

SCOTTISH CUP
Sunday, 27th February, 1977



Celtic v Ayr United

KICK-OFF 3 p.m.

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME 10p

AYR AT PARKHEAD FOR FIRST TIME IN SCOTTISH

CELTIC'S Scottish Cup-tie with Ayr United today is only the third meeting of the two clubs in the trophy and the first ever at Celtic Park.

The last two meetings took place at Somerset Park in Ayr, and on both occasions Celtic emerged victorious.

TEAMS

In their first-ever Scottish Cup-tie with Ayr United on February 3, 1934, a packed crowd in excess of 23,000 watched the following teams line up in opposition—

AYR UNITED: Hepburn; Fleming and Ure; McCall, Currie and Holland; Robertson and Taylor; McGibbon; Brae and Rodger.

CELTIC: Kennaway; Hogg and McGonagle; Dawson, McStay and Hughes; Napier and Thomson; McGrory; F. O'Donnell and H. O'Donnell.

Referee: Mr W. Bell (Motherwell).

In one of Celtic's first raids, Jimmy McGrory hit woodwork with a header, but in just six minutes, Robertson shot Ayr into the lead. Just before half-time Celts were awarded a penalty kick and McGonagle equalised. Four minutes after the interval Taylor put Ayr ahead for a second time, but goals by the O'Donnell brothers gave Celtic a 3-2 victory.

One newspaper match verdict read — "A rousing first half saw Ayr decidedly the more effective lot, even keeping in view that Napier was more or less a passenger on the wing. The whole play pulsed with thrills and the

greatest was when the referee seemed to make a mistake in granting Celts a penalty."

Over twenty years passed before the two teams met again at the same venue, and if the Celtic winning margin was greater, they took a long time to establish it.

The teams on Saturday, February 18, 1956 were—

AYR UNITED: Round; Leckie and Thomson; Strickland, Gallagher and Haugh; Japp and McMillan; Price; Stevenson and Beattie.

CELTIC: Beattie; Haughney and Fallon; Boden, Evans and Peacock; Collins and Smith; McAlindon; Tully and Mochan.

Referee: Mr J. A. Bissett (Edinburgh).

ADVANTAGE

Although Celtic attacked for most of the first half, they had only one goal to show for it against their Second Division opponents. This came just before the interval, when Bobby Collins took advantage of indecision in the Ayr defence to dash between two defenders to score.

Celtic were awarded a penalty in the second half, but Mike Haughney blasted the ball against the bar and Ayr breathed again.

Despite Celtic's continued pressure, the game looked certain to end with only one goal separating the teams. Then, in the final minute of the game, Celtic scored twice. Bobby Collins scored his second goal in the 89th minute, and with virtually the last kick of the game Neil Mochan made the final score 3-0.

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