



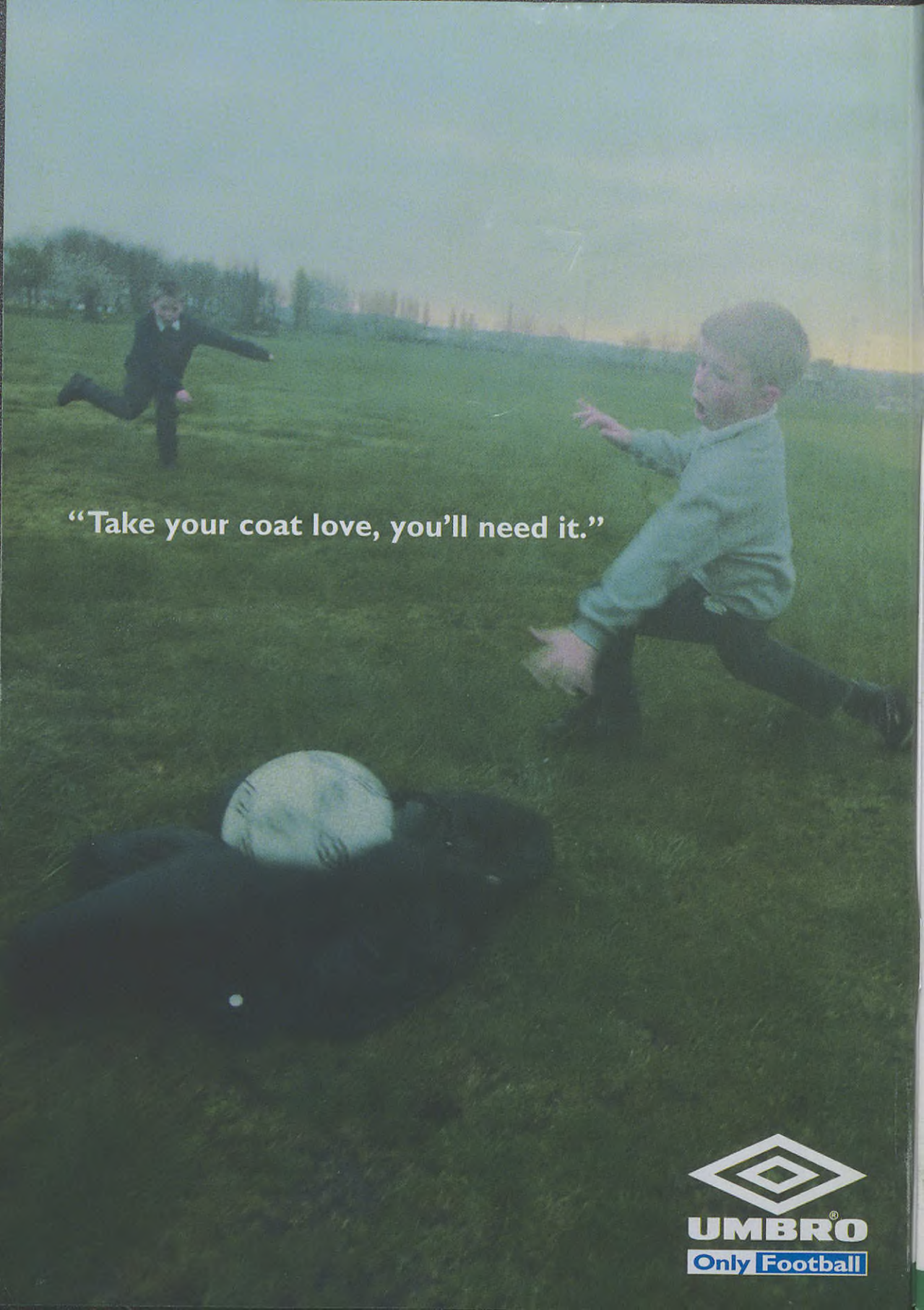
Challenge match

CELTIC
v
AS ROMA

Celtic Park
Wednesday August 6
Kick-off 7.45pm

Price £1

No.3



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You must learn from every game that you play.

And the lesson that must be learned from the very disappointing start we made to the league campaign at Easter Road on Sunday is that in top-class football you must retain possession.

We kept giving the ball away against Hibernian and it is this that led to the 2-1 defeat.

I wasn't surprised by the pace of my first league match, it was as we expected.

We played at the same pace as the home side but the difference was that all too often we lost the ball in dangerous areas and were forced to regroup.

Tonight's friendly against AS Roma provides us with a final chance to experiment without the pressure of competitive football and we will try a few things, depending on what players we have available.

Like Parma, Roma are a top-class side and will be looking on this as an opportunity to hone their match sharpness before the Serie A begins, which is still a matter of weeks away.

We must get things right quickly

Learning from our mistakes

but there should also be an appreciation of the fact that we have added a number of new players in the past few weeks and the squad will take time to gel.

I have been asked about changing the approach of the team and making it less attacking, but this is not so.

If we pass the ball well then our system is such that we can push as many players into forward positions as is required.

However, as Sunday proved, it is difficult to push players up-front if you keep losing the ball. We lost it too often and as a result ended up having to defend when we should have been attacking.

Sunday's result represents a setback but it should not be blown out of proportion and I would appeal to the supporters to demonstrate patience.



Celtic Football Club,
Celtic Park, Glasgow, G40 3RE

Roll of Honour

European Cup: 1967
League Champions (35 times)
1893, 1894, 1896, 1898, 1906, 1907, 1908, 1909, 1910, 1914, 1916, 1918, 1919, 1922, 1926, 1936, 1938, 1954, 1966, 1967, 1968, 1969, 1970, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1977, 1979, 1981, 1982, 1986, 1988.
Scottish Cup Winners (30 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, 1996
League Cup Winners (9 times)
1957, 1958, 1966, 1967, 1968, 1969, 1970, 1975, 1982.
Coronation Cup: 1953
Empire Exhibition Cup: 1938
St Mungo Cup: 1951

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ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER

Davie Hay

HEAD COACH

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McKINLAY**



**Simon
DONNELLY**



**Craig
BURLEY**



**Darren
JACKSON**



**Andreas
THOM**



**Tommy
JOHNSON**



**Henrik
LARSSON**



**Stephane
MAHE**



**David
HANNAH**



REFEREE:
H Dallas (Motherwell)



ASSISTANT REFEREE:
B Cassidy (Carmunock)



ASSISTANT REFEREE:
J Walker (Motherwell)

STAND-BYS

CELTIC:

Andy McCondichie, Malky Mackay, Staurt Gray, Brian McLaughlin, Chris Hay.

ROMA:

Antonio Chimenti, Amedeo Carboni, Francesco Statuto, Flippo Dal Moro

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AS Roma



**Michael
KONSEL**



CAFU



**Vincent
CANDELA**



ALDAIR



**Cesar
GOMES**



**Eusebio
DI FRANCESCO**



**Luigi
DI BIAGIO**



**Cristiano
SCAPOLO**



**Francesco
TOTTI**



**Abel
BALBO**



**Paulo
SERGIO**



**Marco
DELVECCHIO**



VAGNER



TONIGHT'S VISITORS

Though much younger than their more aristocratic neighbours Lazio, Associazione Sportiva Roma are the favourite club of Rome and its ebullient fans.

But, sadly, AS Roma's lot at present isn't terribly removed from Celtic's.

Just as Hoops supporters are frustrated at living in the shadow of city neighbours, Rangers, so are Roma fans thoroughly cheesed off at Lazio's upturn in fortunes over the past decade coinciding with a downturn in their own.

The cost in coaching personnel has been exceedingly high. Three cup wins and a UEFA Cup final appearance have been the highlights of a mixed last 11 years.

But during that time Roma have had no fewer than EIGHT managers – Czech Zdenek Zeman the latest, having been appointed in the summer following the departure of Argentinian Carlos Bianchi.

The fact Zeman was formerly boss of bitter rivals and fellow Olympic Stadium tenants Lazio hasn't endeared him to the passionate Roma faithful.

But that will all change if he can bring silverware to a club that last tasted such success in



OLYMPIC STADIUM ... Roma share this fine stadium with local rivals Lazio

1993, the turn of the decade a reasonably fruitful time with 1991 also bringing a cup win and a spot in the final of the UEFA Cup.

League form in recent years has been somewhat erratic, a 12th place finish last term the club's worst showing in almost 15 years.

AS Roma thought the good times were about to roll when Swedish coach Sven Goran Eriksson guided the club to runners-up position in the Serie A in 1986 and finished the season with a cup victory.

Two years later he was gone

and Nils Liedholm took over. His tenure was brief and in 1989 Luigi Radice assumed the reigns.

He lasted a mere 12 months, his successor Ottavio Bianchi surviving only 12 more! In 1992 Yugoslavian Vujadin Boskov was appointed to a now smouldering hot-seat and despite a cup triumph in his first term he was gone within a year.

Carlo Mazzone stepped in and he managed to wear out three calendars before he was in another job, which brought Bianchi into the picture.

The club has had a troubled

recent time of it then, but this does not diminish an illustrious history.

AS Roma began life on 22 July 1927 following the amalgamation of three Roman clubs, Alba (founded 1911), SG Fortitudo (1906) and Roman (1903), the first two of which had reached the final of the Italian championship.

The 'giallorossi' (red and yellows) soon made an impact by winning the CNOI Cup, the Italian equivalent of the League Cup and a year later they were one of the 18 clubs who formed the Italian Serie A – their top division – when it was formed at the start of the 1929/30 season.

During the pre-war period the club were twice runners-up, in 1930/31 and 1935/36 respectively.

But AS Roma's big breakthrough was to come during the Second World War. They became champions in 1941/42 when they were undoubtedly one of the most powerful teams in Italy.

There was the celebrated goalkeeper Masetti and the gifted centre-forward Amedeo Amedi, both of whom gave a real touch of class to the side.

Following the war, the club was completely re-organised with the sole intention of matching the giants of Turin and Milan.

Between 1945 and 1947 they

bought six Argentinian stars, but the policy of signing expensive imports did not lead to the major honours which the club, and their fans, so desperately wanted.

Relegation in 1950/51 led to a total change in personnel at the club and promotion was successfully achieved at the first attempt.

In 1960/61 they were the impressive

'Roma were a team of power in 1940s Italy'

winners of the Fairs' Cup, beating Birmingham City in the final, but the policy of buying success almost bankrupted the club when domestic championship honours were not forthcoming.

Their problems were created by the fact that during the early 1960s players from Uruguay, Brazil, Argentina, Sweden and

West Germany all served the Roman team.

It was reckoned that at one point no fewer than seven of all 57 foreign players playing in the Italian league during the early 60s were attached to Roma.

With debts of more than £1m there were rumours that the club would not survive.

However, the resignation of the president and the sale of their overseas stars including Schnellinger and Schultz (West Germany), Sormani (Brazil), Angelillo and Manfredini (Argentina) combined with a strict economy drive eventually removed doubts as to their financial future.

In 1968 Helenio Herrera was engaged at a salary of £100 million lira a year (over £70,000), in an attempt to boost the club's fortunes on the field.

Herrera came to Rome with an unparalleled record of success with Inter Milan having won three league championships and two European Cup finals – though, of course, he was on the losing side with Inter in 1967!

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

ROMA'S MAJOR HONOURS

League Championship - (2) 1942, 1983
Domestic Cup - (7) 1964, 1969, 1980, 1981, 1984, 1986, 1991
Fairs' Cup - (1) 1961

Changing of Serie A

fortunes veterans

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EasiVIEW

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By TOM MCGOURAN

Bustling striker John McPhail is the Celt who immediately springs to mind if you are talking outstanding contributions in the Hoops' friendlies against Italian sides.

And the motivation for his astonishing four-goal haul against Lazio in September 1950 was probably revenge.

For, only three months earlier McPhail was humiliated in Rome when he was sent-off after half an hour for fighting with Remondini.

Bad enough in itself, what made this worse was that McPhail was captain for the match to celebrate the Italian club's Golden Jubilee AND the fact that the striker always protested his innocence.

According to the man they called Hooky, Remondini received his marching orders and the referee asked him to go "in order to placate the crowd".

Crowds and missionary work in the name of football have been behind a number of the friendlies Celts have played against Italian opposition.

In the 1960s and 1970s North America was viewed as the great untapped market for what folk over there call soccer and, as such, Celtic made regular visits to New York and Toronto – two places with sizeable ex-patriot communities – for exhibition matches.

Invariably, these encounters would end in sporting draws but

Hooky hits Lazio with goal spree



John McPhail

strikes from Bobby Lennox and Charlie Gallagher brought a victory over AC Milan in Toronto in June 1968.

Celtic's European reputation made them a draw anywhere in the world during this period, but by the time a four-team pre-season tournament involving Atalanta, Napoli and Nottingham Forest in the Dolomite mountains

came along in July 1993 the golden days were long since over.

Recently appointed assistant manager Joe Jordan accompanied team boss Liam Brady and the Celtic squad on a trip to the country where the two men played some of their best football.

The same couldn't be said of the side they took charge of on that ill-fated jaunt, Atalanta exposing the gulf in quality between the Serie A and the Premier Division by strolling to a 3-0 win.

It didn't get any better when Celts met Napoli in a third place play-off match two days later, the Italians having been edged out by Forest.

A Frank McAvennie consolation strike was the only bright spot as yet another three goals were conceded by an extremely shaken looking Glasgow side.

These two reverses were the first suffered by Celts in what are – in the strictest sense – non-competitive encounters against Italian teams.

So Simon Donnelly's superb counter against Parma the other week restored more than pride.

It allowed Celtic's record against the best in Europe to read only two defeats in 10 and with AS Roma the visitors tonight, the men in green and white will be hoping it is two in 11 by 9.30pm.

PREVIOUS CELTIC FRIENDLIES AGAINST ITALIAN SIDES

- 30 May, 1950, LAZIO (a) 0-0
- 4 September, 1950, LAZIO (h) 4-0 (McPhail 4)
- 27 May, 1966, BOLOGNA (New York) 0-0
- 26 May, 1968, AC MILAN (New York) 1-1 (Wallace)
- 1 June, 1968, AC MILAN (Toronto) 2-2 (Wallace, Lennox)
- 13 May, 1970, BARI (New York) 1-1 (Hood)
- 18 May 1970, BARI (Toronto) 2-2
- 24 July, 1993 ATALANTA (Pinzolo, Italy) 0-3
- 26 July, 1993, NAPOLI (Pinzolo, Italy), 1-3 (McAvennie)
- 2 August, 1997, PARMA (h), 1-1 (Donnelly)