



LEAGUE CUP
Celtic Park

CELTIC
CELTIC
CELTIC

v HIBERNIAN

Saturday 15th August, 1981

Kick-off 3.00 p.m.

30p

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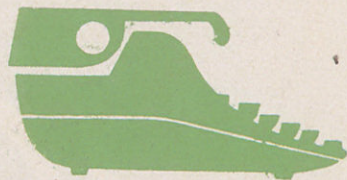
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FROM THE MANAGER



WE welcome Hibs to Celtic Park this afternoon and look forward once again to a clash of the "greens" something that for many years was one of the highlights of any football season.

This League Cup section will give Hibs a taste of the Premier League games that await them this season following their promotion winning efforts last season.

Manager Bertie Auld and fullback Alan Sneddon will be making their first appearance at Celtic Park with Hibs, but another ex-Celt Jackie McNamara has been a Hibs regular for a few seasons now.

Our defeat at the hands of St Mirren in the opening game of the season was a great disappointment but it wasn't without its plusses.

I thought we played some really brilliant stuff in the first half in particular and if we had accepted a proportion of the chances we would have had the Saints well beaten by half-time.

Nobody needs to tell me that ifs and buts don't win football matches but in the long term you are better playing well and missing chances than playing badly and scraping a fluke result.

Apart from the fact that we missed chances its only fair to point out that Billy Thomson had some really fantastic saves in a really superb goalkeeping display. However goalkeepers will tell you they prefer being put under a lot of pressure and we certainly did that to the Saints keeper on Saturday.

Our only goal was one to savour and our build-up and passing at times really made me feel that we have better things to come.

CORRECT ATTITUDE

The game at Perth on Wednesday was a different proposition altogether as we stumbled to a defeat that makes our qualifying task extremely difficult.

St Johnstone thoroughly deserved their victory because they approached the game with the correct attitude.

They were determined from the start to contest every ball and they also played competently and confidently. We were uncertain by comparison and although there was no lack of effort we never displayed the organisation and composure required to turn the game our way.

We must quickly find the scoring touch which is eluding us at the moment.

BILLY McNEILL

CELTIC



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Thomas L. Devlin,
James M. Farrell, M.A., LL.B.,
Kevin Kelly.

Manager:

Billy McNeill, M.B.E.

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1916, 1917, 1919, 1922, 1926, 1936,
1938, 1954, 1966, 1967, 1968, 1969,
1970, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1977,
1979, 1981.

Cup Winners (26 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.

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BEHIND THE SCENES

SUNDAY SALE FOR JUVENTUS TICKETS

A public sale of ground tickets for the Juventus match on September 16 will take place tomorrow (Sunday) at Celtic park between 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

The tickets will be sold at the London Road/Railway end turnstiles and purchasers will then pass through the ground and exit into Janefield Street to avoid congestion.

The terracing tickets cost £2.50 each and a limit of four tickets per person will be imposed although that may be adjusted according to demand.

It was with reluctance that the directors had to opt for a Sunday ticket sale but it would have been impossible to cope with such a sale on a match day. The money involved alone calls for special plans to be made.

There will be other chances to secure tickets for the match but the initial demand can only be met with a special selling day.

The public sale of stand tickets for this match will take place at an undisclosed game at Celtic Park.

* * *

CELTIC FILMS FLY TO KEARNEY

Celtic Films are due to fly out to Kearney to give the American Celtic fans some film shows. Included in the luggage for the trip will be copies of the new Dean Park "Celtic Favourites" record which the Americans are desperate to buy.

The records and cassettes including "You'll Never Walk Alone," "Over and Over" and the "John Thomson Song" are selling fast in the Celtic Souvenir Shop and in the Pools Office in West Nile Street. Both cost £3.75.

FACTS AND FIGURES BOOK A MUST FOR FANS

The "Celtic F.C. Facts and Figures Book 1888-1981" at a cost of £1 is a must for all fans who want a record of Celtic's playing history. Published by the Celtic Supporters' Association it contains all the club's results in major competitions since the foundation of the club. Included are statistics on individual appearances and goalscoring feats and many other interesting facts. A special word of congratulations for Pat Woods who researched and compiled the facts.

* * *

AUTOGRAPHED BALL FOR ICELAND

Celtic are proud of the reputation they have earned as ambassadors all over the world. One of the countries in which they won many new friends and admirers is Iceland and it has prompted a request for an autographed ball for some youngsters on the Island. The ball, duly autographed is being taken to Iceland next week by a Glasgow man and his gesture will no doubt enhance the Celtic reputation still further with the Icelanders.

* * *

CELTIC SOUVENIR SHOP OPEN AGAIN

The Celtic Souvenir Shop will be open again after today's game selling records, scarves, hats, plus the very special offer while stocks last of the original "away" jersey at a terrific low price of £4.99.

A new item in the shop is a Celtic crested wall clock which costs £25 and is about 24 inches tall.

Have a look at the shop after the game. It's worth a visit.

WATCH THOSE CHANTS

Celtic fans in general were in good voice last Saturday and really sang and shouted great encouragement for the team.

However just now and again a small section of the support decided to sing and shout some things that do nothing but embarrass everyone connected with Celtic and all decent fans of the club.

We have appealed before and we make no apologies for asking yet again to confine your chants and shouts to things Celtic and absolutely nothing else.

* * *

CELTIC POOL AGENTS WANTED

Are you interested in becoming an agent for Celtic Pools or Lottery?

If so, why don't you pay a visit to the Pools office across from the main stand where you'll get all the information you require to become an agent for the club.

* * *

HOLD ON TO YOUR PROGRAMME

For those fans who missed the Celtic View in midweek the news is that you should hold on to your copies of the new programme as there will soon be available an official and exclusive holder to help you keep a permanent collection of Celtic match programmes. The holder is being specially produced for the club and will feature the official crest in large gold block.

* * *

LEAGUE CUP SECTIONS

Only one team qualifies from each section for the Quarter-final stage of the League Cup competition.

Therefore the games will be played on a two leg basis.



TOM McADAM is included in today's pool for the game against Hibs after a spell of suspension.

MATCH

CELTIC (from)

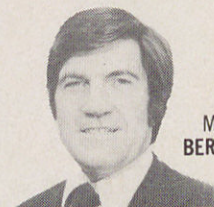


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BILLY McNEILL

Pat BONNER
 Danny McGRAIN
 Mark REID
 Roy AITKEN
 Willie GARNER
 Tom McADAM
 Davie PROVAN
 Dom SULLIVAN
 Frank McGARVEY
 Murdo MacLEOD
 Tommy BURNS
 Charlie NICHOLAS
 Mike CONROY
 George McCLUSKEY

TEAMS

HIBERNIAN (from)



Manager
BERTIE AULD

Ally DONALDSON
 Alan SNEDDON
 Bobby FLAVELL
 Stuart TURNBULL
 Jackie McNAMARA
 Craig PATERSON
 Billy McLAREN
 Brian RICE
 Ralph CALLACHAN
 Gordon RAE
 Garry MURRAY
 Ally McLEOD
 Arthur DUNCAN
 Derek RODIER



Returning to Parkhead for the first time since his transfer to Hibs is full-back Alan Sneddon.

HALF-TIME

A	ST JOHNSTONE v ST MIRREN	
B	DUNDEE v MORTON	
C	RANGERS v RAITH ROVERS	
D	ABERDEEN v AIRDRIE	
E	HEARTS v KILMARNOCK	
F	AYR UNITED v PARTICK THISTLE	
G	MOTHERWELL v DUNDEE UNITED	

Referee
Mr D. F. T. SYME
(Rutherglen)

Linesmen
Mr J. M. DARROCH
(Rutherglen)

Mr H. DEMPSEY
(Erskine)

SCOREBOARD

H	BRECHIN CITY v DUMBARTON	
I	COWDENBEATH v QUEEN OF THE SOUTH	
J	FALKIRK v FORFAR	
K	ALLOA v STIRLING ALBION	
L	QUEENS PARK v BERWICK RANGERS	
M	CLYDE v CLYDEBANK	
N	MONTROSE v HAMILTON	

SPECTATORS ARE REQUESTED TO TAKE CARE — PARTICULARLY LEAVING THE GROUND AFTER THE MATCH

BELL'S

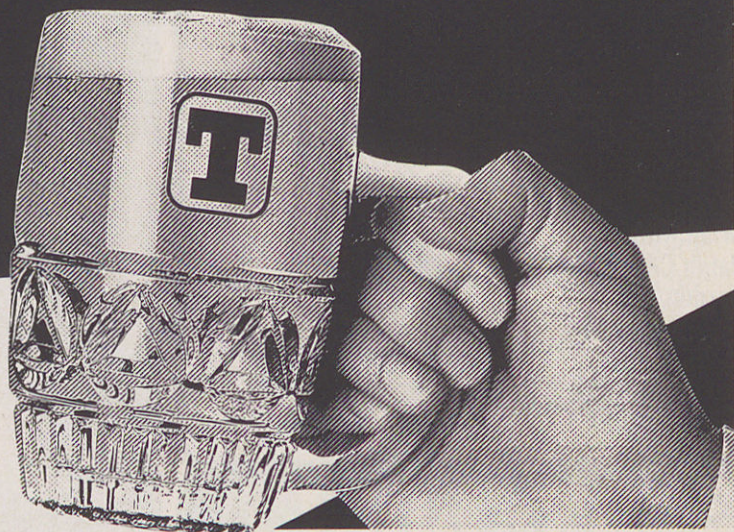
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SCOTTISH SPORTSCENE

By
DAVID BELL

PAT STANTON who after more than a decade with Hibernian rounded off an exemplary career in a Celtic jersey took a calculated gamble to achieve his aim of becoming a football manager, and it worked, so far!

After injury compelled the 16-times capped central defender to quit playing, he accepted a post as assistant to Alex Ferguson at Aberdeen and played a key role in establishing The Dons on top of the Premier League.

But after having been at the top of his profession for so long, and admired for his skills, industry and sportsmanship by colleague and opponent alike, Pat, not unnaturally, was keen to become a football boss in his own right.

APPRENTICE

The parting was amicable, and Pat's stay on the sidelines was comparatively short before he was invited to become manager of Cowdenbeath. Not a fashionable concern, but appropriate perhaps for an apprenticeship.

Then towards the end of last season the Dunfermline post became vacant when Harry Melrose, one of the stylish inside forwards who had helped make the East End Parkers the talk of Europe, moved out after a bleak form spell.

Dunfermline, who 13 years ago reached the semi-final of the European Cup-winners Cup, were tottering towards relegation when Pat assumed control. He helped them avert the imminent danger . . . but only just.

EDUCATION

And during the close season the education in transfer-marketing picked up at the feet of Jock Stein, Eddie Turnbull and Alex Ferguson amongst others was put to the test as Pat re-jigged his squad.

Pat can get 'Pars' back on top

"Of the side which kicked off the season, I would reckon there are five, maybe six, changes from the side which turned out for Dunfermline when I became manager," said Pat.

"The experience of full-back Jimmy Brown, the ex-Hearts and Hibs player, will help what is basically a young side. My other new signings are all teenagers or in their early 20's.

"Steve Morrison from Aberdeen is 19, Hugh Hamill from Hibs is only 22.

"Because we are a part-time club and therefore affected by holidays covering a four-week period we've had the players in for training since the first week in July.

OPTIMISTIC

"Early signs are optimistic, and if the lads do in league games what I think they can do and what they have shown they are capable of in training then we could do fairly well.

"But," prompted the seasoned campaigner, "it's early days yet."

First setback came on the eve of the kick-off as centre-half Willie Leishman, the ex-Motherwell and Albion Rovers player, broke his nose in a practice game and had to pull out.

The club's top marksman last term, 38-goal P.E. teacher Sandy McNaughton was also absent from the opening day action; he only arrived back from family holidays in the early hours of Saturday



● PAT STANTON

morning and so reported for Reserve team duty at East End Park.

The effort expended was not reflected in the first day result but Pat can take a lot of heart from the overall performance. On this showing at least he has something definite on which to build.

And if Pat can approach management with the same conscientious aggression and ambition then there can be little doubt, that given a bit of luck Dunfermline Athletic could make football pundits sit up and take notice again.



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SCOTTISH SPORTSCENE

FIRST goal of the official Scottish season was actually scored in England . . . at the Shielfield Park home of Berwick Rangers, now bossed by our former backroom boy Frank Connor.

The marksman was 18-year-old Steve Evans who plays and trains for most of his football just a few hundred yards from this ground . . . at Shawfield. But his 60-second counter didn't help Clyde! They lost 2-1.

* * *

First Premier League marksman to get his name on the 1981-82 score sheet was Mark McGhee of Aberdeen, an 18-goal centre last term.

First hat-trick of the season was snatched by Dundee United's Eamonn Bannon in the breath-taking seven-goal clash

at Ayr where the McLean brothers Jim (Dundee United) and Willie (Ayr United) were in the respective dug-outs.

* * *

Keith MacRae, the Lanark-born goalkeeper sold by Ian St John when Motherwell manager to Manchester City for £100,000 crossed the Atlantic last year to claim a No. 1 spot after so long being understudy to English internationalist Joe Corrigan.

And in his first full season in the States, the red-haired 'keeper who played outfield for 'Well in several league and cup matches has come in No. 2 again, for he has been voted the second best 'keeper in the American League.

The No. 1 was Jan van Beveren, of Fort Lauderdale Strikers.

Scotland skipper Archie Gemmill is understood to have turned down the chance to become player-manager of Halifax Town, and will be hotly contesting a place in the Birmingham City midfield when their season kicks off in a fortnight's time.

Could it be that Archie still figures himself occupying one of the places on the Scotland team flight to Spain next summer after we overcome the hurdles being set by Sweden, Northern Ireland and Portugal?

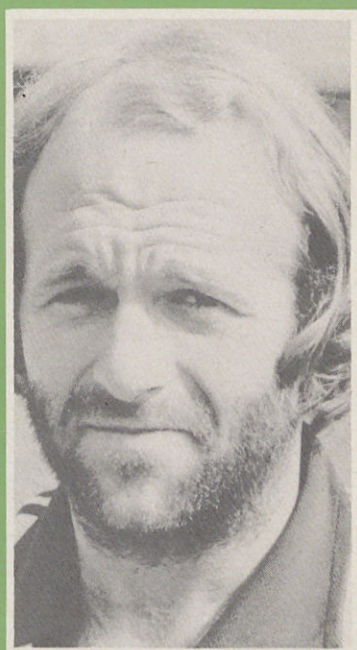
"I've still got to show Jock Stein that I'm good enough to play for my country," said the balding and bearded Gemmill who produced one of the few bright spots in the 1978 World Cup finals with his glorious goal against Holland.



● FRANK CONNOR



● KEITH MacRAE



● ARCHIE GEMMILL

SCOTTISH
SPORTSCENE



JAMIE'S BIG "BREAK"

JAMIE FAIRLIE came within half-an-hour of realising his ambition to play full-time with a top British club. It was to have been his big "break". Then he received the sort of "break" every player dreads.

For with Aberdeen and Coventry City heading the list of admirers on the sidelines, waiting on their cue to pounce, cheque in hand, the stage was set for a dramatic finale in a Hamilton Academicals jersey for the talented 24-year-old.

For in a match which came so close to being postponed after heavy rain storms had almost waterlogged the Brockville pitch, the flax-haired Fairlie was severely clattered.

He was displaying the sort of aggressive raiding wing-play which had made him a First Division stand-out last season when he was sent sprawling into the perimeter fence.

He was taken, still in his jersey, to Falkirk Royal Infirmary where his worst fears were confirmed — his shin was broken in two places and his left ankle was dislocated.

"I knew as soon as I hit that metal fence my plans were about to be shattered. And they were," said Jamie. "For that afternoon was the transfer deadline, and there was I, thigh-high in plaster."

It was a body blow to Fairlie and for Hamilton Accies: not only did Accies lose out on a sizeable cheque which would have at least trebled the previous club record but one tackle denied soccer of a skilful player for nearly six months.

"It made for a long boring close season — the most miserable five

months I can remember," said Jamie, still sporting a smile despite the sickening feeling in his stomach as he watches his Accies team-mates swing into League Cup action.

"Missing out on the final six matches of the season was disappointing in itself, but missing out on a possible move to a full-time club and a trip to Italy with the Scottish 'B' squad were shattering blows.

"For nearly two months I was in and out of hospitals and treatment rooms — I had four plasters on that left leg, and even while on holiday in Portugal I had to walk and jog along the sandy beaches every day to help build-up my leg and ankle.

HOBBLING

"All that hobbling around the house, mind you, was driving me scatty; I think my wife was beginning to feel the same way. So I was doubly glad to get back into training although unable to take part in rigorous full pre-season sessions.

"I love training and it was frustrating to have to sit out so much of the schedule. At bounce games I had to act as referee," said Jamie, dropping his grin in an imitation scowl.

"I've now started kicking the ball again, using my right foot only to avoid putting too much strain too quickly on my left ankle, something my team-mates say I have been doing for years!



● ERIC SMITH

"I'm determined to fight my way back to full fitness again. Manager Davie McParland and club physio Bobby Reid have given me every encouragement and I'm pencilling in late September/early October as a comeback date.

"It can't come quickly enough for me!"

Jamie, snapped up as a 13-year-old by former Celtic midfield powerhouse Eric Smith when he was Douglas Park boss, blossomed out as one of the brightest young forwards in the First Division.

He has set a Hamilton goal scoring record, totting up 57 goals before his collision at Falkirk, and his injury saw the Accies captaincy float around other experienced colleagues.

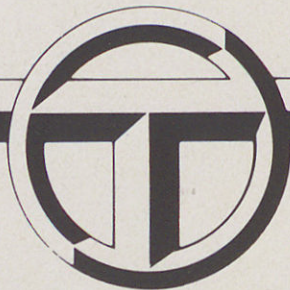
But that responsibility, like his front line beat on the right flank, will soon be available for fit-again Fairlie. And for the ex-painter and decorator from Calderbank near Airdrie, that can't come quickly enough.

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BACK IN ACTION

THE FITBA' is back. Temporary summer sufferings of "leather on willow" with accompanying Anglicised cricket commentaries no longer drift into sports programmes airwaves. Thankfully, sigh many of soccer's Terracing Tams.

Arthur Montford, of blindingly-colourful sports jacket fame, eased himself into Cowcaddens Sports Control while Archie McPherson, his counterpart at "The Beeb", delays his comeback till the English League kick-off on August 28.

The opening day scorelines last Saturday suggest that a more adventurous attacking style may be in vogue this season as 59 goals were rattled home in the 19 league cup-ties . . . an average near enough of three goals per game.

PRESSURE

But such is the pressure being inflicted on our national sport as the economic recession bites deep into so many avenues of involvement that virtually as much attention was being paid to attendances as was to the actual scorelines.

With about 500,000 fans "lost" to the game during the previous year or so it was perhaps not surprising that there should be a head count as well as a goals count, from press as well as anxious club directors and administrators.

In round figures, 82,000 fans paid about £120,000 after the VAT man has been temporarily satisfied. Financially that shows a slight improvement on Day One, August, 1980. But only slightly.

SHARED

For a closer examination of the figures shows that almost half the paying public last Saturday were shared between two grounds — Celtic Park where St Mirren were visitors, and Cappielow where Morton entertained Rangers.

It's a cash flow reality which still leaves considerable room for

every club to display enterprise and initiative, allied to some common sense business acumen, in the marketing of our national sport to a waiting public.

The flow of goals is encouraging, and the emergence this early of players alert to the half-chance injects hope for the remainder of this competition, and thereafter into the League championship.

Eamonn Bannon was the only hat-trickster of the day, but no fewer than five players netted doubles — Mark McGhee (Aberdeen), Bobby Russell (Raith Rovers), Brian Brown (Falkirk), ex-Celt Steve Hancock (Forfar Athletic) and Ronnie Robb (Arbroath).

With so many new managerial brooms sweeping clean team bosses kicking off their first full season in their recently-appointed posts fared not too badly at the first hurdle of a ten-and-a-half months season.

GOOD START

Tony Ford (Hearts), Peter Cormack (Partick Thistle), Andy Roland (Cowdenbeath) all came out on top; Frank Connor (Berwick Rangers) and Joe Baker (Albion Rovers) shared the points at Meadowbank but disappointing scorelines for Billy Lamont (Dumbarton) and Pat Stanton (Dunfermline).

"CALDER'S KIDS"

SCOTLAND'S ace soccer scout retired from touchline spy-and-sum-up duty last week, then spent the first weekend of his "retirement" . . . on the touchline, summing up one of his football proteges.

But that's predictably Bobby Calder, a shrewd observer of football and an even shrewder judge of teenage and generally untried soccer potential; he's captured more "stars" than Hughie Green!

Bobby's list of "discoveries" reads like a soccer "Who's Who" . . . Martin Buchan, Willie Young, Joe and Jimmy Craig; Willie Miller, Arthur Duncan and Alex McLeish to name but a few of the "Calder Kids."

STERLING

After such sterling (literally!) service to Aberdeen the Pittodrie club have persuaded the ex-referee from Rutherglen to desert the touchline assignments and "come inside".

His new designation in the Oil



● ALEX McLEISH

Capital is Public Relations Officer, and there can be little doubt as to which section of the public Bobby will want to "relate with" . . . the young crop of hopefuls attracted to Pittodrie.

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PICTURE FROM PAST ...



... No. 3. Erich Schaedler (now Dundee) is interesting manager Bertie Auld and looks set to return to Easter Road he is pictured above with Jackie McNamara (ex-Celtic), Des Bremner (now Aston Villa) and Kenny Dalglish (now Liverpool).

TODAY'S
VISITORS

HIBERNIAN

THE ebullient Bertie Auld comes to Celtic Park to-day for the first time as manager of Hibernian. However, as everyone knows, the bold Bertie is no stranger to Parkhead where he had two successful spells as a player, and of course was a frequent visitor with Thistle teams during his managerial spell with the Firhill club.

Bertie by his own admission is excited about the Easter Road sides prospects for the new season. "I have really high expectations for Hibs this season and our defeat at home by St Johnstone didn't make me change my thoughts on this in any way.

"We attacked the Perth side throughout the match and in fact we possibly had too much of the game for our own good. The players created chance after chance and squandered them right, left and centre.

"Still football is all about creating scoring opportunities and I would be for more concerned if we were failing to get into scoring positions. Sometimes in football nothing goes right for you and that's what happened to us last Saturday when on top of everything else we missed the opportunity of equalising from the penalty spot.

"Needless to say I was disappointed with a defeat in our opening home game but the players did so many things correctly and gave so much effort it's difficult to be too severe on

them.

"They have a chance to show themselves to advantage this afternoon with the sort of atmosphere in the terracings that helps plays to lift their performance. The team today will come from the following players:-

Jim McArthur (Goal). Cost £8000 when joining from Cowdenbeath in 1972. Highly experienced, the 29-year-old Fifer who teaches physical education in his spare time, has still to re-sign for the season.

Ally Donaldson (Goal). Signed for the Edinburgh club in the close season from Dundee after being out of the game for a year. Now 37 the tall (6ft. 1in.) keeper is delighted to be back in action and anxious to prove that he is still in the top flight. Runs a hotel in Carnoustie which takes up almost all his time away from football.

Alan Sneddon (Full back). Transferred from Celtic in January this year. Was at Parkhead for over three years, winning a Scottish Cup medal and taking over from Danny McGrain when the internationalist was out of action. The Celtic fans are sure to give a warm welcome to this quiet and popular former player.

Stuart Turnbull (Full back). Moved from Dundee at the end of the season. A bright future is predicted for this young player who is still short of his 20th birthday. A strong player with a fair bit of pace.

Ally Brazil (Defence). Has played at right back but his best role is probably in the middle of the defence. A tall player with

plenty of pace he has been at Easter Road since 1976 and is a fairly experienced member of the side.

Arthur Duncan (Defence). Former international left winger who has been playing at left back. He has retained all his pace and this season may well figure as an attacker again. Has been a fine servant to the club since joining from Partick Thistle 11 years ago, at what looks today like the very reasonable price of £35,000. Had his testimonial match in May this year as a reward for his loyalty to the Easter Road club.

Jackie McNamara (Midfield). Team captain he has built a solid reputation as a sweeper but also gives drive to the side from midfield. Arrived from Celtic five years ago and, like Alan Sneddon, is sure to get a special welcome from the fans.

Craig Paterson (Central Half). Son of a former Hibs defender, he had a good season in the club's First Division championship winning run. He missed Wednesday's match at Paisley through suspension but returns to the side for today's game.

Brian Rice (Midfield). Not yet 18 he has played at full back, midfield and sweeper for the club and has probably found his true position in the middle of the defence. Hibs expect great things in the future from this youngster who comes from the East of Scotland.

Ralph Callachan (Midfield). Has been three full seasons at Easter Road after a spell with Newcastle United follow-

THE MEN FROM EASTER ROAD



Promoted Hibs first-team pool for the 1981-82 season. Back row (l to r) — Physiotherapist Tom McNiven, Stuart Turnbull, John Connolly, Jim McArthur, Garry Murray, Ally MacLeod. Middle row — Coach John Lambie, Ralph Callachan, Willie Jamieson, Ally Donaldson, Craig Paterson, Ally Brazil, assistant manager Pat Quinn. Front row — Arthur Duncan, Ian Hendry, Jackie McNamara, manager Bertie Auld, Alan Sneddon, Gordon Rae, Derek Rodier.

Picture courtesy of *Edinburgh Evening News*.

ing service with Hearts. Celtic fans will recall he played as a guest with Celtic in the Pat Stanton Testimonial match in the late seventies.

Billy McLaren (Utility). One of the few part-timers in the player pool he will probably be used by the club in a defensive role. He had plenty of experience with Queen of the South, Raith Rovers and Dunfermline as well as Morton from whom he moved to the Edinburgh club.

Gordon Rae (Forward). A powerfully built young player who signed from Whitehill Welfare in 1977. The big fellow

has played in the central defence, the midfield and as a striker in the past.

Garry Murray (Forward). Signed from Montrose late last year for £50,000. Now 21 he got a lot of goals for the Links Park club and maintained his scoring touch with Hibs to finish high in the list of First Division scorers last season.

Bobby Flavell (Full Back). The 25-year-old made his debut against St Johnstone in the opening game last Saturday after signing a few days earlier from the Swedish club Vaster Haminge. A Bonnyrigg lad he had spells in English football

with Halifax Town and Barnsley before going to Scandinavia.

Ally MacLeod (Midfield). Started his career with St Mirren before going South to join Southampton. Hibs brought him to Easter Road a few seasons ago for a fee of £25,000 and he has been their top goalscorer over the last five years. A midfield player who likes to go forward and knows how to put the ball in the net.

Derek Rodier (Forward). Joined Hibs from the Edinburgh University team and is now a full time player. A small speedy type who plays up front in the centre forward position.

BITTER DISAPPOINTMENT

LAST Saturday's result in our first match of the new season was as bitter a disappointment for the players as it was for our fans.

The annoying thing was the fact that we started the game so well that we totally dictated the match and must have looked near certain winners, particularly when Frank McGarvey headed us into the lead. I hope I'll be forgiven if I pause here to offer my congratulations to Dom Sullivan, Charlie Nicholas and Frank McGarvey for the setting up and execution of this brilliant goal.

Sadly for us a shot by Frank McDougall struck Willie Garner and floated into the net just after that goal and returned us to square one. Everyone knows now that despite some good play and an awful lot of effort we lost another two goals and two valuable League Cup points.

I know we missed chances in the match but it's only fair to say that Billy Thomson gave an inspired performance and at the end of the day saved St Mirren from a heavy defeat. I think he's a really good goalkeeper.

Turning away from football for a moment I have just bought a house in West Kilbride and we'll be moving next month from Stevenston. This is currently taking up all my time away from Celtic Park and I can't even find time for a game of golf.

I'm only starting to settle down again after a period in which I felt I was living out of a suitcase.

SUMMER HOLIDAY

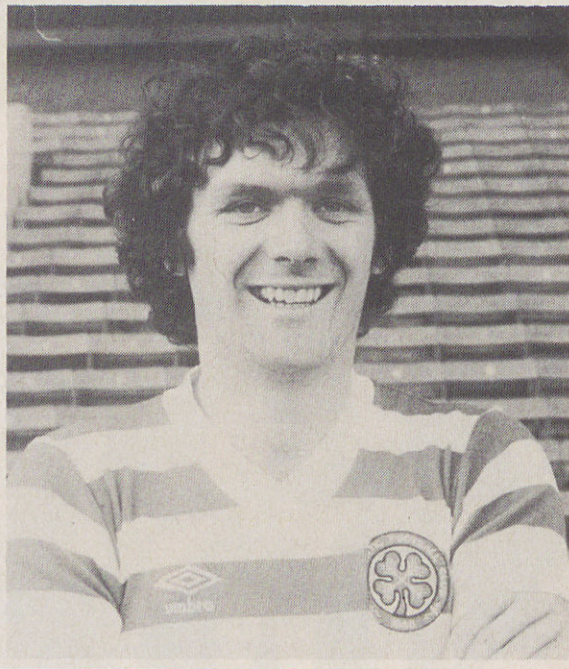
Having had a summer holiday break in Miami with my wife Jane (my mother looked after eight months old Ashley for us) I was only back home a couple of weeks before I was jetting across the Atlantic over again with Celtic. Although I had visited America a couple of years ago to visit Bobby Lennox in Houston, when the wee man was playing with the Hurricanes, the trip with the club was my first visit to New York. It really is a most impressive city although the bustle and noise takes a bit of getting used to.

Mike Conroy and Peter Latchford joined me in a two hours sail round Manhattan and we got a tour of the landmarks like the Statue of Liberty and the Empire State Building.

Our games in America were good too although we probably still lacked a bit of competitive sharpness and our victory over Southampton really delighted all the exiled Celts.

The hospitality and kindness shown by the Celtic fans in America was incredible and really appreciated.

... Says **ROY AITKEN**



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Reserve Scene

By BOBBY LENNOX

THE reserve team opened their League Cup campaign last Saturday at Ibrox and obtained a 2-2 draw which in all the circumstances was a pretty good result for us.

Our side must have been one of the youngest and least experienced Celtic Reserves sides ever to have played at Ibrox.

Approximately eight of the squad were seeing the inside of the Rangers ground for the first time and even allowing for Peter Latchford and Johnny Doyle the average age of the team still worked out at the 18 mark.

Many of the youngsters may have been playing at Ibrox for the first time but it most certainly didn't show in the way they played. The football they displayed was absolutely first class and it was a travesty that they trailed by a goal at the interval totally against the run of play.

Perhaps it was because they were a goal behind at half time but whatever the reason they didn't produce their best football form during the second half.

However if they lost the silky touch they didn't lose their fighting spirit and they plugged away and held on when the game could have slipped away from them.

With nine minutes to go Paul Chalmers grabbed an equaliser when he grabbed a chance created on the bye line by Danny Crainie.

They were dealt a bit of a body blow just two minutes later when slack defensive play at a corner kick allowed Rangers to go in front again.

The youngsters kept heads up however and their never say-die attitude earned them an equaliser in the last minute when Johnny Doyle headed home a John Halpin cross to get a share of the points.

Our League Cup section of six is made up with Aberdeen, Patrick Thistle, St Mirren and Dundee United so, needless to say it will provide our youngsters with some very competitive games. Bearing in mind only one team qualifies for the semi-final stage we'll have to be on our toes to win our section in defence of our trophy.

Reserve team player John Buckley, who was recently admitted to hospital is well on the way to recovery and hopefully should soon be back in training at Celtic Park.



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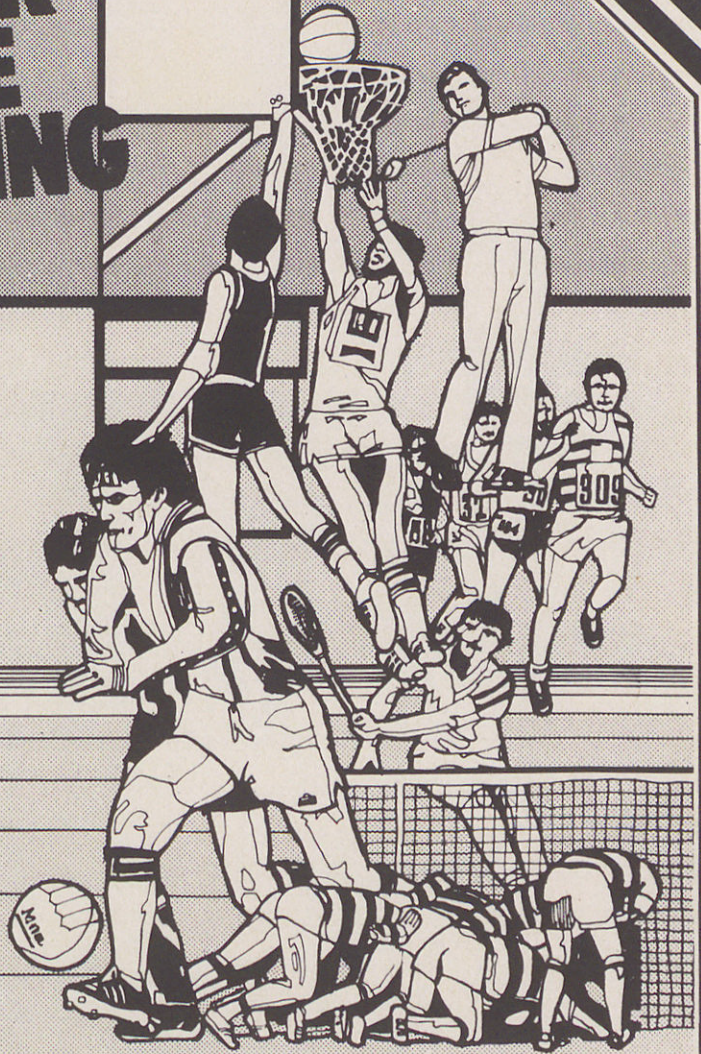
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