

CELTIC

ABERDEEN

TODAY'S MATCH
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OFFICIAL PROGRAMME 80p



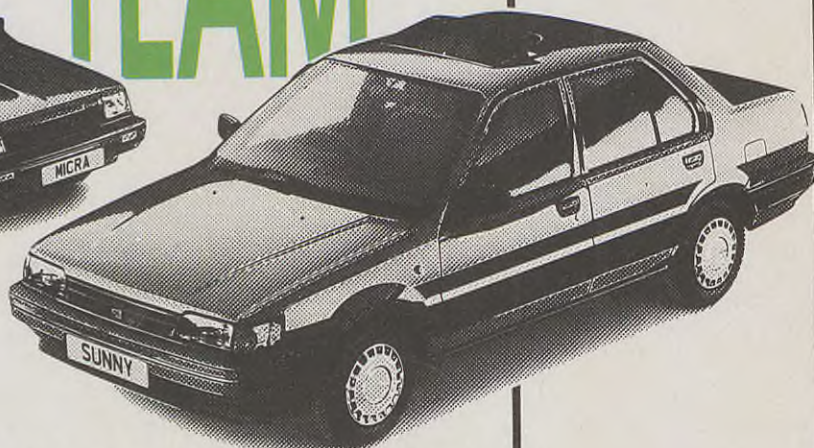
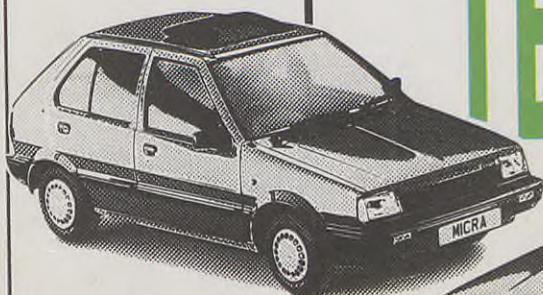
**B&Q LEAGUE
PREMIER
DIVISION**

**WEDNESDAY,
2nd MAY, 1990
KICK-OFF 8.05 p.m.**

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HAMILTON NISSAN - YOUR No.1 CHOICE

TONIGHT'S clash with Aberdeen is the first leg of a double header which provides us with the chance to end the season on a real high note.

A victory tonight would almost certainly secure fourth spot in the premier division and guarantee us a place in European competition next season while the stakes in next Saturday's Scottish Cup final are quite obvious.

Games between Celtic and Aberdeen are always exciting affairs and I expect this one to be no different, even though the supporters will obviously have one eye on the game at Hampden Park 10 days later.

We have had the upper hand in league meetings this season with a 1-0 win at Celtic Park and two 1-1 draws at Pittodrie but, of course, we were beaten 1-0 by Aberdeen in the semi-final of the Skol Cup at Hampden back in September.

So honours are even with two matches to play and, while no-one needs me to tell them which one everyone connected with Celtic sees as the crucial game, the stakes in tonight's clash should not be overlooked.

It provides us with our final chance to turn in the sort of performance which can give us a real boost in confidence for the cup final as well as the opportunity to clinch a UEFA Cup spot by virtue of our league placing.

We would then be able to approach the Scottish Cup final in more relaxed mood, though every bit as determined to swap a UEFA Cup place for one in the Cup-Winners' Cup by beating Aberdeen at Hampden.

It may well be that neither club fields its cup final team tonight but this game will give players the chance to stake a claim for a Hampden outing so there should be no slacking.

Aberdeen are a side packed with quality players and have produced some of the best

The stakes in tonight's clash should not be overlooked



THE BOSS SPEAKS OUT

performances from any team this season.

They will come here to win in a bid to overhaul Hearts in the chase for second spot in the table while we have plenty to prove so tonight's game will be no 'going through the motions' affair.

The fact that this match has been brought forward from Saturday to tonight has also worked out ideally.

It means that both the Aberdeen management team and my own have 10 days in which to prepare our sides for the cup final and those three extra days will help where there are bumps and knocks to recover from.

Looking back to Saturday, I thought our match against Motherwell at Fir Park was a very exciting encounter in the tradition of matches between the clubs there.

Jacki Dziekanowski scored a quality opening goal early on and, had Billy Stark's chip a few minutes later gone in instead of rebounding from the bar, I feel we might have gone on to destroy them.

Motherwell fought back impressively, though, and both sides had chances to win the game after they equalised but there were a lot of plusses for us.

Stark got a full game under his belt and did very well indeed and we gave Gerry Creaney a little more experience at premier division level. Again he gave us an indication of his ability.

I had thought Chris Morris would be fit to play but we decided not to risk him and brought in Mike Galloway at full-back. Had young Mark McNally not been injured a couple of weeks earlier, we would have given him his first team debut.

I was pleased to see Jacki get on the scoresheet again with a really well-taken effort.

He took a clatter on the shins later in the game and we decided to take him off but there was no indication of any ligament problem so we fully expect to have him available for the final.



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TONIGHT'S TEAMS

CELTIC



(FROM)

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CHRIS MORRIS	D. DZIEKANOWSKI
D. WADOWCZYK	ANDY WALKER
MIKE GALLOWAY	JOE MILLER
ANTON ROGAN	GERRY CREANEY
DEREK WHYTE	TOMMY COYNE
PETER GRANT	ALEX MATHIE
BILLY STARK	

ABERDEEN



(from)

THEO SNELDERS	PAUL MASON
STEWART McKIMMIE	ROBERT CONNOR
DAVID ROBERTSON	CHARLIE NICHOLAS
ALEX McLEISH	HANS GILLHAUS
WILLIE MILLER	CRAIG ROBERTSON
BRIAN IRVINE	EION JESS
BRIAN GRANT	GRAHAM WATSON
JIM BETT	GREG WATSON

OFFICIALS:

REFEREE:

D. D. HOPE (Erskine)

LINESMEN:

G. R. Alison (Dumfries)

C. W. Bull (Sandyhills)

PREMIER DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Rangers.....	35	20	10	5	47	18	50
Hearts.....	35	16	11	8	53	34	43
Aberdeen.....	35	16	10	9	53	32	42
Celtic.....	35	10	14	11	36	34	34
Dundee United.....	35	11	12	12	36	39	34
Hibernian.....	35	12	9	14	33	40	33
Motherwell.....	35	10	12	13	41	46	32
Dunfermline.....	35	11	7	17	36	49	29
St Mirren.....	35	10	9	16	28	48	29
Dundee.....	35	5	14	16	40	63	24

FIRST DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
St Johnstone.....	38	24	8	6	80	39	56
Airdrie.....	38	22	8	8	74	44	52
Falkirk.....	38	14	15	9	59	45	43
Clydebank.....	38	16	10	12	72	63	42
Raith Rovers.....	38	15	11	12	56	49	41
Hamilton.....	38	14	13	11	51	50	41
Partick Thistle.....	38	12	13	13	61	52	37
Meadowbank.....	38	12	13	13	40	46	37
Morton.....	38	9	16	13	36	43	34
Ayr United.....	38	11	12	15	41	62	34
Clyde.....	38	9	15	14	36	44	33
*Forfar.....	38	8	14	15	51	64	29
Albion Rovers.....	38	8	11	19	49	76	27
Alloa.....	38	6	12	20	41	70	24

*Forfar deducted two points for fielding inelligible player.

SECOND DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Brechin.....	38	19	10	9	59	44	48
Kilmarnock.....	38	21	4	13	65	38	46
Stirling Albion.....	38	19	7	12	71	50	45
Stenhousemuir.....	38	18	8	12	59	49	44
Dumbarton.....	38	15	10	13	70	72	40
Cowdenbeath.....	38	13	13	12	57	52	39
Berwick.....	38	17	5	16	61	57	39
East Fife.....	38	12	12	14	60	61	36
Stranraer.....	38	14	8	16	53	58	36
Queen of South.....	38	11	13	14	57	68	35
Arbroath.....	38	12	10	16	47	56	34
Queens Park.....	38	12	10	16	39	51	34
Montrose.....	38	10	11	17	52	62	31
E Stirling.....	38	8	9	21	34	66	25



AROUND THE CLUB

PROGRAMME EDITOR:

Andrew H. Smith

CONTRIBUTORS:

Donald Cowey, Tom McGouran, Roddy Stewart and David McDonald

COLOUR PHOTOGRAPHS BY
John Cullen

NEWS BEAT

Hot on the heels of the Programme of the Year Awards in the magazine *Programme Monthly* — the results of which we published in our home programme against St Mirren dated April 7 — comes the Wirral Programme Club's 19th annual programme of the Year Survey for season 1989-90.

Unlike *Programme Monthly* where only Scottish programmes were considered this survey was a national poll of all senior league clubs in Britain. The findings make for some interesting reading with some marked differences in opinion of certain programmes in relation to *Programme Monthly's* adjudications.

For instance whilst the Aberdeen programme was voted top in *Programme Monthly* it came only seventh in the Wirral survey with 100 points. The Celtic programme fared better in the Wirral awards than in *Programme Monthly's* poll finishing sixth in the premier division table with 108 points, as compared to last month's eighth spot.

Rangers too did better coming in first with 114 points as opposed to the previous seventh place they notched last month.

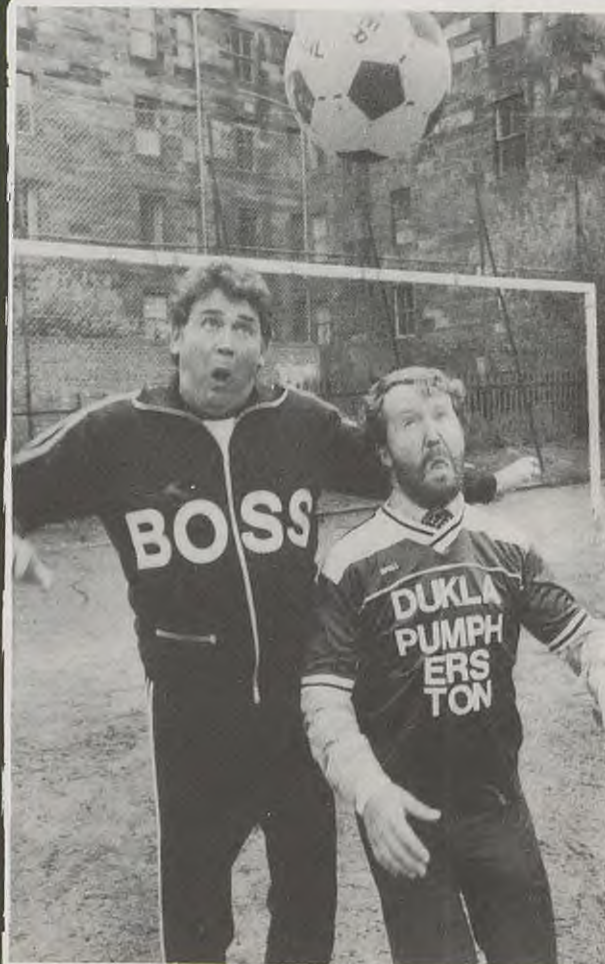
Britain's overall winner was AFC Bournemouth's programme which attained a rating of 147, a full seven marks above any of its nearest rivals.

It is also worthwhile to note that not one of the national top 30 is a Scottish production. Whether this is a statement about the general quality of Scottish programme or simply reflects a good year for our English counterparts is unclear but it does seem to be quite a telling statistic.

In a British context the Celtic programme came well down the national chart finishing a lowly 78th position, which would have to be considered a poor showing by any standard.

● For a review of the current Celtic Programme by Peter Rundo, editor of both the Dundee and Dundee United programme see page 28.

IF YOU have any comments or suggestions regarding the Celtic Programme or wish to subscribe to have the programme sent to you direct, write to: The Celtic Programme, 18 Kerrydale Street, Glasgow, G40 3RW.



An 'Excuse' for theatre

BY NOW every football fan will be aware of the 'Only An Excuse' team who have mercilessly parodied everyone and anyone connected with Scottish football in a series of radio specials and audio cassettes.

Now though, the pair, Tony Roper and Jonathan Watson, (pictured left) are about to hit the world of theatre in a special World Cup extravaganza.

The show, at Clyde Theatre in Boquhanran Road, Clydebank, will run from Monday May 14 to Saturday May 26 and has a 7.30 kick-off.

Tickets are priced £6.00 with £3.50 concessions available from Monday to Thursday, and "a pure dead brilliant production" is promised.

Another possible hat-trick?

MUCH has been made of the fact that Celtic could complete a hat-trick of consecutive Scottish cup wins with a victory in the Scottish Cup final against Aberdeen next Saturday.

But in the next ten days the club could also complete a very different hat-trick of cup wins.

For after having already secured the Glasgow Cup in December of last year, Celtic's under-18's winning the trophy in fine style, two more levels of the club have won through to finals.

As we said the senior side will be attempting to win the Scottish Cup next Saturday at Hampden, but tomorrow Celtic reserves are also involved in final.

They will take on Dundee at Dens Park in the final of the Reserve League Cup in attempt to complete what has been a fine season for the side.

400 — and many more to come

THE match against Dundee at Celtic Park a fortnight ago, was a forgettable affair in many respects, but one statistic makes the game sure to be recalled in the future.

For the match marked club captain Paul McStay's 400 competitive appearances in the green and white hoops.

What makes this achievement all the more remarkable is not the fact that Paul has achieved such a feat — a player of Paul's fantastic talents would surely expect to play a large number of games — but the fact that Paul is still only 25 years old.

Making his debut while still only 17 years of age against Queen of the South on January 23, 1982 in the third round of the Scottish Cup, the classy midfielder played a further eight games that season showing enough to quickly establish himself as a first team regular the next season.

Indeed in that 1982-83 campaign he missed only one match and turned out a total of 53 times for the senior side.

This consistency has been very much the story of a tremendous career littered with honours and awards, for what is undoubtedly the greatest footballing talent to emerge from Scotland in the last ten years.

Paul has already collected three league championship winners medals, three Scottish Cup winners medals and a solitary League Cup winners medal in his career to date and it is a certainty that many more will follow.

His impact on the Scottish game can be gauged by the fact that not only is it unthinkable to image a Celtic team without him, but can you really envisage a fully strengthened Scotland side without a fit Paul McStay?

Indeed there is every chance that Paul will set new records in the international arena before he finally hangs up his boots.

For with 43 caps he is well ahead of Kenny Dalglish, Scotland's most capped player ever, at the same age.



DIRECTORS: John C. McGinn (Chairman); Kevin Kelly (Vice-Chairman); James M. Farrell, MA, LLB; Christopher White, CA; Thomas Grant. **Manager:** Billy McNeill, MBE; First Team Coach, Tommy Craig; Reserve Team Coach Bobby Lennox, MBE; Physiotherapist Brian Scott; Secretaries Desmond White & Co.; Commercial Manager, John C. McGinn; Chief Scout John Kelman. Youth Development Officer Benny Rooney.

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LEAGUE CHAMPIONS (35 times)

1893, 1894, 1896, 1898, 1905, 1906, 1907, 1908, 1909, 1910, 1914, 1915, 1916, 1917, 1919, 1922, 1926, 1936, 1938, 1954, 1966, 1967, 1968, 1969, 1970, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1977, 1979, 1981, 1982, 1986, 1988.

SCOTTISH CUP WINNERS (29 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.

LEAGUE CUP WINNERS (9 times)

1957, 1958, 1966, 1967, 1968, 1969, 1970, 1975, 1982.

EMPIRE EXHIBITION CUP: 1938.

ST. MUNGO CUP: 1951.

CORONATION CUP: 1953

EUROPEAN CUP: 1967.

RECORD VICTORY: 11-0 v Dundee (Division 1), October 1895.

RECORD DEFEAT: 0-8 v Motherwell (Division 1), April 1937.

MOST INDIVIDUAL LEAGUE GOALS IN A SEASON: 50 James McGroary (1935-36).

HIGHEST AGGREGATE SCORER: James McGroary 397 (1922-1939).

MOST CAPPED PLAYER: Danny McGrain, 62 times for Scotland.

Some important reminders

... Celtic's hospitality packages for the 119th Open Golf Championship at St Andrews have elicited a fantastic response with already a great number of people taking up this exclusive opportunity.

For anyone else considering the exclusive day out the ventures organiser, Mr MacBain can be contacted for details and arrangements on 041-556 2611.

... Tickets are still on sale for the Alloa Athletic v Celtic, Larry Haggart benefit match due to be played on Sunday May 6 at Recreation Park.

Kick-off is at 2.00pm and tickets, priced £4 for stand and £3 for the ground are available from Alloa Athletic FC or the Strathclyde Programme Shop, 136 Renfield Street, Glasgow.

... The Annual Edinburgh Programme Fair will be held on Sunday May 13 in The Playhouse Theatre, Leith Walk in Edinburgh.

All manner of programmes will be available from all of Scotland's, and many of England's, top dealers and the fair will run from 11am to 4pm with admission 40p for adults and 20p for juveniles.

CELTIC FOOTBALL CLUB

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ABERDEEN

ABERDEEN go into their final premier division game tonight with the Skol Cup in the Pittodrie trophy cabinet, second spot in the table a real possibility and the Tennents Scottish Cup final against Celtic at Hampden on May 12 still to come.

That is an indication of the quiet but effective revolution conducted by the management team of Alex Smith, Jocky Scott and Drew Jarvie. One which has seen the Dons win their first trophy since the departure of Alex Ferguson and become a much more attractive side than in the early 1980s when the gathering of silverware was the norm.

A highly-satisfactory season it has been then, yet the Aberdeen players and fans must surely feel that it could have been still better.

They were kicked out of Europe by a Rapid Vienna side every bit as brutal as the one Celtic fans will recall with deep distaste but once again the Dons were only eliminated on the away goals rule, an infuriatingly regular occurrence in recent seasons, when they had enough chances over the two ties to have buried the Austrian hatchetmen.

And the prospect of a real push for the premier division title foundered when the team was hit by a cruel spate of injuries to key players midway through the season.

Of course, all clubs suffer from injuries to important players, and it would be churlish to overlook the fact that champions Rangers have had their share, but no unbiased judge could deny that the Dons suffered much worse than most.

Influential skipper Willie Miller again had his season ravaged by injury while star keeper Theo Snelders and efficient left-back David Robertson were also out for long spells after the turn of the year.

The defence was decimated as a result and, competent deputies though Michael Watt and Brian Irvine proved, there could be no doubt that the goals conceded by the Dons, a flood by comparison with their usual miserly goals-against column, would not have been anything like as numerous had Miller and Snelders been in their normal positions.

At much the same time, international midfielder Jim Bett and the dynamic Hans Gillhaus, surely the most exciting arrival in the Scottish game this season, also missed a handful of matches.

Aberdeen, from holding a handy lead over Rangers at Christmas, found themselves some six points adrift by mid-February and their title hopes were gone.

Consolation for the Aberdeen fans has been the far more free-scoring form shown in attack, where the vastly under-rated Paul Mason, Gillhaus, Charlie Nicholas and Willem van der Ark have almost 50 goals amongst them, while hard-working midfielder Brian Grant has chipped in a further eight.

While Nicholas is widely expected to leave Pittodrie in the close season, possibly for France where his exquisite skills will surely receive a better chance to prosper, the signs are that the Aberdeen pool is strong enough to make a serious challenge for the premier division title next season.

A full-strength defence of Snelders, Stewart McKimmie, Alex McLeish, Miller and Robertson is as good as any in Scotland, the midfield is powerful and the options in attack plentiful. A couple of good signings on top of the existing pool could make the Dons the team to watch next term.



Joe Miller celebrates his equaliser against Aberdeen at Pittodrie in October and Andy Walker moves in to add his congratulations. Alex McLeish, Willie Miller, Stewart McKimmie and Theo Snelders are the dismayed Dons.

THE PLAYERS

THEO SNELDERS (Goalkeeper)

Born 7.12.63 in Westervoort (Holland) Began his career with Dutch side FC Twente before joining Aberdeen in the summer of 1988 in what now seems a modest £300,000 deal. Had a fantastic first season for the Dons winning Scottish Professional Players Player of the Year as well as his first international cap against Russia. A disappointing time has followed this term with Theo being dropped from the international side after withdrawing from a World Cup qualifier due to nerves. Missed a large chunk of this season following a cartilage operation. Indeed only returned three weeks ago after having being out since December.

STEWART MCKIMMIE (Defender)

Born 27.10.62 in Aberdeen Signed by Aberdeen in late 1983 from northern neighbours Dundee with whom he began his senior career in 1980 joining from local side Banks O' Dee. A consistent right back has rarely been out of the first team and staked a strong claim for a place in Scotland's 22 for Italy by scoring the winner in Scotland's 1-0 win over Argentina at Hampden in March, his first senior goal in five years.

DAVID ROBERTSON (Defender)

Born 17.10.68 in Aberdeen A teenage sensation, David established himself in

the Aberdeen side in season 1986-87 whilst still only 17, after joining Aberdeen from Deeside Boys Club in 1985. The left back was sorely missed, when out through ankle injury which sidelined him for almost four months of the season and returned to first team action only several weeks ago. Already capped numerous times at under 21 level looks certain to progress to the full international side at some point in the future.

ALEX McLEISH (Defender)

Born 21.1.59 in Glasgow An outstanding servant to Aberdeen this year having perhaps his best season for the club. Originally joined the Dons in 1976 from Glasgow United breaking through to the first team some two years later. One of the major reasons for the clubs phenomenal success over the past decade, his central defensive partnership with Willie Miller forming the backbone of many winning Dons sides, including the European Cup Winners Cup team of 1983. Last week he was honoured with the Scottish Sportswriters Player of the Year award and captained Scotland against East Germany to earn his 68th cap. Is currently the second most capped Scottish player ever.

BRIAN IRVINE (Defender)

Born 24.5.65 in Bellshill Served his football apprenticeship with Victoria Park

CELTIC FACE TONIGHT

before moving to Falkirk in 1984. A year later he was on the move again when a £50,000 deal saw him join Aberdeen. Can fill any number of positions, this season saw him being given the unenviable task deputising for Willie Miller. This he has managed to do with great distinction and he was instrumental in helping Aberdeen qualify for the forthcoming Scottish Cup Final, with a terrific display against Dundee United in the semi-final last month.

BRIAN GRANT (Midfield)

Born 19.6.64 in Bannockburn. His senior career began under present manager Alex Smith, who took him to Stirling Albion from Fallin Violet in 1982. He was bought by Dons for a fee of £60,000 in 1984 and has previously tended to be used more as a squad member than automatic choice. This season though the hard working ball winner has had an extended run in the first team, and has scored a creditable eight goals.

JIM BETT (Midfield)

Born 25.11.59 in Hamilton One of a rare and perhaps, dying breed — classy, creative midfielder and the man who makes Aberdeen tick. Learned his football trade with Airdrie whom he joined straight from school in 1976. From 1978-85 he had two spells at Icelandic club Lokeren with a three year sojourn to Rangers (1980-83) sandwiched in between. A £350,000 transfer brought

him to Aberdeen in 1985 and he is now firmly re-established in the international side. Indeed much will depend on his midfield blend with Paul McStay as to whether Scotland will progress to the second phase in Italy.

PAUL MASON (Midfield)

Born 3.9.63 in Liverpool Aberdeen's top scorer this season he has hit 15 goals. Though a Liverpoolian Paul played his early football in Holland for F C Groningen before being bought by the Dons for £200,000 in 1988. Last season he struggled slightly to find his form in a variety of positions, but has flourished this term in a regular midfield role.

ROBERT CONNOR (Midfield)

Born 4.8.60 in Kilmarnock A product of Ayr United Boys Club he graduated to the senior side in 1978 and was a regular for the Somerset Park club until his move to Dundee in 1984. Excellent displays for the Taysiders attracted the attentions of Aberdeen who snapped him up for £350,000 in 1986. One of the classiest left sided midfielders in the country he has won international honours for Scotland. Versatile, he recently took over from the injured David Robertson at left back.

CHARLIE NICHOLAS (Forward)

Born 30.12.61 in Glasgow Few, if any, Celtic supporters will be unaware of

Charlie Nicholas' young footballing days for the former Celtic Boys Club man created such a stir in his short Celtic career. All too soon though he was attracted to London's bright lights and moved to Arsenal in a £750,000 deal in June 1983. He never quite managed the goalscoring feats at Highbury which had made him such a star at Celtic Park and Aberdeen rescued him from reserve obscurity in 1985 purchasing him for £500,000.

HANS GILLHAUS (Forward)

It is doubtful if any player has made as great an impact on the Pittodrie side this season as this exciting Dutch import. Signed in mid-December for £650,000 from PSV Eindhoven he made a dream start by scoring three goals in his first two matches. Has now gone on to net 11 goals for the Pittodrie side despite being out through injury for several weeks. A pacy, skilful striker he has one international cap for Holland and is strongly pressing for more.

EION JESS (Forward)

Born 13.12.70 in Aberdeen A young man who looks certain to become well known in the near future. Came to prominence in this season's Skol Cup Final victory over Rangers where he had a tremendous match against, ironically, the club Aberdeen acquired his services from in 1987. A small, frail looking teenager who is very comfortable with the ball at his feet.



Theo Snelders toasts Aberdeen's Skol Cup triumph in October of last year with a smiling Paul Mason in the background.



GERRY CREANEY

Born: 13.4.70 in Coatbridge.

Ht: 5ft 9in. Wt.: 11.00

Juvenile sides: Nottingham Forest Boys Club, Celtic Boys Club.

Previous clubs: None.

CELTIC CAREER HISTORY

Signed: May 1988.

Debut: March 28 1990 v Dunfermline at East End Park (1-0).

First goal: April 21 v Dundee at Celtic Park (1-1).

	Premier Division		Total	
	Apps	Goals	Apps	Goals
1989-90	2(3)	1	2(3)	1

HISTORY will rightfully paint a gloomy picture of the events at Celtic Park this season. Yet it is to be hoped there will also be some highlights to recall, including a Scottish Cup final win over Aberdeen.

And there can be no doubt that one of the brighter developments at the club this season has been the emergence of young striker Gerry Creaney. Though many supporters will be happy to forget the past eight months as quickly as possible, Gerry will remember certain moments for a long time.

The start of Gerry's climb to fame can be traced back to January 1984 when he signed a schoolboy (S) form with Celtic while still playing for Nottingham Forest Boys Club!

He explained, "Signing an S-form doesn't obligate you to play for the club. While you are still at school you can play with any boys' club."

"What it does mean is that, once you leave school, the club has option on signing you professionally. As it was, I came to Celtic Boys' Club a year later.

"I still felt it was better to be playing regularly with the players who were likely to form a fair proportion of teams I would end up playing with should I come to Celtic Park."

Come to Celtic Park Gerry did, but like one or two of his teammates he first spent six years at school gaining the qualification necessary for him to follow an alternative career, should he have been forced to do so.

"I stayed on to get the qualifications I needed to go to PE college, which was always something I fancied," he said. "Only

ON

ever as a second choice to football though, but I felt like it was better to have the security of something to fall back on if the football side of things didn't work out for some reason."

Indeed it worked out that, on the day he signed as a professional for the club, word came through that he had a place at Moray House Physical Education College.

However, the indications are that a career in teaching need not be a concern for him if he continues to progress at his current rate, which has seen him make his debut in the senior side much sooner than even Gerry himself anticipated.

"I honestly didn't expect my chance to come so quickly but, without wanting to be immodest, I think I am old enough and strong enough. Once I step out onto the park I do not feel inferior to any player", he commented.

At 5'11" and powerfully built, it has already been noted that Creaney is unlikely to be bundled off the ball by hefty centre-backs. He believes that his physique is a definite advantage.

"As a young player in the side, if I had boyish looks then there would tend to be the 'wee boy' attitude from opponents. They are not so keen to try and intimidate you or put you off your game by physical means if you can give as good as you get and measure up to them in size, which is mostly the case with me," he says.

And, though Gerry may be raw in terms of first team experience, he has not been overawed by the quality of opponent, having faced many of Scotland's top players while playing for Celtic's Premier and West reserve sides.

"It didn't worry me because most of the players I would be likely to play against in the senior side I have already lined up against.

"For instance, recently I have been up against Willie Miller, Theo Snelders, Alan McLaren, Tommy McIntyre and quite a few others. I have managed to score against most of them too," he added with a smile.

Ironically it was a lack of goals in the early part of the season which looked likely to prevent him from making the breakthrough to the first team.

"I had a terrible, terrible start to the season in terms of scoring goals, though I thought I was playing well enough," he said. "In fact it was October before I scored my first goal then I hit a purple patch around Christmas time which has fortunately continued."

With the senior team struggling to find the target and an in-form player in the reserves hitting the net regularly it wasn't too long before Creaney received the call up.

"I was told on the Friday morning before the Dunfermline league match at East End Park that I would definitely be playing.

"A debut is a fantastic experience no matter how the team is playing," says Celtic's newest 'find' Gerry Creaney.

THE SPOT

I feel it was the ideal time to be told because it lets you prepare properly, but at the same time you don't know too far in advance as to get over-anxious about it."

Some have said that it must have been unfortunate making a debut whilst the team was doing badly, but it is not a view to which Gerry subscribes.

"A debut is a fantastic experience no matter how the team is playing. Mine certainly was. Obviously it would have been great if the team was doing well but it doesn't have a great deal of bearing on it," he insisted.

And only four appearances later, Gerry was notching up his first goal in the premier hoops against Dundee at home ten days ago. Another career milestone.

"It didn't feel that different from scoring for the reserves though obviously the fact that it was my first goal made it that bit special. Though people might say our remaining fixtures are meaningless or lacking in atmosphere because of smaller crowds, every game I play is very special."

Creaney has impressed many supporters in his limited appearances and been likened to George McCluskey in terms of style, a comparison which makes him smile.

"I hadn't heard of that comparison but I take it as a compliment because George had a tremendous amount of skill," he said. "But I would like to think I worked a little bit harder off the ball!"

With the Scottish Cup final looming ever larger, Gerry must be aware that a good showing if he is involved tonight could catapult him into contention for a place in the final side. But it is a prospect he almost refuses to consider.

"It is unthinkable to contemplate playing in a Scottish Cup final and really I would be more than happy just to be part of the squad. Being young and playing for a club like Celtic I would like to hope there will be many more chances in the future to play in finals and collect championship medals," he says confidently.



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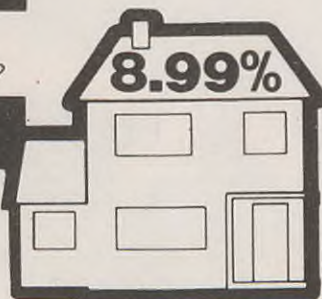
PLAYER OF THE DAY



CELTIC v DUNDEE

'I was disappointed to have to leave the field before the end of the game on Saturday but winning the player of the day nomination is some consolation'.

PAUL ELLIOTT



HOW THE TABLE STANDS AT 25.4.90

DEREK WHYTE	514.5
PAT BONNER	507.5
PAUL McSTAY	477.5
CHRIS MORRIS	410
J. DZIEKANOWSKI	395.5
ANDY WALKER	384.5
MIKE GALLOWAY	372.5
PETER GRANT	358
PAUL ELLIOTT	330.5
TOMMY COYNE	308
ANTON ROGAN	295
JOE MILLER	292
D WADOWCZYK	275.5
STEVE FULTON	226.5
ALEX MATHIE	50.5
GERRY CREANEY	42
STEVE McCAHILL	35.5



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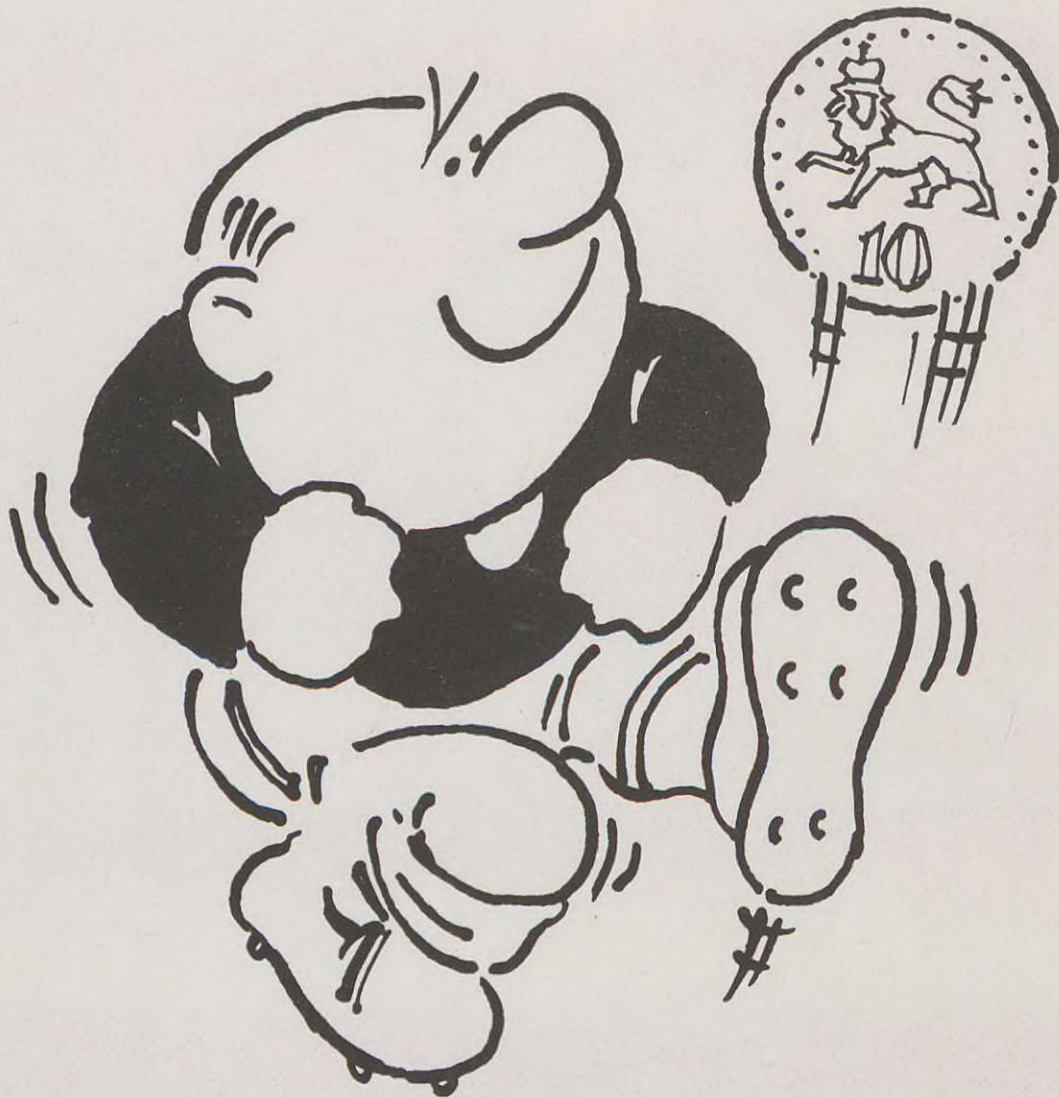


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THE STARS OF TOMORROW

CELTIC earned themselves a chance to finish the season on a high note last Friday when they trounced Heart of Midlothian 6-0 in their Reserve League Cup semi-final clash at Celtic Park.

The young Celts meet Dundee in the final at Dens Park tomorrow (Thursday) and will be out to secure the silverware against a side they have yet to beat this season.

The last time Celtic and Hearts met, in Premier Reserve League action, the score was 5-1 in Celtic's favour with Gerry Creaney notching four of the goals.

On Friday night, Celts were without Creaney, who was preparing for Saturday's first team visit to Fir Park, but scored an even more emphatic victory. They were 3-0 in front after just 20 minutes and picked off three more goals in the second half.

Hearts had the considerable experience of Nicky Walker, Walter Kidd, Brian Whittaker and Jimmy Sandison in defence but it was that department which let them down.

Dugald McCarrison opened the scoring in the third minute after latching onto a poor pass-back then Paul McLaughlin smashed home a 17th minute penalty kick following a Walker trip on Alex Mathie.

McCarrison was on target again in the 20th minute when he neatly converted a Mathie cross for his 16th goal of the season.

Roles were reversed three minutes into the second half when Mathie fired home a McCarrison cross after another bad pass-back then McCarrison set up Gerry Britton for his 22nd goal of the season when yet another attempted pass-back went wrong for Hearts.

Republic of Ireland under-21 international Declan Roche provided the pass which released Mathie for goal no 6 in the 68th minute and the winger thumped home his 11th goal of the season in confident style.

Mathie and McCarrison were the top Celts but Raymond McStay sprayed around some fine passes, particularly in the first half, and youngster in the side Billy Dolan settled in well.

The victory brought Celtic's goals total in four days to 15 following an 8-1 win away to Morton last Tuesday and a 1-1 draw at home to Clydebank on Thursday to complete their Reserve League West commitments.

A powerful side was fielded at Cappielow and the goals flowed from Billy Stark, Creaney (2), O'Neil, Mike Galloway, Tommy Coyne (2) and Sean McBride, with Gerard Kelly notching Morton's consolation.

Two nights later, Celts put out their youngest side of the season, with Boys' Club hopefuls Barry Smith, Richie Elliot and James McQuilken all playing. Smith was a stand-out at right-back while Elliot, younger brother of Celtic's David, and McQuilken both looked very promising.

Midfielder Mark Donaghy scored a 67th minute equaliser for Celts, volleying home from close range after his initial attempt from Willie Hastie's cross had rebounded from the crossbar. Gary White was the Bankies' scorer from the penalty spot in the 53rd minute after Mark McLean had fouled Peter O'Neill.

Last Saturday, Celtic completed their Premier Reserve League programme with a 1-1 draw against Dundee at Dens Park. McCarrison immediately equalised John McQuillan's 28th minute opener.

* Dundee secured their place in the Reserve League Cup final with a 6-5 penalty shoot-out win over Aberdeen at Pittodrie on Thursday. The sides were level at 1-1 after extra time.

RESERVE APPEARANCES

	Premier Reserve League		Reserve League West		Reserve League Cup		TOTALS	
	Apps	Goals	Apps	Goals	Apps	Goals	Apps	Goals
Paul McLaughlin	26	1	12	-	2	1	40	2
Stuart Balmer	25	5	10	1	3	-	38	6
Mark McNally	21(2)	-	14(1)	-	2	-	37(3)	-
David Elliot	23	7	11	5	2(1)	-	36(1)	12
Raymond McStay	22(4)	4	9(1)	3	3	-	34(5)	7
Dugald McCarrison	22(2)	7	8(1)	6	2	3	32(3)	16
Steve McCahill	24	-	5	-	3	-	32	-
Gerry Britton	8(8)	5	20(2)	13	2(1)	3	30(11)	22
Gerry Creaney	17(5)	11	10(2)	8	2	2	29(7)	21
Declan Roche	10(6)	-	15(2)	4	3	1	28(7)	5
Alex Mathie	18	3	7	4	3	4	28	11
Sean McBride	6(3)	-	20	1	-	-	26(3)	-
Mark McLean	-	-	21	-	-	-	21	-
Steve Fulton	14	1	4	1	1	-	19	2
Andy Murdoch	11	-	5	-	3	-	19	-
Brian O'Neil	1(6)	-	17(2)	3	-	-	18(8)	3
Jim Beattie	-	-	17	-	-	-	17	-
Ian Andrews	16	-	1	-	-	-	17	-
Billy Dolan	1	-	11(1)	-	1	-	13(1)	-
Lex Baillie	4(1)	-	7	-	-	-	11(1)	-
Billy Stark	5	2	6	3	-	-	11	5
Kenny Campbell	-	-	10	-	-	-	10	-
Mark Donaghy	-	-	8(4)	2	-	-	8(4)	2
Steve Doman	-	-	8(4)	3	-	-	8(4)	3
Anton Rogan	5	2	2	-	1	-	8	2
Francis Gardiner	-	-	8	-	-	-	8	-
Chris Rough	-	-	7(3)	1	-	-	7(3)	1
John Hewitt	5	-	2	-	-	-	7	-
Willie Hastie	-	-	6(3)	-	-	-	6(3)	-
Peter Grant	5	-	1	-	-	-	6	-
Joe Miller	4	-	2	-	-	-	6	-
Trialsists	-	-	6(1)	1	-	-	6(1)	1
Paul Elliott	2	-	3	-	-	-	5	-
Gary Bendoris	-	-	4(10)	1	-	-	4(10)	1
Kevin Finnon	-	-	4(2)	-	-	-	4(2)	-
Tommy Coyne	3	2	1	2	-	-	4	4
Mike Galloway	-	-	2	1	-	-	2	1
B. Cameron	-	-	2	-	-	-	2	-
Andy Walker	-	-	1	3	-	-	1	3
Own Goals	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2

PREMIER RESERVE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Dundee United	26	16	6	4	62	23	38
Celtic	27	14	8	5	54	31	36
Dundee	27	10	11	6	40	35	31
Hearts	26	10	9	7	39	38	29
Motherwell	27	10	6	11	55	53	26
Hibernian	27	10	6	11	28	31	26
Rangers	26	9	6	11	32	37	24
Aberdeen	26	9	5	12	41	44	23
St. Mirren	26	7	8	11	37	50	22
Dunfermline	26	2	5	19	24	70	9

RESERVE WEST

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ayr United	28	18	4	6	49	27	40
Airdrie	26	15	4	7	57	34	34
Celtic	28	14	4	10	69	47	32
Clydebank	26	14	4	8	45	39	32
Albion Rovers	27	13	5	9	50	40	31
Falkirk	28	14	2	12	57	51	30
Partick	25	12	5	8	61	51	29
Morton	26	12	5	9	50	50	29
Clyde	28	10	7	11	35	38	27
Kilmarnock	26	10	6	10	56	50	26
Queen's Park	26	9	6	11	46	45	24
Dumbarton	25	10	2	13	30	37	22
Hamilton Acas	25	7	4	14	36	59	18
Q.o.S.	26	4	4	18	32	64	12
Stranraer	26	3	4	19	30	71	10



The most famous goal in Celtic's history ... Steve Chalmers nets the winner in the 2-1 defeat of Inter Milan in Lisbon 1967, which sealed the European Cup.

THE HALL

STEVE CHALMERS

STEVE CHALMERS CELTIC CAREER HISTORY

SEASON	LEAGUE		LEAGUE CUP		SCOTTISH CUP		EUROPE		TOTAL	
	Apps	Goals	Apps	Goals	Apps	Goals	Apps	Goals	Apps	Goals
1958-59	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
1959-60	17	14	-	-	2	1	-	-	19	15
1959-60	32	20	6	1	7	5	-	-	45	26
1961-62	31	12	6	1	6	6	-	-	43	19
1962-63	27	11	1	-	4	1	2	-	34	12
1963-64	34	28	6	2	7	3	8	5	55	38
1964-65	23	12	10	10	5	2	4	2	42	26
1965-66	22	15	6	2	6	4	6	-	40	21
1966-67	28	23	9	5	5	3	9	5	51	36
1967-68	13	9	5	2	-	-	1	-	19	11
1968-69	17	11	3	5	5	4	4	1	29	21
1969-70	5	2	4	1	-	-	2	-	11	3
1970-71	3	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	4	2
	253	159	56	29	47	29	37	13	393	230

THERE are not many people around who have scored a winning goal in a European Cup Final. A smart, dapper obviously likeable man frequently to be seen in and around Celtic Park and the Celtic Pools office where he works, is one of them. His name is Steve Chalmers, and younger readers may identify him as the father of ex-St. Mirren player Paul, now with Swansea, who had a brief spell at Parkhead.

After a childhood dogged with illness, Steve made his debut for Celtic on a Tuesday night in March 1959 against Airdrie at Parkhead. It must have been a desperately disappointing night for the youngster. The team lost 1-2, the crowd is given as 4,000 and the team's League form at this time was such that relegation was mentioned in more than one newspaper.

The following season saw Steve making more appearances, but it was not until 1960-61 that he became a regular in the forward line. This particular season saw some promise being turned into reality by the young Celts. Pat Crerand had settled in at right half, and his play could, on occasion, be inspirational. Largely from his promptings, Steve found the net 26 times, but sadly not on the occasion when it would have mattered.

This was the season of the replayed Cup Final against Dunfermline. Steve played at inside left in both games with powerhouse John Hughes in the centre. Frankly, with respect to the denizens of the 'auld greytoon' of Dunfermline and the memory of Jock Stein, 'lucky' is the word that comes to mind still, almost thirty years later, to describe the performance of goalkeeper Eddie Connachan. What anguish was endured on the East Terracing that night! What greater anguish must have been felt in the Celtic dressing room at full time! The effects of this defeat were to stay with us for many years.

1961-2 was another agonizing experience for Steve Chalmers. 19 times he found the net, but the constant chopping and changing of the team clearly upset him, and now questions were beginning to be asked about his ability. Was he too gentle and frail for the rough and tumble of the forward line? He

David W. Potter applauds the resilience of Celtic's European Cup hero **Stevie Chalmers** — always a credit to the club, and who remains one of its finest ambassadors.



OF FAME

certainly did lack the bison type shoulders of McGrory and Quinn, and too often, under pressure, chances went abegging.

A succession of shocking results against poor opposition meant that the League was gone, and much was expected of Chalmers and company in the Scottish Cup Semi Final against St. Mirren at Ibrox. Sadly they failed to deliver, and the supporters reacted badly in one of the saddest days of Celtic history.

The less said about 1962-3 the better as far as Celtic and Chalmers are concerned. On a desperate day at Tannadice Park towards the end of the season when Celtic went down 0-3, Chalmers was so ineffective on the left wing that he was laughed at and ridiculed by his own support. I will remember the tears of frustration that I shed for this poor man, and any remark that in four years time he would score the goal that brought the European Cup to Celtic Park would have seemed to be a joke in the worst possible taste.

EXCITEMENT

He had a better season in 1963-4, finding the net 38 times, but once again, the team could not beat Rangers, and disappointment was the order of the day. Season 1964-5, however, dawned with a good League Cup campaign, and a fine victory over Rangers in the mud, in which Steve scored twice. In the two-leg Quarter Final of the League Cup, Celtic lost 0-2 to East Fife at Methil, but in the second leg, Celtic won 6-0 and Chalmers sustained a bad injury as Celtic lost to Barcelona in the Fair Cities Cup. By the time he returned, Jock Stein's arrival was imminent, and there was a new excitement about the place. Steve was on the right wing on the day that Paradise was regained in the 1965 Cup Final.

From now on, it was glory all the way for Celtic, but for a while in autumn 1965 it seemed that Steve's first team spot was in jeopardy, for Joe McBride

had now been bought and was banging them in. But Steve thrived on such competition and by the end of that season, had re-established himself as the League was won. In that summer he also became the first Scotsman to score against Brazil, when the talented South Americans came to Hampden for a World Cup warm-up. This was the fourth of five international appearances, incidentally.

TRIUMPH

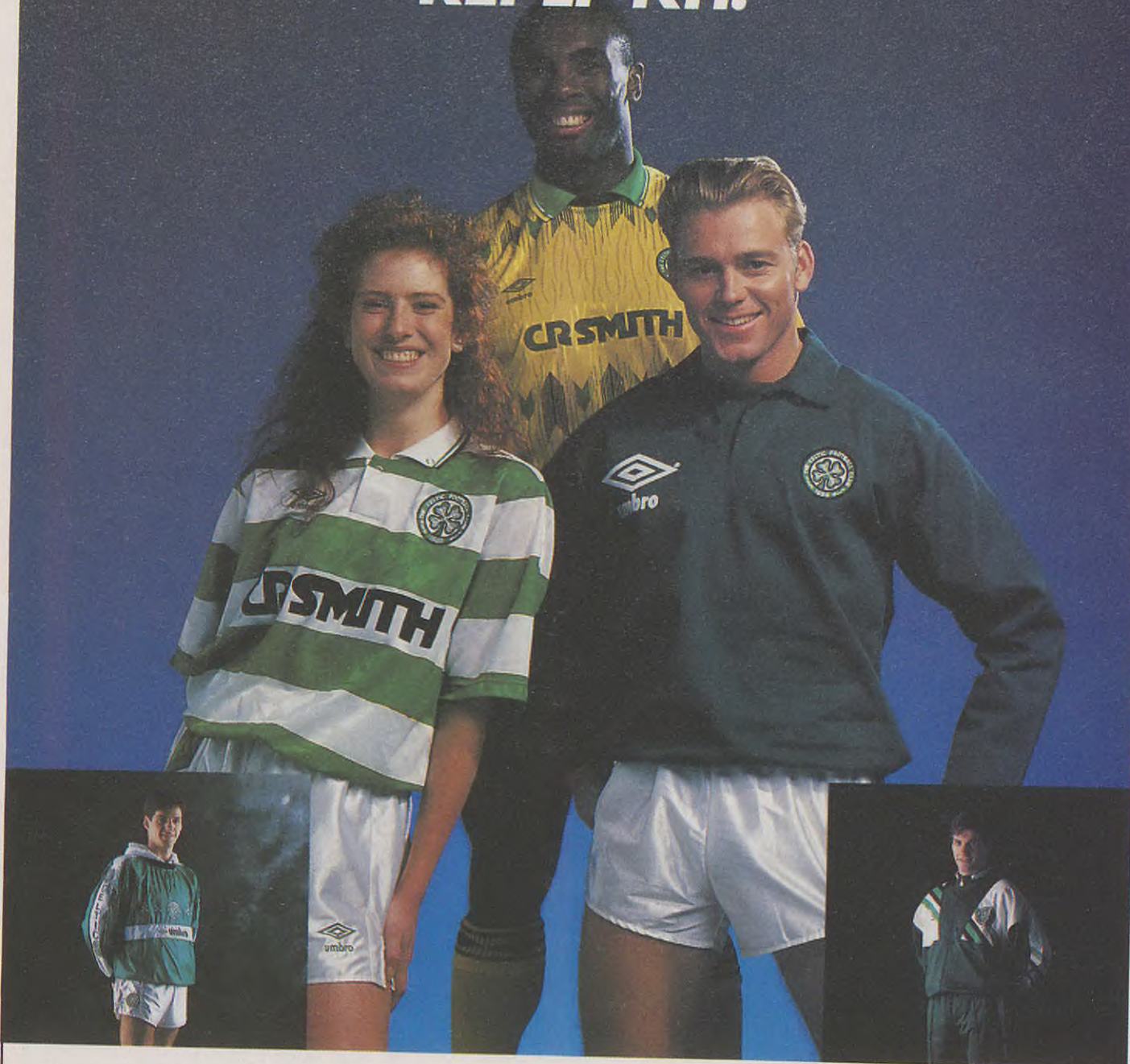
In the annus mirabilis of 1967, Steve scored 36 times including, of course, the goal that sealed the triumph. It was, in many ways, a typical Chalmers goal, scored by a striker who had read the game well enough to be in the right place at the right time. It was also thoroughly deserved by the man who had, during the season, struck up such a fine partnership with the man who might have been seen as his rival, Willie Wallace.

This was clearly the high point of his career, and from now on, his appearances became less and less frequent, as injuries began to take their toll. Stein seemed to keep him as the surprise weapon, on occasion. He had already been the first ever substitute in a Scottish League Cup Final (October 1966) and this seemed now to be the way that Stein liked to use him.

His last great performance was the 1969 Scottish Cup Final when he ran half the length of the park to score the fourth goal before jumping in the air with delight at the humiliation of those sullen faces behind the Mount Florida goal. It was fitting that on May 1st 1971 in the last appearance of the Lisbon Lions, unquestionably the finest team ever to grace the Scottish football scene, Steve Chalmers should score the final goal of the afternoon.

A man of great moral strength, showing the ability to bounce back after many years of frustration and heartbreak, Steve Chalmers remains one of the great characters of Celtic history. How I would have loved to have met on Lisbon night those fools who so tormented him in those dreadful years of the early sixties!

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LOOKING

BACK



5 YEARS AGO

Premier Division
May 1 1985
CELTIC 1 RANGERS 1
Att: 40,079

THIS was a game more remembered for after match events in Janefield Street, when mounted police charged a packed crowd, than any happenings on the park.

The league was almost won by Aberdeen but this did not prevent both sides producing a fiercely contested encounter and after only two minutes Celtic were awarded a penalty when Dave MacPherson whipped the legs from Mo Johnston in the box. Roy Aitken rammed the penalty home but referee Bob Valentine ordered a retake because the ball had been moving while struck and Aitken's second attempt was stopped by the legs of Peter McCloy.

The game came alive in the second half when Davie Cooper was sent off in 60 minutes after fouling Peter Grant. Celtic made it 1-0 three minutes later when Alan McInally (pictured) tapped in a Johnston shot which McCloy couldn't hold.

Rangers then had Ally Dawson sent off for an off the ball incident with Johnston but controversially equalised from the penalty spot in the 77th minute though Ally McCoist after being awarded a dubious penalty for a hand ball against Roy Aitken.

Celtic: Latchford, W McStay, MacLeod, Aitken, McGugan, Grant, Provan, P McStay, Johnston, McClair, McInally (Colquhoun).

10 YEARS AGO

Premier Division
May 3 1980
ST MIRREN 0 CELTIC 0
Att: 20,166



A DEEPLY depressing afternoon saw Celtic wave their title goodbye in agonising circumstances. Needing a victory to keep hopes alive they could not break down the St Mirren defence though a highly dubious refereeing decision was partly to blame.

Non stop early Celtic aggression could not produce a goal and, though Frank McGarvey was having his most effective game yet, Celtic rarely threatened. Unlike St Mirren, who created three gilt edged chances but somehow managed to squander every one of them.

The games biggest flashpoint came in the second half when Tommy Burns (pictured) was felled inside the penalty box in 73 minutes. The referee initially awarded a penalty kick then changed his mind following consultation with his linesman and gave a free kick outside the box even though the foul seemed to have occurred well inside the area.

So after seemingly cruising for so long in the title race Celtic eventually lost the championship to Aberdeen by one point.

Celtic: Latchford, Sneddon, McAdam, Aitken, McGrain, Conroy, MacLeod, Burns, Provan, McGarvey, McCluskey.

15 YEARS AGO

First Division
April 26 1975
ST JOHNSTONE 2 CELTIC 1
Att: 11,000



ON the very last day of the old First Division Celtic went down to a fighting St Johnstone side who needed one point to secure a place among the football elite in next season's Premier Division.

Celtic's minds were on the next week's Scottish Cup final and they brought back Jimmy Johnstone, Dixie Deans, and Tom Callaghan, three of the men who took them to that cup final against Airdrie, but it was St Johnstone who struck first.

In only five minutes they were awarded a penalty after Roddy MacDonald brought down Gordon Smith in the penalty area but Jim O'Rourke put the kick wide of the post. Ronnie Glavin (pictured) countered for Celtic, hitting the bar in 18 minutes then 12 minutes later finishing off a great one-two with Dixie Deans to put the visitors one up.

An aggressive St Johnstone levelled with 42 minutes gone through O'Rourke then clinched the two points when Smith made certain of a second penalty in 67 minutes as the thoughts of Celtic players wandered down Hampden way.

Celtic: Latchford, McGrain, McNeill, MacDonald, Lynch, Murray, Glavin, Callaghan, Johnstone (Hood), Deans (Lennox), Dalglish.

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SCORING POINTS!

"THE TOUGHEST league in Europe" is how the Premier Division has been described in the past. Recent concern has centred on how the division appears to have become even more physical with discipline not what it should be.

That is the theory, but does statistical evidence support this view?

The only measure of fouls, cautions and red cards we have available over a considerable period of time is *The Sunday Post's Crime Count Survey* which has been in operation since 1972.

Close examination of these statistics (the tables on the right are the fouls, cautions and red cards season by season) does not demonstrate the rising trends which might have been anticipated.

In terms of fouls no significant pattern emerges and each year appears to be separate and distinct from the others.

Likewise too with red cards. Different seasons bring very different figures with this term (1989-90) being by far the worst on record.

Negative development

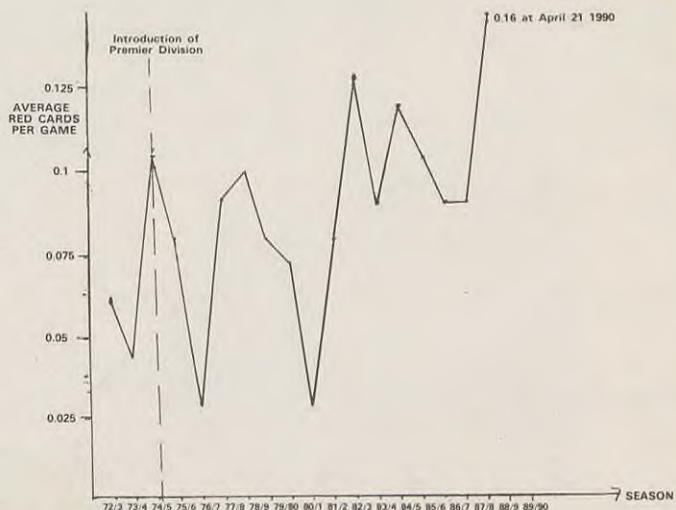
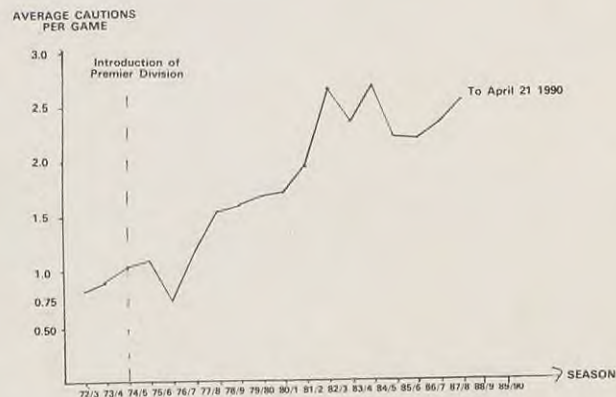
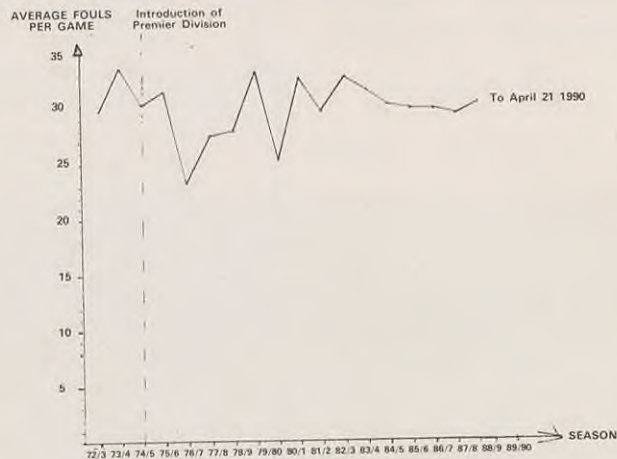
Indeed only with regard to yellow cards can any real trend be seen to emerge. And this is definitely a negative development.

While in recent years the number of yellow cards has settled at around 2.5 a game, when the Premier Division was introduced the average was just under one yellow card a game, and in actual number, the amount of yellow cards has **TRIPLED** in the last 15 years.

Various reasons could be forwarded for such an increase, amongst them the referee's crackdown in recent seasons, so the rise is not necessarily due to an increase in rule breaking.

Naked statistics, however do not tell the whole story so perhaps dissecting bare figures is not an entirely worthwhile exercise. But these figures are sure to surprise many who would have expected a definite confirmation of rising crime on the park.

Further, comparisons between the old first division and premier division show the latter in a favourable light with negligible difference in terms of fouls and sending offs, between the two set-ups.



CELTIC v ABERDEEN

COMPLETE PREMIER DIVISION RECORD

(Celtic scores first)

	HOME	AWAY
1975-76	0-2 1-1	2-1 1-0
1976-77	2-2 4-1	1-2 0-2
1977-78	3-2 2-2	1-2 1-2
1978-79	0-0 1-0	1-4 1-1
1979-80	1-2 1-3	2-1 0-0
1980-81	0-2 1-1	2-2 1-4
1981-82	2-1 0-1	3-1 3-1
1982-83	1-3 1-3	2-1 0-1
1983-84	0-0 1-0	1-3 0-1
1984-85	2-1 2-0	2-4 1-1
1985-86	2-1 1-1	1-4 1-0
1986-87	1-1 1-1	1-1 0-1
1987-88	2-2 0-0	1-0 1-0
1988-89	1-3 0-0	2-2 0-0
1989-90	1-0	1-1 1-1

CELTIC v ABERDEEN

About their league meetings and other facts

- ★ THIS season has been one of many great disappointments and this can be reflected statistically. This is the first season for ten years that Celtic have failed to achieve the grand slam of four Premier Division wins in a season against at least one side.
- ★ ONE consolation is that Aberdeen are only one of three sides who have not beaten Celtic in the league this season. The other two are Hearts and Dundee.
- ★ SO far this season Celtic have won only 10 league matches which is five below their previous worst in the Premier Division in 1977/78. Celtic's lowest ever total is eight wins in 1902/03, but that was when only 18 league games were played. Counting seasons with 30 or more league matches played, Celtic's lowest number of victories is 10 in 1947/48 and 1951/52.
- ★ CELTIC'S total number of league goals this season is also heading for a record. This season Celtic have netted 36 goals and their previous low in the Premier Division was 61 in 1978/79 and 1979/80. Celtic's record low their our 102 year history is 36 in 1902/03 and only 22 games were played.
- ★ THIS season Celtic have averaged 1.03 goals per game in the league which is well below their previous worst which was 1.36 goals in the season 1947/48 when the club was almost relegated.
- ★ CELTIC have already created another record this season. They have failed to score in 15 league matches (42.8% of 35 games played), three lower than previous worst season — yes, you've guessed it, 1947/48, when they failed to find the net in 12 matches (40% of the 30 game league programme).

PROGRAMME REVIEW

FOR the last programme of the season we are taking a look at our own issue but through the eyes of Peter Rundo, a well respected figure in programme circles who edits both Dundee and Dundee United's programmes.

IF you analyse the content of Celtic's programme it is as good, if not better than many of the premier issues which finished above it in this year's Programme of the Year awards.

One of the major problems at Parkhead and Ibrox, if I dare mention it, is the conflict of interest between programmes and club newspaper.

'The Boss Speaks Out', Billy McNeill's column, is both comprehensive and interesting unlike many manager's columns.

The Pen Pics of the opposition are in-depth, but it is worth noting that neither Celtic nor Hearts, who carry such detailed information on the visitors, fared well in this year's programme awards. In my opinion there is nothing wrong with pen pics, but with clubs in the premier meeting each other twice, it does unfortunately become a bit repetitive.

'On the Spot' and 'The Hall of Fame' are excellent features.

'Looking Back' currently looks at events of 5, 10 and 15 years ago is a well worn feature and perhaps could do with some fresh impetus — perhaps delving deeper into the past.

The statistics of both first team and reserves are adequate though the lay-out could perhaps be better. I don't really think it is necessary to extend the 'Facts and Figures' over two pages when one would have sufficed.

'Around the League' or as in later issues this season, 'Scoring Points' have been well researched and controversial — to the point of being at odds with Billy McNeill's comment in the same programme.

In fact I feel that if you compared the content of Celtic's programme with that of Aberdeen who came out top, there is more in quantity and quality in the Parkhead issue, but 'The Don' is very well designed and probably gains a great deal of ground for its aesthetic quality.

In other words if Celtic can improve their layout then they could well be in the running for Programme of the Year next season but, please change the size (I believe this may be in hand).

A couple of other gripes are picture quality. Also why the lack of captions to the photographs?

Having said all this, I am really looking forward to seeing next season's production when no doubt you'll have taken up all my suggestions and I'll be left with no option but to vote for Celtic's programme as number one!

The full team picture without the right half.



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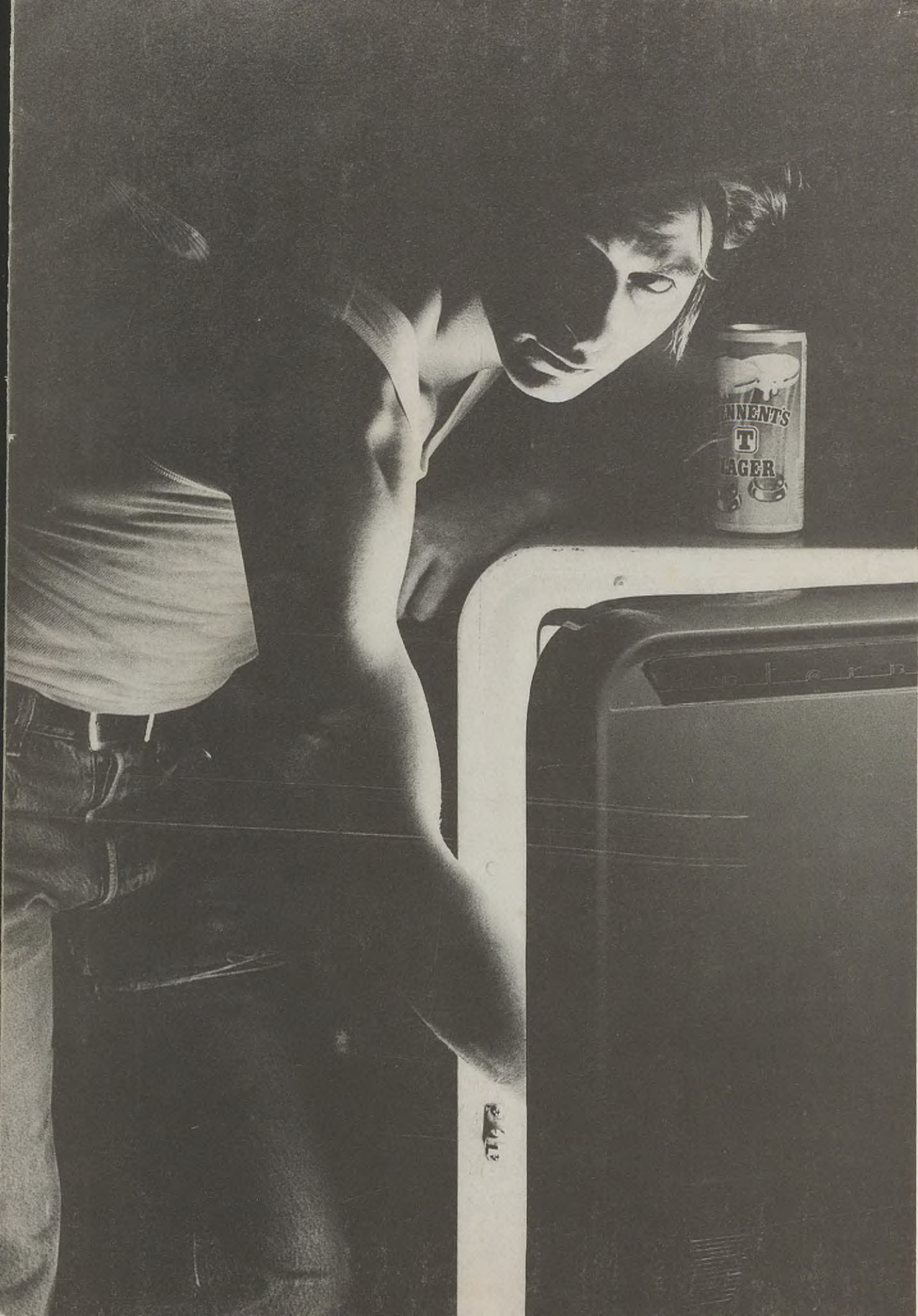


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