



# THE CIS INSURANCE CUP



## SEMI-FINAL **RANGERS v CELTIC**

The National Stadium, Hampden Park, Glasgow  
Tuesday 5th February 2002, Kick-off 7.45pm

Official Programme £2.00



**“If only he thought as much about our number 9.”**

For information on Home and Contents Insurance and  
a wide range of other Financial Products call

**08000 28 29 29\***



**You watch your team, CIS will watch your money.**

\*Phone calls will be recorded and may be monitored to assist us in improving our service. Please note, a representative may call as a result of your telephone enquiry.  
This advert is issued by Co-operative Insurance Society Limited, which is regulated by the Financial Services Authority for investment business.



The CIS Insurance Cup Semi-Final 2001/2 – Rangers v Celtic



# A NIGHT OF HIGH DRAMA



**I**t is indeed a pleasure to have the opportunity once again to welcome all fans attending tonight's first CIS Insurance Cup Semi-Final tie between Rangers and Celtic at the National Stadium, Hampden Park.

This season's competition began in early September last year and much football has been played in the various domestic, European and International competitions during the course of the intervening five months. Forty two clubs all started out with aspirations of cup glory and the 36 ties played prior to the Semi-Finals have produced tremendous entertainment and drama for the paying spectators with an average to date of more than three goals per game having been scored. Once again, there have been a few shock results recorded and, with several matches having required extra-time and indeed, five of the ties having to be resolved by a penalty shoot-out, there can be few arguments that fans have received value-for-money action.

I would like to take this opportunity in thanking our sponsors, CIS Insurance, for their much valued sponsorship of this competition. They have proved to be extremely willing and enthusiastic sponsors and all of their hard work in promoting this tournament has proved extremely beneficial to the Scottish game during the past three seasons and is very much appreciated. On behalf of The Scottish Football League, I would take this opportunity in extending a very warm welcome to all of the officials and representatives of CIS Insurance and their invited guests attending and trust that they enjoy tonight's tie.

For the second consecutive season, the Semi-Final draw has paired together Scottish football's oldest and biggest rivals. The place of The CIS Insurance Cup may be debated from time to time but one only has to look back twelve months to see what winning and, indeed, losing in this competition meant to both teams and their

respective sets of supporters. Over 50,000 fans saw Celtic win an extremely competitive and, it would be fair to say, torrid Semi-Final which gave the Parkhead club the opportunity to go on and win this competition in what ultimately proved a memorable season for that club.

Tonight's match sees Rangers new manager, Alex McLeish, not only in charge of a team playing in the Semi-Final of this competition for the first occasion but also witnesses his first involvement in an Old Firm match since taking over from Dick Advocaat back in December. Alex played in several League Cup Finals with Aberdeen during a distinguished playing career and indeed, picked-up two winners' medals. He will be hoping that tonight provides him with the launchpad to a successful managerial career at Ibrox and victory against his club's oldest rivals would certainly set him off in the right direction.

This competition certainly proved the catalyst to an extremely successful and memorable first season in charge for Celtic boss Martin O'Neill. As the record books now show, Celtic went on to win their first domestic treble since season 1969/70 and their victory in last season's CIS Insurance Cup Final against Kilmarnock gave Martin his first trophy success as Parkhead boss. With the Bhoys currently holding a commanding lead in the League Championship, victory tonight would give his side the opportunity to repeat last season's magnificent achievements.

Finally, I would take this opportunity of thanking all of the staff at the National Stadium, Hampden Park, for their co-operation in assisting The Scottish Football League in staging tonight's Semi-Final tie. This is the start of an extremely busy period for the stadium, with three major Cup Finals taking place within the space of two months, culminating with the showpiece UEFA Champions League Final here in May.

ENJOY THE MATCH!

**JAMES OLIVER**  
President, The Scottish Football League

**NOW  
AVAILABLE  
THE BELL'S  
SCOTTISH  
FOOTBALL  
LEAGUE  
REVIEW  
2001-2002  
£8.95**



- Articles by leading football journalists
- Full records of all Scottish teams including individual player information, all last season's results, appearances and scorers, club information with admission prices, how to get there, supporters clubs, shops, strip colours and sponsors.
- Scottish League and Cup Records
- League Cup and Scottish Cup Reviews
- Player of Year Records
- Leading Goalscorers by Club
- Dates for 2001/2002 including SFL fixtures
- Managers' Careers
- ...and much much more

Available from all leading bookstores or by post from Programme Publications, Bradford House, 39a East Street, Epsom, Surrey KT17 1BL. Freephone: 0808 1007377.

Enclose cheque or postal order for £10.50 (incl p & p) or ring the above number for credit card sale.

website: [www.pplsport.com](http://www.pplsport.com)

# SPONSOR'S MESSAGE

## *A welcome message from Cup sponsor CIS*

As Chairman of CIS I would like to extend a very warm welcome to supporters of both teams to tonight's CIS Insurance Cup Semi-Final.

This season's competition has proved as exciting as ever, and in just six months we've seen 42 teams whittled down to just four. Hampden Park once again provides a fantastic setting for tonight's game and no doubt both teams will be eager to secure a place in the Final on Sunday 17th March.

CIS has been investing in football for four decades, and is fully committed to supporting the game at all levels. Besides its sponsorship of The CIS Insurance Cup in Scotland, CIS also sponsors the League Cup in Northern Ireland and, as part of its social accountability programme, organises and participates in grassroots football initiatives throughout the UK.

As one of the most well known and respected financial services companies in the country, CIS takes great pride in the quality and variety of services and products that we offer:

- We provide friendly, professional advice to over half a million customers in Scotland.
- We offer a wide range of competitive financial products.
- We can help you save for the future, plan your retirement, protect your family and insure your home and car.
- We can visit you in the comfort of your home at a time that suits you best.
- The fact that we're a co-operative society means added value for money as customers share in our profits through policy bonuses and discounts.
- If you'd like some more information on CIS services and products please call the sales & service centre free on **08000 28 29 29**.\*



*I hope you enjoy the match and I would like to wish both of tonight's teams and their supporters the best of luck.*

William Tucker  
Chairman

CIS representatives can advise only on the products and services of the CIS marketing group which is regulated by the Financial Services Authority for investment business.

Co-operative Insurance Society Limited, Miller Street, Manchester M60 0AL.

\*Calls will be recorded and may be monitored to assist us in improving our service.

# The CIS Insurance Cup





Critics of Scotland's National Stadium may wish to note that more than a million people passed through its turnstiles and doors last year, taking in football, concerts, American Football, conferences, trade shows, exhibitions and meetings, not to mention numerous private functions. Even The Open University used the facilities last year for exams.

Since last September, work has been ongoing to improve all of the supporter facilities at the East Stand. This has included building new catering outlets, putting in new toilets, increasing the space on the internal concourse, installing turnstiles at ground level on Somerville Drive and Aikenhead Road as well as improving all of the exit routes. This £3 million development will be partially completed for tonight's Semi-Final tie and will be finished by March in time for The CIS Insurance Cup Final.

This current work takes expenditure of the National Stadium to £75 million. Not a lot compared to the costs being mooted for the new Wembley Stadium or the knocking down and rebuilding of the National Theatre at Stratford!

## *A Place in a* **MILLION**

by DIXON BLACKSTOCK (Weekend Evening Times)



As David Kells, the Managing Director of Hampden Park Limited, pointed out: "It has given Scotland a stadium to be proud of. A venue not just for football, but conferences and concerts. Some 200,000 people filled the ground last year to hear Robbie Williams, Bon Jovi and the Eagles perform, which meant that the four major outdoor concerts held in Scotland last year took place at Hampden.

- "Talks are ongoing with tour organisers to bring more events to Glasgow, although nothing has been confirmed yet.

"Once again, there will be four American football games staged by the Scottish Claymores during May and June and the many lounges which we have are in constant demand by businesses of all sizes for conferences, seminars, etc."

Of course, all of Scottish football's various administrative bodies now have their offices based within the stadium. The Scottish Football Association, The Scottish Football League, The Scottish Premier League and the Euro 2008 bid team, who are co-ordinating Scotland's attempts to co-host the European Championships with the Republic of Ireland, are all situated on Level 6 whilst all of the various National Affiliated Associations, including the Juniors, Youths, Amateurs, Schools and Women's Associations, are all located on Level 3.

The National Stadium also houses The Scottish Football Museum, which is situated on Level 2 of the BT Scotland South Stand, and has proved to be a tremendous attraction for visitors from all over the world since it opened last May. Parties of schoolchildren look on in wonderment at the big leather boots, old laced-up footballs and baggy gear worn by players of the past, although the baggy bit might not be so old-fashioned today! It is reckoned to be the only truly national football museum of its kind in the world and for all football supporters with an interest in the history of our national game, and how Scotland gave it to the world, it is a must.

Hampden is now signposted on all of the roads leading to the stadium, which is appropriate considering that there will be three major Cup Finals to come during the next four months. The CIS Insurance Cup Final on Sunday, 17th March, the Tennent's Scottish Cup Final on Saturday, 4th May and of course, the UEFA European Champions League Final on Wednesday, 15th May, when fans from all over Europe will converge on Glasgow.

Hampden Park has been graded as a Five Star Stadium by UEFA...it is indeed a stadium that this country should be proud of.



# Shota ARVELADZE

## Laying Ghosts

by IAIN CAMPBELL (Scottish Daily Mirror)

**I**t's a safe assumption that Celtic are not Shota Arveladze's favourite side. Tonight's Semi-Final tie will be the fourth time that the Georgian striker has faced them this season and he is still counting the cost of the previous three meetings.

The Rangers star first crossed swords with Martin O'Neill's men as an Ajax player back in August, a tie which ended the Dutch side's Champions League ambitions. Worse still for Shota, the two clashes ended his own involvement in Europe after his £2.2 million transfer to Rangers a few short weeks later. His involvement in the Celtic clash meant that he was cup-tied and his new club's successful UEFA Cup progress has been achieved without his involvement.

It has been painful for the in-form attacker who will be forced to watch this month's massive double header against his former club's old adversaries, Feyenoord, from the stand. Arveladze admits that if he knew then what he knows now, he would have happily sat out the Champions League tie with the Parkhead club back in the late summer.

He did have the limited consolation of scoring Ajax's only goal in the 3-1 defeat in Amsterdam and nothing would please him more than getting on the scoresheet again this evening, although there may be no prospect of any more big European occasions for him this season, helping his side into next month's CIS Insurance Cup Final would provide massive consolation.

He said: "It's very disappointing that I can't play for Rangers in this season's UEFA Cup and yes, it is Celtic's fault!"

"It gets worse for me with every round and if we qualify to play Leeds United or PSV Eindhoven in the Quarter Finals, it will be very hard to miss out.

"But I didn't know that I would be moving to Rangers when Ajax played Celtic at the start of the season and of course, I couldn't say I didn't want to play.

"I enjoyed the three hours of football against Celtic and Ajax are the only side to have beaten them on their own ground this season.

"It was disappointing to lose to them when Rangers played there in November but this time it is at Hampden so perhaps we can get the win we want.

"Celtic have a lot of good players and are very hard to beat but that is what we will be trying to do.

"It is going to be very hard for Rangers to win the League although we won't give up, so perhaps winning this competition is our best chance of taking a trophy."

Arveladze has reproduced the form he showed for Ajax all those months ago in a Rangers jersey, quickly establishing himself as the club's most dangerous attacker. Indeed, the Ibrox club can thank one of their former heroes, Brian Laudrup, for delivering him to these shores.

He said: "Brian spent a short time at Ajax and we became friends...he is friends with everyone!"

"He told me plenty about Rangers so it was not a difficult decision to move when the chance came. The whole transfer was completed in three or four days.

"But even before I met Brian, I already knew all about Rangers and Celtic and also Aberdeen and Dundee United from European games."

Europe, of course, is something of a dirty word for Shota just now, and he'll be hoping to take his revenge on Celtic tonight.





**T**uesday, 11th December, 2001. A set of instantly recognisable iron gates swing open and a Mercedes Benz purrs through and glides onto the track at the side of the Ibrox pitch.

Two men emerge, one of whom is also as instantly recognisable as those big blue gates, the other could probably have walked in through the front doors without raising so much as a second glance.

However, it was no surprise to those who know the workings of Alex McLeish that he should have driven across the threshold with Andy Watson at his side. This is a partnership which, after all, has stood the test of time.

The pair hit it off instantly as team mates in Alex Ferguson's all conquering Aberdeen side of the early eighties and have been almost inseparable ever since. When McLeish stepped into a dugout for the first time at Motherwell, he made sure that Watson was there too, having broken down the front doors of Easter Road to pluck his man out of Alex Miller's backroom team. Ironically enough, they would be back in Leith, together, three years later and it was there that their partnership would really take off.

Which is why McLeish needed his co-pilot at his side on the day he touched down at Ibrox to take over from Dick Advocaat.

Almost three months on, Watson recalls the day as if it were yesterday.

He says: "We were sitting at Easter Road and Alex said to me: 'There's an interest from Rangers... do you want to come along?' My jaw dropped open. I just looked back at him and said: 'What bus do I catch?' There was not a moment's hesitation."

Of course, there was no need to catch that bus. The boss' car was just outside and it was about to carry both men on the first leg of a journey which tonight sees them arrive here at Hampden Park.

The intensity of the next 90 minutes is likely to register as a shock even to this vastly experienced double act, who famously helped defeat the might of Real Madrid in Gothenburg in the European Cup Winners' Cup Final back in 1983.

# Alex McLEISH Andy WATSON *The Management*

by KEITH JACKSON  
(Daily Record)

This will be their first Glasgow derby - a match which tends to twist the emotions until they are ready to snap. To make matters even more interesting, they must attempt to halt a five game slide, which has seen Martin O'Neill claim the crown as the undisputed champion of Glasgow's divided city.

What's more, should Celtic notch up a sixth straight Old Firm win tonight, then O'Neill will have guided his side to The CIS Insurance Cup Final for the second successive season as Celtic attempt a second successive treble. No, the stakes could not be higher for McLeish and Watson but no matter what may come tonight, the bond between them will not be broken.

Watson continues: "The big thing we have between each other is trust and loyalty and hopefully, we complement each other in the way we work.

"We joined Aberdeen at exactly the same time, in the summer of 1976, and we actually went on holiday together the following year so we have always got on well.







## The CIS Insurance Cup Semi-Final 2001/2 – Rangers v Celtic



"We experienced a lot together as players, including that night in Gothenburg of course, and I think that was important for us.

"When Alex came into management, he had just finished as a player but, because I had to quit my playing career at the age of 28 through injury, I already had six years experience on the training field.

"He had been keeping track of me at Hibs where I started off coaching the youths and reserves and ended up working with the first team along with Alex Miller.

"When Alex got the job at Motherwell, he needed someone with some training ground experience and he came and asked me," recalls Watson.

"I was really flattered that he came in for me as he could have gone for someone a little bit older or who had been working as a coach for a little bit longer.

"So when he was looking for someone when he arrived at Motherwell, he came for me. We had a meeting and spoke about our thoughts on the game and it clicked from there.

"Coming to Ibrox, though, is beyond our wildest dreams. As Alex said in his first press conference as the Rangers' manager, it's almost surreal to be in charge of such a great club.

"It is just fantastic to be here and we will certainly do the job to the best of our abilities for as long as we are here."

Their relationship is about to go through the wringer again tonight but, if McLeish and Watson can mastermind Rangers' first Old Firm victory in almost 15 months, then they are likely to be afforded hero status by the red, white and blue masses. The Rangers support was somewhat slow in coming forward to embrace the new men when Advocaat accepted a job upstairs, but they have been quietly warming to the management team ever since.

Tonight, though, is the night that both men are handed their first chance to break Celtic's monopoly on Scotland's three most cherished pieces of silverware. McLeish knows this is his chance to win over any remaining doubters among the Ibrox ranks.

He said: "I know that a lot of Rangers fans were anticipating bigger names than Alex McLeish and Andy Watson—people they could relate to in terms of big achievements in Europe. I can totally understand where they are coming from.

"But I really believe I have something to offer Rangers and that is complete effort, enthusiasm and a real hunger to be successful.

"I have belief in my own ability but I know I have to prove myself and I'm ready to do that."

Tonight might just be as good a time as any.

