



ON THE COVER DUTCH TREAT! MICHAEL DOESBURG HAD A GREAT DEBUT FOR PARS AGAINST FALKIRK

IN THIS ISSUE

5 VISITORS

An impressive debut season in the First Division was not enough for an ambitious Livingston team, and manager Ray Stewart recently found himself out of a job. In stepped someone who anybody over the age of ten at East End Park is familiar with, former Pars boss Jim Leishman. Can the big man, and new team coach David Hay rescue the situation?

7 HEADLINES

Bank of Scotland

1 Bothwell Street,

Not a bad week for news - a new signing, three young players moving out to gain experience, and the Programme of the Year Award.

15 STEWART PETRIE

After Ian Westwater and Hamish French, Stewart Petrie is the third longest serving player on the club's books. Having turned 30 three weeks ago has done nothing to quell the midfielder's enthusiasm as those who witnessed his recent goal against St Mirren can testify. Bob Storie finds out if there is 'only one Petrie'.

16 JIM MACDONALD'S WORLD OF FOOTBALL

The man has a touch of Dalglish-itis as he ponders a week in which Scotland On Sunday were at a different match to the rest of us...

17 PAST HISTORIC

Jim Leishman is not the only connection between these two clubs. Gordon Baird goes back into the history books to have a look at how the Pars fared against the team when they used to be called Ferranti Thistle.

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

football and the Young Pars

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DUNFERMLINE ATHLETIC FOOTBALL CLUB 1885-1999

East End Park, Dunfermline, FIFE KY12 7RB Telephone (01383) 724295 Telefax (01383) 723468

CHAIRMAN: DIRECTORS: C.R. Woodrow, W.M. Rennie, G. Masterton, CBE, FIB (Scot), A.T. Gillies, J. Meiklem, W.B. Robertson, WS, F.M. McConnell SSC Graham Thomson COMPANY SECRETARY/ GENERAL MANAGER: Paul D'Mello HEAD COACH: lim Caldenwood ASSISTANT HEAD COACH: COACHING STAFF: (Youth Development Manager) Joe Nelson (Trainer) Robert Paton (Chief Scout) PHYSIOTHERAPIST MCS CLUB DOCTOR: COMMERCIAL MANAGER: udrey Bastianel STADIUM MANAGER: Brian Gallagha SAFETY OFFICER: David Dickson

HONOURS

D'A'F'C'

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

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

EVERYBODY HERE WAS DOWN after the disappointment of the Raith Rovers game, but we all picked ourselves up during the week and were ready for the game against Falkirk. I think that we showed in that game what we are capable of - we were taking on a team on their patch, they had not been beaten since the new year, had been scoring freely, and had hardly conceded a goal. I don't think we gave them any chances during the game and we created several of our own. Once again, we took a tremendous travelling support, and I was just disappointed for them that a late error prevented us from taking full points.

Calderwood

I was told earlier this week that we have lost something like ten points this season through the loss of late goals, and six of those have been against St Mirren and



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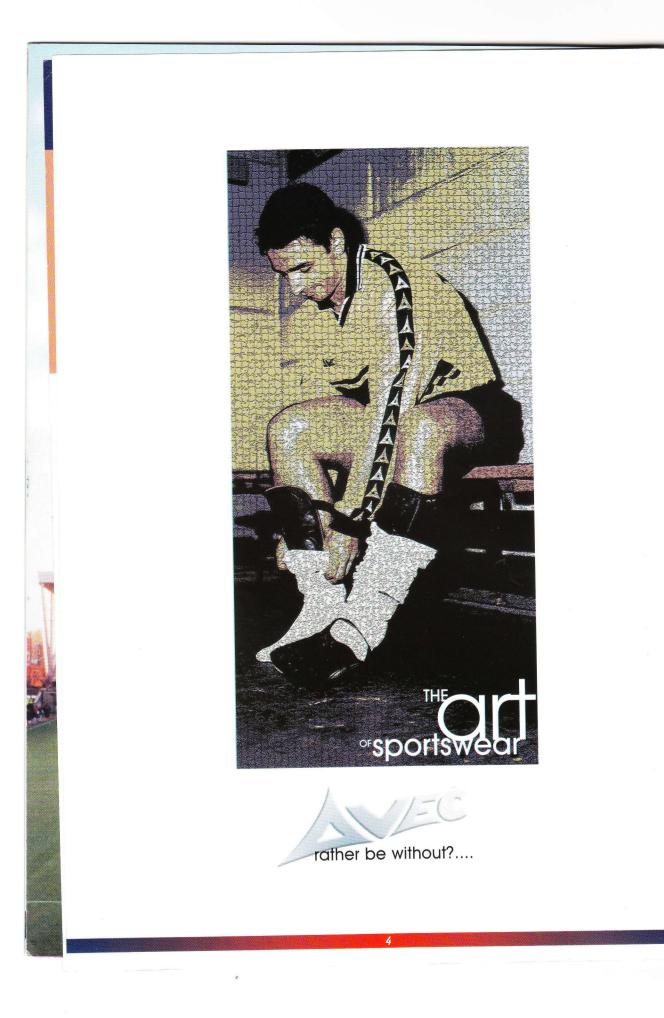
Falkirk. It does not make good reading at all and it is something which we will have to be aware of for the rest of the season.

Michel Doesburg will make his home debut today and I hope the fans will give him a very warm welcome. I was on the look out for a player who was tactically aware, and he certainly came into the reckoning. I knew him from my days in Holland, and I know he's a good pro who likes to win. I watched him play for Motherwell Reserves against Rangers and to be honest he didn't play well. But he is a player who can cover in both central defence and full back positions which would allow the likes of Scott Thomson to occupy other positions. I am still on the look out for other players but with the transfer deadline imminent, there might be no further deals this season.

Hamish French and Stevie Hampshire are definitely out of the reckoning for today's game, but Jason Dair comes back into the picture, so there might be one or two changes for the game today. The game against Livingston will have almost the same script as the last home game against Raith Rovers. A win for us will probably finish off their promotion aspirations with only a further five games remaining, particularly since on paper they have a hard programme to finish with.

For us, it is time that we sorted out our own form at East End Park. I know that clubs get a lift from coming here, but we should be able to handle that. I want our home fans to see how well we can play we've really only done that in the game against St Mirren, but we need to make sure that is the standard that we play to all of the time. I know that it is a tall order, but I want us to try to win all our remaining games. If we can do that, the league title might still be within our grasp.

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LIVINGSTON

TODAY'S GAME HAS ALL THE HALLMARKS of being an absolute cracker. Livingston have shown tremendous ambition by forging ahead to become the first of Scotland's 'new towns' to have a stadium worthy of being considered good enough for the Premier League. And thanks to the razamataz approach of their erstwhile General Manager Jim Leishman, the club - unlike for example Clyde - have really brought the crowds out and the whole community

with them in their bid for Premier League status.

Livingston have certainly come a long way from the days when you could announce the crowd at a Meadowbak Thistle game by name! Chairman Dominic Keane has used all of his experience from his days with Celtic to put together a strong team behind the scenes, and they too have been doing their bit to make sure that the manager does not lack in resources on the playing side. Knowing their ambition, it was no surprise when it was suggested that they might be one of the favourites for promotion this season. The fact that they have remained in contention throughout is a signal of the quality of pool that the club has put together. Unfortunately, just when things were looking very rosy, it started to go a little bit wrong. One or two bad results saw the club dispense with the services of manager Ray Stewart, and this was followed by the controversy over former Pars player Marc Millar who was sacked following an alleged gesture to Livingston fans.

Picking up the pieces from this is former Pars Manager Jim Leishman. Never knowingly beaten, big Jim donned the tracksuit again for the first time in years and together with new Coach David Hay has the task of trying to keep Livvy up there for the finish. He will enjoy this, we are sure, and since he now picks the team, he might select from among the following:

Ian McCaldon (Goalkeeper)

25 year old Ian has been Livingston's regular keeper since signing from Glenafton Juniors in 1996. He must surely be one of the tallest keepers in Scottish Football.

Paddy Kelly (Defender)

A former Celtic and Scotland youth cap, the Kirkcaldy-born defender signed in July of last year from Newcastle United. He also had a short loan spell with Tommy Burns at Reading.

Paul Deas (Defender)

Ray Stewart brought Paul with him from Stirling Albion when he was appointed first team coach at Livi last term. Alleged to be



culpable at Inverness with a short pass back a couple of weeks ago, but

otherwise a very steady performer.

Sean Sweeney (Defender)

30 year old central defender who brings hard won experience to the Livi squad. Previously with Clydebank and Airdrie, he can pose a threat in the box with his aerial power.

Allan McManus (Defender)

A former Hearts player who made it into the Tynecastle first team at an early age, Allan determined, no nonsense centre back with great vision. Allan won both Junior and Senior Supporters' Player of the Year awards for season 98/99.

Graham Coughlan (Defender)

This tall defender, originally brought on loan from Blackburn, signed full-time during the close season. Graham uses height and natural ability to great effect but has occasionally got on the wrong side of the referee. Sent off against Inverness so missed last week's game.

John Millar (Midfielder)

Tall strong and organised defensive midfielder who has played for Hearts and Raith Rovers, and Blackburn Rovers in England. Now 33.

Ray McKinnon (Midfielder)

Signed in September 1999 after an unsuccessful spell in England with Luton Town. Better known as an intelligent and skilful midfielder with Dundee United.

Charles King (Midfield)

Signed to the Lions last December on a two and a half year deal following an extended loan period from St Johnstone. His pace and wizardry on the right wing have made him a cult hero with the Lion's fans and he is still only 20 years old.

David Rowson (Midfield)

Signed on loan from Aberdeen until the end of the season, he made his debut last week against Morton. At one stage considered to be future Scotland material.

Jamie Smith (Midfield)

19 year old Celtic youth who has been signed on loan until the end of the season. Made his debut last week against Morton and laid on the winning goal.

Derek Fleming (Midfield)

One of several former Pars in Livingston's ranks, Derek signed in November 1998 from Dundee. Can play in defence or midfield and has a wicked swerving corner kick!

David Bingham (Forward)

An attacking forward signed from Dunfermline in 1998, his contribution will often dictate both the pace and the shape of the game. He's been a consistent goalscorer with Livingston and has 15 goals to his credit this season

Brian McPhee (Forward)

29 year old forward signed from Airdrie in July 1998. He has pace and vision, and the ability to score goals. On his day is a threat to any defence.

Mark McCormick (Forward)

20 year old who signed from Harthill in 1998. A hero for Livvy last week when he scored the winning goal with just seven minutes remaining.

Gerry Britton (Forward)

An experienced attacker who has performed with several clubs including Dundee, Partick Thistle and Dunfermline. Excellent in the air, or with the ball at his feel, Gerry has a great eye for goal.

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Headlines.

ROGRAMME OF

We are delighted to be able to tell fans that the Pars Programme has yet again won a major programme award.

In the Scottish Programme of the Year Awards for 1999/2000, organised by the collectors journal 'Programme Monthly', the Dunfermline Athletic programme won the First Division title by some distance. The magazine commented that the programme had been rewarded for keeping the same standard that had been achieved in the Premier League last season. The Premier League Programme of the Year went to Dundee United, while the Second Division title and overall best went to the very good Clyde production. Queens Park won the Third Division title.

It is a credit to everyone who works on the Pars Programme - from the many voluntary contributors, the photographer Ian Malcolm, the clubs and groups who regularly contribute (including Sammy!), and to our printers Garthland RGS who continue to deliver a quality product. Thanks to you all!

full First Division results were as follows:

The full fi	ISC DIVISION TODARD HARD	
Position	Club	Points
1	DUNFERMLINE ATHLETIC	72.18
2	Falkirk	67.09
3	St Mirren	65.64
4	Morton	62.23
5	Livingston	62.00
6	Ayr United	61.92
7	Raith Rovers	58.33
8	Inverness Caledonian Thistle	57.92
9	Airdrieonians	55.58
10	Clydebank	0.00

WARM WELCOME TO MICHEL

Pars fans will want to give a warm East End Park welcome to Michel Doesburg who was signed from Motherwell last week in time to make an impressive debut against Falkirk at Brockville.

The 31 year old Dutchman signed for Motherwell in August 1998, but recently has been out of contention for a place in the Motherwell first team. He has been signed until the end of the season but could make the move permanent if he impresses manager Jimmy Calderwood.

Michel is well known to Jimmy Calderwood from his time

in Holland, and he had no hesitation in bring the versatile defender here. He is also used to a promotion



race having won

Michel said of his move to the Pars:

"I played for Motherwell against Dunfermline four times last season and could tell they were a big club. My aim is to help Dunfermline in the coming weeks and extend my stay."

Let's hope he gets off to a great start today!

YOUNG PLAYERS ON THE MOVE

Following our report of Colin Nish's move to Alloa in our last issue, we can report that two of Dunfermline's other young players have been loaned out until the end of the season.

Craig Martin has joined Albion Rovers and made his debut in their 1-0 defeat at home to Forfar Athletic on 25th March. Steven Boyle has been loaned to Ross County until the end of the season. Steven seems to have continued where he left off with the Pars reserves, scoring an 88th minute goal on his debut for Ross County at Ochilview against Stenhousemuir last week.

Coach Jimmy Calderwood has stressed just how important he considers these developments to be:

"These are good players who are going to lower division teams to get valuable first team experience and to toughen them up. If we do make it to the Premier League next season, we will need quality young players for the Under 21 teams. These boys and the likes of Chris McGroarty and Chris Templeman will form the backbone of the team. Having watched some of these boys in bounce games recently, I am very excited about the talent that we have here."

We wish the boys well and will keep you up to date with their progress.

AND FINALLY ...

As you will see elsewhere in today's programme, our Reserve team has won the Reserve League East title. Our heartiest congratulations to Jimmy Nicholl and the boys for an excellent season. With two titles already in the bag, that leaves only one to get - go for it boys!

BUY DIRECT...BUY DIRECT...BUY DIRECT... DAFC'S NEW CLUB SHOP AT EAST END PARK

Late equaliser robs Pars of vital win

THE FALKIRK

TOP: Great to see skipper Ian Ferguson back in action at Brockville

INSET: Midfielder David Moss got back on the scoresheets last week, the first player to break Falkirks defence in 7 games.

BOTTOM: Owen Coyle was also back in the starting line up for the match against Falkirk.



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Stephen Crawford	19(0)	12	0(0)	0	0(0)	0	0(0)	0	19(0)	12	
Jason Dair		1	2(0)	0	0(0)	0	1(0)	0	20(2)	1	
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Jamie Dolan	18(0)	0	2(0)	0	1(0)	0	1(0)	0	22(0)	0	
Ian Ferguson	8(0)	1	0(0)	0	0(0)	0	1(0)	0	9(0)	1	
Hamish French	11(8)	3	2(0)	0	0(1)	0	0(0)	0	13(9)	3	
David Graham	0(12)	1	1(0)	0	0(1)	0	1(0)	1	2(13)	2 3	
Steve Hampshire	11(7)	3	0(0)	0	0(0)	0	1(0)	0	12(7)	3	
Richard Huxford	2(0)	1	0(0)	0	0(0)	0	0(0)	0	2(0)	1	
Craig Ireland	1(2)	0	0(1)	0	0(0)	0	0(0)	0	1(3)	2	
Kris Mampaey	9(0)	2*	0(0)	0	0(0)	0	1(0)	0	10(0)	2	
Eddie May	15(4)	0	1(1)	0	1(0)	0	0(0)	0	17(5)	0	
Chris McGroarty	12(7)	0	0(2)	0	1(0)	0	1(0)	0	14(9)	5	
David Moss	18(5)	5	0(0)	0	0(0)	0	0(1)	0	18(6)	5 0	
Colin Nish	0(2)	0	0(1)	0	0(0)	0	0(0)	0	0(3)	4	
Stewart Petrie	26(0)	3	2(0)	1	0(0)	0	1(0)	0	29(0) 12(4)	4	
John Potter	11(4)	1	1(0)	0	0(0)	0	0(0)	0	1	3	
Brian Reid	21(0)	3	2(0)	0	1(0)	0	1(0)	0	25(0)	5 0	
Greg Shields	3(0)	0	1(0)	0	1(0)	0	0(0)	0	5(0) 20(2)	0	
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Scott Thomson	22(1)		1(0)		1(0)	0	1(0)		30(1)	1	
Andy Tod	27(1)		1(0)		1(0)		1(0)		24(0)		
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Falkirk	30	10	1	5	35	21	7	5	2	23	13	57	24
Dunfermline	30	7	7	1	23	12	8	4	3	28	17	56	
Raith	30	10	2	3	32	18	5	5	5	19	15	52	18
Livingston	29	7	5	3	22	12	7	2	5	23	22	49	11
Inverness CT	30	6	6	3	27	18	5	3	7	22	26	42	5
Avr	30	6	2	6	21	16	3	5	8	14	24	34	
Morton	30	6	3	5	19	17	2	3	11	20	35		-13
Airdrie	29	3	4	7	12	23	2	3	10	7	38		-42
Clydebank	30	1	3	11	10	34	0	2	13	б	36	8	-54

**

*Denotes shut-out by goalkeeper.

10

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.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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DUNFERMLINE ATHLETIC FOOTBALL CLUB POLICY FOR MAKING PAYMENT AT TURNSTILES Patrons are asked to note that, in the interests of eliminating fraud and of ensuring

Patrons are asked to note that, in the interests of eliminating fraud and of ensuring efficient flow of spectators through the turnstiles, the club do not accept payment by cheque, credit card, or notes in excess of £20 at the turnstiles.

19	99/200	O TOP	G0/	ALSC	ORER	S	B	ELLS	s 1s	t DIV.	ATTEN	DANCES 1999/2000
Name	Club	Bells League	CIS Cup	Bells Cup	Tenn Sc.Cup	Totals	Na	me	Gms	Total Attnd.	Av. Attnd.	Highest Attendance during Season
Paul SHEERIN	Inverness CT	11	1	4	1	17 17	Air	drieonians	14	26,728	1,909	3,209 V St Mirren (12.11.99)
Mark YARDLEY Barry LAVETY	St. Mirren St. Mirren	17 16	0	0	0	1/ 16	Av	r United	14	28,262	2,019	3,467 V St Mirren (23.10.99)
David BINGHAM	Livingston	11	0	2	2	15	0000	debank	15	9,335	622	2,253 V St Mirren (25.03.00)
Scott CRABBE Craig DARGO	Falkirk Raith Rovers	12	2	0	1	15 14	3	NFERMLINE ATH	15	77,553	5,170	7,233 V Falkirk (15.01.00)
Barry WILSON	Inverness CT	10	1	1	1	13		lkirk	16	51,026	3,189	5,242 V Dunfermline (25.03.00)
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Brian McPHEE	Livingston	10	0	1	1	12 11	13330 - 1	orton	14	22,686	1,620	4,500 v St Mirren (18.03.99)
Dave NICHOLLS Harry CURRAN	Falkirk Morton	10 8	0	0	0	9 9		ith Rovers	15	50.092	3,339	7,463 v Dunfermline (03.01.00)
Steven McGARRY David MOSS	St. Mirren Falkirk/DAFC	7	0	0	1	8 8	19999	Mirren	16	73.908	4,619	7,224 v Morton (03.01.99)

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EIGHT YEAR

OLD SCOTCH WHISKL

EARS

AGE

What have you been doing while **BELL'S** has been maturing? Eight years. Well spent. **BELL'S**

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oun

Hi folks.

Well, I'm sure we've all got our favourite Pars match memories, and before the recent St. Mirren game I would have had no hesitation in telling you that mine was a famous one-nil win over Dundee United at Tannadice in season 1995/96. Stewart Petrie's goal in the 7th minute really set us on our way to clinching the First Division Champions crown.

Now of course, if we do eventually go on to achieve great things this season a great day out in March 2000 at Paisley may just equal that fantastic memory in my mind. And it wasn't just the football that I enjoyed.... (Steve Crawford's second goal wasn't so much one to remember, but more one you'll never forget!). There was the delayed kick-off as well. I was completely fooled by the delay as I didn't hear the announcement on the pitch. It only came to light for me when I looked at my watch at 3.59pm and I wondered why we were still playing/!!! Still, it gave me the ideal opportunity to get the Sammy-cam rolling again! (The rumour in Sky headquarters is that when Dunfermline return to the SPL they will be dedicating such a camera!) In the meantime though I have to make do with a cameo role on Football First every couple of weeks. The action caught by STV this time was my "oops I've sat in a bucket and now it's stuck on my bottom" gag! The Paisley Panda seemed to be less than pleased at having to play second fiddle to me on his home turf. I really enjoyed the who sang "If you know the history" before I explain something let me thank all of you who sang "If you know the history" before I took my kick. Not only did it sound great, it was also much louder than the Paisley gang's effort for the Panda! For those who were not at Paisley, let me tell you the Score 1-1 (but since they took two and I only took one I felt that was a moral victory!)

Finally, lets all combine to be the Pars 12th man again today! Cheer on the team by singing today's selected Sammy Song really loud: l love to go a wandering to see the Pars at play,

I travel near I travel far and this is what I'll say Up the Pars, Up the Pars, See them score

Raise your banners black and white and call for more Goals Galore! Racing on to Vic-to-ry! COME ON YE PARS!

Love and Cuddles

Sammy E-Mail = SammyTheTa@aol.com Web-site = http://members.aol.com/SammyTheTa/index.html

YOUNG PARS NEWS

Hello evervone.

At half-time today please give a big cheer to Alistair Low, Darryl Morrison and Ross Carrie who are our Semi Finalists in the Young Pars Penalty Kick

"Sammy the Tammy"...

Competition. Good Luck to you all!! Our latest Young Pars programme competition Prize winner is Ryan Thomson from Rosyth. Hope you enjoy the match today, Ryan. Many thanks to all of you who sent in entries for our latest competition, the number of entries is steadily rising! Hope all of you have remembered to send in all

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of your forms for our end of season events as we certainly don't want any of you to miss out on the fun and games! If any of you are bored during your school holidays remember you can always get going with your Sponsor Sheets for our fundraising "Guess the Gate"!

YOUNG PARS BIRTHDAY BOARD

Many happy returns to the following Young Pars.

Stuart Wallace, Lewis Finlayson, Kerry Anderson, Adam Temple, Angus Ritchie, Jonathan Hynd, Darren Coutts, Ewan Mitchell, Sam Barras, Stuart Donaldson, Andrew Hutchison

AND FINALLY ...

Are you all looking forward to our special Young Pars Party at the next home fixture against Clydebank on 15 April? We decided to do something a bit different this year as so many of you said you were bored with Discos etc. The result is YOUNG PARS PARTY IN THE PARK !!!!! This gives us a chance to get all the Young Pars and Sammy's Gang members together for a change and give the rest of the crowd a chance to see us all having fun! We'll be in the East Stand and we want you all to make loads of noise! The Young Pars "Player of the Year" trophy will be presented to the Player of your choice (voting has been pretty steady so far and fairly evenly split over several names so we're giving you no clues!) We'll be having lots of Competitions with special prizes, free raffles, face-painting, balloons, goodie bags, etc. etc. and general fun and games!

Players will be coming along to sign autographs so remember your books and we are sure that Sammy the Tammy will have some special antics lined up for you to enjoy. Remember if your parents want to come along with you they are very welcome to do so (a special turnstile will be open to accept cash/Season Tickets)

See you all soon

YOUNG PARS COMMITTEE SPONSORED BY THE BANK OF SCOTLAND

THE DUNFERMLINE ATHLETIC CLUB SHOP IS OPEN TODAY. There's still a brilliant range of Pars items on sale. Choose from the following:

Hooded Sweatshirt (Printed) Sweatshirt (EMB) DAFC T-Shirt White (Printed) DAFC T-Shirt Black/Grey (Printed) £27.99 £24.99 £12.99 £9 99 Hooded Sweatshirt Black (Printed) Jog Pant Black/Grey (Printed) DAFC T-Shirt Black/Grey/White £15.99 £13.99 £5.99

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£3.99 JAQUARD GLOVES WRISTBANDS £1.99 **BASEBALL CAP (PRINTED)** £5.99

SOUVENIRS (ALL NEW STOCK) PIN BADGES FROM 99P

99P HEAD BAND ONLY WRIST BAND MIRRORS ONLY PEN/KEYRING SET PEN/NOTEPAD SET SOUP MUGS SLIPPERS CHILD SIZES 7-5 SLIPPERS ADULT SIZES 6+7 £3.99

£1.99 **ONLY £1.99** ONLY £1.99 ONLY £1.99 ONLY £4.99 £3.99

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PETRIE

STEWART

As the games start to dwindle away, the pressure to stay in close contention for the championship becomes intense. Those players who have been the course before will be called on to shoulder the burden. Long serving Stewart Petrie can always be relied on to put in a hard shift at work on the left side carving out chances for the strike force. Bob Storie asked Stewart to air his views on the current scene ...

The Raith Rovers game was a massive disappointment - what went wrong?

"It was just one of those games that moved out of our reach. The first half was a bit of a scrappy affair, and perhaps we didn't do ourselves any favours with our approach to it. Second half, we at least carved out some more clear cut chances, which on another day might have gone in, but wouldn't run for us at the time. We got caught with a soft goal, and lost another one straight away, and that sealed it off for them! We were all gutted in the dressing room afterwards, as we haven't beaten them in any of the four games this season. If we'd won we'd have gone nine points clear of them. As it is, they've got a foot back in the door of the play-offs. The fans were obviously very unhappy at what happened, and they've got every right to get disgrunted. They have high expectations of us, but no more then what we demand of ourselves. However, we just have to put it squarely behind us, and prepare solidly for all the remaining games. We must get back on course, and put a run of wins together again."

You've had a good run of form this season - are you happy with your own game right now?

"Well, at times, yes, but if I'm honest with myself, I've not been on the top of my game a few times this year. I've been very lucky this season, and I've managed to steer clear of any bad injuries, touch wood! I've had one or two bookings this year, mind you, so I'm going to have to watch my step a bit. I've probably merited one or two, but the ordering off at Livingston I thought was a bit harsh. It won't make me change my style, though as I always give my all in everything I do in each game - refs have their job to do I suppose! I'm enjoying my role in the team at the moment, and I suppose I would like to weigh in with a few more goals, but guys like Stevie (Crawford), and Lee (Bullen) and Owen (Coyle) are doing the business for us in that department - it's up to me to make sure they're getting quality service."

What's been the high points of the season for you?

"We've had a lot of hard games since last August, and we've had to earn our best results with real graft, so I would have to say the best game was probably our last visit to Love Street against St Mirren, where I felt the whole team performance was just brilliant - I really thought we deserved more praise from certain quarters for that one! Also, our first game down at Brockville against Falkirk was fairly impressive - it's no easy thing to win 3-1 at a place that's never been a happy hunting ground in years gone by!" The foreigners rule has raised its head again - what

are your views on this issue?

"As far as we're concerned in this division, I don't think it makes that much of a difference, as there's so few anyway! My bottom line on the matter is that, if the quality of the guys coming in is better than what's on offer, then why suppress it? I suppose that a maximum of five per club is fair enough, but try telling that to the Old Firm right now, what with their policy on the go at the moment. I don't think the foreign rule is what is affecting the game - it's the set-up of the leagues! Too much pressure on managers to get results yesterday, and no good time to blood younger players of their own - it's detrimental to the progress of the game as a whole!"

New facilities under the home stand - how is everyone taking to it?

"It's a world of difference to what we had over in the main stand. Dressing rooms are bigger, better equipped. There's more office space for everyone, and even Joe Nelson's as pleased as punch with a bigger kit room with modern facilities! It just confirms how ambitious this club is to provide the best on offer - even the Rovers players were a wee bit lost on the opening day, as we had to wait for them at the tunnel mouth - pity they didn't lose their way during the game!"

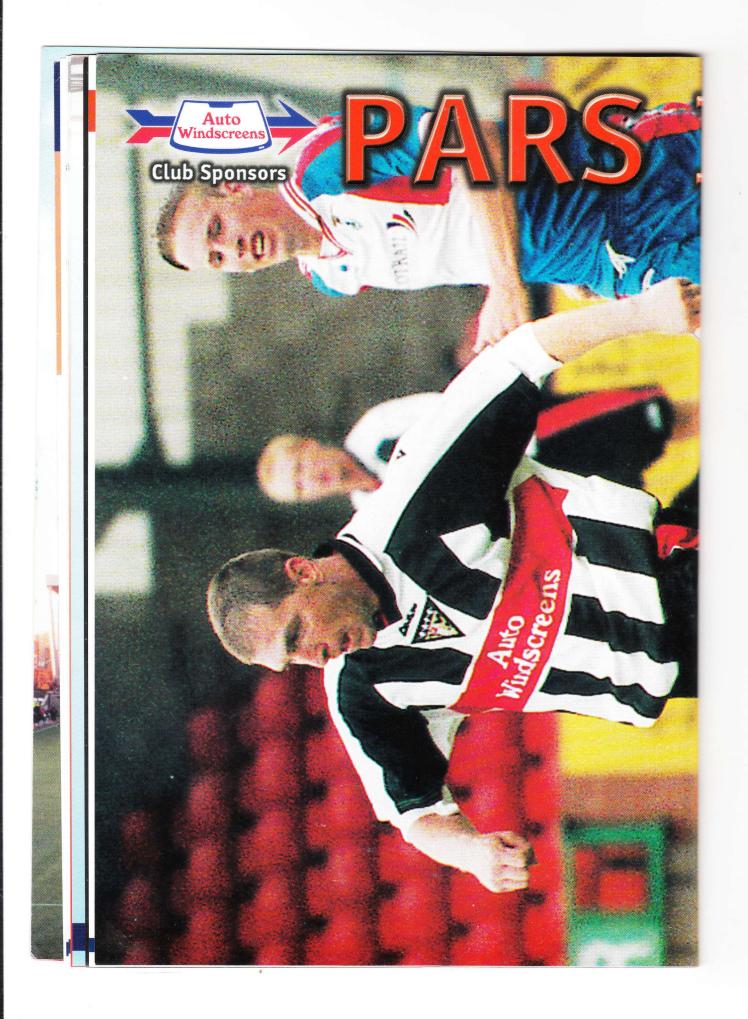
Today's visitors appear to be almost out of the running - how do you rate them?

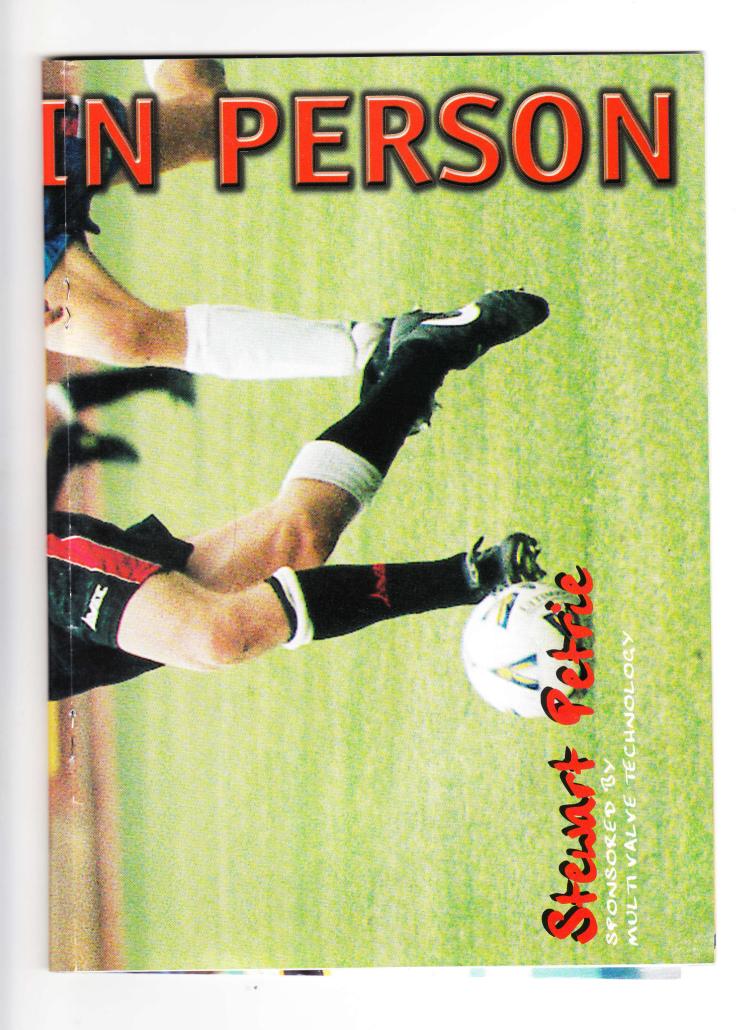
"Give them due credit, Livingston have done very well this season, and made a fair impression on everyone, us included. They've got a strong squad of players with the right levels of experience, and they're not scared to spend well if they have to. Ray Stewart's departure was a bit of a surprise, but they've put together a good team with Leish back in the dug-out with David Hay. If it's not to be this season, they'll be fair runners next time!"

You're one of the senior players here now - are you still enjoying life at East End Park?

"Yes, very much so! I enjoyed working with both Bert and Dick, but the new boss has come in and changed a few things, and it's looking like some new exciting things are going to happen, and this club is definitely the place to be. I'm looking to complete my "B" licence coaching badges, as I fancy having a crack at it later on, but I've still one or two unfulfilled ambitions to complete - it would be nice to get back to the top league, and who knows, maybe compete for a trophy - who's to say we can't?"

"IN WITH THE BRICKS" BUY YOUR PIECE OF PARS HISTORY NOW !!!





Jim Macdonald's World of Football

PARANOID? NO' ME!

Far be it for me to have a go at either half (or should that be "Hauf"?) of the Old Firm, but the Kenny Dalglish press conference in Baird's Bar was something else, wasn't it? Full marks to Jim McBeth for his account of it in "The Scotsman", Kenny - seemingly - going to war with the world over media distortion of the anti-Bhoys variety. My mate Derek reckoned that KD took a somewhat bemused Vidar Riseth along to act as interpreter. Jim McBeth supports this theory, obviously, when he writes "... Mr Dalglish says "Yoosurawansthatjumpedoanabandwagoncoasitsabetterstory" "It's a blessing that one of them is speaking English..."

Media problems? Anti-Celtic agenda? It's nothing compared to the Scotland on Sunday anti-Pars vendetta! Last week's edition softened us up by including a reasonably accurate article by Andrew Smith on our team leader, Jimmy Calderwood. So far, so good. Moving on to the match report we noted that Andrew Smith was the "SoS" man on the spot at Brockville providing us with a commentary which might have been penned by Alex Totten while Mr Smith passed the time away in Baird's Bar. Surely that can be the only explanation for the statement, "...Perhaps it is because this First Division championship is an end in itself that the Brockville legions watched their team gain scant reward from their domination of the First Division table-toppers with eyes bulging from sockets.." Paranoid? Why get paranoid? ... At least he had referred to us as "table toppers"

Not so when we turned to the page of lies, damned lies and statistics to check the League placings. Jings, crivvens, help ma boab ... not only had the paper moved the clock forward to take us into summer time, but had also indulged in a serious spot of "Fantasy football" to play off a complete card. Bad news for us in that the "fantasy" panel awarded wins to St Mirren, Falkirk and the Rovers ... but marked us down for a defeat. The crazy table showed the Love Street lot on 64 points, Falkirk on 60 points; the good guys on 56 points: and the "wee team" only one point behind on 55 points. Maybe it was meant to be a week-early "April fool" ... but we weren't laughing.

As KD might have said "...Paranoid?

"Yoosurawansthatjumpedoanabandwagoncoasitsabetterstory..." Paranoid? No' me!

BAD ODOUR

Last Thursday evening - to round off a big Euro-telly week - we settled down to watch the Slawvia Prague v Leeds UEFA tie, reckoned to be all over bar the shouting with Leeds 3-nil up on the first leg. The plans were dashed, however, when someone dropped in to demonstrate a state-of-theart, top of the range air purification system. The timing was perfect - the demo ended at precisely the same time as the footie action; we missed the lot ... and decided that £1,600 was too much to pay for a souped-up Hoover. Exit salesman, stage left.

I was reminded of this non-event two days later when we moved on to crumbling Brockville. Compelled to make use of the Victorian subterranean "facilities" it was abundantly clear that I was not the only one who had decided not to invest in an air purification system... little wonder that the nearby pie stand was doing very little business. Malodourous? ... yes, but nothing to compare with the display of "pure" hatred directed to visiting fans by Brockville standites - male, female young and old - following the Falkirk equaliser. Simply unbelievable.

Maybe it was just me - others may disagree. Put it down to paranoia, even. (This is a personal opinion for which I accept full responsibility).

LUCK OF THE DRAW

So much for the luck of the draw. Why was it necessary to put the names in the hat for the Champions League quarter-final tie? Chelsea must have been thrilled to bits to have been re-drawn against Barcelona, after the original draw had given them a cushy number against Bayern Munich. Arguably Man Utd will be happier to face mercurial Real Madrid rather than "first pick" Velencia ... but what a shambles, wasn't it? So much for "Old Firm" incino!

Some tasty games lie ahead, however ... although some punters (to use KD's terminology) might be afraid of the nightmare scenario which could see Man United play Chelsea in the Champions League Final ... and Leeds play Arsenal in the UEFA Final. Galatasarary and Lens would be breaking new ground if they were to pick up the UEFA pot, while Valencia and Lazio are ones with most to prove in the "senior" competition, all of the others having won the trophy previously.

There, makes a change from SOS and Brockville paranoia, doesn't?

OWN GOAL

Fans with longish memories may remember the killing of Columbian defender Andres Escobar who had the misfortune to concede an own goal which resulted in his country's elimination from USA '94. Contrary to popular belief, the assassination was linked to road rage, not to the consequences of the own goal. The killer, sentenced recently to 43 years behind bars, over-reacted to sloppy car-parking by the tragically unlucky Columbian footballer.

Another myth exploded, in a manner of speaking.

AND FINALLY...

We linked the story, perhaps apocryphal, focusing on the canny habits of the late, great Stanley Matthews. Not noted for paying his corner in postmatch celebrations with his Blackpool mates, tee-total Stan found the perfect solution by settling his account with a cheque, knowing full well that most publicans would keep it as a souvenir rather than cash it.

So much for Scots having the monopoly on meanness .. but we're no goany get paranoid about it, are we?



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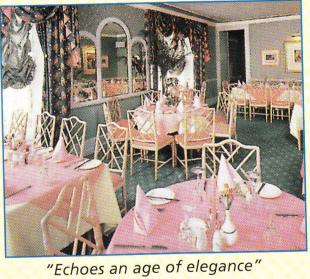
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Second Eleven

In association with the

WHILE THE FIRST DIVISION CHAMPIONSHIP looks like it may well go to the wire, in the Reserve League East, Athletic's reserve side now have an unbeaten run stretching back to October. And following this week's win at Forfar, they are now certain to be crowned champions

In the match against Inverness Caley Thistle on 9th March, the Pars defence was notable for the inclusion of Justin Skinner, who was making his way back from injury. He had a good first half and in general the Pars defence was sound. Despite Caley being kept to long range efforts, though, David Hay was the busier of the keepers. With ten minutes remaining of the first half, Dunfermline began to assert some authority over the game and were perhaps unfortunate not to have been awarded a penalty after Chris Templeman fell in the box. Colin Nish and David Graham both missed chances to put the Pars in front, but the first half ended 0-0.

Dunfermline started strongly in the second half, and enjoyed some good passages of play. Ten minutes into the second half Brian Reid was deemed to have committed a foul inside the box and the centre half picked up a yellow card for his trouble. Andrew Allan failed to beat David Hay from the spot as he parried the ball away. When the rebound was returned to him Hay again managed a terrific stop, only for the ball to be parried away again. For the third time, the ball was hammered towards goal, only to ricochet between the ground and the cross bar. At the fourth attempt Allan headed past unlucky David Hay to give the visitors the lead.

Just as it was beginning to look like one of those games, the Pars finally got the breakthrough. With ten minutes remaining, Craig Martin picked up the ball on the right wing and sent in a cross. Rodgers in the Caley goal parried away, but only as far as Colin Nish who netted from three yards out.

The Pars then snatched the points in the last five minutes when David Graham robbed centre half Allan of the ball and dribbled round the keeper. Davie Graham initially seemed to have been forced too far wide, but managed to screw the ball in to the goal from an acute angle to give the Pars the all-important win.

Dunfermline: Hay, Martin (Walker 85), McGroarty, Skinner, Taylor (Anderson 15), Reid, McLeish (Fleming 70), Graham, Nish, Templeman, Boyle

Dunfermline sealed the Reserve League title with what turned out to be a narrow 4-3 win at Forfar earlier this week.

The Pars opened the scoring after just five minutes following good work from McLeish and McGroarty. The former's cross was volleyed home by Chris Templeman who scored only his second goal of a disrupted season. In the ninth minute, Under 18 player Mark McGarty made it two after a David Graham cross. Then just two minutes later the Pars found themselves on easy street when Templeman scored from the edge of the box.

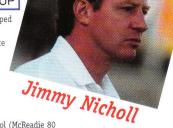
A Pars defensive error allowed Innes MacDonald to get one back for the Loons and this gave them the encouragement to take the game to Dunfermline. In sixty minutes McIravey got Forfar's second goal and game was on. Fortunately for the Pars, the two-goal cushion was restored in the 65th minute when Lee Bullen latched onto a weak back pass and, having rounded the keeper, cut the ball back to David Graham who drove home from 25 vards.

This Pars team was a little less experienced than some of the recent ones



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and they were not helped after Forfar again reduced the leeway late on with their third goal. Nevertheless, they held on to take the league title home to Fife.



Dunfermline: Hay, Nicol (McReadie 80 mins), McGroarty, Squires, Reid, Dolan, Graham, McLeish, Bullen (Walls 80 mins), McGarty (Anderson 70 mins), Templeman.

1	F				
	RESERVE	LEAGUE E	AST		
	Date	Opponents	Venue	Result	
	31 August	FORFAR ATHLETIC	A	2-0	Nish, Squires
	7 September	RAITH ROVERS	Н	0-2	
	14 September		A	1-2	Nish
	28 September		A	4-1	Graham 2, Ireland, Miller
	5 October	INVERNESS CT	А	3-1	Graham 3
	13 October	MONTROSE	Н	6-0	Hampshire, Ireland,
					McGroarty, Nish, Tod, Walke
	19 October	FORFAR ATHLETIC	Н	4-1	French, Moss, Nish, Petrie
	26 October	RAITH ROVERS	A	0-1	
	8 November	BRECHIN CITY	Н	4-0	Smith 4
l	17 November	AYR UNITED (Res Lae	(up) A	1-1	(won on pens) Graham
l	30 November	MONTROSE	H	5-0	Graham 3, Hampshire, Nish
I	25 January	EAST FIFE (Res Lge Cu	p) H	3-2	Moss 2, McGarty
	1 February	BRECHIN CITY	Н	6-0	Nish 4, Bullen, Templeman
	8 February	EAST FIFE	A	2-0	French, Dair
	15 February	INVERNESS CT	A	3-0	Nish, Graham, French
l	22 February	MONTROSE	Н	7-0	Graham (2), Coyle (2), Nis
I					French, Taylor
	29 February	RAITH ROVERS	Н	2-0	Coyle (2)
	9 March	INVERNESS CT	Н	2-1	Graham, Nish
	28 March	FORFAR ATHLETIC	A	4-1	Templeman (2), McGarty,
					Graham
	4 April	ARBROATH	A		
	18 April	ARBROATH	Н		
	24 April	BRECHIN CITY	Н		
	2 May	EAST FIFE	Н		
	CCOTTO	LIEACHE	VOUT		STON 'C'

SCOTTISH LEAGUE YOUTH DIVISION 'C

Date	Opponents	Venue	Result	
2 September	FORFAR ATHLETIC	A	2-0	McGarty, Walker
15 September	RAITH ROVERS	A	0-3	
18 September	ALLOA ATHLETIC	Н	1-1	McGarty
3 October	EAST STIRLING	Η	1-2	McGarty
14 October	COWDENBEATH	A	3-0	McDonald, Walker 2
19 October	BERWICK RANGERS	A	4-4	McGarty 2, Walker 2
26 October	LIVINGSTON (Yth Cp)	Н	1-2	Walker
28 October	STENHOUSEMUIR	Н	1-3	McGarty
6 November	FORFAR ATHLETIC	Н	1-3	Walker
18 November	RAITH ROVERS	Н	1-4	Walker
20 November	ALLOA ATHLETIC	A	4-1	Walker 2, McGarty, Nicol
9 January	STENHOUSEMUIR	А	2-0	Walker, Hynd
13 February	ARBROATH	A	1-2	Lennon
18 March	STENHOUSEMUIR	H	1-2	Walker

VISIT THE NEW E.J. STIELL WEBSITE AT www.stiell.com



PARS AHEAD

This afternoon sees only the 23rd Scottish League fixture between Dunfermline and the club now known as Livingston. The Pars have enjoyed success in a dozen of those matches while Livingston's win in January was only their fourth in the series.

Dunfermline went eleven matches undefeated before Meadowbank recorded their first win against the Pars, an emphatic 4-0 thrashing in Edinburgh on April 8th 1986. The next meeting between the two, on October 22nd 1988, saw Thistle notch up their first, and so far only, win at East End Park. This game marked the end of Meadowbank's best run of results against the Pars, undefeated in four meetings.

THOSE WINNING A-WAYS!

Five out of the Athletic's twelve wins have been recorded away from home - at three different venues! After two draws, the Pars finally won at Meadowbank Stadium in March 1978, thanks to a Mike Leonard hat-trick. In an attempt at drawing a bigger support, this was one of a number of games that Thistle had played on a Friday night.

The following season, it was back to Saturday afternoon for the fixture but the game couldn't go ahead at Meadowbank because of work being done for the forthcoming athletics season. Two matches were offered, with Thistle playing Alloa at Firs Park, Falkirk and the then Pars at Bayview, home of East Fife. It didn't seem to worry Dunfermline too much, as they won 3-1 on the way to promotion to the First Division.

GOALSCORERS

During the first seven seasons of Meadowbank's Scottish League existence the club never climbed out of the bottom four but it wasn't for the want of a good goalscorer. In 1979/80 John Jobson established a club record of 17 league goals and again hit double figures in the next two seasons. The future Pars coach had his record equalised by two players in 1985/86, Darren Jackson and Alan Lawrence.

Jobson's total finally fell in 1986/87 as Thistle won the Second Division title with John McGachie netting an impressive 21 goals. Since the change to Livingston, the highest tally for a single season has been Ian Little's 18 in 1995/96. For a while earlier in this campaign it looked as if David Bingham might get near that but at the time of writing his eleven league goals doesn't look like upsetting McGachie's club record.

A BRIEF HISTORY

Past Historic ...

Strangely, it was an article in the Evening News "Pink" that first suggested the idea of Ferranti Thistle applying for the vacant 38th place in the Scottish League. John Bain, manager of the Ferranti side that lifted the Scottish Qualifying Cup earlier in 1973/74, later stated that as a result of the article there had been long discussions about the proposal and with the financial backing of the company it was decided to give if a go.

He believed that because of geographical reasons. Ferranti would possibly be seen to be more attractive than Highland clubs, pointing out that visiting teams may not get much in the way of gate money but that their expenses would certainly be reduced.

Ferranti sent in their letter of application to the Scottish League on March 15th, 1974, and were joined by Elgin City, Inverness Thistle, Ross County, Forres Mechanics, Hawick Royal Albert and, most surprisingly of all, Gateshead United. With all these clubs canvassing for support that many Scottish League clubs didn't want a Highland team admitted due to the travelling involved and this indeed proved to be the case when, on May 24th, 1974, Ferranti Thistle were There were other elected in the Leaque. reasons, of course, not least the fact that they were regarded as potential whipping-boys who would provide a healthy source of income from pools companies who based pay-outs on league positions.

The club not only had to change its name, as it was deemed inappropriate that a company should have such a direct involvement in a League side, but also its ground as Edinburgh's City Park was adjudged unsuitable.

Meadowbank Thiste struggled in their early years but in 1983 gained promotion to the First Division. Although they were back where they started two years later the club was this time much better equipped and went on to lift the Second Division title in 1986/87, ahead of such clubs as Raith Rovers and St Johnstone. The next season proved to be their best ever, finishing as runners-up to Hamilton and narrowly missing out on a place in the Premier Division.

These successful seasons are now ignored by the current regime as Meadowbank have been more or less airbrushed from the club's history. At least the Scottish League rightfully recognise Livingston as the same club that gained admission back in 1974. Last year was the club's silver anniversary but, sadly, it passed without a mention.

THE COMPLETE RECORD

1976/77

Meadowbank - 1 (J Hancock) Dunfermline - 1 (Meakin)
Duntermune - 1 (Meakin)
Dunfermline - 1 (Georgeson) Meadowbank - 1 (S Hancock)
Meadowbank - 0 Dunfermline - 0
1977/78
Dunfermline - 3 (Morrison, Robertson, Borthwin Meadowbank - 0
Meadowbank - 2 (Adair, McKenzie) Dunfermline - 4 (Leonard 3, Bowie)
Dunfermline - 7 (Mullen 2, Borthwic Dickson, Leonard, Mercer, Wight O.C. Meadowbank - 1 (O'Rourke, penalty)
1978/79
Dunfermline - 2 (Borthwick, Salton) Meadowbank - 1 (Davidson)
Dunfermline - 1 (Mullin)
Meadowbank - 0 Meadowbank - 1 (Hancock)
Dunfermline - 3 (Sharp 2, McLaren)
1985/86
Dunfermline - 1 (Morrison) Meadowbank - 1 (Jackson)
Meadowbank - 2 (Lawrence 2) Dunfermline - 2 (Campbell, Watson)
Meadowbank - 4 (Jackson, Scott, McGacta Dunfermline - 0 (ouch!)
1988/89
Dunfermline - 1 (Holt) Meadowbank - 3 (Sprott, Logan, Prenti
Meadowbank - 0 Dunfermline - 1 (Watson)
Dunfermline - 1 (Watson)
Meadowbank - 1 (Scott)
1992/93 Dunferlime - 3 (Davies, Chalmers, McWille
Meadowbank - 1 (Roseburgh)
Meadowbank - 3 (McLeod, Wilson 2 Dunfermline - 2 (Davies, Laing)
Dunfermline - 3 (Laing, Leitch, Dav Meadowbank - 2 (Rae, Bailey)
Meadowbank - 0 Dunfermline - 1 French
1999/2000
Livingston - 0
Dunfermline - 1 (Coyle) Dunfermline - 3 (Crawford 2, Moss
Livingston - 0
Livingston - 1 (Bingham)
Dunfermline - 0

LOTS OF GREAT GIFT IDEAS FOR THE PARS SUPPORTER IN YOUR LIFE. VISIT THE NEW CLUB SHOP AT EAST END

Around End Par

LOW DOWN ON HOLLAND TRIP

Arrangements have been made for Pars fans interested in following the team to Holland for their pre-season summer tour.

At a price of £299 per person, the coach will leave Dunfermline on the evening of Saturday 8th July, returning on Monday 17th July. Could anyone who is interested please contact Lesley Ford on 07967 011117.

SPORTSMAN'S DINNER : FRIDAY 12TH MAY 2000

In Aid Of The Youth Development Initiative At Dunfermline Athletic There are now only a couple of tables left for this event which will take place in a marquee on the pitch at East End Park. The evening commences with a pre-drinks reception at 7.00pm, and is followed by a three course meal then the guest speakers. At 11.00pm, an entertaining auction will be held, a donation from which will go to the Hospice Ward at Queen Margaret Hospital.

SPORTSMANS DINNER - FANS SPECIAL

The club are still offering a special package for ordinary fans who might want to come along to the Sportsmans Dinner. Fans can come along in smaller groups of up to ten and dine with their very own Pars hero - past or present. A number of former players have expressed an interest in attending and would be happy to dine with a group of fans. For details of this special package, please contact Audrey Bastianelli at the Commercial Department, East End Park (tel: 01383 724295).



50/50 WINNER

The lucky winner of the nifty 50/50 draw at the Raith Rovers game was **MR KEVIN GOW** of Dunfermline. He walked away with £1000. He is pictured here with Jamie Dolan.

AYR UNITED MATCH

Dunfermline's next match against Ayr United, which was scheduled to be played next Saturday, has been postponed because of Ayr's Tennents Scottish Cup semi-final against Rangers. The match against the Pars will now take place on Tuesday 11th April with a 7.45pm kick off at Somerset Park.

DUNFERMLINE ATHLETIC SUPPORTERS CLUB TRANSPORT:

The next away match is against Ayr United on Tuesday 11th April. Supporters wishing to travel can book by either contacting the Supporters Club today or by telephoning Caron on 01383 515601 as soon as possible. Please also contact the above for confirmation of departure time.

PLAYER OF THE YEAR DINNER DANCE:

Please contact the Supporters Club by 8th April to confirm tickets and final numbers. Come along and join in the celebrations on Saturday 15th April at the Keavil House Hotel, Crossford. Tickets priced £20 include a three course meal and disco plus presentations of trophies and players sponsorship shirts.

MASCOTS:

We are looking for mascots for next season. Boys and girls aged five years to sixteen years can obtain forms from the Supporters Club Office. You will be shown around the club, meet the players, managers and officials before leading the team out from the new dressing rooms. Interested? Please contact Joan Malcolm (tel: 01383 611793)

HOLLAND TRIP:

Would you like to follow the Pars in Holland? If so, please contact Joan Malcolm for details of the pre-season tour.

LOTHIAN '68 CLUB PLAYER OF THE YEAR DINNER DANCE

That brilliant bunch of loyal Pars fans the Lothian '68 Club are holding their Annual Player of the Year Dinner Dance on the evening of Saturday 15th April 2000 in the Edinburgh Capital Moat House Hotel. Jim Leishman is the main after-dinner speaker and tickets are priced at £22 for adults and £11 for children.

For more information or tickets on what promises to be an exciting evening, call David Sutherland on 0131 332 7723 or Graham Dewar on 0131 346 1749.

CLUB SHOP

Please note that the Club Shop will be opening extended hours of 10.00am to 5.30pm, Monday to Saturday, during the Easter holiday period.

IN WITH THE BRICKS

Thanks to all who came along and attended the open day for the second supporters wall in the Norrie McCathie Stand. Fans may not have felt in the best of moods considering the events of the day before (Raith Rovers!), but a great many new brick purchasers came along and bought bricks for the second wall to go alongside those of Jimmy McConville, Charlie Dickson, Craig Robertson and Jimmy Calderwood.

One purchaser, Mr Semple from Dunfermline, was able to walk away £500 better off, thanks to a generous prize from Director John Meiklem. Thanks to the new fans, the second wall is now nearing completion. Remember, this is a great present for family and friends and will provide - for £25 - an everlasting memory with proceeds going to youth development.



CKAIG ROBERTSON, CHARLIE DICKSON, JIMMY CALDERWOOD AND JIMMY McCONVILLE (HIDDEN) ARE READY WITH THEIR BRICKS FOR THE NEW WALL IN THE PRESENCE OF KIER NICOL, CHAIRMAN JOHN YORKSTON AND, OF COURSE, SAMMY THE TAMMY

"IN WITH THE BRICKS" - JOIN TODAY. CALL 01383 724295 FOR A LEAFLET.

Future Perfect with

THE DUNFERMLINE TEAMS in the Youth Development Initiative continued to make good progress through March.

The Under 13s had a tight game away to Clyde but the performance pleased coach Kenny Black. The team put in a lot of effort with Greg Lawrie outstanding at centre half. Kyle Smith equally so on the left and Scott Gibson getting on the scoresheet twice. The most encouraging aspect of the match was that the Pars were a vastly improved team than the one which previously played Clyde.

Their next fixture saw them take on a strong Hearts side at Harthill and for an hour it was a competitive game before Hearts gained the upper hand. Once again there was a tangible improvement in the Pars play with David Reekie, Paul Thomson and Paul Condie featuring strongly.

UNDER 14s

At Under 14 level, the Pars faced Celtic, probably the best equipped team at that age group. It seemed that the lads were somewhat overawed in the opening period and played poorly but they got it together after that and tightened up considerably.

This was their last match of the season in the Youth Initiative and the following week they played a match against the Dunfermline Boys Club from Rutherglen. This is a satellite centre run by Jack Parker, who also scouts for the club in Glasgow. This was played on Saturday morning to allow the boys to take in the match against Raith Rovers - lucky white heather!

UNDER 15s

The Under 15s turned in a solid performance against Hearts, displaying a high level of commitment and also showing that the work put in on the training field is not going to

waste. Amongst the best players on the day were goalkeeper

John Ritchie Michael Stewart, Steve Makey in midfield and strikers Chris Spinks and Gary Sutherland.

The following week they played Kilmarnock at Maybole. The teams were equally matched in most areas of the park with the only real difference being that the Pars couldn't convert their chances. Lee Redding played well, although he could have moved forward a bit more, and again Gary Sutherland up front impressed.

UNDER 16s

Finally, the under 16s played Forfar at Longannet and controlled the match from start to finish. Their work rate and commitment were excellent and the forwards took their chances. It was a good display which made their next match all the more disappointing. Although there was nothing between Hearts and Dunfermline the Pars conceded a couple of really sloppy goals, one from a long throw in which saw the defence ball-watching, and the second from a corner.

Both 'keepers made good saves, with Pars forwards John Hynd and Tony Lennon doing well as did centre half Gordon Findlay, in a match which the Pars should really have taken more from.

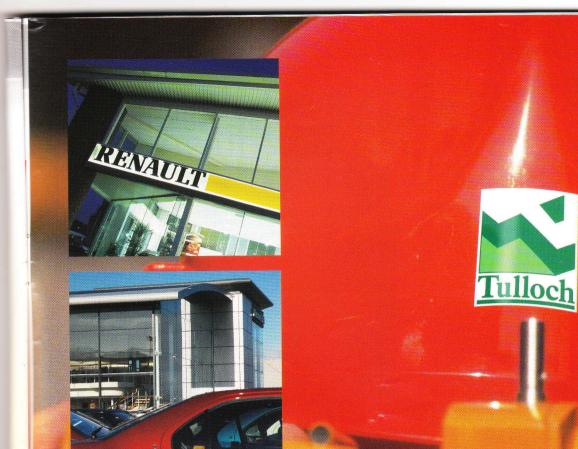
FORTHCOMING FIXTURES

Inder 15's Inverness - away

Stirling Albion - hom

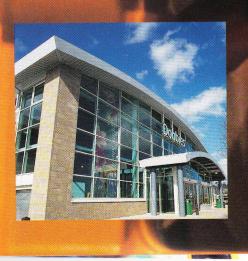
Please check with the club for venues, kick-off times etc.

Pick up your "In With The Bricks" leaflet today. Open Matchday 10-3pm, 4.45-5.3



Ttiloch

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A Review of the First Division

In a fortnight in which former Par Marc Millar was seldom out of the news, BILL KINNEAR examines the current state of play in the First Division, bemoans the loss of late goals, and yes, has something to say about Mr Millar...

ne

Late goals against have, along with the consequent draws, cost Dunfermline a significant amount of points both home and away this season. Last week's 87th minute equaliser by Falkirk was, by my reckoning the sixth such occasion when the Pars gave up a lead in the last ten minutes of the game. Add to that the fact that five of those six games were against St Mirren (once) and Raith and Falkirk (twice each), it demonstrates how important it is for teams to concentrate for the full ninety minutes. Taken on their own these games will not be the difference between success and failure but they may go someway to explaining why, as so many had predicted, the Pars have not been runaway winners of the First Division.

To lose twelve points to the teams round about you at the top of the league is disappointing but is more disheartening when you're in the lead with less than ten minutes to go. I don't pretend to have the answer - some of it may be down to the players, and no doubt, some of it is due to the fans whose nervousness gets to the players on the park. Whatever the reason, with only six games left in the regular season concentration and application are a must.

Raith, St Mirren and Falkirk have all dropped silly points this season but they've all taken crucial points from us. The saving grace is however that they must play each other between now and the season's end. On paper, today's game against Livingston should be our toughest test along with the trip to Inverness next month. Unfortunately football isn't played on paper!

ELSEWHERE

Elsewhere last week an early kick-off at Kirkcaldy saw the Rovers move to within four points of the Pars with a 2-0 victory over Airdrie. The Diamonds must be mightily pleased that Clydebank, who could be relegated this weekend, have the worst record in Britain. The early kick-off at Kirkcaldy came as a result of Fife Council slapping a notice on Stark's Park, claiming it was unfit for use after one of it's floodlights came loose, threatening to topple over into Pratt Street. Oh for the roof to cave in on the wee team over the next six weeks!

Talking of losing daft points, league leaders St Mirren were held to a 0-0 draw against the aforementioned Bankies. Two weeks after humping Zico's side 8-0, Tom Hendrie's side couldn't get past Steve Hutchison who was Clydebank's third goalie in as many weeks.

Strange Fact No. 1 - St Mirren turned up at Cappielow without their strips and had to play in Morton's yellow change outfit. Now, if that were Man U we'd have had Alex Ferguson complaining that his players couldn't see each other because they blended into the background/ (This came after the first half humping they got at Southampton while wearing a grey strip. They changed at half-time and still got beat). Apparently they (Saints) managed to get their own strips by half-time but Tom Hendrie said "We're not changing, that's what pub teams do and we're not a pub team." (Nuff said). Strange Fact No. 2 - although 14 points clear of Clydebank, Airdrie have only lost 8 fewer goals and in fact have conceded more away goals than the team in bottom spot.

Today's visitors Livingston, resplendent with The Bard of Kelty back in the dug-out, beat Morton with a late strike from Mark McCormick. Livvy are just six points behind third spot with a game in hand and so a win today would bring them straight back into the pack. Defeat however would surely spell the end of their ambition, for this season at least, for SPL status.

Finally, in a relatively meaningless mid-table clash ICT and Ayr fought out a 1-1 draw. Surely Ayr have one eye on that Scottish Cup semi next month and with First Division football guaranteed next season will be concentrating on that glamour tie against Rangers at Hampden.

MAKING HIS MARC

Isn't it peculiar how some football players can go from hero to zero and back again in such a short space of time?

Not so long ago Marc Millar was slotting home the penalty against Airdrie that clinched the Division One Championship and promotion for the Pars to the Premier League just four years ago. Then, having left East End Park under a bit of a cloud after various murmurs about wrongdoings, the burly midfielder attempts to resurrect his career with Ray Stewart at Almondvale. Things were going relatively well, or so it seemed from a distance, until yer man makes some sort of alleged inflammatory gesture to some Livvy fans who had been giving him a hard time, again allegedly. Hard on the heels of Ray Stewart's departure. Livingston Supremo Dominic Keane fires Millar oot on his ear.

In step's Sandy Clark and offers Millar a lifeline and SPL football until the end of the season. So how does our hero to zero repay Saintees? He only pops up to score a last minute rasper! (Another late goal that could change fortunes).

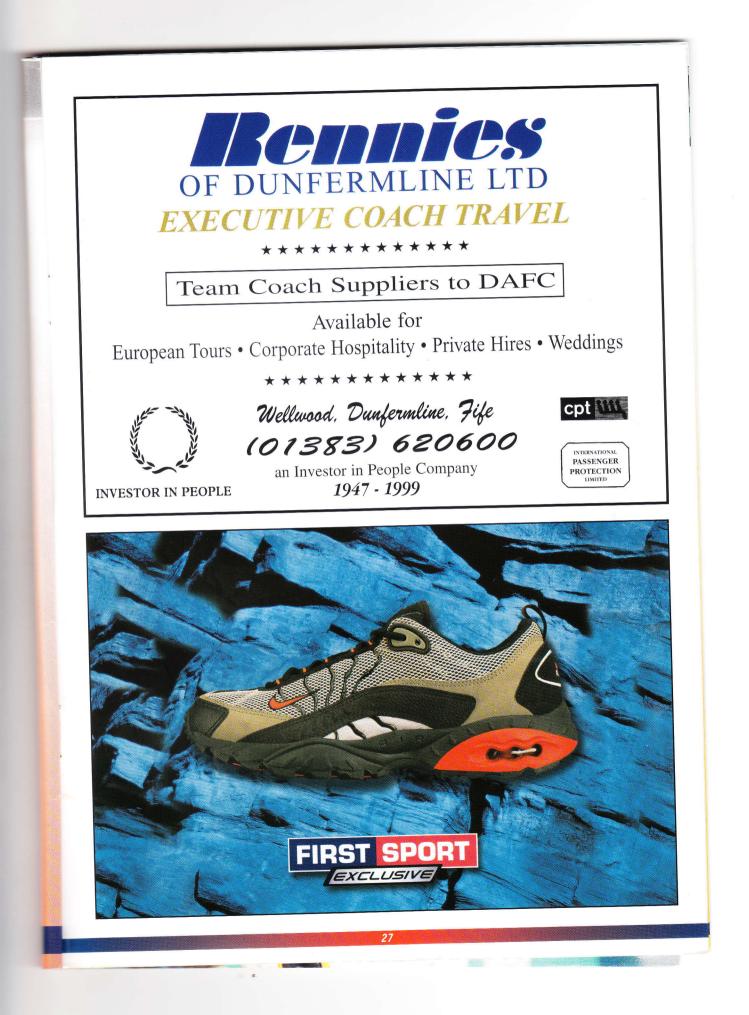
Marco says he's put what happened at Livvy behind him. Deja vu or what, I seem to remember he said the same thing as he left Stephen's the Bakers behind when departing Dunfermline. (PS. The pies are poor in Perth, Marc).

AND FINALLY..

Finally, wouldn't it be nice if for just once someone at Tynecastle would say something positive. It's well known that Jovial (not) and Jolly (not) Jim Jeffries whinges constantly and he was at it again last weekend after a 0-0 draw with Motherwell. To cap it all his gaffer Chris Robinson was moaning about the perceived self-interest of Celtic and Ranger ahead of last weekend's final Old Firm game of the season.

The hierarchy at the self titled third team in Scotland need to take a close look at themselves before they criticise anyone. This is the organisation who allowed Paul Ritchie to go to Bolton on loan and then sell him for £50,000. All this rather than sell him to Rangers for £750,000 earlier in the season which is where he'll end up in the summer anyway. Good piec of business, not!!

SCOTTISH SLIMMERS JOIN NOW. EAST END PARK EVERY MONDAY AT 5PM AND 7PM



New facilities open under Norrie McCathie Stand

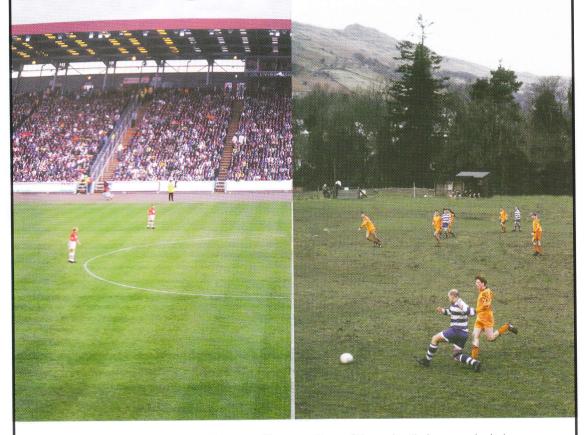
TOP: The football may not have been much to shout about, but it was a great occasion when the teams emerged from the new changing areas in front of a packed Norrie McCathie Stand

BOTTOM: At the open day on Sunday, fans were given a guided tour of the new facilites **INSET:** Director John Meiklem is accompanied by Lee Bullen to hand over the super prize of £500 to Mr Semple of Dunfermline (see article on page 23)



BARRLON

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Today's Football

WITH THE PREMIER LEAGUE TITLE now decided, focus in the top division will switch to who is going to get a place in Europe, and who (if anyone) is going to be involved in the play-offs. Of the teams in the first category, Hearts are the only ones who have been moving in any sort of positive direction recently. Today they take on a Dundee side who have won but once all season at home and who are more worried about what's happening at the bottom end. Jocky Scott's jacket is allegedly on a shakey peg in any case and any worsening of the situation might be the final straw...

Elsewhere, it may be a case of former Pars players deciding the future. Dunfermline have the opportunity to go ahead of Falkirk who do not play Clydebank until tomorrow. If the Bankies do anything in that one, and following them taking points from St Mirren and Raith, Stevie Morrison should get the freedom of the town!

Neale Cooper's Ross County are looking like strong possibilities to join Highland rivals Inverness in the First Division next season, and they can consolidate that with a win against Stirling Albion. In the Third, a home win against Dumbarton will surely give Paul Smith's Berwick promotion.

> BANK OF SCOTLAND PREMIER LEAGUE Aberdeen v Rangers Dundee v Hearts Hibernian v Dundee United Motherwell v St Johnstone

BELL'S LEAGUE FIRST DIVISION Airdrieonians v St Mirren Ayr United v Raith Rovers DUNFERMLINE v Livingston Morton v Inverness CT

BELL'S LEAGUE SECOND DIVISION

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

BELL'S LEAGUE THIRD DIVISION

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



LEE BULLEN HAD ALREADY SECURED POINTS in the Player of the Year contest, and winning Man of the Match against Raith Rovers has shown just how quickly he has adapted to life with Dunfermline. There's no doubt that in these circumstances, Lee would have preferred a team win to a personal award, but the big striker has worked hard - too hard at times, according to Jimmy Calderwood.

Kris Mampaey got his first points in the Player of the Year Awards when he took second place against Raith. He could do nothing about either goal and has shown by some of his saves that he is a quality goalkeeper.

It was good to see David Moss getting third place against Raith, because he was one of the Pars best workers in that game. He has still to win over some Pars fans, but he does have skills and qualities which will show more and more. He looks fitter and sharper and his goal against Falkirk is we hope a sign of what is to come.



LEE BULLEN WAS SELECTED FOR THE TOP PRIZE AGAINST RAITH ROVERS

AUTO WINDSCREENS MAN OF T	HE	MATCH
18.03.00 versus Raith Rovers:		
sponsors DIETSMANN MORGAN MOORE		

Position	Player	Points
1	LEE BULLEN	3
2	KRIS MAMPAEY	2
3	DAVID MOSS	1
States and the state of the states		

"IN WITH THE BRICKS" FOR DETAILS CALL 01383 724295 ... NOW!



TUESDAY 11TH APRIL 2000 BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE FIRST DIVISION AYR UTD. AT SOMERSET PARK

IT IS HARD TO TELL whether Dunfermline will gain any advantage from playing Ayr United at Somerset Park a week on Tuesday rather than on the original fixture date. There is no doubt that this match is of far greater significance to Dunfermline than it is to Ayr, because their biggest match of the season is on Saturday.

The game has been changed of course because Ayr are rightly and proudly in the quarter finals of the Scottish Cup and will be playing the mighty Rangers. The fact that they will probably give the Gers a better game than Celtic did last week goes without saying, but the question is, what will it do for them? If they perform well without winning, their performance may inspire them on to greater things on the Tuesday. If they get hammered it may simply confirm what a rotten season one of the pre-season favourites for promotion have had, and having little else to concern them (no promotion, no relegation), they might not be too much up for a fight.

The best possible scenario, however, would be that Ayr do the First Division proud and after a stamina-sapping match against Rangers, they come out of it surprise winners! Gordon Dalziel takes the players and the fans on a monumental drinking session round the streets of Ayr that starts on the Satuday and finishes in time for the match on Tuesday (Inverness CT can give some guidance to the Ayr boys if this happens!). The players are so knackered that the manager gives most of them the week off to prepare for the semi....

Knowing our luck, even if this were to happen we'd probably lose a last minute goal.

Actually, no we wouldn't, and in any case the chances of such a scenario happening are nil. They are, aren't they??



		YD.	AIFIC		F			
				WEST LUTERIA	,			
Kris MAMPAEY	1		U			1	Ian McCALDON	
Michel DOESBURG	2					2	Paddy KELLY	
Scott THOMSON	3					3	Paul DEAS	
Andy TOD	4					4	Allan McMANUS	
John POTTER	5					5	Sean SWEENEY	
David MOSS	6		A	Z		6	Lee RICHARDSON	
Justin SKINNER	7					7	Jamie SMITH	
Ian FERGUSON	8		2			8	David ROWSON	
Stephen CAWFORD	9			S		9	Brian McPHEE	
Owen COYLE	10		5			10	David BINGHAM	
Stewart PETRIE	11		RM	0		11	Derek FLEMING	
Substitutes						Sub	stitutes	
Eddie MAY	12			4		12	Ray McKINNON	
Jamie DOLAN	14		UNF			14	John MILLAR	• •
Lee BULLEN	15					15	Mark McCORMICK	

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