

The Pars



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Division One



Dunfermline Athletic
D.A.F.C.

versus 

Ayr United

Sat 25th September
East End Park, 1999
Kick-off 3.00pm

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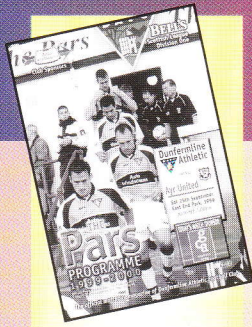
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1999-2000

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No.7 £1.50

The official matchday magazine of Dunfermline Athletic Football Club



ON THE COVER

PARS PLAYERS TAKE TO THE FIELD IN THEIR TRENDY NEW SHIRTS. THEIR INITIATION UNFORTUNATELY DIDN'T HAVE THE DESIRED EFFECT ON THE GAME, WHERE THE PARS SCRAPED A 1-1 DRAW AGAINST ST. MIRREN

IN THIS ISSUE...



5 VISITORS

Some of us thought that Ayr United would be one of the front runners this season, so we're quite pleased to see their recent mini-revival! Another of the clubs who are struggling to meet Premier League ground criteria, Ayr nevertheless have very strong backing in the shape of Chairman Bill Barr, better known through Barr Construction, the football stadium specialists. Can Gordon Dalziel put a team on the park to match his ambitions?

15 CRAIG IRELAND

Craig has been a first team pool player this season, but with the winter nights and injuries and suspensions just around the corner, it is precisely players of his calibre which will hopefully show that Dunfermline's strength in depth can win the battle by the time May comes....

18 JIM MACDONALD'S WORLD OF FOOTBALL

Jim's bag of trivia this week includes an insight into the kind of

people officiating at football these days, the world of football finance, and the horrendous thought that the Scotland international side might manage to beat itself (we thought they did that every game!).

24 FUTURE PERFECT

Get the kind of detail that you can't get anywhere else with John Ritchie's lowdown on how Dunfermline's youth development scheme and all the youth teams are faring...

26 ONE UP

Bill Kinnear's sometimes irreverent look at Scottish football considers Pars current position, contemplates Sammy's cult status, and wonders what on earth Fiona Cowan did to the Dunfermline Press to deserve such treatment on her wedding day!

PLUS all the info you need about supporters stuff, club news, Dunfermline's youth teams, and enough statistics to keep the keenest anorak engrossed...

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HONOURS

European Competitions

Cup Winners Cup: 1961/62
(quarter final), 1968/69
(semi-final)

Fairs (now UEFA) Cup:
1962/63, 1964/65, 1965/66
(quarter final), 1966/67,
1969/70

**Scottish League
Highest Position**

3rd: 1964/65, 1968/69

Scottish League 1st Division

Champions: 1988/89, 1995/96
Runners up: 1912/13,
1993/94, 1994/95

Scottish League Division 2

(pre-reconstruction)
Champions: 1925/26
Runners-Up: 1912/13,
1933/34, 1954/55, 1957/58,
1972/73

Scottish League 2nd Division

Champions: 1985/86
Runners-Up: 1978/79

Scottish Cup

Winners: 1961, 1968
Runners-Up: 1965
Semi-Finalists: 1964, 1966

Scottish League Cup

Runners-Up: 1949/50, 1991/92
Semi-Finalists: 1989/90,
1996/97, 1997/98

Scottish Qualifying Cup

Winners: 1911/12

Central League

Champions: 1910/11, 1911/12

BP Scottish Youth Cup

Winners: 1987/88

**Scottish Reserve League
(East)**

Champions: 1986/87, 1992/93

Campbell's Kingdom...

PRESSURE AND EXPECTATION ARE GOING TO be features of our whole season. When we went to Livingston three weeks ago and ended their fourteen month unbeaten home run, very little credit was given to Dunfermline. We have now gone seventeen games since the start of the season, and although we lost twice in extra time, we are unbeaten in every game over 90 minutes, yet again very little positive has been said in the media.

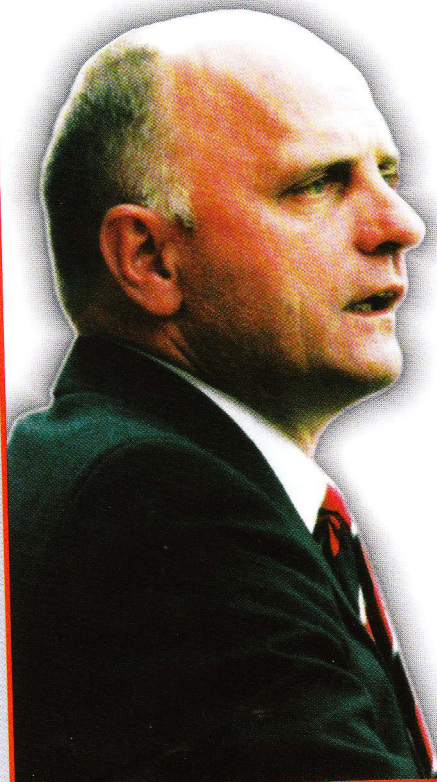
I am not suggesting that everything is perfectly alright, because it is not. I hold my hands up and say that we did not play at all well against St Mirren. I could not give pass marks to anything we did except maybe to say that we defended resolutely and won a point when last season we would have lost the game. I didn't like the fact that for 60 minutes last Saturday we controlled the game against Raith Rovers, and just at the point where it looked as if we were going to win by a distance we let Raith

Rovers back into the game. I don't like drawing games that we should be winning, and nor, I can assure you, do the players because draws do nothing for their pockets. But the sooner we learn to understand that other teams will raise their game against Dunfermline, the better. Unlike some people who have chosen to criticise Dunfermline when they are in opposition, I have nothing but admiration for teams who have played out of their skins against us.

We must give credit to our opponents, but at the same time it makes me all the more determined that we must work hard to overcome them. I have no doubts whatsoever that we have the players and the talent to win this league, but make no mistake it will be a battle.

I am pleased to say that we will have Justin Skinner back after his injury and that will give me the chance to play the side I want to play. We still have no replacement for Greg Shields but I am keen to give players the opportunity to stake their claim for the full back slot. David Moss is beginning to find his feet and we saw some of the goal threat that he can pose when he created a number of scoring chances last week. It's also worth mentioning that I'm delighted that both Chris Templeman and Steven Boyle took the opportunity to shine last week. Unlike the Premier League, there is no Under 21 requirement in the First Division, so to give younger players the chance of first team football we've had to loan them out to other clubs. Big Chris scored a hat-trick for Dumbarton, while Steven was by all accounts the man of the match in Brechin's win. All of this shows I think, that we do have a good squad of players here and I'm confident that sooner rather than later we're going to give somebody a doing!

Until that happens, we have to work hard and get back to winning games and making the fans happy. I hope we can start today, but we will have to overcome an Ayr side which has found some form after a slow start. They have had back-to-back wins and will come here with the confidence of those victories behind them. They are a big team and, as with all games in this division, we will need to be at our best and concentrate for the full 90 minutes. Wins in our next two matches would give us a tally of nineteen points for the first quarter. Given that over the same period last year Hibs much-praised team got fifteen points, I think you'd agree we'd be heading in the right direction!



PARS NIFTY 50/50 HALF-TIME DRAW. WIN UP TO £2,000 FOR ONLY £1 STAKE



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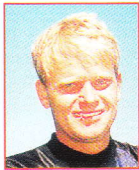


AMEC
rather be without?....

Ayr United



DUNFERMLINE FANS HAVE KNOWN all too well what it is like to face Gordon Dalziel. As a prolific goalscorer with Raith Rovers, Gordon was a thorn in the flesh of many a Dunfermline defence. Nowadays, he is plying his trade on the other side of the country, and has the frustrating task of not being able to be there on the park to play an active part. As a manager, Gordon has already been successful, and after First Division consolidation looks to be pushing an ambitious Ayr United towards Premier League contention. He is likely to select his side for today's match from among the following pool:



THOMAS GILL (16/5/65)

34 year old goalkeeper who signed for Ayr United prior to the start of this season. Included in his five caps the Norwegian International goalkeeper played for his country last year in their 4-2 win over Brazil. Thomas has also played in the Champions League for Danish Champions

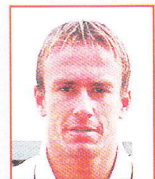
Aalborg and in the Bundesliga for Duisburg.

BARRY PRENDERVILLE (16/10/76)

22 year old right full back who signed for Ayr during the close season from Coventry City despite interest from many English clubs. Spent three months on loan to Hibernian last season playing in over 20 matches in their Championship winning side. A Dubliner who doesn't drink Guinness, he has won some Republic of Ireland youth and Under 21 caps.

DAVE ROGERS (25/8/75)

23 year old left back or left centre back who knocked back an extended contract with Premier League Dundee to sign for Ayr United during the close season. Tasted success with Dundee playing an important role in their First Division Championship winning team.



MARK CAMPBELL (4/2/78)

21 year old centre back who signed for Ayr United in February having been in outstanding form for Stranraer. Ayr beat off competition from Motherwell for the player's signature. An outstanding prospect who looks to have a bright future ahead of him.

DAVID CRAIG (11/6/69)

30 year old centre back who signed for Ayr from Hamilton Accies and was the first player to sign under the over 24 Bosman ruling. David missed a number of games through injury last season but despite this was outstanding in the heart of the United defence. Previously served Dundee United and Raith Rovers.

JOHN ROBERTSON (28/3/76)

23 year old defender who signed for Ayr from Stranraer for £20,000 two seasons ago and has been a regular starter either in his preferred right full back position or at sweeper. A defender with good pace and with two good feet.

NEIL DUFFY (5/6/67)

32 year old defender/midfielder who signed for Ayr from Dundee United in the close season having spent 2 seasons at

Tannadice. Started his career initially at Dundee United before moving to Falkirk and then Dundee.

MARVYN WILSON (1/12/73)

25 year old midfielder joined Ayr under the Bosman ruling in July having turned down a further contract at Airdrie and also the chance to play in Germany. A skilful central midfielder he is an excellent addition to last season's successful squad.

JOHN DAVIES (25/9/66)

Midfielder who is 33 years old today. He has been an outstanding acquisition from Airdrie since his arrival in Ayr in March 1998. An attacking central midfielder who likes to hit the box, he scored four goals last season one of which was a header despite being just 5 feet 7 inches tall. Served Airdrie for three and half years but has also served Clydebank and St Johnstone.

GARY TEALE (21/7/78)

21 year old midfielder who signed from Clydebank last October and is currently playing for the Scottish Under 21 team. Gary is a fantastic prospect who can also play as a striker but prefers to play on the right side of midfield.

ANDY LYONS (19/10/66)

'The Hammer' has been a revelation since signing at the start of last season scoring an impressive 10 goals from midfield. Andy was released by Partick Thistle and is one of a growing colony of English players at Somerset Park. He has probably the one of the hardest left foot shots in football and causes many burst nets in training!

ALEX BONE (26/2/71)

28 year old striker who signed for Ayr for a reputed £80,000 from Stirling Albion during the close season. Last season's Second Division top scorer having bagged 23 goals was a signing target for boss Gordon Dalziel the previous year but he eventually got his man. Previously served St Mirren.

GLYNN HURST (17/1/76)

23 year old striker who was the First Division's top scorer last term with 20 goals. Signed from English non league team Emley for £30,000, he is equally at home in midfield or up front, his lightening pace causing defences major problems.

NIGEL JEMSON (10/8/69)

English striker who signed on a short term contract in time to score two goals on his debut against Airdrie. Formerly with Nottingham Forest, Notts County and Bury the striker has impressed the fans with great touches and skill since his arrival.

MICKEY REYNOLDS (19/6/74)

25 year old winger who like Glynn Hurst signed on a recommendation from his Manager at Emley, Ronnie Glavin. He also has great pace and excellent skill makes him a very difficult player to dispossess or sometimes catch!

PETER LINDAU (9/12/72)

Swedish forward or midfielder signed in the summer from FC Halmjar after impressing in the pre season tour. Peter's strengths are his ability to take players on and his pace and strength up front. Has played in the Swedish Premier League and also the Turkish Premier League.

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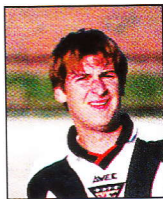
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Headlines...



CHRIS TEMPLEMAN OFF TO A FLYING START WITH AHAT-TRICK AT DUMBARTON

Loan Stars

We couldn't get through Headlines without mentioning the tremendous performances of two of Dunfermline's up-and-coming youngsters last weekend. Chris Templeman and Steven Boyle have been loaned out for a month to Third Division clubs Dumbarton and Brechin City to help them to gain first team experience. It is a shrewd move by Pars management since this year the Reserve outings will not be of the same level as the Premier Under 21 League. In addition, with no Under 21 requirement in the Scottish League and with only three substitutes, their chances of appearing were greatly reduced.

New Signings ?

Dunfermline have been associated with just about every player imaginable in recent weeks, and we are not about to add to that list. That said, the manager has made it clear that he is still looking for new talent, and has already been south this week to eye up some prospective candidates.

He has also taken a young Chelsea apprentice, Steve Hampshire to East End Park for a week's trial. The Edinburgh-born forward is on Gianluca Vialli's books at Chelsea, but has had no chance to stake a place with the array of international talent available at Stamford Bridge. According to manager Dick Campbell, the youngster, who will be 20 next month, looks good. Watch this space.

Talking of new players, we welcome ex-Aberdeen, Celtic and

Dundee United winger Joe Miller to East End Park. Joe is currently without a club and has been offered training facilities with Dunfermline in the short term.



Both responded really well to the challenge with Steven playing a major role in Brechin's win and Chris helping himself to a first-half hat-trick. East Stirling may not be up to First Division standard, but the goals must give a great confidence boost to the player. Well done lads and keep up the good work!

And Finally...

Talking of goals we should not forget to congratulate Richard Huxford on his first goal for the Pars - and a very important one it was too. Richard's goal against St Mirren came in his 40th first team appearance for the Pars. Given the number of times he's come close or hit the woodwork, it was well deserved. Strangely enough and despite his ferocious shot, Richard does not have a record as a goalscorer. Indeed, the last time he scored in an official game before this was on 10th January 1996 playing for Bradford City against Stockport! It was also only the fifth goal of Richard's professional career - let's hope that there's a few more to come soon for the Pars!

Expectations Too High

Every fan of Dunfermline Athletic is surely hoping that the club's stay in the First Division is a short one. But while the vast majority accept that the task of getting out of the Division may be a lot easier to say than to do, some seem to believe that Dunfermline should just be turning up to beat every other team in the Division by a barrowload. We've got news for them - it won't happen. It hasn't happened in the past, and it won't happen now or in the future, no matter who the players, the Board, or the manager is.

The generally accepted and fairly accurate view of Scottish football is that there are the 'Old Firm', then most years some at least of the other city teams like Hearts or Aberdeen, then there are a group of perhaps 15 clubs. There is very little to choose between the clubs in this last group, which is why it is often said that the First Division is so competitive, and why clubs which are promoted usually survive in their first year at least in the Premier. Whether we like it or not, Dunfermline is in this group. Yes, we have a good tradition, a fine stadium, and a big and generally loyal support which helps to give us an edge. It does not, however, give us the right to think that we will annihilate the opposition at a stroke.

For those who might be in need of a quick reality check, here are a few stats to ponder:

Performance of Team Promoted That Season In First Seven Games

Season	Team	Lg Pos	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1998/99	Hibernian	3rd	3	2	2	12	10	11
1997/98	Dundee	2nd	5	1	1	13	5	16
1996/97	St Johnstone	3rd	3	2	2	11	5	11
1995/96	Dunfermline Ath	1st	6	0	1	14	4	18
1994/95	Raith Rovers	4th	2	4	1	8	5	10

By comparison, Dunfermline's performance this season has been:

1999/00	Dunfermline Ath	2nd	3	4	0	13	7	13
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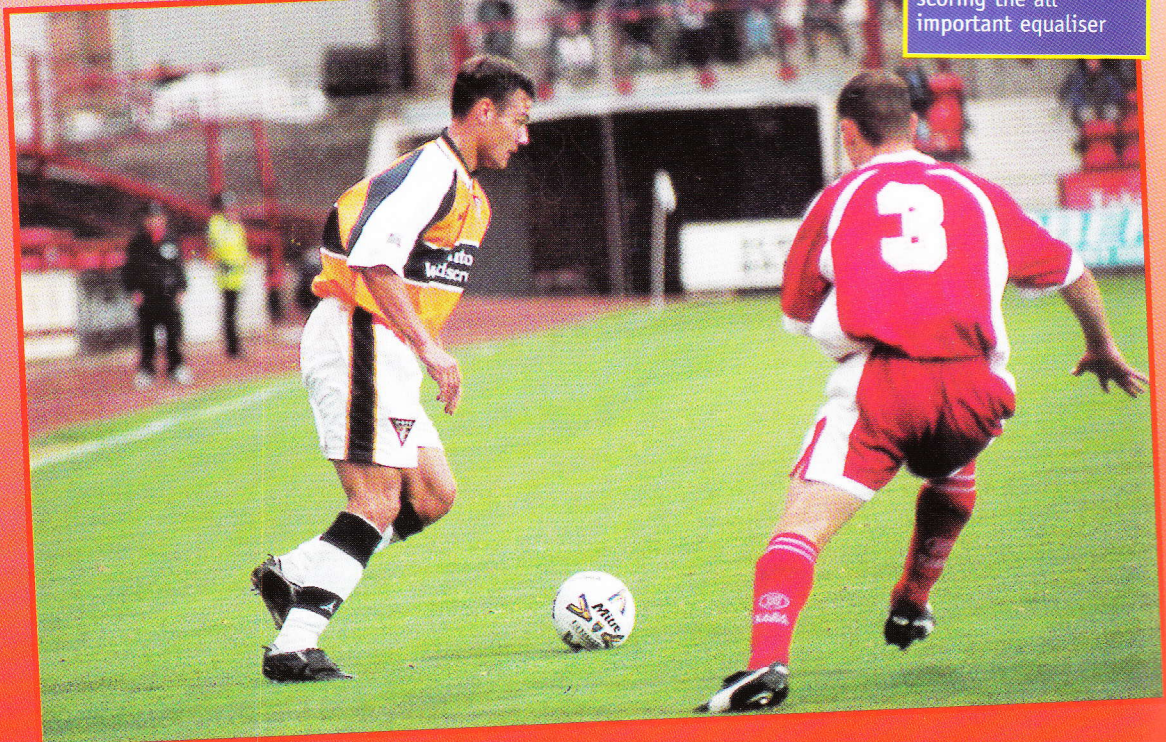
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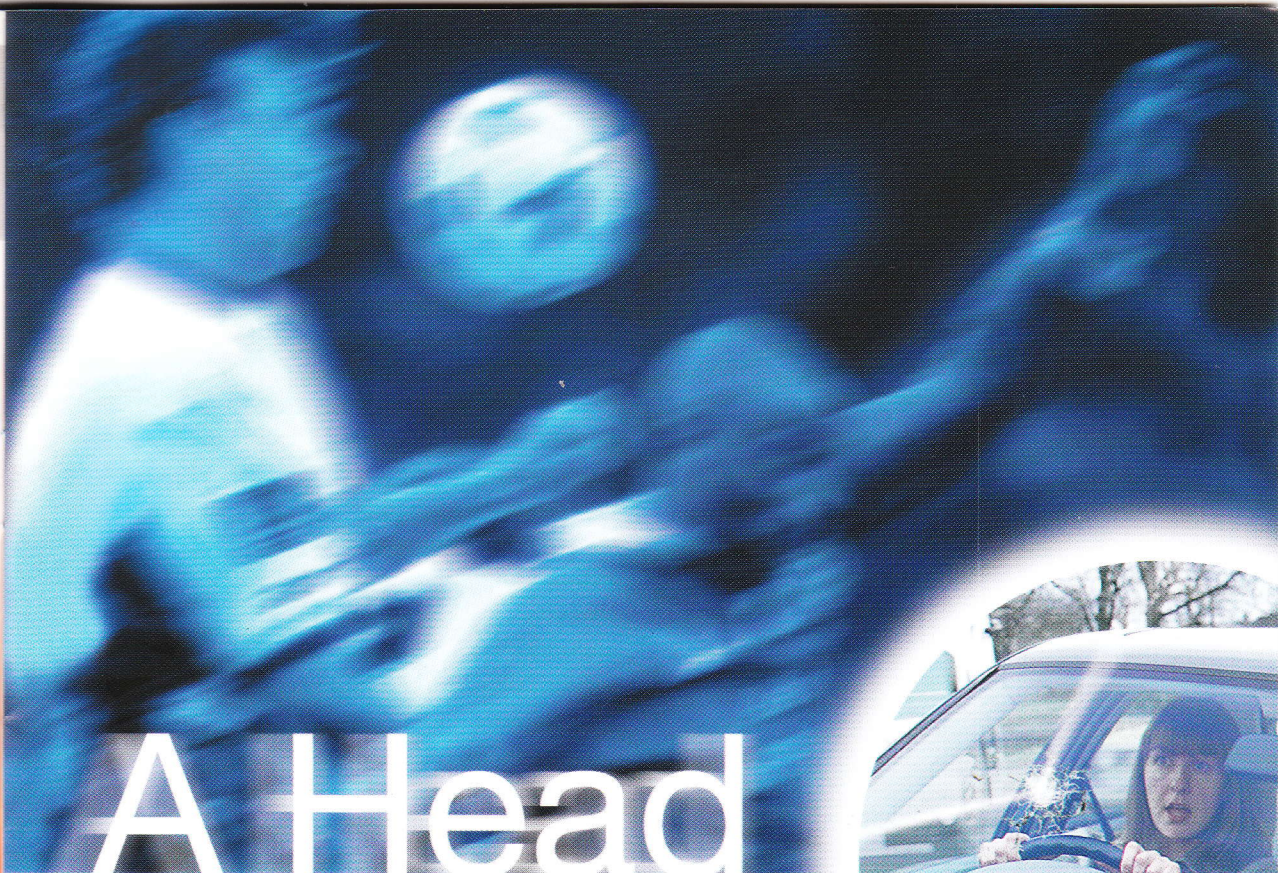
Pars Scrape draw against league leaders



TOP: Sergi Baltacha seems to have taken a liking for David Moss's new Strip

BOTTOM: Richard Huxford played an important role, scoring the all important equaliser





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PARSTATS

1999/2000 APPEARANCES & GOALSCORERS

	League		League Cup		Challenge Cup		TOTALS	
	Apps	Goals	Apps	Goals	Apps	Goals	Apps	Goals
Owen Coyle	7(0)	3	1(0)	2	1(0)	2	9(0)	7
Jason Dair	5(0)	0	1(0)	0	0(0)	0	6(0)	0
Jamie Dolan	7(0)	0	1(0)	0	1(0)	0	9(0)	0
Hamish French	3(3)	0	1(0)	0	0(1)	0	4(4)	0
David Graham	0(3)	1	0(0)	0	0(1)	0	0(4)	1
Richard Huxford	2(0)	1	0(0)	0	0(0)	0	2(0)	1
Craig Ireland	1(2)	0	0(1)	0	0(0)	0	1(3)	0
Eddie May	4(1)	0	1(0)	0	1(0)	0	6(1)	0
Chris McGroarty	3(3)	0	0(1)	0	1(0)	0	4(4)	0
David Moss	2(0)	0	0(0)	0	0(0)	0	2(0)	0
Colin Nish	0(1)	0	0(1)	0	0(0)	0	0(2)	0
Stewart Petrie	6(0)	1	1(0)	1	0(0)	0	7(0)	2
Brian Reid	7(0)	1	1(0)	0	1(0)	0	9(0)	1
Greg Shields	3(0)	0	1(0)	0	1(0)	0	5(0)	0
Justin Skinner	2(0)	0	0(0)	0	0(0)	0	2(0)	0
Andy Smith	7(0)	4	1(0)	1	1(0)	0	9(0)	5
Scott Thomson	4(0)	1	0(0)	0	1(0)	0	5(0)	1
Andy Tod	7(0)	0	1(0)	0	1(0)	0	9(0)	0
Ian Westwater	7(0)	2*	1(0)	1*	1(0)	0	9(0)	3*

Correct at 20th September, 1999. *Denotes shut-out by goalkeeper.

Scottish Football League - Div. 1

	HOME						AWAY						
	Pld	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	G	Pts
St. Mirren	7	3	1	0	12	5	2	1	0	10	3	14	17
DUNFERMLINE ATH.	7	2	2	0	8	3	1	2	0	5	4	6	13
Livingston	7	1	2	1	6	4	2	1	0	6	3	5	12
Falkirk	7	2	0	2	7	9	1	2	0	4	3	-1	11
Ayr United	7	2	0	1	4	2	1	1	2	5	8	-1	10
Greenock Morton	7	1	2	0	4	2	1	1	2	8	8	2	9
Raith Rovers	7	1	1	1	7	9	1	2	1	6	5	-1	9
Inverness C.T.	7	1	1	1	4	4	0	1	3	4	10	-6	5
Airdrieonians	7	0	2	1	3	6	1	0	3	2	10	-11	5
Clydebank	7	0	1	3	3	8	0	1	2	2	4	-7	2

	DATE	VERSUS	VENUE	RES.	ATTND.	
Aug	Sat 07	Inverness Cal. Thistle	H	4-0	4,685	Westwat
	Tue 10	Morton Bells Cup 1	H	2-2	2,893	Westwat
	Sat 14	Airdrieonians	A	2-2	2,872	Westwat
	Wed 18	Queens Park CIS Cup 2	H	4-0	2,596	Westwat
	Sat 21	Morton	H	2-1	4,036	Westwat
	Sat 28	Falkirk	H	1-1	5,520	Westwat
Sep	Sat 04	Livingston	A	1-0	5,798	Westwat
	Sat 11	St. Mirren	H	1-1	6,220	Westwat
	Sat 18	Raith Rovers	A	2-2	6,087	Westwat
	Sat 25	Ayr United	H			
Oct	Sat 02	Clydebank at Cappielow	A			
	Wed 13	CIS Cup 3				
	Sat 16	Airdrieonians	H			
	Sat 23	Inverness Cal. Thistle	A			
	Sat 30	St. Mirren	A			
Nov	Sat 06	Raith Rovers	H			
	Sat 13	Livingston	H			
	Sat 20	Falkirk	A			
	Sat 27	Clydebank	H			
Dec	Wed 01	CIS Cup 4				
	Sat 04	Ayr United	A			
	Sat 11	Morton/SFA Cup 1	A			
	Sat 18	Inverness Cal. Thistle	H			
	Mon 27	St. Mirren	H			
Jan	Mon 03	Raith Rovers	A			
	Sat 08	Livingston/SFA Cup 2	A			
	Sat 15	Falkirk	H			
	Sat 22	Ayr United	H			
	Sat 29	SFA Cup 3				
Feb	Sat 05	Clydebank at Cappielow	A			
	Sat 12	Morton	H			
	Wed 13	CIS Cup Semi				
	Sat 19	SFA Cup Round 4				
	Sat 26	Airdrieonians	A			
Mar	Sat 04	St. Mirren	A			
	Sat 11	SFA Cup Round 5				
	Sat 18	Raith Rovers	H			
	Sun 19	CIS Cup Final				
	Sat 25	Falkirk	A			
Apr	Sat 01	Livingston	H			
	Sat 08	Ayr United/SFA Cup Semi's	A			
	Sat 15	Clydebank	H			
	Sat 22	Inverness Cal. Thistle	A			
	Sat 29	Airdrieonians	H			
May	Sat 06	Morton	A			

KEY TO STATS

Goalscorers (and the number of goals scored) are noted in capitals. The first named substitute is No.12, the second named No.14 and third is named No.15. If a substitute is brought on, the number of the player he has replaced appears in brackets after his name. If no such number appears, the player has remained on the bench, and this does not constitute a substitute appearance.

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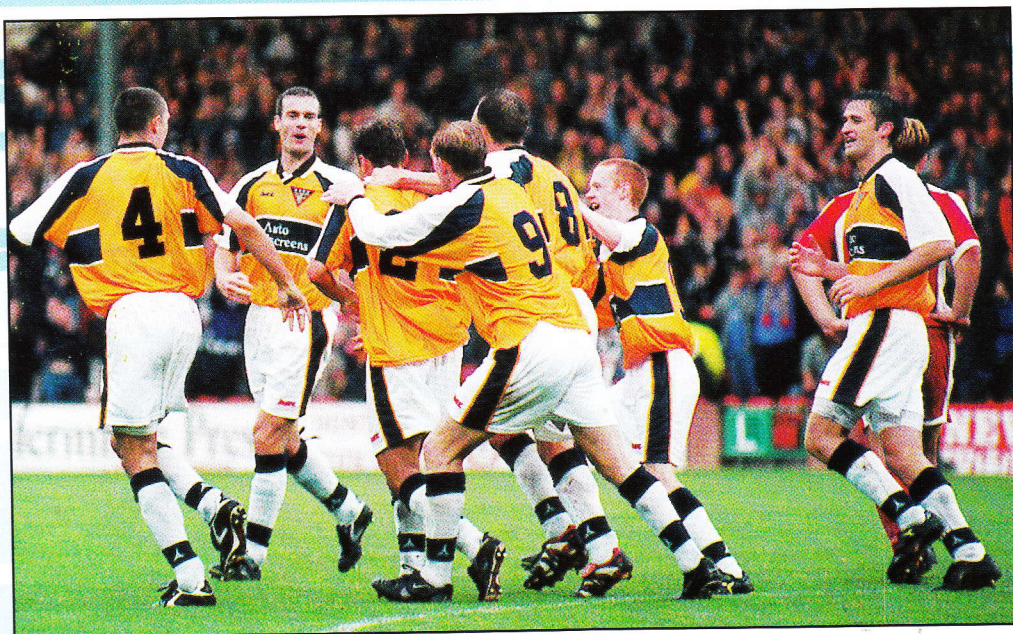
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Shields	McGroarty	Tod	REID 1	Dolan	THOMSON 1	May	SMITH 1 PEN	Coyle	PETRIE 1	Graham (9)	French	Ireland (5)
Shields	McGroarty	Tod	Reid	Dolan	Thomson	May	Smith	COYLE 2	Petrie	Graham (11)	French (8)	Ireland
Shields	McGroarty	Tod	Reid	Dolan	Thomson	May	Smith	COYLE 2	Petrie	French (8)	Ireland	Nish (9)
Shields	Dair	Tod	Reid	Dolan	French	May	SMITH 1	COYLE 2	PETRIE 1	Ireland (5)	Nish (15)	McGroarty (7)
Shields	Dair	Tod	Reid	Dolan	French	May	SMITH 2	Coyle	Petrie	Templeman	Ireland (8)	McGroarty (11)
Thomson	Dair	Tod	Reid	Dolan	French	May	Smith	Coyle	Petrie	Ireland	McGroarty	GRAHAM 1 (7)
Huxford	Dair	Tod	Reid	Dolan	Skinner	French	Smith	COYLE 1	Petrie	May (6)	Ireland	Graham (9)
HUXFORD 1	Dair	Tod	Reid	Dolan	Skinner	Moss	Smith	Coyle	Ireland	French(11)	May	McGroarty(7)
Dair	McGroarty	Tod	Reid	Dolan	Thomson	Moss	SMITH 1	Coyle	Petrie	French(7)	Huxford	Nish



Relief as Richard Huxford is congratulated after equalising against St. Mirren

1999/2000 TOP GOALSCORERS

Name	Club	Bells League	CIS Cup	Bells Cup	Tenn Sc. Cup	Totals
Owen COYLE	Dunfermline	3	2	2	0	7
Craig DARGO	Raith Rovers	5	1	1	0	7
Barry LAVETY	St. Mirren	5	0	0	0	5
Brian MCPHEE	Livingston	4	0	1	0	5
Paul SHEERIN	Inverness CT	4	1	0	0	5
Andy SMITH	Dunfermline	4	1	0	0	5
Didier AGATHE	Raith Rovers	4	0	0	0	4
David BINGHAM	Livingston	2	0	2	0	4
Gerry BRITTON	Livingston	1	2	1	0	4
Paddy CONNELLY	Morton	4	0	0	0	4
Steve MCCORMACK	Airdrie	2	2	0	0	4
Colin MACDONALD	Falkirk	3	0	1	0	4
Mark YARDLEY	St. Mirren	4	0	0	0	4
Alex BONE	Ayr United	2	1	0	0	3
Tom Brown	St. Mirren	3	0	0	0	3

BELL'S 1st DIV. ATTENDANCES 1999/2000

Name	Gms	Total Attnd.	Av. Attnd.	Highest Attendance during Season
Airdrieonians	3	7,351	2,450	2,872 v Dunfermline (14.08.99)
Ayr United	3	6,578	2,193	2,533 v Livingston (14.08.99)
Clydebank	4	2,445	611	1,513 v St Mirren (29.08.99)
DUNFERMLINE	4	21,455	5,364	6,520 v Falkirk (28.08.99)
Falkirk	4	11,747	2,937	3,326 v Livingston (11.09.99)
Inverness.	3	7,134	2,378	3,022 v Falkirk (14.08.99)
Livingston	4	16,361	4,090	5,798 v Dunfermline (04.09.99)
Morton	3	3,660	1,220	1,433 v Clydebank (14.08.99)
Raith Rovers	3	11,242	3,747	6,087 v Dunfermline (18.09.99)
St Mirren	4	16,409	4,102	6,773 v Morton (18.09.99)

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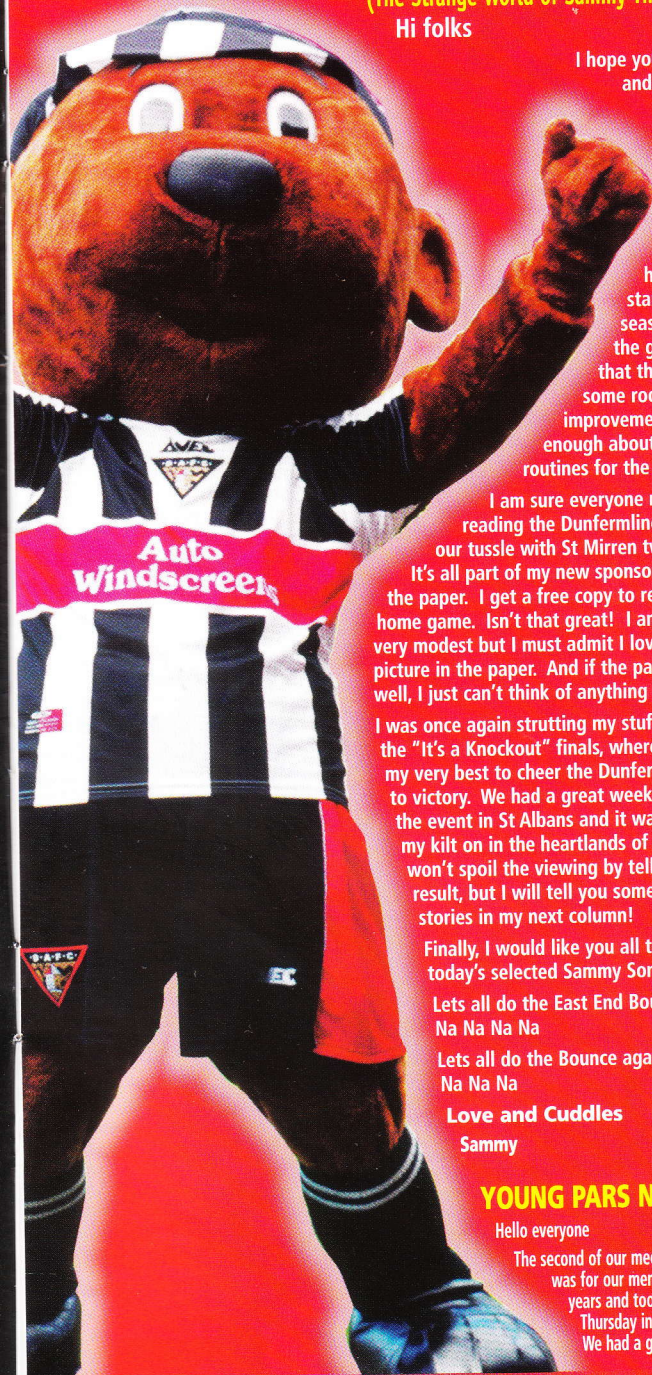


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Young Pars

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(The Strange World of Sammy The Tammy)
Hi folks



I hope you are all well and enjoying your football at East End again this season. My own feeling is that we have had a good start to the season so far, and the good news is that there is still some room for improvement, but that's enough about my pre-match routines for the moment!

I am sure everyone noticed I was reading the Dunfermline Press before our tussle with St Mirren two weeks ago. It's all part of my new sponsorship deal with the paper. I get a free copy to read at every home game. Isn't that great! I am by nature very modest but I must admit I love to see my picture in the paper. And if the paper is free well, I just can't think of anything better!

I was once again strutting my stuff last week at the "It's a Knockout" finals, where I was doing my very best to cheer the Dunfermline teams on to victory. We had a great weekend down at the event in St Albans and it was great to get my kilt on in the heartlands of England! I won't spoil the viewing by telling you the result, but I will tell you some of the funny stories in my next column!

Finally, I would like you all to sing out loud today's selected Sammy Song

Lets all do the East End Bounce Na Na Na Na Na Na Na

Lets all do the Bounce again Na Na Na Na Na Na Na

Love and Cuddles

Sammy

YOUNG PARS NEWS

Hello everyone

The second of our meetings this Season was for our members aged 7-10 years and took place last Thursday in the Jock Stein Suite. We had a great evening doing

puzzles and playing games and our thanks go to Lee Butler, David Graham, Craig Martin, Colin Nish, Chris Templeman, Scott Thomson and Brian Reid, who came along with his gorgeous baby son.

The players all joined in with great enthusiasm (Is Scott Thomson competitive or what!) and all of our members had a super time. Thanks also go to Dick Campbell and Jimmy Nicholl for coming along.

A special guest was Mr Yorkston, DAFC Chairman, who came along to introduce himself and explain the Chairman's role to the Young Pars (When Mr Yorkston asked the children what they thought his job was, the fastest answer was - To sack the Manager!) - Trust our Young Pars to say what they think!

We'll give you a report of our third meeting next time - complete with embarrassing moments!

YOUNG PARS BIRTHDAY BOARD

Lots of birthdays in September!

Lisa Murray	Emma Seragbine	Jennifer Robertson
Liam Anderson	Adam Watson	David McDougall
Marc McDougall	Colin Thomson	Robbie McLean
Kevin Brannan	Laura Shaw	Kerry Finlay
Lauren Russell	Dean Purves	Munro Mart

AND FINALLY...

At last! We've had some letters! Many thanks to Ruth and Neil Henderson who sent us a lovely letter telling us all about themselves. Also included was a super drawing of the recent Dunfermline versus Queens Park CIS Cup Tie. Well done to you both.

We must also mention all of the lovely replies that Sammy the Tammy received from our very YOUNG MEMBERS for his Birthday Party invitations, we have a lot of talented artists in our midst!

Also, your Christmas Card designs are really superb and we're going to have a very difficult time choosing the winner! Well done to all of you who have made the effort!

As promised, we have put another of our Ball girls under the spotlight! - today we feature Ashley Hughes who is 14 years old and has been a Member of the Young Pars for several years.

Ashley's favourite player is Craig Ireland and she wants to be a sports physiotherapist when she is older. Ashley's least favourite fans are Falkirk fans and the opposing player she confesses to not liking is David Sinclair! However she thinks the nicest opposing player is Ally Maxwell and she enjoyed the antics of the Queens Park fans when they visited East End Park.

Her most embarrassing moment (so far!) has been hitting the Linesman on the head with the ball at a recent Reserve fixture! Keep those letters coming in!

See you Soon

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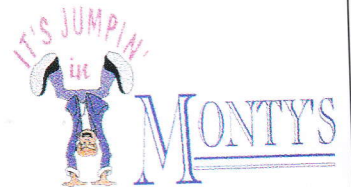
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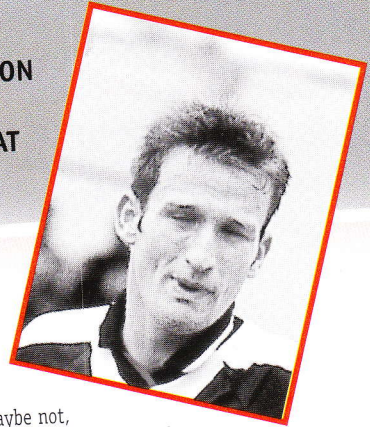
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PARS IN PERSON

Craig Ireland

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As Dunfermline strive to improve the current squad, it becomes even more increasingly difficult for a number of players to get a regular game for the Pars – just ask our subject for today, Craig Ireland. With the early excellent form of the team, the big defender found himself starting matches on the bench, but could always be relied on to come on and do a solid shift of work just when it was needed. Bob Storie asked Craig how he was applying himself to the hard task of breaking back into the side...

How hard has it been for you to get a game in the present side?

"It was clear that, with the arrival of Brian (Reid) in the summer, I might find it pretty hard to grab a regular place in the side, and with other new guys coming in. I'm not alone in trying to impress well enough to get considered. However, that's just a part of the game that we all experience at one time or another, and there's no point denying the lads have got off to a good start. It's a squad game, and I've been kept involved, and as long as I keep up the hard work, my chance for a regular spot will come around again."

You got your first start against St Mirren – was that game as tough as it looked?

"The simple fact is that St Mirren played well, we didn't. The idea was for us to play three at the back, myself included, as we thought they might play with one up, but they had three up front instead. We didn't have the best of starts, and we had to fight very hard, but for all their possible dominance, we still managed a draw. We'll address the problems of that game, and put them right."

We have a large squad now – is everybody made to feel closely involved?

"Very much so, yes! Everyone works together as one big group at training, and all of us are told we've got equal status on first team chances. Of course, it's very hard to bear if you're not in the side, but logic dictates you have to go with the men on form. I'm no different to the other lads, we all set high standards for ourselves and we all work as hard as we can to maintain them. It's going to be a long hard season, and with the likelihood of injuries and suspensions, the shape of the side is bound to change – there's no such thing as a surestart at this club!"

Your old club Aberdeen are in a poor state right now – what do you think the problems are?

"I'm sure I haven't to faintest idea! Seriously though, I can only hazard my own guesses on things, but I still know a few of the guys up at Pittodrie, and the overall quality of the squad is good in theory. The key factor has got to be confidence – they're stuck in a bit of a rut at the moment, and it'll take time to play a settled way

to get their confidence up again. The new manager has his own ideas, maybe they'll work, maybe not,

but who's to tell right now? I've still got a soft spot for them, as they were my first club, and I know the supporters can be a bit fickle, due to previous successes. The club needs a successful youth development to continue to produce the best available, because there are some very good young players at the club – it could be the saving grace!"

Scotland, also, seem to be making heavy weather of their progress – is change needed?

"It's been said before, and it needs saying again, that we are only a small nation, and we can only work with what we have! At this point in time, we don't have the same mould of players that used to be classed as "world class players". Craig Brown's done as good a job as he can with what is available, and you can never underestimate the fighting spirit of any Scotland team. Some of our younger players might be worth a shout at top level, but it's maybe unfair to push so much responsibility on them too soon. As always, the fans expectancy is high, but that's the same the world over – we all want our sides to be world beaters."

Do you know much about today's opponents Ayr United?

"I have to admit my knowledge is very limited, as it's been three years since the clubs met on league business. I know one or two of the players, for instance David Craig, and of course there was Steve Welsh, but I believe he's gone south to Lincoln City now. I met Marvyn Wilson while on my holidays this summer, but that's about the strength of my knowledge of the players. They've not had a good start to the season, after their high finish last year, so that makes them dangerous opponents, as they'll be anxious to start getting results. We just have to make sure we're on top form, and give 100% work rate for the whole game."

Are you happy with your everyday life at the club?

"Every day is like a new adventure as far as I'm concerned! When you've got travelling companions like Stewart the "Early Bird" Petrie and Jamie "Del Boy" Dolan, you're guaranteed a few laughs on the way to and from training, and once you get there, the banter continues through the day! Stewart's got an Audi now, which is quite a comfy wee car, but Jamie's Mercedes "A" Class has got to be the most uncomfortable car I've ever sat in – I call it the golf buggy, because that's what it's like to ride in! (only joking, wee man!)"

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IN PERSON



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FIRING BLANKS

We've watched a lot of telly-fitba' over the past few weeks, including the Estonia v Scotland and Poland v England Euro '2000 qualifiers and Man Utd/Croatia, Chelsea/AC Milan in the Champions League ... and it's been dire, not a goal in sight.

Undoubtedly the worst of the lot was the Tallin bore, prompting a "Scotsman" correspondent to share his thought with us, based on a nightmare he had before the infamous 20 second non-encounter several years ago: "Supposing, just supposing, that the night when Estonia did not turn up Scotland's centre forward ... kicked off by passing the ball to the (right footed) inside left ... who, for reasons best known to my fevered imagination, thumped the ball back to his goalkeeper - who, as it happened, was a Frank Haffey act-alike, who fumbled the ball which bobbed into the net for an own goal" (Phew!) "Would that mean the Scotland could have been beaten by a team which was not there, a feat which even Ally McLeod in his hey-day, peace be with him, did not accomplish"

For the benefit of younger readers, a "Centre Forward" is a striker, an "inside left" is a kinda' left sided attacking midfielder, Frank Haffey's claim to fame was his ability to concede nine goals against the Auld Enemy in 1961 ... and Ally McLeod is a famous carpet salesman from Ayrshire.

MERCHANT BANKERS

From the "Herald's Diary comes this story of the wheeling and dealing of Jim Kerr, Kenny Dalglish et al to buy Celtic. Seemingly Kerr and his associates flew to the States for discussions with Bankers Trust. In trying to sell the deal to the US financiers one of the group was attempting to explain how Kenny Dalglish was such a bankable asset as he was such a legend among the Celtic faithful. Not knowing Kenny Dalglish from Kenny Rogers, the US bankers were having trouble grasping how famous he was. "Like Joe Montana?" asked one American, naming probably the most famous quarterback in American Football. "Emm ... not quite" said one of the party from the UK. "Well, who then?" demanded the banker. Grasping for an American sporting equivalent the Brit replied, "Well, like O J Simpson - but before he killed his wife!"

While we're on the subject of high finance, incidentally, we note that Celtic's ordinary shares presently stand at £3.00 apiece, an increase of 50% in six months. The other high flying shares in the Footie index are Leeds Sporting (+84%), Man Utd - surprise, surprise (+47%), Newcastle, Aston Villa, Tottenham and Arsenal, showing growth of 20-25%. For those who really need to know, the "Teddy Bears" shares stand at £3.20, an increase of 14% - boring, isn't it?

ENDANGERED SPECIES

Moving on swiftly from the world of merchant banking to the world of refereeing (no obvious connection), we see that male chauvinism was dealt another mighty blow recently when three English ladies became the first all-female trio to officiate at a professional football match. The ladies were Wendy Toms of Poole, Dorset and assistants Janie Frampton and Amy Rayner ... and the match was the Kidderminster Harriers / Nuneaton Borough derby at the Aggborough Stadium. The Nationwide Conference match, won 2-1 by the visiting Nuneaton side attracted a crowd of 3,152, with four players being "carpeted" by Ms Toms.

As an aside we understand that Wendy "ran the line" at the Coventry v Leeds Premiership fixture a few days before the Kidderminster breakthrough, earning the wrath of Gordon Strachan for what he described as an "eccentric offside decision" (or something similar) which helped Leeds to a 4-3 win.

Nothing to do with Wendy Toms, but how about the report about the four Russian match officials who painted the town red in Tel Aviv, got smashed and broke into an impromptu song and dance routine while directing traffic. No tabloid "exclusives" or mention of bigoted party songs, however, although the four reds were shown cards of the same hue by UEFA and replaced by Romanian officials for the Hapoel Haifa v Bruges match.

Last word on the subject, meantime, but we noticed that the match official in charge of the Aston Villa v Bradford game last Saturday was "S J Lodge, Barnsley". We know, too, that there's a Mr Mason who officiates in the Premiership and Nationwide Leagues. It just couldn't happen up here, could it?

ON THEIR WAY

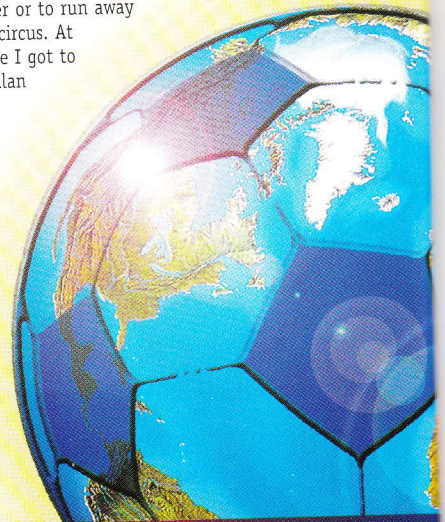
It's a far cry from the Champions League, but for the 32 clubs who entered the fray in last weekend's Scottish Qualifying Cup matches it was a step closer to glory and a place in the Tennents Scottish Cup.

In the North section, league aspirants Huntly, Elgin and Peterhead made it through to the quarter final stage, while Cove Rangers have to do it all again to overcome the "Can Can" from Forres.

Not too many surprises in the South qualifiers with League hopefuls Whitehill Welfare and Annan Athletic moving into the last eight together with Threave Rovers, Vale of Leithen, Civil Sevice, Dalbeattie, Hawick and Coldstream. Casualties included Scottish League contenders Gala Fairydean --who came a cropper against Hawick - and Preston Athletic, eliminated by Coldstream.

AND FINALLY...

A quotation from the new edition of the "Book of Football Quotations" by Phil Shaw. "As a small boy I was torn between two ambitions - to be a footballer or to run away and join the circus. At Partick Thistle I got to do both." (Alan Hansen).





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Second Eleven

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RESULTS IN DUNFERMLINE'S Reserve and Under 18 matches have been disappointing. After a good opening start to the season with wins for both teams against Forfar Athletic, Dunfermline have been unable to record a win since then.

The reserve match against Raith Rovers at East End Park was a very poor match indeed with both sides failing to create anything of note. Rovers scored twice through Kevin Nicol, and Dunfermline saw Jamie Squires sent off eight minutes from time. Jamie's sending off has been compounded by a number of bookings and he now misses a further two games starting next week.

On 14th September, a strong Pars side travelled to Arbroath but came back empty handed after suffering a 2-1 defeat. Among the few bright spots was the return to action of midfielder Scott Thomson after injury and Pars 55th minute goal which came yet again from Colin Nish. The young striker has shown consistent ability to put the ball in the back of the net and this was rewarded by his inclusion on the bench for the first team game against Raith Rovers last week.

The Pars team for the Arbroath match was: Butler, May, Walls, Taylor, Squires, Potter, Thomson, Templeman, Graham, Nish, Boyle. Subs not used: Anderson, McDonald, McCreadie.

Dunfermline's Reserve outing this week against Brechin City was postponed due to ground conditions. This unfortunately meant that Justin Skinner could not get the run that the manager had hoped for to assess his fitness.

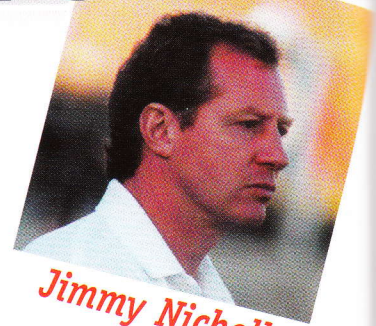
The Pars have been drawn away to Ayr United in the Second Eleven Cup. The game is due to be played by 30th November, but we'll keep you informed about the date and details when they are available.

Youth Games

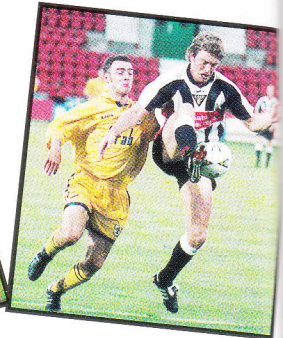
Just like the Reserves before them, a young and quite inexperienced Under 18 side found themselves on the wrong end of a 3-0 scoreline against Raith Rovers in a match played on 15th September. The Pars side, which included two trialists could make no headway against a stronger Rovers side. Dunfermline were represented by: Hay, McDonald, Walls, Gayne (Hobbs, 70 mins), Anderson, McCreadie, Vaughan (Findlay, 65 mins), McGarty, Walker, Huskie (Lambie, 60 mins), Nicol.

Three days later, Pars Under 18s took on Alloa Athletic in a home match which ended with honours even. Another trialist was introduced by the Pars, but the game remained goalless at half-time. In the 50th minute Mark McGarty scored for the Pars, but was not to be enough

and the game finished 1-1. The team on this occasion was: Hay, McDonald, Anderson, Gayne, McGarty, McCreadie, Deeghan, Vaughan (Findlay, 65 mins), Walker (Fleming, 65 mins), Nicol, Walls.



Jimmy Nicholl



RESERVE LEAGUE EAST

Date	Opponents	Venue	Result
31 August	FORFAR ATHLETIC	A	2-0
7 September	RAITH ROVERS	H	0-2
12 September	ARBROATH	A	1-2
19 September	BRECHIN CITY	H	Postponed

Note: Actual Dates To Be Confirmed:

26 September	EAST FIFE	A	
3 October	INVERNESS CT	A	
10 October	MONTROSE	H	
17 October	FORFAR ATHLETIC	H	
24 October	RAITH ROVERS	A	
31 October	ARBROATH	H	
7 November	BRECHIN CITY	H	
14 November	EAST FIFE	H	
21 November	INVERNESS CT	H	
28 November	MONTROSE	A	
5 December	FORFAR ATHLETIC	A	

SCOTTISH LEAGUE YOUTH DIVISION 'C'

Date	Opponents	Venue	Result
2 September	FORFAR ATHLETIC	A	2-0
9 September	FALKIRK	H	Postponed
12 September	RAITH ROVERS	A	0-3
19 September	ALLOA ATHLETIC	H	1-1

Note: Actual Dates To Be Confirmed:

26 September	ARBROATH	A	
3 October	EAST STIRLINGSHIRE	H	
10 October	COWDENBEATH	A	
17 October	BERWICK RANGERS	A	
24 October	STENHOUSEMUIR	H	

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Past Historic...

FIVE IN A ROW?

Although it's over four years since Ayr played a league match at East End Park, they'll be hoping to end a run of four successive defeats here. Since league reconstruction in 1975, Ayr have only managed to record two wins out of thirteen visits, the last coming on October 10th, 1992.

Their recent results mirror their overall record at East End Park, which has seen Ayr win only nine out of 37 league matches compared to Dunfermline's 18. The Pars ran up six straight victories over "The Honest Men" between 1946 and 1952, their best in the series, but found themselves unable to record a home win between 1971 and 1982, a run of eight matches of which five were drawn.

CONNECTIONS

Over the years there haven't been too many players who have donned the black and white of both the Pars and Ayr United. Prior to the war the most famous was Bobby Skinner, who left Dunfermline for Ayr in May 1924 following a dispute over money. He scored seven league goals for Ayr before rejoining the Pars in November of the same year for £100. During 1925/26 Skinner scored 53 league goals - still a club record - to help the Pars to the Second Division title.

Since then the names include Jim McLean, Alex Ferguson, George McLean, Sandy McNaughton, David Irons, Colin McGlashan, Hugh Burns, Ross Jack, Graeme Robertson, Greg Shaw, Gary Paterson, Paul Kinnaird, Paul Smith and Steve Welsh.

AYR'S RECENT YEARS

From the mid-fifties, Ayr became something of a yo-yo club, gaining promotion three times but going back down again after only a season or two. Their darkest days were in 1964/65, when Ayr finished second bottom of the entire Scottish League. Amazingly, they lifted the title the very next season, but their stay in the top flight was brief with only nine points collected.

The turning point came in 1969 when Ally McLeod's team went up and stayed up, progressing each season until they hit an all-time high league position of sixth in 1972/73. Two successive seasons in 7th place ensured their place in the inaugural Premier League, where Ayr again showed their worth with a 6th place before being relegated in 1978.

A third spot in the First Division is as close as they've come to the Premier League again, in 1979/80, but since then they've twice dropped into the Second Division. It must depress Ayr fans to look at that table for 1987/88, when they were champions ahead of St Johnstone, and then compare the progress of the two clubs since.

THE LAST TIME

Ayr came to East End Park on December 10th, 1994, hoping to take advantage of a Dunfermline side which, fallen from first to third in the 1st Division after having had their unbeaten home record taken away by Dundee. The Honest men were in need of the points themselves as they were languishing in second bottom position.

The wind and driving rain made playing conditions extremely difficult but it took the Pars only nine minutes to take the lead. Frank Rolling was penalised for handling a Den Bieman shot and Hamish French scored from the spot. The same player made it two in 36 minutes when he headed past keeper Stuart McIntosh.

In the second half McIntosh was even busier as the Pars stepped up the pressure but he was forced to leave the field after 63 minutes due to a leg injury. Nine minutes later his replacement, 16 year old George Grierson, couldn't hold a Petrie cross and Den Bieman poked home the third. The floodgates opened as Jackie McNamara scored his first senior goal in the 76th minute and five minutes later Andy Tod netted the Pars fifth, heading home an Ivo cross. With two minutes remaining, the home fans were in raptures as Hamish French completed his hat-trick to round off a great 6-0 win for the Pars.

Dunfermline: Westwater, McNamara, Fleming, McCathue, Cooper, Smith, Den Bieman, Robertson, French, Petrie (Tod), Ward.

Ayr: McIntosh (Grierson), Burns, Connie, Valletta, Rolling, Sharples, Dowe, George, Jackson, (Gilzean), Stainrod, McKilligan.

The two teams were in exactly the same league positions when Ayr visited again on April 22nd. With only four games to go, the Somerset Park side desperately needed points if they were to make up the three point gap on Clydebank.

Allan Moore should have opened the scoring early on but blazed the ball over via the top of the bar. It wasn't delayed long, however, as Norrie McCathie chested down a weak clearance to fire a shot into the net in the 22nd minute. Ian Gilzean should have equalised two minutes later but his shot was pushed round by Van de Kamp.

Derek Fleming's accurate crossing paved the way for the second, his free kick being headed in by the unmarked Craig Robertson after 54 minutes. With four minutes left Andy Tod completed the scoring, heading in Fleming's corner.

Ayr keeper McIntosh again proved incapable of finishing a match at East End Park, being sent off in the 88th minute for handling outside the box. They eventually finished six points adrift of safety and were relegated along with Stranraer.

Dunfermline: Van de Kamp, McNamara, Fleming, McCathie, Tod, Smith, Moore, (Den Bieman), Robertson, Petrie, Shaw, Millar.

Ayr: McIntosh, Burns, Biggart, George, McKilligan, Sharples, Connelly, Tannock, Connie, (Goegues), Gilzean, (Dowe), Jackson.

GOALS GALORE

Ayr United has suffered its fair share of hammerings at East End Park since the war, with the worst, a 7-0 thrashing in March 1964, coming in the Scottish Cup.

A 4-0 Pars win in November 1946 was bettered just over two years later, when Dunfermline's first foots of 1949, Ayr led with a 5-0 thrashing. The Pars prolific goalscorer, George Henderson, netted four of them, the first of three hat-tricks scored by Athletic players against Ayr in the league.

By this time Ayr had already recorded a four goal win over the Pars, at Somerset Park on November 1st, 1947, with Alex Beattie scoring four in a 6-2 win. Work was to come on April 7th, 1951, when Ayr humiliated Dunfermline 8-0. This is the biggest margin of victory between the clubs in any competition.

The Pars had to wait until January 2nd, 1967 to achieve their best league win over Ayr, a 6-0 drubbing at East End Park (equalled, of course, in 1994/95). Alex Ferguson netted a hat-trick, with Maxwell Robertson and Barry the other scorers.

By the 1970/71 season the balance of power was shifting, with Ayr approaching their best post-war period and the Pars looking decidedly ropey. The opening match of that campaign saw Dunfermline crash 4-1 at Somerset Park and this was followed that with a home defeat at Cowdenbeath. By mid December the Pars had picked up a meagre tally of five points and had no wind from sixteen matches. The turning point came with a 4-1 home win over Airdrie followed by a resounding 5-0 Boxing Day success over Ayr, with High Robertson and Joe McBride scoring two each. Dunfermline managed to win another four wins that season but stayed up on goal difference over St Mirren.

Ayr's biggest win at East End Park came on October 13th, 1973, with the damage done by faces familiar to the Pars faithful. Alex Ferguson and George McLean helped Ayr to a three goal lead in only 17 minutes as Fergie got a second late on for a convincing 4-0 win.

Recent years have seen a couple more victories for Dunfermline, 5-1 in December 1988 with John Watson twice on the scoresheet and 6-1 in December 1993, which six different players scored the Pars goals (and even Raymond Sharp grabbed one!)

As well as Hamish French, one more current Pars player has scored a hat-trick against Ayr. Two years ago Andy Smith was the back of the net four times in a Scottish League Cup win at East End Park.

Around East End Park...



New Strip And New Club Shop Are On Their Way

Fans who attended the St Mirren game will have got a pretty good look at Dunfermline Athletic's new change strip. There are always plenty of opinions about these things, and beauty, as they say, is in the eyes of the beholder. (my personal favourite was the purple and green - Ed.) Early days indeed, but first opinions seem to suggest that the new kit will get a favourable response. It's certainly a change from some of the duller earlier efforts and the yellow and navy will most definitely be bright! Arrangements are currently being made to launch the public sale of the new kit, which will incidentally only be available through the new club shop.

Supporters will have read how the club intends to sell its merchandise through the Buy Direct method, thus ensuring that profits go straight back into the club. A new club shop with a much extended range will be opening soon, and already a mobile unit has been positioned at the corner of the Norrie McCathie Stand. Details of all of these exciting new developments will be announced shortly.



SCOTT THOMSON CONGRATULATES THE NIFTY 50/50 WINNER AT THE ST. MIRREN GAME

A Happy Big 50 To Anthony Moran

A warm East End Park welcome to Anthony Moran who has travelled all the way from Coventry to support the Pars at today's match. According to Anthony's wife, he must be the only Pars supporter from Coventry, and his mates think that he is mad travelling quite regularly all the way here to watch his beloved Pars. He has even been known to travel north only to find that the game has been postponed due to bad weather!

We of course have a particular reason for singling him out today, and that is that he celebrated his 50th birthday on Monday. Our very warmest congratulations, and we hope you've sobered up enough to make the trip!

Sammy's A Knockout!

Dunfermline's own Sammy The Tammy has been

helping the local team out in the new televised It's A Knockout Competition. As fans will already know, Dunfermline triumphed in their Scottish heat, and Sammy and the rest of the team can be seen at 8.00pm on Channel 5 on Friday 1st October. The team also went down to St Albans last weekend, and we understand performed rather brilliantly in the UK final. That too will be televised at a later date, when Sammy can be seen in all his glory - then there will be no doubt that he truly is the Numero Uno!

Dunfermline Athletic Supporters Club

Transport: The next away game is on Saturday 2nd October against Clydebank at Cappielow Park, Greenock. Fans wishing to travel can book seats by contacting Caron on 01383 515601, or by calling into the Supporters Club Office after today's game. Coaches will leave East End Park at 12.30pm and non-members are most welcome.

AGM: Members should note that the Supporters Club AGM will be held in the Jock Stein Suite on Tuesday 5th October at 7.30pm. Membership renewals are from 7.00pm.

Parscelona Win

Thanks to Lynne Schyma for keeping us up-to-date with what's been happening to the Pars internet football team, Parscelona. In what was apparently a very evenly contested and very friendly encounter with the Paisley Buddies, Parscelona defeated Sizzling Saints 4-3 with a squad which included Ronz, Fraser Clark, Ally Mooney, Johnnie McDougall, Ross Arnott, Cameron Wilson, Grant Cotter, Alan Maxwell, Keith Mackie, Colin McKean, Keith Rapley, Davie Galloway, Chris Ozog, Michael Povey, Ali McLeod, Neil Holland, Alex Mercer and Alisdair Mercer. Phew!



BECKY MARTINSON

And Finally...

One of the special guests of the club at today's game is the sponsor of today's featured player Craig Ireland. Becky Martinson is a Pars season ticket holder and an absolute die-hard, but when she's not supporting Dunfermline she's employed by Fife Council as a Word Processor Operator at Cupar. Becky was very keen to sponsor Craig and somehow she managed to find the money to put together her very own sponsorship. Becky actually celebrated her 20th birthday last week although, as our picture shows, she looks much younger than her age. As Becky knows, that can sometimes be a big advantage. Anyway, hope you have a great day Becky, and we were told to give you best wishes from your pals at County Buildings!

Future Perfect with

THE DUNFERMLINE TEAMS INVOLVED in the Youth Development Initiative have all been busy in recent weeks so without further ado we'll have a look at how they've been doing.

The Under 13's took on Aberdeen on September 5th, and came up against a fairly experienced squad for their age who proved just too strong for the Pars. Aberdeen got their noses in front early and went on to dominate throughout although Steven Ferguson and Craig Wilson managed to score for the Athletic.

The following week they faced Alloa at Sauchie and turned in a decent display. Ahead in the opening period the team weakened during the final third and conceded a couple of goals. Coach Kenny Black was fairly pleased with their performance, particularly in defence, where there was a definite improvement thanks to work carried out in training.

The Under 14's have found themselves in a tough situation, with their opponents able to field teams that have been together for a couple of years now. In both of their matches in early September, they've held their own for the opening two stages but taken a bit of a beating during the last third. Both Hibs and Kilmarnock gave the lads an indication of what they're up against and how much work will have to be put in. To be fair, they've only been together for a couple of months and have shown a good spirit, a desire to work hard and already demonstrated that what they've learnt on the training pitch isn't being forgotten. They are sure to show an improvement in the next few weeks.

Coach Chris Candlish was pleased with both the Under 15's performances against Clyde on September 5th and Dundee United a week later. The Clyde game was particularly impressive with several goals being shared amongst the team. Rating a mention from the coaching staff were Chris Spinks, Gary Sutherland and Stephen McPhillips, who are still young enough to play in the Under 14's but is doing well at the higher level.

Over the same period, the Under 16's also did very well in matches against Montrose, at Longannet, and away to Morton. The team dominated throughout against Morton and hit the back of the net several times. Outstanding in this game were full back Gordon Findlay and centre half Chris Hobbs, who were both given a run out in an Under 18 match against Raith Rovers as a result of their

performances.

This is something that the coaching staff are keen to implement, giving players the chance to step up if they play well and give them an opportunity to see what they can do against more experienced age groups.

Another introduction has been a goal-keeping clinic, held on Wednesday nights, which sees all the 'keepers from the different age groups taking part. A fully qualified goalkeeping coach, John Ritchie takes this programme himself and aims to develop the youngsters technical skills, which he believes are already showing signs of improvement. With this ongoing throughout the winter, there will hopefully be a few bidding Lev Yashins (Ask your granddad! - Ed.).

Bringing further benefit to the players in terms of dietary advice will be Marianne Hayward, who works as a dietician in a local hospital. Specialising in sport, she'll know all about the advantages of healthy eating as she is a marathon runner. Each player will be asked to keep a diary of what they consume and Marianne will advise them on just where they are going wrong! Included will be topics such as rehydration - when and what to drink - so that the lads will learn to look after their bodies properly.



John Ritchie

Fixtures for Sunday 26th September

Under 13's Home to East Stirling
Under 14's Home to Falkirk
Under 15's Away to Rangers
Under 16's Away to Dundee

Fixtures for Sunday 3rd October

Under 13's Away to Queen of the South
Under 14's Away to Hearts
Under 15's Home to Ross Count
Under 16's Home to Clyde

Please check with club for venues, kick-off times etc.



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One Up...

A Review of the First Division

BILL KINNEAR sums up a week in which the Fife derby saw one set of black and white fans go home less than pleased after losing a two goal lead, but another set of similarly bedecked fans (who have nothing to do with the Scottish First Division) go home ecstatic....

AFTER WEEK SEVEN of the Bells Scottish League First Division Programme, there's not much change at the top of the table. St Mirren lead the way with 17 points followed by the Pars just four points behind.

Despite playing with ten men for nearly half an hour last week Tom Hendrie's side defeated Morton 3-2. There were two major talking points in this match. Firstly a penalty awarded to Morton when the Assistant Referee spotted an infringement, and then the same official drawing the referee's attention to an incident involving Barr "E" Lav"E"ty and Andy Millen which resulted in the on-loan striker being given the BIG "E" by referee Smith for violent conduct.

There's been a bit of a resurgence up Inverness way as the Highland side moved out of the relegation zone, albeit on goal difference. A 2-2 draw at Livingston last week where the home side had to come from behind will have boosted northern confidence. Livvy remain in third spot just a point behind the Pars.

A further point behind are Falkirk who, along with Airdrie, proved what some correspondents in the "Sundays" described as "turgid" and "insipid". If there has been a mini-revival by ICT, then the slump at the Shyberry is of magnitudinal proportions. The Diamonds were one of the sides tipped to challenge for a place in the SPL. Instead they sit second bottom of the heap, just three points clear of Clydebank. You can almost hear the cries...."It would never have happened if Alex McDonald was still in charge".

Today's visitors to East End Park are Gorden Dalziel's Ayr United. Now they were one of my tips for success this year but by last season's standards they have disappointed. They do sit fifth in the league and injuries have prevented "Daz" from fielding his strongest side. They did secure their first away win against Clydebank last week, but that trend will not continue today!

One of the First Division's biggest crowds of the season so far turned up at Stark's Park last week to see the first of this season's derbies between Fife's greatest rivals. After going 2-0 up very early in the second half the Pars looked to have the points sewn up. But, as often happens, the boys seemed to take their foot of the pedal and the wee-team managed to get back into things. But for a great save by Van de Kamp in the dying seconds the Pars could have had full points. One of the highlights of my day, however, was the sharp response given by fans to the appearance of the Raith mascot at the Pars end of the ground making rude gestures in our direction. Pity you hadn't been there Sammy to hear your name being chanted!

Anyway, as we near the end of the first quarter of the season

St Mirren have to play Falkirk and Livingston while the Pars have Ayr and Clydebank. Who's to say that things won't change at the top of the table in the next week or so?

HATE MALE

So, Neale Cooper bottled it according to Mark Hateley after he was dumped by Ross County after 10 days and two games. Two games that County lost incidentally. A week after he leaves, County win 2-0 against Clyde. Indeed, the week before Hateley arrived Neale's boys thrashed League leaders Arbroath 2-0. On the face of it, it looks like Cooper did the right thing. What's the betting superstar Hateley didn't accuse Cooper of having no bottle to his face? What a big Jessie!

Other talking points of the week include of course that goal by Andy Dow at Pittodrie being the Dons first league strike of the season. It did not prevent Dundee United winning 2-1 and it meant the home side remain pointless from seven SPL outings this season. Aberdeen overtook the Jamba's record from last season, and played 620 minutes (that's more than 10 hours) without scoring - even my record is better than that! (Not sure about that - Ed.)

Along the road at Central Park, Fife's newest Radio Station, Kingdom FM has been given the bump in favour of Radio 1 and Zoe Ball who now sponsor the "Blue Brazil". Cowden sit second in the Third Division behind Queen's Park after gubbing East Fife 4-0 in last week's other Fife derby. Only 670 turned up to witness this gargantuan event, that's 10% of the crowd at Kirkcaldy. How do these teams survive?

DE - PRESSING WEDDING PICTURE

Regular readers of the Dunfermline Press, sponsors of Sammy the Tammy, will have noticed that those gremlins that so often haunt the presses found their way to the wedding photographs page.

One Fiona Cowan married Mark Symmers in Dunfermline Abbey. However, unless my eyes deceive me, in this particular photograph the historic Abbey resembled the North Stand at East End and the groom had an uncanny resemblance to Owen Coyle. I'm sure that the fact the bride was nowhere to be seen was not a reflection on Owen's dashing good looks!

Finally, the boys are back in town. No, not the boys, the Pars that is, but my other team The Magpies. After the disappointing start to the season and a change of manager, its all systems go. A spectacular win in the UEFA Cup against CSKA Sofia and then Sunday's 8-0 hammering of Sheffield Wednesday. Five goals, including two penalties, from Big Al was like manna from heaven on Tyneside. I know that two swallows don't make a summer but the appointment of Bobby Robson has proved to be inspirational. "Haway the lads!" (You only sing when you're winning - Ed.)

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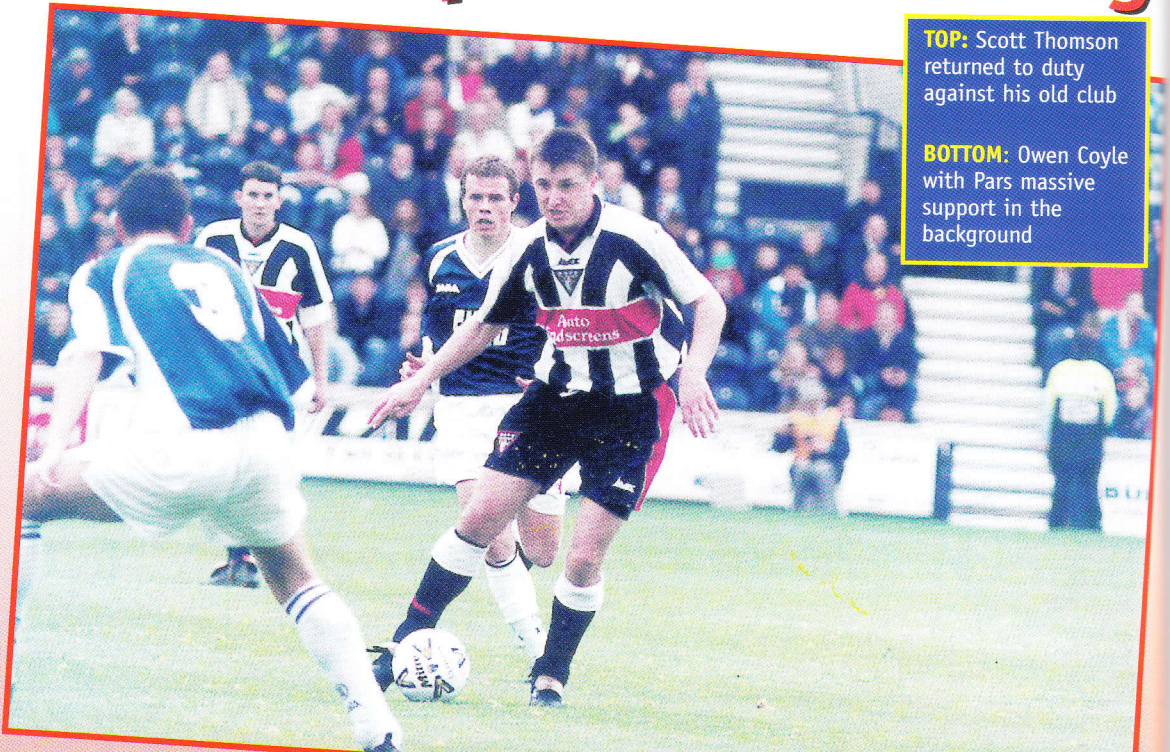
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Pars let a two goal lead slip at Kirkcaldy



TOP: Scott Thomson returned to duty against his old club

BOTTOM: Owen Coyle with Pars massive support in the background



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Today's Football

WOT'S THIS 'ERE THEN? A Saturday with a full card of Premier League fixtures? Rare though it may be, it is true. And not before time too, because the domestic game in Scotland has had to take a definite back seat while the 'big boys' have been strutting their stuff in Europe. The Premier League has been about as interesting as watching paint dry, and if it were not for Aberdeen's woes, there would be very little to get excited about. Talking of the Dons, the game that probably catches the eye is their clash at Fir Park against Motherwell. Billy Davies' side have struggled a bit themselves this season, so surely Aberdeen have to get something from this game if they are going to make a fight of it this season? New 'millionaires' Hearts had a jammy escape at Fir Park on Monday when their match against Motherwell was abandoned, and they have a tough task today when they take on a resurgent Dundee United at Tannadice. Alex McLeish's honeymoon at Easter Road is rapidly coming to an end and they need to get something against Celtic to restore confidence.

The best game in the First Division (apart from our own) has to be the match at Brockville where Falkirk try to stop St Mirren's impressive run. In the Second Division, Partick Thistle will be attempting to get off the bottom by beating Ross County. The Highland side got back to their winning ways last week after having rather boldly ditched Mark Hateley. In the Third Division, all Pars fans will be listening for the score from Boghead - yes, we are interested in the Radio One sponsored Blue Brazil, but of much more interest is how many goals can big Chris Templeman put away this week!

BANK OF SCOTLAND PREMIER LEAGUE

Dundee United v Heart of Midlothian
Hibernian v Celtic
Kilmarnock v Dundee
Motherwell v Aberdeen
Rangers v St Johnstone

BELLS SCOTTISH LEAGUE FIRST DIVISION DUNFERMLINE ATHLETIC v Ayr United

Falkirk v St Mirren
Inverness CT v Raith Rovers
Livingston v Clydebank
Morton v Airdrie

BELLS SCOTTISH LEAGUE SECOND DIVISION

Alloa Athletic v Stenhousemuir
Arbroath v Stranraer
Clyde v Hamilton Accies
Partick Thistle v Ross County
Queen of the South v Stirling Albion

BELLS SCOTTISH LEAGUE THIRD DIVISION

Albion Rovers v East Stirlingshire
Berwick Rangers v Brechin City
Dumbarton v Cowdenbeath
East Fife v Queens Park
Montrose v Forfar Athletic

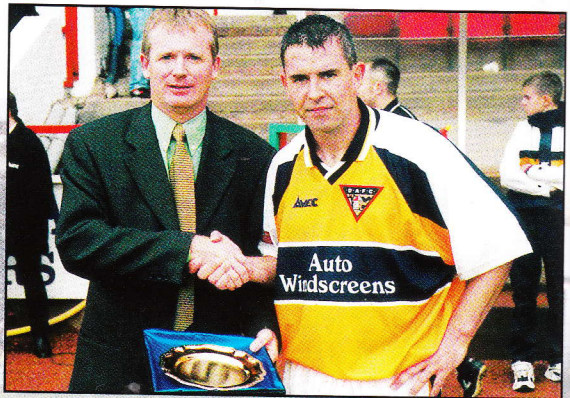


Player of the Year

IT WAS MOST CERTAINLY NOT the kind of game in which you want to be named the Man of the Match. With the fans still voicing their displeasure at one of Pars poorer performances of recent times, Jamie Dolan had to go out and accept his reward. But for all that the conditions were far from ideal, there's no doubting Jamie's right to be up there collecting the award.

Jamie Dolan has been one of Dunfermline's most consistent performers this season. He is variously described as the engine room of the midfield and a hard tackler, but such descriptions do him a disservice. He may be those things, but as he has shown, he is also a very skilful midfielder who can open up defences with some great touches. The extended first team run has done him the world of good and long may he continue to be in contention for this award.

Second place points went to Andy Tod for some pretty staunch defending in the face of mounting St Mirren pressure, while Richard Huxford, who got us out of jail with a great first-ever goal for the Pars, took third place



Man of the Match Jamie Dolan accepts his award from Scottish Brewers after the St. Mirren game.

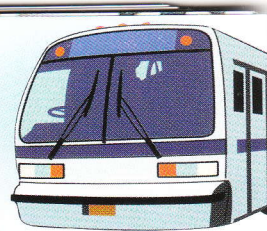
AUTO WINDSCREENS MAN OF THE MATCH

11.09.99 versus St. Mirren :
Scottish Brewers

Posn.	Player	Points
1	Jamie Dolan	3
2	Andy Tod	2
3	Richard Huxford	1



Next Please!



SATURDAY 2ND OCTOBER 1999 BELLS SCOTTISH LEAGUE FIRST DIVISION CLYDEBANK at Cappielow Park, Greenock

ANOTHER FASCINATING ENCOUNTER is in prospect for Pars fans next Saturday, but for reasons which are not the same as for recent games. While fans have been salivating at the thought of big crowds, local derbies and top of the table thrillers, next week's game brings an altogether different challenge.

Clydebank's survival in Scottish football has been well documented in recent years, and is becoming one of those tales which will find itself in Scottish footballing folklore in generations to come. Clydebank only got itself into the Scottish League in 1966, and that was achieved after much acrimony, litigation, and accusations that the club had attempted to gain league status through the back door by taking over a club from another town (East Stirlingshire). In those days, the Steedman brothers ran the show, and a pretty good show it was too - in the 1970s, players like Davie Cooper came through the ranks and Clydebank leapt from the Second Division to the Premier by gaining promotion in successive seasons. Kilbowie Park became the first all-seater stadium in Britain, crowds were good, and everything was looking decidedly rosy.

Nowadays, post-Steedmans and post-Kilbowie, the picture couldn't be more different. Clydebank itself is a place in post-industrial decline and the fans have deserted the local outfit for the glamour of Ibrox and Parkhead. None of that matters too much in any case, because Clydebank have joined the nomadic clubs of Scotland. This season their home games are played at Cappielow Park, home of Greenock Morton, but next season, who knows? Millionaire Chairman John Hall has been accused of trying to take the club away from its roots - ironic considering the club's earlier history.

Earlier this season, Clydebank created a record by playing to a grand total of 29 fans - the lowest crowd ever recorded at a senior match in Britain. The fact that they survive at all is due in no small part to the endeavours of their manager, former Dunfermline midfielder Ian McCall. His wheelings and dealings on the transfer front kept the Bankies in the First Division last season, but their place is beginning to look in jeopardy this time around with only two points from the first seven games. Before anybody thinks that Dunfermline might be in for a walkover, a closer look at Bankies results will show that they have been very unlucky to lose a number of their games. As for the size of the crowd? Even though Cappielow is a fair distance to travel, Dunfermline's big travelling support might just give the Bankies their biggest attendance of the season.

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- Hamish FRENCH 11
- Substitutes*
- Craig IRELAND 12
- Eddie MAY 14
- David GRAHAM 15

DUNFERMLINE ATHLETIC

AYR UNITED

- 1 Thomas GILL
- 2 John ROBERTSON
- 3 Dave ROGERS
- 4 Neil DUFFY
- 5 Mark CAMPBELL
- 6 Marvyn WILSON
- 7 Mickey REYNOLDS
- 8 Neil SCALLY
- 9 Peter LINDAU
- 10 Nigel JEMSON
- 11 Andy LYONS
- Substitutes*
- 12 Danny LENNON
- 14 Gary TEALE
- 15 John BRADFORD



MASCOT

AMY HUTCHISON



Age: 11yrs

AMANDA HUTCHISON



Age: 13yrs


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Watching football,
swimming &
computer games

Favourite Players:
Andy Tod & Chris
Templeman

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