



**Scottish Premier  
League**

**CELTIC**  
**versus**  
**PARTICK**  
**THISTLE**

**CELTIC PARK**  
**SATURDAY, 10th DECEMBER, 1977**  
**KICK-OFF 3p.m.**

**PROGRAMME 10p**

# THISTLE MYSTIFIED BY CONN "MAGIC"

**PARTICK THISTLE** are Celtic's visitors today in a Premier League fixture which, weather permitting, should attract a large crowd to see a Jags team which has recently discarded their unpredictable tag.

When the two sides met in league fixtures last season at Celtic Park, Thistle failed to win a single point from either game but they made Celtic work very hard for their bonuses.

The two games took place within a month of each other because of a postponement for Scotland's World Cup qualifying preparations. In the first encounter, on February 12, 1977, Celtic overcame a defiant Alan Rough to win 2-0 with goals scored by Ronnie Glavin and Kenny Dalglish.

Less than a month later, on March 9 to be exact, Thistle came back to Celtic Park to make a second attempt to wrest some points from champions elect.

The teams on that occasion were as follows:—

**CELTIC:** Latchford; McGrain and Burns; Stanton, Edvaldsson and Aitken; Doyle and Glavin; Craig; Dalglish and Conn. Substitutes: Gibson and Wilson.

**PARTICK THISTLE:** Rough; J. Hansen and Whittaker; Marr, Campbell and A. Hansen; Houston and Love; Somner; Craig and McQuade. Substitutes: Kelly and Mackie.

Referee: Mr B. McGinley (Clydebank).

Celtic struggled in the first half to find their best form and it wasn't until four minutes before the interval that they produced the bit of magic that resulted in a goal.

New boy Alfie Conn was the scorer and the Celtic fans loved the skill and execution of the goal.

Joe Craig passed the ball into the path of Alfie as he darted through the centre of the field and, in one move, he controlled the pass and deposited it behind the onrushing Alan Rough.

The second half saw a more purposeful Celtic side taking the game to Thistle and further goals seemed inevitable. Tommy Burns, playing in an unaccustomed role at left back, was pushing some great balls ahead to his mates and from one of these Celtic increased their lead.

It was Tommy Burns, along with Kenny Dalglish, who created the opening for Johnny Doyle to score the second Celtic goal.

Celtic eased up a bit after that and almost paid the penalty for relaxing too soon.

Thistle winger Dennis McQuade failed to score from almost underneath the crossbar and then in the very last minute of the game Doug Somner did manage to score to make the final score-line 2-1 for Celtic.

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