

# CELTIC



THE OFFICIAL MATCHDAY MAGAZINE OF CELTIC FOOTBALL CLUB 2005/06

ISSUE 05. PRICE £2.50

VERSUS FALKIRK

13/08/05. CELTIC PARK. KICK-OFF 3.00PM

Celtic 



**STEPHEN McMANUS**

Keeping it tight

**OWEN COYLE**

Celts getting stronger

**NOW 64 PAGES**

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THE GREAT BALANCE OF TASTE AND REFRESHMENT



The result last week came from a real team effort, that includes every one of you sitting in the stands as your vocal support has really spurred the team on.



## GORDON STRACHAN

**I goes without saying that the win here at Celtic Park last week against Dundee United was the most important thing, but I have to say that I really enjoyed the occasion and the game itself, especially after a breathtaking but ultimately bitterly disappointing European night a few days earlier.**

Similarly, triumph over today's visitors, Falkirk, is top of the agenda and although at the end of the day we'll accept any sort of victory, to do so with some of the same flair and panache displayed in our previous two games would be most welcome.

I thought we played some good stuff and the fact that we got the three points into the bargain means I was more than delighted with the effort put into the game by the lads, especially coming after the Motherwell match and a stressful European tie.

The lads responded very well after what was far from an easy week and I'm more than delighted that the supporters reacted to the input from the players and backed them vociferously in both matches.

We'll be looking for more of the same today on and off the pitch as John Hughes, being a former Celt himself, will have his Falkirk charges fired up for this one and they will be keen to maintain their impetus after beating Livingston 2-0 last weekend.

They've been looking forward to a return to the Premierleague for some years now and will look on this as a new beginning in so many ways but we have our own new beginning and we fully intend to build on the momentum regained over the last couple of games.

It was fantastic to see John Hartson and Craig Beattie keep up their scoring ratio but it was a real team effort right through the side from goalkeeper to strikers and every one of the Celtic men played their part in securing the three points...

And among them was the new Bhoys, Shunsuke Nakamura, who performed amazingly considering the amount of pressure that was heaped on him in the week leading up to the game, not only here in Scotland but back in his Japanese homeland where so much is also expected from him.

But he certainly enjoyed the game and the atmosphere created here at Celtic Park and I'm hoping we will all experience more of the same against Falkirk this afternoon.

When I mentioned earlier that the result last week came from a real team effort, that includes every one of you sitting in the stands as your vocal support has really spurred the team on and you've no idea how much the lads out there on the pitch would appreciate more of the same today.



**CLUB DIRECTORY & HONOURS**

Celtic Football Club  
 Celtic Park Glasgow G40 3RE  
**Telephone:** 0845 671 1888  
**Website:** www.celticfc.net  
**Formed:** 1888  
**Stadium:** Celtic Park  
**Capacity:** 60,506  
**Home strip colours:** Green / white hooped shirts, white shorts, white socks  
**Away strip colours:**  
 Green shirts, green shorts, green socks  
**Record attendance:**  
 92,000 v Rangers, 1938  
**Record victory:**  
 11-0 v Dundee, 1895  
**Record defeat:**  
 0-8 v Motherwell, 1937  
**Most league goals in 1 season:**  
 50 - Jimmy McGrory, 1935-36  
**Most Premier/SPL goals in 1 season:**  
 35 - Brian McClair, 1986-87  
 35 - Henrik Larsson, 2000-01

**CLUB HONOURS**

**Scottish League Winners [ 39 times ]**

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, 2000-01, 2001-02, 2003-04

**Scottish Cup Winners [ 33 times ]**

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, 2004, 2005

**League Cup Winners [ 12 times ]**

1956-57, 1957-58, 1965-66, 1966-67, 1967-68, 1968-69, 1969-70, 1974-75, 1982-83, 1997-98, 1999-00, 2000-01

**European Cup Winners 1967**

**Coronation Cup Winners 1953**

**CELTIC PLC DIRECTORS**

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Brian Quinn  
 Peter Lawwell  
 Eric Riley  
 Dermot Desmond  
 Tom Allison  
 Eric Hagman  
 Brian McBride  
 Brian Wilson

**CFAC Directors:**

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 Eric Riley  
 John Keane  
 Michael McDonald  
 Kevin Sweeney

**Manager:**

Gordon Strachan

**Assistant Manager:**

Garry Pendrey

**Coach:**

Tommy Burns

**Head of Youth:**

Tommy Burns

**Youth team Coach:**

Willie McStay

**Reserve Coach:**

Kenny McDowall

**Physiotherapists:**

Tim Williamson &  
 Gavin McCarthy

**Club Doctor:**

Roddy McDonald

**Kit Controller:**

John Clark

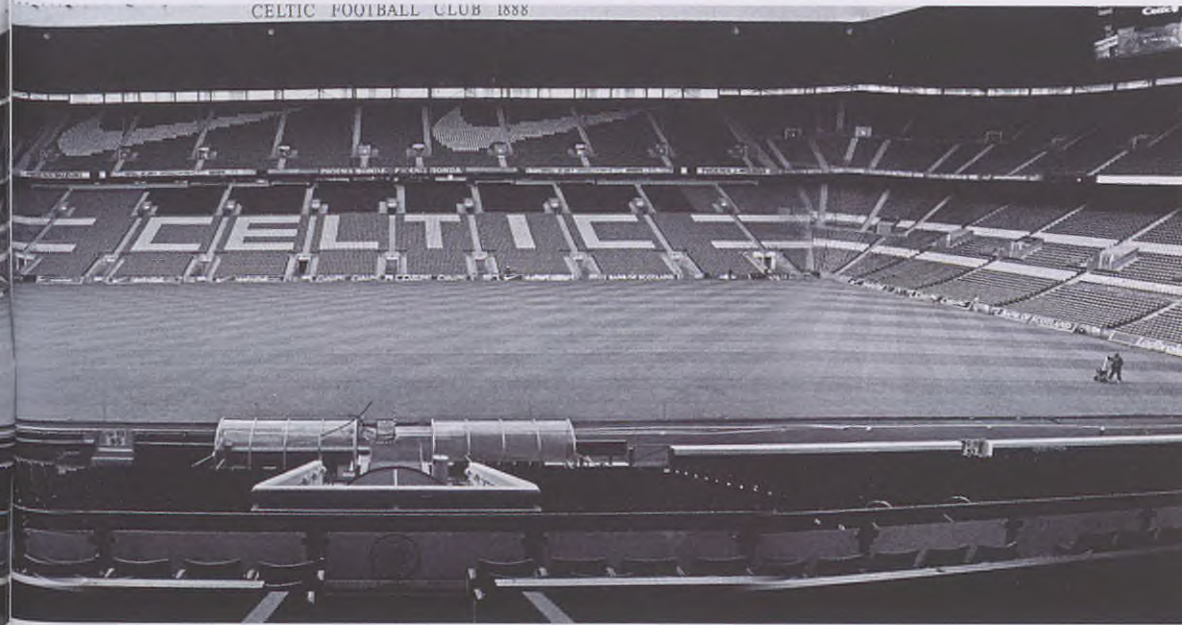
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**CLUB SPONSORS**



**FIXTURES**

Saturday, August 20  
 Scottish Premierleague  
 (12.30pm)  
**RANGERS v CELTIC**

Sunday, August 28  
 Scottish Premierleague  
 (2pm)  
**DUNFERMLINE v CELTIC**

Saturday, September 10  
 Scottish Premierleague  
 (3pm)  
**CELTIC v ABERDEEN**

Saturday, September 17  
 Scottish Premierleague  
 (3pm)  
**HIBERNIAN v CELTIC**

Saturday, September 24  
 Scottish Premierleague  
 (3pm)  
**CELTIC v INVERNESS CT**

**TODAY'S OFFICIALS**

**Referee:** Alan Freeland  
**Assistant Referees:** Neil Brand  
 Brian McGarry  
**Fourth Official:** Steve Conroy

**CELTIC**

- 1 ARTUR BORUC
- 2 PAUL TELFER
- 3 MOHAMED CAMARA
- 4 ADAM VIRGO
- 6 DIANBOBO BALDE
- 7 MACIEJ ZURAWSKI
- 8 ALAN THOMPSON
- 9 CHRIS SUTTON
- 10 JOHN HARTSON
- 11 STEPHEN PEARSON
- 14 JEREMIE ALIADIERE
- 17 DIDIER AGATHE
- 18 NEIL LENNON
- 19 STILIAN PETROV
- 22 DAVID MARSHALL
- 23 STAN VARGA
- 25 SHUNSUKE NAKAMURA
- 29 SHAUN MALONEY
- 31 ANTHONY McPARLAND
- 33 ROSS WALLACE
- 35 PAUL LAWSON
- 37 CRAIG BEATTIE
- 38 ROCCO QUINN
- 39 CHARLES MULGREW
- 40 MICHAEL GARDYNE
- 41 JOHN KENNEDY
- 42 MICHAEL McGLINCHEY
- 43 DIARMUID O'CARROLL
- 44 STEPHEN McMANUS
- 46 AIDEN McGEADY
- 47 MICHAEL McGOVERN
- 48 DARREN O'DEA
- 49 SCOTT CUTHBERT
- 50 GARY IRVINE



**FALKIRK**

- 1. ALLAN FERGUSON
- 2. ANDY LAWRIE
- 3. CRAIG McPHERSON
- 4. SCOTT MacKENZIE
- 6. CRAIG IRELAND
- 7. PEDRO MOUTINHO
- 8. ALAN GOW
- 9. ANDY THOMSON
- 10. RUSSELL LATAPY
- 11. DARRYL DUFFY
- 12. NEIL SCALLY
- 14. RYAN McSTAY
- 11. KENNY MILNE
- 16. IAN McSWEEN
- 17. DARREN HILL
- 18. VICTOR MANUEL SANTOS LIMA
- 19. DANIEL McBREEN
- 20. DARREN BARR
- 21. JOHN O'NEIL
- 22. STEVEN THOMSON
- 23. MARK TWADDLE
- 24. JOHN HUGHES
- 25. TIAGO JONAS RODRIGUES
- 26. ALAN KERNAGHAN
- 27. MATT GLENNON
- 28. STEPHEN O'DONNELL
- STEPHEN MANSON







## MICK'S UP FOR MIX UP

WORDS: GREGOR KYLE PICTURES: SNS & ACTION IMAGES

**IT'S only to be expected in the first weeks of a new job that a person takes time to get to know their surroundings and the people that they'll be working with.**

And when the work in those opening weeks comes as fast and furious as it has for Gordon Strachan since taking over at Celtic Park, you can understand the occasional slip when it comes to the names of the 35 players in and around the fringes of the first team.

That's why there were few eyes batted when, during his early press conferences, the manager spoke about how he could call upon the talent and ability of centre-half 'Mick' McManus in defence.

The transfer window may still be open and speculation may continue to abound over the eventual composition of the defence this season, but regardless of how combative a centre-back Strachan may be looking for, it is unlikely that the British wrestling icon is the man he will be turning to for help.

The particular 'Mick' in question is actually one Stephen 'Mick' McManus and after three consecutive starts for the first team in recent fixtures, the manager certainly knows now which Mick he can call upon.

"I heard that," laughed McManus when asked about the mix-up. "But that's OK; if I am playing on a Saturday he can call me anything he likes to be honest!

"But that's what I get called around here anyhow.

"It was Tam O'Neill who started it, him and Eric Black and Kenny McDowall. I think I was 15 at the time and I think it's just stuck ever since.

"I am not a wrestling fan," added the 23 year-old. "And I hope I don't look anything like him either!"

After a run of three games in the first team, Celtic supporters are also getting to know all about the qualities of the big centre-half.

For the past few seasons McManus has been a stalwart of reserve coach McDowall's second-string side, serving as captain during last season's title-winning campaign and also making 12 appearances for the first team under former manager, Martin O'Neill.

Those appearances were scattered across the course of the campaign, with one stand-out performance against Livingston coming to a premature end at Almondvale after a nasty clash with the advertising hoardings.

But as the player explained, this season he feels that he is already reaping the rewards from a run of matches.

"I am just happy with the way things are going at the moment," he said. "It's important when you get your chance that you try and grasp it with both hands.



“It’s only the start of the season and I think we’ll get better with each game, but the main thing is that it’s not about individual performances, it’s about the team and the team is playing well at the moment.”

“I’ve been fortunate in that I’ve had a wee run in the team recently and I’ve done alright and hopefully it will continue.

“All I want to do is play football.

“I am not one for going in and chapping down doors and asking ‘why am I not playing?’ I just keep my head down and playing away, because if you’re doing alright things will happen.

“Last year I just never got a run of games and I’ve had a few games in a row now and that’s what I feel you need at this level,” he continued.

“Obviously you couldn’t argue with the previous manager’s team selection, because they’d done great for him.

“You just have to keep working hard, the new manager has come in now and things are going great, but the most important thing is to keep your feet on the ground and keep working away and take it from there.”

The defender also feels that after a hectic start to the campaign with games coming thick and fast, the side are now beginning to settle.

The home win against Artmedia Bratislava was followed by a convincing win last weekend against Dundee Utd and the team are looking to pick up where they left off this afternoon.

“I think, first and foremost, that the most important thing is for the team to keep clean sheets,” commented McManus.

“Because if you are playing in a quality side like

ours, if you keep a clean sheet you will win games because there are goals all over the pitch.

“It’s only the start of the season and I think we’ll get better with each game, but the main thing is that it’s not about individual performances, it’s about the team and the team is playing well at the moment.

“If we can keep clean sheets and go on to win games that’s great. At the end of the day the most important thing is the three points.”

The challenge now for Celtic is to continue their winning run against Falkirk this afternoon and this is a side that McManus has particularly happy memories of.

The big defender started in last season’s League Cup meeting between the two sides, an 8-1 victory here at Celtic Park, but he also realises that this afternoon they will be facing a Bairns’ side that went on to win the First Division and have since added fresh depth and quality.

“That was a totally different game from the one that will be played here,” said McManus, who grabbed one of the eight goals in that last game.

“After that result Falkirk went on to win the league and had an outstanding season and that was a massive result against Livingston last Saturday.

“They will come here full of confidence today and it’s up to us to put on another good performance.

“John Hughes has taken a very strong First Division team and added several quality

