



CELTIC v DUNFERMLINE

Celtic Park, Sunday 2 May 2004, Kick-off 3.00pm

Scottish Premierleague 2003/04

Programme No.28





2003-04

CONGRATULATING 2003-04 CONGRATULATING

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Carling are proud to be supporters of Celtic FC.

LOVEFOOTBALL



“Such occasions are always ones for the fans to savour, and the Celtic supporters deserve to enjoy this one having supported us faithfully, in great numbers and often at considerable expense, home and away, both in Scotland and abroad

WE will this afternoon be presented with the Scottish Premierleague trophy, the players' reward for a long, hard domestic season in which they have displayed remarkable consistency.

Such occasions are always ones for the fans to savour, and the Celtic supporters deserve to enjoy this one having supported us faithfully, in great numbers and often at considerable expense, home and away, both in Scotland and abroad.

The league title was obviously secured a fortnight ago at Kilmarnock's Rugby Park, and since then – as befits our ever-hectic schedule - we have played two very tough matches against Aberdeen and Hearts.

It goes without saying that the first of these represented something of a disappointment to us all.

Losing both our long unbeaten

record here at Celtic Park and our first match of this league season, having not played anywhere near as well as we are capable, was unfortunate and unnecessary.

I say unnecessary because it was a game we should have won, and one I'm sure we would have but for the fact that numerous excellent chances were spurned during the course of the match.

Fortunately, we did improve last Sunday for the visit to Tynecastle, and might well have emerged with more than the solitary point secured by an excellent debut goal from young Aiden McGeady.

It's always important to guard against hype when young players are just breaking into things – and I do think a sense of perspective requires to be applied in this case – but Aiden nevertheless played very well.

The same, too, could be said

for Ross Wallace, who was one of our better players against Aberdeen, and I do feel that there are some talented youngsters coming through at the football club.

However, it's our senior players who have made days like today possible, and they deserve massive credit for their efforts over the course of this season.

There is, of course, one more trophy up for grabs, and our opponents in the final of the Scottish Cup are also our visitors this afternoon.

Dunfermline are a strong and formidable side, and one for whom I have a great deal of respect.

They will be difficult opponents this afternoon, as they will at Hampden later this month, and we will have to play to our best if we are to win the match.

CELTIC FOOTBALL CLUB FACTFILE

Formed: 1888

Stadium: Celtic Park
 (capacity 60,506)

Home strip: Green/white hooped shirts, white shorts, white socks

Away strip: Black shirts, black shorts and socks with gold trim

Third strip: Gold shirts, green shorts, gold 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 (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 (31)

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

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 FACTS

● April 19, 1972 ranks as one of the most disappointing European Cup nights at Celtic Park. After 210 minutes of football, the Hoops and Inter Milan were still tied on 0-0, and the Italian club went on to win 5-4 in a penalty shoot-out.

● On April 21, 1934, right-half Peter Wilson played the last of his 395 matches for Celtic.

● On the same day, in 1917, Celtic lost to Kilmarnock by 0-2, the first defeat in 62 matches.

● Alec Thomson played his final game for the club against Hamilton, on April 22, 1934. He scored 98 goals in 450 appearances.

● The Scottish Cup final of 1969 attracted a crowd of 132,870, the biggest since 1956. Celtic beat Rangers 4-0 in this final leg of a 'Treble'.

● On April 28, 1909 Celtic played their sixth game in nine days. In the 5-0 win over Queen's Park Jimmy Quinn scored his second hat-trick in three days.

● On April 30, 1902, in the semi-final of the British League Cup, Celtic beat Sunderland 5-1.

● On the same day two well-known Celts made their debuts for the Hoops - Frank Haffey against Third Lanark in 1958, and George Connolly versus Dunfermline in 1968.



DUNFERMLINE FACTS

● Dunfermline FC was founded in 1885 by members of a cricket club and joined the League in 1912. The club, based at East End Park, had a long wait for the first piece of silverware, the Second Division title of 1926.

● Two Scottish Cup wins are the jewels in the crown of Dunfermline's history. The first came in 1961 when the Pars beat Berwick 4-1 in the first round, Stranraer 3-1 in the second and Aberdeen 6-3 in the third, all away from home. In round four, Alloa were trounced 4-0 and after a 0-0 draw in the semi-final against St Mirren, Dunfermline won the replay 1-0. They also needed an extra game in the final before disposing of Celtic by 2-0 in front of a crowd of 87,866.

● In 1968, Dunfermline beat Celtic again by the same score - this time in a shock first-round result at Parkhead. In what seemed like a case of déjà vu, Aberdeen were next up and again beaten (2-1); while Partick Thistle were the victims in the quarter-finals which the Pars won by a single goal. It took a second match at the semi-final stage before St Johnstone could be subdued but in the final, they only needed one attempt to beat Hearts 3-1. Unfortunately, the attendance of 56,366 was the lowest for a Scottish Cup final between 1921 and 1977.





TODAY'S VISITORS - DUNFERMLINE
MANAGER - JIMMY CALDERWOOD

CELTIC



DUNFERMLINE

Momo Sylla	3	1
Jackie McNamara	4	2
Joos Valgaeren	5	3
Bobo Balde	6	4
Henrik Larsson	7	5
Alan Thompson	8	6
Chris Sutton	9	7
John Hartson	10	8
Stephen Pearson	11	9
David Fernandez	12	10
Paul Lambert	14	11
Ulrik Laursen	16	12
Didier Agathe	17	14
Neil Lennon	18	15
Stilian Petrov	19	17
Robert Douglas	20	18
Magnus Hedman	21	20
David Marshall	22	22
Stanislav Varga	23	26
Shaun Maloney	29	29
Ross Wallace	33	30
Johan Mjallby	35	31
Craig Beattie	37	32
Jamie Smith	39	
John Kennedy	41	
Liam Miller	43	
Stephen McManus	44	
Aiden McGeady	46	
Michael McGovern	47	

Marco Ruitenbeek	
Lee Bullen	
Scott Wilson	
Darren Young	
Andrius Skerla	
Scott Thomson	
Barry Nicholson	
Gary Mason	
Stevie Crawford	
Craig Brewster	
Derek Young	
Gary Dempsey	
Noel Hunt	
Greg Shields	
Sean Kilgannon	
Andre Karnebeek	
Derek Stillie	
David Grondin	
Mark McGarty	
Anthony Storrie	
Scott Y Thomson	
Billy Mehmet	
Andy Tod	

Celtic Football Club, Celtic Park, Glasgow G40 3RE 0141-556 2611

CURRENT SCOTTISH PREMIERLEAGUE 2003/04

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
CHAMPIONS	34	29	4	1	100	21	79	91
Rangers	34	23	6	5	69	29	40	75
Hearts	34	15	11	8	48	37	11	56
Dunfermline	34	13	11	10	38	43	-5	50
Motherwell	34	12	9	13	39	40	-1	45
Dundee Utd	34	11	10	13	42	54	-12	43
Livingston	34	9	12	13	40	48	-8	39
Hibernian	34	9	11	14	37	54	-17	38
Dundee	34	9	10	15	42	55	-13	34
Kilmarnock	34	10	5	19	41	68	-27	35
Aberdeen	34	9	7	18	38	54	-16	34
Partick Thistle	34	4	6	24	31	62	-31	18

CLUB SPONSORS



FORTHCOMING FIXTURES

Scottish Premierleague	CELTIC v RANGERS	SAT 8 MAY 12:30pm
Scottish Premierleague	MOTHERWELL v CELTIC	WED 12 MAY TBC
Scottish Premierleague	CELTIC v DUNDEE UNITED	SUN 16 MAY 3:00pm
Scottish Cup final, Hampden Park	CELTIC v DUNFERMLINE	SAT 22 MAY 3:00pm

RECENT FORM



Scottish Premierleague, April 25, 2004
HEARTS 1 v 1 CELTIC (McGeady)

Scottish Premierleague, April 21, 2004
CELTIC 1 v ABERDEEN 2 (Larsson)

Scottish Premierleague, April 18, 2004
KILMARNOCK 0 v 1 CELTIC (Petrov)

Uefa Cup 1/4-Final 2nd Leg, April 14, 2004
VILLARREAL 2 v 0 CELTIC

Scottish Cup Semi-final, April 11, 2004
LIVINGSTON 1 v 3 CELTIC (Sutton 2, Larsson)

TODAY'S MATCH OFFICIALS

Referee:	Dougie McDonald
Assistant Referees:	David Doig Jim Dunne
Fourth Official:	Eddie Smith

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

Feeling just Champion

Paul Lambert has enjoyed every minute of his career at Celtic Park ... especially those four league title wins. Now, as he prepares to collect yet another medal, he looks forward to the challenges ahead and another tilt at the Champions League

Exclusive Interview: ALISON McCONNELL

PAUL LAMBERT will collect his fourth Championship medal this afternoon and like most in the Celtic dressing room he has voiced his belief that this one carries with it a little extra sweetness.

It's not just the fact that the title was wrenched away from Celtic in the cruellest circumstances last year but also because this year's victory guarantees a group place when the fresh Champions League campaign begins after the summer break.

Lambert has watched as Martin O'Neill's side have made significant progress in European football over the last few seasons and he is eager to see those steps forward continued. Like his manager, Lambert feels that funds will have to be made available to strengthen the squad over the summer months and he has also maintained that keeping O'Neill in Glasgow is pivotal to Celtic's success.

To date, Celtic have lost just eight league games since the Irishman's arrival at the club in June 2000, and it can be no coincidence

that the two domestic defeats suffered at Celtic Park in that time have come after the League Championship has been won.

Dunfermline will doubtless attempt to adopt the role of party poopers this afternoon in a dress rehearsal for the Scottish Cup final later this month, but in an afternoon when the title is paraded in front of a capacity Celtic Park there is little that will dampen the mood of the hosts.

"It's been great this season," enthused Lambert. "It's not just this season though, it's everything that has happened over the last four years and the sheer consistency of the team throughout that time.

"We have lost so few games and worked hard and ensured that we approach every single game with the intention of winning



TOP MAN

Paul celebrates after clinching the SPL title at Rugby Park last month



“It is always going to be tough in the Champions League given the quality of sides taking part”

it and I think what has been achieved by this squad of players is pretty incredible.

“Now we want to continue it with another decent crack at the Champions League next season. It is such an important competition to be in, especially for a club the size and stature of Celtic's but you don't want to be in it just to make up the numbers.

“I'm sure that the manager will probably want to bring in some new players to add to the current squad and aim for a place in the second group stages. We have been so close to it on two separate occasions now and it has been disappointing to just miss out, but you know that it is always going to be tough given the quality of the sides that you are up against.

“The manager, along with John Robertson and Steve Walford, deserve a lot of credit for the way they have turned things around here over the last four years. They are the focal point of the club and as a team they work so well together too and it's so important that the club can keep them here.”

Lambert has another year on his Celtic contract and will see it out before pursuing a management career of his own. It goes without saying that he has his sights fixed on bowing out of Celtic on a high, but before that he is determined to make the most of the opportunities that lie in front of him over the next 12 months.

The former Scotland internationalist has been used sparingly this season by O'Neill,



VOTE WINNER
Jackie McNamara is Paul Lambert's choice for Celtic's Player of the Year



EUROCRATS
The Hoops are set for another crack at the Champions League in the autumn

“European football is special but the bread and butter comes with winning week in and week out in the league”

although his campaign has been interrupted by injury too. This afternoon he will enjoy the plaudits and the bows in front of the home support when he is first to get his hands on the trophy, and it is a moment that the squad as a whole have been pushing towards since the beginning of the season.

“Winning the league is always the most important thing for Celtic. European football is special and it is important but the bread and butter comes when you are winning week in, week out in the league.

“We felt that we were so unlucky last year to miss out on the title by a single goal, but to have won it three times out of the

last four seasons is impressive.

“I've enjoyed every minute of my career and every minute that I've been at Celtic. I'll never forget how important it was to stop ten-in-a-row that first season I was here and things like that stay with you.

“I am committed to being here for another full season and after that I do want to go into management and be my own man, but before that I feel that I've still got a bit to go just yet.”

Lambert, meanwhile, has revealed that his vote for the Celtic Player of the Year Award

would go to Jackie McNamara.

The 30-year-old has been deployed in a variety of positions over the last nine months and Lambert was eager to applaud the contribution of his colleague.

“The hardest thing to do in football is be consistent,” explained Lambert. “Jackie hasn't only been consistent throughout the season but he has done in from various different positions. He has done so well wherever he has been asked to perform and for that I would rate him worthy of the award.”