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Division One

Auto Windscrees

NIGHT

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Wirral Programme Club Scottish Premier League Programme of the Year 1998-99 Dunfermline Athletic

versus



Raith Rovers

East End Park, Sat 18th March 2000 Kick-off 3.00pm

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ON THE COVER

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PLEASED BECAUSE
HE'S BEEN GETTING
BACK TO HIS BEST
AND WILL RELISH
TODAY'S MATCH

IN THIS ISSUE...



5 VISITOR

Local derby matches have an atmosphere all of their own, and when the two teams are quite evenly matched and going for the same goal - promotion to the Premier League - then something has to give. We assess Raith Rovers chances of getting back into the title challenge, at the expense of Dunfermline, of course!

15 SCOTT THOMSON

Utility player, man marker, joker - these are all terms which have been used to describe Scott Thomson. Most Pars fans these days would be inclined to say that here is a footballer in superb form playing some of the best football of his life....

16 SECOND ELEVEN

Dunfermline's Reserves have gone on a quite amazing run which has seen them on the verge of Reserve League title success.

Catch up with who's been doing what in the second eleven...

17 PAST HISTORIC

Everything you might want to know about the eighty-three previous league meetings, plus an insight into Raith's five Scotland internationalists.

26 ONE UP...

St Mirren manager Tom Hendrie comes under Bill Kinnear's microscope this week, as do those who would like to see more changes to Scottish football. He also likens Pars to his favourites Manchester United

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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HONOURS **European Competitions**

Cup Winners Cup: 1961/62 (quarter final), 1968/69 (semi-final) Fairs (now UEFA) Cup: 1962/63, 1964/65, 1965/66 (quarter final), 1966/67, 1969/70

Scottish League **Highest Position** 3rd: 1964/65, 1968/69

Scottish League 1st Division Champions: 1988/89, 1995/96

Runners up: 1912/13, 1993/94, 1994/95

Scottish League Division 2

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

Scottish League 2nd Division Champions: 1985/86

Runners-Up: 1978/79

Scottish Cup

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

Scottish League Cup Runners-Up: 1949/50, 1991/92

Semi-Finalists: 1989/90, 1996/97, 1997/98

Scottish Qualifying Cup Winners: 1911/12

Central Leagu Champions: 1910/11, 1911/12 **BP Scottish Youth Cup**

Winners: 1987/88 Scottish Reserve League

Champions: 1986/87, 1992/93

Calderwood

THE GAME HERE AT EAST END PARK against St Mirren was probably the best we have played over ninety minutes since I arrived at the club. To be honest, we let them out of jail - Kris Mampaey had nothing to do in the game and the ball just wouldn't fall for Stevie Crawford. It was very disappointing to let them in with a soft goal at the end, but at least we could be satisfied knowing that at that moment in time we were the better team.

The Airdrie game was a big disappointment, especially after getting off to such a good start. We didn't use it to our advantage and even after scoring our second we still didn't look right. I know that we can play a lot better, but the three points are the critical thing at

We knew when we travelled to Paisley that it was going to be our last chance to be where we wanted to be at the end of the season - to be in first place. We had our pre-match meal in Paisley and I know this is easy to say now, but I could see in the faces of the players that day that there was no way they were going to be beaten. We played well, Stevie Crawford scored two good goals, and we were never really threatened. They kept their sweeper system, threw up a lot of high balls but never really asked us any questions. I realise that's not how everybody saw it, and I'm a bit dismayed at some of the comments coming from other quarters. Some of my colleagues in Scotland seem to have a problem in giving credit to other teams for doing a good job. I don't know whether it's fear or maybe jealousy, but others, including their own players, are going to look at what happened and see for themselves the truth of the matter.

We now have three very hard games coming up, but the good news is that, with the exception of Ian Ferguson, we have no injuries and no suspensions which gives me real selection headaches. Even Fergie could be back because he's back in training and he's positive and buzzing. Knowing the character of the man, he'll want to be back, but we won't take any risks. Defensively we are improving and Toddy is coming back on to a game. I thought that Scott Thomson was one of our best players against St Mirren - he had to be completely disciplined despite his natural urges to get up the park, and combined with Jason Dair the full back positions are looking good. Credit should also go to guys like Stevie Hampshire and Stewart Petrie. Fans don't always see the tactical role that these guys have to play but they did that very well last week. Despite losing two key players at Love Street, we didn't have to change our system thanks to the role the subs played - Hamish, Justin and Owen all played their parts superbly. Just look at the brilliant touch that Owen showed as soon as he came on which nearly lead to another goal.

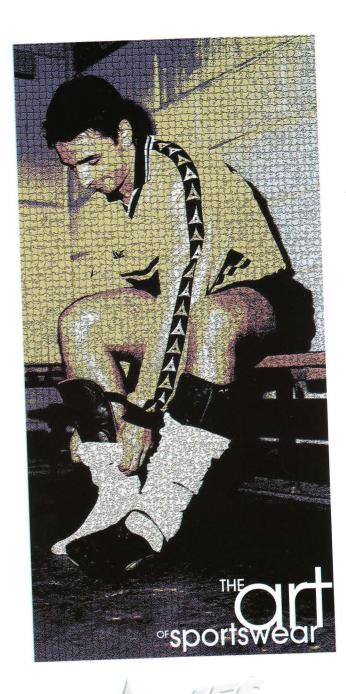
I feel sorry for these players and others like Jamie Dolan and Eddie May, but I am very impressed with the attitude that they have all shown. The fact that the Reserves are about to win the Reserve League speaks volumes. There will be more injuries and suspensions before the end of the season, of that I'm sure. It will be the players who are 15th to 18th in the current selection order who will have the biggest part to play in deciding where the title goes.

Raith Rovers come to East End Park today knowing that they must win to stay in the race. Anything less than a win with the number of games left would be too tall an order. They won well the last time we played, but there were other factors at play that day. We had a good second half despite only playing with ten men. They have become stronger since that match, but we've also improved. Our goal is to be champions, and after what happened at Starks Park we owe it to our supporters to win this one.



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rather be without?....

RAITH ROVERS

AS WE'VE BEEN KNOWN TO SAY BEFORE, matches between Dunfermline

Athletic and Raith Rovers require no incentive to ensure a hardfought and closely contested match. Even if the two were separated by the length of the league table, a ferocious contest could be expected. The fact there is rather a lot at stake today makes matters even more interesting.

Raith Rovers' form this season has been a bit like a roller coaster - there have been some exceptional highs and some equally exceptional lows. Rovers' fans would undoubtedly point to their emphatic 3-0 win over Dunfermline at Starks Park on 3rd January as one of those highs, while their result against Clydebank a couple of weeks ago (when they became the first league side to lose to the Bankies this season) would fall into the other category.

It may not be fair to say that the wheels have come off of Rovers promotion chase, but poor form has come at the wrong time and they will now have to make a monumental effort to catch up. The loss of two late goals at home to St Mirren may have dented their confidence. That was followed by the afore-mentioned defeat to Clydebank and then last week's goalless effort at Livingston, thus making today's encounter all the more vital for Rovers.

Unlike recent seasons, Rovers hold the upper hand in matches played this season between the two with a win and two draws. This game is just as important to Dunfermline who need to sustain their winning run to apply pressure on St Mirren at the top. The Pars are still licking their wounds from the match in January and will want to exact revenge for that result.

Raith manager Peter Hetherston is sure to have his players ready for this one, and despite his recent lapse against St Mirren, goalkeeper GUIDO VAN DE KAMP will be just about the first name to be pencilled in. The big Dutchman has enjoyed three good seasons at Stark's Park since leaving the Pars on a free transfer in the summer of 1997. A Scottish Cup winner with Dundee United in 1994, he came to Scotland in 1991 and is now very much one of the senior voices around Starks Park.

23 year old **GREIG McCULLOCH** signed for £65,000 from Aberdeen. He is in his fifth season at Stark's Park, and after some months out of contention has taken over the number two shirt despite originally being a left back. Another candidate for the right back role is **CRAIG McEWAN**. The 22 year old was a regular in the Scotland Under 21 team and was very highly rated.



The left back slot has been taken over by one of Raith's French

legion. 22 year old SACHA OPINEL

Has made himself a bit of a cult figure since arriving at Starks Park earlier this season. The former Stockport County left back has signed until the summer but Rovers' fans are keen to have him stay with his tough tackling and powerful shooting.

After some disruption due to international commitments, Raith can return to their best central defensive pairing of MARVYN ANDREWS and PAUL BROWNE. 24 year old Marvyn made an instant impression on the Rovers support when he signed in February 1998, and he enjoyed a good season as Rovers otherwise struggled in the First Division, and is now established as a fans favourite. Commanding in the air, he is a member of Trinidad's international squad and recently had the distinction of scoring the first goal in the preliminary rounds of the World Cup 2002. 25 year old Paul made three appearances in the Premiership for Aston Villa which attracted Rovers attention and a tribunal decided that they should pay Villa £105,000 for his services in July 1996. He has been a fixture in the Rovers defence since.

Raith's midfield department revolves around KENNY BLACK. Kenny seems to have been around forever but the vastly experienced left sided midfield player, who has graduated to Player-Coach at Stark's Park, is still a mainstay of the Rovers side. 37 later this year, Kenny has also seen service with Portsmouth, Hearts, Motherwell, Rangers and Airdrie. Local lad STEVEN TOSH finally signed for his home town club in March 1998, following a number of years with Arbroath and St Johnstone. He cost Rovers £30,000, and has enjoyed something of a love-hate relationship with supporters. A hard-working, all-action midfield player with a nose for goal, he has seen more first team action this season. Montpellier-born JEAN PHILLIPPE JAVIER is another of the clubs recent crop of young French signings. The 22 year old midfielder has signed from Valence until the summer, and has already made a considerable impact - sometimes to much as recently when he received his marching orders against St Mirren.

Despite the fact that top players ALEX BURNS and CRAIG DARGO have been out suspended recently, there is still plenty of threat from the Raith forward line. Kirkcaldy-born PAUL TOSH is a strong running winger-cum-striker who started his career with his home town team and was involved in two big money transfers, firstly to Dundee, and then to Hibs in March 1997. DIDIER AGATHE left Montpellier during the summer, frustrated at failing to establish himself in the first team. Rovers snapped him up on a year's contract after the French centre forward made a stunning debut for the club with a hat-trick at Airdrie. He has since impressed with some strong and direct performances.

Dunfermline-born PAUL SHIELDS made a surprise debut in a League Cup tie at Tynecastle last September and scored on his debut. Further appearances last season showed him to be a striker of some promise, and led to a cap for Scotland Under 19s. The young striker has shown considerable progress this season and much is expected of him in the future. Rovers also have another young striker on show in the shape of 20 year old ANSAH OWUSU. Ansah has been signed on loan from English Premiership side Wimbledon. Prominent in the Wimbledon Reserves this season, he has been brought to Starks Park for first team experience. Providing width in the forward area is 21 year old JAY STEIN. Four years at Stark's Park, having been called up from Inverkeithing United, this old-fashioned left winger has impressed and has been a fixture for most of the season.

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THE FINAL COUNTDOWN

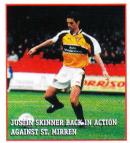
We have quite definitely now reached that stage of the season where nerves start to get tattered and winning and losing games takes on such enormous significance. The good news - for Pars fans at least - is that Dunfermline have shown signs in recent matches of playing some of their best football of the season.

It is still very unclear as to what, if anything will happen about play-offs. It would seem to depend upon Falkirk's final league position - if Falkirk finish in the top three and assuming no changes of heart by the SPL about Falkirk's status, there will be no play offs. There will be no relegation from the Premier league and the top two in the First Division will be promoted, also assuming they have grounds that meet the SPL's requirements.

If Falkirk finish outside the top three, and assuming that all three have grounds which conform to requirements, the play-offs will take place on 20th, 24th and 28th May in a round robin tournament involving the bottom club in the Premier League.

The remaining games for the clubs involved in the promotion places are at the foot of the page.

It should be noted that Livingston have an extra match with an earlier postponed game against Airdrie still to be played. Also, Dunfermline's match against Ayr United will not go ahead on 8th April as planned due to Ayr United's Cup semi-final that weekend.



Earlier this week, Head Coach Jim Calderwood pointed out the very important role that the fans can play in the final games of the season:

"Our fans were tremendous against St Mirren in both games. That kind of support definitely makes a difference and breeds confidence in the players. It is no use getting on to the players because they don't deliberately try to play badly. It is our job to get the public off their seats - even when we

drew against St Mirren here you knew that the fans had enjoyed the game. They have a big role to play in the run in."

COLIN NISH GOES ON LOAN TO ALLOA

Pars young striker Colin Nish has gone on loan to Alloa Athletic for the remainder of the season and played in Alloa's midweek promotion match against Ross County.

Colin, who was 19 last week, played in a number of Premier League matches last season, but has been unable to make the breakthrough this season.

Coach Jim
Calderwood
explained his
reasons for
agreeing to the
move:

"Colin is a great prospect for the future and he's been scoring for fun in the

Reserves this season. Unfortunately,

there are few Reserve games left, but in any case, someone of Colin's age needs to get first team experience. We had a few teams looking at Colin, but we didn't want to lose him. I can understand his frustrations but he will understand when we've got players like Owen Coyle and Stevie Crawford around, he has to show patience. He is one for the future but in the meantime the experience he'll get at Alloa will stand him in good stead."

NEW CONTRACTS

General Manager Paul D'Mello has been a busy man in recent weeks. New contracts for Jimmy Nicholl and Chris McGroarty (until June 2002) have been arranged, while youngster Kevin McLeish is likely to be rewarded with a professional contract soon.

Fans will be pleased to hear that striker Lee Bullen, who has been an instant hit with the fans at East End Park, is in contract discussions with the club. At the present time he is under contract until the end of the season, but given his performances to date it seems likely that an extension will be sorted out.

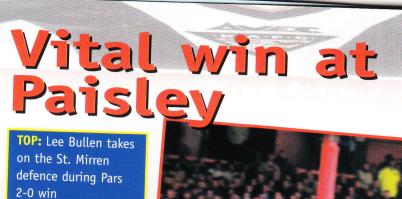
Another player in the same boat is central defender John Potter. John has increased in confidence and ability since arriving at the club and appears to have the backing of Jim Calderwood, who describes him as the "only natural defender the club has".

Let's hope that all of these matters are resolved soon.

AND FINALLY...

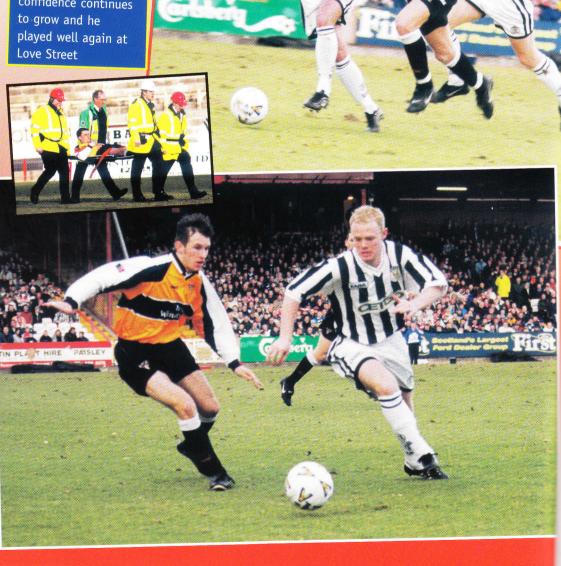
Who says that former players don't help their old clubs out? The last couple of weeks have seen a nice double act from those two stalwarts of the Pars teams of the eighties, Stevie Morrison and Ian McCall. Firstly, Morrison's Clydebank win their first win of the season and it happens to be against promotion rivals Raith Rovers, then McCall's Morton defeat Livingston earlier this week. Add to that the fact that Harry Curran scored the winner and we have a brilliant 'old boys' network - well done and thank you very much lads!!

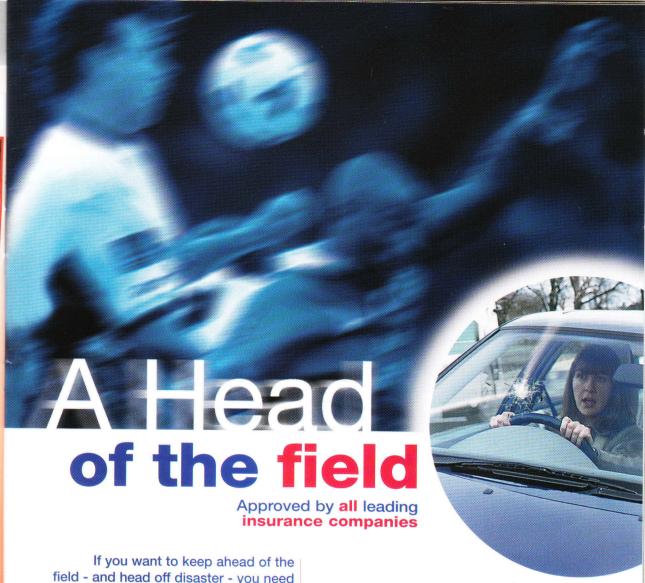
	ST MIRREN	DUNFERMLINE A.	FALKIRK	RAITH R.	LIVINGSTON
18 March	Morton (A)	Raith Rovers (H)	Airdrie (H)	Dunfermline (A)	Inverness (A)
25 March	Clydebank (A)	Falkirk (A)	Dunfermline (H)	Airdrie (H)	Morton (H)
1 April	Airdrie (A)	Livingston (H)	Clydebank (A)	Ayr United (A)	Dunfermline(A)
8 April	Falkirk (H)	Ayr United (A)	St Mirren (A)	Inverness (H)	Clydebank (A)
15 April	Livingston (A)	Clydebank (H)	Raith Rovers (H)	Falkirk (A)	St Mirren (H)
22 April	Ayr United (A)	Inverness (A)	Morton (A)	Livingston (H)	Raith Rovers (A)
29 April	Raith Rovers (H)	Airdrie (H)	Inverness (H)	St Mirren (A)	Ayr United (H)
6 May	Inverness (A)	Morton (A)	Ayr United (A)	Clydebank (H)	Airdrie (A)



INSET: Jason Dair gets stretchered off but fortunately his injury was not as bad as was feared

BOTTOM: Steve Hampshire's confidence continues





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PARSTATS

1999/2000 APPEARANCES & GOALSCORERS

		gue (Challe Cu	enge p	Scott	ish p	TOTA	LS			
	Apps 1	Goals		Goals					Apps	Goals	
Lee Bullen	5(0)	3	0(0)	0	0(0)	0	0(0)	0	5(0)	3	
Owen Coyle	19(4)	8	2(0)	2	1(0)	2	0(1)	0	22(5)	12	
Stephen Crawford	17(0)	12	0(0)	0	0(0)	0	0(0)	0	17(0)	12	
Jason Dair	16(2)	1	2(0)	0	0(0)	0	1(0)	0	19(2)	1	
Jamie Dolan	18(0)	0	2(0)	0	1(0)	0	1(0)	0	22(0)	0	
Ian Ferguson	7(0)	1	0(0)	0	0(0)	0	1(0)	0	8(0)	1	
Hamish French	11(7)	3	2(0)	0	0(1)	0	0(0)	0	13(8)	3	
David Graham	0(12)	1	1(0)	0	0(1)	0	1(0)	1	2(13)	2	
Steve Hampshire	10(7)	3	0(0)	0	0(0)	0	1(0)	0	11(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	
Kris Mampaey	7(0)	2*	0(0)	0	0(0)	0	1(0)	0	8(0)	2	
Eddie May	15(3)	0	1(1)	0	1(0)	0	0(0)	0	17(4)	0	
Chris McGroarty	12(7)	0	0(2)	0	1(0)	0	1(0)	0	14(9)	0	
David Moss	16(5)	4	0(0)	0	0(0)	0	0(1)	0	16(6)	4	
Colin Nish	0(2)	0	0(1)	0	0(0)	0	0(0)	0	0(3)	0	
Stewart Petrie	24(0)	3	2(0)		0(0)	0	1(0)	0	27(0)	4	
John Potter	9(4)	1	1(0)	0	0(0)	0	0(0)	0	10(4)	1	
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	
Justin Skinner	18(2)	0	0(0)	0	0(0)	0	0(0)	0	18(2)	0	
Andy Smith	11(1)	4	2(0)	1	1(0)	0	0(0)	0	14(1)	5	
Scott Thomson	20(1)	1	1(0)	0	1(0)	0	1(0)	0	23(1)		
Andy Tod	25(1)	1	1(0)		1(0)		1(0)	0	28(1)		
Ian Westwater	21(0)	7*	2(0)	1*	1(0)	0	0(0)	0	24(0)	8*	I

Correct at 12th March, 2000. Brackets indicate appearances as substitute.
*Denotes shut-out by goalkeeper.

BELL'S Scottish Football League - Div. 1

HOME								AWAY					
	Р	W	D	L	F	Α	W	D	L	F	Α	Pts	GD
St Mirren	28	10	3	3	38	19	7	3	2	26	13	57	32
Dunfermline	28	7	7	0	23	10	8	3	3	27	16	55	24
Falkirk	28	9	0	5	26	20	7	5	2	23	13	53	16
Raith	28	9	2	3	30	18	4	5	5	17	15	46	14
Livingston	27	6	5	3	21	12	7	2	4	22	18	46	13
Inverness CT	28	5	5	3	22	16	5	3	7	22	26	38	2
Ayr	28	5	2	6	17	16	3	4	8	13	23	30	-9
Morton	28	6	3	4	19	15	2	3	10	20	34	30	-10
Airdrie	27	3	4	7	12	23	2	3	8	7	28	22	-32
Clydebank	28	1	2	11	10	34	0	2	12	6	32	7	-50

KEY TO STATS

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

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Sat 07

Tue 10

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Wed 18

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Sat 04

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Sat 18

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Wed 12

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Sat 06

Sun 14

Sat 20

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Sat 04

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Mon 03

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Sat 05

Sat 12

Sat 19

Sat 26

Sat 04

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Sat 25

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Sat 08

Sat 15 Sat 22

Sat 29

Sep

Nov

Dec

Jan

Feb

Mar

May Sat 06

Inverness Cal. Thistile

Morton Bels Cup 1

Queens Park (IIS Cun 2

Clydebank at Cappielow

Rangers (CIS Cup 3)

Inverness Cal. Thistle

Inverness Cal. Thistle

Hibernian (SC Rd 3)

Clydebank at Cappielow

Airdrieonians

Morton

St. Mirren

Raith Rovers

Ayr United

St. Mirren

Raith Rovers

Livingston

Clydebank

Ayr United

Raith Rovers

Livingston

Ayr United

Morton St. Mirren

Airdrieonians

SFA Cup Round 5

Avr United/SFA Cup Semi F.

Inverness Cal. Thistle

Raith Rovers

Clydebank

Morton

Airdrieonians

St Mirren

Falkirk **Livingston**

Falkirk

Morton

Falkirk

ATTND

4.685

2,893

2,596

4 036

6.520

5,798

6,220

6.087

4,051

30.024

3,964

3,016

6 130

6,889

4,163 4,229

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3,775

7,463

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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 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.

Name	99/2000 Club	Bells League	CUP	Bells Cup	Tepn Sc.Cup	Totals
Paul SHEERIN Barry LAVETY Mark YARDLEY David BINGHAM SCOTT CRABBE Owen COYLE Steve CRAWFORD Craig DARGO Barry WILSON Briah McPHEE Glynn HURST Dave NICHOLLS HARRY CURRAN Didier AGATHE Gerry BRITTION AINE STEVEN Marino KEITH Steven McGARRY David MOSS	Inverness CT St. Mirren St. Mirren St. Mirren Livingston Falkirk Dunfermline Raith Rovers Inverness CT Livingston Ayr United Falkirk Morton Raith Rovers Livingston St. Mirren Falkirk / DAFE	11 16 16 11 10 8 12 9 9 9 9 8 8 7 4 6 4	1 0 0 0 2 2 0 1 1 0 0 0 2 2 1 0 0 0 0 0	4 0 0 2 0 2 0 1 1 1 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0	1 0 0 2 1 0 0 1 1 1 0 0 1 1 0 0 0 0 1 1 0	17 16 16 15 13 12 12 12 12 11 9 9 9 7 7 7 7

BELL'S	15	t DIV.	ATTEN	DANCES 1999/2000
Name	Gms	Total Attnd.	Av. Attnd.	Highest Attendance during Season
Airdrieonians	13	24,424	1,879	3,209 V St Mirren (12.11.99)
Ayr United	13	26,601	2,046	3,467 V St Mirren (23.10.99)
Clydebank	14	7,082	506	1,513 V St Mirren (29.08.99)
DUNFERMLINE ATH	14	70,859	5,061	7,233 V Falkirk (15.01.00)
Falkirk	14	42,857	3,061	4,505 v St Mirren (25.09.99)
Inverness Cal Thistle	13	29,832	2,295	3.022 v Falkirk (14.08.99)
Livingston	14	55,256	3,947	5,798 v Dunfermline (04.09.99)
Morton	13	18,186	1,399	3,733 v St Mirren (06.11.99)
Raith Rovers	14	48,046	3,432	7,463 v Dunfermline (03.01.00)
St Mirren	16	73.908	4,619	7,224 v Morton (03.01.99)

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What have you been doing while BELLS has been maturing? Eight years. Well spent. BELLS

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Hi folks,

Well, the recent Morton game had to be the coldest game I have been at in a very long time! I knew as soon as I stood on my skis that this was one pre-match routine that was becoming less funny by the minute! As I took up position in the middle of the park, the snow blew directly into my face and I don't mind telling you that without my scarf I was freezing! Undeterred by the inclement weather I proceeded to take up my "racing position" on the skis. Lo and behold, with the wind in my face and the pitch as flat as the proverbial pancake, I did not move one inch! Imagine if I had tried the same move on the slope at Easter Road... I would have probably ended up swimming in the Forth River!

When I heard Alex shouting over the PA system that the kick-off had been delayed by 15 minutes to see if the weather improved, I was soooo happy. My immediate panic soon lifted as I realised I had to do something special to keep the impatient (and also freezing) crowd interested for 15 minutes. What could I do...? Tick followed tock, followed tick... A-ha – a snowman I thought! Second thoughts... not a good idea, because I would have to make sure I got it back off the pitch for the game. No... my idea had to be better than that! Ch-Ching! New idea! I know, what about writing our name "Vision-on" style in the centre circle? Great – that'll work I thought. So I went about writing PARS in the snow. I didn't realise it was so hard to do art on such a big scale, but with the exception of a very large A, I think everyone realised what was written. For as much as I enjoyed myself though, I NEVER want to do THAT ROUTINE again, and I am sure the players never want to play in a blizzard again either! Still, I got some great publicity in the Press, the Extra, and I even made it onto Football First! WOW! Wonders will never cease!

Finally, lets all combine to be the Pars 12th man today! Cheer on the team by singing today's selected Sammy Song really loud:
Stand up... If you love the Pars, Stand up... If you love the Pars
Stand up... If you love the Pars, Stand up... If you love the Pars
Stand up... If you love the Pars, Stand up... If you love the Pars

Love and Cuddles

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

"Sammy the Tammy"...

YOUNG PARS NEWS
First of all thanks to all of you who came along to the preliminary heats for our annual Young Pars Penalty Kick Competition. As usual, it was freezing at Pitreavie and I think we were all glad to be finished and to go home! So well done to all of

you who got through to the Semi Finals and remember, everyone else, there' vays next year! In today's Semi Final please give plenty of encouragement to Paul Thomson, Andrew Daniel and Ryan Holmes at half time!

At our last Meeting a few weeks ago, we had great fun in our Young Pars "Zones". There was a really good turn out of Members and we must thank Jamie Squires, Russell Taylor, David Hay and Chris Templeman for coming along and joining in. Well Done to Ross Clark who was our overall Winner!

YOUNG PARS BIRTHDAY BOARD

Many happy returns to the following Young Pars who have birthdays in March: Andrew Philbin, Dean Parkyn, Thomas Pooley, Paul Philbin, Kirsty Dunlop, Sandy Rutherford, Stephanie Paton, Dean Knox, Jade McCathie, Martin Morris, Jamie Fitzgerald, Allison Reid, Andrew Daniel, Jamie Watson, Ian McBain, Nicole Horn

COMPETITION TIME!

Win two tickets for the Match against Livingston on Saturday 1st April by answering the following question:

Name three former Pars Players who now play with Livingston F.C. Send your entries to Jean Nelson, 54 Moncur Street, Townhill, Dunfermline.

We're busy arranging our end of season event at the moment and we are hoping that we'll be able to get all of our Young Pars Members together for a BIG party!! Watch out for details coming your way, along with news of how to vote for your choice of Young Pars Player of the Year, details of how to enter our end of season sponsorship competition and also how to help with our dreaded annual fundraising event!

Look out too for details about a special Easter Young Pars training session! You won't want to miss out on any of these Events so watch out for the Postie with

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:

ADULTS HOODED SWEATSHIRT (PRINTED) SWEATSHIRT (EMB) DAFC T-SHIRT WHITE (PRINTED) DAFC T-SHIRT BLACK/GREY (PRINTED) HOME & AWAY JERSEYS	£27.99 £24.99 £12.99 £9.99 £39.99
KIDS HOODED SWEATSHIRT BLACK (PRINTED) JOG PANT BLACK/GREY (PRINTED)	£15.99 £13.99 £33.99
HOME & AWAY JERSEYS DAFC T-SHIRT BLACK/GREY/WHITE HATS & SCARVES	£5.99
BAR SCARF NEW JAQUARD SCARF	£5.99 £5.99
BRONX HAT EMBROIDERED BASEBALL CAP	£6.99 £9.99 £2.99
SKI HAT ONLY BAR HAT	£4.99





WRISTBANDS	£1.99
BASEBALL CAP (PRIN	(TED) £5.99
SOUVENIRS (ALL NE PIN BADGES HEAD BAND WRIST BAND MIRRORS ONLY PEN/KEYRING SET PEN/NOTEPAD SET SOUP MUGS SLIPPERS CHILD SIZE SLIPPERS ADULT SIZE	FROM 99P ONLY 99P £1.99 ONLY £1.99 ONLY £1.99 ONLY £4.99 S 7-5 £3.99

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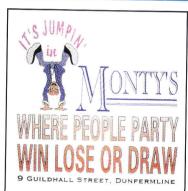
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SCOTT

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WITH THE LAST QUARTER OF GAMES now in progress, every player will have to play their part if the Pars are to emerge as champions in two months time. If versatility and good humour are called on, one man tops the list - Scott Thomson, who can cover two or three different roles with ease and no little skill, and is renowned at the club for his boundless comedy routine, most of which he finds funny himself! Bob Storie caught up with Scott in a recent interview to ask how he was getting ready for the run-in to the season's end.

We've now got close to St Mirren at the top - are we finally playing our best football?

"Probably not yet, no! We know ourselves that it's not quite the 100% we're capable of doing. We're working as hard as we can, and its getting better! Our confidence is getting stronger, and we're starting to get some clean sheets now, the big one being Love Street in the last game. I think we're starting to get a wee bit rub of the green now, and the St Mirren game showed that. Our squad's pretty strong as well, even our subs look a strong option, and with guys like Chris McGroarty still to come back, this could be an exciting time for us to show our best football."

The result at Love Street was a massive boost - why is our away form better than home games?

"It's certainly not intentional, I can assure you of that! I'm only guessing here, but it's likely that there's less pressure on us away from home because expectations are higher on your own patch - you're expected to win on home ground, and that's a big burden to carry. We always want to do our best for our own fans, and we've lost some soft goals at home this season - too many drawn games for us at East End for our liking. We've played better against the top clubs, I think, and probably not so well against the others. The exception was the New Year Derby game, but that was a total one-off. Form is improving all the way round, Andy Tod's back to his old self, and Fergie's made a difference, too - it's looking good right now!"

Which side has impressed you the most this season, and which player has given you the biggest test?

"The surprise for me has been my old club, Raith Rovers. They were in all kinds of a mess last year, on and off the park, but they've really made a big impact this season and are in with a shout of the play-offs. Inverness Caley, as well, have learned fast after struggling at the start, and I think they could be a big threat next season. As for individuals, Alex Burns at Raith has showed up very well this year, and Scott Crabbe at Falkirk has come back to top form after a horrendous spell of injuries. It's been a tense time for all of us in the league, so everyone deserves credit for all their efforts."

You're renowned for your dressing room banter - who are the other jokers in the pack?

"The dressing room has its fair share, and I have to give mention to Stewart (Petrie) and Owen (Coyle) who are a real pair of characters. You have to give as good as you get in this company, and that's where Brian (Reid) and Jason (Dair) come in - Reidy's patter is absolutely the worst there is, and Jason's not the best at taking a wind-up at his own expense - he won't speak for days afterwards! (only joking, Jason!) As for the management, the boss is alright, he enjoys a good laugh as much as the next man, and Jimmy Nicholl is forever going on about his playing days, on and on! Seriously though, it's a great atmosphere to work in from top to bottom, and that counts for a hell of a lot at a time like this!"

You've picked up rave reviews in a number of positions - where's your preferred choice?

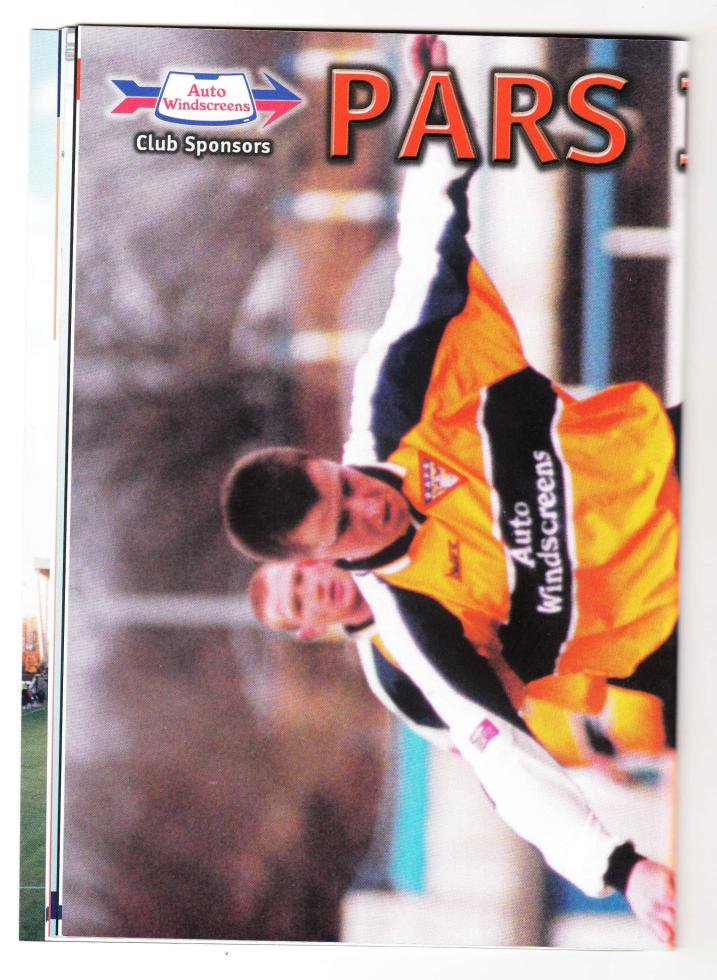
"If I was pressed for a firm decision, I would have to say I prefer off the front two, where I can get the chance to run at defenders more often, but having said that, I've actually enjoyed playing at the back in recent games. Despite losing Scott McCulloch and Greg Shields, we do have some good players to use at the back, because we can call on the likes of Eddie May, Chris McGroarty, and even Hamish French has done well in a couple of games this year. At the moment, the boss seems happy enough with Jason and myself, but I know he'll be looking to strengthen for when we manage to go up - that's fair game!"

How big an impact has Ian Ferguson made on the club?

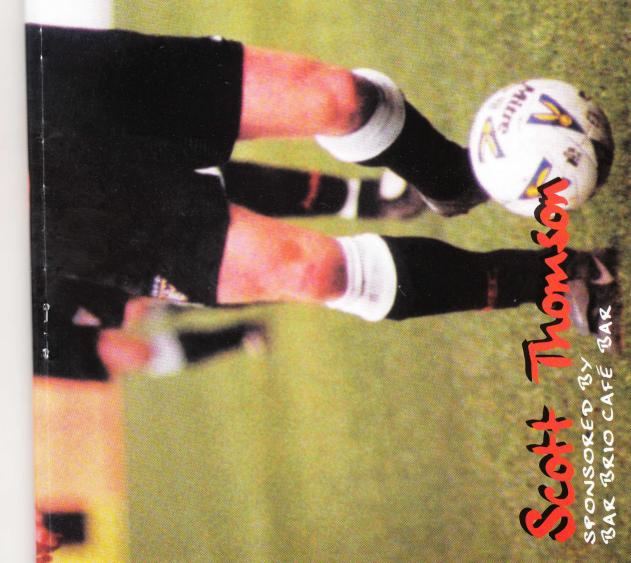
"It's a clear indication of just how ambitious this club is. It's a major signing of a top quality player, and you can be sure that more like Ian will be brought in if we go up! He's done very well for us since his arrival, and he's fitted in very well with all of us, although his patter is rotten! No, seriously, Ian has a wealth of top drawer experience, and he was on a hiding to nothing by signing for us, and it's given us all a wee bit of a lift. Now that he's captain out on the park, he pulls the strings during the games - the right man in the right place!"

Your old club today - how do you rate their season?

"As I said earlier, they've done amazingly well this year compared with what happened last season. They've had to do a bit of re-shaping with their squad, but it seems to have done the trick. Peter Hetherston's done a bang-on job as the new gaffer, and I know him very well from our days up at Aberdeen. Mind you, he's gone a bit big-time now he's a manager, so I'll be giving him a few pelters today if I get the chance! Key players for them will be Alex Burns and Craig Dargo, and if Marvyn Andrews gets a game, they'll still have a chance of the play-offs, but we'll be looking for revenge for the New Year Game - we'll be up for it!"



IN PERSON



Jim Macdonald's World of Football

MISTAKEN IDENTITY

Relax – this has nothing to do with a little problem we had at Pratt Street a few months ago. We'll leave that issue to the rule makers at the "House of the Hill" when member clubs get the chance to move the goalposts – in a manner of speaking – at the governing body's millennium AGM later this year.

No, this piece is based on the revelation in the English press that New Zealand born Brett Sinkinson (not a nom-de-plume!), having won the most recent of his 14 Welsh rugby caps only a fortnight ago, has – allegedly – no more right to play for Wales than (arguably) Scotland's least favourite politician, Margaret Thatcher.

Seemingly the right to play for the "Land of his Father" was through a grandfather born in Carmarthen, Wales, although records show that he was, in fact, born in Andy Goram-land, Oldham, Lancashire, England. As dear old Arthur Montford might have put it, it's caused a fair old stramash in the offices of the International Rugby Board, chaired by Welshman Vernon Pugh (!)

We are not aware of a direct precedent for this situation in fitba', although the records show that FIFA's Executive Committee banned Mexico from international competition for two years for forging Under 21 players birth certificates... and we recall a Saudi-Arabian Under 16 side visiting these shores a few years ago when the ages (but not the birthright) of some of their squad members might have been "questionable". I can remember only a handful of guys born Furth of Scotland who have turned out in Scotia's football colours in recent years so maybe we've been less guilty than most nations in trying to take advantage of dubious blood-lines ... or maybe we've just been naïve!

Footnote: we were tempted to contact Motherwell's Ged Brannan to invite his comments on the subject, but were advised that he was out of the country attending a business meeting with Costas Takkas, embattled General Secretary of the Cayman Islands FA... something to do with a match fee for not turning out against Cuba in a World Cup qualifier.

ONE OVER THE EIGHT

"We were murder - that was the worst ever"

"Last time we played them they claimed it was their best performance of the season .. but even when we were reduced to 10 men they couldn't beat us"

"For the 90 minutes we were by far the better side, played by far the better football ... when they got their second goal I think the most surprised people on the park were (their) players; they'd scored two goals and done nothing to earn them"

"Crawford will never score a goal like that again in his life \dots off balance and 30 yards out"

Difficult? We'll give you a bit of help. The "We were murder ..." utterance was from Albion Rovers' acting manager Jimmy Lindsay. The remaining mathematically-precise quotes were made by someone not hell-bent on winning friends and influencing people.

THEY THINK IT'S ALL OVER...IT IS NOW

It was a long time coming, but later rather than sooner the forgotten men of England's World Cup winning team got their just rewards from good Queen Liz a few weeks ago. Gongs went to the guys ignored in previous handouts - Alan Ball, George Cohen, Roger Hunt, Nobby Stiles and Ray Wilson for the part they played in England's 4- 2 victory over West Germany in 1966.

On a serious note, the 'Scotsman' editorial suggested that it might have been appropriate, too, to honour Jock Stein's home-grown Celtic team of 1967, for it's European Cup triumph, achieved - unlike England's - on foreign soil. The editorial goes on to say that... "while righting old wrongs would it be wrong to suggest an award for Tofik Bakhramov, the Russian linesman, whose mistake helped England win the World Cup? Then the matter could safely be described as all over. Unlike the ball".

STRIKING GOLD

You have to go 'way back to the end of the 19th century to find news of a major gold strike in North America, but Los Angeles was the venue for the latest success - a CONCACAF Gold Cup triumph for rank outsiders Canada against much-favoured Columbia.

A tartan-clad Canadian squad - ranked 85 in the World and statistically the tournament's second worst team - defied the odds to win 2- nil, witnessed by a miserable gathering of around 6200, mostly favouring the South Americans. Squad members currently playing their trade in Scotland are: Jason De Vos (Dundee United), scorer of the first goal in the final; Paul Fenwick, former Pars player and definitely not flavour of the month with present employers, Morton; Inverness Caley Thistle duo Richard Hastings and David Xausa; and Dundee United back- up 'keeper Pat Onstad.

Well done, guys. Obviously you had a good day!

RUGBY RULES, OK

With FIFA taking it's first faltering steps, with rugby's '10 metre rule' on an experimental basis, is it only a matter of time until fitba' gets blood replacements (which would be difficult with so many non-Scots around) and the 'sin bin' inherited from ice hockey by the oval ball men?

Watch this space. We'll have a word with Dick as soon as poss.

AND FINALLY...

No disrespect to our visitors, but we enjoyed the report from Cappielow that when Clydebank went 2-nil up against Rovers last week a wag in the 256 crowd roared at his side to "...stop showboating".

Sorry - couldn't resist it.



18

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Second Eleven

In association with the

THE GOOD NEWS IS THAT the Reserves continue on the goal trail. Undefeated since October, Athletic's Reserve side now looks to be heading for the Reserve League East title and have perhaps introduced a little healthy competition into the dressing room in the process.

The long trip north to Inverness was rewarded with a good performance and a 3-0 over Inverness. Jimmy Nicholl reported that the Pars played well in this match. Despite playing in poor conditions, he thought that the side showed good commitment and singled out Colin Nish and Jason Dair for special mention. The only down side was the yellow card picked up by Brian Reid, which meant that he was unavailable for the first team trips to Airdrie and Paisley. The scorers were Colin Nish, David Graham and Hamish French

The Dunfermline side was Hay, Squires, Dair, Taylor, Reid, Dolan, Hampshire (McLeish, 58 mins), Graham, Nish (Boyle, 30 mins), French (Nicol, 76 mins), Coyle.

The Pars fielded a strong side for the fixture against Montrose on 22nd February, with only Russell Taylor from the starting eleven not having had any first team experience. Whilst the home win may not have been such a surprise in such circumstances, the 7-0 victory recorded by the Pars was impressive by any standards and perhaps not surprisingly Jimmy Nicholl had few reservations about the side's performance. Colin Nish opened the scoring in 14 minutes when Eddie May played the ball back to him from close range. Owen Coyle notched his first goal of the game with 24 minutes gone, volleying home from close in from a Jamie Squires cross. Five minutes later the same player added to his tally after sprinting into the box and blasting the ball home from about 12 yards. Just one minute later and Hamish French latched onto a through ball played in from the left and accelerated into the box before curling a shot past the Montrose 'keeper into the bottom far corner of the net. Davie Graham then made it 5-0 just before half time when he sprang the off-side trap and shot home from just

The second half could not compete for excitement with the first 45 minutes, but in 68 minutes Russell Taylor scored his first Reserve team goal, knocking the ball home after a Davie Graham angled shot had been parried. Having come on a little earlier as part of a triple substitution, Kevin McLeish was extremely unlucky to see his 30-yard thunderbolt come crashing off the bar and then bounce harmlessly in front of the goal line. Davie Graham, however, added to his own and the Pars goal difference in the 80th minute when hit a good shot in off the post from around the 18yard line. Despite the impressive margin of the win, it was Justin Skinner who took the eye with a fine defensive performance where he demonstrated good awareness, made timely tackles and also distributed the ball well from defence.

Dunfermline: Westwater, Squires (McLeish, 65 mins), McGroarty, May, Taylor, Skinner, Graham, Nish, Coyle (Anderson, 65 mins), French (Nicol, 65 mins).

A healthy crowd attended this "derby" match at East End Park on 29th February. As Raith were the last team to defeat the Pars Reserve team in October of last year, this helped to add a little more spice to the occasion. Pars opened the scoring in the 13th minute after Colin Nish swung a cross in from the right, which evaded the Rovers defence and left Owen to slot the ball home past the advancing keeper. Rovers could have had at least an equaliser during the next few minutes, but Ian Westwater pulled off a couple of important saves from close range efforts. In the 25th minute, though, the Pars went two up. Colin Nish was again the provider, his looping header over the Raith defences allowing Owen Coyle to grab his second of the night. Despite the two-goal cushion Pars had further frights, but poor finishing on the part of Rovers' attack saved the Pars blushes.

Dunfermline: Westwater, Squires, McGroarty, Skinner, Taylor, Dolan (Martin, 80 mins), Graham, May, Nish, Coyle (Boyle, 70 mins), French (McLeish, 80 mins)

Most recently, the Pars Reserves beat Inverness CT 2-1 on 9th March to take them one step closer to securing the championship. A report on the game



will appear in the next Pars Programme. The next match is away to Forfar Athletic.

Under 18 **Team News**

Jimmy Nicholl The young Pars beat Brechin City 6-0 in a friendly and also East Fife 2-0 in a league fixture. We'll update you on this stuff in a future issue when there's more space!

RESERVE LEAGUE FAST

VESEVAI	E LEAGUE EA	31		
Date	Opponents	Venue	Result	
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	h, Tod, Walker			
19 October	FORFAR ATHLETIC	Н	4-1	French, Moss, Nish, Petrie
26 October	RAITH ROVERS	A	0-1	
8 November		Н	4-0	Smith 4
17 November	AYR UNITED (Res Lge Cup)	A	1-1 (wo	n on pens) Graham
30 November	MONTROSE	H	5-0	Graham 3, Hampshire, Nish
25 January	EAST FIFE (Res Lge Cup)	Н	3-2	Moss 2, McGarty
1 February	BRECHIN CITY	H	6-0	Nish 4, Bullen, Templeman
8 February		A	2-0	French, Dair
15 February		A	3-0	Nish, Graham, French
22 February	MONTROSE	Н	7-0	Graham (2), Coyle (2), Nish,
				French, Taylor
29 February	RAITH ROVERS	Н	2-0	Coyle (2)
9 March	INVERNESS CT	H	2-1	
28 March		A		
4 April		A		
18 April	ARBROATH	Н		
24 April	BRECHIN CITY	Н		
2 May	EAST FIFE	Н		
SCUTTIC	H I FACILE VO	HTII	DIVIC	TON 'C'

SCOLLISH FEAGUE AONLH DIVIZION 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	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	A	4-1	Walker 2, McGarty, Nicol
9 January	STENHOUSEMUIR	A	2-0	Walker, Hynd
13 February	ARBROATH	A	1-2	Lennon



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Past Historic ...

PARS HOLD ADVANTAGE

This afternoon sees the 84th Scottish League meeting between Dunfermline and Raith Rovers. The Pars hold a narrow lead of 33 victories to the Rovers 29, with the surprising thing being that they are ahead in both home and away fixtures. In fact, Raith have won more league matches at East End Park (16) than they have on their own patch (13).

It wasn't until 1962/63 that Dunfermline overtook Raith in the number of wins recorded, having got the series off to the worst possible start in 1927/28 with a couple of four goal defeats. That first meeting at East End, on November 19th, 1927, remains the best score that the Rovers have achieved here.

FOURTEEN UNBEATEN

When Raith won 2-0 at East End Park on January 1st, 1960, most of their supporters probably expected the club to continue their dominance of Fife football through the new decade. Were they in for a shock! Not only did the Pars win seven straight matches between the two at home but they also remained undefeated at Starks Park. Between 1960 and 1973 the Athletic won eleven and drew three league games against the Rovers, the best run by either club in the series. Raith's best unbeaten run at Starks Park was the two wins and five draws they racked up between 1949 and 1961, while at East End they went eight undefeated between 1980 and 1985.

Unusually for a traditionally tight fixture they have only been seven draws in 41 East End Derby matches, with only one remaining goalless.

GOALS AND SCORERS

Not only have the Pars recorded more wins, but they've also racked up more goals then their Kirkcaldy rivals, outscoring them by 139 to 128 in league football.

Dunfermline's 100th league goal against Raith came on March 27th, 1982, when striker Rab Stewart gave the Pars the points at Starks Park. Just under three years later, the situation was reversed as the Rovers won 2-1 at East End Park on January 2nd, 1985. Their second goal, a cross by Charlie Elvin which sneaked in at the back post was Raith's 100th league goal against the Pars.

Of present day Dunfermline players, Hamish French leads the way with a total of four goals against the Rovers but he's still one short of the post reconstruction record held jointly by John Watson and Grant Jenkins. However, Dunfermline's leading post-war goalscorer against Raith remains the legendary Charlie Dickson, with a total of ten.

LAST DAY BLUES

It's a strange fact that the Pars have never faced Raith Rovers for any more than five successive seasons in the Scottish League. In 1927/28, when the two first met, Dunfermline ended up losing their First Division status and it's a trend which has continued ever since, with the clubs sharing no fewer than 15 promotions and relegations in the 33 seasons they've played each other.

Raith have actually made a habit of sealing promotion on the last day of the season against Dunfermline. The first time it happened was on April 30th, 1938 when the Rovers 4-1 victory at East End Park clinched a British record for goals scored in a league campaign of 142. Norman Haywood, who scored a hat-trick against the Pars, established a club record of 47 league goals that season.

Eleven years later to the day, the two met at Starks Park for a real promotion showdown. Stirling Albion were already up and to accompany them, the Pars needed only to draw. Sadly, after only eleven minutes goalkeeper Jimmy Mackie suffered a broken arm after a collision and Dunfermline's ten men slumped to a 4-0 defeat while Raith lifted the title on goal average.

There looked likely to be another end of season defeat in 1977/78 when Raith visited East End Park on April 29th. Unfortunately, three days earlier Raith enjoyed a crucial away win at title rivals Clyde to end the Pars promotion hopes. The Fife derby wasn't Dunfermline's final game, but Raith completed their own season with a 2-0 win, the goals scored by Andy Harrow and former Par Gordon Forrest. On the same day, Clyde defeated Stranraer to win the Second Division title on goal difference.

The last time the two met on the last day of the season was on April 25th 1981, when Raith maintained their record with a 1-0 win at East End Park. This time, however, there was no celebration for the Rovers as they'd blown their best chance of promotion since the Premier Division began in 1975. With ten games left, Raith looked certainties to go up but then suffered a run of only one win from six matches. Despite this, with four games left - all away fixtures - they were still in second place, but their poor form continued as they lost to St Johnstone, Hibs and Clydebank. Raith ended up in 4th place, two points behind promoted Dundee after picking up only five points from a possible eighteen. They never recovered from this slump, and had to watch silently as Dunfermline became the first Fife club to make it into the Premier Division in 1987.

CAPPED BY SCOTLANI

The first Raith Rovers player to appear in a Scotland jersey was Harn Anderson, who lined up against Walson February 28th, 1914 at Parkhea This was his only game for his countrone of the last Scottish internations played before nations embarked more serious business. A left half w joined the club in 1912, he was member of the Raith side white reached their only Scottish Cup Final 1913, going down 2-0 to Falkirk.

Willie Collier didn't play football at a until he joined the army in 1914 bu even during the war he learned enoug to be signed by the Rovers in 1920 When selected for Scotland to pla Wales in February 1922 he created record by winning a cap after only tw years as a professional. Another lef half, he lined up at Wrexham alongside former Pars legend Andy Wilson, there at Middlesbrough, and Rangers winge Sandy Archibald, who would late manage both Raith and Dunfermline.

A year later saw his Raith team mate David Morris, earn his first cap against Ireland in Belfast in March 1923. He helped the Scots to a 1-0 win, the goal scored by Wilson. Born in Leith 1899, Morris was a hard working centre half with a powerful header who joine Raith in December 1920. A further two caps against Ireland and England, were awarded in 1924 and he captained Scotland in all three matches the following season, leading his country the Home International Championship. The most capped of Rover's Scottish players with siz appearances, Morris remains the only Rover to have captained the team.

The next on the list is Willie McNaught a Starks Park legend after spending 21 years at the club. First capped against Wales in October 1950, he made two more appearances that year, against Northern Ireland and Austria, in which Scotland become the first of the home countries to lose to a foreign side on home soil. Although a versatile player, all of his caps were earned at left back, with his fourth coming against England in 1952 and his final appearance another two years later. Father of former Aston Villa centre half Ken McNaught, Willie was Scotland's Player of the Year in 1956.

The fifth, and most recent of Raith's Scotland caps is someone who the Pars support has got to know quite well over the past few months - Stevie Crawford. In Japan's Kirin Cup tournament in 1995, Stevie came on as a substitute for Darren Jackson against Ecuador and scored the winner in a 2-1 victory.



Around East. End Park...

SPORTSMAN'S DINNER: FRIDAY 12TH MAY 2000

In Aid Of The Youth Development Initiative At Dunfermline Athletic

Six days after Dunfermline Athletic's final Scottish League match of season 1999/2000, East End Park will be transformed into a different kind of arena. By then, the destiny of the First Division title will be decided and the playing surface will be filled with an impressive marquee which will herald a different kind of celebration.

For the first time in many years, Dunfermline Athletic Football Club will host a Sportsman's Dinner. In the past, these events have been enormously popular, and with the assistance of the renowned company Carnegie Hospitality who have been engaged by the club to carry out the organisation of the event, it is hoped that this will again be a massive success. All proceeds from the event will go towards supporting the club's expanding Youth Initiative.

Parties of any size will be warmly welcomed and includes the opportunity to have a Dunfermline Athletic player as your table host. 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.

For further information, please contact Sandra Elliot or Iain Stoddart at Carnegie Hospitality Limited, Douglas House, 60 Belford Road, Edinburgh, E114 3US. Tel. 0131 624 0700, Fax. 0131 624 0799

SPORTSMANS DINNER - FANS SPECIAL

The club are now 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).

FALKIRK MATCH IS ALL TICKET

It has now been confirmed that the Falkirk match next Saturday will be all ticket. Tickets are priced as follows:

Terracing (Standing) Adults £10.00 Concessions £5.00
Enclosure (Standing) Adults £11.50 Concessions £5.50
Wing Stand (Seated) Adults £13.50 Concessions £6.50

Tickets will be on sale today (Saturday 18th) from 9.30am to 2.30pm; Monday - Friday from 9.30am to 4.30pm; next Saturday (25th) from 9.30am to 1.00pm, or until stocks last.

DUNFERMLINE ATHLETIC SUPPORTERS CLUB

Transport:

The next away match is against Falkirk on Saturday 25th March. Supporters wishing to travel can book by either contacting the Supporters Club today or by telephoning Caron on 01383 515601 as soon as possible. The match is all ticket and those travelling should contact us with their orders as soon as possible. The coaches will leave East End Park at 1.30pm.

PLAYER OF THE YEAR DINNER DANCE:

As the Dance is fast approaching, have you organised your tickets yet? If not, do so now by contacting the Supporters Club. This should prove to be a great night, especially if we continue on the road to promotion! Come along and join in the celebrations on Saturday 15th April at the Keavil House Hotel, Crossford. Tickets which are priced £20 are available from the Supporters Club Office.

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 and Craig Robertson are the after dinner speakers 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.

50/50 WINNER

MR D MILLIGAN from Dunfermline was the lucky recipient of £980 which he won in the recent Nifty 50/50 draw at the St. Mirren game.

PARS SUPPORTERS CLUB - FALKLAND ISLANDS BRANCH!

We recently received a lovely letter with photographs from Danny Whitfield, Deputy Command Secretary at British Forces HQ on the Falkland Islands. Here's what Danny had to say:

'I thought that all loyal PARS fans back in the Kingdom should know that the team are now big news in the Falkland Islands. Our photograph shows the three main members of the Falkland Islands Dunfermline Supporters Club pictured outside British HQ at Mount Pleasant Base. The uniformed gentleman is Brigadier Geoff Sheldon QLR, Commander British Forces, who was educated at Dunfermline High School. The guy in the suit is Danny Whitfield, an MOD civilian, who hails from Dunfermline, and the other bloke is Colin Paterson, another Dunfermline laddie, who works in the power station on the base. These three loyal supporters have recently started a campaign to raise awareness about the Pars because there are too many Rangers and Celtic fans on the Falkland Islands! We will keep you posted about our campaign but in the meantime we send fondest regards to the team, club officials and all the other loyal supporters. Up The Pars!"



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DESPITE SOME MATCHES FALLING VICTIM to the weather there has been no shortage of activity in the Youth Development Initiative. In the last round up, it was hoped that the Under 13's had finally turned the corner following a couple of good performances and that has happily proved the case as the lads recorded their long-awaited first win of the season. Results and scorelines are not the most important aspect of youth football but we can made an exception in this case.

This only came about after the team received an opening period hammering at the hands of Celtic back in February. Although their opponents are one of the strongest sides in that age group, the Pars cause wasn't helped by an injury to 'keeper Ryan Bunyan which meant that centre-half Greig Lawrie went in goal. After some adjustments to the team in the interval Dunfermline tightened up considerably in the subsequent two periods and gave Celtic a good game.

They also did themselves great credit by the way they battled back as they turned in a very good performance against Alloa in their next match. Rating a mention were Fraser Beveridge, Kyle Smith and Scott Gibson and hopefully they and the rest of the team can continue their progress for the remainder of the season.

The Under 14's produced their best team performance so far against Albion Rovers in February. It was pleasing for the coaching staff to see so much of the work done in training successfully executed during a game. Fraser Gillon, Neil Queen and Fraser Arnott all found the net while Robbie Wilsonand Grant Crickmore also played very well. Their next match away to Dundee saw poor defending which lead to the loss of a couple of early goals, but the Pars fought their way back with goals from Gillon and Arnott who scored twice in what was one of his best games of the season.

At Under 15 level, there was a cracking match away to Falkirk at the end of February which saw play swing from end to end. Once again training ground routines paid off with the Pars sharp passing movements coming to the fore. The lads are encouraged to try to play the ball out of tight situations but were caught out a couple of times. However, this is all part of their education and if

they learn from their mistakes they'll become better players. Gary Sutherland, with two goals, was

Gary
Sutherland,
with two goals, was
a constant threat up front and
John Higgins also had a good game. They
followed that up with a hard-working display
against Hearts at East Kilbride. In atrocious
conditions the Pars always tried to play football and
deserve credit for that.

The weather has played havoc with the Under 16s fixtures with games called off two weeks in a row before they finally played away to Clyde on March 5th. The match finished with honours even but it was hard going in a fierce wind which caused the ball to run away on the astroturf pitch. The Pars side did well to adapt to playing the ball to feet rather than into space.

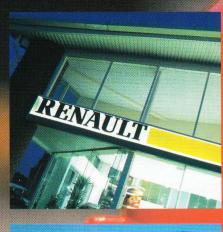
Although the team has endured some inactivity lately, players such as Tony Lennon, John Hynd, Mark Stewart and Brian Murray have been introduced to the Under 18 team with a view to next season.

COACHING MATTERS

Also on March 5th, John Ritchie and recently appointed Under 14 coach Gordon Arthur attended a training course at Hampden Park. Doctor Sue Hamilton, an expert on child protection, gave an interesting talk on codes of practice for coaches and their responsibilities for kids under their care. The second part of the day saw a talk and a practical demonstration from Rangers assistant manager Bert van Lingen.

At the turn of the year, John Ritchie spent twelve days at Largs on the course for the SFA Youth Licence. In the near future, every club will be required to have at least one coach with this licence and its importance is such that there was a near 100% attendance by the senior youth coaches at Scottish clubs.

The good news is that John now has the Diploma and is currently preparing the other youth coaches at East End Park for the course.

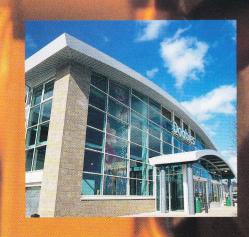






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One Up...

A Review of the First Division

As the finish to the First Division gets ever tighter, BILL KINNEAR reviews a happy day at Love Street (but not for Tom Hendrie), and amongst other things asks why sixteen teams has suddenly come back into the equation...

Anyone who was at Paisley two weeks ago will have witnessed a number of extraordinary events. Firstly a brilliant performance by the team to inflict a well-deserved victory over a St Mirren side who were not at the races. Two players in particular was outstanding - Stevie Crawford not only for providing two spectacular goals but for leading the line like the mature footballer he is, and Scott Thomson, who man-marked Junior Mendes out of the game. Mendes couldn't even find room to fall over! When Tom Hendrie went for route-one tactics, Jimmy Calderwood countered by sticking Lee Bullen in defence and the Saints crumbled like Allan Preston after the first challenge.

Secondly, 1600 Dunfermline fans in full voice from the off. Oh how ******* (absolutely - Ed.) brilliant it would be if this could be mirrored at home games. Indeed, what better opportunity than today against the Rovers. Thirdly, those of us at the front of the stand at Paisley who witnessed the numptie who turned up with a Rangers banner adorned with "Fergie Loyal". Now we all know that Fergie is and will always be a Rangers fan but he's playing for the Pars now and there's no room in football for this antagonistic conduct. The situation nearly got ugly when one Pars fan asked the 'fan' from Govan (politely mind) to kindly remove his offensive banner and run off to the Rangers - St Johnstone game being played just down the road (or words to that effect). The most disturbing thing for me is that there were no Police in attendance to diffuse the situation, except of course the two Dunfermline polis sat next to me (both off duty and vigorously supporting the Pars!).

Fourthly, what about Tom Hendrie's after match comments? Sour grapes, petulant, blind - and that was only the things the media said about his after match views! I am just glad that oor Jimmy is such a gentleman when it comes to these things.

GETTING TENSE

Elsewhere recently Clydebank won their first game of the season (nuff said eh!) but couldn't repeat the feat last Saturday as St Mirren returned to the top of the First Division. Barry Lavety scored a hat-trick as the Buddies humped the hapless and homeless Bankies 8-zip. The only other game played last weekend saw today's visitors produce a 0-0 tie at Livvy.

At the minute, it looks more like a three horse race for the title and play-off spots with St Mirren, the Pars and Falkirk well clear of Raith and Livingston. As we know though that can all change in the space of a few games and besides Livvy have a game in hand against lowly Airdrie and so could leap-frog the Rovers into fourth. With only eight weeks of the season left nerves will begin to jangle I'm sure.

Finally, a plea to football's hierarchy. Will somebody please give us a definite response to this question? What will happen if Falkirk finish in the top three? Answers on a stamp to me!

HOT AYR

Congratulations must be extended to Gordon Dalziel and Ayr United. Although their league form has been somewhat erratic

they have reached the semi-final of the Scottish Cup for the first time in 27 years. Although they got there by beating John "the doo-man" Lambie's Partick Jags, along the way they gubbed SPL teams Motherwell and Dundee. Enjoy your day at Hampden, you deserve it.

SUNSHINE ON LEITH

Whilst perusing the quality Sunday broadsheet that is the Scotland on Sunday a couple of weeks ago I came across an advert by SPL sponsors, Bank of Scotland. Now the caption read. "Need a mortgage for your dream home" alongside which was the view from an imaginary sitting-room overlooking Easter Road, home of Hibernian FC. Now that very Sunday Hibs cuffed Celtic, but surely, apart from a few thousand Hibees, there are more people (especially Jambos) who would rather have a view of Saughton Prison. (think again media boys - that one's a loser).

SIXTEEN TEAMS AND WADDA YA GET?

So Dick Advocaat and Craigie Brown think that Scotland's top league should be made up of 16 teams and not the 12 proposed for next season. A lot of us have been saying that for a long time, but one wonders what motivates managers and coaches to introduce controversy on the eve of change. I can understand CB's point of view that more teams playing at a higher level increased the potential for producing talent for the national team. But surely Advocaat cannot be serious since we all know that Rangers and Celtic (despite the humping by ICT in the Scottish Cup) are too big for Scottish football and will, sooner or later, be playing in a Euro-League of some sort. Regular readers of this column know my view and the Old Firm could leave tomorrow. But assuming there was to be a sixteen team SPL, would Falkirk get in with their ground in its state? The one danger is that by introducing a bigger league, the SPL would slacken the high standards they have set themselves. For all the complaints about the quality of the fare on offer in the Premier (and it is dire at times), nobody could argue that the SPL has brought about fundamental change about the way in which top professional clubs need to operate in the future.

So, today we have the mouth-watering prospect of a derby against Raith Rovers. A bumper crowd is expected today for the final head-to-head (play-offs excepted) of the season between Fife's senior teams (apologies to EFFC and the Blue Brazil). With the added spice of the ex-Rovers players and management in the Pars camp and revenge being sought for the Millennium defeat at Starks it should be a belter. So often "derbies" can be kick and rush affairs but today's game is an opportunity for both teams to display the quality of football to be found in the First Division.

Q. Apart from Sir Alex Ferguson, what do the Pars and Man U have in common?

A. Thou are to

A. They are the only two major league sides unbeaten at home this season.

Long may it continue. Come on ye Pars!





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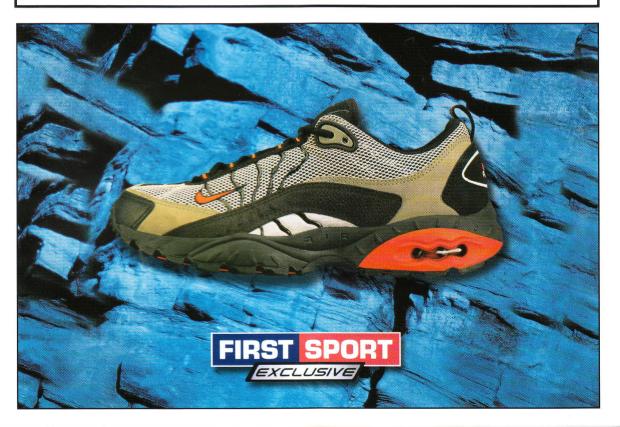
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DOUBLE OPENING AT EAST END PARK

EAST END PARK WILL STAGE a double opening this weekend which will illustrate perfectly just how far Dunfermline Athletic have raised their standards and the expectations of everybody at one of Scotland's most ambitious football clubs.



A NEW WIEW FOR PARS FANS TODAY AS THE PLAYERS EMERGE FROM THE NEW CHANGING FACILITIES IN THE NORRIE MCCATHIE STAND

This Saturday against Raith Rovers, the players and match officials will emerge from the new tunnel situated beneath the Norrie McCathie Stand. It has taken some time for this important piece of the East End jigsaw to unravel.

but it has been worth the wait, because behind the tunnel lies a labyrinth of state-of-the-art facilities that would grace even the biggest clubs in Scotland.

Included in the new facilities are changing rooms for home and away teams which make the old ones look tiny and out-of-date. Both teams are provided with excellent showering, washing, toilet and locker facilities, while the home team have the added luxury of a bath if they want one. The players also have a new lounge facility with its own kitchen adjacent to the changing areas. The match officials haven't been ignored either - they have an office, lockers, showers and toilets - all to themselves!

The management team will be well catered for too - both Jimmy Calderwood and Jimmy Nicholl have their own offices, toilet and shower, and Bert Paton and the other coaches will share an office. A new Kit Room, Boot Room and Boot Wash Room are included as part of the complex, as is a new Treatment Room. The Treatment Room is intended for match day use only, since the intention was to have a fully kitted out Treatment Room as part of the Healthy Living Centre in the area above. As everybody knows, those proposals have run into planning difficulties for the time being.



18 YEAR OLD RIGHT BACK KEIR NICOL WILL HELP CUT THE RIBBON

'IN WITH THE BRICKS' WALL OPENS

Thanks to another event happening this weekend, Dunfermline Athletic fans are going to get a very early opportunity to view the superb new changing facilities. On Sunday, the club are holding a Special Open Afternoon in the Norrie McCathie Stand from 12.00 noon until 2.00pm. The purpose of the day is to open the Inaugural Wall in the club's 'In With The Bricks' Scheme, and to encourage even more fans to come forward to buy bricks in the second wall.

The venture, which allows fans to have their very own piece of East End Park, continues to be hugely successful, with large numbers of Pars fans purchasing bricks for themselves, their friends and for their loved ones. Sales of the first wall went very quickly and it has now been completely constructed in the concourse at the Norrie McCathie Stand.

Proceeds from the project are going to the club's rapidly expanding Youth Development Initiative, so it is significant that on Sunday, Dunfermline Athletic Chairman John Yorkston will be accompanied by one of the success stories of the Youth Initiative, 18 year old right back Keir Nicol. Keir signed for the Pars from Harthill on 'S' forms, and won the Player of the Tournament in the Norrie McCathie Tournament which the club won. He moved on to play in the Under 18s, where he scored on his debut, then last season was involved in a number of the SPL Under 21 games. John Ritchie and Bert Paton converted him from striker to full back and he has started around fifteen games with the Reserves this season. Keir is a great prospect for the future and is currently in discussions about signing a professional contract.

When Keir and John Yorkston cut the ribbon on Sunday, it will officially open the wall, but it will not be the end of the scheme, as the Chairman explained:

"We feel that this has been a great project for the club. Fans are happy to see visible recognition of their support for the club they love, and we benefit by having substantial sums to plough into our future. Quite apart from the SPL requirement for good Youth Development Schemes, a club like Dunfermline can only survive at the top if it brings on its own talent. We are now going to press ahead to complete the second Supporters Wall."

Although sales in the second wall have been continuing unabated, and these now stand at around 300 of the total of 550 bricks already sold, the new wall will also be officially launched on Sunday. Just as the first wall has some very special bricks as a memorial to some of the past Pars greats (George Peebles, Ross Jack, Grant Jenkins and Greg Shields), so too will the second wall. On Sunday, the club's specially invited guests include Charlie Dickson, arguably one of the best strikers in Scotland in his day, and Dunfermline's top goalscorer of all time; Craig Robertson, one of the longest serving players of the modern era and former Club Captain who did so much in the aftermath of Norrie McCathie's death; and the legendary Jimmy McConville. Jimmy has not been well of late but is determined to get along to this event. Jimmy has a longer association with Dunfermline Athletic than anyone in its history, having joined the Board in 1947, then later taking on the role of Secretary through all the club's glory days, before retiring and becoming an Honorary Director in the 1990s. There will be a very special poignancy about Jimmy's brick. The final guest is somebody who has been here for a shorter period than everybody else but who is making up for lost time rapidly. Current Head Coach Jimmy Calderwood is already very popular with the East End faithful and will seal that on Sunday when he places his brick alongside Jimmy McConville's.

After the official launch, fans will then be able to purchase their own brick to go alongside the celebrities in the second wall. The handcrafted bricks, which each carry their own inscription, can be purchased on the day for £25, and a Certificate of Authenticity can also be purchased. Those who do wish to purchase a brick in the second wall will be given a very good incentive to do so, thanks to the generosity of Pars Director and lifelong fan, John Meiklem. John has personally donated a prize of £500 which will be drawn on Sunday among only those who purchase a brick in the second wall on the day. Chairman John Yorkston thanked his fellow Director for his generosity, stating, "John Meiklem is very keen to support this venture and I am grateful to him for this wonderful prize which will surely act as a massive incentive for fans to buy a brick on the 19th March. Everyone who has contributed to the scheme is welcome to come along on Sunday 19th, and those who do buy bricks on the day will be entered into a draw on the day for this superb prize."

As well as all of this, fans attending the launch will also have the chance to view the new facilities underneath, making it sound like a pretty worthwhile two hours!



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Today's Football

WITH ABERDEEN AND CELTIC on CIS Cup Final duty tomorrow, there are only three Premier League matches being played today. If we follow the script, Rangers will draw with Motherwell, and Celtic fans will be over the moon....until they play their game in hand. The Edinburgh Derby between Hibs and Hearts is about playing for a place in Europe - the fact that both are nearly 30 points behind Rangers shows just how much of a farce the 'title race' has become.

Hot stuff, however, in the First Division. Neither Raith nor Dunfermline can expect too many favours from lowly Morton and Airdrie today as they take on St Mirren and Falkirk, but points are lost in the strangest of places, eh? Much more hope for the Fife clubs will nevertheless come from our friends in Inverness. Now free from Cup fantasies, Inverness are moving up the league again and could deal Livvy's hopes a severe blow today.

BANK OF SCOTLAND PREMIER LEAGUE

Hibernian v Hearts Rangers v Motherwell St Johnstone v Kilmarnock

BELL'S LEAGUE FIRST DIVISION

Ayr United v Clydebank

DUNFERMLINE ATHLETIC V Raith Rovers

Falkirk v Airdrie

Morton v St Mirren
Inverness CT v Livingston

BELL'S LEAGUE SECOND DIVISION

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

BELL'S LEAGUE THIRD DIVISION

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



Player of the Year

SOON AFTER IAN FERGUSON signed for the Pars it was said that he would make a crucial difference during the final run in, and so it has proved to be the case. Nowhere more so than in our last home match against St Mirren a month ago when the recently-appointed skipper was in commanding form in the middle of the park. He may be forced to miss out today, but his influence will continue to be an important factor during the last few weeks of the season.

Second place in the St Mirren match went to Scott Thomson. So often the unsung hero, and all too often sidelined by injuries, Scott's ability has shone through in both the recent matches against St Mirren, with influential Buddies midfielder Junior Mendes being consigned to a minor role thanks to Scott.

Third place points went to striker Lee Bullen. Lee has fitted in remarkably well in his new surroundings - so much so that the club are keen to offer him a new contract!

Seventeen different players have featured in the sponsors Man of the Match Awards so far this season, and with the top three - Chris McGroarty, Owen Coyle and Jamie Dolan - all currently out of the team, it will be interesting to see who wins the overall award at the end of the season!



Steve Crawford IAN FERGUSON

AUTO WINDSCREENS MAN OF THE MATCH 19.02.00 versus St Mirren:

sponsors Specialized Door & Window Services

Position	Player	Points
1	IAN FERGUSON	3
2	SCOTT THOMSON	2
3	LEE BULLEN	1





SATURDAY 25TH MARCH 2000 BELLS SCOTTISH LEAGUE FIRST DIVISION FALKIRK AT BROCKVILLE PARK

IT WOULD SEEM THAT JUST about every game at the moment is being dubbed as title/promotion decider, and next week's clash at Brockville will be no different. The Bairns looked to be out of the running earlier this season but a tremendous recent run has seen them move up to just a couple of points behind Dunfermline.

Their Scottish Cup run was ended rather unluckily at Easter Road last week and so concentration is back on league matters. Irrespective of whether Falkirk will be allowed into the Premier League next season, the Bairns will be putting up a very hard fight for the First Division title. Indeed, the fact that they will probably be denied a place

seems to have provided more motivation down Falkirk way than even the prospect of a league title could! The earlier match at Brockville was a closely fought affair, but the Pars played well that day and went on to record a rare 3-1 win on one of their 'bogey' grounds. The two games at East End Park both finished as draws, so the chances are that we will be in for another close encounter with the team who can hold their nerve in with the best chance of succeeding.

Brockville is in a very poor condition these days and this might be the last match played between the clubs at Brockville, so it might be a good idea to get there while you can! Falkirk fans will no doubt be there in numbers because nothing seems to please them more than a win against their old rivals. The game is all ticket and this time Pars fans will be expected to snap up their full allocation.

DIETSMANN MORGAN MOORE

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KITS MAMPALY	1	
Scott THOMSON	2	
Jason DAIR	3	
Andy TOD	4	
John POTTER	5	
David MOSS	6	
Steve HAMPSHIRE	7	
Justin SKINNER	8	
Stephen CRAWFORD	9	Ę
Lee BULLEN	10	
Stewart PETRIE	11	
Substitutes		
Owen COYLE	12	
Hamish FRENCH	14	
Chris McGROARTY	15	

Guido VAN DE KAMP Greig McCULLOCH 3 Sacha OPINEL Marvin ANDREWS 5 Paul BROWNE 6 Kenny BLACK Didier AGATHE Paul TOSH 9 Ansah OWUSU 10 Steven TOSH 11 Jay STEIN Substitutes 12 Paul SHIELDS 14 Craig McEWAN 15 Brian HETHERSTON

