

GREENOCK

MORTON VERSUS CELTIC



Tennent's Scottish Cup 5th Round, Monday 8th March 1999. Kick Off 7.45pm. Price £1.50

OFFICIAL MATCHDAY MAGAZINE No. 18



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 **RENFREWSHIRE**
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Billy's

View

Since I last spoke to you we have won a vital league fixture and seen another key game postponed. Naturally we have also devoted a deal of time and effort preparing for tonight's match, which due to live coverage on SKY goes out to a nationwide audience.

The Hamilton match was a game that in some ways was typical of the First Division. Hamilton travelled here 6 points adrift of us and knew that whilst a win would close the gap to 3 points a defeat would put 9 points between the two clubs. We therefore had a very competitive first half that was fairly even. I was pleased that we recovered from the disappointment of having a John Anderson goal disallowed and kept plugging away. We got our reward when Keith Wright scored his first goal for the club, but sadly Keith had come on due to Warren Hawke receiving a very bad head-knock.

Keith's goal was a very good striker's effort and he showed good anticipation and quick reactions. His second goal was good too and once we had made the initial breakthrough we created several chances and 3-0 was a fair reflection on the direction the game ultimately took.

It would have been nice to have kept the momentum going but as you know our match at Boghead Park against Clydebank was called off. There was a feeling throughout the week prior that the game was in danger and when we turned up at Dumbarton we were surprised at the amount of sand on the pitch. It was an easy choice for the referee to



call the game off and to have played on such a poor surface would have reduced the game to a lottery.

To have Celtic here for a quarter final tie in the Scottish Cup is a great occasion for everyone at the club. A visit from the Premier League champions is an occasion for the whole town to savour and with the live television coverage the game becomes one of national interest. Hopefully our preparation will stand us in good stead and everyone here will enjoy a cracking cup-tie.

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HONOURS

Scottish Cup Winners: 1921-22
Finalists: 1947/48
Scottish League Cup
Finalists 1963/64
War Shield winners 1914
Renfrewshire Cup winners (46 times)
First Division winners
1977/78, 1983/84, 1986/87
Second Division winners
1949/50, 1963/64, 1966/67, 1994/95

YOUTH SCENE...

Tonight Morton and Celtic do battle in the Tennent's Scottish Cup and shortly the situation will be repeated in the BP Youth Cup. Peter Weir is justifiably proud of his youngsters who have only come together as a side this season. To reach the BP Youth Cup semi-finals they have overcome Ayr United, Dunfermline and Motherwell; all sides with a long tradition in youth football. One of the most pleasing aspects of their progress is that they are young enough to be eligible to play at this level next season too.

Our youth team continue to go from strength to strength. Their latest away game was in Dumfries against Queen of the South. It was a long trip and fairly horrendous journey. We left Greenock at 4.00pm and did not arrive in Dumfries until 5 to seven. As you can imagine the youngsters were not feeling too good after such a long trip in a mini-bus.

However, once the travel sickness was banished, it was down to action and a fine 3-2 win was recorded. This was a great result as Queen's had lost just 3 games all season and it was the perfect recovery from our defeat in Berwick.

Brian Kerr put us on the right

tracks with a goal directly from a corner and Michael Harte added a second with a left foot volley. 2-0 up at half time we completely lost our shape following the resumption and were pegged back within 7 minutes of the restart, losing two goals from corners.

However, our youngsters are nothing if not determined and Michael Harte grabbed a late winner. In truth our superb fitness told in the last 20 minutes and we simply over-ran the Dumfries side, we could even afford the luxury of a missed penalty by Stephen Whalen who was unlucky to see his spot kick strike an upright.

Special mention must go to Brian Kerr who was absolutely outstanding on the left. Brian worked very hard and set a super standard. The team that tamed the Doonhamers was Carlin, MacDonald, Trialist, Robb, McGregor, Hamill, Trialist, Tweedie, Kerr, Whalen and Harte. Subs: Jack, C Aitken and Sherry.

Details of the match at Celtic Park will be published as soon as we have them. In the meantime here is the low down on the Morton Youth Squad which has been so impressive this term.

MORTON SQUAD

NAME	POSITION	D.O.B.	R.O.B.
Stuart MacDONALD	Defender	15.05.81	Glasgow
Ross ROBB	Defender	09.03.81	Glasgow
Paul HAMILL	Midfield	27.03.81	Greenock
Michael HARTE	Striker	01.09.80	Glasgow
Stewart JACK	Midfield	20.10.81	Greenock
Brian KERR	Midfield	30.10.81	Irvine
G STEWART	Midfield	14.01.83	Greenock
D THOMSON	Midfield	19.03.80	E. Kilbride
Ian NIXON	Goalkeeper	13.08.82	Greenock
Gary TWEEDIE	Midfield	02.01.81	Irvine
Mark SHERRY	Defender	11.01.82	Glasgow
Chris AITKEN	Midfield	31.03.81	Glasgow
Andy HETHRINGTON	Midfield	25.04.82	Glasgow
Andrew CARLIN	Goalkeeper	06.01.81	Glasgow
David MCGREGOR	Defender	09.06.81	Greenock
Stephen WHALEN	Forward	02.05.82	Ayr

NEXT AT CAPPIELLOW

On Saturday we welcome Raith Rovers to Cappiellow in a vital league clash. The Kirkcaldy club have been flirting with relegation this term and badly need a win. It has been a tale of gloom off the field for Rovers too with their financial plight well documented.

With just a handful of league wins this term their current plight is easy to understand. They have also lost some of their best players with Paul Hartley moving to Hibernian and Keith Wright coming here to Greenock. Still with men like Jimmy Nicholl and Alex Smith in the managerial dug-out one can expect their fortunes to revive soon. Earlier this season we beat Raith 2-0 at Cappiellow



NEXT WEEKEND'S FIXTURES

AIRDRIE V STRANRAER

FALKIRK V ST. MIRREN

MORTON V RAITH ROV.

CLYDEBANK V HIBERNIAN

HAMILTON V AYR UTD*

***PLAYING SUNDAY**

MARKO WAS BACK IN TOWN

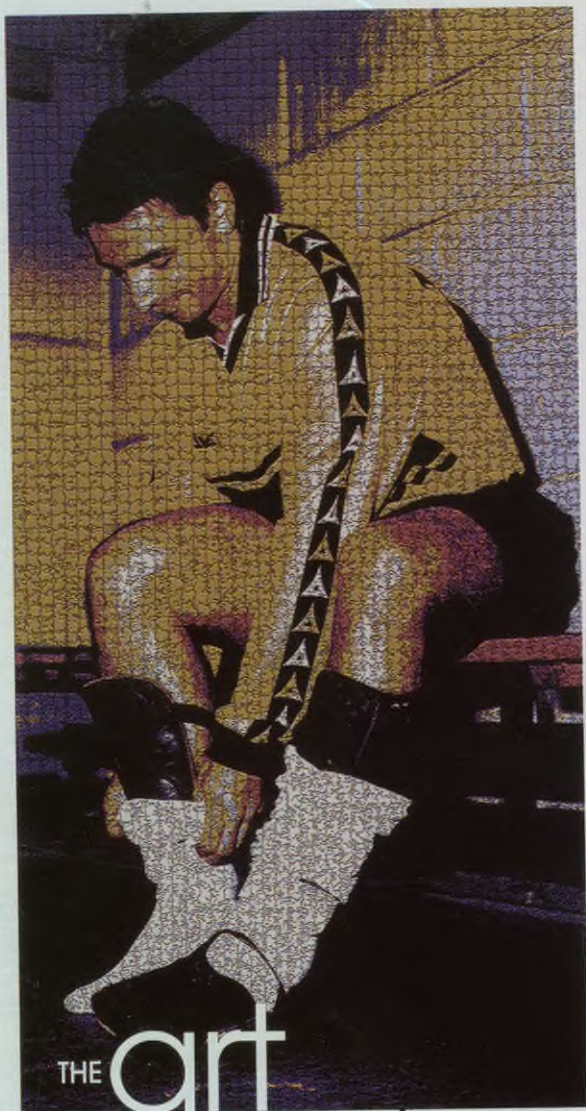
No not Celtic's Australian signing Mark Viduka, but former Morton man Marko Rajamaki. The flying Finn was back at Cappiellow a fortnight ago albeit in a Hamilton Accies strip. Marko was a big favourite here in the early 90's when playing alongside his fellow countryman Janne Lindberg. After leaving us Marko tried a few clubs and was with Livingston prior to pulling on the red and white of Hamilton. Nice to see him again and we wish him all the best in the future.

THE SPONSORS MAN OF THE MATCH V HAMILTON WAS DEREK ANDERSON. DEREK HAS PROVED TO BE A USEFUL ACQUISITION SINCE SIGNING IN DECEMBER AND HAS ONLY TASTED DEFEAT ONCE-LONG MAY THIS CONTINUE.

A WARM WELCOME TO ALL OUR CORPORATE GUESTS FOR THIS EVENINGS MATCH. WE WELCOME OVER 100 GUESTS AND TRUST THAT THEY WILL ENJOY THE MATCH AND ALSO THE HOSPITALITY ON OFFER.

RESERVE LEAGUE WEST

	P	W	L	D	F	A	pts
Morton	14	10	1	2	35	15	33
Ayr Utd	12	8	2	2	36	15	26
St Mirren	13	8	3	2	34	18	26
Stranraer	15	8	5	2	39	26	26
Hamilton	13	7	3	3	29	18	24
Partick Th	15	6	6	3	26	24	21
Queens Park	14	5	8	1	34	35	16
Clyde	13	3	6	4	17	19	13
Alloa	8	3	5	0	14	32	9
Airdrie	11	1	7	3	11	20	6
Albion Rvs	14	0	13	1	8	60	1



THE **art**
OF sportswear

AVEC
rather be without?....

QUIZ PAGE

WHOSE GROUND?



WELL AND TRULY SCRAMBLED

Unscramble the anagrams to reveal the names of five Liverpool players:

NEON COLLY GROGE

PONSIE RIM SONN

HEAVY AID

STIR HAM JON OUNCE

SILLY BRATK

CAN IT BE TRUE OR IS IT FALSE ?

1. Coventry City striker John Aloisi is Australian
2. Stenhousemuir were founded before Celtic
3. The Arsenal striker at the centre of the Sheffield United controversy - Nwankwo Kanu - comes from Algeria
4. Tommy Burns was manager of Celtic immediately before Dr. Josef Venglos
5. Home for Brechin City is Glebe Park

WHO'S MISSING

Each week we feature a team with a couple of players missing. Can you name them?

This week we ask you to name the Brazil side that lost the World Cup final to France last year

TAFFAREL

ALDAIR

JUNIOR BAIANO

LEONARDO

SAMPAIO

DUNGA

RONALDO

BEBETO

WHOSE GROUND: TANNADICE PARK, DUNDEE UNITED
CAN IT BE TRUE OR IS IT FALSE: ANSWERS: 1. FALSE, 2. TRUE, 3. FALSE, HE
IS FROM NIGERIA, 4. FALSE IT WAS WIM JANSEN, 5. TRUE
WELL AND TRULY SCRAMBLED: ANSWERS: GEORGE CONNOLLY, RONNIE
SIMPSON, DAVIE HAY, MAURICE JOHNSTON, BILLY STARK
WHO'S MISSING: CAFU, ROBERTO CARLOS, RIVALDO



TONIGHT'S

Jonathan Gould (Goalkeeper)

Signed from Bradford City, Jonathan has been an inspired signing. Son of the Wales manager Bobby Gould, Jonathan has played for several English sides including Halifax, West Bromwich and Coventry. His showings at Celtic have been of such quality that he is now an integral part of the Scotland set up. At just 30 years of age he has several years of top flight football to savour.

Tom Boyd, (Defender)

Originally signed by Motherwell on a YTS form he was the first such player to make the grade from this level. He became captain of Motherwell, broke into the Scotland side, and helped the Fir Park side win the 1991 Scottish Cup final before joining Chelsea for £800,000. He played only 23 games for the Londoners before joining Celtic. He has now played over 200 league games for Celtic and has taken his Scotland caps tally to 61.

Stephane Mahe, (Defender)

French full-back who joined the Celts early this season from Rennes. Previously with Auxerre and Paris St Germaine he brings good experience to his role. Now 30 years old he is still one of the quickest defenders in the Scottish game.

Jackie McNamara, (Defender)

Classy player who joined Celtic for £600,000 from Dunfermline and has had a major impact at Parkhead. A former Scotland Under 21 internationalist he is the son of the former Celtic, Hibs and Morton player, Jackie senior, and was born in Glasgow; he is 25 years old. Quick and constructive for a defender he is one of several players at Celtic to have been hampered this term by injury. Capped 7 times by Scotland.

Alan Stubbs, (Defender)

27 year old defender who stands at 6'2". Signed from Bolton he was something of a hero with the Wanderers scoring vital cup goals against the likes of Aston Villa and Everton. Born in Kirkby, Merseyside he also won promotion whilst with Wanderers. Capped at England B level Alan has been plagued by injury since arriving in Glasgow but is nevertheless an inspirational figure when playing, and surprisingly creative for an out and out stopper.

Johan Mjallby, (Defender)

Signed from AIK Stockholm, Mjallby is over 6 feet tall and cuts a very imposing figure. Aged 27 he cost Celtic £1.5m from the Swedish club with whom he won a little badge in 1998. Was part of the Stockholm club's youth policy having been with them since the age of 13. A Swedish internationalist.

Tosh McKinlay, (Defender)

Former Dundee and Hearts full back who has been a mainstay of the Scottish international scene. A very hard working player he joined Celtic in 1994 for £350,000. Playing as a wing-back he can be a dangerous opponent who ventures forward with verve. Nevertheless he is a fierce tackler.

Vidar Riseth (Defender)

26 year old Norwegian internationalist whom Celtic signed earlier this season from Austrian side LASK UNZ for £1.4m. He has played in Britain before having been with Luton Town before his move to Austria some 3 years ago for £90,000. Now a full back in the national side he played in France '98 and was in the Norwegian side that drew 1-1 with Scotland.

Phil O'Donnell, (Midfield)

Now recovered from injury, Phil is keen to begin rebuilding his Celtic career which started so promisingly with a debut brace at Park

Thistle. Of course, he started his career at Fir Park and was one of their cup winning side in 1991, scoring his first goal for the 'Well that day. He cost Celtic £1.75m and has the potential to break into the international scene.

Craig Burley, (Midfield)

27 years old, Craig was signed from Chelsea for £2.5m in July 1997. A Scotland internationalist he has drive and purpose about his game and packs an explosive shot. A nephew of former 'Well defender George Burley he has unfortunately been ruled by injury for much of this season. Came back to score in Celtic's 7-1 demolition of Motherwell.

Morten Wieghorst, (Midfield)

Danish internationalist who joined Celtic from Dundee for £600,000 in 1995. Previously with Lyngby he is 27 years old. Tall and elegant he is a left sided midfielder and was a stand out for Dundee in the First Division before moving to Parkhead. Beginning to establish himself at Celtic when he was cut down by injury and sidelined.

Lubomir Moravcik (Midfield)

The signing of the season surely. The 33 year old was a Czechoslovakian internationalist before that nation was reformed. A clever midfielder he uses the ball well and packs a wonderful shot. Has all the talents and has enthralled the Celtic support since arriving from German club Duisberg for just £300,000.

Simon Donnelly, (Forward)

23 year old Glaswegian who joined Celtic from Celtic BC in 1992. His father, Tom, was a Motherwell player in the 1970s. Simon, despite a slight build, is a robust forward who can hold the ball and invite challenges. A useful finisher he has clearly matured in the shadows of Celtic's foreign legion.

Reggi Blinker, (Forward)

Dutch winger who arrived at Celtic as part of the deal that saw Paulo Di Canio move to Sheffield Wednesday. A tricky customer he possesses a neat touch and good burst of pace. Scored his first goal for the Boys in a 7-0 demolition of Berwick in the Coca-Cola Cup but has found first team openings limited.

Henrik Larsson, (Forward)

A £650,000 recruit from Feyenoord in July 1997. Aged 26 he is a Swedish internationalist and netted 24 goals in just 99 appearances for the Rotterdam club. Prior to playing with Feyenoord he was with Halmingsborgs. His 28 caps have brought 8 goals, including one famous strike against England. Went into March with 26 goals to his credit this term and is in line to be Scotland's Player of the Year. Has scored two hat-tricks and a foursome (against Motherwell) in recent weeks.

Harald Brattbakk (Forward)

Former Rosenborg striker who had the remarkable figures of 94 goals in only 100 games for the Norwegian side when Celtic signed him (although that was actually his second spell with Rosenborg). A Norwegian internationalist, Harald is a quality finisher whose ability off the ball and uncanny sense of space make him a dangerous opponent. Is beginning to find the net for Celtic with greater regularity but can still improve further.

Mark Viduka (Forward)

Made his long awaited debut last Saturday in Celtic's 2-1 win over Dundee United at Parkhead. A 23 year old Australian he joined the Celts from Croatia Zagreb for a fee believed to be in the region of £3m.

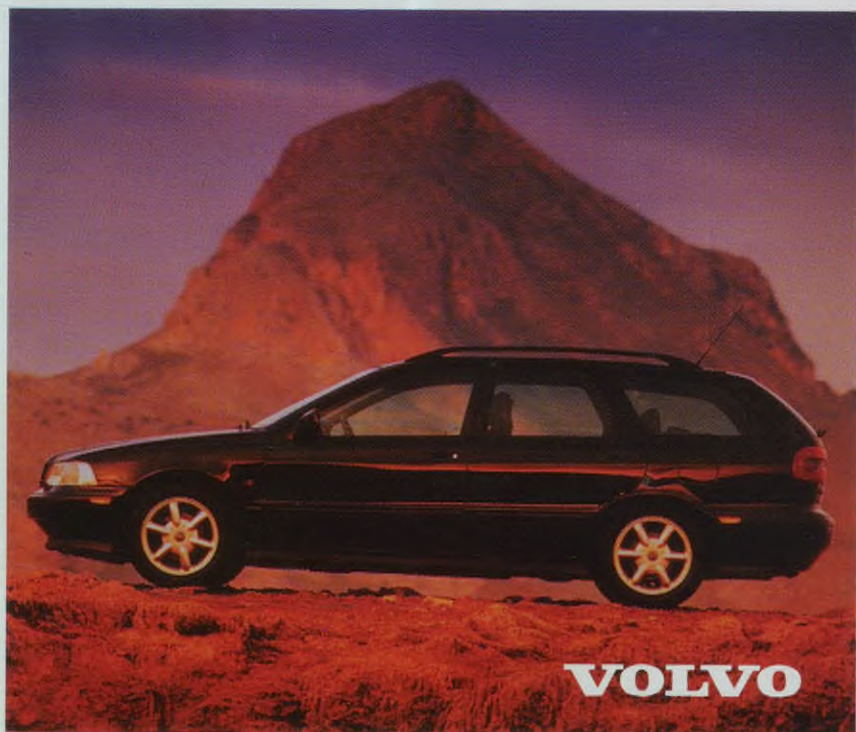
VISITORS



HENRIK HAS BEEN SCOTLAND'S TOP PLAYER THIS SEASON WITH MORE THAN 30 GOALS. THESE INCLUDE TWO SHOWN HERE AGAINST RANGERS (5-1) AND DUNFERMLINE (5-0)



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LOOKING BACK

FIVE YEARS AGO...

1993
& 1994

Morton lost a league game at Dunfermline's East End Park in March 1994. It was yet another bad result in a run that was taking on nightmare proportions. Defeat by the Pars meant that we had failed to win in 16 consecutive league games and that relegation was a racing certainty.

The Morton side that lost was Wylie, Anderson, Pickering, Fowler, Shearer, Hunter, Lilley, Brown, Alexander, Beaton and Thomson. Andy Tod scored two for Dunfermline with George O'Boyle getting the other Pars strike. O'Boyle would finish the season on a personal high by scoring 4 in a 5-0 win over Clyde but alas Dunfermline were pipped for promotion by Falkirk.

Celtic were in action at St Johnstone and recorded a 1-0 win, their goal coming from winger Paul Byrne.

FIVE YEARS AGO

CHARTS

1. Without You (Mariah Carey)
2. The Sign (Ace of Base)
3. Return to Innocence (Enigma)
4. Breathe Again (Toni Braxton)
5. Things Can Only Get Better (D-Real)
6. Let the Beat Control Your Body (2 Unlimited)
7. Don't Go Breaking My Heart (Elton John and RuPaul)
8. Move On Baby (Capella)
9. All for Love (Bryan Adams, Rod Stewart and Sting)
10. Stay Together (Suede)

TEN YEARS AGO...

1988
& 1989

A decade ago Morton drew a fourth consecutive game when they drew 1-1 with Partick Thistle at Cappielow Park. John McNeill celebrated his return after a lengthy lay-off with a stunning goal but it was equalised by veteran Jim Dempsey. The Morton eleven on duty were Wylie, Collins, Pickering, O'Hara, Boag and Strain, Spencer, Clinging, Ronald, McNeill and Turner. Barry Strain was making his debut and John Spencer was on loan from Rangers.

Celtic, who were to end the season as Scottish Cup holders, were not on league duty 10 years ago. However seven days earlier they had beaten Dundee 3-0 at Dens Park with goals by Paul McStay, Andy Walker and Dugald McCarrison.

TEN YEARS AGO

CHARTS

1. Belfast Child (Simple Minds)
2. Leave Me Alone (Michael Jackson)
3. Love Changes Everything (Michael Ball)
4. Stop (Sam Brown)
5. Help! (Bananarama)
6. Hey Music Lover (S-Express)
7. My Prerogative (Bobby Brown)
8. I Don't Want A Lover (Texas)
9. Too Many Broken Hearts (Jason Donovan)
10. Can't Stay Away From You (Gloria Estefan and Miami Soundmachine)