



Celtic

Programme No. 7

v Falkirk



CIS Cup, Third Round
Celtic Park, Tuesday Sept 21, 2004
Kick-off 7.45pm

£2

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*Carling are proud to be
supporters of Celtic F.C.*

LOVEFOOTBALL



ALTHOUGH I'm disappointed at dropping our first points of the season, we are still unbeaten in the SPL and we took part in a great advert for the Scottish game at Easter Road on Sunday.

The 2-2 game against Hibernian was played at a fantastic pace and had absolutely everything including a great atmosphere.

And the atmosphere was never going to be in any doubt last week when we began our Champions League campaign with a match against Barcelona at Celtic Park.

From the moment the draw was made, we knew this was going to be an extremely difficult tie and so it proved.

Barcelona are an excellent football team and Frank Rijkaard spent over £40million during the summer in further strengthening an already impressive squad.

It is no coincidence, therefore, that they are one of the favourites to win the tournament.

They possess some of the best players in the world and showed, particularly in the first-half just what they are capable of.

However, we knew all this beforehand and our aim from the outset was to try and win the football match.

It was a difficult first 45 minutes, losing a goal and having to defend for much of the half, but after the break we certainly pushed Barcelona all the way.

David Marshall's excellent penalty save kept us well in the game and Chris Sutton's equaliser galvanised both the team and the



support, and for a good period after that goal we dominated the game.

Indeed, we were unfortunate not to score a second goal. Stilian Petrov's shot was well saved and then Barcelona nearly put the ball

'IT IS IMPORTANT THAT WE ARE FOCUSED ON THE TASK IN HAND TONIGHT AND WE WILL BE STRIVING FOR VICTORY TO PUT US INTO THE NEXT ROUND'

into their own net.

Barcelona's second goal was a blow, coming as it did when we were enjoying a good period of play. It also resulted in an injury to Jackie McNamara which will see him out of action for between four to six weeks.

And Barcelona's third goal,

scored by Henrik Larsson, gave them an insurmountable lead.

Once again, however, it is our players who deserve praise for the effort and commitment shown on the night.

Time and time again over the past few seasons, they have shown themselves capable of performing at the highest level and for periods of the match against Barcelona, they controlled the play against a top quality side.

It is disappointing to have lost our first game in the Champions League group stages, but there are another five games to go and our focus remains to do everything we possibly can to claim one of the first two places in Group F.

Tonight we're involved in cup action again, this time in the CIS Cup against Falkirk. The First Division side have started the season well and have been scoring freely over the past few weeks.

It is important that we are focused on the task in hand and we will be striving for victory which would put us into the next round of the competition.

There should be another excellent attendance at Celtic Park tonight and while the drama and excitement of the Champions League is difficult to replicate, it is important for the players that you give them the support and encouragement their efforts deserve.

John Toshack



Formed: 1888
Stadium: Celtic Park (capacity 60,506)
Home strip: Green/white hooped shirts, white shorts, white socks
Away strip: Green shirts, white shorts and green 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 (39)
 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, 2003/2004
Scottish Cup (32)
 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
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 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, Celtic Park, Glasgow G40 3RE 0845 671 1888

CELTIC

- Momo Sylla 3
- Jackie McNamara 4
- Joos Valgaeren 5
- Bobo Balde 6
- Juninho 7
- Alan Thompson 8
- Chris Sutton 9
- John Hartson 10
- Stephen Pearson 11
- David Fernandez 12
- Paul Lambert 14
- Bobby Petta 15
- Ulrik Laursen 16
- Didier Agathe 17
- Neil Lennon 18
- Stilian Petrov 19
- Robert Douglas 20
- Magnus Hedman 21
- David Marshall 22
- Stanislav Varga 23
- Henri Camara 27
- Shaun Maloney 29
- Ross Wallace 33
- Craig Beattie 37
- Rocco Quinn 38
- John Kennedy 41
- Stephen McManus 44
- Kevin McBride 45
- Aiden McGeady 46
- Michael McGovern 47
- Scott Cuthbert 49

FALKIRK

- Allan Ferguson
- Andrew Lawrie
- Craig McPherson
- Scott MacKenzie
- Mark Campbell
- Kevin James
- John Hughes
- Neil Scally
- David Nicholls
- John O'Neil
- Kieran McAnespie
- Russell Latapy
- Darryl Duffy
- Andy Thomson
- Pedro Moutinho
- Darren Hill
- James Sharp
- Brent Rahim
- Ryan McStay
- Daniel McBreen
- John Hutchison

MATCH OFFICIALS

Referee: Willie Young
 Assistant Referees: Gordon McBride, Brian McDuffie, Crawford Allan
 Fourth Official: Crawford Allan

CLUB SPONSORS



RECENT FORM

UEFA Champions League, Sept. 14, 2004
CELTIC 1 v 3 BARCELONA (Sutton)
 Scottish Premier League, Sept. 11, 2004
CELTIC 3 v 0 DUNDEE (Camara 2, Hartson)
 Scottish Premier League, Aug. 29, 2004
CELTIC 1 v 0 RANGERS (Thompson)
 Scottish Premier League, Aug. 22, 2004
INVERNESS CT 1 v CELTIC 3 (Hartson 2, Petrov)
 Scottish Premier League, Aug. 14, 2004
KILMARNOCK 2 v CELTIC 4 (Hartson 2, Thompson 2)

FORTHCOMING FIXTURES

Scottish Premier League
CELTIC v DUNFERMLINE
 SATURDAY 25 SEPTEMBER 3:00pm
 UEFA Champions League
AC MILAN v CELTIC
 WEDNESDAY 29 SEPTEMBER 7:45pm
 Scottish Premier League
DUNDEE UTD v CELTIC
 SUNDAY 3 OCTOBER 2:00pm
 Scottish Premier League
CELTIC v HEARTS
 SATURDAY 16 OCTOBER 3:00pm



THE ONLY GOAL THAT MATTERS

Interview: **STEPHEN SULLIVAN**

FOR Stephen McManus, season 2003/04 has yet to begin in earnest.

The big defender may be in superb and - with three goals in as many appearances - free-scoring form for Celtic's reserve team, but starring for the second string no longer provides the fulfilment it once did.

McManus' sights are trained squarely on the first team these days and, in this respect, the season thus far has been a disappointment, with Martin O'Neill having looked elsewhere to solve the long-standing problem position on the left side of Celtic's defence.

Nevertheless, with Jackie McNamara - who, despite favouring his right foot, has all but made this role his own - now facing a spell of around six weeks on the sidelines, the opportunity could be there for the 22-year-old to emerge from the shadows.

McManus also knows that, with O'Neill's predilection for fielding fringe players in the CIS League Cup now well established, tonight

Defender Stephen McManus has served his time in the reserves and is now in a hurry to establish his place in the first team - starting against Falkirk tonight

could well be the night for him to step up and show the Irishman just why he merits inclusion on a more regular basis.

"Oh, definitely," he said. "I think you always hope that you'll be in until the manager names the team, but obviously tonight could be a more realistic chance for the likes of myself.

"We'll see how that one goes, but you always know at this club that every game is a must-win, and no matter what team the gaffer plays, it will be one he fully expects will win the game. The players want to win every trophy going and the fans demand that we win every time we go out there, so defeat isn't an option for us.

"But I know that Falkirk have been playing really well this season and everyone realises that this is a

cup final for them. I don't know if the gaffer will make changes, but hopefully I'll be in his thinking for the game. Obviously Jackie's picked up an injury now and, although I'm gutted for him because he's been superb for the last couple of seasons, you know that the nature of football is that someone has to benefit from what's happened.

"It could well be Ulrik or Joos that benefit, but I'd like to think I'd be in the manager's thoughts. I feel happy enough with my form at the moment, and in that respect I think I'm just continuing from where I left off last season, which was a good one for me. I certainly feel I could do a good job if I get the chance."

The evidence from Celtic's reserve matches would certainly

ON STAND-BY: Ulrik Laursen, like Stephen, is waiting for his chance to shine in the first team



suggest as much. McManus has been a stand-out in Kenny McDowall's impressive side, and has also supplemented his strong, commanding defensive play with a goal in each of his first three games, not to mention a cracker through his own net - more of which later.

"WE TAKE PRIDE IN THE FACT WE TREAT RESERVE GAMES WITH TOTAL PROFESSIONALISM"

It's certainly a measure of the big defender's professionalism that his commitment and energy levels remain unaltered for such matches, and he himself admitted to taking some pride in the fact that, at Celtic, no-one turns their nose up at a run-out for the reserves.

He said: "Those games are important for the boys who aren't in the team, and I do think we take a bit of pride in the fact we treat them with total professionalism. The one thing you don't want to do when you come back into these games is get sloppy, and I've seen some players, though not so much at this club, who've gone in and treated games at that level with a total lack of respect.

"Whether it's the cold night or the fact there's no fans there, it's obvious they just haven't fancied it, and I think it shows the professionalism of the current players at this club that that it has never happened with them.

"Personally, I feel I've been doing alright so far, and getting the goals has been a nice surprise - the ones at the right end anyway! To be honest, though, I'd rather keep a clean sheet these days than stick one in the net these days. I think that's the way you have to be as a defender.

"But the main thing for me has been to get 90 minutes under my belt to keep my fitness levels up



CAPTAIN COURAGE: Jackie McNamara lies in agony on the Celtic Park turf after falling awkwardly against Barcelona



GREAT RESERVES: McManus (above) has been in stunning form for the second team - a rare blemish being an amazing volley past keeper Rab Douglas (left) into his own net

and that's something Kenny's been good enough to give me every week so far.

"I'm in the same situation as Ulrik, Lambo, Bobby and Pearo in that respect - we're all just trying to use the reserves as a vehicle for getting ourselves back into the first team - and I've enjoyed the matches so far."

That has been evident in McManus' play, and yet there was, of course, one moment when it was equally clear that he would have dearly liked the turf to open and swallow him up. It came at the Excelsior Stadium against Inverness Caledonian Thistle when, having already put Celtic in front, he left Rab Douglas helpless with an attempted back-pass-cum-stunning 40-yard volley.

Predictably enough, it proved the subject of much hilarity in the Hoops dressing room over the days which followed - particularly as a late Paul Lawson strike had



ensured McManus' own goal wasn't a costly one - and the question remains: what exactly happened?

"Oh God, don't ask," he said, wincing. "It was just one of those things - I tried to knock the ball back to big Rab and I remember

"IT WAS THE SWEETEST VOLLEY I'VE EVER HIT IN MY LIFE AND AS SOON AS IT LEFT MY BOOT I COULD SEE EXACTLY WHERE IT WAS GOING"

thinking that it was important not to be short with it because the pitch was really sticky. And I certainly wasn't short!

"To be honest, it was probably the sweetest volley I've ever struck in my life, and as soon as it left my boot I could see exactly where it was going. But the main thing is that you learn from these things and don't let them affect you, and I can laugh about it now. Next time I'll know just to boot it into row Z."