

ISSUE No.3 MAY

A DUNFERMLINE ATH FANZINE

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*BOBBY ROBERTSON*

40P

BUMPER ISSUE

# EDITORIAL      ISSUE No.3    MAY

Walking Down The Halbeath Road  
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THANKS to... Grant Collie, Raymond  
Smillie, all those who  
bought Issue Two.

Inspiration ... Thunderbird Wine £2.00  
from Peter Dominics  
Sinead O' Connor

Back Issues ... No2 a few left (hurry)

Subscriptions... £50p + sae(20p)  
Cheques po's made  
to A. Fenwick.

On Sale.....

Dunfermline  
Virgin Records, Kingsgate  
Pitbauchlie Hotel, Aberdour Rd  
Montys Bar, Guildhall St.  
East Port Bar, East Port (maybe)  
Edinburgh  
Football Crazy, Spittal St.  
Avalanche Records, Lady Lawson St  
Vinyl Villians, Elm Row

Glasgow  
Strathclyde Programme Shop  
136, Renfield St.

London  
Sportspages, Cambridge Circus  
Shopping Centre

Nottingham  
Selectadisc, 21 Market St.

home and away games.....

Welcome to Issue 3 of W.D.H.R. As this is the last issue for this season, we've decided to give even better value for money with a packed issue, full of scandal controversy and speculation. Would we really give you anything else?

Today's game with Falkirk and next week's v Celtic are two rather meaningless fixtures but there is still pride to play for and the satisfaction of stuffing the Bairns for once this season and spoiling the Celtic party as well. If the recent form shown in despatching Dundee, Morton, St Mirren and the first 85 mins against Hearts is a guideline for next season then we are quite simply going to hand out a few footballing lessons to the garbage currently languishing in the lower division.

There does seem to be some resentment at the club about how certain players and coaches have no platform to answer back to criticism expressed in this fanzine. If the club liked the fanzine we would simply stop producing it and take up bowls instead. This fanzine is for the fans and the fans like it, so perhaps it's just sour grapes. If any one at the club would like to write a reply or even do an interview then we will certainly print it in it's entirety. The ball's in your court Leish.

Once again it's the end of another season and for once there is nothing for us to celebrate but it has had it's moments, which I'm sure you're all familiar with, and we know that Pars fans are loyal, a loyalty which can only be matched by the Old Firm. We hope that you will join us in cheering the team off the park next week and show the green hordes what being a supporter is all about.

Issue 4 should be out in August, so keep on sending in the articles, photos and letters. Have a good close season and we will see you on the terraces in next years championship campaign.

## AN OFFER PELE REFUSED

**P**ELE was offered £25 a match to turn out for Scottish First Division side Dunfermline! Yes, IT'S ABSOLUTELY TRUE. Dunfermline boss George Miller met Pele during the summer and couldn't resist the temptation of making his astonishing offer to the man who ruled football for a decade.

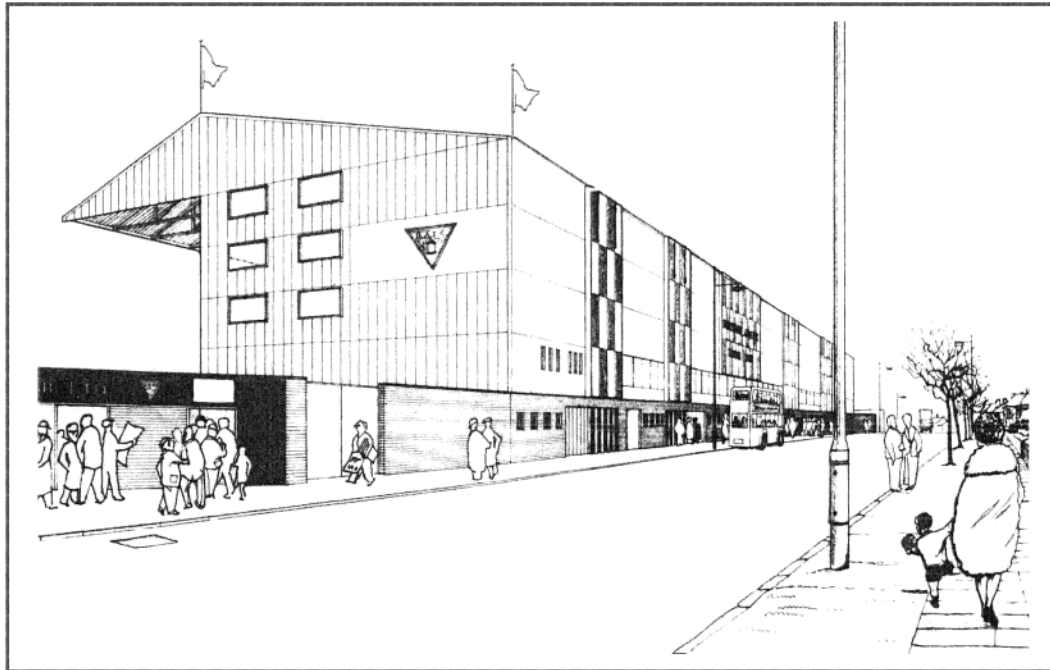
Pele's answer? A polite smile and a shake of the head.

Ah, well! Dunfermline fans can always dream of what might have been

"Shoot" MAGAZINE 1972  
(just like Stapelton)

The opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the editor and definately not those of D.A.F.C.

# “ WE SHALL NOT BE MOVED ”



It would now appear that the Club have come into the open and admitted that East End Park could soon be no longer our home ground; instead we're moving to a picturesque golf-course south of the town. The Dunfermline Press carried a front page article on the proposed move and there would be little point in regurgitating what the official club's excuses are for the move. Instead what we offer is a constructive argument against the move and even suggest that the club is once again putting financial gain before the wishes of the supporters!. God - we know no bounds!.

## THE BENEFITS OF A MOVE:

(a) We would have a brand-new ground, which would hopefully have top-class facilities for fans, i.e., adequate provision for disabled fans (visitors as well), decent toilets for males and females, not just the standard trough in the dark! The catering would be improved to accommodate fans, who do not like greasy pies and God awful OXO drinks; how about hot chocolate or if Riddel's playing - Vodka!.

(b) The all-purpose 15,000-20,000 seated ground would encourage such things as family enclosures, limited toilets for away fans, i.e., no blue

and green hordes chanting away in the Par's end and, hopefully, a good view of the game from all parts of the ground and under cover as well.

(c) Absolute joy for the residents of the Halbeath area and a headache removed for our 'friendly bobbies', but no overtime! - sorry lads!.

(d) East End Park would sell for around £4-5 million, and even if the club had to pay for the new ground that would still leave around £2-3 million profit, which we're sure would be spent wisely, i.e. a glamour friendly with Brazil costing £10 entry fee.

(e) Prices for admission would probably go up as it's all seated, meaning lots and lots of money for the Club.

## THE NON-BENEFITS OF A MOVE:

(a) All seated grounds have a distinct lack of atmosphere due to the fact that people sitting down wrapped in tartan rugs are hardly likely to start singing; those of us at Pittrodie will have noticed the lack of noise from the South stand, even when Aberdeen scored. They are, in fact, a method of crowd control and with segregation fencing it will be just like Barcelona, minus the riot police, or will we have them as well!.

(b) All seated grounds have a habit of attracting those awful things called family enclosures, where Maw, Paw, the weans and the dug, plus a huge family size tartan rug, a picnic lunch and books of puzzles to keep the kids happy, gather to chat during the game.

(c) Of the 15,000 - 20,000 seats, how many of these would be season tickets? Answer at least half meaning that the fans who cannot afford a season ticket will not have a chance to see the big games as at least 10,000 will go to the Huns or the Tims.

(d) Pitreavie is miles from town and the nearest pub; presumably some access will be built from Rosyth Halt, but I would imagine that the Golf Course will become a handy shortcut for many fans before and after the game.

(e) East End Park is part of our heritage and many of us have fond memories and nightmares of games there. Why are we moving after spending £180,000 on ground improvements and buying Eagle Glen, which presumably would be sold off as the training facilities at Pitreavie would be better. Incidentally, you may be surprised to learn that The Football Trust paid £150,000 of

the East End Park development and not the Club, despite reports to the contrary.

(f) The Club have said that the fans are split 50-50 over the move; this is a load of crap!. Jack Kyle 'phoned some fans he knew and asked them what they thought. Not a very wide opinion poll! - about a dozen at the most!.

Surely some sort of opinion poll could have been produced in the Advertiser (sorry programme!), but that's not the way they work!.

(g) Do we really need a new Asda or whatever!. Why not spend the money in covering the East terracing at East End and improving facilities there for able bodied and disabled supporters!. Supporters of other premier clubs I've met have said they enjoy coming to East End because of the atmosphere and a good view of the game, plus they generally beat us into the bargain!.

Quite frankly, this idea is ridiculous, not so much for the actual plans, but for the way it has been done. D.A.F.C. are, of course, a Limited Company which means they can do what they want as long as the shareholders are happy (for shareholders read Directors). We're used to being crapped on by other clubs at away games, but to have the same done by our own Club is the absolute pits!.



# THE MAN WHO FELL TO EARTH

## An interview with Jim Bowie

Dunfermline Athletic have always been able to produce good wingers, even though they're not always in the team. One player who has been a firm favourite at East End is Jim Bowie. 'Ziggy' had a remarkable goal making partnership with John Watson, but moved to St. Johnstone and latterly Meadowbank when the Pars moved up to the Premier League. What follows is not so much an interview as a discussion with Ziggy and Grant Collie of the Meadowbank Fanzine on the Pars and Football. I only hope you enjoy reading the article as much as I enjoyed talking to 'Ziggy'.

WDHR - How are things at Meadowbank, I hear you've been injured just now ?

Ziggy - I've been out for five months now with a similar injury to the one I got for the Pars against Albion Rovers. It happened in the last minute against Clydebank. I don't know where the guy came from but he just hit me and that was that.

WDHR - Have you seen the Fanzine before ?

Ziggy - I got one yeah. I had a phone call from George Simons at the Dunfermline Press asking me to do this Man of the Match thing at the Hearts game. I couldn't make it but I mentioned WDHR to him. He said its got a lot of good stuff but tends to be a bit near to the bone on some criticisms. He was quite positive but has to take the Club line I suppose.

WDHR - Its been a funny sort of season for us really, lots of ups and downs !  
Ziggy - Aye, There's been some tremendous highs - beating the Gers and Celtic. It's a pity they're getting the results now. The season's just not long enough for Dunfermline. The First Division will be a forgotten league with only one team going up. Its been a great season for Meadowbank, though I don't think the standard is as high as when the Pars were there the last time. Hamilton are the only team who have kept it going all season.

WDHR - The rumour is that Leish is moving sideways next season ?

Ziggy - 'General Manager' you mean. I thought that would have happened last year. From his point of view that would have been the best time to do it. He could have come back as a Messiah to rescue the team from Div 1.

WDHR - What Happened When You Left The Pars?

Ziggy - At the time I hadn't been quoted for ages and just lost interest. Went to training and just pissed about. There were lots of cancellations that year and by April I realised that there was no place for me with the Pars in the Premier League. The team was playing really well, which was great for the fans but bad for me. Rowan Hamilton asked me for my phone number to give to Ian Heddle as St. Johnstone were interested in me, would I fancy a move? So I went and when I got there Ian Gibson told me he'd tried to sign me earlier in the season, but I never heard about it.

I'd fallen out with Leish. I missed the bus to Dumbarton as I got stuck in traffic in Edinburgh. I was five minutes late, but the bus had left. Leish made a statement on the bus along the lines of "We don't have to wait for the F\*\*\*\*\* Jim Bowie's of this world. That really annoyed me. He was taking the piss when I wasn't there. I cracked up at him later - went really at him, perhaps too much, and I didn't play for six games. Bobby Forrest had a similar experience at Threave Rovers, he had to get a £70 taxi from Hamilton. He told Jimmy McConville that it cost £70. Oh! £7 Jimmy said That's great, no problem. NO £70. Poor Jimmy nearly had a heart attack.

WDHR - What about the Fans and You at East End for next season ?

Ziggy - They were great to me. You were always aware that it was a big team. I knew they'd come good again. I'm not too sure if I'll be retained next year, but if I am it will be a funny experience. Pars fans are funny when it come to former players coming back for other teams. Mind the treatment Sandy McNaughton got when he came back for Stenhousemuir and scored two goals ?

# Ziggy

They tend to have a reputation for being super-critical unless everything's going well. The local boys seemed to get it worst. Ian Heddle and Colin O'Brien are two examples. They both had a lot of potential, but left eventually. Players can hear comments from the fans if the crowds low and it can put you off.

The Supporters Clubs are great though. The Pitbauchlie Club were the only ones taking a bus to away games when the team was bottom of Div II.

I always enjoyed their Player of the Year Awards. After one I drove Watson and McCathie back home to Edinburgh. I was sober, but they weren't. Just over the bridge John leaned out of the window and chucked up. I didn't realise until I had to scrape it off the next day. A Good Night.

WDHR - The best bosses you've worked with ?

Ziggy - Harry Melrose and Leish. Harry was a good manager - a very shrewd wee guy, quiet and more serious, but very funny as well.

He didn't have much success there, but he gave me my break. I'm indebted to him for that.

I saw a few battles in the dressing room under Tam Forsyth, who was actually a really nice guy away from football, but at East End the eyes would get mad and he'd be a changed person. I saw fights between him and Paul Donnelly and Grant Jenkins.

Under Leish in the Second Division everyone played their own game. It was dead relaxed. It worked well too, cause all the players were good. You didn't need a plan as everyone knew what had to be done. It was total freedom. I loved playing under Leish. I never saw any disharmony there. Although Leish aged 10 years in 3 seasons.

WDHR - Any goals you've scored you remember best ?

Ziggy - Against Airdrie who were top of the league - we were bottom. I played in mid-field then and just hit this ball from 30 yards which went into the net.

I couldn't believe it - it was great!. Palmerston Park is a favourite of mine. I've scored 3 goals there. Its a good ground to play at.

WDHR - Favourite players at East End ?

Ziggy - Well John Salton, Colin O'Brien and Mark Williams impressed me from the old days, but John Watson probably saved my career. I was on my way out - all I could do was hit crosses into the box, at the time the strikers Tait and Rodier couldn't head a ball, but when John came in it all changed. He was great in the air - his standing and running jumps were tremendous. You knew if you put the ball in the box John or Shaggy would get to it.

WDHR - Best Memories of East End ?

Ziggy - Definitely promotion in 1986. I played in the reserves when we went up in 1979 and Paul Donnelly kept me out of the team until he broke his ankle. Paul and I were really close but hardly ever played in the same team together. He was a great player, but realised he'd never get a game under Leish and took the move to Partick Thistle and then onto Australia.

Stenhousemuir was some place to win a championship, but it was a great season for me. I'm certain the Pars will be back up top soon, they're too good for the first division - next time they'll have learned their lesson and will do well!!. Its frightening to think how big a support they could get if they had success - they could easily beat Hibs' crowds for example.

I'd also like to catch the guy who started the rumour that Arbroath had drawn with Alloa. We could hear the excitement build and believed that we'd done it as well. Trevor did well to convert his second penalty under the circumstances.

Footnote - Thanks to Jim from all of us at WDHR, and we wish him all the best in the future and look forward to seeing him at East End next season, albeit for Meadowbank.

Sandy.

# HALL OF SHAME

Season 1982/83 was not a happy one for the Pars, with relegation and a right duffer of a manager (Tam Forsyth), as was featured in the last Issue of W.D.H.R.

The article on Forsyth also brought up another name from that period. A real nightmare of a keeper that Pars fans have been trying to forget for years now.

The name Jim Moffat won't mean much to today's younger fans but anyone who saw him in "action" will never get over it.

Moffat was a former professional youth international who had spells with Man City and Montrose before joining Hamilton Accies. The Pars were going through a real goalkeeping crisis at the time with Forsyth being none too happy with Hugh Whyte, who had regained his place from George Young, who was really terrible (and surely a future Hall of Shamer!).

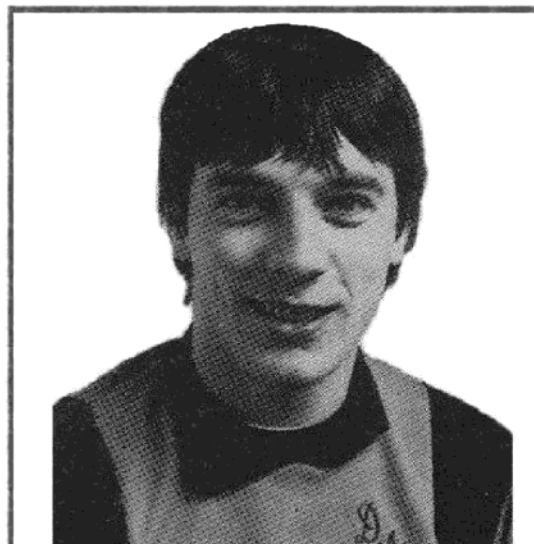
Moffat was a 22 year old P.E. student at Jordanhill when Forsyth decided he was the man to stand between the posts at East End. In November 1982 our wily boss offered Hamilton an astonishing £10,000 for somebody without too much experience when the Pars were virtually penniless.

One good thing about it was that by the end of the month Forsyth decided that three goalies was one too many, so George Young was sold to East Stirlingshire for a nominal fee (in other words Not Much!).

Moffat duly made his debut against Dumbarton at East End Park on November 20th 1982, and despite them having two men sent off beat us 3-0. Then followed a 2-0 defeat by St. Johnstone, and a week later to everyone's surprise the Pars beat Airdrie 1-0. I actually missed this match as I was so pissed off at the Pars' form, I was even more pissed off when I heard the score!.

Dunfermline's run of one win in a row ended at Ayr United with a 1-0 defeat, and the fans were left wondering if the £10,000 had been wisely spent.

However a 1-1 draw with Hamilton a few days later lifted the gloom slightly, but a few days later our whole world collapsed.



**No.3 JIM MOFFAT**

**JANUARY 1st 1983** will forever be a **BLACK DAY** in the history of D.A.F.C when a humiliating defeat ruined the year before it had even started. Losing any match 6-0 is bad at the best of times, but to lose **6-0** to **RAITH ROVERS** is embarrassing beyond belief. In fact Raith scored their first goal after a mere 55 secs. Guess who was in goal?

Forsyth promised changes, and changes we got. Doc Whyte was restored to his rightful place two days after the Starks Park fiasco and had a fine game in a 2-0 win over Alloa. After another couple of matches Whyte was in such good form that it was obvious that he would never be dropped again.

Moffat was therefore resigned to the reserves after a grand total of **SIX** games. It hardly seems enough to have judged him on but he really was poor, and perhaps too inexperienced to do a good job for the Pars who were already lumbered with their fair share of donkeys!.

Anyway, Forsyth eventually resigned and a certain Jim Leishman took over. Having been there a while as coach Leishman knew all about the goalkeeping situation, and within a month of becoming boss Moffat was on his way. Forfar paid the Pars the paltry sum of £1,000 for his services.

Moffat is still at Starks Park, getting a game when Stuart Kennedy is injured (Kennedy is another ex-Pars duffer). Remember him in the 3-3 draw in 1986-87? Dunfermline lost £9,000 on this player after only one year. In fact you could say that Moffat cost the Pars £1,500 per game.



# GOING OVER THE WATER

## Friendlies in Ireland

In the Halcyon Days of the 1960s the Pars played six games against Northern Irish opposition and won them all. The first such encounter took place on the 6th of August 1961, a few months after the club's Scottish Cup win, and shortly before the first foray into European football. The match was played at Coleraine Showgrounds in front of 3,000 spectators; a remarkable attendance for a pre-season friendly in the province.

Dunfermline's team was:

1. Eddie Connachan
2. Cammy Fraser
3. Willie Cunningham
4. Ron Mailer
5. Jackie Williamson
6. George Miller
7. Tommy McDonald
8. George Peebles
9. Charlie Dickson
10. Don McLindon
11. Harry Melrose

Included in the Coleraine side was Bertie Peacock, formerly of Celtic and a Northern Irish Internationalist. There was no score at half-time, but the Pars went into the lead after 58 mins when a Harry Melrose pass found Charlie Dickson who scored. In 70 mins Fay Coyle, another Internationalist equalised for the home team.

Harry Melrose scored the winner with seven minutes remaining after good work by George Miller and Don McLindon, described in a local report as "An intelligent, scheming inside forward". Dunfermline were praised for fast and attractive football, but criticised for being over elaborate.

Exactly two years later (5th August 1963) the Pars again visited Coleraine. On the previous Saturday (3rd August) the opposition had been Hearts at Tynecastle in the annual Edinburgh charity match. That year the Charities Day committee had been unable to proceed with their normal fixture, and Dunfermline had offered to fill the vacancy. Our charitable tendencies extended into the game itself, allowing a Hearts team that included the incomparable Willie Hamilton to win 7-0.

So the losers travelled to Ulster looking for a morale boosting result without the services of Charlie Dickson, injured in the Hearts game, and replaced by Jim Kerray. In fact the result was again 2-1 for the Pars who's performance failed to impress the local scribes.

Below: The team of mid-August 1963. Standing: W. Callaghan, Lunn, Herriot Mailer, McLean, Miller. Front: Edwards, Peebles, Dickson, Sinclair, Melrose (Dundee Courier)





## IRELAND con'td

Bertie Peacock's side took a 14 min lead. Kerray's equaliser was said to be against the run of play. Jackie Sinclair's second half winner was said to have been scored from what looked like an offside position. In his capacity as Coleraine player manager Peacock announced that the visitors must have gone home with a very good impression of the local side. This proved to be correct as the Northern Irish team were invited to play a return match at East End the following month.

As joint leaders of the First Division the Pars entertained Coleraine in front of a 6,000 crowd on 30th, September 1963. The result was a 4-0 victory for the home side. According to a Irish observer Bertie Peacock's team from Coleraine showed plenty of talent in their bright display against Dunfermline, yet failed through sheer lack of pace and fitness. Another two were scored by Dan McLindon in the second half, during which Dunfermline used six substitutes. That same night in Glasgow Partick Thistle were disposing of Northern Irish opposition in the Inter Cities Fairs Cup. Glentoran beaten 4-1 in Belfast went down 3-0 in the second leg at Firhill, with two goals from Trevor Smith's father, George.

Among the Coleraine stars at East End was goalkeeper Victor Hunter who had recently been awarded the first of his two full international caps for Northern Ireland. Hunter's performance was watched by admiring Cowdenbeath officials who made inquiries about Hunter's availability.

But lest anyone imagine that Cowdenbeath were at that time the "Rangers" of the Scottish League, it is salutary to note that, according to Peacock, The last of the big spenders failed to come up with a proposition to interest either us or Vic.

In any case Peacock had other things on his mind. When a week after his visit to Dunfermline he was sent off during a Coleraine v Crusaders match for the first time in a long an illustrious career, which included numerous International appearances with our own Willie Cunningham.



In August 1964 a trip to Northern Ireland was once again included in the Pars pre-season build-up. This time however new ground was broken with a match at Windsor Park, Belfast against Linfield, correctly judged to be the Rangers of Northern Ireland, with all that name implies. The game was played on the 1st of August, and thankfully (in addition to supporting the Pars, your correspondent favours Linfield's rivals Glentoran), the Scottish visitors were easy 4-0 victors over this bunch of narrow minded bigots.

According to "Belfast Telegraph" writer Malcolm Brodie, Willie Cunningham, by this time Dunfermline manager praised Linfield for their defensive work.

The fact that a side who that just lost four goals can be reportedly praised for defending can only be explained by Brodie's Linfield tendencies. He was, and is a devoted Blueman (as a Linfield supported is described by anyone who feels charitable towards Line).

This explains his further reference to Dunfermline's desire to return the wonderful hospitality accorded by Linfield as soon as possible. The only problem involved finding a suitable date. Nice try Malcolm, but the hospitality couldn't have been that brilliant as we've only been waiting 231/2 years for the return bout.

# IRELAND con'td

But what of the match itself? Playing on a Saturday night, Jackie Sinclair (2) George Peebles and John McLauchlin scored the goals in Dunfermline's biggest win on Northern Irish soil, (Linfield 0 - Dunfermline 4).

Two days later (Monday, 3rd August 1964) the Pars faced their now traditional rivals Coleraine at the Showgrounds. The pre-match pessimism of Manager Peacock and the home fans was proved to have been warranted when the visitors won by 3 goals to Nil. Although only marginally on top in the first half, Dunfermline took the lead through a George Miller penalty in 40 mins after Charlie Dickson had been brought down in the box.

Second half goals came from Alex Ferguson (61 mins) and Harry Melrose, whose weak shot rolled under Victor Hunter's diving body in 80 mins. Perhaps Hunter should have gone to Central Park after all!.

Dunfermline's most memorable, and to date most recent match against Irish opposition was played the following year on 9th August 1965, the opponents were an Irish League XI. The occasion being a testimonial for former Linfield player Tommy Dickson. The game was played at Grosvenor Park the Belfast home of Distillery Football Club, now exiled from the city, largely as result of the Troubles and domiciled at New Grosvenor near Lisburn.

Dunfermline's prestige in the 1960s is testified by the invitation to play in a testimonial for Dickson, one of the most celebrated Irish League players since the war. He had captained Linfield during a season in which they captured seven domestic trophies and acquired himself the nickname "Duke of Windsor". He received one International Cap playing for Northern Ireland against Scotland at Hampden in 1956 (he too was a team mate of Willie Cunningham). He served his club (I'm sorry to say) with distinction through the 1950s and early 60s, scoring once in the Irish cup final of 1953 and twice in the 1962 Final. Another Linfield scorer on the latter occasion was Bobby Braithwaite (winner of 10 International Caps between 1962 and 1965). By coincidence (contrived or otherwise) Braithwaite's son was recommended to the Pars by former goalkeeper Eddie Connachan, and turned

out for our reserves in season 1986-87 before returning to the family home in South Africa. In the 1960 Cup Final, in which Linfield defeated Ards 5-1, both Dickson and Braithwaite played alongside the legendary former Newcastle and England centre forward Jackie Milburn.

The game against the Irish League Select was played on a warm Monday evening. The Pars used four substitutes Dave Anderson (for Eric Martin), Jim Thomson (for John Lunn), Jim Fleming (for George Peebles), and Harry Melrose (for Fergie), and won the game 4-3. Goals came from John Kilgannon (12,75 mins), Alex Edwards (23 mins) and Hughie Robertson (79 mins), and for the Select XI, Johnston (42), Dickson (62 penalty - surprise, surprise !!) and Ferguson (84). Malcolm Brodie was up to his tricks again, announcing that Dunfermline, despite their quickness off the mark and obvious fitness were struggling to find the elusive start of season rhythm. To add insult to injury he chose Derry City's Doug Wood, formerly with Raith Rovers as his Man of the Match. One thing not mentioned by Brodie (scarcely unexpectedly) was that Glentoran were playing Huddersfield on the same night that the Pars played at Grosvenor, so the Select XI line-up was weaker than it might otherwise have been.

But to be fair to Malcolm Brodie (and this doesn't come easy), his report on the Dunfermline match contained one interesting, and prescient passage.

'Frequent invasion of the pitch by crowds of youngsters proved distracting to say the least. It is a practice that must be stopped when the competitive fixtures come around, otherwise there could be trouble, the dangers are obvious!'

Although in the 80s these sentiments appear far from startling, at the time Joe Public seemed more concerned with violence stemming from Pop Culture than from Football hooliganism.

On the day the Pars played the Irish League XI the Belfast Telegraph's 'Editorial' was devoted to the problem of Mods and Rockers. The previous Friday had witnessed rowdy scenes, largely the result of over crowding during a Rolling Stones concert at Belfast's Ulster Hall.

Its strange to visualise Mick and the Lads on the very stage where in February 1886, Randolph Churchill made his "Ulster will Fight, and Ulster will be right" speech, and therefore added his tuppenceworth to the "Irish Question". There had been overcrowding on that night as well, but the officials simply removed the seats.



But enough of these ramblings. The "Troubles" started in 1968-69 and contact between Northern Ireland and the and the outside world was seriously curtailed.

By the early 70s Dunfermline's own fortunes were on the wane and pre-season tours became shorter and less adventurous. But things have changed. More and more pre-season friendlies are being played in Northern Ireland with mainland clubs providing the opposition.

The pre-season tour has once again become part of the Pars annual calendar, so maybe someday soon Northern Ireland's small but devoted band of supporters will be treated to a visit from their heroes (only make it Glentoran at the Oval this time Lads!).

P.S. And don't tell Malcolm Brodie that you're coming !!. Alan Bairner.

**Aquarius**  
(January 20-February 18)

For reasons best known to yourself, you have been unwilling or unable to ring the changes either at home or at work. But now you must if 1988 is to be a year of recovery and happiness.

Jim Leishman

# YOUR STARS


**Pisces**  
(February 19-March 20)




If you're feeling under the weather take things easy. Things will pick up again at the weekend when you and your mate meet two nice blokes!

Henry Smith



**Gemini**  
(May 21-June 20)




You should certainly be in the party mood today and your only problem may be deciding which invitation to accept. One word of warning, though—don't spend more than you can afford and avoid the plague.

Vette Anderson



**Aries**  
(March 21-April 20)

Watch what you eat and drink this week—especially if you're going abroad. You may be vulnerable to stomach upsets or an allergic reaction. So think before you open your mouth.



Malcolm Brodie

**Taurus**  
(April 21-May 20)

If that guy isn't right for you don't fight it, there are plenty more fishes in the sea! Don't put off that visit to the doctor any longer. Graeme Souness

**Leo**  
(July 23-August 21)

There is a great deal you could probably should say, which would put others firmly in their place. But what's the point? Simply accept the fact that someone is not on your wavelength and never will be.

Stephen Morrison


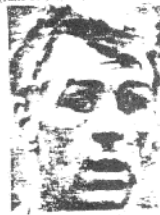
**Virgo**  
(August 23-September 22)




For either personal or professional reasons you should soon be on the move. News received this week will strengthen your belief that happiness and success are to be found somewhere totally different.

Billy Kirkwood


**Cancer**  
(June 21-July 20)

Things won't be going your way this week and you're liable to get cross!

Graham Roberts

**Libra**  
(September 23-October 22)




You really do seem to be getting the cold shoulder in certain quarters. But you know who's important to you and also know who really cares. So just get on with your life and ignore meanness and pettiness.

Ian McCall

**Scorpio**  
(October 23-November 22)




A sneaky thing you did could backfire. Time to come clean with anything nasty you've been up to. No one's perfect so you'll be forgiven.

**Sagittarius**  
(November 23-December 20)




You'll feel better if you admit that that you've been meaning to right away. This time try not to cheat! Time to look for a Saturday job; you're broke!

**Capricorn**  
(December 21-January 19)




Others seem quick to point out your mistakes and failures. But perhaps what they fail to appreciate is just how much you have sacrificed on their behalf and how much you contribute to their welfare.

# THE YOUNG ONES

## The B.P. Team's Success



● YOUNG ANGLO . . . Stephen Roe, the trialist winger brought up from England, is patrolled by Dunfermline's Andy Williamson.

Despite the misery surrounding the Pars vain attempt to avoid relegation, the gloom has been lifted slightly by the superb performances of the Pars Youth Team. The Young Ones have done tremendously well in reaching the final of the BP Youth Cup where they will play Dundee FC.

The Pars first entered the BP Cup last season (1986/87) where they were knocked out by Falkirk on penalties. The teenagers have progressed under the guidance of Bobby Wilson. Jim Thomson and Jim McArthur.

In the First Round this season the Pars struggled past Ross County (3-2), with David Sinclair scoring twice, the other being an own goal. The Pars then took on another team from the highlands in the form of Cove Rangers. Dunfermline buried them 5-0, Sinclair getting a hat-trick and Strang scoring the other two.

The quarter-final brought Rangers to East End in what look like a tougher tie than it turned out to be. However after Sharp blasted in a free kick after a minute, the Pars never looked in trouble. Strang and Donaldson scored to make it 3-0 after only 18 mins and put Dunfermline into the semis. An impressive crowd of 1,062 watched the Gers match and were suitably impressed by the performance of the Pars who were getting rave reviews everywhere.

Except of course in the "Rangers News". That particular rag blamed the goals on the defence (Who were Donkeys!), and implied that the large crowd consisted of a sizeable Rangers support.

What Crap! The Pars totally outplayed their opponents and were able to relax in the second half without allowing Rangers into the game. Rangers took the "It's may ball and I'm not playing attitude" by refusing to enter next year's tournament, as their team simply were not good enough. This is an insult to the Pars, surely the way to improve is to play in major competitions. Will the Gers also withdraw from next year's Scottish Cup because we beat them in that as well ?

The Pars faced Clyde in the semi-final at East End without one of our best players Craig Valentine, after playing in all of the earlier rounds he broke his leg shortly afterwards. After beating Dundee Utd at Tannadice in the last round Clyde must have been confident about their chances at East End. They had the Pars in trouble early on, mainly using their height to advantage.

With Sharp in outstanding form the Pars fought back but it was hard going. As often happens the Clyde youngsters tired in the second half and the Pars looked like over-running them. Sharp hit the post and the bar, and our smaller quicker forwards were running the Clyde defence ragged. The visitors had nothing left to offer up front

# B.P. Team

and seemed to be holding out for extra time when Sinclair rose to head the winner. We even had the luxury of missing a penalty ( Feenie blasting the ball wide ).

The main talking point amongst the fans was the disgraceful refereeing of Suttie from Glenrothes. Why is it that Refs from Fife never give Dunfermline anything ?

This man was obviously our punishment for beating Rangers. He never let the game flow at all, blowing for the slightest contact, the free-kick usually going to Clyde. Not surprisingly he was booed off the park.

Although the Pars did not play as well as they have done, they were fitter and more skilful than Clyde and deserved their win.

They received a well deserved standing ovation from the crowd at the end, which beat some first division teams with an attendance of 1225. Several of the first team players watched the game and could probably learn a thing or two

The success of our youth team has not gone unnoticed at national level, Donaldson, Ferguson, Strang, McVicars, Hunter and Sinclair all following in Andy Williamson's footsteps and being selected for the Scotland U-18 team. This is a tremendous achievement for the club who have the best crop of young players for a very long time.

Lets just hope they can continue their progress into the first team before very long.

BALL BOY

## STAR LETTER

Dear Sir

I am Danish and living in your country. Yesterday I have read your "Walking Down The Halbeath Road", and I have seen Alan Bairner writing that Aarhus has 25,000 people. This is not correct. Aarhus has 250,000 people in it living there. But I am not so surprised at this mistake for I have know here in Great Britain that newspapers and magazines are saying often what is not true. In my country it is not like this. In Denmark there are good papers telling the truth. Journalists in may country are not making up stories.

Yours (In Complete Honesty)

J. Bartranm

## WILLIE CUNNINGHAM the final story

Jock Stein signed the experienced defender and in doing so did more to shape the Pars' future than anything other than accepting the manager's job in the first place. Cunningham's influence can best be compared with that of Roy Barry in the later 60s, Alex Kinnonmonth in the 70s and John Holt in the late 80s. He played in all but one of the 1960-61 cup ties, and in every game in Dunfermline's European campaign. He took part in memorable victories over Everton and Valencia. Whilst with the Pars he was awarded another 3 Irish caps. As luck had it they came with a few happy memories.

His experience was cited as the reason for an international recall to play Wales at home on the 12th April 1961. But in a 5-1 defeat his own performance was described as " slow, ponderous, struggling ". He didn't feature in the subsequent European tour largely because of a late arrival with the Irish party occasioned by Dunfermline's Cup Final replay with Celtic. In fact, he waited



for another year for his 29th cap at left-back versus Wales on 11th April 1962. His selection in what was largely an inexperienced side was widely condemned. Cunningham it was said, was finished. The match itself was threatened by a Smallpox outbreak in South Wales and was eventually moved from The Vetch Field, Swansea, to Ninian Park, Cardiff. It made little difference to Northern Ireland, beaten 4-0, having spent the previous night in their hotel rather than at a cinema because of the smallpox scare. Despite the score Cunningham's own performance was praised by the same men who had criticised his selection. So along came cap No. 30. He was originally picked

# CUNNINGHAM

to play at centre-half , but after a after a reshuffle enforced by injury he played his last game for his country at left-back. The opponents were The Netherlands on 9th May 1962 in Rotterdam. Because of disciplinary measures against their team's players , Feyenoord supporters threatened to boycott the game, but over 30,000 attended the friendly, remarkable in that the Dutch were part-timers far from being at the forefront of European football

They were too good for the visitors however and once again Cunningham's performance was described by Malcolm Brodie of the Belfast Telegraph as " The Worst since World War Two" (appearing to imply that the Northern Irish had fought with Hitler in that particular campaign). Cunningham himself was singled out for criticism, "Lacks the mobility required for this grade of football", "wasn't good enough " - and so ended his international career.

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## Pars All Time Best Team

Team would line up in 4-4-2 formation

IN GOAL: JIM HERRIOT - difficult choice this one, Eddie Connachan and Eric Martin run him close. Jim gets the nod if only for his performances in Europe. Remember both Connachan and Herriot went on to win Scottish Caps.

BACK FOUR ROY BARRY is a must, quite simply the best Centre-Half in Britain circa 66-69, not popular with the man in black or the mandarins of the Scottish League. Tragic that he had to go South to earn his corn. When he left that signalled the end of the "Golden Years".

JOHN HOLT would have been an excellent partner, everything's been said about John that needs to be said. He is the Dunfermline defence.

FULL BACKS: Have to be WILLIE CALLAGHAN and JOHN LUNN, the best club partnership in Scotalnd throughout the sixties. Willie won caps, John should have! Cammy Fraser and Willie Cunningham were excellent from the '61 Cup winning team, and together with Graeme Robertson from the present team ( How in the name of Christ has he played so few games this season ? ) - would be the only serious challengers.

At the start of season 63-64 injury forced him to retire from playing completely and he became Jock Stein's right-hand man. Together with another defensive stalwart, Jackie Williamson he was awarded a testimonial game versus Newcastle United on 9th December 1963, which Dunfermline won 2-0. Included in the home team were former players Eddie Connachan and Cammy Fraser, plus John Colrain, formerly of Celtic, but then with Ipswich Town and thought to be on the point of signing for the Pars. The transfer didn't materialise and Colrain ended his career as player-manager of Irish League side Glentoran. In the Newcastle United squad that night was Dick Keith, Cunningham's fellow full-back in many Northern Irish internationals.

In 1964 at the age of 34, Willie Cunningham succeeded Jock Stein as Dunfermline Manager to guide them to further success. Even then the true nature of his international career was little understood by the majority of his West Fife admirers.

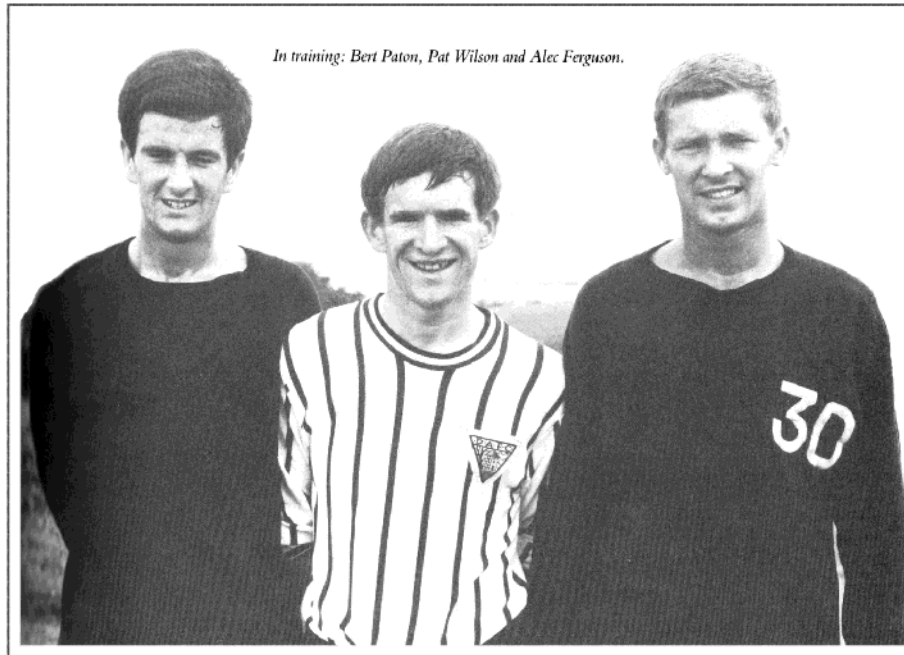
Alan Bairner.

MIDFIELD: ALEX EDWARDS in a class of his own, best crosser of the ball I've ever seen. He would partner another Rosyth boy ALEX SMITH, who was the most cultured player ever to wear a Pars jersey. Edwards went on to Hibs, and thrilled the public there, Smith went onto Ibrox and oblivion, an absolute waste!.

The midfield would be completed by TOMMY CALLAGHAN and STUART BEEDIE. Tommy's skills were often vastly underrated. Not by Jock Stein though, he took him to Parkhead and he kept his place for years in a great Celtic team. Incidentally Tommy turned in one of the finest individual performances I've ever seen from a Dunfermline player in a semi-final against Rangers at Hampden in 1964. Beedie gets in because on his day he is superb and could hold his own in any company, past or present. Others who would come into the reckoning are: Craig Robertson, Ian McCall, Harry Melrose and Hugh Robertson.

STRIKERS: ALEX FERGUSON and JACKIE SINCLAIR. Fergie won 'League' and 'B' caps and Jackie went onto Leicester where he won full caps. Fergie was a goal scorer supreme. His strike rate would have

# Pars Select XI



in line for the Golden Boot awards (had there been such a thing then). He also inspired the birth of the 'East End Choir'. What Fergie lacked in elegance he more than made up for in guts, determination and superb aerial ability.

Jackie Sinclair could play on the right or left, fast and tricky he knew where the net lay. He could destroy defences on his own, and often did, witness the '65 semi-final against Hibs at Tynecastle. Pity he left the Pars before he reached his full enormous potential. Mention must also be made of players such as Charlie Dickson, George Pebbles, Bert Paton and Mark Smith (Now he is the jewel in our present, somewhat shaky crown), who would complete a superb first team pool.

So there you have it, put the late great Jock Stein in charge of that lot with Willie Cunningham as his assistant and I defy anyone from any team, from any era to come up with a selection that could live with our lads.

I hope this provokes a bit of debate and some fun. Lastly although my choice is drawn from the Sixties, it is my dearest wish that in 20 years time

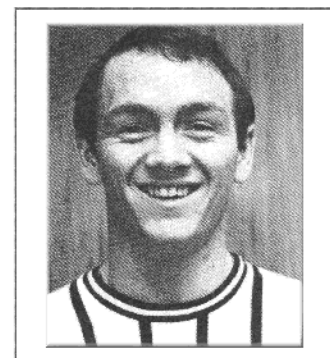
somebody somewhere will be writing about our stars of the Nineties and maybe, after witnessing the recent debut of young Willie Callaghan, and having the enormous pleasure of watching our young 'uns destroy the Hun the other week, that dream is not as forlorn as it sounds.

Good Luck with your Fanzine and God Bless the Pars.

Eric the Red,  
Livingstone.

P.S. Get that Bastard Farm into your Hall of Shame pronto. The reflected glory that sod basked in for years following the '68 Cup triumph has had me vomiting for the last 20 years.

P.P.S. You're right - where the Hell do you get a drink in Pitreavie?.





# DOCTOR AT LARGE

## A Tribute to Bobby Robertson

Bobby Robertson Dunfermline's longest serving player reached a personal and club milestone at the recent Motherwell match when he broke Kenny Thomson's record of 348 appearances for the club. For this, his outstanding commitment to the game and his loyalty to the club, Bobby deserves his ten years with the Pars given the praise it deserves. At the age of 29 it is remarkable to chart that the Pars have been Bobby's only Senior Club since being called up from Kirkcaldy Y.M.C.A in July, 1977.

Bobby's debut for Dunfermline was on 20.9.77 against East Fife in the Fife Cup, playing alongside such luminaries as Bonar Mercer ( recently returned from a spell with Kilmarnock Rugby Club), Kevin Hegarty and the "Mean Machine" himself Mike Leonard. Also present was player-coach Walter Brothwick, who gave a lot of help to the young Robertson, and Bobby later credited Walter with being the biggest influence on his career.

His first season with the Pars was highlighted by three league goals; his first coming against "new boys" Meadowbank Thistle and by the Pars actually reaching the quarter-finals of the League Cup courtesy of Clyde 2-1 and Clydebank 4-2 both aggregate. Unfortunately our opponents in the quarter-finals were Rangers and we went out 2-6 on aggregate.

In his first few seasons with the Club, Bobby did not play in his more familiar No.2 shirt. In fact, over his first few years he wore no fewer than eight different shirts, ranging from midfield to forward and back to defence.

During seasons 80/81 to 82/83 he set another record with 154 cup and league appearances for the club and hit another four goals into the bargain.

Season 78-79 saw Bobby gain his first honour with the club, being part of the promotion winning team that year, and his astute defending kept the eager Falkirk forwards out in the 1-1 draw, giving Pars Second Place in Division II and joining Berwick Rangers in the First Division.



The early Eighties saw the Pars in the no-mans land of relegation and the middle-reaches of Division II, although it is interesting to note that it marked the signing of Bobby's future team mate and defensive partner Bobby Forrest from Penicuik Athletic, and another future team-mate in the unmistakable guise of Grant Jenkins.

Undoubtedly Bobby's finest moments came in the last three seasons in the Div II Championship of 85-86, promotion to the Premier League in 86-87 and this year in the Premier League. Perhaps the finest hour of all was when he stood in the stand after we'd beaten Queen of the South to win promotion and listened to the cheers from a very happy and relieved band of supporters.

Bobby competed for every ball and never stopped running or harassing forwards until they released the ball. His favourite move was to win the ball and then move to the touchline before letting an inch perfect pass to Jim Bowie on the wing to setup another attack. He has never been frightened to take on opposing players and have an attempt at goal; a throwback to his midfield days, as was recently shown in the game at Fir Park where he worked his way into the box before crossing for Willie Callaghan.

We all make mistakes now and then but when one of his upfield balls went out of play Bobby at least had the decency to smile

# A SCOTTISH FOOTBALL GUIDE TO BOTULISM

For those of you misguided enough to think that the "photo-man" has an easy life at football matches, let me enlighten you to some of the hazards of the Scottish season.

Free admission to the game may seem appealing but there are hidden dangers, like recurring nightmares of watching Falkirk and Motherwell. Derby matches can be moving affairs but the excitement generated from the terraces tends to lead to somewhat anti-social behaviour. Returning from Ibrox with shrapnel objects protruding from the back of my head and spittle streaming down my back because I happened to be at the wrong end of the ground can be a bit annoying. Further drawbacks are - players crashing into photographers behind

goals ( Roy Aitken and Graham Roberts should be avoided at all costs ) and stray shots can be deadly. Even sitting at the corner flag is no guarantee of safety when some Premier strikers are about, Easter Road is the exception to this rule as they have been coached out of the art of shooting at goal. Meeting certain players and managers in the tunnel at full time can be dangerous and standing next to T.V sets at post match press conferences is not recommended.

And so to one of the most tricky moments of the game, the half time interval and the dilemma of whether there will be something to eat or drink. In Glasgow there is the dreaded Parkhead Pie, the most dangerous known to man, one bite and grease cascades down your arm, the pie then disintegrates, and if you're foolish enough to be still wearing the camera round your neck then you can forget about the second half and find the nearest repair shop. Further West the Huns offer pie and tea in the salubrious surroundings under the main stand, in the company of steaming, shitting police-horses and the jovial wit and banter of the Glesga Polis. Over in the Capital Hibs were laying on a veritable banquet of tit-bits for the press until the new owners arrived. It always seemed rather a coincidence that the BBC kept sending Archie McPherson to Easter Road to stuff his face before spilling out his pro-Glasgow verbal diarrhoea. The new owners have regained a sense of tradition to the pie and tea diet.

A trip across town to Mercer towers explains why he is such a successful entrepreneur. For the last two years he has failed to produce even a morsel of food, nor even the delight of a cupboard to gather in at half-time. Occasionally a pot of tea with 3 plastic cups arrives for the 29 photographers there, some ten minutes after the game has started

In the north Aberdeen's hospitality in a 4 foot square room, in which we struggle to consume a cup of tea while sheltering from the icy North Sea gales that howl through that God Forsaken place from August to April. Dundee Utd offers tea in a tiny dark cellar, while their neighbours at Dens offers sandwiches and cake, but you have to beat off the ball-boys first. St. Mirren have a funny wee tea room discreetly hidden from all but the most vigilant. And I refuse to disclose such valuable information in case Eamon McCabe is reading this. Photographers are such competitive Bastards!

# Dr Bob

and acknowledge the blunder then go on and redeem himself.

Along with Ian Westwater, Bobby is one of the few part-time players on our books. He now works in a G.P. Practice in Glenrothes. His days as a medical student meant long hours of studying and work experience. It is a remarkable tribute to his loyalty that he could work a 78 hour week and still give his all on a Saturday. He did miss a few games due to this, which is unfortunate as he could have scored more given the chance.

Bobby's professional attitude was without doubt a major issue in the team's success in the previous two seasons and he formed part of the formidable defensive line-up of Westwater, Robertson, Forrest & McCathie, who terrorised forward lines in Div II.

A few interesting aspects to Bobby appeared in "Pars in Profile" feature in the programme v Arbroath in 1982.

He names his favourite players as Willie Callaghan and John Lunn a marvellous partnership in the 60s which bear many parallels with the Robertson, Forrest partnership of the 80s. His biggest disappointment was Bonar Mercer (probably for still thinking he played for Kilmarnock R.F.C v Clydebank to equalise at 3-3 from the penalty and being sent off!!), while his musical likes Steely Dan and Bob Dylan proved that Dr. Bob was a hippy at heart!.

When he went to Alloa on loan, for many fans it looked as though Bobby's career at East End was coming to an end. However, he was recently recalled and has shown in recent games v Dundee, Morton and Motherwell that the old skills are still much in evidence and I for one look forward to seeing him make his contribution to our promotion campaign in 88-89. Congratulations Bobby!

Sandy.

## Good Food Guide

Motherwell are the horror show of the good food guide. A large pot of milky tea is provided for all with a nourishing plate of white-bread Spam sandwiches. You can always rely on the Scots to keep up the good standard of health and dental care we're so famous for. Falkirk offered food and tea if you could persuade the commissionaire that you were a member of the Press. Morton I missed as there seemed little point in a photographer going there, whatever delights they had to offer.

And so to East End Park, well along with the rest of the press entourage I waited patiently ( 20 mins in fact, there wasn't much happening on the park as Hibs were the visitors ) but nothing materialised. To be fair there was a set of empty cups on the table but that was all. Rumours that Souness had kicked over the tea urn were unproven.

In the First Division: Hamilton have a quant little tea room somewhere in the rafters of their stand? Others: Clydebank couldn't afford a tea-pot, Forfar couldn't afford a tea-bag, Meadowbank didn't even have a socket to plug in the kettle

Hampden as benefits our national stadium offers a tiny, scruffy cupboard, to show their hospitality to press from all over the world, who then have to fight off the ball-boys to get to the tea. At my time of writing this was all overseen by an extremely offensive and un-helpful steward who maintained the good standards of S?F.A efficiency and arrogance. So you want to be a football photographer, in that case forget your telephotos and motorwinds just bring the stomach pump

LENSMAN.

# ONE STEP BEYOND

## a review of this season

Statistically season 87-88 has not been a very good year for the Pars. At the time of writing we stand on 23 points from 39 games, which is far from our target of 36 points for Premier safety.

With five games left the most we can hope for is around 28 points, which will still leave us in 2nd bottom position. That means relegation after a brief but colourful year in the Premier League.

All the top clubs have said they would like to keep the Pars in the Premier League as they bring big crowds, play attractive attacking football and have a ground with a tremendous atmosphere.

In fact Dundee FC submitted a motion to the SFA that relegation should be limited to one team and one up. However it was submitted far too late and would have caused an uproar at Cappielow. Dundee presumably retracted this after we gubbed them 6-1 at East End.

Its difficult to pin-point our reasons for failure this year! We're definitely more skilful than Motherwell or St. Mirren, but perhaps lacked a little experience when it came to closing down the shutters for a point.

Our worst spell was between Xmas and early March where we lost consistently and failed to take vital home points v Motherwell and Morton, then lost two vital away games v Falkirk and Motherwell. Those 6 points could have placed us on 29 points just 2 behind St. Mirren, with them to play at East End followed by Falkirk it could all have been so different.

Problems with team selection have been uppermost at East End. Using four different keepers did not help an understanding in the defence, as was beautifully acted out by Hans Segers, who was "disappointing" to say the least.

Squabbles behind the scenes meant that players who deserved a place sat on the bench while the old-guard kept plodding on. Our injury and suspension list has been very low this year, and we currently lie fourth in the Sunday Post Crime Count Table (i.e. Fourth best clean team), and therefore our many of our problems lie in being inconsistent and gifting daft goals and precious points to the opposition, e.g. v Hearts at Tynecastle, 2-1 up with five minutes to go and getting beaten 3-2!



If we forget the 23 or so defeats and look at the times we were victorious, I'm sure many of you will agree we looked very, very good.

We've taken a point or more off all the top teams, and have beaten Celtic at home in the League and become legendary for cuffing the Huns in the Cup. Taken a point at Ibrox and given Dundee a thrashing to make the memories of the 5-0 defeat less painful.

The three victories over Morton made amends for the cock-ups last season that cost us the League Championship last year.

Even against the big clubs we haven't been shy in attacking and attempting to play skilful competitive football which resulted in 36 goals (as at 11/04/88), and its unfortunate that we chose the latter part of the season to play our best football when its too late.

I'm glad we've had the experience of playing in the Premier League and I'm sure that it will be of tremendous benefit in Division 1 next year, where only a swift return will appease this year's disappointment.

With around a dozen TV appearances, lots of press coverage and an

# Next Season

dozen T.V. appearances lots of press coverage and an average home crowd of 10,000 - 15,000 a game it was like the Golden Years again. However comparisons with the 60s are irrelevant, a team is judged on what it does now not what it has done in the past, and it is for that reason we must look forward to next season and another championship.

## NEXT SEASON:

The biggest obstacle next year will be holding onto the players we have and trying to attract others to East End Park. Mel Rennie has insisted that we remain a full-time side, which we had to do in any case as we've given all the players a two-year contract. However this does not mean that a player will not leave if the money is good enough (e.g. Ian McCall this season). It is imperative that we hold onto our current side who seem to have found a whole new lease of life now that Norrie has been dropped. It was apparent to many of us that playing John Holt and Norrie McCathie was not a good move as both played in the same position and left gaps at the back. What we do not want is to try and win the First Division with a lot of experienced players who won't be with us in the Premier in 89-90. Our search for a striker seems to have ended with the born again Willie Callaghan, who has shown a lot of promise. Stuart Beedie and Robbo have been superb in midfield, ably assisted by Davie Irons and Steve Morrison, whilst Mark Smith continues to impress on the wing. The defence has sharpened up a great deal, which is due to the calming influence of John Holt and inspired defending by Graeme Robertson and Hagar. As always around this time of year Leish will be drawing up the list of frees, and open to frees which we give our selection:-

## PLAYERS WHO MUST BE KEPT:

Ian Westwater, G. Robertson, V. Andersson

J. Holt, S. Beedie, M. Smith, C. Robertson, D. Irons, S. Morrison, W. Callaghan, T. Smith, N. McCathie, B. Robertson, J. Watson, A. Williamson.

## THOSE WHO SHOULDN'T:-

B. Smith, G. Cowie, G. Riddle, E. Ferguson, J. Donnelly, R. Jack

The success of the B.P Youth Team is a very healthy sign and hopefully we shall see a few of these players breaking into the first team next season. The biggest mistakes in past years have been the reversion to part-time football in the early 70s, the disbanding of the Youth Team and the sale of Humbug Park in the same era. It is vital that these mistakes are not made again or we could spend a very long time in Div.1.

Next season promises to be an exiting one with the Pars, Falkirk, Meadowbank and Airdrie all challenging for the top, and some interesting away games at Perth and Ayr. Morton will be heading for Div.II. It will be a costly season for the club, the fans will still be there; the full-time supporters at any rate, and I'm looking forward to the challenge and have every confidence that we will return a better and stronger team to challenge for a place in the top 5 in two years time.

