

ISSUE No.3 MAY

A DUNFERMLINE ATH FANZINE

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INSIDE *JIM BOWIE INTERVIEW*
PARS IRISH FRIENDLIES
B.P. YOUTH TEAM
A FOOTBALL GOOD FOOD GUIDE
EAST END NO MORE
BOBBY ROBERTSON

40P

BUMPER ISSUE

EDITORIAL ISSUE No.3 MAY

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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)
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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

PELE 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.

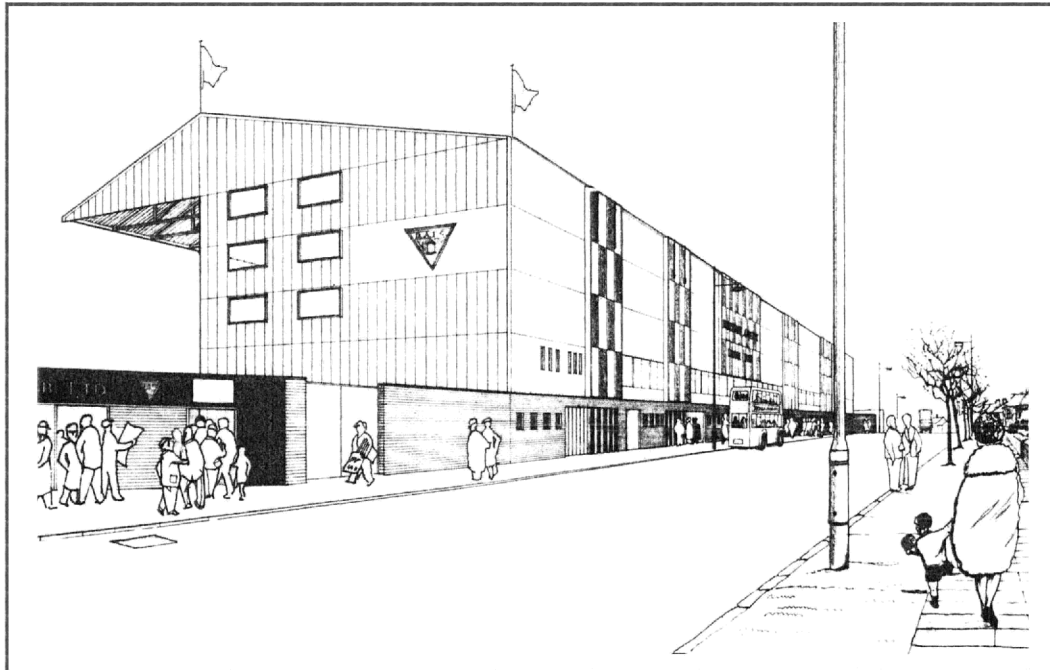
Pele's answer? A polite smile and a shake of the head.

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

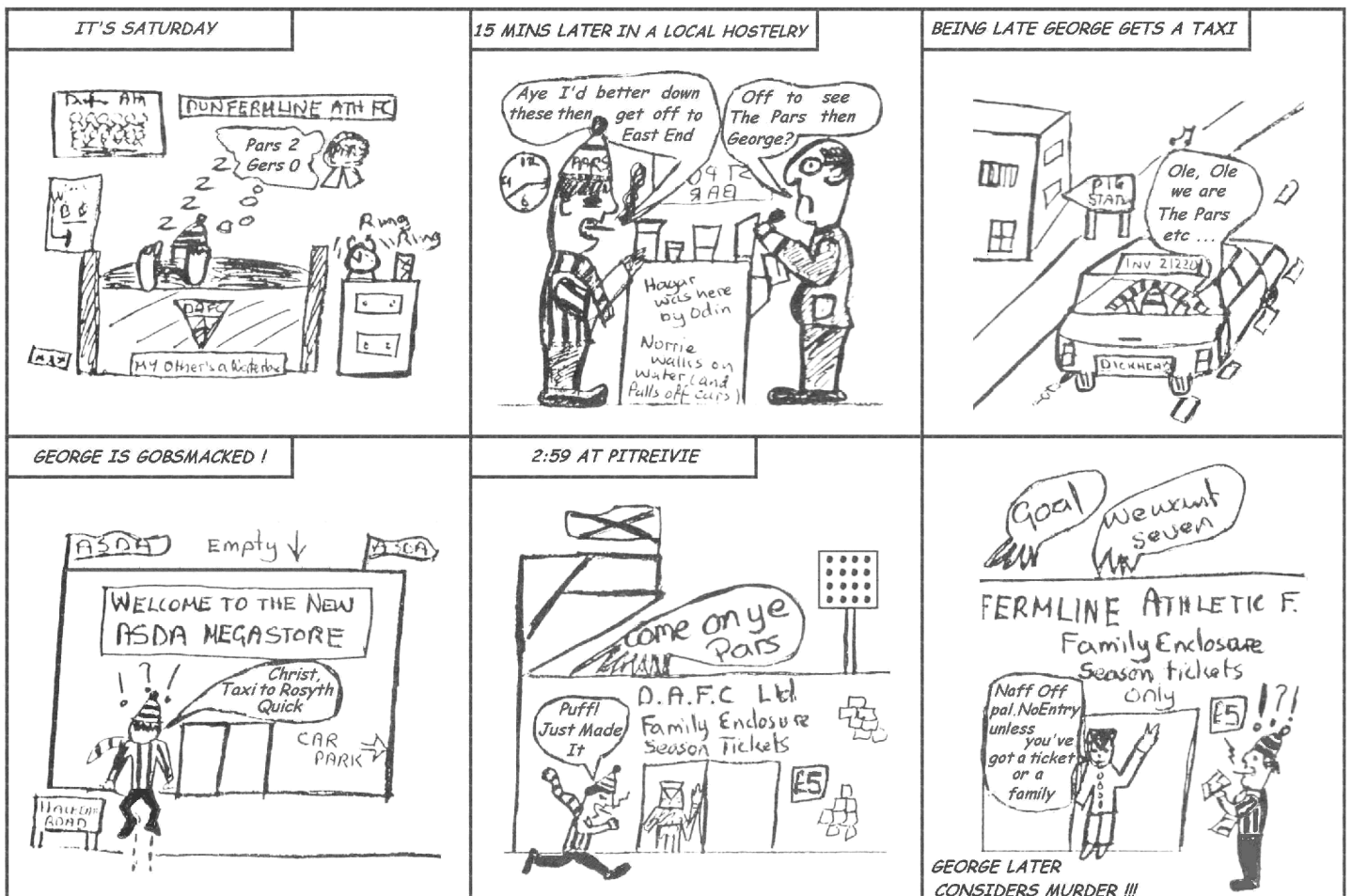
the East End Park development and not the Club, despite reports to the contrary.

(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



Jim "Ziggy" 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.

Ziggy

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 ?

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 ?

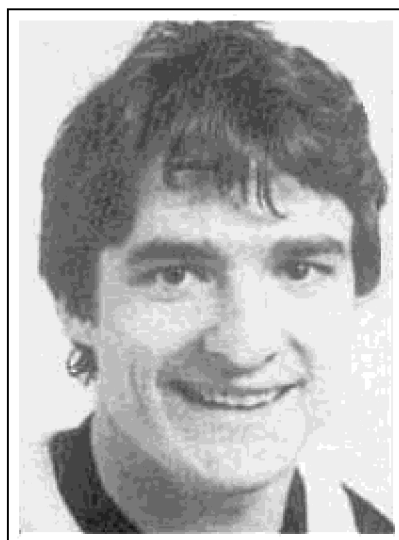
Ziggy - Well John Salton, Colin O'Brien and Mark Williams impressed me from the old days, but John Watson probably saved my career. I was on my way out - all I could do was hit crosses into the box, at the time the strikers Tait and Rodier couldn't head a ball, but when John came in it all changed. He 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.



Jim and the rest of the team celebrate promotion to the First Division after beating Berwick Rangers on Saturday, 19 April 1986.

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!).

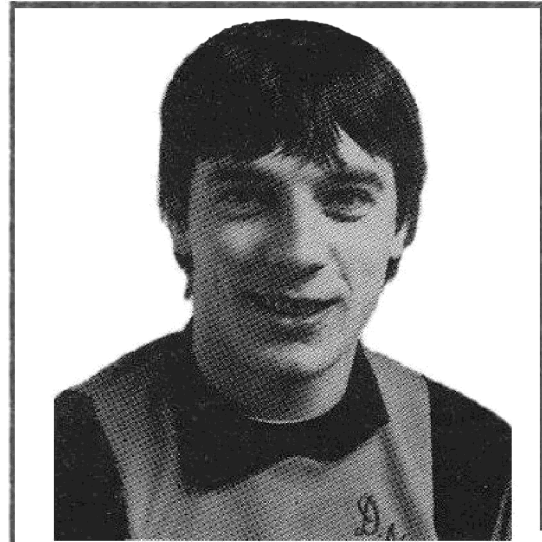
Moffat was a 22 year old P.E. student at Jordanhill when Forsyth decided he was the man to stand between the posts at East End. In November 1982 our wily boss offered Hamilton an astonishing £10,000 for somebody without too much experience when the Pars were virtually penniless.

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.

COLERAINE F.C - 06 AUGUST 1961

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 (C)
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.

COLERAINE F.C - 05 AUGUST 1963

Two years later on 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.

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

So the Pars 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.



Coleraine FC. Irish Cup Winners 1965

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 Park the following month.



**Bertie Peacock
Coleraine & Northern Ireland
"The Little Ant!"**

COLERAINE F.C - 30 SEPTEMBER 1963

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 Smiths'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.



**Victor Hunter
Coleraine & Northern Ireland**

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 very own Willie Cunningham.

LINFIELD FC - 01 AUGUST 1964

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.



Linfield FC

The game was played on the 1st of August, and thankfully (in addition to supporting the Pars, your correspondent also favours Linfield's rivals Glentoran), the Scottish visitors were easy 4-0 victors.

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 had 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 23 and a half years for the return bout.

August 1964 Willie Cunningham & Tommy Dickson



Willie Cunningham (left) manager of Dunfermline Athletic and Tommy Dickson player coach of Linfield renew an old friendship at the Grand Hotel Belfast today. Their teams meet in a friendly match at Windsor Park at 7 p.m. tonight.

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).

COLERAINE F.C - 03 AUGUST 1964

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!.

**IRISH LEAGUE XI
09 AUGUST 1965**

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.



**Tommy Dickson
Linfield & Northern Ireland
"The Duke of Windsor"**

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).



**Eddie Connachan & Bobby Braithwaite
Middlesbrough FC**

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 Irish 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.

Irish Select XI team was:

1. Victor Hunter (Coleraine)
2. Burke (Distillery)
3. Patterson (Distillery)
4. Gregg (Linfield)
5. Campbell (Crusaders)
6. Doug Wood (Derry City)
7. Stuart (Linfield)
8. Johnston (Glenavon)
9. Tommy Dickson (Linfield)
10. Thomas (Ballymena United)
11. Ferguson (Linfield)

The Pars used four substitutes Dave Anderson (for Eric Martin), Jim Thomson (for John Lunn), Jim Fleming (for George Pebbles), 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), T. 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.

IRELAND con'td

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.

It's 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 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



LINFIELD FC - Displaying the Seven Trophies Won in 1961/62

(Irish Cup, City Cup, Ulster Cup, CAS, North South Cup, Gold Cup and Irish League)

Belfast Telegraph

Dunfermline fitness pays off

DICKSON SELECTION 3,
DUNFERMLINE 4

ENTERTAINING is perhaps the best way to describe the Tommy Dickson testimonial game at Grosvenor park, Belfast, last night - a match watched by a fair sized crowd (writes Malcolm Brodie)

"The Duke's" side fought with plenty of endeavour, and at times showed quite considerable skill against Dunfermline, who despite their quickness off the mark and obvious fitness were struggling to find the elusive start-of-the-season rhythm.

Two players I liked particularly were wing-half Alex Smith and centre-forward John Kilgannon,

Dickson himself gave us flashes of his genius and "capped" it all with a penalty goal. Doug Wood as usual reigned supreme in the half-back line and generally, it was a satisfying show on a perfect pitch and beautiful summer evening.

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

Now the scorers: Dickson Select: Johnston (42), Dickson (62) pen, Ferguson (84): Dunfermline: Kilgannon (12 and 79), Edwards (23), Robertson (79)

Dickson Selection - Hunter (Coleraine), Burke, Patterson (Distillery), Gregg (Linfield), Campbell (Crusaders), Wood (Derry City), Stewart (Linfield), Johnston (Glenavon), Thomas (Ballymena United), Dickson, Ferguson (Linfield)

Dunfermline - Martin, W. Callaghan, Lunn, Smith, McLean, T. Callaghan, Edwards, Pebbles, Kilgannon, Ferguson, Robertson.

Second half replacements - Anderson for Martin, Thomson for Lunn, Fleming for Pebbles, Melrose for Ferguson.

Referee - S. Carswell (Belfast)

BELFAST TELEGRAPH - TUESDAY 10th AUGUST
1965, (MALCOLM BRODIE)

Dunfermline win—as expected

COLERAINE 0, DUNFERMLINE 3

DUNFERMLINE ATHLETIC'S 3 - 0 win over Coleraine in their pre-season friendly at the Showgrounds last night didn't upset their fans too much . . . as a matter of fact, it appeared they expected their team to be beaten.

For the first half hour or so there wasn't much in it and both sides had scoring chances, perhaps Dunfermline the more so.

The first goal came in the 40th minute when Dunfermline's centre forward Dickson was fouled by Coleraine pivot Davey in a duel for the ball. Millar's spot-kick left Hunter with no chance.

With 61 mins on the clock Ferguson got the visitors' second from a goalmouth melee. And Melrose notched a third 19 minutes later with a weak 25 yard shot which rolled under Hunter's diving body.

Belfast Telegraph (04 August 1964)



Refreshed after a pre-lunch nap members of the Dunfermline Athletic team relax in their Belfast hotel before tonight's game with Linfield at Windsor Park. They had to leave home at 5a.m, to catch an early morning flight from Renfrew. The Scots will also play Coleraine on Monday.

THE DUNFERMLINE PRESS

Plucky Irish Never Gave Up Fight

DUNFERMLINE ATHLETIC 4, COLERAINE 0

Challenge Match, East End Park - Monday, 30 September 1963

Monday evening's challenge game at East End Park made one thing plain; Manager Stein's up-and-coming youngsters are not far short of the standard demanded for the League team. Six of these lads came on after the interval, and by means of skilful football gave Colcraine no respite whatever.

Coming on fresh at the interval after the Irish team had a hard first half was perhaps not as good a test for the youngsters as a full ninety minutes, but they did display some very clever touches.

Tired as Coleraime were after a gruelling first half they put up a splendid fight all the way, and if their attack did not have the cohesion of the Athletic, their defence showed lots of confidence. Dunfermline dictated nearly all of the play and much credit must go to Coleraime for holding the almost complete League team to two goals before the interval.

But for the coolness and skill of their defenders Dunfermline would have had more than two goals by half-time. Both of these were scored by Melrose in a good old-fashioned "one two" punch.

It took the Athletic thirty-one minutes to open the scoring; the ball was blocked close to goal and **MELROSE** drove it in again. This too appeared to be stopped on the line by a defender but the ball rolled behind him, and the referee had no doubt it was over the line. One minute later Kerray went through on the left and Dickson touched the cross to **MELROSE** who hammered the ball into the net.

Continually in action, Hunter saved time and again and one instance actually kicked the ball off the line. Close on the interval Edwards might have scored but he completely missed the ball from six yards out.

SUBSTITUTES

There were six changes after the interval, four if them in the attack. Edwards alone of the pre-interval five returned to the field. McLindon and Sinclair were the only replacements who have had experience in the League team. They were at centre and inside-left respectively, with Wilson at outside-left and Strachan inside right. Newman replaced Jim Herriot and W. Callaghan gave way to McKenzie.

Fresh and enthusiastic, the young lads gave the crowd plenty to roar about with fast, open football and if anything Hunter and his backs were kept busier than before. Wilson had a great diving header to an Edwards cross, which was brilliantly saved by Hunter, and when Sinclair hit another the keeper was there again. Another Sinclair drive appeared to be handled by McCurdy, but a corner was given.

Sixteen minutes from time came a third goal when Edwards cross was touched through by Sinclair for **McLINDON** to edge the ball past Hunter and Davey into the net. One minute from the end **McLINDON** netted again, but it looked as if he used a hand. Hunter protested strongly, but apparently the referee saw nothing.



Coleraime keeper Hunter dives in vain to intercept Wilson's cross, but McLindon beats him to it to score the Athletic's fourth goal

DUNFERMLINE ATHLETIC - Herriot (Newman), W. Callaghan (McKenzie), and Lunn: T. Callaghan, McLean and Miller, Edwards, Pebbles (Strachan), Dickson (McLindon), Kerray (Sinclair), and Melrose (Wilson).

COLERAINE - Hunter: McCurdy and Campbell: Nicholl, Davey and Murray: Dunlop, O'Neill, Walsh, Peacock and McCarroll.

Referee - W. J. Mullan, Dalkeith

THE DUNFERMLINE PRESS, SATURDAY
05 OCTOBER 1963

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. Bartram



Aquarius

(January 20 - Feb 18)



Jim Leishman

For reasons best known to yourself you have been unable, or unwilling to ring the changes either at home or at work.

But now you must if 1988 is going to be a year of recovery and happiness.

YOUR STARS

Pisces

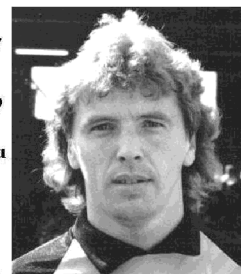
(February 19 - March 20)



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



Aries

(March 21 - April 20)



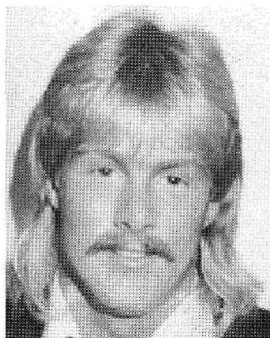
Watch what you eat and drink this week - especially if you're going abroad. You may be vulnerable to stomach upsets or an allergic reaction. So think before you open your mouth!!

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.



Vetle Andersen



Mo Johnstone

Taurus

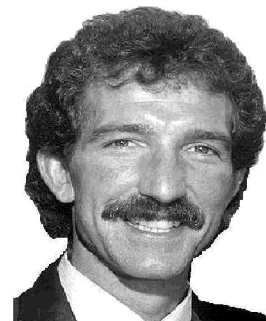
(April 21 - May 20)



If that guy isn't right for you don't fight it, there are plenty more fellas in the sea!

Don't put off that visit to the doctor any longer

Graeme Souness



Cancer

(June 21 - July 20)



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



Graham Roberts

Leo

(July 21 - August 21)



There is a great deal you could and 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.



Stevie Morrison

Virgo

(August 22 - 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



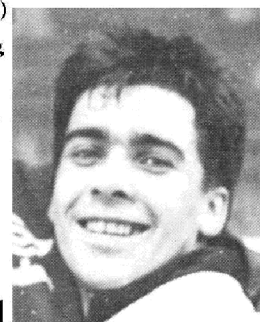
Billy Kirkwood

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

Sagittarius

(November 23 - December 20)



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

Dogie Robertson



Scorpio

(October 23 - November 22)



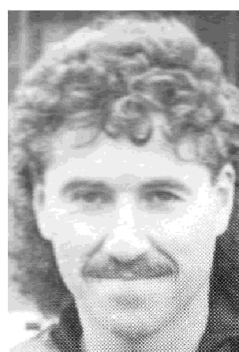
A sneaky thing you did could backfire. Time to come clean with anything nasty you've been up to. No one's perfect so you'll be forgiven.

Craig Patterson

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 suffered on their behalf and how much you contribute to their welfare.



Bobby Smith

THE YOUNG ONES

The B.P. Team's Success

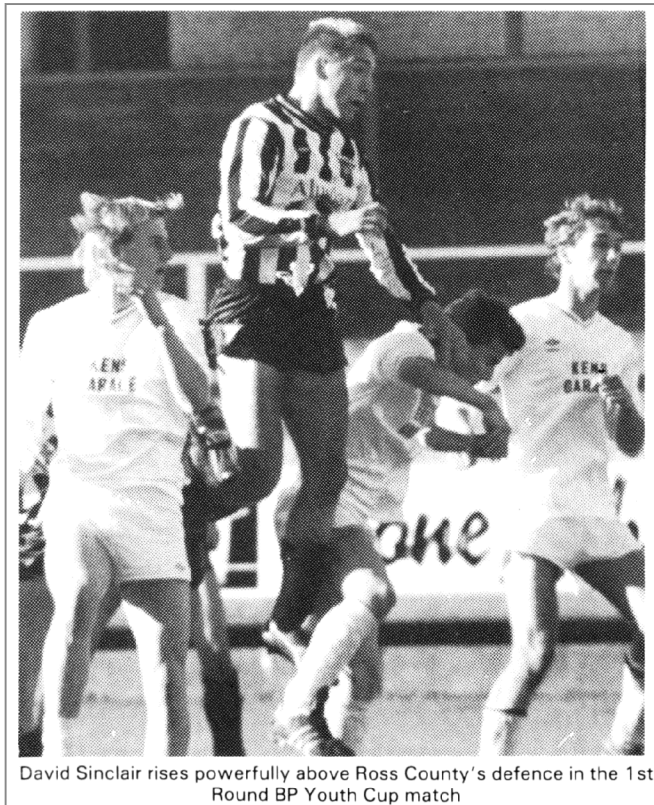
BP YOUTH CUP 1988

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.

ROUND 1: DUNFERMLINE V ROSS COUNTY

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.



David Sinclair rises powerfully above Ross County's defence in the 1st Round BP Youth Cup match

ROUND 2: DUNFERMLINE V COVE RANGERS

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.

QUARTER-FINAL DUNFERMLINE v RANGERS



Action from the Rangers Match

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 ?

SEMI-FINAL DUNFERMLINE v CLYDE

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, 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.

THE DUNFERMLINE ATHLETIC YOUTH TEAM



FIFE'S FURIES! Dunfermline squad that crushed Glasgow Rangers 3-0 in quarter final. Back row – from left – David Sinclair, Raymond Sharp, Martin Feenie, Craig Timney, Greg Donaldson, Stuart McVicars, Andy Williamson, Paul Gribbins. Front row – from left – Lee Bullen, Ian Black, Craig Valentine, Scott Ferguson and Sean Strang.

Athletic's glory boys

Dunfermline Ath. 2
Dundee 1.

B.P. YOUTH CUP FINAL
DUNFERMLINE
v
DUNDEE FC

DUNFERMLINE Athletic's young hopefuls added to the club's silverware on Wednesday night, 04 May 1988 when they lifted the BP Youth Cup from favourites Dundee in a memorable 2-1 victory at East End Park. And for speedy striker Shaun Strang, there is double cause for celebration, for Scottish under-18 cap will be joining the Dunfermline first team line up at Parkhead tomorrow.

Pars manager Jim Leishman yesterday sought clearance from his present club Hutchison Vale, for the 18 year old Strang to play against Celtic.

A magnificent crowd of 3761 gave the successful Pars' team a tremendous reception after a hard-fought game in which they took a first-half lead, then fought back to get into the game after Dundee had equalised.

The youngsters produced a fighting display against the talented Dens Park side and substitute Grieg Donaldson's winner, which followed Strang's first-half score was a just reward for their efforts.

The youth team have now been playing together for about two years and manager Jim McArthur, who took over from Jim Thomson, felt the lads got their tactics right for the final.

However he stressed that Wednesday's result was the combination of a season's hard work and he was absolutely delighted for the boys.

McArthur told the *Press* that the game had been a lot harder than he had anticipated. He stressed that the Dens Park boys virtually doubled up as the Dundee's reserve side, and despite home advantage it was no mean achievement to beat them.

He said "The team closed down on Dundee's Steven Frail, who dominated the centre midfield, and Michael Kerr, the youngest lad in the Dundee side who likes to score goals.

Dunfermline attacked from the outset and Mathers saved a Sinclair shot following a Feenie free-kick.

Both sides missed chances as the game flowed from end to end with Dunfermline's best effort a swerving Masterton free-kick which hit the post.



HAPPY BABES

The smiles on the faces of the Dunfermline Athletic's Youth Team says it all - they've won the Cup.

The Pars went ahead after 36 minutes STRANG left his marker for dead with a delightful chip, and after good work by Black, Strang was on the spot to score from close in.

Ian Stuart equalised for the visitors in the 59th minute with a magnificent shot from the edge of the box, but after looking vulnerable for a spell the young Pars came fighting back.

They regained the lead in the 71st minute when Strang broke on the right a crossed for DONALDSON to score close in

The trophy was presented to Pars' skipper Martin Feenie by Mr. Ted Ferguson the Works General Manager of B.P. and Mr. Bill Dickie, Treasurer of the Scottish Football Association.

The Man of the Match Award went to Dundee midfielder Steven Frail.

DUNFERMLINE ATHLETIC: Timney; Feenie, Masterton, McVicar, Williamson, Ferguson, Sinclair, Sharp, Strang, Black, Gibson (Donaldson). Sub. (not used) Gribbon.

Referee: D. Hope, Erskine

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 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.

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.

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 Scotland 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.

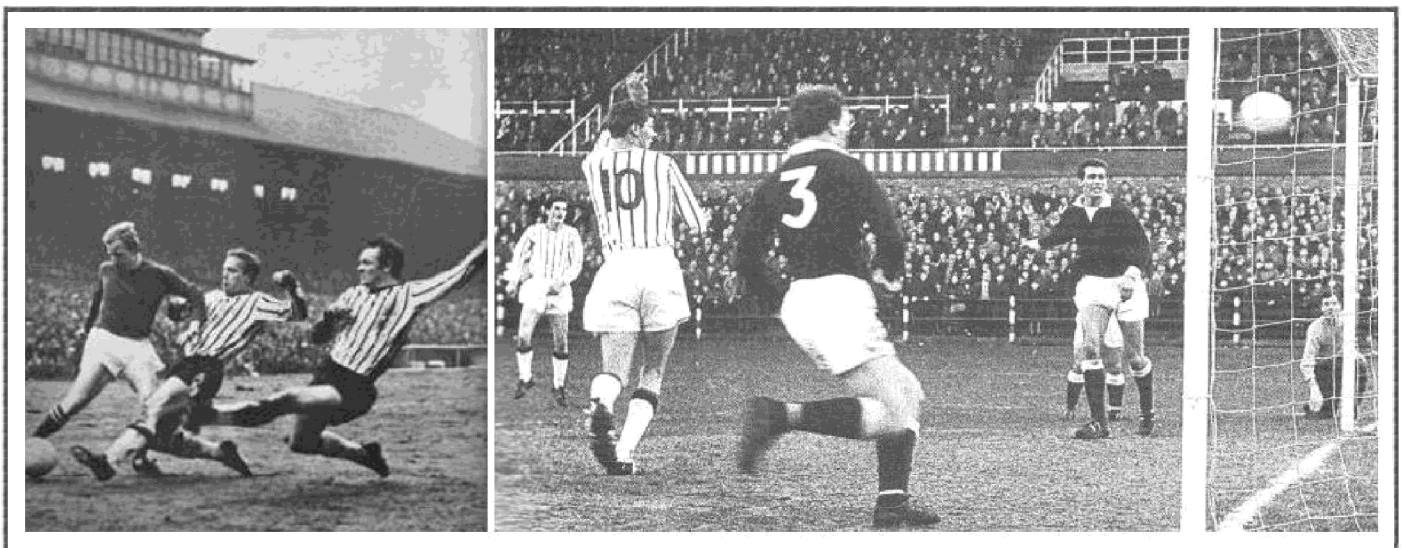
MIDFIELD: **ALEX EDWARDS** in a class of his own, best crosser of the ball I've ever seen. He would partner another Rosyth boy **ALEX SMITH**, who was the most cultured player ever to wear a Pars jersey. Edwards went on to Hibs, and thrilled the public there, Smith went onto Ibrox and oblivion, an absolute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

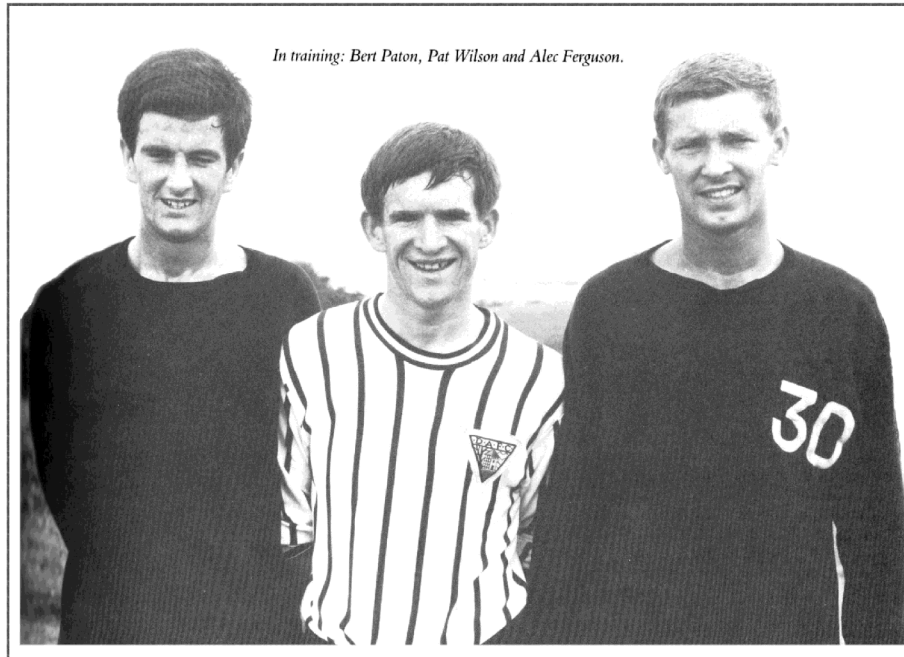
Incidentally Tommy turned in one of the finest individual performances I've ever seen from a Dunfermline player in a semi-final against Rangers at Hampden in 1964. Beedie gets in because on his day he is superb and could hold his own in any company, past or present.

Others who would come into the reckoning are:

Craig Robertson, Ian McCall, Harry Melrose and Hugh Robertson.



Pars Select XI



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 put him 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.

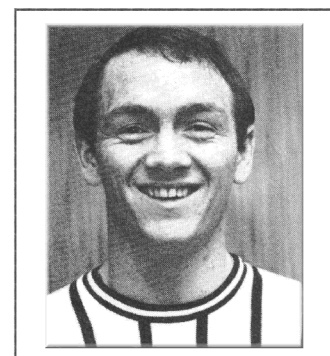
I hope this provokes a bit of debate and some fun. Lastly although my choice is drawn from the Sixties, it is my dearest wish that in 20 years time somebody somewhere will be writing about our stars of the Nineties and maybe, after witnessing the recent debut of young Willie Callaghan, and having the 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.

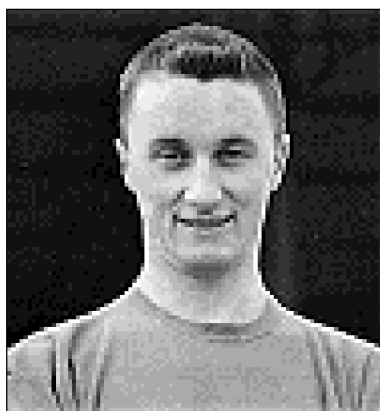
Eric the Red,
Livingstone.

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.

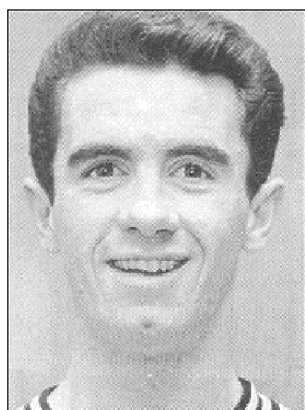
P.P.S. You're right - where the Hell do you get a drink in Pitreavie?.



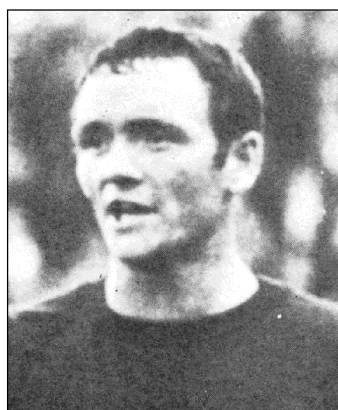
Pars Select XI - Team Line Up



JIM HERRIOT



WILLIE CALLAGHAN



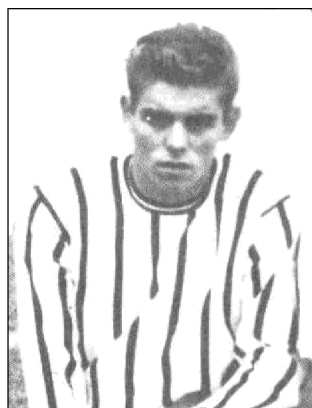
ROY BARRY



JOHN HOLT



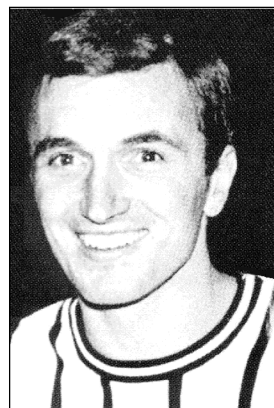
JOHN LUNN



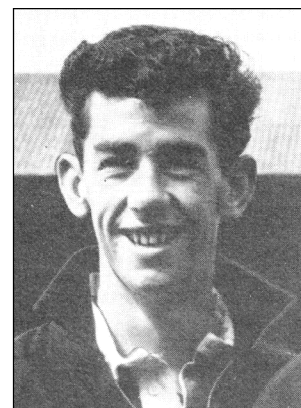
ALEX EDWARDS



STUART BEEDIE



ALEX SMITH



TOMMY CALLAGHAN



ALEX FERGUSON



JACKIE SINCLAIR

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 that 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.

Dr Bob

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, 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.



Bobby receives the 2nd Division Championship Cup from Eric Mitchell of the Scottish League.

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 Scottish Football.

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 some thing 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 morcel 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.

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!

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.

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 to

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.

Next Season

With around a dozen TV 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.



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, Graeme Robertson, Vetle Andersson, John Holt, Stuart Beedie, Mark Smith, Craig Robertson, David Irons, Stevie Morrison, Willie Callaghan, Trevor Smith, Norrie McCathie, Bobby Robertson, John Watson, Andy Williamson.

THOSE WHO SHOULDN'T

Bobby Smith, George Cowie, Gary Riddle, Eric Ferguson, John Donnelly, Ross 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.

