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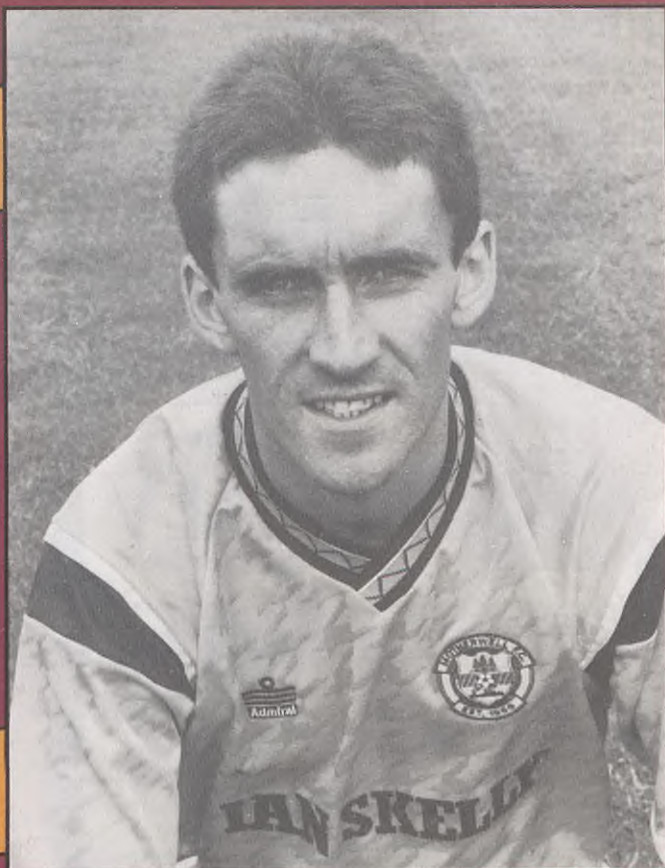
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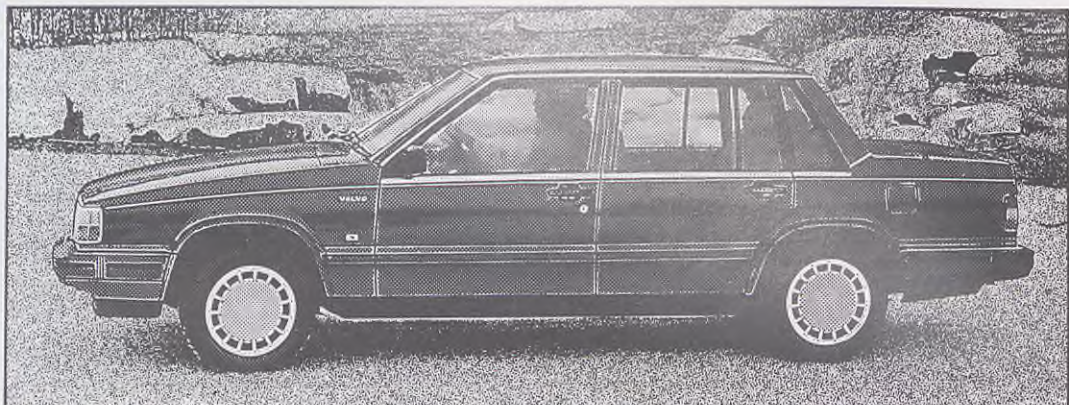
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at Fir Park, Motherwell

Scheduled for Wednesday, 30th January, 1991

Kick-off 7:30 p.m.



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Runners-Up: 1954
Scottish Summer Cup Winners: 1944, 1965
Scottish Second XI Cup Winners: 1943, 1950, 1957
Scottish Reserve League Cup Winners: 1988
Scottish Southern League Cup Runners-Up: 1945

Programme by **JOHN SWINBURNE**

Printed by Thomson Litho Ltd,
East Kilbride, Scotland

"VERY UNFORTUNATE NOT TO WIN"



Tommy Talking—

Once again we were very unfortunate not to win the Tennents Sixes by losing 5-3 to Hearts in the Final. This makes out of the last 4 years of competing in the tournament we have lost 3 finals and one semi-final — it seems as if we are destined not to win this Competition!

The players and supporters relish this tournament at this time of the year and it is exciting for them with shots coming in from all angles resulting in the best ever tally of goals scored in the Sixes tournament.

Overall the Sponsors have got to be delighted to announce another success for their tournament.

I am pleased to announce that the progress of Luc Nijholt who broke a leg against Celtic is now at the stage where he is ready to play in competitive matches. There is no doubt that Luc has been sadly missed and hopefully it won't be long before we have him back in our squad for the run in.

The good news about Luc was followed by the eye injury to Jim Griffin at the Tennents Sixes. Jim is one of the most unfortunate players I have had at Fir Park, where injury seems to follow him hand in hand but I am delighted that the latest news on this injury seems to be that it is not as bad as first feared and he should be back soon.

Tonight we welcome Celtic who recently had a magnificent victory over Aberdeen in the League after coming in for some very heavy criticism of late, but they are a very proud club with a great tradition and are always at their most dangerous when things go against them. We are well aware that if we are to collect anything from tonight's match we will have to be at our best and have had to compete and concentrate for the entire match.

IAN SKELLY Player of the Year

DAVID COOPER	13	BOBBY RUSSELL	4
ALASTAIR MAXWELL	12	DOUGIE ARNOTT	4
GEORGE BURLEY	11	JIM GRIFFIN	4
TOM BOYD	9	COLIN O'NEILL	1
LUC NIJHOLT	5	JOE McLEOD	1
CHRIS McCART	4	JAMIE DOLAN	1

TWO of our outstanding performers from the Fir Park clash in August when we defeated Celtic 2-0 thanks to goals by Russell and Arnott.

Photo's courtesy of Ian McDiarmid

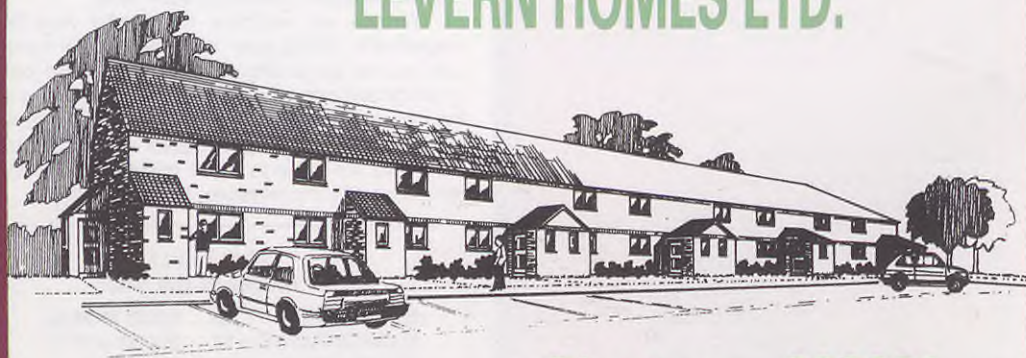


Bobby Russell scorer of our first goal.



Ally Maxwell registered another clean sheet.

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TOP: Colin O'Neill and Peter Grant are amidst all the rough and tumble of the Premier League.

BOTTOM LEFT: Dougie Arnott is caught offside in our last home clash with Celtic. Dougie laughs last however, grabbing a vital goal.

BOTTOM RIGHT: Colin O'Neill moves in to tackle Celtic defender Paul Elliott.

Photographs courtesy of C. R. McBain



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TENNENTS SIXES

Motherwell reached the finals of the Tennents Sixes competition for the third time. Unfortunately they again fell at the last hurdle and Hearts triumphed by 5 goals to 3.

The new rule which states that every team must have 2 forwards in the opposition's half of the park certainly produced many more goals but teams quickly found that they could 'kill' the game by committing one or even two defenders into the opposition's half of the park and thereby setting up a situation of 3 defenders against 4 or even 5 attackers. This made for rather boring spells of play with the 3 hapless defenders chasing about in an attempt to regain possession.

Perhaps another alteration in the rules to force teams to keep 2 defenders in their own half of the park would lead to more entertaining matches.

Davie Cooper was generally acknowledged as being the most entertaining player in the whole tournament and his one man destruction job on Celtic when he scored both goals in a 2-0 victory was one of the highlights of the competition.

The overall reaction to the Tennents Sixes is highly favourable and the players and fans alike vote it to be a big success and a welcome break from the grind of the Premier League.

KNOW YOUR REFEREE

It was sports columnist, Ian Archer, who was the insinuator that somewhat uncharitably linked the explosive games we call Premier League fixtures to the name of today's match referee as 'Donnie Brooks'. Nothing could be farther from the truth since Donnie is well versed in his chosen pastime having started his refereeing apprenticeship in the Glasgow minor leagues in 1977 and progressing to the S.F.A.'s. Class 1 List in 1988.

A Junior for 5 years with Kirkintilloch Rob Roy and Wishaw Juniors in his playing days, Donnie now resides in Lenzie with his wife Rena and daughter Claire.

A print technician manufacturing facia plates for the automotive industry, Donnie hasn't as yet planned his summer vacation. He still has high hopes of being invited to referee in the International Special Olympics scheduled for Minnesota in the USA in July. He has already been overseas this season having been in charge of the European under 16 championship match between Norway and Denmark in the Norwegian town of Moss.

With 19 fixtures on a Saturday league programme, not all of the 33 Class 1 referees are operational each week. Donnie fills in his blanks by coaching and encouraging less experienced referees in the lower soccer leagues. He finds time for the occasional round of golf and a bit of badminton but his full time off duty relaxation is trying to keep up with the antics of 5 year old daughter Claire.

Today's game is Donnie's 4th Premier League match of the season, having already handled 6 First Division and 5 Second Division games.

Half Time Brain Teaser

Considering the names of the 130 Scottish and English League clubs, there is one letter of the alphabet which appears in only one name and that name belongs to a Scottish club. Can you identify the letter and the club? You will find the solution on page 15.

FOOTBALLING FACTS AND FANCIES

The spartan spirit was much in evidence in a 1940's Western League Junior fixture between Ayr Newton Rovers and their Kilmarnock rivals, Riccarton Bluebell. Played on Rovers home patch at Dam Park, the ground is situated plumb on the banks of the River Ayr. It's mid winter, there's a gale blowing, the pitch is claggy and the ball is a dead weight.

Midway through the second half a defender hoists a mighty airborne clearance of the rain sodden ball which takes flight, clears the river and plops onto the other bank. Is there another ball? No! 22 players are clustered on one side of the river, the ball's on the other bank and a turbulent torrent between them. Abandon the game? No way!

Forward steps right back Clark of the Rovers, (wonder if his Christian name was Roy), who volunteers to fetch the ball. Where's he going to get a boat? The mud splattered full back scorns the cissy stuff, takes off his boots, dives into the raging river, thrashes his way across, staggers up the bank, retrieves the ball and swims back nursing the leather like a water polo ace. Only 15 minutes playing time had been lost thanks to the herculean efforts of this swimming soccer son. Rovers went on to win 4-0, Clark went on to evade the potential embryonic ravages of pneumonia.

AT LAST

Tonight we welcome Celtic to Fir Park. This match was originally scheduled for 12th January but the Referee decided that the weather conditions were unsuitable and postponed the fixture.

Celtic and Motherwell traditionally provide some of the seasons highlights whenever they meet at Fir Park and it is to be hoped that this is another memorable encounter.

JIM GRIFFIN

The injury jinks struck again at Jim Griffin when he was struck on the eye at the Tennent's Sixes. Jim was rushed to Gartnavel Hospital where he was detained until the full damage could be assessed.

Fortunately he is now improving and who knows — he may even be in contention for a place in tonight's game.

Jim's list of injuries is continuing to mount but it is to be sincerely hoped that this all out competitor is granted a good long spell of injury free time to enable him to settle into a first team place which his ability merits.

Motherwell

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IAIN FERGUSON

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Amongst the many plaudits that Manager Tommy McLean would receive on his recruitment of Iain Ferguson to the Fir Park player pool would surely be one from Dougie Arnott. Having someone to share the front running duties will undoubtedly please the workhorse that is Motherwell's top scorer. Rumour has it that Dougie was over 6 feet when he first signed on at Fir Park, but the miles of unselfish running that he's contributed has honed him down to his current greyhound height of 5'7".

Iain Ferguson was on Dundee's books in 1979 when he first sampled the butterflies of the international arena. Competing in the under-17 International Youth Tourney at Udine in Italy, Iain came on as substitute for Neil Simpson in a Scotland team which won 4-0 and also included one time Motherwell full back Andy Dornan. Under-21 recognition also came his way when he was called up to the Scotland pool for the games against East Germany, Switzerland and Belgium.

Kilmarnock were the visitors for Iain's debut day at Dens Park on December 15th,

1979. The satisfaction of a 3-1 win was further sweetened with a debut day goal. Four seasons were spent with the dark blues at Dundee with Iain registering 39 goals in 120 league outings. A change of strip from dark to light blue took Iain to the Rangers' portals in 1984. He didn't, however, quite set the hearth on fire at Ibrox with only 6 strikes in 32 league matches and returned to Tayside on loan to the Dens Parkers bringing him a further 2 goals from 3 outings.

The move to the east coast was made permanent in 1986 when he walked the "39 Steps" from Dens Park to Tannadice. Under Jim McLean's guidance he completed two seasons with the 'Tanagerines' scoring 27 goals in 75 league appearances. A transfer to Hearts in 1988 didn't in any way further the Ferguson goal scoring ambitions with only 8 league counters in 55 appearances. A mid term loan period last season to Bristol City, under Joe Jordan's management at the time, brought a couple of goals from 9 Ashton Gate outings.

If league goals are hard to come by at home, Iain Ferguson will certainly be remember for his goal scoring exploits in Europe. A member of the Dundee United team that narrowly lost out in the U.E.F.A. Cup final to I.F.K. Gothenburg in 1987, he was on the Tannadice score sheet in United's memorable victories over Barcelona and Borussia, both away from home in that campaign. And who will forget that 1989 blockbuster of a free kick at Tynecastle in the U.E.F.A. Cup quarters finals that shocked the mighty Bayern Munich. Bologna also experienced the Ferguson touch when he scored in the 2nd Round of this season's competition.

The Ferguson footballing wheel has now virtually turned full circle. Born in nearby Newarthill in August 1962, the fair haired striker was originally recruited to senior soccer from the Fir Park Boys Club.

And now with 15 League games to the end of the season — individually that's worth at least a minimum of 10 goals — Go to it Iain!

■ By Alastair MacLachlan



GEORGE BURLEY



The 'Well fans gave George Burley a tremendous ovation at the end of the St. Johnstone game. This was in appreciation for his performances over the past 18 months. He brought culture and precision of the highest calibre to his defensive role with Motherwell and he must be rated as one of Tommy McLean's most inspired signings.

Everyone at Fir Park wishes his well in his new role at Somerset Park, Ayr, where he takes over from Ally McLeod.

It was very fitting indeed that Ian Skelly, the match sponsors, chose George Burley as their "Man of the Match" and he thanked them in very eloquent terms and also took the opportunity to say how much he has enjoyed his spell at Fir Park.

Good Luck George for the future and thanks for all those excellent performances.

"FERGIE"

What a start for new signing Iain Ferguson. Both at Love Street and Fir Park in his opening matches for Motherwell the games were turned into farces by very high winds. Hardly conditions for any player to shine.

Having had the pleasure of watching him in his formative years with Fir Park Boys Club and also regularly with his other senior clubs — Dundee, Rangers, Dundee United and Hearts I have every confidence that he will quickly become a very influential player for Motherwell.

DOUGIE ARNOTT

What a transformation — Dougie Arnott who struggled to score regularly despite turning in all action, perpetual motion performances week in, week out, has really struck a very rich, goalscoring vein.

In his last seven games he has scored six goals. This compares more than favourably

with most of the other strikers in the Premier League. So far this season he has 9 goals to his credit and if a poll was taken among Premier League central defenders I am certain that Dougie Arnott would be voted "The Player they least like to play against", because he never gives his opponents a moments respite. I rate him as No. 1 in the Premier League at "shutting down" any defender in possession and as far as Dougie is concerned — the bigger they are — the harder they fall.

He plays very hard but scrupulously fair and he never feigns injury. After a crunching tackle which would have more "prima donnas" writhing in agony — Dougie usually just springs back to his feet and carries on with the game. Pound for pound he must be the hardest player in the League and he has the heart of a lion.

To crown all this he has now rediscovered his goalscoring touch which doesn't auger well for opposing goalkeepers in 1991.

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