

HAMILTON ACADEMICAL F.C.

Season 1974-75

Pre-season Friendly Match

THE ACCIES

v.

CELTIC

Monday, 5th August 1974 at 7.30p.m.

Official Programme

Price 3p.

ERIC SMITH SAYS

Having got two very difficult games under our belt, playing against opposition of the highest calibre of Sunderland and Hull City has shown up a few deficiencies within our team. It has given me the opportunity to work on the various departments of the team and try things with various players. This I think was obvious since the improvement was shown in the match against Hull.

We set about the task that was given to us after our second half lapse against Sunderland; after losing 2 quick goals, full concentration, or lack of it, was most apparent all over the field. Elementary mistakes were made and were punished heavily.

Once again in the last 6 minutes against Hull City, the breakdown of concentration, mixed with lack of experience and maturity, cost us heavily. Where we were cruising for victory, we found ourselves losing with the last kick of the ball. Again valuable lessons were learned with which we will take steps to rectify.

Playing against sides such as these has immeasurable value and quickens individuals physically and mentally. One must bear in mind that this is a young side and never called upon to play against quality teams in the Second Division.

The team performed well for long spells in each of these games and held their own, but lessons were learned the hard way.

E. SMITH, Manager

HERE NEXT

Saturday, 10th August, 1974 — League Cup

THE ACCIES v BERWICK RANGERS at 3.00p.m.

With all your favourite Accies Stars, plus visiting stars Roddy Georgeson, Billy Armstrong and Berwicks' new scoring sensation from East Fife, Doug Dailey.

Can Accies tame these Bordermen ?

Come along and see, on Saturday at three !

A collection will be uplifted tonight on behalf of Hamilton Accies B.C. Please give generously.

BACK-TRACKING

Accies and Celtic have met on eight occasions in league matches since the war, with our visitors claiming six victories to our one; the remaining match ending as a 2-2 draw.

Our only success — by 2 goals to nil — was recorded at Douglas Park on 5th September 1953, the first day of the 1953/54 league season. (Yes, Accies were actually top of the First Division !). Celtic, who had made a disastrous start to the season, finishing bottom of a league cup section which included East Fife, Aberdeen and Airdrie, were without injured stars goalkeeper Johnny Bonnar and the idol of "paradise" Charlie Tully. Accies were at full strength.

The Accies match programme for the game gives brief details of some of the Parkhead players. The following comment refers to the Celtic centre-half and is quoted direct from the programme — "A local lad who resides within a Johnny Martin throw-in from Douglas Par. Is playing immensley at present. We know him better as the big fellow who used to be a sheet anchor pivot with Albion Rovers".

By now you will all have guessed that the centre-half referred to was none other than the present Celtic bossman Jock Stein, who was making his first visit to Douglas Park as a Celtic player.

One could fill a book listing this man's achievements as a football manager. They are second to none. He is the most astute tactician the Scottish game has ever known. His close friend Bill Shankly — with whom he will renew acquaintances next Monday night when Liverpool visit Parkhead — simply describes him as, "the greatest manager in the world." We are privileged to have his presence here at Douglas Park tonight.

Finally, getting back to that Accies v Celtic league match in 1953, the full team line-ups for the record were:—

Accies: Ritchie, Bathgate, Johnstone; Wilson, Scott, Martin; Young, Todd, Rae, Brown, Cunning.

Celts: Bell, Haughney, Meechan; Evans, Stein, Baillie; Collins, Walsh, McPhail, Peacock, Fernie.

Eric Smith scored his first goal for Celtic on 19th February 1955 in a Scottish Cup-tie against Kilmarnock at Rugby Park. His first goal in the league came the following Saturday at Parkhead against St. Mirren.

ACCIES NEWSDESK

. . . . Season tickets for all parts of the ground are still available and can be purchased at the Main Entrance tonight First casualty of the new season is goalkeeper Peter McBain, who badly cut his hand in training last week. The wound required nearly 30 stitches, but Peter hopes to be back in action before the month is out Last week was a particularly busy one for Accies ground-staff boys George Hunter and Ross Gray. With 3 games being played in five days, it mean't the boys were working overtime preparing for tonight Another two signings to add to the list that appeared in the last programme. Richard McClunie from Bellfield and 19 year old Scott McCartney from Larkhall Thistle, who signed on the dotted line last Thursday Looking in to see the old place last week was former Accies goalscoring favourite Willie Forsyth Graham Maclean, handed a free transfer by Accies at the end of last season, has signed for Queen of the South Jim Scott is now nearing full fitness. Should be back in action before too long Don't know who invented dots, but they ain't half useful ! Jim Frew and Neil Hood both under a 4-day suspension and miss Saturday's opening league cup clash with Berwick Accies will again be competing in the Second Division reserve league this season, which should kick-off first week in October Our midfield trialist against Rangers on Friday night was Tom Stevens, formerly of Hibs Drew Young presently in Stirling Royal Infirmary. Doing fine I hear Eddie McShane now a daddy Young Jim Brand's car still off the road Acciesshop open again tonight for all your souvenirs etc. Until Saturday then, be good and be lucky !

MEMBERSHIP

Accies Supporters' Club membership forms for 1974/75 are available tonight at the Acciesshop. Fees on joining are adults 15p and juniors 5p. Club badges, ties etc. can also be purchased.

TONIGHT'S POOLS

ACCIES

- 1 Rikki Ferguson
- 2 Jim Frew
- 3 Arthur McMillan
- 4 Phil Bonnyman
- 5 Gordon Hamilton
- 6 Ian Campbell
- 7 Jackie McNally
- 8 Jim Brand
- 9 Paul Hegarty
- 10 John Filshie
- 11 Neil Hood
- 12 Frank Grant
- 13 Jammy O'Reilly
- 14 George Hunter
- 15 Gus McLeod
- 16 Andy Lawless

CELTIC

- 1 Ally Hunter
- 2 Danny McGrain
- 3 Jim Brogan
- 4 Steve Murray
- 5 Billy McNeill
- 6 George Connelly
- 7 Jimmy Johnstone
- 8 Kenny Dalglish
- 9 Dixie Deans
- 10 Harry Hood
- 11 Bobby Lennox
- 12 Dennis Connaghan
- 13 Pat McCluskey
- 14 Tommy Callaghan
- 15 Paul Wilson
- 16 Jimmy Bone

Officials and Team line-ups will be announced shortly before the kick-off.
