



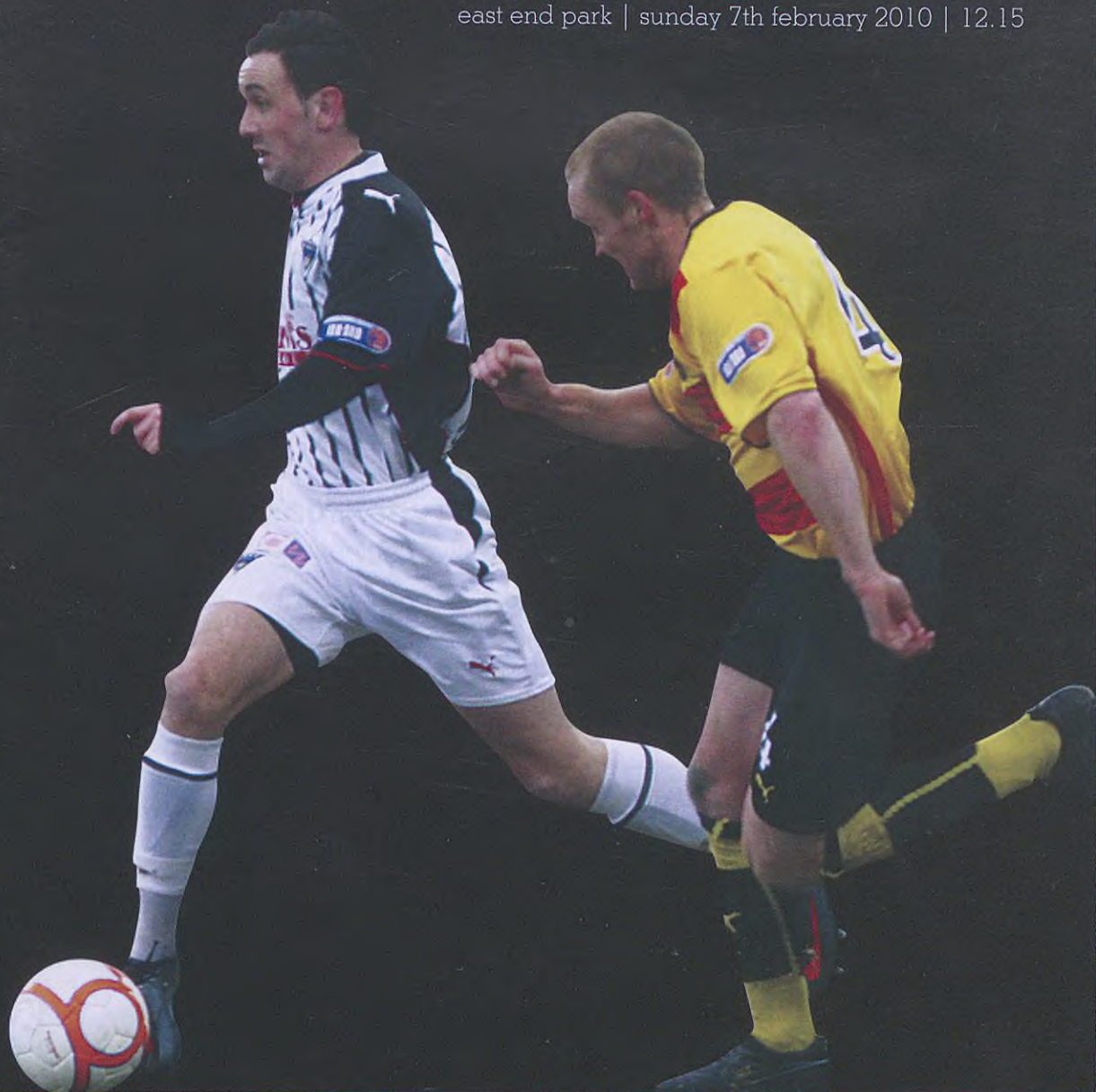
# the game

dunfermline athletic football club's **official matchday magazine** | no.18

the active nations scottish cup | 5th round

**dunfermline athletic v celtic**

east end park | sunday 7th february 2010 | 12.15



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 Second Division Champions 1985-86; Runners Up 1978-79  
 Scottish Cup Winners 1961, 1968; Runners Up 1965, 2004, 2007  
 Scottish League Cup Runners Up 1949-50, 1991-92, 2005-06  
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The Manager **5**

Opening PARagraphs **6**

Welcome Home Gary! **9**

Ambitious Celtic Are Ringing the Changes **11**

The Big Challenge **13**

Young Pars **15**

Everything You Wanted to Know  
 about The Pars in the Scottish Cup **17**

Facts & Figures **18**

Action Replay **20**

Around East End Park **22**

The Interview: Neil McGregor **24**

Obituary Pat McDonald **26**

The 125 Meeting Celtic in the Cup **28**

Fans Fare **30**

Pars Squad & Sponsors **32**

The Beautiful Game **34**

Pars In The Community **36**

The Squads & Match Officials **40**

**On The Cover**

One player who could be Pars 'secret weapon' today is David Graham. Davie has had a superb season to date and has the skills to get past any defence.

**Stewarding Message**

DAFC would ask supporters who identify any member of staff, steward or police failing to properly and adequately perform their duties to record all pertinent details and bring this to the attention of the club at the earliest possible opportunity. This can be done by emailing the club directly on enquiries@dafc.co.uk or by raising the issue at an appropriate forum. Alternatively you can use the Matchday Anonymous Text Service on **07502 097 487**. The club will investigate and take appropriate action as necessary.

# Willie Rennie MP

Representing Dunfermline and West Fife



I am happy to assist constituents with any issues or concerns they may have, from housing to tax credits and from street lighting to international development. Please do get in contact via the details below and I will do what I can to help.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Willie Rennie".

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**This is a very big day for Dunfermline Athletic, for players and fans alike, and we are really looking forward to testing ourselves against the best.**

I was really disappointed when our match against Queen of the South was postponed, both last Saturday then again on Tuesday. However, in terms of match practice I don't think the fact that we didn't play will affect anything. For a match like this one the players' motivation will take care of itself because this is the type of game that everyone wants to take part in.

It's great to welcome Celtic back to East End Park for today's Cup game. They have such an array of talent, which they have just added to with some fabulous signings. Celtic's hopes for great things for the rest of the season will be up because of the signings, but it's really important that we don't stand back and admire them. We know that they are a talented, quality side, but I don't want to be part of anything that's just there to make up the numbers.

The great thing about the Scottish Cup is that it does produce upsets, quite regularly as a matter of fact. That's because everything is to play for on the day, and this is no different. We will have to be at our very best and hope that Celtic have an off day, but it's by no means impossible.

On the player front, I am

disappointed that the signing of Sam Morrow fell through. Sam had a change of heart and went back to Ireland where he had other offers. We will be without Graham Bayne, Stephen Glass and Steven McDougall for today's game, while at the time of writing Neil McGregor can only be rated 50/50 to make it. Neil got a medial ligament strain in the Cup match against Stenhousemuir so we'll have to wait and see if he recovers in time. The good thing is that we have a number of other options for that position if required.

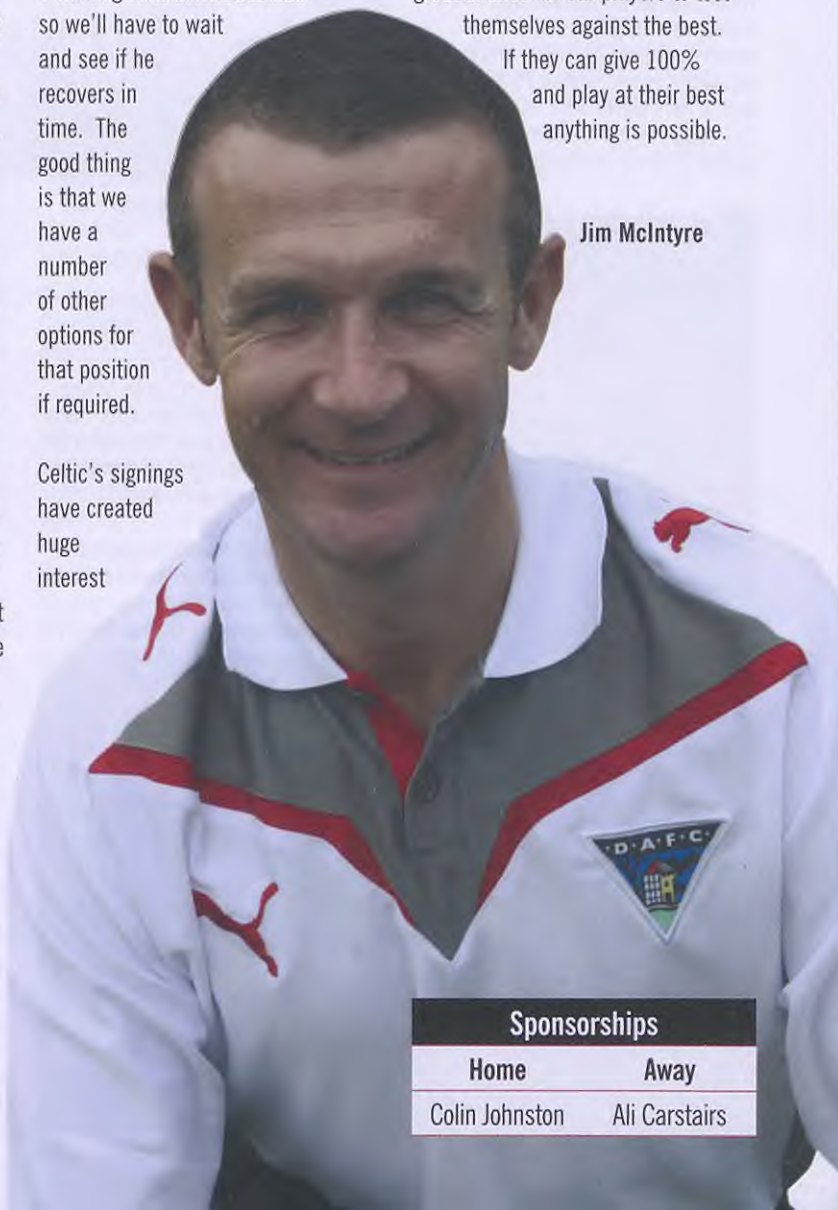
Celtic's signings have created huge interest

around this match and we should have a bumper crowd with a great atmosphere inside the stadium. We really need our fans to be heard more than ever today, and if the support we've enjoyed in recent games is anything to go by I'm confident they'll give us a great support.

I can only repeat that this is a great chance for our players to test themselves against the best.

If they can give 100% and play at their best anything is possible.

**Jim McIntyre**



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6 opening **PARagraphs****Willie McSeveney**

Willie McSeveney, one of the Pars greats of the post-war period and a player who went on to become a legend at Motherwell, was guest of honour in the Kingdom Suite on Saturday when Dunfermline should have played Queen of the South. He was accompanied by Ron Mailer, the Pars 1961 captain and a teammate of McSeveney's in the early 1950s.

Willie's career at Dunfermline lasted from 1948 to 1954 during which he made 129 league and Cup appearances and scored 25 goals. The former Pars player went on to make 197 appearances for Motherwell and scored 20 goals for the Steelmen.

Willie, now 81 years of age, played first Pars game against Dumbarton at inside left. He proved that he had a remarkable memory and expanded: "People don't know anymore what an inside left is but that is the position I played that day. I can't remember the exact team but the left half was a guy called Davie Noble who had won the Scottish Cup with Clyde in 1939. The outside left was Davie Kinnear who left here and went to Rangers where he finished his career and was the trainer at Rangers for a great number of years."

"Jimmy Cannon (1949-51) was one of the cleverest footballers that I have ever seen in my life. He was the guy who invented dummies, he let the

ball go through his legs, things like that. Gerry Mays was a genius, for a small guy he was a great player. This club made a great mistake later on in his career when they gave him a free transfer and he went to Kilmarnock where he had tremendous success. He should never have left this club; we had two marvellous players; Cannon and Mays. We had Jimmy Clarkson at centre half, he used to head aeroplanes when they were passing over. I had great days at Dunfermline and I will never forget them."

Despite a £5000 bid from Middlesborough, Willie was transferred to Motherwell in 1954 only to be re-united with his Pars boss Bobby Ancell the following year. He became the captain of what was termed the Ancell babes - "ten babes and me because I was definitely the oldest."

"The Motherwell forward line was Hunter, Reid, St John, Quinn and Weir - five international players. Behind them was big Charlie Aitken, Bert McCann and the rest of us. I was appointed captain and then coach by Bobby Ancell, serving Motherwell for 20 years as player and coach."

Willie started his football career at Wishaw Juniors but confessed to loving Dunfermline Football Club:

"You never forget your first club, I came over here in 1948 from a good distance away - Shotts in Lanarkshire."

**Jim Benson**

Former Dunfermline goalkeeper Jim Benson, ironically one of Willie McSeveney's Pars' team mates from the early 1950s, passed away in his home town of Dalbeattie on 6th November 2009, aged 84.

At the end of 1951/52, one of the club's biggest ever clear-outs saw eighteen players released and left the Pars without a goalkeeper. New manager Bobby Ancell tried out three before signing Jim, who went on to spend three seasons at East End Park.

Born on 19th March 1925, his footballing career began with local sides Granite City and Dalbeattie Star before he joined Carlisle United in 1947. Unable to break into their first team, he signed for Kilmarnock two years later for a £20 transfer fee and made 63 appearances for the Rugby Park club. Tottenham Hotspur made tentative enquiries about him but were rebuffed by both Kilmarnock and Jim himself, who was by then working locally as a Physical Education teacher and had no desire to leave Scotland again. In the summer of 1951 he joined Hamilton Accies but played in only sixteen first-team matches before being released the following April.

Jim made his Dunfermline debut in a 2-1 win over his former club Kilmarnock at East End on 11th October 1952. He established himself as the first-choice 'keeper until a 4-0 defeat at the hands of St. Johnstone on 26th December the following year, after which the recently-signed Joe Mackin was given an opportunity. With eight appearances in 1954/55, Jim played a small part in the Athletic's promotion but was handed his papers at the end of the season after playing 60 first-team matches, keeping a clean sheet in ten of them.



Dunfermline Athletic, December 1953. Goalkeeper Jim Benson in the back row with Willie McSeveney sitting in front of him. Ron Mailer sits in the front row, far right.

Retiring from the game, he continued as a PE teacher and spent his leisure team enjoying various sports including golf, cricket, badminton and yachting. Jim is survived by his wife Isabella, sons Gordon and Graeme, and several grand- and great-grandchildren.

All at East End Park send their deepest sympathy to his family.

**PARS Under 19's Lose**

Dunfermline's Under 19 side went down to a rare defeat last week when they lost 2-1 to Alloa Athletic at the Recreation Ground.

Dunfermline had the better of the first half but couldn't find their way to the net. In the second half, goals from Somerville and Duncan gave Alloa a two goal lead. In 74 minutes Steven Leslie got one back for the Pars but it wasn't enough.

**DUNFERMLINE:** Craig Bald; Jamie Birnie, Stewart Thomson, Lee Graham (c), Rees Smith; John MacDonald (Kevin McHattie,72), Aaron Scott, Ryan Thomson, Lewis Turner; Steven Leslie, Conner Schivone, (Dean Elder 33).  
**SUBS:** Scott McIntosh, Steven Mayne (GK)

**Scott Moves On**

Pars young midfielder Scott McBride has signed permanently for Cowdenbeath after a successful loan period at Central Park this season.

Scott came rapidly to fans' attention when he made a surprise debut in a League Cup match at Tynecastle against Hearts in September 2007 aged just 17. He continued to make progress but couldn't quite get himself regularly into the first team squad. Scott went on loan to Arbroath to gain some first team



experience but returned last season. This season however, he moved early on to Cowdenbeath and was quite a hit scoring a number of goals in his early appearances.

Scott is still very young and Blue Brazil boss Danny Lennon is delighted with his capture. We wish Scott the very best for his future career.

**Steven on the Sidelines**

Pars striker Steven McDougall joins other long-term injury victims like Graham Bayne and Stephen Glass after he fractured a toe during the recent match against Partick Thistle at Firhill.



It's a pity for Steven because it has happened at a time when he looked as if he was just beginning to get the hang of his new striking role and had a particularly good game at Dens Park.

We wish him a speedy recovery.



Willie McSeveney and Ron Mailer



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welcome **home gary!**

**I**t's not been the greatest few weeks for Pars fans but one piece of news this week will have helped – former midfielder Gary Mason has returned to East End Park.

Gary Mason admitted that he couldn't stop smiling after agreeing a short-term contract to rejoin the club after leaving in 2007. 'I'm delighted at getting the opportunity to come back; it happened a bit quicker than I thought after only getting the call this morning.'

Gary spent six years at East End Park and enjoyed his time in Fife where he undoubtedly played some of his best football.

'I had a lot of good memories from playing here, if you stay at a club for six years you'll have a lot of good memories. It was a tough decision at the time to leave, but things happen like that in football.'

One of Gary's biggest memories and of course a huge memory for the fans at the club is Gary's



winning goal at Tannadice, 'The goal is a great memory, staying up was a huge thing for the club. It's up there with the club finals, which were a great achievement for the club.'

Gary is available for Sunday but at the time of writing had no idea if he will be involved with the squad. 'I'll have to wait and see about Sunday,

there are a lot of good midfielders at the club already. There a lot of games left this season so I'll try and prove myself and hopefully I can prove my worth and get a longer contract.'

Gary's last club was Hamilton who he joined on a short term deal to cover injuries, 'I was at Hamilton earlier in the season but things didn't work out, so I moved on and I've got the opportunity to come here and do well for the club.'

Gary rejoins the club after leaving the club in 2007 following our relegation from the SPL. Gary originally joined the club in December 2000 from Manchester City. He made a total of 243 appearances scoring 13 goals, including the goal at Tannadice in 2005 that kept the club in the SPL.

Everyone here at East End Park would like to say a big welcome back to Gary.

