

SCOTTISH LEAGUE CUP SEMI-FINAL



Wednesday 22nd September 1993

Ibrox Stadium, Kick-off 8.00pm

Celtic v Rangers



OFFICIAL PROGRAMME

PRICE ONE POUND

The League Cup... one of the most exciting cup competitions in Europe

IT IS indeed a pleasure to once again have the opportunity to welcome all fans to tonight's League Cup Semi-Final between Celtic and Rangers at Ibrox Stadium.

This season is still in its infancy, yet here we are at the penultimate stage of a tournament that once again, has lived up to its reputation of producing an abundance of attractive, exciting and entertaining football, not to mention drama, that has captured the imagination of players, officials, the media and supporters throughout the entire competition.

Although this season's tournament has not had the backing of a sponsor and therefore, the cash incentive targets for clubs to score goals, clubs have still responded magnificently to the task of providing wonderful entertainment to the paying spectator, with an average to date, of 3.1 goals per game having been scored from the 34

ties already played. I would take this opportunity in congratulating all clubs for continuing to adopt such a positive approach and I am confident that this attitude will continue for the remainder of the competition.

Certainly, this tournament has over the past few years, steadily built up a reputation of being one of the best

organised and most exciting cup competitions in Europe and there can be few arguments from fans attending this season's competition about the entertainment provided. With eight of the ties having to go into extra-time and three of these matches having to be resolved by a penalty shoot-out, there can be few arguments that fans have not received value-for-money action.

Tonight's tie needs little introduction, with Scottish football's oldest rivals meeting for the 39th time in this competition, with each club having recorded 18 victories each. Indeed, this is the fourth occasion that the Old Firm have met in the League Cup Semi-Final, although you have to go back to season 1978/79 for the



last time that both clubs met each other at this stage of the tournament. However, Celtic and Rangers have played each other in the Final on three occasions since that last Semi-Final meeting and on each occasion, have served up tremendous excitement and entertainment for the fans.

Although Celtic have won the League Cup on nine previous occasions, they have to go back to



season 1982/83 to record their last success in the competition, coincidentally enough, when they defeated their opponents tonight Rangers, by two goals to one. Rangers on the other hand have, it would be fair to say, dominated this competition in recent years, having won the trophy eight times in the past twelve years. Celtic's Manager, Liam Brady, will be hoping to secure Celtic's first major trophy in four seasons, while Rangers' Manager, Walter Smith, will be hoping that his Ibrox team continue the tremendous success that they have enjoyed in this competition in recent times. Whatever the outcome, I am sure that tonight's tie will provide the fans with plenty of excitement and action packed drama.

Finally, may I take this opportunity in extending the Management Committee's thanks to the Chairman, Directors and staff of Rangers Football Club for their assistance and thoroughness in the organisation of tonight's match. Their meticulous organisation is very much appreciated.

ENJOY THE GAME

YULE CRAIG
President,
The Scottish Football League

IT'S A FACT

All four of this year's League Cup Semi-Finalists have won the trophy on more than one occasion.

- **Rangers**, the holders, lead the way with 18 victories; **Celtic** have nine; **Hibernian** and **Dundee United** have both won the trophy twice. This will be Rangers' 35th Semi-Final appearance; Celtic are now in their 27th Semi with Hibs making showing number 14 and Dundee United have reached this stage of the competition for the 12th time.

- *Celtic had an astonishing run of 15 Semi-Finals in a row between 1964 and 1978.*

- Rangers have appeared in every Semi-Final since 1981... a sequence of 13 in succession.

- *Dundee United made eight Semi's in a row from 1979.*

- Biggest victories in League Cup Semis have been: Hearts 9 Cowdenbeath 3 in 1959; Rangers 7 Queen of the South 0 in 1960; Celtic 7 Morton 1 in 1967.

- *Rangers and Celtic have met only three times previously in Semi-Finals: Rangers won 3-0 in 1951-52; Celtic were 3-1 victors in 1973-74 and in the last meeting in 1978-79 Rangers won 3-2.*

- Harry Hood scored all three goals for Celtic in the 1973 Semi-Final win over Rangers at Hampden.

- *Alex Miller now the Hibs Manager and Tommy Burns, now the Kilmarnock boss, were ordered off in the 1978-79 Semi.*

- Hibs and Dundee United have never met in the Semi-Finals of the League Cup. But they have clashed seven times in the competition in earlier stages. Hibs have won five times, lost one and drawn one in the series.

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Welcome to Ibrox

WELCOME to tonight's League Cup Semi-Final. Hopefully it will be an exciting evening... judging by the way the competition has been going so far this season.

There have been many thrilling matches, a lot for supporters to cheer... including 105 goals.

The competition may not have the financial incentives which were on offer from sponsorship in previous years.

But it still carries one of the greatest of all incentives... a place in European football for the eventual winner when the Final is played on Sunday, 24th October.

What a bonus that is for any clubs to know almost a year IN ADVANCE that they have a place booked in the next season's U.E.F.A. Cup competition.

That is cause enough for the Semi-Finalists to commit themselves fully on an all-action course.

Plus, of course, there is no advantage for any team in approaching the tie in a defensive frame of mind. The League Cup just does not allow for that. If tonight's Semi-Final is all square after 90 minutes, it is on to extra time. Followed by a penalty decider if the teams are still level.

There always has to be a winner.

But the biggest winners of all are surely the supporters, who will get value for money tonight at Ibrox.

The Cup that cheers

THE CUP that cheers... that has been the story of the League Cup competition so far this season. Those critics of the competition have 105 arguments against their views... every one a goal.

Yes, that's how many goals the competition has produced since the first shots were fired back on August 3 when six First Round ties were played.

And that is only goals scored in open play. There have been plenty more on offer in the penalty shoot-out scenes.

The cup has supplied:

- ★ A record 11-goal beating for Albion Rovers as they crashed against **Partick Thistle** in the Second Round... with four goals from **Ian Cameron**.

- ★ A stunning nine goal show from **Celtic** against Arbroath in the Third Round... with former Parkhead hero Danny McGrain commenting wryly: "I think the seventh goal did us in".

- ★ There were hat-tricks that night for Celtic's **Frank McAvennie** and **Andy Payton**... and another at Pittodrie for **Duncan Shearer** in the 5-0 victory over Clydebank.

- ★ Drama in the Fourth Round with **Falkirk** coming back from two down to take the lead against **Dundee United** at Tannadice in extra time... then losing out in a penalty shoot-out.

- ★ An **Ian Ferguson** spectacular winner for **Rangers** in extra time against Aberdeen at Ibrox.

- ★ And a stunning penalty kick performance from former Scotland goalkeeper **Jim Leighton** who saved three penalties in the decider with Partick Thistle at Firhill.

- ★ And the good news for supporters is... there is more to come in the two Semi-Finals, with the Final to follow on Sunday, 24th October, 1993.



Brady and Jordan: The Dream Team

CELTIC'S "dream team" doesn't include Paul McStay, John Collins, Charlie Nicholas or any of the other Parkhead stars.

Instead, the tag describes the management package put together in the summer that has allied boss Liam Brady and a new Bhoys own assistant in the shape of Joe Jordan.

And since we are talking here about a League Cup Semi-Final tonight, the partnership seems to be working so far!

Yet it was a "marriage" that stunned Scottish soccer back in June. Sure, the duo had played in England and Italy but you would certainly find it difficult to get two players with more contrasting styles.

Liam, the cultured Irish midfielder and Joe, the Scottish battering-ram centre forward.

But opposites attract and the pair never doubted for a moment that they could get their joint act together.

"I want a different approach," declared Brady as the Parkhead axe fell on former number two Mick Martin, reserve coach Bobby Lennox, youth coach Benny Rooney and chief scout John Kelman.

"And the people I have appointed will give me exactly that.

"On the one hand, I see it maximising our chances of success and at the same time, it's securing the club's long-term future.

"Joe's credentials speak for themselves.

"He did a terrific job at Bristol City and Hearts and I'm delighted to have him with me."

And Jordan was delighted to go.

The former Scotland hit man always had a soft spot for Celts and after his shock departure from Tynecastle he was on the lookout for another top post. He sure got one.

And he wasted no time in making his presence felt at Parkhead.

Big Joe made sure the Celtic players had a "bawl" as he charged into the job with the same commitment he showed as a player.

And he immediately formed an interesting partnership with the much quieter Brady.

I was with Celtic on their pre-season trip to the Gianni Brera tournament in Italy and it was fascinating watching the two men's contrasting management styles.

Brady watched training from the sidelines, occasionally calling a player over for a word.

Jordan was in the thick of it all, shouting instructions, encouragement and occasional abuse at some poor unfortunate!

And it is much the same at matches where the Manager takes a broad look at the action from a seat in the stand and the assistant

dominates the dug-out and, just occasionally, the trackside!

But there's no doubt this remarkable clash of styles is gelling and Celtic are ready to reap the benefit.

Already a host of big name players have paid tribute to the new set-up with Charlie Nicholas perhaps the major beneficiary.

"Joe has helped me enormously," admitted the hit man.

And others have discovered the new-look team has a lot going for it.

But, as ever, it will only be success ON the field that will determine how good Brady and Jordan are together.

No amount of talking will take prizes to Parkhead and that's what it's all about.

Celtic's loyal supporters have suffered through a few years of a trophy drought and the need for success is now desperate. That desperation prompted Celtic into their new-look management formula and it's a case of so far, so good.

They have managed to tie John Collins down to a new contract and Peter Grant, too, has pledged his future to the club.

Results have been encouraging but tonight is, unquestionably, a big test.

If Celts get through this one intact, they will be automatic favourites for the Cup.

And if their name goes on it eventually, it will prove beyond any doubt that Celtic's dream team is up and running.

GRAHAM CLARK
(The Sun)





SCOTTISH LEAGUE CUP SEMI FINAL TIE ♦ CELTIC v RANGERS

THERE are not too many professional footballers with an attitude akin to that of Pat McGinlay in today's game.

The proliferation of agents, the huge compensation fees demanded by clubs for their star assets and the emphasis on money, money and more money have, it would appear, imparted the values of the cattle market to football.

It is small wonder that the players, who generate the fees in the first place by the sale of their skills, demand their whack of the goodies.

McGinlay honoured his contract with his previous club Hibernian, and when that contract ended this summer, exercised his right to seek better terms elsewhere.

He was courted by Nottingham Forest and Swindon Town and just before Celtic signed him, it was reputed that he received a contract offer that would have made him richer by £250,000 from Tottenham.

No one could be blamed if he had run all the way down the M1 to North London to take advantage of a deal that would have set him and his family up for life.

However, there was no way McGinlay was going to White Hart Lane, or anywhere else in England,

Scotland or any other part of the northern hemisphere when he learned that Celtic were in for him.

He signed for Celtic, a decision which may have cost him a great deal of money, because he is simply a fan with a ball and boots.

McGinlay's actions and attitude are evocative of a more innocent age before money became the outright god of the game, when players wore baggy shorts, parted their hair in the middle and played for the jersey.

Celtic have bought something more than a highly competent midfielder player in McGinlay. They have bought a quality long thought outmoded in football, namely loyalty.

Pat may not be the best player at Parkhead but his current employers will find none more committed to the club.

It was a long and frustrating summer for Pat as he waited to find where his future would lie and his signing up at Parkhead did not bring the matter to a satisfactory close for all concerned.

Hibernian described Celtic's offer of £245,000 for the player as

derisory. Eventually, a Compensation Tribunal determined that the Parkhead club pay £525,000, a figure which pleased neither the buyers nor the sellers.

Of more concern to McGinlay will be his long term role at Parkhead and he approaches this, his second Old Firm game, with a sense of anticipation because he is one of only four members of the current Celtic squad who has a League Cup winners' medal, achieved with Hibernian two seasons ago when the competition was still sponsored by Skol.

The others, incidentally, are Pat Bonner, Paul McStay and Charlie Nicholas, who all played in Celtic's last triumph, a 2-1 win in the Final against tonight's Semi-Final opponents, Rangers, in December 1982.

"The Final against Dunfermline remains a super memory for me and all the other lads at Easter Road," says Pat. "Now I want to add a winner's medal with Celtic to the one I collected at Hibs.

"But before we can even think

Pat McGinlay



about that we have to overcome Rangers and they will be a difficult obstacle. But I wouldn't have come to Celtic if I didn't think the club were capable of winning major honours."

Six years ago McGinlay was freed by Blackpool and faced an uncertain future until Hibernian Manager Alex Miller threw him a career lifeline.

He remains grateful to Miller to this day. "I can't thank Alex enough for bringing me back into the mainstream of the game but after six years at Easter Road, I felt I needed a change.

"When Celtic made me an offer there was never any doubt that I would sign for them

"The summer weeks before I signed were a frustrating time but I was sustained by the knowledge that if no one came in for me I always had a job to go back to with Hibs.

"I suppose I was luckier than most in that respect. A lot of players who are now out of work didn't have that luxury.

"I'm just glad to be part of the Parkhead club and playing with ambitious players who want the good days to return for the club and who will work hard to achieve that goal."

PHIL McENTEE
(*Scottish Sunday Express*)

CHARLIE NICHOLAS has been called a lot of names since he first kicked off his football career.

As a kid at Parkhead he was dubbed Prince Charlie, was nominated a Cockney Rebel when he moved to Arsenal... and then became the Bold Chazza in his second time around stint at Celtic after he moved back from Aberdeen.

It wouldn't be unfair to suggest that Rangers fans in particular have other names for him!

Having said that, anyone who is an admirer of football skill must be an admirer of Charlie Nicholas.

Now 31, he may lack that yard of pace - typically he'll disagree - but I'd rather have a Rolls-Royce that did 40 mph than a Lada that did 60...and then the wheels come off.

Charlie Nicholas

Charlie is the classic pin-up player, although many of his fans still maintain he missed out playing on a bigger stage as a result of moving to the "wrong" club - choosing Arsenal rather than Liverpool or Manchester United.

At Highbury, under Terry Neill and Don Howe, he was asked to play a different role and his natural flair and ability was restricted, nevertheless, the Gunners fans were fired up with expectation when he joined the club.

Six seasons ago I watched him write his name all over the first Littlewoods Cup when he scored both goals in the 2-1 Cup Final win at Wembley over Liverpool.

Back to Scotland where he joined Aberdeen and, of course, from there back to Celtic in a £400,000 move three years ago. This meant Billy McNeill had signed Charlie twice!

No one knows Charlie better or has more respect for him as a player. He says, "Many people scoff when you mention the word pride in a football context - but that is one of Charlie's qualities. His skills are there for all to see, and what he has lost in pace is compensated by his tremendous vision. The one thing many people underestimate is his passing ability for he uses the ball so well."

He adds, "As a young player, he was explosive, and in many ways I

would liken him to Joe Harper who I worked with when I was Manager of Aberdeen. They were both marvellous finishers. But obviously, Charlie is no longer an out-and-out striker."

Charlie makes no secret of the fact he will play anywhere for Celtic and would like to end his career at the club.

"Ideally, I like playing off the front two, but playing up front is not a problem. However, to maintain a regular place in the Celtic team I have to be prepared mentally and physically."

He adds, "People like my pal Tommy Burns have convinced me I should stay in the game as long as possible. My style might not be ideally suited to the hurly-burly of the Premier Division, but I do feel if I play

in the right system I can carry on for a few years yet. After all, I'm the same age as Ally McCoist."

And like McCoist, the Bold Chazza is one of the best talkers in the game. For instance, last season when he spoke on the Celtic Club-Call - and the tape ran out!

And recently when he was asked about him and John Collins becoming dads, he chirped, "People have said we're scoring more off the park than on it..."

But the bottom line is Charlie just doesn't talk a good game, he plays a good game...and he's still in good Nick!

JIM BLAIR
(*Daily Record*)



CELTIC

PAT BONNER - Goalkeeper

Born Donegal, 24.5.60
Goalkeeper Pat Bonner has now been 15 years with Celtic and has successfully fended off several challenges for the top team place. The Republic of Ireland international keeper... he has 67 caps now... is re-established as first choice after losing out for almost a season to Gordon Marshall in 1992. The amiable Pat is now 33 and has won every honour with Celtic since he joined them in 1978. He's 6ft 2in, 13st.

TOM BOYD - Defender

Born Glasgow, 24.11.65
Defender Tom Boyd has been a solid, vital member of the Celtic squad since his signing for the club in a swap deal which took Tony Cascarino to Chelsea in February, 1992. The former Motherwell captain...he led the Fir Park side that won the Scottish Cup in 1991...started his career as a YTS player and seized his chance at football. He's now a member of the Scotland international squad and can operate on the left or right of the defence. Glasgow born Tom is 5ft 11in, 11st 4lb. Missed Scotland's recent World Cup tie against Switzerland but has 17 caps.

MIKE GALLOWAY - Defender

Born Oswestry, 30.5.65
The powerful Mike was a half million pound signing from Hearts in November 1989. Born in Wales, he played his early football with Mansfield and Halifax before coming back north. Can operate in midfield as well as defence, but has settled

into the middle of the back four this season in some style. Has played nearly 120 first team games for Celtic and has won honours for Scotland at Under-21 and full level. He's 28, 6ft and 13st.

MARK McNALLY - Defender

Born Motherwell, 10.3.71
This young man has made the breakthrough in some style this season after learning his trade in various positions. Now settled in as a central defender and tipped for the top. Former Celtic Boys Club player, Mark is only 22 but has been six years with Celtic. He is quickly learning the game as required in the middle of the defence, but still likes to take time to pop in a goal if he can. Mark is 5ft 9in, 10st 7lbs.

DARIUSZ WDOWCZYK - Defender

Born Warsaw, 25.9.62
Full Back Dariusz Wdowczyk is now almost an adopted Scot after spending the past four years with Celtic. The Polish international player... former national captain in fact... was bought in for £350,000 from Legia Warsaw in November 1989. Tremendous striker of the ball with his left foot and is hoping for a few more goals himself this season but has already laid on a few for his mates with his deadly corners and free kicks. He will be 31 in three days time. He's 5ft 11in, 11st 11lbs.

TONY MOWBRAY - Defender

Born Saltburn, 22.11.63
Defender Tony Mowbray has been unlucky to run into a series of



● Pat Bonner

frustrating injuries since his £1 million move from Middlesbrough in November 1991. Former England B cap, he is desperate to re-establish himself at the heart of the Celtic defence and go on to win a trophy... something which has eluded him in his career. Tony is 29, 6ft 1in and 13st 2lbs.

PETER GRANT - Midfielder

Born Bellshill, 30.8.65
Midfielder Peter Grant was handed the job recently of deputising for injured club skipper Paul McStay. Peter is 28, but has been 11 years at Parkhead, joining them from the Boys Club in 1982. Over the years he has turned out in a selection of positions for Celts, and given 100 per cent every time. Peter is 5ft 9in, 10st 7lbs.

PAUL McSTAY - Midfielder

Born Hamilton, 22.10.64
Midfielder Paul McStay, the club captain and gifted play-maker, could be struggling to be fit for this Semi-Final following a foot operation. His influence on and off the field is important to Celtic... and Scotland.

He has won 67 caps and is still only 28. All the major honours have come his way in his 12 years since joining Celtic as a brilliant teenager. Has played well over 500 first team games for Celts. He's 5ft 10 in, 10st 10lbs.

STUART SLATER - Midfielder

Born Sudbury, 27.3.69
Midfielder Stuart Slater is still waiting to show the consistent form which had him the most expensive signing in Celtic's history when they paid out £1.7 to West Ham for him a year past in August. Illness and injury have hampered him greatly, but there have been enough glimpses of the surging runs to encourage the Parkhead fans to anticipate great things from the 24 year old. He's 5ft 9in 11st 6lbs.

PAT McGINLAY - Midfielder

Born Glasgow, 30.5.67
Midfielder Pat McGinlay is still settling in to the side after the move of a lifetime from Hibs this summer. A tribunal recently decided that Celtic would have to pay £525,000 to Hibs for the free-scoring Pat who started his career as a boy with Blackpool. In his six years at Easter Road, McGinlay developed into a free-scoring midfield man and is keen to add to that

reputation. Pat is 26, 5ft 10in and 10st 10lbs.

JOHN COLLINS - Midfielder

Born Galashiels, 31.1.68
Midfield man John Collins may miss tonight's match through injury. He cost Celtic £1 million from Hibernian back in 1990 and has become a firm favourite with the fans because of his skill and hard work down the left side of the pitch. Won Scotland honours at every level and scored in the World Cup tie against Switzerland at Pittodrie earlier this month. John is from Galashiels in the Borders. He's 25, 5ft 7in, 10st 10lbs.

BRIAN O'NEIL - Midfielder

Born Paisley, 6.9.72
Midfielder Brian O'Neil is a young man in a hurry to establish himself as a first team regular at Parkhead. The Paisley born youngster...21 earlier this month...has won Youth and Under-21 honours already with Scotland. Celtic are bringing him along slowly, but it will not be long before he is a regular top team starter. He's a strapping 6ft 1in and 12st 4lbs.

FRANK McAVENNIE - Striker

Born Glasgow, 22.11.59
Frank McAvennie brings a wealth of

experience to the Celtic front-line. He has had service with other clubs north and south of the border, and featured in Scotland international teams. Frank was a St. Mirren player before joining West Ham. He returned north to join Celtic becoming an instant hit with the fans and it was his two late goals in the Scottish Cup Final against Dundee United that helped Celtic to a memorable League and Cup double in their Centenary year. He then returned south to West Ham in 1989 but was freed by the Hammers at the end of the 1991/92 season and since Liam Brady signed him in January, 1993, he has been a regular goalscorer in Celtic's first team. He's 5ft 9in and 11st 3lbs.

CHARLIE NICHOLAS - Striker

Born Glasgow, 30.12.61
One of the most naturally gifted players to grace the Scottish game, Charlie brings a wealth of guile to the Celtic team. Charlie started his career with Celtic as a boy and scored one of Celtic's goals in their 2-1 League Cup Final victory over Rangers in 1982. He then was lured south by the bright lights of London joining Arsenal in 1983 where he also won a League Cup Winners' Medal before returning north to join Aberdeen in 1988. Charlie also enjoyed success with the Dons winning both League Cup and Scottish Cup medals during his time at Pittodrie before returning to Celtic in July, 1990. He's 5ft 9in, 10st 11lbs.

ANDY PAYTON - Striker

Born Burnley, 23.10.67
Striker Andy Payton was recruited from Middlesbrough as part of a swap deal which took Chris Morris south just over a year ago. The speedy, chunky Payton, who also played with Hull, has run into a few injuries which has disrupted his career at Parkhead and made him doubtful for tonight's game. He's 5ft 10in, 11st 7lbs and was Celtic's top scorer with 15 goals last term, one ahead of colleague Gerry Creaney who has been out of action for the past few weeks because of an early season injury.



● Brian O'Neil