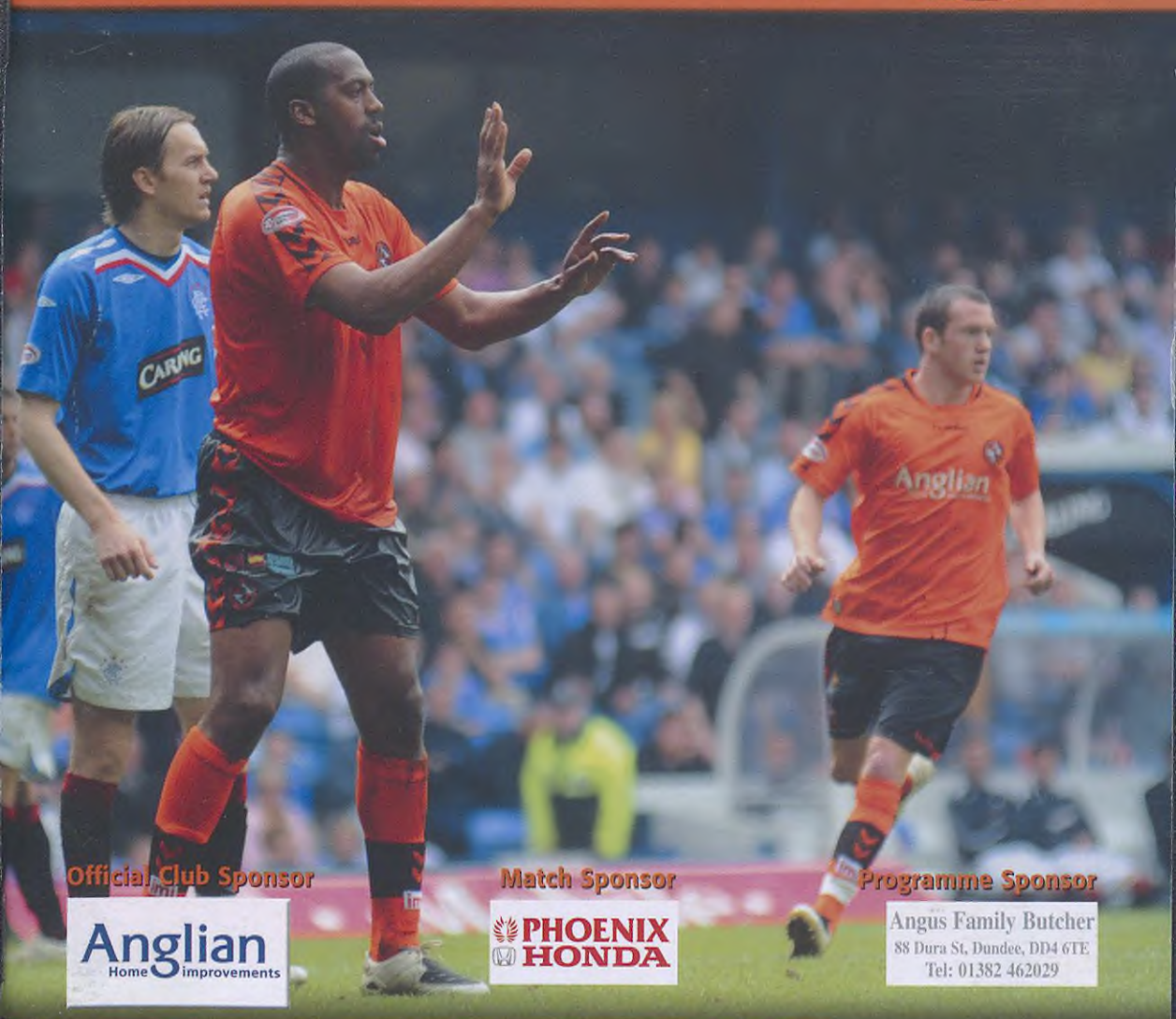


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while we are pleased to receive your comments and questions, due to the high volume of e-mails that we receive, the Club is unable to guarantee an individual reply. E-mails should contain an address and a telephone number.

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Craig Levein

For the final game of the season, I'd like to extend a warm welcome to Gordon Strachan and his Celtic side.

They have enjoyed a tremendous season and know that victory this evening will almost certainly see them crowned SPL Champions.

When we learned that Celtic would be our visitors for this last game of the season, I was hopeful that that it would be a meaningful one for both clubs.

Unfortunately results since the split mean that we are no longer involved in the scrap for a European place, which is very disappointing.

However, that doesn't mean to say that we have nothing to play for!

We've been in the top four for most of the season and I want us to stay there because that would be the Club's best finish for eleven years.

Defeat could see us drop two places and that would be a big disappointment.

It would also cost us a six-figure sum in prize money and that's money I can use to strengthen the squad for next season.

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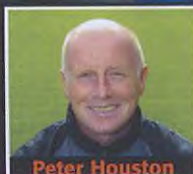
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But no matter what happens this evening, it has been a satisfying campaign, especially since the playing staff has been almost completely overhauled since Peter Houston and I arrived nineteen months ago.

Of course, the impending close season inevitably brings change.

For a start, we will be saying goodbye to on-loan trio Willo Flood, Jim O'Brien and Eric Odhiambo who will be returning to their clubs and I would like to thank them for their contributions.

In addition, Christian Kalvenes has returned to Norway and Euan McLean is moving to St Johnstone and I wish them both well in their future careers.

One or two others are also likely to move on, so work is in hand to bring in, hopefully, five new players before next season.

One player who has been fixed up is striker Kevin Smith who has signed a one-year contract. He has proved his fitness, but only just as the season was coming to an end and I am looking for him to make an impact next season.

The same applies to Keith Watson who has been so unlucky with injuries and missed the whole season. However, he is well down the road to recovery and I am looking forward to having his talents available to me next term.

Staying on the subject of injuries, Craig Conway has also had very bad luck, having recently broken his foot. It is the same injury, but this time affecting his other foot, but all being well, he should be ready for next term.

Overall, we have a good young squad whose best years are still ahead of them and I have to say that I am very optimistic about the forthcoming campaign.

Certainly wherever we finish this season, I'll be looking to improve on that in a year's time.

Finally, and no matter how this evening's match pans out, I would like our fans to remain to the end, so that the players can show their appreciation to the supporters who have backed us so well over the past season.

Craig Levein

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Around Tannadice

FEDERATION PLAYER OF THE YEAR



Picture courtesy of DC Thomson & Co Ltd

Over 300 Arabs attended a packed Piperdam on the first Sunday of the month for the Federation of Dundee United Supporters' Clubs Player of the Year Dance.

Also in attendance was the entire first team squad, Manager Craig Levein and his full

coaching staff, Chairman Eddie Thomson plus representatives of the Board and staff at Tannadice.

The main awards on the night went to Noel Hunt as Player of the Year and Morgaro Gomis as Young Player of the Year, with Steven Robb also collecting a special award from the Banter Bus.

The Federation also made a special presentation to Christian Kalvenes, thanking him for his contribution both on and off the park over the last two years.

Entertainment was provided by the excellent The Directors with a special guest session from Gary Robertson and the Cundeez, supported by Hoolie on megaphone, who brought the house down with their own totally Shed version of the Sham 69 classic "The Kids are United".

Master of Ceremonies was Federation Chairman Shug Falconer, with net proceeds being donated to United for Kids.

TOMMY BURNS

Putting all recent matters into perspective was the tragic news of the death of Tommy Burns. Everyone associated with the Club was saddened to hear this news and, as ever at these times, our thoughts are with his family, friends and colleagues.

Manager Craig Levein spoke on behalf of the Club, "I knew Tommy was seriously ill, but it still came as a shock. He was a decent man and a real football person and all of our thoughts right now are with his family."



WEBSITE PLAYER OF THE YEAR



With only one game remaining, Noel Hunt cannot now be caught in the man of the match voting in the website match reports and can therefore be formally named as the Dundee United Website Player of the Year. This follows similar accolades from the Club itself and from the Federation of Dundee United Supporters' Clubs, and gives Noel a clean sweep of the honours this year.

Out of 45 competitive games played, Noel collected 8 man of the match nominations, closely followed by Willo Flood with 6, Mark Kerr with 5 and Prince Buaben and Barry Robson with 4 apiece.

Captain Lee Wilkie received 3 nominations, as did Morgaro Gomis, with Christian Kalvenes picking up 2 nominations.

Ten other players were named as man of the match during the season.

Thanks are due to our intrepid band of volunteer match reporters, Ross Burns, Baktosch Gillan, Craig MacLagan, Stuart McDonald, Gareth Scott, Scott Simpson and Ally Stewart.

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Around Tannadice

CRAIG LEVEIN HONOURED BY SHOW RACISM THE RED CARD

Show Racism the Red Card

On Monday 12th of May, Craig Levein was announced as an inductee into the Show Racism the Red Card Hall of Fame at an awards ceremony hosted by the Prime Minister at Number 10 Downing Street. The event was attended by many well known people from football across the UK including Avram Grant, Paul Elliot, Gordon Smith, George Burley, Lex Gold, Sol Campbell and Anton Ferdinand.

Craig and Dundee United have worked tirelessly with Show Racism The Red Card for a number of years to educate young people about the negative effects of racism and how to tackle it. The manager recently gave up his time along with Prince Bauben to be interviewed for the campaign's new educational films, which will be distributed across the UK. Unfortunately Craig was unable to attend the Downing Street awards day, so it is with great pleasure that Show Racism The Red Card would like to thank the manager and Dundee United for their continued commitment to tackling racism by presenting this Hall of Fame award to Craig Levein.

ArabMASTERS GOLF TOURNAMENT

The annual ArabMASTERS, organised by ArabTRUST, took place on Monday at St Michaels Golf Course, near Leuchars.

This year's winner of the coveted tangerine jacket was Craig Conway (no, not that Craig Conway!) and his team "Three Arabs and a Tic" also took the team prize.

Special mention should also be made of the Inverness Arabs who travelled down for the occasion.

Despite a few sore heads from the night before, a great day out was had by all.

Thanks are due to Joe Duncan for organising the event on behalf of the Trust.

FORMAL COMPLAINT LODGED WITH SFA

On Tuesday, the Club lodged a formal complaint with SFA Chief Executive Gordon Smith in connection with the refereeing decisions in a number of controversial incidents during the recent game against Rangers at Ibrox on Saturday, 10 May 2008.

The Club is now awaiting the response of the SFA.



CHEQUES PRESENTATION



Members of the eastfootball messageboard forum presented cheques in favour of Prostate Cancer Charities and United for Kids at Tannadice last week.

The money was raised through the sale of their own "Eddie Thompson Tangerine Army" T shirts as well as the auction of signed shirts and donated to the site's two nominated charities.

Pictured are Niall Mulligan, Leon Strachan, Barrie McCord and Vicky Ogilvie of eastfootball, together with Mark Kerr, Garry Kenneth and Derek Robertson of Dundee United.

CONTRACT EXTENSIONS FOR FIVE TEENAGERS

Last week five of the Club's Under-19 players - Ryan McCord, Fraser Milligan, Gordon Pope, John Gibson and Sean Fleming all signed one-year contract extensions.