



Livingston v Celtic

Sunday 11th April 2004, Hampden Park, Kick Off 2pm

Tennent's Scottish Cup Semi-final

Official Programme £2

Cup-a-hoop?



BEAUTIFUL GAME, LOVELY PINT



TENNENT'S SCOTTISH CUP



Semi-Final

WELCOME

WELCOME to the second of this weekend's two Tennent's Scottish Cup semi-finals. Will they be as exciting as the two FA Cup semi-finals at Villa Park and Old Trafford last weekend? We certainly hope so. Will Livingston and Inverness Caledonian Thistle emulate the feat of Millwall in reaching their first ever FA Cup final? Thing is, both already have silverware safely 'tucked under their belt' from this season: the CIS Insurance Cup for Livingston, the Bell's Challenge Cup for Inverness Caledonian Thistle. So who are favourites now? Celtic? Dunfermline? Celtic are chasing their 32nd Scottish Cup, while Dunfermline are chasing their third. But Dunfermline were last in the semi-finals of this competition all of 36 years ago.

They are both intriguing ties. Enjoy this one.



LIVINGSTON'S season has been one of highs and lows: they've collected silverware, in the shape of CIS Insurance Cup, but they have also been put into administration. Today represents another high, and, to get here, they needed to dispose of, among others, those familiar sparring partners, Aberdeen. And, also to get here, they delivered some astonishing long-range strikes: David Fernandez against Montrose, Burton O'Brien in a replayed match against the Dons. Read all about them on pages 6-9.

AS with Dunfermline in the other semi-final, Celtic's passage to the last four of this season's Tennent's Scottish Cup has required them to negotiate some tough rounds, including against their Old Firm rivals, Rangers. Ross County evoked memories of previous slip-ups in the cup against Highland opposition.

And, as they showed last week, when they almost brought to an end Celtic's unbeaten home run, extending to 75 games, Hearts can never be discounted. Read all about how Celtic got here, on pages 16-19.



LIVINGSTON reached the last four of the Tennent's Scottish Cup only three years ago, Celtic only two. When Celtic were last involved in a replayed semi-final, it happened to be the last season a Scottish Cup semi has gone to a replay. That was way back in 1997 and it wasn't a happy result for them. For more Scottish Cup semi-final trivia, go to pages 24-25.



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Programme designed and published for the Scottish Football Association by PPL Sport & Leisure, Tel: 01372 743377. © SFA.

Edited by Andy Mitchell, written by Mike Wilson except where stated, designed by Creative Services Ltd., printed by Buchanan McPherson, photographs by SNS Group. Please note, the views in this programme do not necessarily reflect those of the Scottish Football Association.



MESSAGE FROM TODAY'S REFEREE

**HEY FANS,
GET YOUR EYES TESTED**



Main sponsor of the Scottish Football Association referees



TENNENT'S SCOTTISH CUP

Semi-Final

WELCOME FROM TENNENT'S LAGER



WELCOME to the semi-finals of the Tennent's Scottish Cup.

This is now our 15th year of supporting this prestigious competition where the ultimate winner will lift the world's oldest domestic football trophy earning the right to play against some of the finest in Europe through the UEFA Cup.

I hope during that time that you, the fans, have enjoyed our association with one of the country's most exciting tournaments as much as we have. To date, we have invested over £20 million in Scottish football, from grass roots right through to the SPL giants as well as instigating fan focussed initiatives designed to enhance your enjoyment of the game.

It has to be said that all investment in Scottish football has to be welcomed at the moment. There is little doubt that this has been one of the toughest seasons for our football clubs as more and more face up to life with limited funds.

But they say every cloud has a silver lining, and in the case of Scottish football that lining is the rise and rise of youngsters in the game. As clubs tighten the purse strings, they have been forced to look at the homegrown talent coming up through the ranks with great results that bode well for the future of the game.

David Marshall and John Kennedy from Celtic; Stephen Hughes and Chris Burke with Rangers; Aberdeen player Zander Diamond; Hibs stalwarts Derek Riordan and Ian Murray – the list goes on and on.

All of these guys have played their hearts out for their clubs, and none more so when they played for their respective teams in the Tennent's Scottish Cup. And who wouldn't with the prospect of winning the silverware and playing European football in the 2004/05 season.

Dunfermline will be hoping to emulate their heroes of old as the club prepares for its 6th semi-final – the last time was in 1968 when the team went on to win the cup. They meet revered giant killers Inverness Caledonian Thistle who have reached the semi-finals for the second year in a row, and only the second time in the club's history.

The seemingly unstoppable Celtic will be glad they didn't draw the Northern club who are now regarded as their bogey team after they knocked them out of the Tennent's Scottish Cup twice before. But 'the bhoys' will face Livingston, and they are on a high after winning the CIS Cup. The Livvy Lions are getting ready to pounce and go for the kill in an effort to pick up only their second major trophy in the club's history – all in one season!

As you can see, all have plenty to play for so both games promise to provide plenty of entertainment for the 90 minutes or more. We at Tennent's wish your teams all the very best and hope to see you back at the Tennent's Scottish Cup final on 22 May at Hampden.

George Kyle
Head of Sponsorship





HISTORY REPEATING



IF IT'S a cup competition, it has to be Livingston versus Aberdeen. At least, that's how it feels, given the frequent number of times the two clubs have clashed in either the Tennent's Scottish Cup or the CIS Insurance Cup over recent years.

So, just as it was no surprise when the quarter-final draw of the Scottish Cup paired the Pittodrie and Almondvale outfits together, it was no surprise, either, that it took more than 90 minutes to prize them apart.

After holding Aberdeen to a 1-1 draw at Pittodrie, Livingston took Steve Paterson's men back to West Lothian for a replay and beat them with a wonder goal from midfielder, Burton O'Brien.

But it wasn't the only tie in the tournament involving

Livingston that had an air of inevitability to it. In the previous round, the West Lothian club were pitted against non-league giant-killers, Spartans. Only a few years previously, in the guise of Ferranti Thistle, before they became known as Meadowbank Thistle, Livingston had themselves been a non-league club.

O'BRIEN'S strike against Aberdeen wasn't, however, the first in the Livi repertoire of stunning strikes. On loan Spanish striker, David



David Fernandez

Fernandez, got the Almondvale act going with a thunderbolt of a shot in Livingston's first match of the tournament, against Montrose, in the third round.

Fernandez – who was with Livingston before joining Celtic two years ago, but is now back at his old stomping ground on loan from the Old Firm club – hit an unstoppable 25-yard drive in the 17th minute to ensure a 1-0 victory. He strode forward from midfield, looked up and hit a vicious effort which gave Montrose goalkeeper, James Butter, no chance.

In truth, it wasn't the most memorable of matches and the nerves of the Livi fans were sorely tested when the visitor's Graeme Sharp almost equalised in the 53rd minute. But his shot crept wide, with Roddy McKenzie, in the Livi goal, beaten.

And then, in 68th minute, the visitor's Kevin Webster found space on the right to drive in a low cross, which McKenzie missed and Livingston giant, Marvin

Andrews, had to sweep clear from the edge of his own six-yard box.

At the death, Livi striker, Derek Lilley, might have made it 2-0 for the home side, but his shot, from eight yards was scrambled clear.

3RD RD JANUARY 10 2004

LIVINGSTON 1 MONTROSE 0

Scorer: Fernandez 17min.

Livingston: McKenzie, McNamee, McAllister, Rubio, Andrews, Dorado, Fernandez, Pasquinelli (McGovern 62min), Makel, O'Brien, Lilley, Lovell. Attendance: 2675.



SOON ENOUGH, however, Lilley would not be denied. With 'everything to lose, and nothing to gain', in their next round match – against the underdogs, Spartans – Livi delivered a thoroughly professional demolition of the non-leaguers, with Lilley at its heart.

Though it wasn't until the second-half before Livingston were to go ahead, once they did so, it was to be all over for the plucky Edinburgh club, who were hosting the tie at their own ground, City Park, an arena with just the one stand, and that one due for demolition.

And with Lilley's hat-trick came a little cheer for Livingston, who had just suffered the same fate as fellow Scottish

Premierleaguers, Motherwell and Dundee, by being put into administration. Fernandez was the other name on the scoresheet.

At first, Livingston held the upper hand. But then Spartans lifted themselves to cause the odd fright or two. The hosts' Ian Thompson blazed a right-foot shot just past the upright and there were strong claims for a penalty in the 22nd minute when Livi defender, Emanuel Dorado, appeared to handle the ball on the ground as Craig Manson threatened to go beyond him.

Moments later, Manson was within an inch

of putting the East of Scotland League high-fliers ahead.

And Spartans' threat continued into the second-half. But when Keith Macleod failed to capitalise on a through-route on goal in the 48th minute, the punishment was swift and emphatic. Five minutes later, Livi were ahead and never looking back. Though the game was

to end 4-0, it arguably could have been more.

O'Brien crossed from the right and Lilley headed the ball beyond Kevin Brown in the Spartans' goal. Four minutes later, it was 2-0, Fernandez netting from 22 yards out, after seeing a first attempt on goal blocked.

Livingston extended their

lead on the hour. Lilley collected the ball 20 yards out and his shot took a deflection to wrong-foot Brown.

The striker bagged his hat-trick in the 70th minute when he tapped in Fernandez's cross from the right.



Donal Henretty and Emmanuel Dorado

4TH RD FEBRUARY 8 2004

SPARTANS 0 LIVINGSTON 4

Scorers: Lilley 53min, 60min, 70min, Fernandez 57min.
Livingston: McKenzie, McNamee, McAllister
(S. McLaughlin 86min), Andrews, Dorado, Fernandez,
Pasquinelli (McMenamin 62min), Makel, O'Brien, Lilley,
Lovell (Brittain 72min). Attendance: 3123.

THE FIRST instalment in the two-part saga between Livingston and Aberdeen was played on Saturday, March 6.

At Pittodrie five years previously, Livingston – then a Second Division side – had taken the scalp of Aberdeen in the Scottish Cup. Two years later, they triumphed again at Aberdeen, this time in the CIS Insurance Cup, and by a whopping six goals to one.

And Aberdeen, this time around, went

perilously close to losing again on their own turf to the West Lothian outfit.

With Scott Booth injured, they looked ordinary up front, a decent Markus Heikkinen volley, in the 37th minute

(with teammate Bryan Prunty unable to swoop properly on the rebound) about as good as it got for them during a dull first half.

So, it was no great shock when it was Livingston who took the lead, albeit in unfortunate circumstances for Dons defender, Russell Anderson, who diverted a Fernandez cross from the left into his own net.

The Aberdeen captain had almost missed the match, complaining of feeling unwell. Fortunately, he was spared feeling completely 'sick as a parrot', when teammate, Scott Muirhead, netted the equaliser.

Michael Hart's cross had been nodded clear by Livingston's colossus in defence, Andrews. But the ball fell to Muirhead. Though his effort on goal seemed to lack power, it seemed to flummox the visitor's goalkeeper, McKenzie. His dive at the ball proved too little, too late.



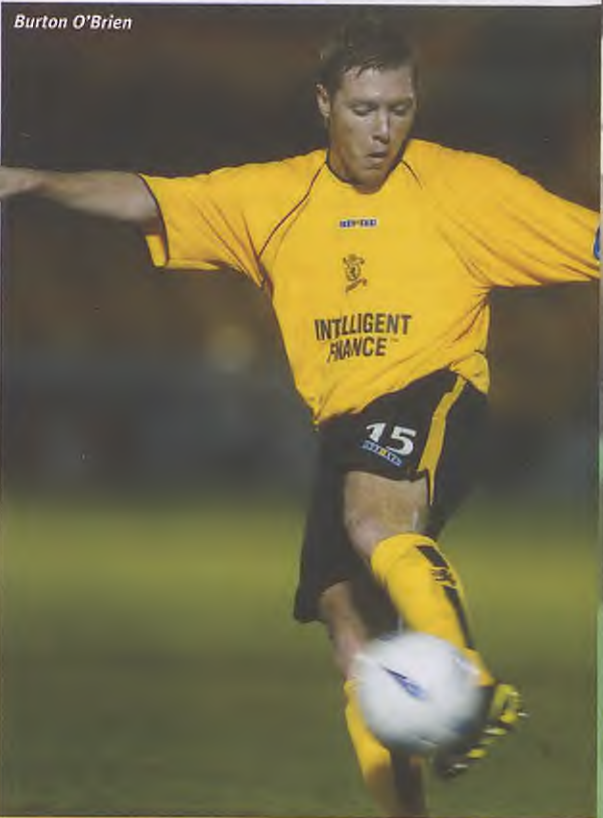
Muirhead scores for Aberdeen

BY THE time Aberdeen were guests at Almondvale, Livingston were proud winners of the CIS Insurance Cup, courtesy of a 2-0 win over Hibernian just four days previously.

They couldn't have been on anything other than a high.

And the game – which saw Dons' defender, Zander Diamond, red carded for a second caution – was graced with a goal fit for any occasion.

But a Livi win was from being a foregone conclusion. After all, just as Livingston appear to enjoy their appearances at Pittodrie, the same is pretty much true of Aberdeen when they journey to Almondvale. The Dons – who had generously formed a guard of honour to welcome home captain, Stuart Lovell, and his players on to the pitch –



Burton O'Brien



Aberdeen's Zander Diamond received a second yellow card for this tackle on David McNamee

had not lost on six previous visits.

And they almost drew first blood when Morrison fired a long-range drive that tested McKenzie. The Livingston defence had failed to properly clear a corner and Morrison was on hand, 30 yards out, to deliver a low drive.

After the home side's exertions four days previously, it was hardly surprising that it was the visitors who looked the fresher of the two combatants.

Indeed, the visitors' Finnish midfielder, Heikkinen, should have done better than blast a Morrison corner, in the 23rd minute, high over the crossbar.

And then came O'Brien's strike, the former St Mirren and Blackburn player capitalising on a poor clearance from Aberdeen goalkeeper, David Preece.

A long, hopeful ball had been punted towards the Aberdeen 18-yard box for Livi star, Fernandez, to chase. Out came Preece, smart off his line, towards the right edge of his area.

But though he beat Fernandez to kick the ball upfield, his clearance was only partial.

Nevertheless, with some 40 yards between him and the open Aberdeen goal, O'Brien still

required to keep a cool head. His lobbed shot was true.

It was a rash challenge on Fernandez that earned Diamond his first yellow card and, for all the Dons' pressure, not least in the second half, they had no-one to match the Spaniard's class. Diamond's dismissal, in the 62nd minute, followed a tackle on David McNamee.

And Aberdeen pressure there certainly was. In the first-half, Phil McGuire sent a low shot just inches past McKenzie's goal. In the second, with the Dons even more determined, Muirhead – who had grabbed the Dons' equaliser in the previous tie between the sides – delivered a snap shot that almost levelled again.

But by the end, however, Livingston had cause to rue their own missed opportunity, when Lee Makel stopped a run forward by Diamond to allow O'Brien another chance on goal; this one, though, going wide.

5TH RD MARCH 6 2004

ABERDEEN 1 LIVINGSTON 1

Scorers: Livingston: Anderson 51min, og; Aberdeen: Muirhead 57min.

Livingston: McKenzie, Andrews, Rubio, Dorado, McNamee, Makel, Lovell, O'Brien, McAllister, Fernandez, Lilley.

Attendance: 11,593.

5TH RD REPLAY MARCH 18 2004

LIVINGSTON 1 ABERDEEN 0

Scorer: O'Brien 27min.

Livingston: McKenzie, Rubio, Dorado, Andrews, McAllister, McNamee, Makel, Lovell (McLaughlin 61min), O'Brien, Fernandez, Lilley. Attendance: 4485.