



**Dunfermline Athletic**  
 v.  
**Celtic**




Saturday 8th May  
 East End Park, 1999  
 Kick-Off 3.00pm

**TODAY'S MATCH SPONSOR**

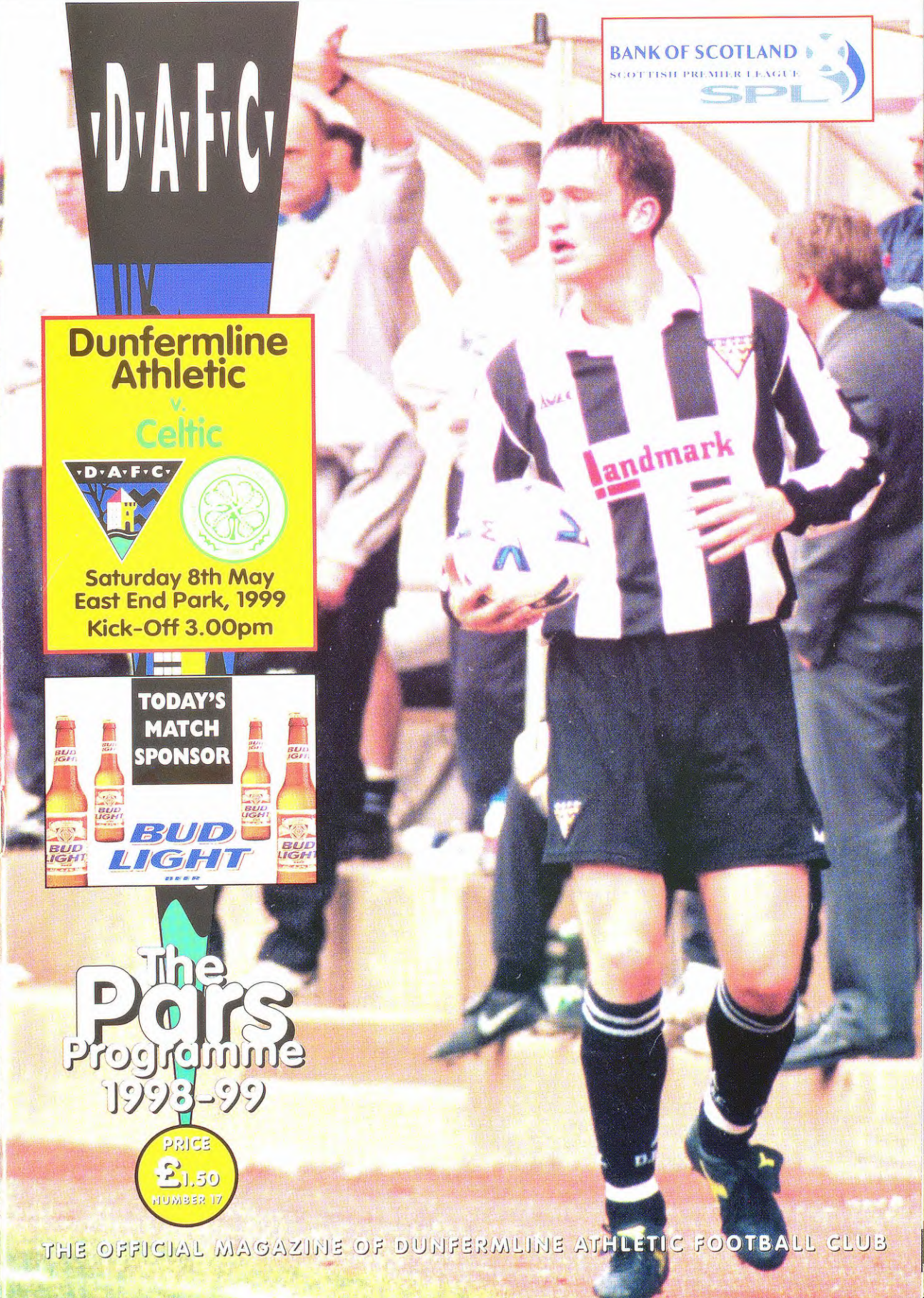


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 NUMBER 17

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF DUNFERMLINE ATHLETIC FOOTBALL CLUB





### ON THE COVER

Craig Ireland - back in the team at last, and helping to inspire a great second half revival against Dundee United.

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## 5,7,21 VISITORS

Just when all the trials and tribulations of Celtic's recent past seemed to be fading into the distance, the club have unfortunately hit the headlines for all of the wrong reasons. With a whole team missing and no league title to play for, how will the Bhoys fare today?

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**PLUS** all the info you need about supporters stuff, club news, Dunfermline's youth teams, and enough statistics to keep even the keenest anorak engrossed.

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**European Competitions**

**Cup Winners Cup:** 1961/62  
(quarter final), 1968/69  
(semi final)

**Fairs (now UEFA) Cup:**  
1962/63, 1964/65, 1965/66  
(quarter final), 1966/67,  
1969/70

**Scottish League -  
Highest Position**

3rd: 1964/65, 1968/69

**Scottish League  
First Division**

Champions: 1988/89,  
1995/96

Runners-Up: 1986/87,  
1993/94, 1994/95

**Scottish League  
Division Two**

(pre-reconstruction)  
Champions: 1925/26

Runners-Up: 1912/13,  
1933/34, 1954/55, 1957/58,  
1972/73

**Scottish League  
Second Division**

Champions: 1985/86

Runners-up: 1978/79

**Scottish Cup**

Winners: 1961, 1968

Runners-Up: 1965

Semi-Finalists: 1964, 1966

**Scottish League Cup**

Runners-Up: 1949/50,  
1991/92

Semi-Finalists: 1989/90,  
1996/97, 1997/98

**Scottish Qualifying Cup**

Winners: 1911/12

**Central League**

Champions: 1910/11,  
1911/12

**BP Scottish Youth Cup**

Winners: 1987/88

**Scottish Reserve**

**League (East)**

Champions: 1986/87,  
1992/93

# CAMPBELL'S COMMENTS

I FOUND MYSELF AS DEPRESSED AS I have ever felt earlier this week, and I am in no doubt that Dunfermline fans felt exactly the same. Once again, we found ourselves in a situation where we dominated the first hour of a match but were unable to take our chances and found ourselves on the losing side.

To be honest, the match on Monday was not one of the best games of football I've watched. It was a poor game, but what chances did come in that first sixty minutes fell to Dunfermline. At that stage we had limited a Hearts team that had been in great form in recent weeks to one shot on target. I was proud of the boys for taking the game to them. For all that, Hearts scored two quality goals, we lost the game and it hurts us all very badly.

Our previous match against Dundee United had, I felt, given us some hope. From a bad first half when we looked as if we had a hangover from the week before against Kilmarnock, we turned in a storming second half performance. I have to give the players credit for having the character to come back in that game, and for the fans who helped to rally them. Most people I've spoken to said that it was one of the best Premier games of the season - it's just a pity that we couldn't have converted one of those late chances into a winner. Unfortunately, football is all about 'ifs' and 'buts' and 'maybes', but the plain fact is that we have had too many draws during the course of the season and we are where we are.

If I have been depressed, then I have no intention of going into today's game thinking the worst. The one thing that this club has shown to everybody is that it has a great fighting spirit, and sometimes, just sometimes, that can pull

you through, even at the eleventh hour. We have an incredibly difficult task on our hands, but we are not out of it in my book until it is mathematically impossible for us to rescue ourselves.

If we want to put some pressure on Dundee United, we simply must win today. It is a tall order, but we do have a chance as we showed earlier this season in the game against Celtic here. I do not foresee us making huge changes to our line up although Jamie Dolan will be suspended so at least one change will be required. Celtic are a quality team, and even with their injuries and suspensions, present us with a formidable task. But we have to remain positive and believe that we are capable of pulling it off, and all I would ask is that everyone pulls together for one last effort to retain our Premier League status.

United this season, winning our only home game and drawing the two previous matches at Tannadice. We have also shown in the past against United that when we needed to win against them - as in our match at Tannadice three years ago which won us promotion to the Premier League - we can do it. After what happened last week, nothing less will do.



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# Celtic Football Club



**WITH THE DUST HAVING (hopefully) now settled after the madhouse that was Celtic Park last Sunday, it will be interesting to see how the deposed champions react to what is a vital match for Dunfermline this afternoon. The loss of their title will**

**be a bitter blow, particularly as they had fought so hard, and played so well, in pegging Rangers lead back. Will they be up for a fight today? The Pars certainly will be.**

On returning from their winter break Celtic played some superb football with Henrik Larsson outstanding, scoring hat-tricks in three successive matches. Their devastating attacking play ensured that the makeshift central defence was never fully put to the test, although no team can afford to do without players of the calibre of Marc Reiper and Alan Stubbs indefinitely.

Injuries have undoubtedly had a detrimental effect at Celtic this season. The team was severely depleted last week but they've had to put up with absences to key players throughout the season. After winning only two of their opening eight league matches, it was too demanding to make up the gap on Rangers with so many vital members of the team missing.

With a total so far of 38 goals, Larsson has been the outstanding talent in Scottish Football this season. Not only is he a very skilful player, he's also very much a team player, with his colleagues benefiting greatly from his ability. Having said that, he's had to carry the side in certain matches and they do tend to over-rely on the Swede. The last couple of games have seen him look jaded, hardly surprising considering he's started every league game for Celtic and a few more besides. With the demands made on him for club and country it's proved impossible to maintain such a high level in every game. Perhaps he needs a break – is it too much to hope Larsson gets it today?

Amazingly, no other Celtic player has managed to reach double figures in the goalscoring chart. Craig Burley has nine, Harold Brattbakk and Mark Viduka eight each. Vicuka has certainly added a physical presence to Celtic's attack but that's not to say he lacks skill. His eight goals have come in only ten matches since his debut against Dundee United in February. Barring injury, he'll make his first appearance at East End Park this afternoon. He may not be the only one playing here for the first time – both Lubomir Moravcik and Johan Mjallby have joined the club since their last visit here in October. The Slovakian Moravcik was a sensation in the 5-1 demolition of Rangers, even if results like

that mean nothing if they then lose to St Johnstone again and hand the title to their deadliest rivals. The Pars saw at first hand just how talented he is during the 5-0 defeat in December, when he scored twice.

He's certainly been missed but may make a return today as he'll need match practice if he's to be fully fit for the Scottish Cup Final. With this only three weeks away coach Jozef Venglos may decide to rest those players carrying knocks or looking tired so that he has a near enough full strength team for the Final. This has taken on more importance now that Rangers have lifted their second trophy this season.

Stephane Mahe and Vidar Riseth are suspended for today's game following their red cards last week. Celtic have adequate replacements (unless the injury crisis deepens) but whether their minds are fully on the game is another matter. The defeat by Rangers was a terrible blow to a team which had run up a record breaking eleven successive SPL home wins. Can Dunfermline make it three losses in a row? They'll have to if survival is to be achieved.

Aside from the Cup Final, attention is already focusing on Celtic's title challenge next season. New chief executive Allan MacDonald is reported to want Kenny Dalglish to take over in some sort of "Director of football" role. Certain media sources expect this to be announced as soon as possible (perhaps already) in order to "soften the blow" of losing their title.

If this happens, few expect Dr Venglos to remain at Celtic Park and names are already being bandied about as a possible replacement. It may well be a popular Dutchman who has achieved success there before. If Wim Jansen and Kenny Dalglish team up then Celtic will have received a welcome boost to their flagging spirit.



Stewart Petrie and Paul Lambert during the 2-2 draw here in October.