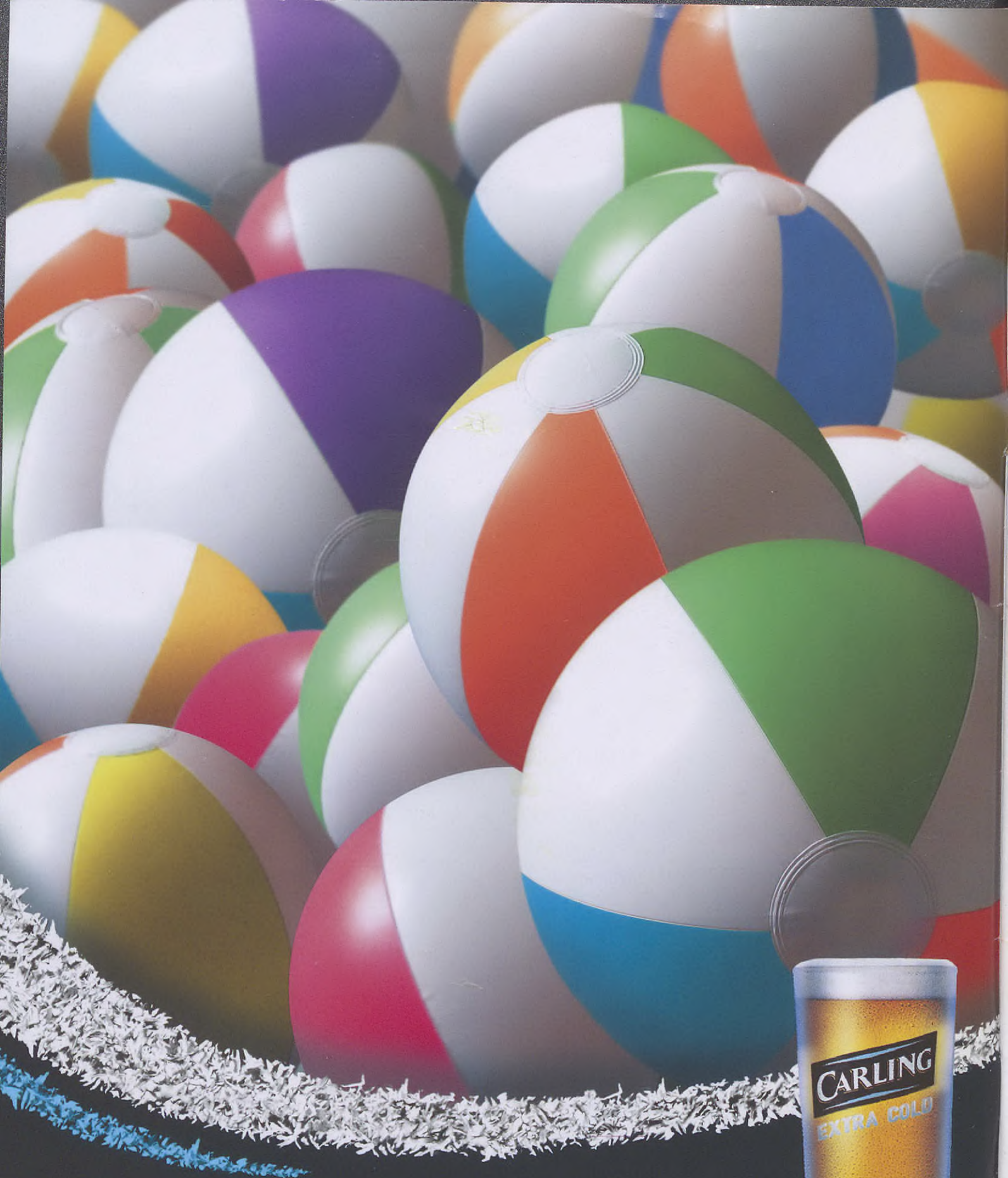
CELTIC v VILLARREAL

Celtic Park, Thursday 8 April 2004, kick-off 8pm

UEFA Cup, quarter-final 1st leg



Celtic 



Carling hopes every Celtic fan has a ball in Europe.

AMOR POR EL FOOTBALL

CELTIC

Manager: Martin O'Neill



Momo Sylla	3
Jackie McNamara	4
Joos Valgaeren	5
Bobo Balde	6
Henrik Larsson	7
Alan Thompson	8
Chris Sutton	9
John Hartson	10
Stephen Pearson	11
Paul Lambert	14
Bobby Petta	15
Ulrik Laursen	16
Didier Agathe	17
Neil Lennon	18
Stilian Petrov	19
Rab Douglas	20
Magnus Hedman	21
David Marshall	22
Stanislav Varga	23
Shaun Maloney	29
Ross Wallace	33
Johan Mjallby	35
Craig Beattie	37
Jamie Smith	39
John Kennedy	41
Liam Miller	43
Stephen McManus	44
Michael McGovern	47

VILLARREAL

Manager: Francisco Garcia



1	Javier Lopez Vallejo
3	Rodolfo Arruabarrena
4	Pedro Castello Marti
5	Fabricio Coloccini
6	Moreno Berdu Josico
7	Juliano Haus Belletti
8	Juan Roman Riquelme
9	Da Silva Sonny Anderson
11	Antonio Guayre
13	Jesus Unanua Becerril
16	Quique Alvarez Sanjuan
17	Javier Rodriguez Venta
18	Sergio Ballesteros
19	Senna
20	Garcia Roger
21	Fernández Gutiérrez Victor Manuel
22	Javier Calleja Revilla
23	Romero y Poyon Jose Mari
25	Jose Manuel Reina
27	Cesar Amposta Arzo
32	Jose Antonio Garcia Verza

CELTIC plc DIRECTORS Brian Quinn, Peter Lawwell, Eric Riley, Dermot Desmond, Tom Allison, Eric Hagman
CFAC DIRECTORS Peter Lawwell, Eric Riley, John Keane, Michael McDonald, Kevin Sweeney
MANAGER Martin O'Neill **ASSISTANT MANAGER** John Robertson **COACH** Steve Walford
HEAD OF YOUTH Tommy Burns **YOUTH TEAM COACH** Willie McStay **UNDER-21 COACH** Kenny McDowall
PHYSIOTHERAPISTS Tim Williamson & Gavin McCarthy **CLUB DOCTOR** Roddy Macdonald **KIT CONTROLLER** John Clark

Celtic Football Club Factfile

Formed: 1888

Stadium: Celtic Park
(capacity 60,506)

Home strip: Green/white hooped shirts, white shorts, white socks

Away strip: Gold shirts, green shorts, gold socks

Third strip: Black shirts, black shorts and socks with gold trim

Record attendance: 92,000 (v Rangers, 1938)

Record victory: 11-0 (v Dundee, 1895)

Record defeat: 0-8 (v Motherwell, 1937)

Most league goals (1 season): 50, Jimmy McGrory, 1935/36

Most Premier/SPL goals (1 season): 35, Brian McClair 1986/87, Henrik Larsson 2000/01

Website: www.celticfc.net

HONOURS

Scottish League (38)

1892/93, 1893/94, 1895/96, 1897/98, 1904/05, 1905/06, 1906/07, 1907/08, 1908/09, 1909/10, 1913/14, 1914/15, 1915/16, 1916/17, 1918/19, 1921/22, 1925/26, 1935/36, 1937/38, 1953/54, 1965/66, 1966/67, 1967/68, 1968/69, 1969/70, 1970/71, 1971/72, 1972/73, 1973/74, 1976/77, 1978/79, 1980/81, 1981/82, 1985/86, 1987/88, 1997/98, 2000/2001, 2001/2002

Scottish Cup (31)

1892, 1899, 1900, 1904, 1907, 1908, 1911, 1912, 1914, 1923, 1925, 1927, 1931, 1933, 1937, 1951, 1954, 1965, 1967, 1969, 1971, 1972, 1974, 1975, 1977, 1980, 1985, 1988, 1989, 1995, 2001

League Cup (12)

1956/57, 1957/58, 1965/66, 1966/67, 1967/68, 1968/69, 1969/70, 1974/75, 1982/83, 1997/98, 1999/2000, 2000/2001

European Cup (1) 1967 **Coronation Cup (1)** 1953

CELTIC FACTS

- On April 2, 1958, Willie Maley died in Glasgow at the age of 90. He was the secretary and manager of Celtic from 1897 to 1940.
- Bobby Lennox scored a hat-trick at Hampden Park on April 6, 1969 as the Hoops beat Hibs 6-2 in the final of the League Cup.
- On the same day in 1972, Celtic drew 0-0 with Inter Milan in the semi-final first leg of the European Cup in the San Siro.
- Back in 1906, on April 7, full-back Donnie McLeod made his international debut for Scotland in the 2-1 victory over England at Hampden in front of over 100,000 spectators, a record attendance in Britain at that time.
- On April 9 1892, Celtic FC won its first major honour when the amateurs of Queen's Park were beaten 5-1 in the final of the Scottish Cup at Ibrox.
- When Atletico Madrid came to Celtic Park on April 10, 1974 for a European Cup semi-final first leg tie, they were intent on winning. They gained a 0-0 draw but only after a disgraceful display of violence. Three Atletico players were sent off and seven booked.
- On April 13 1946, Jimmy Delaney scored the only goal as Scotland beat England at Hampden.
- Celtic won their seventh Scottish Cup in 13 final appearances when they beat Hamilton on April 15 1911, in a replay of the final. The 2-0 scoreline meant the club did not lose a goal in six matches in the competition.



VILLARREAL CF FACTS

- Villarreal CF was founded in 1923 and play home fixtures at El Madrigal Stadium, which holds 16,800 spectators.
- The city of Villarreal lies on the Rio Millars, in the province of Castellon, about 25 miles north of Valencia.
- For most of the club's existence, it has played in the 2nd and 3rd divisions of the Spanish leagues. In 1997/98, Villarreal won promotion to the Primera Liga for the first time; they were relegated at the end of that season but came up again the following year.
- Last season, Villarreal CF finished 15th in the league championship campaign, well off the three official UEFA Cup qualification places. The directors decided to try and gain entry to that tournament through the Intertoto Cup.
- Coming in at the third round stage of that competition, Villarreal beat Brescia of Italy 3-1 on aggregate. In the semi-final, they knocked out FC Brno of the Czech Republic 3-1; and in the final, disposed of Holland's SC Heerenveen 2-1.
- For season 2002/03, the average attendance at Villarreal's ground was around 14,000. This works out at just over 80% of maximum, a figure only exceeded by Athletic Bilbao, Deportivo La Coruna, Atletico Madrid, Real Madrid and Atletico Osasuna.
- On the official list of players, only five are not Spanish. Arruabarrena, Coluccini and Riquelme are from Argentina; Belletti and Anderson from Brazil.



“Villarreal knocked Galatasaray and Roma out of the UEFA Cup so they will be formidable opponents. We have to make sure we are still in the tie come next Wednesday”

SATURDAY'S game against Hearts was indeed something very special. We trailed 2-0 with less than three minutes left on the clock, and all seemed lost.

But not for the first time, the players conjured up from seemingly nowhere, an incredible effort to score two very late goals and consequently share the spoils.

It was indeed a fantastic performance and from the atmosphere at the end of the game, you would have thought we had actually won the match.

It was another illustration of the attitude this group of players possess, and the reception they received was, I believe, an acknowledgement of their efforts and their desire to keep going until the final whistle.

We had not played well in the first-half and Hearts deserved their half-time 1-0 lead.

We certainly upped the temp in the second-half, missed a couple of

chances to equalise and then found ourselves 2-0 behind when Hearts scored on the break with little time left on the clock.

But that pulsating finish to the game preserved our unbeaten home record and, at least for one more game, also preserved our unbeaten league run this season.

I'm sure the late flurry on Saturday will give us an added boost of confidence for tonight's UEFA Cup quarter-final first leg match against Villarreal of Spain.

They also will be boosted by their draw away to Barcelona on Saturday evening in the Nou Camp, so naturally their own confidence will be sky high.

They knocked Galatasaray and Roma out of the UEFA Cup in previous rounds so they will be formidable opponents.

Naturally we would be delighted to win the game this evening if it was at all possible but, as we have seen so often in recent times, we

are still capable of travelling to big venues for the second leg and getting results.

So the important point is to make sure we are still in the tie come next Wednesday in Spain.

I have said many times before that European nights at Celtic Park are special. Many clubs have come here over the past few seasons and their players always leave impressed by what they have experienced.

Tonight, I expect that to be the same for the Villarreal players.

This evening's game will require us to be at our very best. We are looking forward to the challenge, while will also require your full vocal backing.

John McGovern



CELTIC face Spanish opposition for the fourth time in three seasons when Villarreal come to Celtic Park tonight for the UEFA Cup quarter-final first leg.

The recent run began back in season 2001/02, when Villarreal's near neighbours, Valencia, were the opposition.

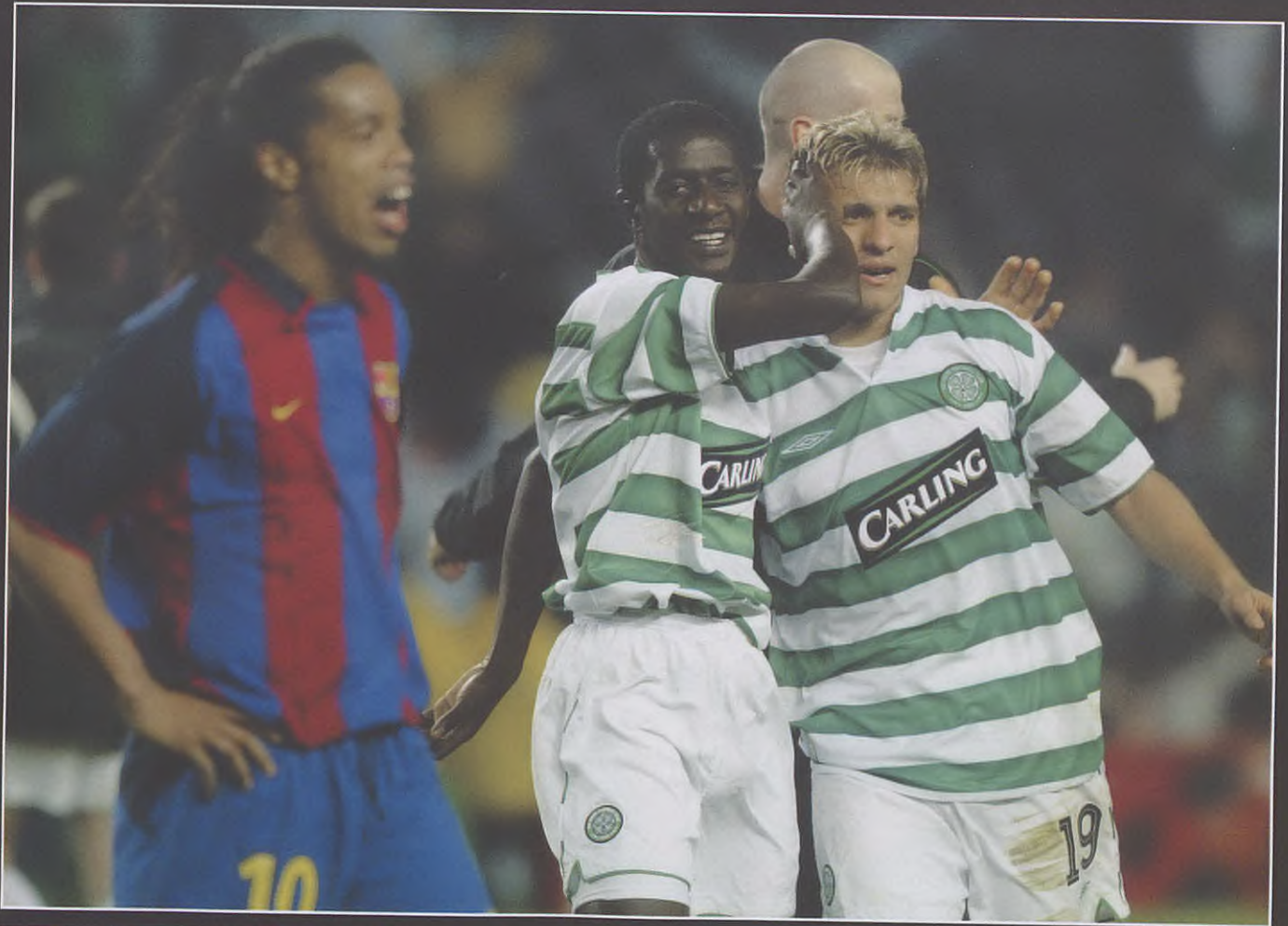
A 1-0 defeat in the Mestalla was overturned by a 1-0 victory at Celtic Park thanks to

Henrik Larsson. But the Hoops were eliminated on penalties.

Last season, in the UEFA Cup third round, Celtic faced Celta Vigo. A 1-0 victory at home and a 2-1 defeat away saw the Bhoys through on away goals – the first time we'd knocked a Spanish team out.

And, of course, there was the last round of this season's UEFA Cup, when Alan Thompson's goal at Celtic Park was enough to eliminate the mighty Barcelona.





FANS' FAVOURITE

Bobo Balde picked up last year's Player Of The Year Award but will the big defender win the prize two years running?



VOTE FOR YOUR PLAYER OF THE YEAR

IT'S almost that time of the year when you get the chance to vote for your Player of the Year.

The annual awards, which allows Celtic supporters to acknowledge their heroes in the Hoops, will take place at Thistle Hotel in Glasgow on Thursday, May 13. And it's sure to be a great occasion.

As ever, there are no shortage of candidates for the coveted Player of the Year Award, won last season by Bobo Balde. The big defender has had another great season and could well be in the running to retain his award.

Other Celts who have been in superb form this season include Neil Lennon, Chris Sutton, Stan Varga, Jackie McNamara, Stilian Petrov ... the list goes on, and, of course there's always the Magnificent Seven. Henrik's in his last season at Celtic Park and has so far scored 32 goals this season.

As well as the Player of the Year Award, there will also be the Young Player of the Year Award, with Ross Wallace, Craig Beattie

and David Marshall among the front runners. There will be other awards, including Goal of the Season and the Players' Player of the Year.

It's an occasion when Celtic supporters can honour their own and is sure to be a night of celebration.

So make sure you don't miss next week's *Celtic View* for all the details on how you can vote for your Player of the Year.

And everyone who votes will be put into a draw and could be in with a chance of being a guest of honour at the awards ceremony when you would be able to co-present the award to the winning players.

Tickets are now on sale and spaces are limited. To reserve your table call **0141-551 4354** or **0141-551 4388**, or e-mail jshiels@celticfc.co.uk or dmaceil@celticfc.co.uk

Tickets cost £100.00 plus VAT per person. All reservations can be paid by credit or debit cards and cheque. (All cheques made payable to Celtic Catering).



CARLING ARE PROUD TO BE SUPPORTERS OF CELTIC F.C. LOVEFOOTBALL

BATTLE OF THE UNDERDOGS

When the line-up for the quarter-finals of the UEFA Cup became clear, Celtic and Villarreal were included at the expense of two giants of European football, but Stephen Pearson knows the Spanish side will be a major threat tonight

Exclusive Interview: STEPHEN SULLIVAN

WHEN the road to Gothenburg was mapped out for the 16 teams still in the UEFA Cup at the start of March, no-one would have predicted one of the quarter-finals would be contested by Villarreal and Celtic. Experience should have taught us, however, that these two sides specialise in defying expectations.

Celtic we know all about, of course, and in recent seasons teams such as Juventus, Liverpool and Celta Vigo have also learned – the hard way. Yet anyone of the belief that Villarreal's credentials are in some way inferior should realise that the Spaniards' giant-killing exploits certainly do not begin and end with the vanquishing of Fabio Capello's Roma.

One need only ask those at Galatasaray, defeated 5-2 on aggregate in an earlier round, or even enquire of our old friends at the Nou Camp – beaten twice by them in the last two seasons – to establish that Villarreal's position of mid-table mediocrity in La Liga disguises a genuine ability to upset the odds.

No wonder, then, that Martin O'Neill and Francisco Garcia have spent much of this week passing back and forth the tag of favourites like the proverbial hot potato. Heaven help the side tipped to win this battle of the underdogs, after all.

O'Neill will at least be pleased to learn that his players have taken

heed of his warnings about the danger Garcia's side pose, with Stephen Pearson citing the experience of the last round to support his argument that pre-match billing counts for nothing.

He said: "Other people might think that Villarreal won't be as dangerous as Barcelona, but we know that we'll have to very wary – you only have to look at their results in the tournament so far to see that. To beat Galatasaray and Roma, well, that speaks for itself, doesn't it? But we know how difficult it's going to be and there's no chance of us underestimating them."

"Just because Barcelona are higher up in the league than them doesn't necessarily mean this tie will be any easier for us. Some teams raise their game in certain competitions, and by the looks of their results, you would think that that's what Villarreal have done in the UEFA Cup. Anything can happen, and I wouldn't imagine that either side will go into the tie as strong favourites."

"Anyway, the favourites obviously went out in the last round so we know that, at this level, anything can happen. We'll need to be at our best, and if we can go over there for the second leg with any kind of advantage, I'll be absolutely delighted."

Pearson is, by his own admission, thrilled simply to be involved in such occasions. It's now just over three months since his £350,000 switch from Motherwell and, despite being widely predicted to spend much of his first season at Celtic Park on the bench, his performances would suggest that he's



ROMA AND OUT
Fabio Capello's side are a good reminder that Villarreal should not be underestimated





VILLA THRILLA
The La Liga side surprised most people when the knocked-out Roma and Galatasaray in previous rounds of the UEFA Cup



OUTSTANDING
Stephen Pearson was one of a number of Hooped heroes in the triumph over Barcelona



been with the club for years.

Already, his energy and willingness to break beyond the strikers has made Pearson an integral part of O'Neill's re-shaped Celtic side, and the 21-year-old more than justified the faith placed in him thus far with two magnificent, tireless performances against Barcelona, the second of which he remembers

"It was a great performance by everybody against Barcelona – a team performance more than anything – although you'd have to acknowledge that David Marshall was obviously superb"



particularly fondly. "The game in the Nou Camp would have to be the highlight of my career so far," he admitted. "I'd obviously not been involved in the European runs the boys

have gone on over the past few years, so I'd never experienced anything like that.

"It was definitely a new one for me, an unbelievable experience. You don't get many bigger occasions than going to play in the Nou Camp, and it was just great to come away with the result we wanted.

"That was always the most important thing, after all. Yeah, of course it was a great experience playing in the Nou Camp, but it would have been pretty empty if we hadn't gone through. Fortunately, it was a great performance by everybody – a team performance more than anything, although you'd have to acknowledge that David Marshall was obviously superb."

So too, Pearson readily admits, was John Kennedy, a player for

whom no-one could offer adequate words of comfort last week.

A knee reconstruction now awaits the big defender, followed by a long and inevitably frustrating period of rehab without any cast-iron guarantees of ultimate success.

Nevertheless, Pearson is convinced that, devastating though the past seven days have been, Kennedy is strong enough to bounce back. He said: "It's a terrible shame for big John and I feel absolutely gutted for him. He was brilliant for us in the Nou Camp, and he's another really honest player who you know will do a



THEY'LL BE BACK
Pearson is adamant that Shaun Maloney and John Kennedy will make full recoveries

"I've probably played more games than I expected to but I'm enjoying every minute of it and long may it continue"

job for the team whenever he's called upon. It's a shocking thing to happen to him – an unbelievably bad challenge – and you only hope that he can come back stronger from it all.

"Knowing him, I think he will. He's someone I've obviously played against plenty of times as well as alongside, coming up through the ranks at Motherwell, and as well as being a good lad, he's always been a great defender.

"You just hope that him and Shaun (Maloney) can maybe get each other through this. Obviously they're really good mates, and I think in that situation it's good to have someone to talk to and spur you on. I'm sure they'll both be back and that they'll be big players for us when they do."

There were certainly signs in the Nou

Camp to suggest that O'Neill possesses the nucleus of a new, young side in the image of the one which has dominated Scottish football and restored Celtic's reputation in Europe during his reign. Much of this can be attributed, it seems, to the ease with which new players – whether acquired from other clubs or promoted from within – appear to develop the same desire and attitude which O'Neill's side has long been renowned for.

Pearson, a perfect example, believes the onus is always on the individual to show themselves up to the challenge.

"It's not easily done, but all you can do is come in, knuckle down and show that you've got the same desire to win as the rest of the lads here," he said.

"I've been very fortunate that the manager's given me a chance straight off



to make my mark, and I do think that he's made it clear to all the young lads that, regardless of their age, they will get a chance if they're good enough.

"Hopefully I've done enough to justify my place so far, but I must say that the lads around me have made it really easy for me to settle in.

"It's been a great experience for me coming into this team and this club and, being honest, I've probably played more games than I expected to. But I'm enjoying every minute of it and long may it continue."



VILLARREAL prepared for tonight's UEFA Cup quarter-final tie at Celtic Park with a visit to the Nou Camp last weekend.

And the side currently lying ninth in the Spanish league left Barcelona with a point after achieving a 0-0 draw.

Martin O'Neill's side know all about goalless draws at the Nou Camp. After all, it was their heroic efforts two weeks ago in the Catalan city which set up tonight's tie.

And while that triumph over Frank Rijkaard's side has instilled a heightened sense of confidence in Scotland's Champions-elect, O'Neill has been at pains to caution those supporters who believe a place in this season's UEFA Cup final in Gothenburg is merely a formality.

Even a casual glance at how Villarreal reached this stage of the competition should be enough to let people know that the Spanish side will be tough opponents.

This is Villarreal's first European campaign and it's already been a long campaign, starting back in July when they entered the Intertoto Cup.

Having successfully negotiated that hurdle, the side coached by Francisco Garcia have taken some impressive scalps in the UEFA Cup. Two Turkish sides –

Villarreal may not be as big a name as Barça but they possess a team of talented individuals that Celtic will have to watch

Trabzonspor and Galatasaray – have fallen by the wayside, as did Torpedo Moscow, but it was the victory over Italian giants Roma which really caught the eye.

When the draw for the last 16 of the UEFA Cup was made, the route to the final was also mapped out for each of the teams.

And with the winners of the Celtic/Barcelona tie to face the winners of Villarreal/Roma, the safe money was on a Barcelona v Roma quarter-final.

In the event, both of the pre-match favourites were knocked out to set up what might have seemed an unlikely quarter-final between Celtic and Villarreal.

While the Hoops have experience of this stage of the tournament – beating Liverpool in last season's quarter-final –

it's uncharted waters for Villarreal who are certainly making this first European campaign one to remember.

And despite being further down La Liga than Barça, Villarreal pose a clear and present danger to Celtic's aspirations of making it to the UEFA Cup last four.

DANGER MEN

SONNY ANDERSON

Brazilian striker Sonny Anderson is one man Celtic will most definitely have to watch. He's already scored six goals for Villarreal in Europe this season, none more important than the one in Rome's Olympic Stadium which put his side into the quarter-finals.

DANGER MEN
Riquelme and Coloccini (left)
are just two of the men
Celtic will have to be wary of



Route to the UEFA Cup quarter-finals

CELTIC

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE
Qualifying round 2
Kaunus 0-4 CELTIC
(Sutton, Larsson, Miller, Maloney)
CELTIC 1-0 Kaunus
(own goal)
Agg: 5-0

Round 3
MTK Hungaria 0-4 CELTIC
(Agathe, Petrov, Sutton, Larsson)
CELTIC 1-0 MTK Hungaria
(Sutton)
Agg: 5-0

Group Stages
Bayern Munich 2-1 CELTIC
(Thompson)
CELTIC 2-0 Lyon
(Miller, Sutton)
Anderlecht 1-0 CELTIC
CELTIC 3-1 Anderlecht
(Miller, Sutton, Larsson)
CELTIC 0-0 Bayern Munich
Lyon 3-2 CELTIC
(Hartson, Sutton)

UEFA Cup, 3rd Round
CELTIC 3-0 FK Teplice
(Larsson 2, Sutton)
FK Teplice 0-1 CELTIC
Agg: 3-1

4th round
CELTIC 1-0 Barcelona
(Thompson)
Barcelona 0-0 CELTIC
Agg: 1-0

VILLARREAL

INTERTOTO CUP
VILLARREAL 2-0 Brescia (Italy)
(Revilla, Gutierrez)
Brescia 1-1 VILLARREAL
(Guayre)
Agg: 3-1

FC Brno 1-1 VILLARREAL
(Romero)
VILLARREAL 2-0 FC Brno (Czech Republic)
(Montana, Anderson)
Agg: 3-1

Heerenveen 1-2 VILLARREAL
(Revilla, Gutierrez)
VILLARREAL 0-0 Heerenveen (Holland)
Agg: 2-1

UEFA CUP, 1st round
VILLARREAL 0-0 Trabzonspor (Turkey)
Trabzonspor 2-3 VILLARREAL
(Anderson, Jose Mari 2)
Agg: 3-2

2nd round
VILLARREAL 2-0 Torpedo Moscow (Russia)
(Riquelme 2)
Torpedo Moscow 1-0 VILLARREAL
Agg: 2-1

3rd round
Galatasaray 2-2 VILLARREAL
(Anderson, Riquelme)
VILLARREAL 3-0 Galatasaray (Turkey)
(Anderson, Roger, Riquelme)
Agg: 5-2

4th round
VILLARREAL 2-0 Roma (Italy)
(Anderson, Jose Mari)
Roma 2-1 VILLARREAL
(Anderson)
Agg: 3-2



Do you have a Celtic question you need answered or a pub argument you want settled? Well, Lisbon Lion Jim Craig is here to help you.

In every match programme this season, Jim will attempt to answer your queries on all things Celtic.

You can write to Jim at: Celtic View, Celtic Park, Glasgow G40 3RE or email your questions to: jcraig@celticfc.co.uk

HOW many Scots were in the Celtic team in the two matches against Celta Vigo last season?

John Quinn

In the home leg, only one, Rab Douglas. In the return, Douglas was joined by Paul Lambert, who came on as a sub for Neil Lennon after 55 minutes.

WHAT was the order of penalty takers when Inter Milan beat Celtic in 1972? Which end were they taken at, and why was the last one taken when the result was known?

William Gordon/Peter Welsh

The order was Mazzola, Dixie Deans, Facchetti, Jim Craig, Frustalupi, Jimmy Johnstone, Pellizzaro, Pat McCluskey, Jair and then Bobby Murdoch. Only Dixie missed. The final one was taken – obviously when Inter were uncatchable at 5-3 up – to ‘complete the formalities’, as required at the time. The rules have since been changed. The penalties were taken at the goal in front of the East Terracing.

IS Pierre van Hooijdonk still playing? How many times did he score for Celtic in Europe?

Andy Barrie

Pierre is still with Feyenoord, having moved there in 2001. In his Celtic career, he made five full European appearances and two as a sub but he did not score.

WHEN did the UEFA Cup start?

Chris Connelly

The tournament started in 1954 as the International Inter-City Fairs Cup, usually referred to as the Fairs Cup. Originally, both club teams and sides representing cities took part. In 1960, it was reformed on the lines of an international event open to losing finalists in a number of domestic competitions. In 1972, it became known as the UEFA Cup.

WHAT was the furthest trip Celtic have ever made for a European tie?

Joan Kelly

In ascending order; Dinamo Kiev in the Ukraine (1967/68, 1986/87), Dinamo

THIRTY SOMETHING
George Connelly scored twice in 30 appearances for Celtic in European competition



ON THE SPOT Jock Stein chooses his penalty takers against Inter Milan in 1972



CELTA SCOTS
Rab Douglas and Paul Lambert were the only Scottish players to play against Celta Vigo last season



VAN THE MAN
Ex-Celtic Pierre van Hooijdonk is still knocking them in for Feyenoord

Batumi (Georgia 1995/96) and Tbilisi in Georgia (where Celtic played Dinamo Kiev in January 1966; due to snow, the ground in the Ukraine was unplayable).

DID George Connelly play many European ties? Did he score in any of them? And what position did he play?

Frank Keane

George played in 30 European matches, with two goals to his credit. In the majority of these, he played sweeper or

‘libero’, although he did make a few appearances in midfield.

WHICH country has provided most opponents for Celtic in European ties?

Edward Burns

Depends on whether you mean different teams or just occasions. For instance, we have played Swiss teams on eight different two-leg occasions but only four teams were involved (Basel, Young Boys Berne, Neuchatel Xamax and FC Zurich).

Spain has provided nine such ties with six teams (Valencia, Barcelona, Atletico Madrid, Real Madrid, Real Sociedad and Celta Vigo), as has Portugal (Leixoes, Benfica, Boavista, Sporting Lisbon, Vitoria Guimaraes and Porto); while Germany has six (Sachsenring Zwickau, Borussia Dortmund, Werder Bremen, FC Cologne, SV Hamburg, VfB Stuttgart and Bayern Munich) for eight ties. With the Villarreal game approaching, however, the Spanish figures will change to 10 ties and 7 teams.

THROUGH THE DECADES

This week's picture archive focuses on the highs and lows of European football as the Hoops saw off Dynamo Kiev in 1966 and Leeds in 1970. We also look at a relaxed Celtic side before the '70 European Cup final in Milan but a devastated Jock Stein after the loss to Dutch side Feyenoord

By JIM CRAIG



A A DIP through the Celtic archive is always a rewarding experience and this week we have some photographs from the 1960s and early 1970s to show you. Three of these could come into the 'happy' category but the fourth is a different matter altogether.

A. An action shot from the European Cup-Winners Cup tie against Dynamo Kiev at Parkhead on January 12, 1966. By that point of the match, Celtic were two-up thanks to Tommy Gemmell and Bobby Murdoch. With six minutes left, Bobby

latched on to a pass from Jimmy Johnstone and blasted this shot into the net to delight the 64,000 crowd. Steve Chalmers is to Murdoch's right.

B. Forward to 1970, on April 1 at Elland Road against Leeds. Wearing quite unusual socks for the occasion, Celtic went straight into the attack and were rewarded when George Connelly scored within the first minute. A full house of 45,505 was packed into the ground on the night and for a match which had hardly

started, the pitch looks in fairly uneven condition.

From the left, the players are; Lennox, Cooper, Connelly, Reaney, Wallace, Charlton, Sprake (with Madely behind him).

C. A little later in 1970, probably the 4th or 5th May, one or two days before the European Cup final in Milan. The photograph was taken at our base in Varese, some 30 or so miles away from the stadium. The players shown are obviously in happy mood and if my



"The final whistle has just blown and a photographer has caught Jock Stein at one of his lowest moments"

memory serves me correctly, they are watching a director of the period, Jimmy Farrell, play tennis. From the left, Bobby Murdoch (with John Fallon behind), John Hughes, Billy McNeill, Bertie Auld, Lou Macari, Willie Wallace, Bobby Lennox, Jimmy Johnstone, myself and director Tom Devlin.

D. And we finish with this shot of a man in torment. It's after 10 o'clock in the

Guiseppe Meazza Stadium – commonly known as the San Siro – in Milan on May 6, 1970. After a poor performance, Celtic have been beaten 2-1 by Feyenoord; the final whistle has just blown; the Dutch champions, and their fans, are celebrating noisily; the Hoops fans are relatively quiet, shocked by their team's display; and a photographer has caught Jock Stein at one of his lowest moments.



The present Celtic squad under Martin O'Neill is considered by many to be the best side since the Lisbon Lions, and here is how their individual European records compare

Lisbon Lions

Player (Euro campaigns)	A	S	G
Ronnie Simpson (4)	21	0	0
Jim Craig (7)	28	0	1
Tommy Gemmell (9)	51	0	11
Bobby Murdoch (10)	54	0	11
Billy McNeill (13)	69	0	3
John Clark (8)	37	0	0
Jimmy Johnstone (12)	63	1	16
Willie Wallace (6)	24	2	13
Stevie Chalmers (9)	37	1	13
Bertie Auld (6)	20	2	1
Bobby Lennox (16)	54	12	14
Charlie Gallagher (5)	13	0	0
Willie O'Neill (4)	8	0	0
John Hughes (9)	38	2	10
Joe McBride (3)	10	0	5
Total (121)	527	20	98

Current Squad

Player (Euro campaigns)	A	S	G
Rab Douglas (4)	31	0	0
Jackie McNamara (8)	36	9	1
Joos Valgaeren (4)	31	3	2
Neil Lennon (3)	34	1	0
Bobo Balde (3)	34	0	0
Stan Varga (1)	13	0	0
Didier Agathe (4)	31	1	2
Henrik Larsson (7)	56	0	34
Chris Sutton (4)	36	1	15
Stan Petrov (5)	39	2	5
Alan Thompson (3)	26	4	6
Stephen Pearson (1)	3	1	0
Johan Mjallby (5)	28	0	1
Paul Lambert (7)	45	4	2
John Hartson (3)	17	7	4
Total (62)	460	33	72

Celtic's European Quarter-Final Record

Season	Opp	Comp	V	Score
1963/64	Bratislava	CWC	H	1-0 Hughes
1963/64	Bratislava	CWC	A	1-0 Hughes
1965/66	Dyn Kiev	CWC	H	3-0 Gemmell, Murdoch 2
1965/66	Dyn Kiev	CWC	A	1-1 Gemmell
1966/67	Vojvodina	EC	A	0-1
1966/67	Vojvodina	EC	H	2-0 Chalmers, McNeill
1968/69	AC Milan	EC	A	0-0
1968/69	AC Milan	EC	H	0-1



THREE AND EASY
John Hartson has been involved in a hat-trick of European ventures with Celtic

1969/70	Fiorentina	EC	H	3-0 Auld Carpenetti Wallace	1975/76	Sachsenring	CWC	A	0-1
1969/70	Fiorentina	EC	A	0-1	1979/80	Real Madrid	EC	H	2-0 McCluskey, Doyle
1970/71	Ajax	EC	A	0-3	1979/80	Real Madrid	EC	A	0-3
1970/71	Ajax	EC	H	1-0 Johnstone	2002/03	Liverpool	UEFA	H	1-1 Larsson
1971/72	Ujpest Dosza	EC	A	2-1 Macari	2002/03	Liverpool	UEFA	A	2-0 Thompson Hartson
1971/72	Ujpest Dosza	EC	H	1-1 Macari					
1973/74	FC Basel	EC	A	2-3 Wilson, Dalglish					
1973/74	FC Basel	EC	H	4-2 Dalglish, Deans, Callaghan, Murray					
1975/76	Sachsenring	CWC	H	1-1 Dalglish					

Of the 11 previous quarter-final ties, Celtic have gone through to the semi-final seven times.
Celtic have been at home for the first leg six times in quarter final ties and they have managed to progress on four occasions.

	P	W	D	L	F	A
HOME	11	7	3	1	19	6
AWAY	11	3	2	6	58	14
TOTAL	22	10	5	7	27	20

WE GO MARCHING ON
Vojvodina were put to the sword as the Hoops took a step closer to Lisbon in 1967



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Jinky shows off his skills against Ujpest Dosza



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Q2

Test your football knowledge with our super half-time quiz

- 1) Which goalkeeper prior to David Marshall also had the distinction of making his European debut for Celtic against Barcelona?
- 2) Against which two clubs has Shaun Maloney netted goals in European competition for Celtic?
- 3) Which player established a record in March by playing his 131st match in European competition?
- 4) Which two winners of major European trophies have Villarreal already eliminated from the UEFA Cup tournament?
- 5) Who is the only Celt to have scored two goals against a Spanish team in a single match in Europe?
- 6) How many goals did Celtic score last season in European competition, establishing a club record in doing so?
- 7) Which club has the distinction of winning the ECWC, the UEFA Cup and the European Supercup, but has never won its own domestic championship?
- 8) Which three players have this season been dismissed against Celtic in European competition?
- 9) Which current Villarreal striker played

in the last team to defeat Celtic both home and away in European competition?

- 10) Which Scot in 1980/81 netted a record-equalling 13 goals in his clubs triumphant UEFA Cup campaign?
- 11) Other than Celtic which two clubs have won the European Cup fielding eleven players of the same nationality?
- 12) Which Spanish side saw the lowest ever attendance at Celtic Park for a European match?
- 13) What is Celtic's record of undefeated matches in European competition in Glasgow, established between 1968/69 and 1983/84?
- 14) Which is the only team to have played in two separate European campaigns against a Martin O'Neill Celtic side?
- 15) Who is the only current striker to have scored more goals in European competition than the 44 netted by Henrik Larsson for Celtic and Feyenoord?

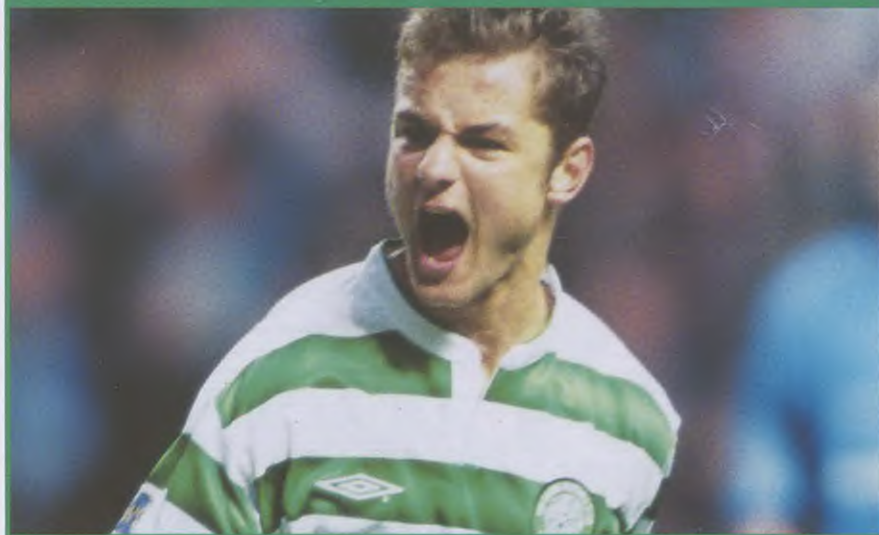
Answers

- 1) Ronnie Simpson 1964/65.
- 2) VfB Stuttgart & FC Kaunas.
- 3) Paolo Maldini of AC Milan v Deportivo.
- 4) Galatasaray & Roma.
- 5) Murdo Macleod v Real Sociedad 1982/83.
- 6) 30 goals.
- 7) Parma.
- 8) Javier Savioia & Thiago Motta (Barcelona) Glenn De Boek(Anderlecht)
- 9) Sonny Anderson with Olympic Lyon 99/2000.
- 10) John Wark of Ipswich Town.
- 11) Real Madrid 1966 & Steaua Bucharest 1986.
- 12) Atletico Madrid 1985/86 250 people as it was played behind closed doors on UEFA instruction.
- 13) 34 matches.
- 14) FC Porto 2001/2002 2002/2003.
- 15) Raul of Real Madrid with 45.

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Celtic 



CROWD PLEASERS: There were only around 250 spectators at this match between Celtic and Atletico Madrid, but the Hoops had already played Leeds in front of the biggest audience ever at Hampden (below)

FOR the second leg of this season's clash between Villarreal and Celtic, the El Madrigal Stadium will no doubt be bursting at the seams with supporters.

Even so, as it only holds a maximum of 16,800, it will be a small crowd for a tie involving the Hoops in Europe.

Probably the worst-ever attendance at a Celtic game was at Parkhead on October 2, 1985, against Atletico Madrid.

On the instructions of UEFA, the match was played behind closed doors. This was a punishment for misdemeanours by Celtic fans at Old Trafford in the re-scheduled game against Rapid Vienna the previous season. Only about 250 were present.

For the two next-lowest attendances, we have to head for Scandinavia. Celtic travelled to Kokkola in Finland in September 1970. With a 9-0 lead from the first leg at Parkhead, it was expected that the return would be fairly comfortable and so it proved, Celtic winning 5-0 to make the aggregate score 14-0, a club record.

Unfortunately, the locals also obviously thought the tie had been won in Glasgow and only 4,500 of them – minus the Celtic away support which, in those far-off days, was pretty small – bothered to turn up.

For an even lower attendance, Finland was again the place, this time the match was in 1973 against TPS Turku.

Celtic won the first leg 6-1 before a

crowd of 3,100. In the return at Parkhead, when the Bhoys scored three without reply, only 18,000 supporters were present.

In the following season, in the first match of the European Cup campaign, Celtic were embarrassingly beaten 2-1 in Copenhagen by local club BK 1903.

The Danish papers had given their champions little chance, so only 6,600 fans turned up and became more and more noisy – and delighted – as the game went on.

All the goals came in the first 24 minutes, our play deteriorated as the game went on, and to say Jock Stein was furious is an understatement!

There were also tiny crowds in Luxembourg in 1977, against Jeunesse d'Esch (4,000); Diosgyeori Miskolc in Hungary in 1980 (8,000); Cwambran Town in 1999 (8,920); and Jeunesse again in 2000 (a rise to 4,004).

However, the Bhoys have played in front of some huge audiences in the course of European competition.

We could start with the biggest ever attendance, at Hampden Park on April 15, 1970.

When the Celtic and Leeds players

came out on to the pitch that night, a crowd of 133,961 spectators rose in acclamation – the largest ever attendance for a club match in European competition.

Celtic won 2-1 to go through to the final 3-1 on aggregate.

Nineteen years later, on the March 19, 1989, for the second-leg of the European Cup quarter-final tie in Madrid, a massive 110,000 crowded into the Bernabeu Stadium to see if the Hoops could hold on to a two-goal lead from the first leg.

Unfortunately, it was not to be. Real Madrid scored a goal on either side of the interval and the winner seven minutes from the end.

107,000 were in the Central Stadium in Kiev for the visit of Celtic on November 5, 1986, when the Scots champions lost 1-3.

For one of the most unusual large crowds, though, we might have to look across the Irish Sea to Dublin, where the Waterford-Celtic tie, a 7-0 win for the visitors, attracted an attendance of 50,000.

The odd thing about this meeting was that the match was played at Lansdowne Road, the home of Irish rugby!



With Scotland's club sides in a financial mess, the Scottish executive has invested £31.5million into youth development in a bid to kick-start our game

IT was wonderful to hear David Taylor announce that the Scottish Executive are prepared to invest £31.5m into Scottish Youth football. David and his team deserve congratulations for the work that they have done in securing that amount of money.

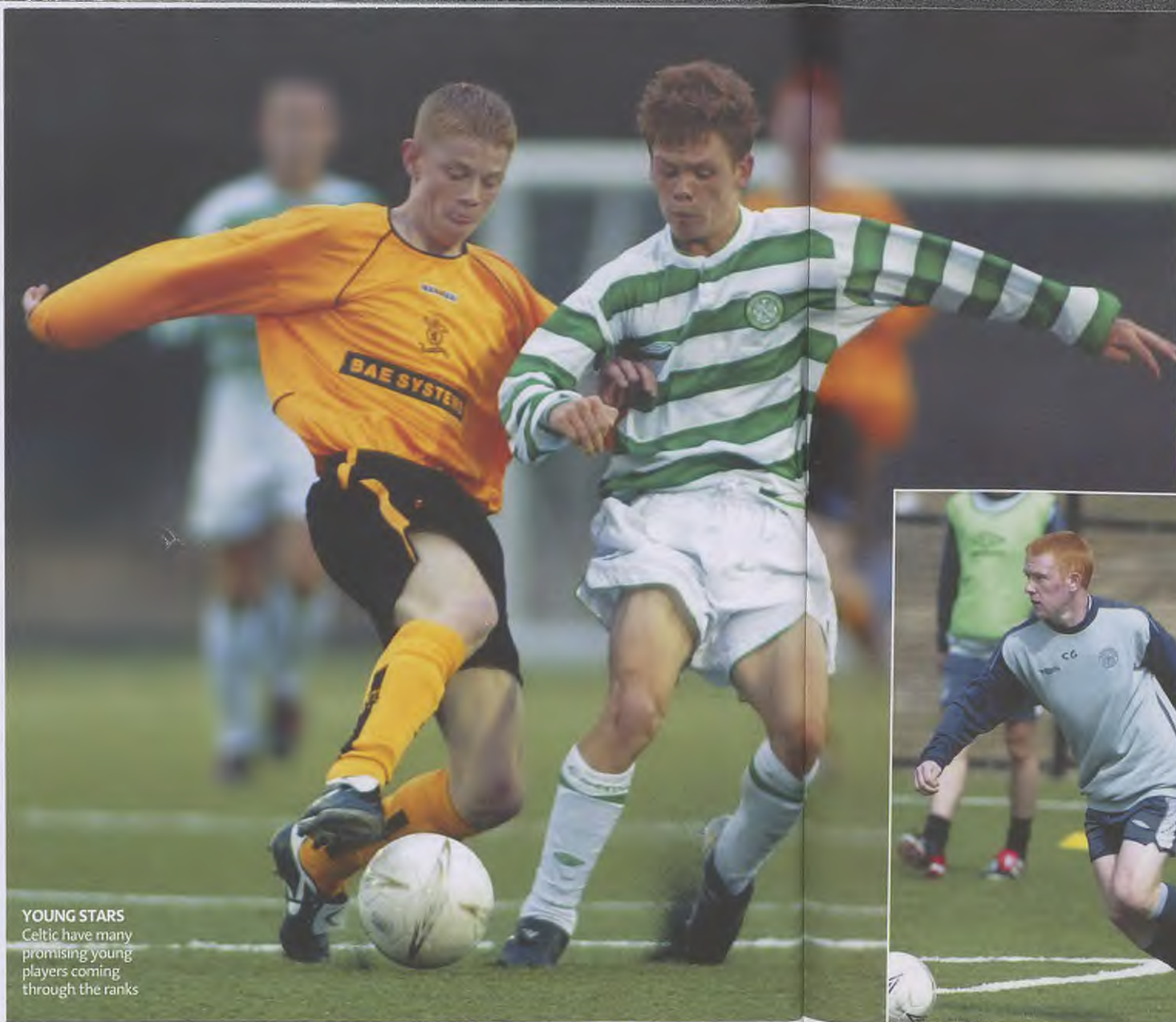
I am sure it will give a boost to Scottish Youth Football with a lot of it genuinely going to the grassroots of the game. I hope it is spent wisely and that it is put to work in securing decent facilities to help develop talented young players.

One thing that I have learned since coming to Scotland is that the weather is significantly worse than you get south of the border. In England (with better weather) they have over 40 indoor football halls with at minimum of 60 x 40yds clear playing space. By comparison Scotland has one (Murray Park). Science tells us that motor skills development in young players has the greatest success when working with players between 8-12 years. This means working on ball techniques, speed, agility, and co-ordination have best effect at these early ages.

Now imagine this scenario: It is an average January evening, wet, windy, and freezing cold. A coach has 16 players and he is working on ball technique. The ball blows away from the player while he is working as does the discs he is working between. The coach cannot stop the session to coach the youngsters because if he does that the kid gets very cold very quickly. The player can hardly hear the instructions the coach is giving because of the wind, and he can hardly move his freezing limbs because of the weather.

The above is the normal experience of a young elite football talent and his coach in Scotland. Facilities are vitally important – not as important as a good coaching curriculum though – and Scotland has a paucity of them. The problem is that each of the 40 indoor halls in England will have cost an average of £1m to build, costing a total of £40m.

That is just the start of the expenses incurred when developing elite talent. To do this properly we need to have as much



YOUNG STARS
Celtic have many promising young players coming through the ranks

“To create an Olympic athlete will take up to 10,000 coaching hours over a 10 year period”

coaching contact time as possible. Let me give you an example from another sport: To create an Olympic gymnast – not a medal winner, just someone who can compete seriously at that level – will take 10,000 coaching hours over a 10-year period. That equates to 1,000 hours per year, and roughly 20 hours per week. At Celtic we have eight hours contact time with our U11-U15 Academy squads, and we have our players longer than almost every other club in Scotland. We are hoping to create Champions League players with that 8 hours contact time.

Eight hours is a long time out of a young player's week. If you add travelling time it means that the players will be dedicating at least 12 hours every week. Obviously, this kind of commitment cannot be allowed to affect schoolwork and so the club has to provide homework facilities, an Education and Welfare Officer and tutor support for the players.

Celtic has eight squads within the youth Academy from U11-U19 and provides two

coaches at each age-group. These staff members commit a minimum of 8 hours per week to coaching our players. Earlier I mentioned that development of technique is best between ages 8-12. To cater for the U8-U10's we have Development Centres around Scotland with two coaches at each Centre delivering a minimum four hours coaching per week.

To find the players, Celtic employs about 40 scouts and a Community Programme with a further 20 coaches. Without good players all of the rest is a pointless exercise. All of this needs to be underpinned by administration staff, and project management. The Academy at Celtic has about 100 posts within it.

Is this so different from everybody else? No – Celtic are about the same as all of the other Academies in England (all 40 of them). The problem that David Taylor has to deal with is that not all of the other Scottish clubs can afford to do the same as Celtic. Not even a quarter of the SPL can invest to the same level as

Celtic in their youth policies. So that begs the question how can 40 clubs in England invest to a similar level as Celtic. The answer is two-fold:

1. The FA Premier League clubs that have Academies have substantial TV monies.
2. All Academies and Centres of Excellence in England. Each was given a grant of £138,000 per year for four years to invest in their youth programmes.

There are 40 Academies and roughly 52 Centres of Excellence in England. Each was given a grant of £138,000 per year for four years providing an investment of £552,000 at each club. Multiply that by 92 clubs gives a total investment of £51m.

The point here is that in England there was a cash injection for elite youth football of £51m. David is rightly celebrating with the rest of us a £31m



INVESTMENT
SFA chief David Taylor has helped secure a £31m windfall

investment. However, this investment will go, in the main, to the grass roots of the game. It will hopefully get more people playing the game, and will provide them with better facilities.

The question is how much will be left over to invest in the elite youth players? How much will be left over to help more clubs invest at a level that they clearly must do to develop elite youth players. In England they have invested about £51m in elite youth players.

It should be remembered that it is the development of elite youth players that will eventually fill the SPL with talented Scots and it is the SPL that will be the showpiece of Scottish football providing the role models of the future.

The challenge for David Taylor now is to ensure that the £31m from the Scottish Executive is wisely spent. This will be tricky and David will need all of the help and support he can get.

Enjoy the game.

John Stephenson
Youth Academy Manager

PUTTING THE POINT ACROSS
Celtic have a team of youth coaches with the aim of raising a group of Champions League-quality youngsters



YOUTH ACADEMY NEWS ROUND UP

Early in March, Eddie Hamill, our Scout in the Falkirk area, passed away after a short illness. Eddie was well known by everyone in his area connected with football, and will be greatly missed by all at Celtic. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Eddie's wife Jean and son Kevin, and his grandchildren.

The turnout at Eddie's funeral was remarkable and showed the respect the local community had for Eddie. His family appreciate all the kind words and support they have received and would like to thank everyone for helping them through this difficult time.

Under 17s

As we go to press, the 17s are in London to play Arsenal 17s. The game took place yesterday at Arsenal's training ground. Some lads have recently been on international duty with Scotland and the Republic of Ireland and fared well. Coach Jim McNally has been delighted at the progress his boys have made this season with a few of them now playing U21 football regularly with Kenny McDowall. The boys moving up to this level from the 17s include Scott Cuthbert, Michael McGlinchey, Jim O'Brien and Charles Grant.

Under 10s

We are now well down the road in our preparations for our new 11s squad for next season. A number of boys have been identified from our weekly Development Centre Games Programme, as being of the required standard to join the Academy. Further assessment of U10s will take place during the Easter holidays, with a number of kids coming to Barrowfield from all over the country to put themselves into contention for a place at the club. This is a long process and involves scouts, coaches and our fitness coach in the Academy, Adam Owen, putting the kids through their paces, with Tommy Burns having the final say on who will be invited to join the club for a year next season.

Tournaments

As well as the 17s playing Arsenal during Easter, we have the 16s playing in the London Cup against Spurs and Millwall and the 15s are also going to Lake Garda in Italy in May. A number of our squads are playing in tournaments in Holland, Belgium, France and Germany. All of the tournaments are against professional clubs, with our boys testing themselves against the likes of Ajax, Bayern, Lyon, Juventus. Clubs we are familiar with at first-team level. Hopefully we can repeat our successes at youth level.



THE football life in many countries owes its beginnings to the British. They travelled the world in the late 19th century, working as soldiers, sailors, civil servants, doctors, engineers or adventurers.

In their spare time, however, they had a passion for football and took every opportunity to pass that enthusiasm on to the locals.

In Spain, the first footballs were brought to the Basque country by British mining engineers in the 1890s. That historical link is still acknowledged today; one of the best teams in the province is 'Athletic' Bilbao.

British mining engineers took the game to the cities of Madrid and Barcelona. Certainly a Swiss, Hans Gamper, founded Barcelona but an Englishman, Arthur Johnson, was the first trainer/manager of Real Madrid at the turn of the 18/1900s. Johnson had his priorities right; he arranged his wedding in the morning so as not to miss the afternoon's match!

The League Championship

For many years, local championships were

the norm, as travel across such a mountainous terrain was not easy. Eventually, a national championship was set up in 1929 and with the exception of three years at the time of the Civil War – 1937 to 1939 – it has been held every year.

As in most countries, only a few sides have the talent, stamina, depth of pool and money to mount a challenge for the title. There have been only nine different names on the trophy, with two teams having by far the best record;

Real Madrid 29, Barcelona 16, Atletico Madrid 9, Athletic Bilbao 8, Valencia 5, Real Sociedad 2, Real Betis 1, Seville 1, Deportivo La Coruna 1

Copa del Rey

The Spanish Cup has been held since 1902, with only two missing seasons,



1937 and 1938. This is the best chance for most Spanish sides to collect a trophy and in total, 17 have taken the opportunity through the years;

Barcelona 24, Athletic Bilbao 23, Real Madrid 17, Atletico Madrid 9, Valencia 6, Real Zaragoza 6, Real Union de Irun 3, Seville 3, Espanyol 3, Deportivo La Coruna 2, Arenas 2, Ciclista Sebastian 1, Racing de Irun 1, Vizcaya de Bilbao 1, Real Betis 1, Real Sociedad 1, Mallorca 1

International Team

At international level, Spain has disappointed more often than not.

Even when they hosted the tournament, in 1982, the side were pipped by Northern Ireland for the top spot in the first group stage and then found West Germany and England too much in the second round.

VIVA ESPANA!

Jim Craig looks at the origins of Spanish football and examines the Spanish club sides and national team's achievements over the years

“The Spanish national team were the first continental side to beat England, in Madrid on May 15, 1929”

Still, the national team has had its moments. Spain were the first continental side to beat England, in Madrid on May 15, 1929. They also won the European Championship in 1964 and the 1992 Olympic Games title in Barcelona. At World Cup level, Spain's best has been a fourth place in Brazil in 1950.

European Trophies

A few Spanish sides have stamped their authority on all three European trophies.

European Cup/Champions League

Real Madrid	1956, 1957, 1958, 1959, 1960, 1966, 1998, 2000, 2002
Barcelona	1992

Fairs Cup/UEFA Cup

Valencia	1962, 1963
Real Zaragoza	1964
Barcelona	1958, 1960, 1966
Real Madrid	1985, 1986

European Cup-Winners' Cup

Atletico Madrid	1962
Barcelona	1979, 1982, 1989, 1997
Valencia	1980
Real Zaragoza	1995

European Super Cup

Valencia	1980
Barcelona	1992, 1997
Real Madrid	2002

World Club Championship

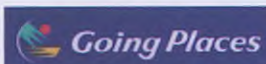
Real Madrid	1960
-------------	------

Atletico Madrid	1974
Real Madrid	1998, 2002

Players

Unfortunately, the top Spanish teams have had a buying policy over the last 50 years or so and many of the most memorable names are indeed foreign.

In earlier days, a few of these were pressed into service for Spain, like Alfredo Di Stefano and Hector Rai (both Argentinean), Jose Santamaria (ex-Uruguay) and former Magyar Ferenc Puskas. However, that recognised – if debatable – practice rather took the eye away from the host of excellent home-produced Spanish stars. Perez Alfonso, Amancio, Emilio Butragueno, Jose Camacho, Jose Caminero, Luis del Sol, Augustin Gainza, Francisco Gento, Josep Guardiola, Julen Guerrero Lopez, Fernando Hierro, Kiko, Marquitos, Michel, Molowny, Joaquin Peiro, Pichichi, Pirri, Raul, Juan Segarra, Luis Suarez, Martin Verges, Ricardo Zamora, Andoni Zubizarreta.



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EYES ON THE PRIZE

The Hoops have now gone 76 games without defeat at Celtic Park despite the attempts of some of the biggest names in European football. Now, as Villarreal come to town, Didier Agathe explains that he and his team-mates will treat the Spaniards with the same respect as the others as they bid to take their place in the last four of the UEFA Cup

Exclusive Interview: ALISON McCONNELL

DIDIER AGATHE'S last-gasp goal on Saturday afternoon ensured that Celtic go into this evening's tie against Villarreal on the back of a home record that now stretches to 76 games without defeat.

It is a record that has stood firm in the wake of visits from some of Europe's most illustrious names and it's almost superfluous to suggest that Celtic will be aiming to push it a little further on tonight against the La Liga side.

Having coming up against the likes of Valencia, Celta Vigo and Barcelona of late, Spanish opposition is not a novel experience for Martin O'Neill's side and Agathe knows that the first leg encounter of this quarter-final tie will be taxing on Celtic.

The Hoops might have found themselves in the unusual position of finding themselves labelled as favourites going into the meeting, but it's a tag that Agathe is keen to shake off.

"I have people say that we are favourites in the game and I don't like that," he stated. "We know that they are a quality side and it will take a lot of determination and a lot of hard work if we want to get through this tie.

"The manager will have us well prepared going into the game tonight about who is who and what danger they possess. We always take it game-by-game and we know that this will be another massive night for us.

"The most important thing from our point of view is that we get through. Expectation levels have risen again because we put Barcelona out, but that won't fool us into thinking that we don't have to keep

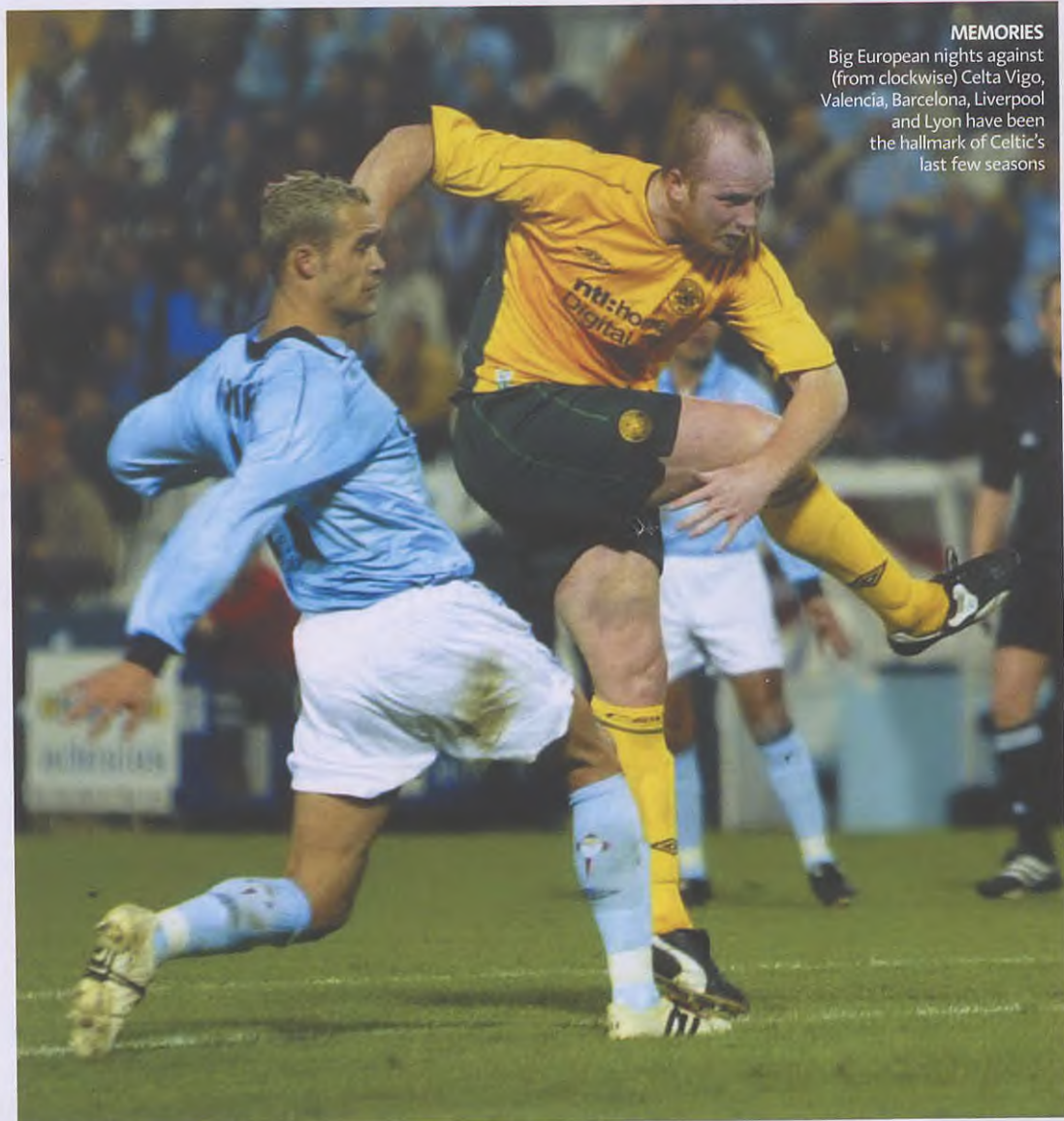
working as hard as we have been. It's another big game for us. We know that it will be difficult but we are confident. We cannot be scared of anyone now. We respect them as a club and as a team but we will go out and give it our best shot against them."

While Celtic's record in Glasgow over the last three years may well be a daunting statistic for visitors to the ground, Agathe knows that the record is testimony to the work-rate and commitment that has been the hallmark of O'Neill's side.

That was evident on Saturday afternoon against Hearts when two goals inside the final two pulsating minutes was enough to salvage a point and protect the unbeaten record, and Agathe has revealed that such determination on the park mirrors the mood of Celtic's dressing room.

"We are a good side who work hard for one another," he said. "The team spirit on the pitch is a reflection of what goes on in the dressing room

MEMORIES
Big European nights against (from clockwise) Celta Vigo, Valencia, Barcelona, Liverpool and Lyon have been the hallmark of Celtic's last few seasons



because there is a great atmosphere between us. It is also a reflection on what the manager has done too because he makes sure that we all work for one another.

"There is a group that has changed little in the four years and those players who have come in have done very well.

"Some people maybe felt a few years ago that we were lucky to be winning the league and being in the position we were, but I think over the last four years we have shown that it is down to much more than luck."

During Celtic's UEFA Cup run that ran all the way to the final in Seville, O'Neill's side found themselves hosting the first leg and travelling for the second in every round.

This season has followed a similar pattern since the Champions League campaign came to an end and Agathe is unperturbed at having to go on the road for such a crucial second leg.

He explained: "Last year it was exactly the same. The only thing that we can do is go out and concentrate on denying Villarreal a goal because I think that

becomes very important in the second leg.

"It is never easy but obviously we would like to get a goal to take to Spain next week as well as a clean sheet but we know that it will be tough.

"We have a new pitch that has just been put down which will help. We don't much about Villarreal at the minute but I'm aware of some of their players and know what they are capable of."

When the current Celtic side breaks up in future seasons, the chances are that most fans and observers will remember

these years as the time when European credibility was restored to the club.

Whatever is achieved on the domestic platform will always be eagerly welcomed – and the Championship will always be the most important bauble – but in terms of excitement and drama, genuinely competing against teams from the Continent will always be regarded as a little special.

The nights against Juventus, Lyon, Liverpool and Barcelona have given a particular hue to this era in which Celtic have scaled heights few would have

anticipated just a short time ago. It doesn't have to be explained that Agathe is desperate for such evenings to continue.

The winger, whose defensive attributes as well as his pace, have been instrumental in European football over the last few seasons, is reluctant to peer too far into the future but is confident that Celtic can go to Spain next week aiming to secure a place in the semi-final of the UEFA Cup.

"The evening in Barcelona was very special for me because they were my team when I was a kid, so to come up

against them and put them out of the competition was brilliant," he said.

"The team performance was brilliant and there are not many sides who would have kept a clean sheet against Barcelona over 180 minutes. However, that is in the past now and we have to try to repeat that level of performance against Villarreal because we know they are a strong side.

"We know that tonight is going to be difficult and we know we will have to work to the best of our abilities. It should be another exciting night and we're all looking forward to it."

This week in your 64-page Celtic View



- All the action and reaction from a dramatic game against Hearts
 - Don't miss all the travel info for the trip to Villarreal
 - Read all the latest from the Celtic Youth Academy
- And much more, including a special souvenir poster of the Ibrox victory

CELTIC VIEW – ON SALE NOW



Alistair Ramsay, Director of Scotland Against Drugs with Celtic youngsters

HELP YOUR KIDS BE ALL THEY CAN BE

CELTIC Football Club is delighted to announce their partnership with Scotland against Drugs in addressing the problems of social issues in Scotland at grassroots level. The project encourages "a strong, action-based, working partnership in order to deliver healthy lifestyle messages to youngsters involved in this meaningful and worthwhile programme.

Both Celtic and Scotland against Drugs are conscious of the role that sport can play, and its capacity for imparting life skills, such as self-discipline, respect, co-operation and teamwork.

The project and approach fits with the national strategic directive: "Providing opportunities for young people to become involved in structured and positive activities that tackle healthy lifestyles, drug awareness, anti social behaviour, crime reduction, and community development".

The key theme running throughout this initiative will be one that supports the notion - 'be all you can be'

Strategic Objectives

The project has a number of main objectives these are;

- To improve the health and fitness of those attending.
- To increase participation levels by children in sport.
- To deliver healthy lifestyle messages to those attending.



- To improve youngsters skills and technique under the supervision of our experienced Community and Academy coaching staff.
- To ensure every youngster participating has both an enjoyable and meaningful experience.
- To provide a pathway for development for talented players.
- To use positive role models to influence positive change in the lifestyle habits of children attending.

Alistair Ramsay, Director of Scotland Against Drugs, said: "Scotland Against Drugs has been working with the Scottish Football Authorities over the last three years on initiatives aimed at promoting a healthy lifestyle message to youngsters.

"Sporting activity is a successful means of ensuring youngsters take on board the message being delivered and Scotland Against Drugs is delighted to be in

partnership with Celtic to create enjoyable and regular activity for youngsters attending Celtic Soccer Schools.

"Scotland Against Drugs believe that this type of project using football and positive role models can help change attitudes to drug misuse and anti-social behaviour."

The Programme

The pilot project kicked off on the 15 March and will run until the 20 June.

Skill Centres have been established throughout Glasgow, East Renfrewshire, Paisley, Linwood, Kilmarnock, Hamilton, Falkirk, Cumbernauld and the Borders. The programme is aimed at 4 to 12 year olds.

In addition to the skill centres, Celtic in the Community will be rolling out a series of holiday courses starting with our Easter Courses. The programme takes into account age and the different levels of ability. As a consequence the coaching and educational programme has been carefully designed to ensure those participating have both an enjoyable and educational experience.

scotland 
against drugs
Partnerships in Action

Catch the gala opening of Jinky movie



CELTIC and Scotland legend Jimmy Johnstone will be honoured at the premiere of a film which charts his illustrious football career.

'The Lord of the Wing' tells the story of the home-grown Hoops hero who fulfilled a boyhood dream and lifted the European Cup in 1967.

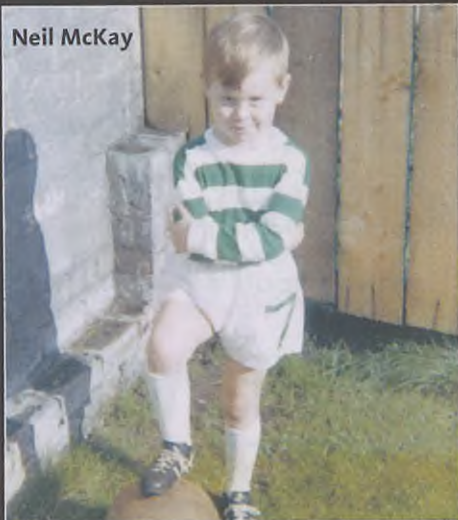
The premiere is at the SECC's Clyde Auditorium on Sunday, April 25. Tickets on sale now.

Made by Scottish filmmaker Jamie Doran and narrated by Billy Connolly, the movie features tributes from some of the great names in football as well as stars from the world of showbiz.

Tickets cost £10, £15, £20 and £25 and £90 for those wishing to attend the gala dinner after the screening.

They are available from the SECC box office from 9am by calling **0870 040 4000** or on-line at **www.sectickets.com**

Neil McKay



BIRTHDAY MESSAGES

What a result! Neil McKay (left) is 40. Happy Birthday, love from Janis, Mum, and Dad

Happy 12th Birthday Owen. Love from Mum, Dad and big sister Nadine.

Owen





GREAT REWARD FOR CELTIC FANS

CELTIC FC, in association with the Celtic MasterCard, was this week delighted to welcome fourteen Celtic MasterCard holders who had exchanged 6,000 Celtic Rewards points for a once in a lifetime experience – Lunch with the Manager and other Celtic icons.

As Celtic MasterCard holders, these supporters automatically benefit from the Celtic Rewards programme – the first benefits package of its kind attached to a football club, which gives supporters the opportunity to enjoy a fantastic range of Celtic products, services and exclusive opportunities free of charge as a thank you for using the Celtic MasterCard and supporting the Club.

Lunch with Manager Martin O'Neill and other Celtic legends is arguably the most exclusive and sought after Reward. The fourteen supporters who were invited along enjoyed the company of O'Neill, and Hoops' legends Bobby Lennox and Tom Boyd at a champagne reception, followed by a superb

Celtic MasterCard holders are given the chance to meet manager Martin O'Neill and Hoops' legends Bobby Lennox and Tom Boyd for a Champagne reception and lunch after they exchange credit card reward points

four-course lunch in Celtic Park's Carling Suite.

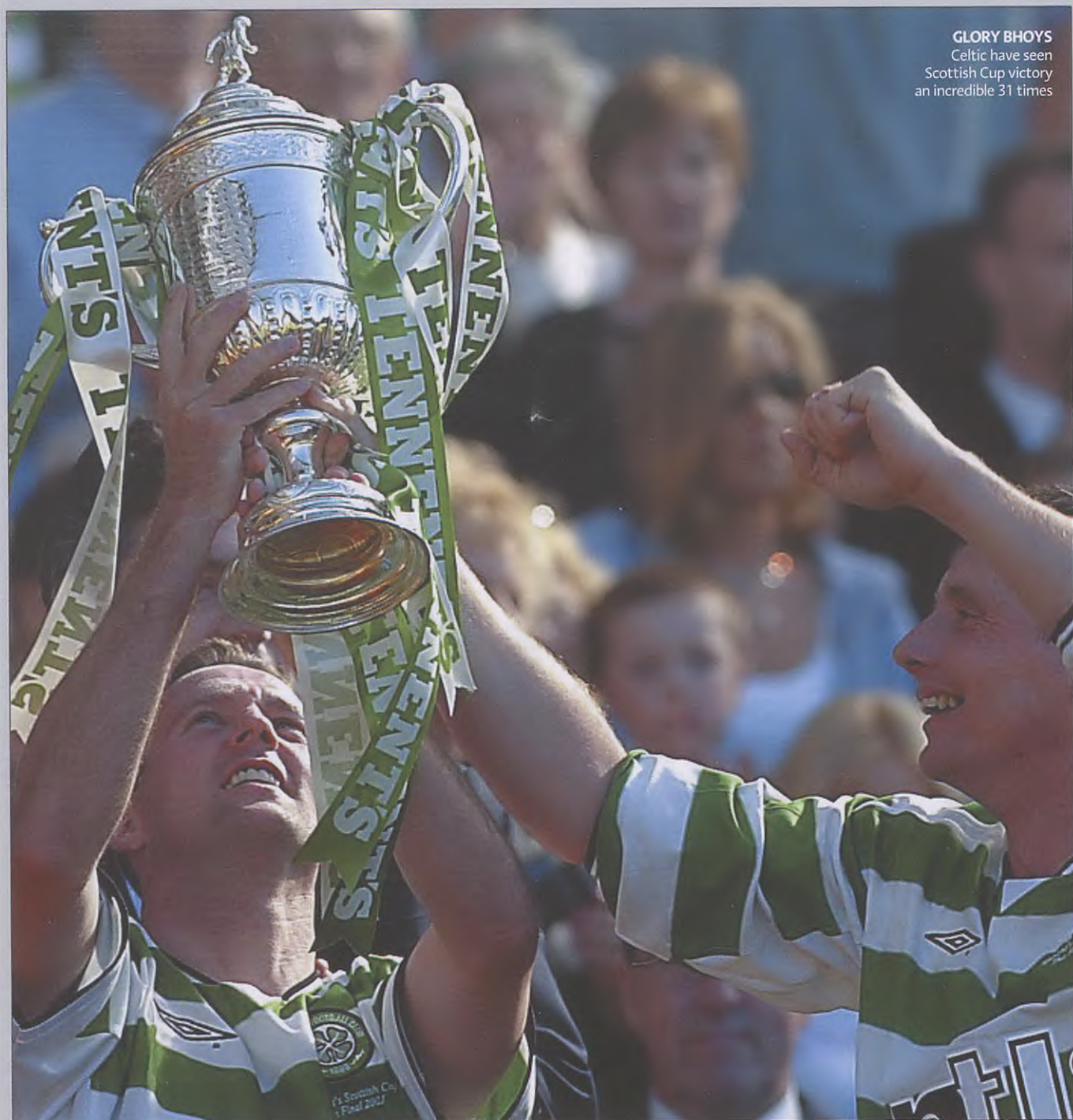
As you can see from the photos, supporters including Iain Brown, Frank Radka and 10-year-old Natasha Robertson had the opportunity to meet and chat with the manager and Bobby Lennox and Tom Boyd, as well as have a professional photograph taken as a memento of their day.

Mr Radka, who also celebrated his birthday on Monday commented: "Today was better than I ever could have imagined. The intimate numbers allowed everyone to

get the opportunity to speak with the manager, Bobby and Tom, and I look forward to being able to save up enough points to come along again next year."

You, too, could reward yourself with the Celtic MasterCard by collecting points and exchanging them for the reward you want, including signed shirts, match tickets, VIP Hospitality and even lunch with the Manager and other Celtic legends.

Check out www.celticfc.net or call MBNA free on **0800 776 262** for more details.



GLORY BOYS
Celtic have seen
Scottish Cup victory
an incredible 31 times

ON this day in 1911, Celtic faced Hamilton in the Scottish Cup final.

The Hoops were trying for their seventh Cup triumph while the Accies were making their debut in the final.

Until now, Celtic have won the Scottish Cup 31 times and will contest another semi-final this Sunday against Livingston. Hamilton only made one other appearance, losing 2-1 to Rangers in 1935.

The 1911 final took place at Ibrox and a crowd of 45,000 gathered in expectation of a Celtic victory, but the game finished in a drab 0-0 draw in what was considered at the time to have been one of the poorest ever cup finals.

The replay a week later, again at Ibrox, did not attract the same numbers, with

just over half the attendance of the previous game.

Celtic triumphed 2-0 thanks to goals from Jimmy Quinn and Tommy McAteer.

Also on this day in 1944, Jackie Gallacher hit five goals as the Bhoys beat Partick Thistle in a Scottish League Cup, Section B match at Celtic Park.

Jackie was the brother of legendary forward Hughie, and signed for Celtic in 1943, making his debut in a 4-1 defeat against Dumbarton in September that year. He scored the Hoops' only goal.

Jackie made 116 appearances between 1943 and 1951, scoring 94 goals. He had a few loan spells towards the end of his Celtic career – at Dunfermline and Falkirk, and moved to Kettering Town in 1951 before retiring two years later.

ON THIS DAY IN HISTORY

563 Buddhists commemorate the birth of Gautama Buddha, the founder of Buddhism

1879 Milk is sold in glass bottles for the first time

1963 Julian Lennon, the son of Beatle John, is born

1986 Actor Clint Eastwood is elected mayor of Carmel, CA

1994 Kurt Cobain of Nirvana dies



Clint Eastwood

After Barcelona a Nou challenge...



CELTIC v VILLARREAL 8th APRIL

CELTIC REPLAY

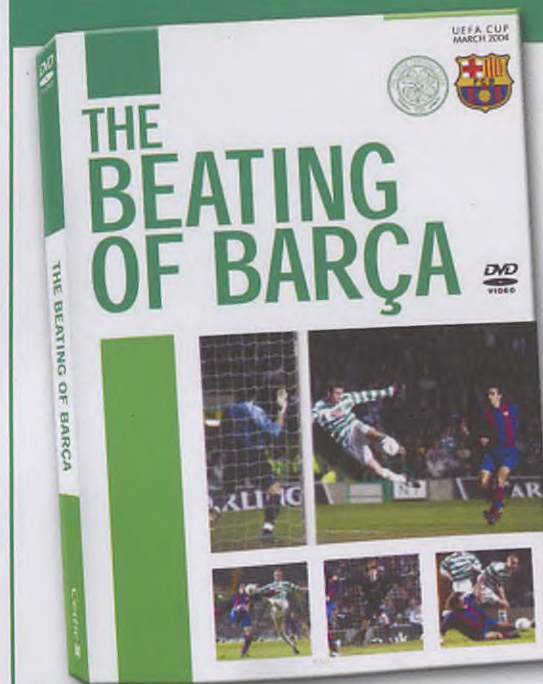
Relive the best moments from Celtic's matches against Barcelona plus look forward to experiencing yet another hot Spanish night, this time against Villarreal with Celtic Replay. Exclusive UEFA Cup quarter final coverage including pre-match build up, LIVE audio commentary, match pictures, exclusive interviews and much more!

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