

ON THE COVER

FOR THOSE OF YOU

WHO DON'T KNOW

HIM. (AND THATS MOST

OF YOU), THIS IS LEE BULLEN, OUR NEW

STRIKING HERO. BUT IS

HE SO NEW? SEE PAGE 7

IN THIS ISSUE...

Bank of Scotland supporting

football and the Young Pars

5 VISITORS

Former Pars player Ian McCall returns to East End Park today quicker than he might have originally thought, having taken over the managerial reins at Morton from Billy Stark. Although Ian's task with Morton will already be to plan for next season, he will be keen to put one over on his old club. We weigh up the likely opposition...

7 HEADLINES

Not for the first time this season, lots of transfer news about, but did you know that two of Dunfermline's recent acquisitions were youth players for Dunfermline?

15 JAMIE DOLAN

The Pars midfielder has been around East End Park for a year now. He tells Bob Storie about why its difficult to have

friends in football and kick them at the same time!

18 JIM MACDONALD'S WORLD OF FOOTBALL

In Jim's bag this week are tales of why Murdo McLeod has achieved legendary status, why it took so long to play a match between Stockport and Doncaster, and what the Italians do with their shiny balls....

DY AT FTC

26 ONE UP...

Bill Kinnear's review talks about the happenings in the First Division during the past week including an examination of Peter Hetherston's definition of a poor match official, and a thought for poor Airdrie...

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

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DUNFERMLINE ATHLETIC FOOTBALL CLUB 1885-1999

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D'A'F'C'

HONOURS European Competitions Cup Winners Cup: 1961/62 (quarter final), 1968/69 (semi-final), 1962/63, 1964/65, 1965/66 (quarter final), 1966/67, 1962/70 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

SINCE MY LAST COLUMN, we have moved into closer contention in the League title race, but we have, unfortunately, gone out of the Scottish Cup for this year.

Calderwood

Jim

Sad to say, but against Hibs we just never gave ourselves a chance. We started badly and gave away a goal in the first minute. It wasn't just that it was a goal, but it was a goal that contained, from a defensive point of view, three different errors. We gave ourselves a mountain to climb but a bad mistake by the Hibs defence allowed us to get back to level. We wanted to keep it that way until halftime, but we couldn't keep our lead for five minutes before they scored again. Even then, at half-time, I didn't feel as if there was much in it football-wise and I thought we still had a chance and we told the players as much. Once Hibs got their third the game was finished and they got a fourth as a bonus.

The match was very disappointing in the sense that we fancied seeing how we would fare against Premier opposition. I was at the Aberdeen v St Mirren game



in midweek, and when you see the other Cup results, it confirms for me that there isn't a lot between the teams.

Last week the boot was on the other foot. The game against Clydebank was one of those banana skin jobs - you know they haven't won a game all season, but you know that sooner or later they will win and you don't want it to be against you! We started well enough and might have been three up inside the first five minutes. Instead they took the lead and it seemed to take forever to get the equaliser, and when it did come it happened during a bad phase of the game for us. I thought for most of the game it was one way traffic, but we played in fits and starts. Nevertheless, it was a vital result for us, especially given the other results in the league.

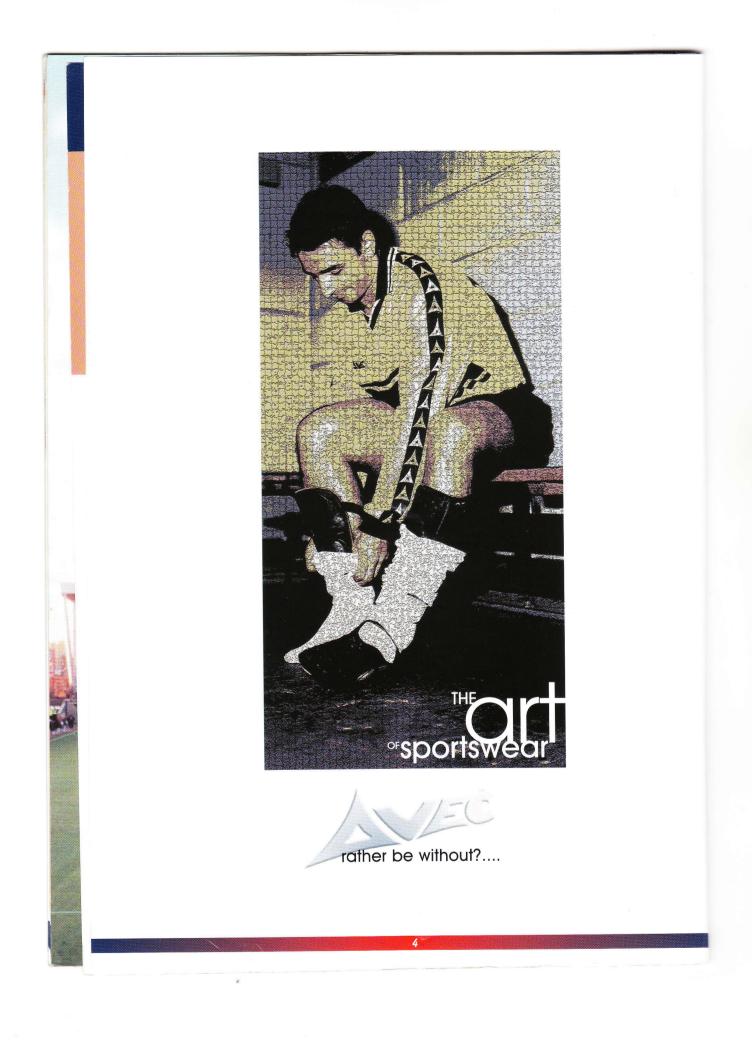
We know that we have not been defending well as a unit in recent games, but we have been working on that and I thought we were much better in that department against Clydebank. Our midfield also looks solid - Ian has settled in well and together with David Moss I thought we had the best two players on the park.

Up front, we are spoiled for choice! We've got Owen back in contention but the 'new' signings Stevie and Lee played well at Cappielow last week. David Graham is coming on to a game and could be considered unlucky not to be in the starting line up after scoring against Hibs. As it was he came on and created the goal that won us the game last week. Colin Nish and Steve Hampshire are also options, and these boys just have to bide their time and keep playing away to put pressure on the men in possession. The same is true in other positions and I was delighted that we had good performances in the midweek reserve game from the likes of Jamie Dolan, Hamish French and Brian Reid. These are exciting times and we need everybody to be at their peak for the run in.

We also need the backing of the fans. The players want to do well and they don't go out to play badly. We've got the biggest support in the Division and we want to start to make that count over the coming weeks.

For today's match against Morton, it goes without saying that we want three points. Morton have a new manager and we watched them recently. They have some good players who like to attack, so it should be an interesting contest.

BUY DIRECT...SUPPORT THE PARS. DAFC CLUB SHOP NOW OPEN



GREENOCK MORTON

IAN McCALL'S SECOND VISIT TO East End Park this season has come a little quicker than he would have expected a couple of months ago. The likeable former Pars midfielder was recently appointed manager at Morton to replace the sacked Billy Stark. Having served his managerial apprenticeship with struggling Clydebank (and by all accounts done very well on extremely

limited resources), Ian can now turn to the task of reviving the Greenock club's fortunes.

GREENOCL

18

It was always going to be a difficult task to follow in the footsteps of Morton legend Allan McGraw, and so it proved to be. The Cappielow fans have not been happy with the lack of success, but dwindling attendances have meant that even the most basic improvements to the team and to the stadium have not been easy. Morton can rest easy in the knowledge that they are not going to go down this season, but McCall will want to have a good close look at his staff to assess their potential for the battle that lies ahead next season. In the meantime, as they have already shown, Morton can be a match for anybody in this league, and they will surely play a big part in deciding which teams are at the top come the end of the season.

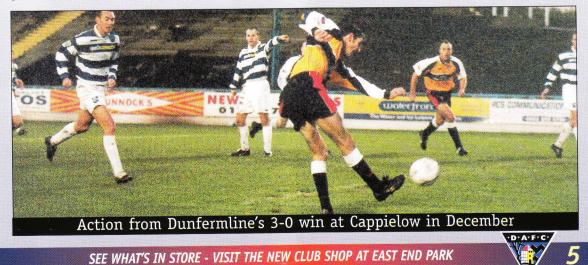
Ian McCall has a few selection worries this week. Former Pars central defender Paul Fenwick, who has performed so well since moving to Cappielow from St Mirren, is likely to be unavailable. He was called away on international duty for Canada earlier this week and is unlikely to be back in time for the game. Defender John Anderson will also miss the game following his dismissal for hand ball during the game against Ayr United last week. Add to those two, the loss of key players throughout the season of the calibre of Kevin Thomas, Paddy Connolly and Ian Ferguson, and the unfortunate retiral of Owen Archdeacon through injury, and it has left Morton with a relatively inexperienced pool of players. Not all of Ian McCall's side are inexperienced however. Goalkeeper Ally Maxwell will be 35 next week. He has kept goal at the highest level with Motherwell and Rangers, and since September 1998 has been the

number one choice for Morton.

He will be between the sticks today. Morton's defence will have to be re-organised but right back David Murie is a cert to start. One of Morton's most consistent players since signing from Hearts last season. David also has an eye for goal and has hit the net three times this season. Derek Anderson may operate down the left flank. The 27 year old is a powerful defender who has had spells with Kilmarnock, Avr United and Hibs. Central defender Graham Morrison is one of Morton's newer recruits. He was signed by former manager Billy stark from Finnish side TPV Tampere, but started his career as a youth with Celtic. Skipper Andy Millen may well occupy another defensive berth. The 34 year old was given the accolade of taking over as club captain from Owen Archdeacon. Vastly experienced, having also spent time as club captain at St Johnstone, Ayr, Alloa, Kilmarnock and Raith Rovers. Another candidate for a place in the defence is youngster Garry Tweedie. The 19 year old has had a number of first team outings this season.

Morton's midfield has been run by former Dunfermline midfielder Harry Curran this season. Harry is now 33 but no less willing and is having a good season despite his team's difficulties. He ran the show in the middle of the park on his last visit to East End Park, and so far this season is easily Morton's top scorer with eight goals to his credit. Another likely candidate for a midfield place is another former Dunfermline player Paul McDonald. Paul's spell at East End Park simply didn't work out after his move from Brighton, but he seems to be getting back to something like his best at Cappielow.

One of Morton's latest recruits is striker Robert Earnshaw, who has recently been brought on loan from Cardiff City. Zambian born, Robert moved to Wales as a youth and has been capped for the Welsh Under 21 side. Pacy and sharp, Robert had earlier loan spells with Fulham and Middlesborough. The other striking role may be taken by former Rangers youth player Ross Matheson. The 22 year old is a skilful player who likes to run at defences and is one who will need to be watched. Among the others who may come into contention for a place today are Stephen Aitken, Bryan Slavin and Michael Hart.



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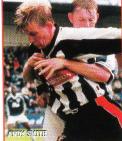
Headlines...

SOME LIKE IT HOT

Only twelve games to go and the First Division is quite definitely THE place to be in Scottish football. Whatever happens now, this Division will almost certainly not be decided until the last day of the season. A quick look at Dunfermline's fixtures show what a crucial month March is going to be with matches against St Mirren, Raith, Falkirk and on 1st April, Livingston. Coming out on top of that lot should put Dunfermline in the ascendancy by virtue of having a comparatively easier run in than some of our rivals.

Dare we say that we need every bit of support we can muster? To be fair, fans have been very loyal and patient while the new management team have been finding their feet, and long may that continue. We need to encourage our friends back to matches and help create the most intimidating atmosphere we can during this final period of the season. If the crowd is indeed the 'twelfth man', fans will be richly rewarded at the end of the season for doing their bit by seeing the Pars win back their place in the Premier League.





The man who has had the job of leading the Pars strike force for the past five years has left the club to join Kilmarnock. The move came about after Andy went on loan to Kilmarnock in December. Despite playing only a handful of games for the Rugby Park side because of the winter break, manager Bobby Williamson obviously liked what he saw and paid a transfer in the region

of £150,000 to put the centre forward on a two and a half year contract with the club.

The 31 year old had been a favourite of the fans and of previous manager Bert Paton who purchased him from Airdrie in July 1995 for £60,000. His career had a less than auspicious start when he broke a leg in his first Pars outing and had to wait until December 1995 before really getting started. It didn't take him long however to start banging in the goals and his ten strikes in the second half of the season made a big contribution to Dunfermline's league title win. The following season saw Andy play a variety of roles, including a number of games in midfield, but despite this and the fact that he was now playing Premier League opposition, he still managed to torment defences and score 12 goals. His best season without doubt though was 1997/98. His combination of power and ability in the air and being deceptively skilful on the ground made him the player that defences hated. He went on to score 26 goals in the season, his performances quite rightly getting him a call up to the Scotland 'B' side which faced Norway at the end of the season

Like the rest of the team, Andy wasn't quite firing on all cylinders last season, and his ten goals could not prevent relegation. This season he featured even less and the arrival of players like Steve Crawford meant that the automatic first team place was no longer his for the taking. He played his last game for Dunfermline in the 3-0 win over Livingston on 14th November. Andy Smith's record for Dunfermline is a proud one and he will be remembered as one of the best strikers of this era. He won many awards including the

coveted Players' Player of the Year Award. In his 140 appearances plus 14 as substitute he scored 63 goals giving him a very high goals to appearances ratio - particularly since almost all of them were in the Premier League.

PARS FINALLY GET THEIR MAN!

As one striker goes, another arrives, and there's no doubt that Steve Crawford could make every bit as big an impact here as Andy Smith did, Steve's on-off transfer from Hibs was finally resolved with the news earlier this week that the Easter Road club had accepted an offer from Dunfermline for his transfer with a further payment at the end of the season should Dunfermline sign him on a permanent basis.

Dunfermline's management team of Jimmy Calderwood and Jimmy Nicholl has made it clear throughout that they very much wanted the player as one of the linchpins in their set up. But Hibs, who only had the player until the end of the season in any case, had made it difficult for Dunfermline to agree terms, perhaps aware of a potentially embarrassing situation for Hibs arising out of any transfer before the Cup tie. Dunfermline's perseverance has paid off in the end and most importantly without the club having to shell out the kind of figures that were being bandied about beforehand.

The player himself has shown how much he has enjoyed being here and has indicated that a longer stay could be on the cards. Dunfermline have gained a quality player, and one who is thriving in his new surroundings. Only just turned 26, Steve's best scoring performance in a league season came last season when he scored 14, but that was in 35 games over a whole season in which Hibs totally dominated the league. At East End Park in only 13 league appearances, he's already notched 10 goals!

Welcome back, Steve, and let's hope your stay is a little longer this time.

AND FINALLY...

It was good to see that former favourite Greg Shields injury in training for Charlton Athletic was not as bad as had been feared and he should now be back before the end of the season. Greg has been a spectacular hit at the Valley and has helped Charlton into a commanding position in the race for promotion to the Premiership. Since Dunfermline are set to make a modest financial gain if Charlton are promoted, we would all like to wish Greg a speedy recovery! Seriously, Greg (who some newspapers irritatingly but not surprisingly described as "ex-Rangers" this week) was a great favourite here and he still keeps in touch so all our best wishes for a speedy recovery.

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

Dream Debut for Bullen

WHILE THE NEWSPAPERS HAVE HAD a fair bit to say about new striker Lee Bullen's background, few have worked out that this is in fact Lee's second spell at East End Park - and we've got the photo to prove it! Before signing any professional papers, Lee was at Dunfermline in Jim Leishman's days in the late 1980s. He was a member of the BP Youth Cup squad which went on win the BP Scottish Youth Cup in season 1987/88, and our picture shows the fresh faced 16 year old in early 1988, club tie and all!

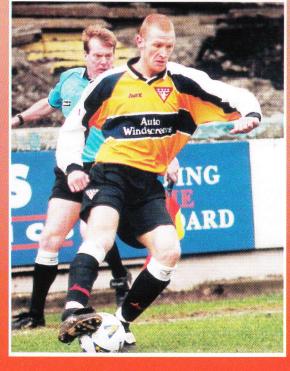
Since then of course, Lee's career has seen him play football in different parts of the globe. It didn't start too glamorously - he signed for Meadowbank Thistle from Penicuik Thistle in January 1990, then later on that same year in November Lee put pen to paper for Stenhousemuir. After this, Lee tried his football abroad

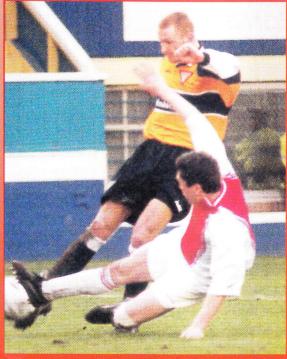
Stenhousemuir. After this, Lee tried his football abroad with spells in Hong Kong and more recently in Greece where he was playing with First Division side Kalamata until December.

Although Lee was only at East End Park for training facilities, a couple of impressive performances in the Reserves soon saw him take the manager's eye and the offer of a contract until the end of the season. Lee made his debut on Saturday against Clydebank and scored a cracker. His height and power will give the manager a different option up front, and with the departure of Andy Smith, that is something which might end up being important.

Welcome back, Lee, and good luck with the career - second time around!









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Jamie Dolan	18(0) 0	2(0)	0	1(0)	0	1(0)	0	22(0) 0
Ian Ferguson	3(0) 1	0(0)	0	0(0)	0	1(0)	0	4(0) 1
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David Graham	0(11) 1	1(0)	0	0(1)	0	1(0)	1	2(12) 2
Steve Hampshire	7(7) 3	0(0)	0	0(0)	0	1(0)	0	8(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) 0
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Chris McGroarty	11(6) 0	0(2)	0	1(0)	0	1(0)	0	13(8) 0
David Moss	12(5) 4	0(0)	0	0(0)	0	0(1)	0	12(6) 4
Colin Nish	0(2) 0	0(1)	0	0(0)	0	0(0)	0	0(3) 0
Stewart Petrie	20(0) 2	2(0)	1	0(0)	0	1(0)	0	23(0) 3
John Potter	5(4) 0	1(0)	0	0(0)	0	0(0)	0	6(4) 0
Brian Reid	21(0) 3	2(0)	0	1(0)	0	1(0)	0	25(0) 3
Greg Shields	3(0) 0	1(0)	0	1(0)	0	0(0)	0	5(0) 0
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Correct at 9th February, 2000. Brackets indicate appearances as substitute.								

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St Mirren	23	8	3	2	28	17	6	2	2	23	11	23	47
Dunfermline	24	7	5	0	21	8	6	3	3	23	15	21	47
Falkirk	25	8	0	5	23	20	5	5	2	19	13	11	44
Livingston	23	6	4	2	18	11	6	2	3	21	17	14	
Raith Rovers	24	8	2	2	26	16	4	4	4	16	13	13	42
Inverness CT	24	5	5	2	21	13	3	3	6	18	23		32
Ayr United	24	5	2	4	13	12	3	3	7	13	22	-5	
Greenock Morton	24	4	3	4	13	15	2	2	8	19	30	-9	
Airdrie	25	3	3	5	10	21	2	3	9	7		-31	21
Clydebank	24	0	2	10	7	32	0	2	10	6	23	-41	4

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Goalscorers (and the number of goals scored) are noted in capitals. Th and this de stitute a sub

ALL EDITORIAL IN THIS PROGRAMME IS THE RIGHT OF DUNFERMLINE ATHLETIC FOOTBALL CLUB. THE OPINIONS EXPRESSED ARE NOT NECESSARILY THE VIEWS OF THE FOOTBALL CLUB. **Produced** by **Garthland RGS** Design & Print. Telephone: 0141 445 5360

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May	Thomson	Tod	Reid	Dolan	Skinner	French	CRAWFORD 1	Coyle	Petrie	Moss (8)	Hampshire(10)	McGroarty (2)
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Door to door Canvasser required for the Dunfermline & surrounding area. Approx 25 hours per week (includes evenings and weekends). Must have own transport. For more details contact Mrs Lorna Tomkins 01383 724 295

19	99/2000) TOP	GOA	LSC	ORER.	5
Name	Club	Bells League	CIS Cup	Bells Cup	Tepn Sc.Cup	Totals
Paul SHEERIN	Inverness CT	10	1	4	1	16
David BINGHAM	Livingston	11	0	2	1	14
Mark YARDLEY	St. Mirren	14	0	0	0	14
Barry LAVETY	St. Mirren	13	0	0	0	13
Owen COYLE	Dunfermline	8	2	2	0	12
Craig DARGO	Raith Rovers	9	1	1	1	12
Scott CRABBE	Falkirk	8	2	0	1	11
Brian McPHEE	Livingston	9	0	1	1	11
	Inverness CT	8	1	1	1	11
Barry WILSON Steve CRAWFORD	Dunfermline	10	0	0	0	10
	Avr United	9	0	0	0	9
Glynn HURST	1	7	1	0	0	8
Harry CURRAN Dave NICHOLLS	Morton Falkirk	7	0	0	1	8

BELL'S 1st DIV. ATTENDANCES 1999/2000

Name	Gms	Total Attnd.	Av. Attnd.	during Season
Airdrieonians	12	23,386	1,949	3,209 v St Mirren (12.11.99)
Ayr United	11	23,562	2,142	3,467 v St Mirren (23.10.99)
Clydebank	12	7,391	616	1,513 v St Mirren (29.08.99)
DUNFERMLINE ATH.	12	59,438	4,953	7,233 v Falkirk (15.01.00)
Falkirk	13	40,128	3,087	4,505 v St Mirren (25.09.99)
Inverness Cal Th.	12	27,105	2,259	3,022 v Falkirk (14.08.99)
Livingston	12	47,363	3,947	5,798 v Dunfermline (04.09.99)
Morton	11	16,570	1,506	3,733 v St Mirren (06.11.99)
Raith Rovers	12	41,358	3,447	7,463 v Dunfermline (03.01.00)
St Mirren	13	59,840	4,603	7,224 v Morton (03.01.99)

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What have you been doing while ${f BELLS}$ has been maturing? Eight years. Well spent. ${f BELLS}$

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"Sammy the Tammy"... HI EVERYONE, Well, I'm pretty tired out after all my work over the last few weeks! First of all though, let me take this opportunity to apologise to anyone who has been disappointed by the lack of my programme contributions in the last two issues - sorry !

an assure you though, there is a very good reason for this.... really! I have just finished my first ever Sammy's Gang Newsletter and it has aken up not only all my time, but all my creative but all my creative resources too! The fruits of my labours will no doubt be with all the Sammy's Gang iembers in the next ek or so, so stand by latters houses and

Members in the next week or so, so stand by your letter boxes and prepare to be entertained! Please write to me - or send an e-mail once you have read the Newsletter Gang and let me know what you think of it. I want to make sure you are getting all the information about me that you want! It was great to see my picture in the Falkirk Fanzine that was on sale at the recent cup game with Peterhead. One of my pals from Peterhead photocopied it and sent it to me. Unfortunately, the Falkirk fans didn't appreciate my.⁴ 3 goal salute" at our last game with them and they have decided to describe me as the "Most nauseating sight in Scottish Football".

Football". Would you believe it they are also running a competition to find out "What fate you would most like to befall on Sammy". The competition editor was foolish enough to publish his home address next to the competition though, so I'm sure he'll enjoy receiving my picture in the post with the words "I KNOW WHERE YOU LIVE" written along the bottom! Finally, I hope you can all make the team feel really great about being back joint-top of the league when you sing today's selected Sammy Song -



DA Are the number one, DA / DA ARE THE NUMBER ONE Love and cuddles,

Sammy E-Mail - SammyTheTa@aol.com

Web-site = http://members.aol.com/SammyTheTa/index.html

YOUNG PARS NEWS

Hello everyone, We had our first meeting of the Millennium on Thursday February 3rd for our 7-9 year olds and we all thought that the dreaded Millennium bug had struck! We had our poorest ever turnout of Members! What We had our poorest ever turnout of Members! What happened to you all? Our thanks go to the players who came along and almost outnumbered the Young Pars! Thanks also to Karen, Connie and the two Ashleys, who turned up to help us and a big Well Done goes to Josh Wardell, who was the overall winner in our East End Zones.

winner in our East End Zones. We had planned an evening of activities with a Sports Zone, a Pars Zone, Pop Zone, Skill Zone and a Café Zone, but we ended up with a "Lonely Zone"! However, many thanks to Kris Mampaey, John Potter, Lee Bullen and Andrew Tod, who were all fantastic with the Young Pars who did attend and joined in with the routpurism. with great enthusiasm.

YOUNG PARS BIRTHDAY BOARD Many Happy Returns to the following Young Pars: Daniel Fitzgerald, Stuart Connelly, Keith Potter, Ross Philp, Stephen Batty, Shannon Philp, Thomas McWhirr

AND FINALL

AND HNALLY... Take note all you Young Pars aged 10 years and over – your next meeting is on Thursday 17th February from 7pm-8.30pm in the Jock Stein Lounge. Come along and show us that you're still interested! The format will be the same as we had for our younger Members so come along and try to win a prize!

so come along and try to win a prize! We still have nothing to report on our proposed trip to an away Fixture, but we'll be in touch as soon as we can. We've had a very good response to our special discounted Membership package offer and if you're still interested phone Margo on 01383 736879 if you would like more details.

Hope we see you all soon

YOUNG PARS COMMITTEE SPONSORED BY THE BANK OF SCOTLAND

13

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

1	ADULTS			EMBROIDERED DALEDALE CA JAQUARD SCARF NEW JAQUARD SCARF	£4.99 £5.99
	T-SHIRTS (BCK/GRY/WHT) POLO SHIRTS (BCK/GRY)	FROM	£9.99 £22.99 £24.99	BAR SCARF GLOVES FROM	£5.99 £3.99
	sweatshirt (BCK/GRY) Fleece (BCK) Jacket	ONLY	£24.99 £24.99 £49.99	SOUVENIES KEYRINGS NEW PIN BADGES ONLY	£1.99
	Young Pars T-Shirt (BCK/WHT) Hooded Sweatshirt Black Jog Pant Black	ONLY	£5.99 £15.99 £13.99	ASHTRAY ZIPPO LIGHTER NEW WHISKY GLASS NEW PINT TANKARD NEW PINT GLASS WALL CLOCKS FROM	
•	Hats & Scarves Bar Hat Bronx Hat Baseball Cap (Printed)		£4.99 £6.99 £5.99	DAFC WATCHES LIMITED STOCK OF "LEISHMAN'S OUR PRICE ONLY £2.99	£27.99 LIONS", RRP. £5.80,
	ТН	E PARS OF	FICIAL CI	UB SHOP is open Monday-Saturday 10am until 5.30pm	

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SAMMY THE TAMMY IS SPONSORED BY THE DUNFERMLINE PRESS









JAME DOLAN SPONSORED BY DICKSON (KIRKCALDY)

With the club looking to make ever more ambitious signings, a lot of reliance will be put on the shoulders of a number of key players. After 12 months service with the team, Jamie Dolan has proved himself to be exactly what he was signed for - a hard working midfield general, with the experience to organise the shape of games, especially in the cut and thrust of First Division football. Jamie took time out to speak to Bob Storie recently, to air his thoughts on current events....

How have you enjoyed your first year with us?

"Well, it's certainly been an interesting experience in more ways than one! Relegation was a very disappointing experience, and it was hard to take in at the time. There's been the trauma of a managerial change, and working with a new regime, but these things apart, this club is moving in the right direction, and I came here to meet the challenge that was laid down to me. I wasn't getting regular first team football with Dundee United, and when I was offered the chance to come here, I grabbed it! This is a big club with big ambitions, and bottom place did not put me off in any way. There's a great fighting spirit here, and I'm glad to be part of it."

Are you enjoying this year's brand of football?

"Some games are better than others, but most of that is down to some of the crowds at the away games. It's sometimes harder to motivate yourself at games like Clydebank, and the like, due to the small turnout, and that's no disrespect to those clubs, or indeed to our punters who travel regularly. There's not a big difference to the playing standard of the Premier, as a lot of the First Division sides have invested in bringing in a better standard of player, and the competition is pretty close. The top sides like St Mirren have played consistently well over the season, and success breeds confidence. Experience counts for a lot in this league, and we've got our fair share here - we'll need it if we want to get back to the top league again!"

What have been your favourite memories from your other clubs?

"I've had the opportunity to be involved in some big games in my time. Motherwell was a good club with a good family atmosphere, and I got to play in European games, and also I played European ties with Dundee United. I was in the League Cup Final squad against Celtic a couple of seasons ago, and it's games like that every pro wants to take part in. For me, the game's all about building up trust with the players you work with. I've made a lot of good friends in my time, and I seem to spend most of my Saturdays kicking lumps out of them! No, seriously, it's the guys you work with that make it all worthwhile."

The Hibs game was a massive let-down, what went wrong? "We just didn't do ourselves any kind of justice on the day. When you lose any early goal, it upsets your ability to settle into a game. We clawed back, then lost another one! We had

to chase the game harder in the second half, and take risks. The breaks fell for them, they got the goals, but there genuinely wasn't a big gulf between us on the day, ability wise. We've a good enough squad of players, and we should be able to compete at that level. It was a big disappointment but we must put it behind us, and get on with the main business - going up!"

Two new clubs, Peterhead and Elgin City, in the league do we need more clubs?

"I don't see why not! If they've done all the hard work of building themselves up, on and off the park, then they deserve their chance as much as anyone. It could do a lot for the game up north, as the potential to attract more people to senior football can only benefit everyone. Finance, obviously, is a big factor - keeping your heads above water these days is a hard task for any club, and you only need to look at what's happening to Airdrie to realise no-one is immune. It's an expensive business to operate in these days!"

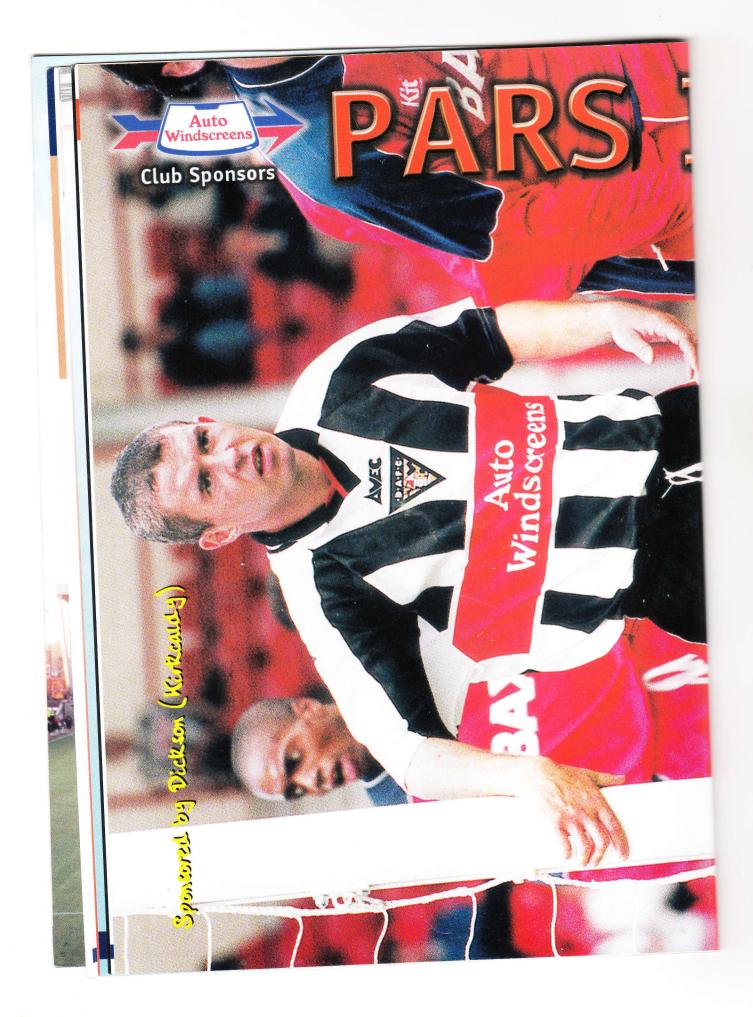
Morton have had a traumatic season themselves - How tough a game will this be?

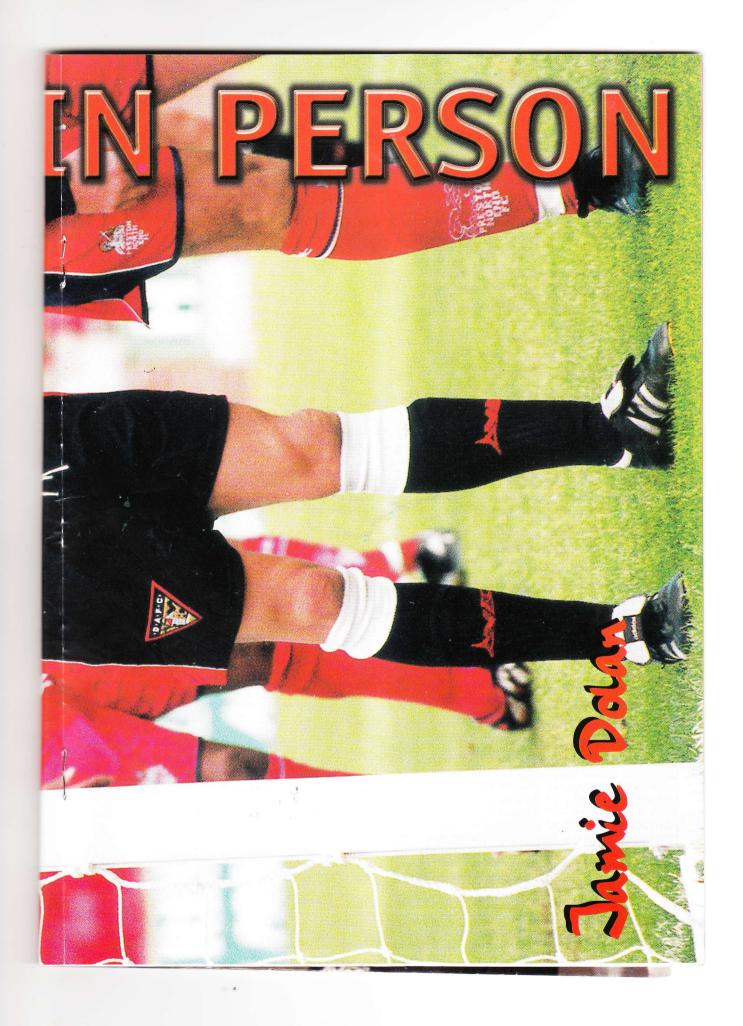
"In this Division, there is no one game that's easier than the next. As I said earlier, I thought Morton started off the season playing very well, with some valuable experienced players to call on. Their form dipped, and that led to Billy Stark going out, and Ian McCall coming in. They always try to play good football, and no doubt Ian will be anxious to prove himself in his new job, and the players will be going all out to impress him. It's going to be a hard game, as always, but we have to get back on a winning streak, so we'll be organised and ready to make home advantage count!"

Can we really expect to overhaul St Mirren?

"Of course we can - none of us have any doubt about that. Everyone connected to this club is very positive minded, and the form for every club is going to ebb and flow before the seasons over. Obviously, the two games we still have to play against St Mirren are now fairly close together, so that's going to be a real pressure point time for us. We just have to keep winning, no matter who we play. We were expected to be top dog in this division before a ball was kicked, but nothing is ever sure-fire in this game. We're on the right road, but it's fairly clear we're not quite on our best form up to now. Just a wee rub of the green is all we need, and there'll be no stopping us then!"

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





Jim Macdonald's World of Football

LEGENDS

According to my trusty dictionary a "legend" is - among other things -"... a person whose fame or notoriety makes him a source of exaggerated or romanticised tales or exploits". I volunteer this information because I almost choked on my Horlicks last Friday night when Murdo McLeod had a walk-on part in "Friday Sportscene", the screen caption describing him as "Football Legend"!

No disrespect to Murdo - he did, after all, earn 20 "caps" in a career with Celtic, Borussia Dortmund and Hibs before dipping his plates of meat in the managerial backwater .. but "Football Legend"? Maybe ayes, maybe's naw for one-time clubmate Kenny Dalqlish, or Pele .. or George Best, possibly Dennis Law and certainly Jim Leishman ... but hardly Murdo - in my humble opinion.

LISTS

Talking about legends ... and since there's nothing to beat a list to take up lots of column inches .. some of you may have missed the media coverage of FIFA's "World Player of the Year" awards for 1999 - so here it is.

In a poll of 140 national team coaches, Man United "golden boy" David Beckham was voted "Simply the Best (!)" by 18 coaches to earn him second place, but the winner by the proverbial mile was Barcelona's Brazilian forward Rivaldo, with 91 of the top trainers putting him at the top of their list. No stranger to the yellow brick road for his exploits last year, FIFA's gold medal joined the European Player of the Year and World Soccer's World Player of the year gongs in Rivaldo's trophy cabinet.

For those readers with an insomnia problem who find that trying to recall the runners and riders in "Top Ten" lists helps them drop off, try this for size:

Players Standings:

1.	Rivaldo	Barcelona	543
2.	Beckham	Man Utd	194
3.	Batistuta	Fiorentina	79
4.	Zidane	Juventus	68
5.	Vieri	Inter Milan	39
6.	Figo	Barcelona	35
7.	Shevshenko	AC Milan	34
8.	Gonzales	Real Madrid	31
9.	Cole	Man Utd	24
10	Yorke	Man Utd	19

Sweet Dreams!

POLITICALLY CORRECT

So many things we were tempted to write about for this column, but can't ... because we might be frog-marched through the corridors of power for a knuckle-rapping. For example, we could have gone to town on collapsible stadia and shrink-wrapped match officials in the west; injustices arising from antiquated laws; power battles within the governing body's "Cooncil", specifically in the mind-numbing war of nerves for the right to look after the Association's honey-pot; the belief in some quarters that the SPL will move the goalposts to permit groundsharing; and the low-down on Steve Archibald's staggering wealth ... "the Methil millions".

As I say, these are some of the things we might have covered but it would have been politically incorrect to do so, in the circumstances we'll keep the gag on, just like our much-loved match officials.



Not many people know this, but the longest game ever in English

LONG BAWL

football was played between Stockport County and Doncaster Rovers on 23 March 1946 in a War-time Cup first round replay. To avoid fixture congestion the teams decided to play until someone scored a winner. Despite playing for 500 minutes the deadlock could not be broken and the game had to be abandoned due to failing light.

Just one of the many facts to be found in FFT's "Great Days of Football 2000 calendar. You'll be pleased to learn that we've no intention of using the rest of the anorak fodder from this source.

ALL CHANGE

What lies in store for the fitba' industry?

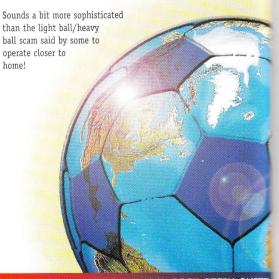
- 1. A European Super League?
- 2. Pay-per-view to be commonplace, the rich getting richer and the poor getting poorer?
- 3. Four or five football companies to dominate the market, with the others jostling into destines of relative inferiority?
- Admission prices and pay-per-view prices to escalate? 4
- Lower-division clubs to go part-time ... or fold ... or become feeder 5. clubs?
- 6. The game to become less and less a participation sport?

These were just a few of the predictions made by David Conn in his thought-provoking book "The Football Business", speculating on the future of English football in the new Millennium, but it applies equality to the game north of the border.

The sting in the tail is that the author's predictions were made three years ago and already it's happening. Scary.

AND FINALLY...

We liked the story from the land of Serie A that the weekly draw for allocation of referees is rigged. Accusers, seemingly, claim that some the coloured balls drawn from a see-through plastic barrel were docto to make them shiny, enabling officials to select particular refs for matches.



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Second Eleven

In association with the

Reserve League Cup

The Pars Reserves played their first competitive fixture in several weeks on Thursday 27th January when they defeated East Fife 3-2 in a home Reserve Cup tie. Understandably eager to play this match after the recent enforced lay off, the Pars preparations for the game were disrupted when they were informed that two of their side who were scheduled to play in the game had not received clearance and were, therefore, ineligible for the game.

Despite this set back, which meant having to reshuffle their side at the last minute, the Pars assumed comfortable control of the game in the first half, taking a 3-0 lead into the dressing room at half time. The goals came from David Moss who scored twice, in the 16th and 25th minutes, and youngster Mark McGarty who netted the third after 35 minutes. At this point in the proceedings Jimmy Nicholl was pleased with the Pars performance but all that changed in the second half. Not helped by an injury to Hamish French which saw him replaced at half time, East Fife were allowed back into the game and scored two goals to put some pressure upon the Pars in the closing stages of the match. The Dunfermline Athletic team were:

Westwater, Nicol, Squires, Potter, Taylor, McGarty, Templeman, Moss, French (Vaughan), Nish, Walls. Not used: Gayne.



Reserve League East

The Pars Reserves also saw a welcome return to League action recently when they recorded a richly deserved 6-0 win over Brechin City. On this occasion, Jimmy Nicholl had nothing but praise for the side, which he thought had shown a first class professional attitude to the task at hand. Indeed, Jimmy became so relaxed about the game that he confessed that he had actually sat

impressive scoring back and enjoyed watching how the side

against Brechin went about their business on the day. In addition to the commitment shown in obtaining the result, the game was also important for at least two other two other reasons. Lee Bullen played his first full game for his new club and Steven Boyle played his first full game since the injury he sustained in October last year.

Jimmy commented that both Jamie Squires and Eddie May had shown commendable commitment and appetite. In addition, Kevin McLeish, who has been training with Dunfermline and who has played as a trialist previously, did his chances of securing a contract no harm at all. Kevin gave a good performance in midfield along with Chris Templeman. Chris scored Pars sixth goal while new signing Lee Bullen got the fifth one minute earlier. But this match was all about the finishing of young striker Colin Nish. He grabbed a first half hat trick with goals in 5minutes, 15 minutes, and just before the break. Colin, who must surely have enjoyed the occasion, went



E.J. STIELL GROUP

on to grab a fourth in 64 minutes. Midfield now seems to be Chris Templeman's favoured role and it is certainly the place



where Jimmy Nicholl seems to feel Chris can play to his strengths. With the likes

of Scott Thomson, Chris McGroarty, Davis Moss and now Ian Ferguson having recently joined the club, however, it is also an area of the first team were there is very strong competition, so Chris certainly looks to have his work cut out in the next few months.

Dunfermline Athletic: Hay, Squires, Anderson (McDonald, 80 mins), Potter (Nicol, 70 mins), Taylor, Templeman, May, McLeish, Nish (Vaughan, 75 mins), Bullen, Boyle.

RESERVE LEAGUE EAST

Date	Opponents	Venue	Result	Scorers
31 August	FORFAR ATHLETIC	A	2-0	Nish, Squires
7 September	RAITH ROVERS	Н	0-2	
14 September	ARBROATH	A	1-2	Nish
28 September	EAST FIFE	A	4-1	Graham 2, Ireland, Miller
5 October	INVERNESS CT	A	3-1	Graham 3
13 October	MONTROSE	Н	6-0	Hampshire, Ireland,
				McGroarty, Nish, Tod, Walker
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
17 November	AYR UNITED (Res Lge Cup)	A	1-1	(won on pens)Graham
30 November	MONTROSE	Н	5-0	Graham 3, Hampshire, Nish
25 January	EAST FIFE (Res Lge Cup)	Η	3-2	Moss 2, McGarty
1 February	BRECHIN CITY	Н	6-0	Nish 4, Bullen, Templeman
8 February	EAST FIFE	А	2-0	French, Dair

SCOTTISH LEAGUE YOUTH DIVISION 'C'

Date	Opponents	Venue	Result	Scorers
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	Н	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	А	4-1	Walker 2, McGarty, Nicol
9 January	STENHOUSEMUIR	А	2-0	Walker, Hynd

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PARS WELL AHEAD

This afternoon sees the 64th Scottish League meeting between Dunfermline and Morton. It makes a pleasant change to report that the Pars have a far superior record, with 31 victories to Morton's 14.

This is not only down to Dunfemline's home form, as they have actually won more matches at Cappielow than Morton! The tally currently stands at 12 wins to 8, with eleven draws, which probably makes the Greenock ground one of the most successful venues for the Pars. Since league reconstruction in 1975, Morton have only defeated Dunfermline twice in 13 matches there. If only it wouldn't rain so much

CONNECTIONS

Over the years there haven't been many players to have appeared for both Morton and the Pars although that seems to be changing. Back in 1965, one of Dunfermline's scorers in the Scottish Cup Final was former Morton striker John McLaughlin, bought from Millwall a year earlier for £2,500. Another member of that Cup Final team, goalkeeper Jim Herriot, turned out for Morton towards the end of his career. A direct transfer was midfielder George O'Neill, for

A direct transfer was miniheder occupie orient whom the Pars paid Morton £5,000 in 1971. Two further connections from the 70s were Billy McLaren and Walter Borthwick while more recently George Cowie (after his "retirement" through injury) and Stuart Rafferty went on to play for Morton after leaving East End Park. In February 1995 the 'Ton signed Derek Laing from the Pars, while the current line-up includes Paul Fenwick and Harry Curran, now managed, of course, by Ian McCall. The only present Par with experience of life at Cappielow is centre half Brian Reid.

-

MORTON'S CUP FINALS

Morton's only major cup success came in 1922 when they defeated Rangers 1-0 in the Scottish Cup Final. Their supporters amongst the 75,000 crowd were stunned to hear that their goalscoring hero George French was out through injury but they were still able to celebrate after Jimmy Gourlay scored from a free-kick.

The club's only other Scottish Cup Final appearance was in 1948, with Rangers again the opponents. A crowd of 129,176 saw Morton take the lead through Jimmy Whyte only for Terry Gillick to equalise. Another huge attendance, 131,975 watched the replay, which Rangers won with a goal in the last minute.

Morton's only other Hampden Park final was in the 1963/64 League Cup. A Second Division team at the time, they knocked out Motherwell and Hibs before meeting Rangers, (surprise, surprise) in the final. Another six-figure crowd, 105,907 saw Morton suffer a 5-0 defeat.

THE FIRST TIME

Past Historic ...

Over the years both Dunfermline and Morton have become established as two of the country's more prominent "yo-yo" clubs, sharing no fewer than 38 promotions and relegation's between them. This has meant that there have been many seasons when the two have not met on league business, the ten years between 1976 and 1986 being a prime example.

Despite this, the pair have shared in many exciting battles, particularly in the era between the wars. Morton didn't always have a reputation as a "yo-yo" side - after their election to the First Division in 1900 they survived quite comfortably for years - and the Pars didn't face them in the league until their own promotion in 1926.

Their first meeting was at Cappielow on August 14th, 1926, the opening match of the season. The Pars crashed to a 3-0 defeat and were tipped for a quick return to the Second Division, especially at the turn of the year when they lay bottom with only four wins. However, form improved to a point where they were at least still in contention but with three games left Dunfermline were second bottom, two points behind Clyde and five adrift of Morton. An excellent 4-0 win over St Johnstone at East End Park boosted their hopes and was followed by another home victory, over Aberdeen. In the same period, Clyde picked up three points and Morton only one, losing to Queens Park and drawing with Hibs, both away. On the final day of the season the Pars had a difficult away match at Tynecastle while, by a stroke of good fortune, Morton took on Clyde at Cappielow. Two points covered the three clubs but the Pars couldn't risk anything less than a win.

A crowd of 20,000 saw their hopes fade when Hearts scored just before half-time. Straight form the restart, however, Bobby Skinner burst through the home defence to net a superb solo effort. There was no further scoring until ten minutes from the end and once again Skinner was the Pars' saviour. Although the Hearts 'keeper scooped away his shot the referee ruled that the ball had crossed the line. There was an anxious wait for news of the score at Cappielow which finally came through as a 2-0 win ... for Clyde. Dunfermline supporters celebrated one of the most incredible escapes in their history by the narrowest of margins, while Morton were relegated after 27 years in the top flight.

MORTON'S SCOTTISH CAP

Their next cap didn't come un 1921 when outside right Alex McN made two appearances, again Northern Ireland and England. captain in Belfast was Dunfermlin Andy Wilson, who led the team to 2-0 win, scoring in the process. 3-0 victory over England gave to Scots the Home International title Wilson scored in all three of the wins.

Daniel McRorie was the ne Morton player to be capped, again Wales in 1931, signing for Liverp four weeks after his only game Scotland. Perhaps the most skil player of the immediate postera was Billy Steel, who join Morton in 1941. He had a drama rise to fame, playing in only handful of Scottish League gam before gaining his first cap i Scotland in 1947. He followed th with a spectacular goal for Gre Britain against the Rest of Europ A strong, speedy player with powerful shot, Steel picked up th caps whilst at Morton. In Ju 1947, he was transferred to Der County for a British record fee f15,000, and he went on to play total of 30 times for Scotland.

Two of his former Morton tear mates played alongside Steel Scotland. William Campbell gaine five caps in 1947 and 1948 at w half but sadly his career was short through health grounds 1949, at only 29 years of a Cowan Goalkeeper Jimmy Morton's most capped player w 25 appearances for Scotla between 1948 and 1952. The ga against England at Wembley in 19became known as "Cowan's Mate after the 'keeper turned in magnificent display to keep Engla at bay. Scotland went on to win 1, with Billy Steel (the only Ang Scot in the team) among t scorers. Morton's supporters mu have been extremely proud wh Cowan, Campbell and their form player Steel lined up together Scotland in Paris in May 194 Unfortunately, France won 3-0!

In 1951, against Wales a Northern Ireland, Morton again h two players in the dark blue inside forward Tommy Orr made h only two appearances for Scotlar alongside Cowan. Orr spend years at Cappielow and was father of Neil, who played f Morton and West Ham.

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

Around East End Park...

IMPORTANT NEWS ABOUT SHARES IN DUNFERMLINE ATHLETIC

The gentle revolution which is currently taking place at Dunfermline Athletic is set to continue with the announcement this week that the club intends to open up its share issue to more of the club's fans.

Chairman John Yorkston said, "Dunfermline Athletic have always had a tradition of being a great family and community club, but in all honesty, that is not reflected in our share ownership which is, by and large, restricted to a relatively small number of people. I want to change that because I think that it is a good thing if we have a much broader base to our share issue so that the fans of Dunfermline Athletic feel that they have a sense of ownership of the club. I am making this announcement today because I would like people who have even quite a small amount of money to invest to come forward and purchase shares in their club."

This is not, however, a general issue of shares to the public, as Company Secretary Paul D'Mello explained:

"Dunfermline Athletic are not, like some of the bigger football clubs, a public company whose shares can be bought and sold on the stock exchange. Instead, however, we now have the ability to issue shares privately to our fans and others who may be interested in making an investment, and that is the area we want to explore."

He went on say that the shares in the Football Club will be sold for £20 each, and anyone who is interested must be prepared to purchase a minimum of ten shares. "We don't have the administrative capability to handle requests for one or two shares, but we thought this way we could attract a lot of normal fans." Those who might be interested also need not worry about having a great knowledge about share dealings. Paul advised, "Anybody who might be interested can write to me in person at the club, or alternately can contact local stockbroker Eric Spreng whose firm Redmayne Bentley have an office in the town. We can both provide information which will help potential buyers to make a decision about their investment."

Interested? Then write to either Paul D'Mello, Company Secretary, Dunfermline Athletic Football Club, East End Park, Dunfermline, or to Eric Spreng, Redmayne Bentley, 8 Kirkgate, Dunfermline, KY12 7NB (Tel: 01383 745888 or fax 01383 624888)

CHANGE OF DATE FOR ST MIRREN MATCH

The home league match against St Mirren, originally scheduled for Monday 27th December, will now take place next Saturday 19th February at East End Park with a 3.00pm kick off. Both clubs were keen to move the game from the scheduled midweek date of 29th February, and this was now possible because of both clubs' elimination from the Tennents Scottish Cup.

CENTENARY CLUB SPORTS FORUM

The Centenary Club is organising a Sport Forum at the Jock Stein Suite, East End Park on Friday 18th February 2000 at 7.30 pm. A line-up of top quality speakers will be there – including Jimmy Calderwood, players, physio, an agent, a representative from the SFA and so on. Tickets, including a Buffet Supper, are priced

£6.00 and are available from Lorna Tompkins at the Centenary Club Office. Next on the social calendar is a Dinner Dance at Lauder Conference Centre on Saturday 18th March. Following our derby game with the "wee team". Have fun from 7.00 pm through to 1.00 am... dancing to Cloud Nine ... A mere £15 a head.



50/50 winner at Ayr United game

DUNFERMLINE ATHLETIC SUPPORTERS CLUB

Transport: The next away match is against Airdrie on Saturday 26th February. Supporters wishing to travel can book by either contacting the Supporters Club after today's game or by telephoning Caron on 01383 515601.

Player Of The Year Dinner Dance

Tickets are now available for the Player of the Year Dinner Dance which will be held in the Keavil House Hotel, Crossford, on Saturday 15th April. In addition, the hotel are also offering special overnight bed and breakfast rates for anyone attending the function. Further details of these and information about tickets which are priced £20 is available from the Supporters Club Office. Music will be provided by Apollo Disco.

Cairneyhill Youth Football Club

A super sports night was held in the Maltings Hotel, Cairneyhill, to raise funds for the Easter Trip to Holland. On behalf of the parents and boys I would like to thank Jim Leishman and John Gahagan for their after-dinner entertainment. Special thanks also to Jim Leishman, John Ritchie and Ray Smith for their generous donations, and everyone who gave raffle prizes. Marvyn Stewart (Secretary)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY MIKE!

Very happy birthday wishes to Mike Dowling who will celebrate his ***th birthday today. Mike is a regular supporter of the Pars and his company S. D. W. S. are, very appropriately, today's match sponsors. Despite rumours to the contrary, Mike's picture was not taken at one of the Pars training sessions (!), but in fact on a recent holiday in Tenerife so there! Happy birthday, Mike.



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Future Perfect with

THE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE was due to resume on January 23rd but all of Dunfermline's matches fell victim to the weather. This was particularly disappointing for the Under 15 and Under 16 teams, who travelled through to Motherwell and Cambuslang (to play Clyde) respectively only to find the pitches were hard and unplayable.

The following week saw the Pars finally get back into action with the Under 13's turning in the performance of the day up against Motherwell at the Fleet Grounds, the youngsters put up what was perhaps their best display of the season so far. The players did everything that was asked of them, kept possession well, worked hard and exhibited some good passing football with Greig Lawrie, Craig Wilson and Steve Ferguson coming in for special praise. Up till now it's been a difficult season for the Under 13's but hopefully this performance will prove to be the turning point.

The Under 14's had a tough match against St Johnstone on the astroturf at McDiarmid Park. They started well and despite falling behind continued to play passing football, albeit without creating too many chances. The team defended well, Ian Campbell in particular, and also worth a mention were midfielder Lee Sibanda and Fraser Gillon, who scored a good goal.

It's been quite a while since the Under 15's last played so not surprisingly they showed a fair bit of rustiness in their game against Celtic. The early stages saw the Pars play some good football, scoring a goal in the process, although disorganisation at the back allowed Celtic a goal of their own. The visitors took control of the game and the Pars found it hard to regain possession. Defensively it could have been better but going into the third period a couple of changes were made and the performances definitely improved. John Higgins was rated the best player of the day with Kenny Paterson mentioned after scoring with a good header.

The Under 16's played Dundee at Longannet in what was a good hard fought game. Dunfermline dominated the opening period, passing well and working hard as a team. Gordon Findlay was commanding at the back and the team showed good competitive spirit. Tony Lennon hit two good goals and John Hynd's pace proved a handful although he tired later in the game having just returned after injury.

OTHER NEWS

Onto other news, and the coaching staff finally reached its full complement with the appointment of Gordon Arthur to assist George Anderson with the Under 14 team. The former Dumbarton, Raith Rovers and Forfar goalkeeper was previously a coach at Montrose.

A Development Centre has started at Dalgety Bay on Friday nights for Under 12 year olds identified



by club scouts as promising players. Bert Paton is putting them through their paces at present.

Hamish French takes the same age group in Dunfermline while Brian Reid has started helping Mo Hutton out with the Under 16's. Brian intends going on to do his "B" Licence during the summer.

As part of the players' ongoing assessment, John Ritchie is currently meeting up with all the parents of youngsters involved in the Initiative at East End Park. This is to give them an idea of how they are progressing and to let them ask any questions about it. With over 80 players on the books, it's a time consuming process but already it's half way through.

MODERN APPRENTICESHIP SCHEME AWARDS



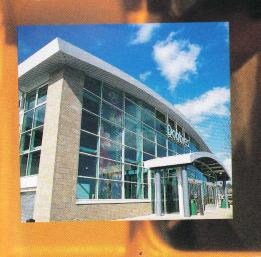
We know we've mentioned this scheme before, but we've now finally got our hands on the pictures to prove it!

Three of Dunfermline's young footballers - Chris Templeman, Kevin Donnelly and David Hay - became the first skillseekers in Scotland to complete the Modern Apprenticeship in Sport and Recreation. The programme is designed to help them with their careers on and off the park, and involves a partnership between the Modern Apprenticeship Centre, Lauder College and Dunfermline Athletic. Our picture shows the players at the award ceremony in December which was attended by a number of representatives from the club.

FORTHCOMING FIXTURES February 13th February 20th U13's Home to Alloa Athletic Under 13's Away to Celtic U14's Home to Rangers Under 14's Home to Albion Rov. U15's Home to Dundee United Under 15's Free Week U16's Home to Stirling Albion Under 16's Home to E. Stirling Please check with the club for venues, kick-off times etc. Experimental states of the stat

. <u>Pick up your In With The Bricks leaflet today. Open Matchday 10-3pm, 4.45-5.3</u>





RENAUK



A Review of the First Division

OUR REGULAR COLUMNIST BILL KINNEAR talks about the happenings in the First Division during the past week including an examination of Peter Hetherston's definition of a poor match official, and a thought for poor Airdrie...

One

After the disappointing defeat to Hibs at Easter Road in the Scottish Cup, it was back to League business last weekend. With a hard fought 3-1 victory against Clydebank at Cappielow the Pars took advantage of slips by League leaders St Mirren and the wee team. The Pars finally secured the signature of Steve Crawford in time for last week's win against the Bankies and his value was evident as the striker grabbed a brace. Another new signing Lee Bullen scored on his debut to equalise Andy Tod's own goal. With Owen Coyle back from suspension today the Pars have a plethora of strikers with different styles to choose from. St Mirren lost 2-0 at home to Livvy. By all accounts Saints got no more than they deserved after playing poorly. Bingham and McPhee hit the target for Livingston with Tom Brown being shown the red card for a horrendous tackle on the visitors midweek signing, ex Aberdeen player Lee Richardson. Livvy are now right up there and will have no problems meeting the stadium requirements.

At Kirkcaldy, the wee team went down to Falkirk, Gareth Hutchison scoring the only good goal of the game after ten minutes. Reports suggest this was a niggly affair, with nine bookings and two sendings off. Raith boss Peter Hetherston now appears to be in serious trouble with the SFA (and since he's not involved with the 'Old Firm' won't be reprieved), after being sent to the Stand during the game. He added to his woes at the end by having the nerve to suggest the official was the worst he'd ever seen. Surely Peter has a short memory? Wouldn't he agree that the worst officiating he'd ever seen took place on his own Starks Park just four weeks earlier? I suppose Owen Coyle could remind him, but I forgot, Rovers won that game.....

What a week it has been for Inverness Caledonian Thistle! First, they gubbed Airdrie 4-1 at the Shyberry Excelsior Stadium (more of the Diamonds later), but then went on to record one of the greatest Cup shocks in history by beating Celtic 3-1 on their own park on Tuesday night. Congratulations to Steve Paterson and his troops - it's just a pity that they were playing one of the weaker teams in the Premier League because it takes a bit of shine off the result! On a serious point, hopefully results like this will convince the media of the quality that does exist within the First Division. Hopefully too, it will silence those Pars fans who think Dunfermline should put half a dozen past teams like Inverness and complain when we only beat them 1-0. This is a very good competitive league and long may it remain so.

Ayr United beat today's visitors Morton 3-2 courtesy of a last minute winner form Glynn Hurst, but it looks like too little too late for one of the teams tipped for success this season. If Ayr and Morton are out of the promotion race, that is not the case for the five clubs at the top of the league. The Pars are joint top of the league, separated only on goal difference (-2) from St Mirren. Although the Saints have a game in hand, we

D'A'F'C

still have to play them twice, home and away. Not that this is all about Dunfermline and St Mirren as was once thought. Only five points separate the top five teams, and four of them will be cleared as having grounds suitable for the Premier League. The fifth, Falkirk will probably have a good try to convince the authorities, and look at what happened to Dundee last year! With only 12 games left to play it's guaranteed to be a tense three months between now and the end of the season.....

AIRDIRE

The recent news that Airdrie had called in the receivers having gone into provisional liquidation will have come as no surprise to many. Like many clubs they are heavily in debt and, after one of the companies of Rangers supremo David Murray arrested their share of the gate receipts from the Diamonds' Cup-tie against Dundee United, the roof caved in.

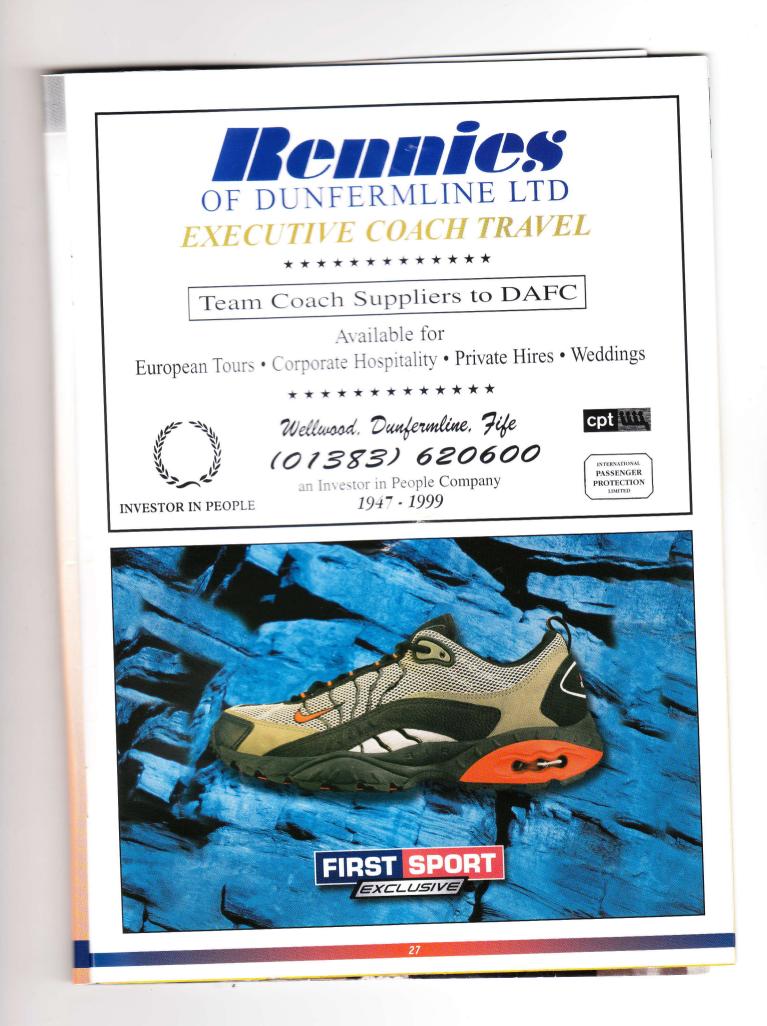
Steve Archibald has made clear his intention to buy the 122 yea old club, but the big stumbling block appears to be his unwillingness to take on any of the debts. Should his bid be accepted in the wake of an EGM which was held on Monday past. Archibald's ownership can only mean good news for the Airdrie faithful, including self-confessed fan and the big butt of many jibes in this column, "sports writer" Jim Traynor. Archibald's last involvement in a Scottish club was at East Fife and if he car repeat the relative success he had there, the only way is up you never know, Archibald may soon be making a bid to take over Motherwell - watch your back Mr Boyle.

GOALS OR GAOLS?

The recent fracas in the Ivory Coast which saw the national football team arrested and detained, including Celtic's Oliver Tebily got me thinking. Apparently the national government, a military regime, were unhappy at the team's dismal performance in the African Nations Cup and either locked them up because of it or, "from the people for their own safety". Sporting crimes where people should have been locked up for their performances might include:

- Gordon Smith for missing a sitter for Brighton in an FA Cup Final - and the commentator for saying "Smith must score".
- Ally McLeod Argentina 1978 say no more.
- Scotland's rugby team 5 Feb 2000 for being humped by Italy 34 20.
- Jim Leighton for being old and thinking he's still got what it takes.
- Andy Goram, Ally McCoist, Chick Charnley, Chick Young and Jim Traynor for - "eating all the pies". (Have you seen Bill lately? - Ed.
- Ruud Gullit for introducing "sexy football" and John Barnes for trying to copy it.
- Jim Jefferies for being a moaning auld sweetie-wife (apologies to sweetie wives).
- England, for having the nerve to get through to the Finals of Euro 2000 by the jammiest and most circuitous route possible.

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



Disappointment at Easter Road

TOP: David Graham got his first full start of the season and managed to score against Hibs. INSET: The Cup match was a huge disappointment for the big travelling support from Dunfermline.

BOTTOM: Ian Ferguson found himself having to play a sweepers role at Easter Road.

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THE FOCUS IN THE PREMIER LEAGUE these days is much more about which side is going to be in the play-offs. Thankfully for Celtic fans, they appear to be clear of that hurdle (!), but Kilmarnock, with new signing Andy Smith, will be beginning to sweat following the mini Aberdeen revival. Their match against Motherwell today takes on very serious importance.

The First Division has much more interesting fare to offer, and nowhere more so than at Love Street where visitors Inverness Caley take on St Mirren. Inverness have had good results against the Buddies this season, but a likely combination of euphoria and alcohol after their midweek result will mean that they will have to be brought down from a collective high to compete. Let's hope they've sobered up! Raith will not be looking forward to their visit to Cappielow to face a Clydebank side who held them until the 93rd minute in their recent match at Starks Park.

Clyde appear to have the Second Division title sewn up, but at one point favourites Partick Thistle looked as if they might be joining the Third Division next season. Such has been their revival that a win today should see them competing for a promotion place. In the Third Division, Paul Smith's Berwick will take on stuttering league leaders Queens Park. Berwick have got themselves into a good challenging position, so this will be an important gauge of their ambitions.

BANK OF SCOTLAND PREMIER LEAGUE

Dundee v Celtic Kilmarnock v Motherwell St Johnstone v Hibernian

BELL'S LEAGUE FIRST DIVISION Clydebank v Raith Rovers DUNFERMLINE ATHLETIC V Morton Falkirk v Ayr United Livingston v Airdrie St Mirren v Inverness CT

BELL'S LEAGUE SECOND DIVISION Alloa Athletic v Hamilton Accies

Clyde v Stirling Albion Partick Thistle v Queen of the South Ross County v Arbroath Stenhousemuir v Stranraer

BELL'S LEAGUE THIRD DIVISION Berwick Rangers v Queens Park Brechin City v Dumbarton East Fife v Montrose East Stirling v Cowdenbeath Forfar Athletic v Albion Rovers



WHEN YOUNG FULL BACK Chris McGroarty stepped up to collect the Man of the Match Award from sponsors Volvo Bus and Truck at the Ayr United game, it was the fifth time he had been required to carry out the task at home games this season.

Quite simply, Chris has been the find of the season. Two years ago Bert Paton predicted great things for Chris, and now with the extended inclusion in the first team pool - mostly with a starting place - he has blossomed into a class footballer. His performance against Ayr was probably not his best of the season, but such is the high regard in which he is now considered that he was able to win the award ahead of second placed man Ian Ferguson.

Mention the name of Ian Ferguson to most Pars fans and they will be full of instant enthusiasm. Ian has very quickly - and rightly become a favourite with the fans. His class is there for all to see, but the thing that really pleases them is his ability to combine that with sheer hard work. This was Ian's second second place in a row from the two home games he's played.

Third place went to another man from whom great things are expected, Steve Crawford.



Man of the Match against Ayr United, Chris McGroarty

AUTO WINDSCREENS MAN OF THE MATCH 22.01.00 versus Ayr United : Sponsors Volvo Bus and Truck

Position	Player	Points
1	Chris McGROARTY	3
2	Ian FERGUSON	2
3	Steve CRAWFORD	1

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SATURDAY 19TH FEBRUARY 2000 BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE 1ST DIVISION ST MIRREN AT EAST END PARK

THIS MUCH AWAITED ENCOUNTER will finally get played next Saturday, on what should be a Scottish Cup fourth round Saturday. It was made possible after both clubs exited the Cup at the third round stage to Premier League opposition. At least there will be the prospect of a bigger crowd than might have been there had the match been played on the date proposed by the League - Tuesday 29th February. This is small consolation for Dunfermline who were looking forward to a bumper holiday crowd during the Christmas holidays when both clubs were on course for a major showdown. With Dunfermline's new pitch covering system, there was very little that could have put the game off, but nobody had bargained for 20 of St Mirren's 24 registered players being unavailable with flu and injuries.

Since then of course, the league has changed quite

considerably and it certainly is no longer the two-horse race that some thought it was going to be - Falkirk, Raith Rovers and Livingston have seen to that. Both clubs have stuttered a little since the turn of the year and know that they need to be back at their best to maintain the challenge in what is certain to be a tense and nervous finish to the season.

In the two matches played earlier in the season, there is no doubting who were the better side. Even though Dunfermline drew at East End Park in September, few would deny that St Mirren were the better team that day. The same was true of the match in Paisley, which the Buddies won, in October. But since then the Buddies have struggled to maintain their very impressive early season form. Dunfermline too have been inconsistent - a natural position to be in while the new manager tries to assess his squad and work out his best combinations.

It is hard to predict this match on current form but you can be sure that a big crowd should experience a very close encounter.

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		D	A'F'C'	GREENO				
			-	18	74			
Kris MAMPAEY	1		\cup			1	Alistair MAXWELL	
Scott THOMSON	2			7		2	David MURIE	
Chris McGROARTY	3					3	Derek ANDERSON	
Andy TOD	4					4	Andy MILLEN	
John POTTER	5					5	Graham MORRISON	
David MOSS	6					6	Garry TWEEDIE	
Eddie MAY	7					7	Stephen AITKEN	
Ian FERGUSON	8		2	N		8	Robert EARNSHAW	
Stephen CRAWFORD	9					9	Ross MATHESON	
Lee BULLEN	10					10	Harry CURRAN	
Stewart PETRIE	11		RM			11	Paul McDONALD	
Substitutes							Substitutes	
David GRAHAM	12		LL Z			12	Bryan SLAVIN	
Owen COYLE	14		5	7		14	Colin PLUCK	125
Jason DAIR	15			4		15	Michael HART	



*