

A DUNFERMLINE ATH FANZINE

issue 5
october

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♪ We're Going Up AGAIN ♪



INSIDE

GREAT LEGENDS OF OUR TIME NUMBER ONE:

JIM GILLESPIE

FREUD ON FOOTBALL

ZEN AND THE ART OF WINNING THE FIRST DIVISION

REFEREES AGAIN

DAVE CLARK

FANTASTIC COMPETITION

JIM LEISHMAN ATE MY HAMSTER SHOCK REVELATION

AND LOTS AND LOTS OF DIGS AT FALKIRK.

5p FROM THE SALE OF EACH COPY TO THE GEORGE COWIE
TESTIMONIAL FUND

50p

editorial

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THE OPINIONS EXPRESSED IN THIS PUBLICATION
ARE NOT NECESSARILY THOSE OF THE EDITOR.
AND THE PUBLICATION HAS NO CONNECTION AT
ALL WITH DUNFERMLINE FOOTBALL CLUB.

A big welcome to issue five of the fanzine with the longest name in publishing. Well it does look as though we are on the right track as far as promotion goes, sitting on top of the league and looking good for the rest of the season. Apart from a few hiccups at Brockville and Kilbowie we've got the results we wanted, maintained our 100 per cent record at home and bagged a few cracking goals. The injury list has been nothing short of horrendous and full credit to the players and manager for doing so well under such difficult conditions. Hopefully once the injured ones are returned to the fold, we'll start to gain a few more away points and knock in those oh so important extra goals.

We seem to be experiencing a few problems at the start of each half, or even for a whole half and it is up to Leish and Munro to get this failing stopped before we give away any more silly points and goals.

It is good to see everyone getting their names on the score sheet, and special mention to John Watson and the terrible duo of Ross Jack and Trevor Smith for their scoring efforts. Many fans still wonder why when we go a goal or two up, we relax and although we don't let the other team get on top, we don't have the hunger to go out and bang in five or six. As goal difference could decide the league it is important to bury these teams long before the end, it would help the nerves as well.

We also welcome Paul Smith to East End Park, Paul is the sort of ball player that we need up front. It shouldn't be too long before he shows the goal scoring prowess that made him such a hero at Starks Park.

It's goodbye we think to Willie Callaghan, sent to Walsall in disgrace, such a pity as he really was a very good prospect. Also farewell to Graham Davidson who looks set to join Cowdenbeath, we feel that this is the wrong move but if he's happy, then so be it.

A certain letter to the Dunfermline Press, after the Fife Cup fiasco may have stirred up the proverbial hornets nest. From Leishman accusing me of not being a true supporter to fat, drunken bums accosting me in pubs and it must be said quite a few fans who agreed with the letter. Let's get one thing clear, the letter was written in anger and in retrospect was a little strong, all of us here at the fanzine are 100 per cent behind the Pars and at least we've got the guts to say what we feel and not just mutter about it in the pub. I'm still waiting for my reply from Jim, about a possible meeting to discuss the letter and the team.

We will be donating 5p from each sale of this issue to the George Cowie Testimonial Fund, as George deserves some recognition for his efforts at East End, more on that elsewhere.

Lastly, apologies to Alan Bainer and The East End Enigma for losing their articles when we had a tidy up in the kitchen sorry office.

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the season.

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LEGENDS: JIM GILLESPIE



Whenever your average football fan is asked to name their greatest footballers from the late 60's, early 70's, the same names inevitably crop up. We are talking about : George Best, Bobby Charlton, Eusebio, Franz Beckenbauer, Cruyff, Pele, Muller, Rivera and a host of other international names. But ask any Pars fans who their favourite player from that particular era was and almost invariably one name will crop up.

He was an artist in the purest sense, who possessed rare skills that the players listed above could only dream about. Every Saturday he would weave his own magic on the left wing and with fire at his heels he would leave a trail of top class defenders squirming in his wake and now and again he would manage to take the ball with him.

I'm sure that by now you've all guessed that the man in question is none other than Jim Gillespie. George Farm signed Jim in late December 1969, his natural skills were enhanced by being at two of the most feared clubs in Europe at that particular time Raith Rovers and East Stirling.

With such a pedigree the man just had to be something special and Pars fans did not have too long to find out how special he was; on his debut at East End Park on New Years Day 1970, Jim brought the house down with a dazzling performance against his old club Raith Rovers. He scored two of the most amazing goals ever seen at East End and inspired his new club to a 3-0 win over his old club. His first goal was unusual as he didn't know very much about it; Alec Edwards picked up a short corner from the right, wriggled past a defender along the bye-line before launching a ferocious cross at head height into the box. Jim Gillespie, in a frantic effort to avoid the ball made contact with his head and sent the ball crashing into the roof of the net at an obscure angle, leaving Raith keeper Bobby Reid stranded. An amazing goal and when Jim regained consciousness five minutes after he was delighted to learn that he had scored on his home debut. His second goal was another powerful header from a corner, thus fully utilising his newly discovered aerial power. A new hero had arrived.

His greatest attribute was that absolutely nobody in the ground quite knew what he was going to do next, that included the fans, Pars players, home players and Jim himself. Many a defender would later say how they used to awake in a cold sweat early on Saturday morning because they knew that in a few hours they would be facing the big man himself Jim Gillespie.

Billy McNeil for one will forever have nightmares about the incredible goal that Jim produced in the Scottish Cup tie at Parkhead in 1971. For the whole of the first half and 35 minutes of the second half, Celtic threw everything at the Pars goal but to no avail. It must be admitted that on the day the Pars tactics left a lot to be desired to

say the least and some of the tackles would have come from the Stewart Romanies/Baptie log of fair tackles. Apparently some of the Celtic players limbs were found the next day in the stand. Needless to say the natives were becoming restless and my Pars scarf was becoming all the more conspicuous as each crunching tackle went in. Then with a mere ten minutes remaining, Jim did the unthinkable by shooting the Pars into the lead.

In what felt like Dunfermline's first attack of the match, John Arrol launched a massive clearance deep into the Celtic half, McNeil totally misjudged the bounce and it looped over his head and suddenly the most dangerous forward in the world found himself thirty yards out with only Evan Williams in the Celtic goal to beat. The next three seconds seemed to last ten minutes, after almost tripping over the ball on the way (an obvious con) our Jim swung his priceless left leg back and lunged at the ball. Everyone including the afore mentioned Williams thought that the ball was destined for the top right hand corner and that is where Evan dived for; Jim deliberately flunked his shot and sent the ball off into the left hand corner, where it just trickled in to the net off the sole of his boot. 1-0 for the Pars.

1971 was a stage in the club's long and illustrious history, when we were using a new and revolutionary technique, the object being to cause total confusion in the ranks of the opposition. This is a technique which the current team executed to perfection on a few occasions last season (most notably at Tynecastle). The idea being for the whole back four to stop playing for the last five minutes. Unfortunately Celtic saw through this trick and goals from Harry Hood and John Hughes, blasted the Bhoys in to the next round with two late goals. As we all now know too well, this was a thrill that Pars fans were to experience right up to the present day (Kilbowie being the example this season)

However most club's are now aware of this tactic and it took Leishman, a team mate of our hero Jim, to devise a new system. Here the defence stands still for the first five mins in each half. This tactic worked extremely well in the recent games against Falkirk and the Jambos at East End

Anyway back to Jim Gillespie. It was perhaps fortunate that we allowed Celtic to snatch a late victory in that match as the atmosphere at Parkhead was incredibly hostile when we were a goal up. I doubt if any Pars fans would have escaped Glasgow alive had we won. A stark contrast to the last game of 88-89 when Celtic and Dunfermline fans were openly seen making love to each other after the game.

Another milestone in the colourful and enigmatic career of Jim Gillespie's was his European debut, incredibly it was also his last appearance in the European Arena. Jim's baptism of fire was in the Inter Cities Fairs Cup 3rd round against Anderlecht at East End Park. The second round tie came just three weeks after Jim had joined the club and as every Pars fan knows it was our last venture into Europe for the present.

It is of course common knowledge that we won 3-2 on the night but were beaten on away goals (Anderlecht winning the first leg 1-0). The Belgians entered the leg unaware of the lethal weapon which was about to be unleashed on them. The match will always be in the memory of the fans who were there for the brilliant piece of individualism which Jim produced in the 88th minute to almost win the tie for us. He collected the ball about ten yards inside his own half, turned towards the Belgian goal and set off on a run that was to send a shudder throughout Europe.

With his chin embedded in his chest and his elbows in full swing, he soared up the left wing like an Arabian Stallion, gaining momentum all the time, defenders tried to stop him but he ghosted past them as though they did not exist. Six Belgian defenders and their keeper couldn't stop him but he was brought down illegally by a traffic warden in East Port Street. If he had crossed the ball ten minutes earlier the Pars would have once again been in the quarter finals of a European competition.

Jim was probably too good for the Scottish Squad, which was probably just as well as his style of play was more suited to the Brazilian style. Indeed prior to the '70 World Cup, the Brazilian coach Zagalo was quoted as saying "I'd trade in half a dozen of these hoofers for one Jim Gillespie anyday. As it is I'll just have to make do with Rivelino.

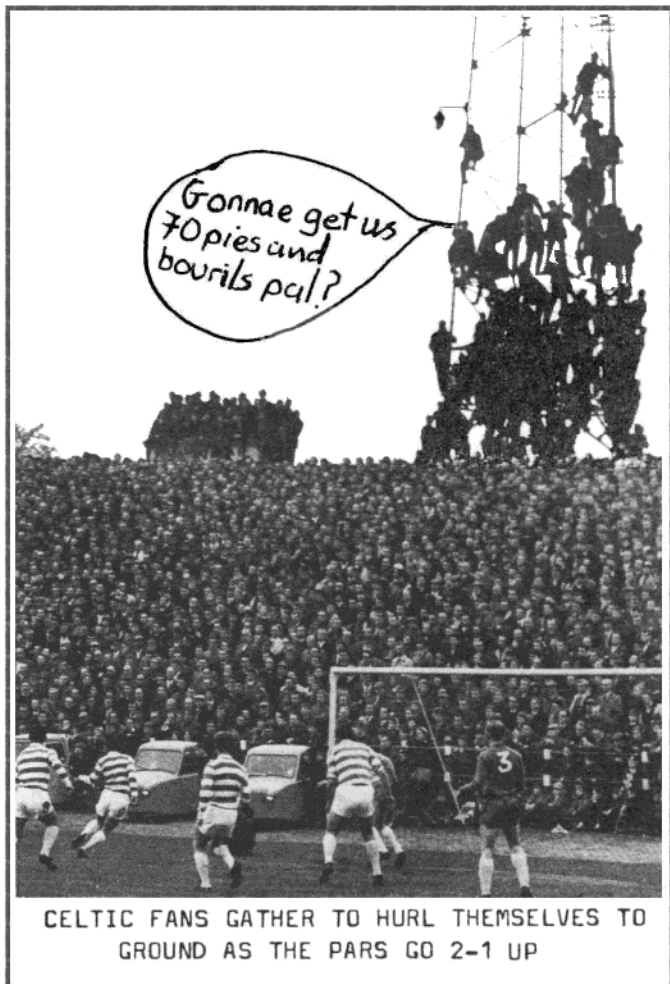
Jim Gillespie performed miracles for Dunfermline for a few seasons, he retired from the game prematurely, despite several lucrative "open cheque book" offers from some of Europe's top clubs, preferring to pursue a career as a salesman for an electronics firm. Gillespie's talents have been sorely missed at East End since he hung up his boots. Only Bobby Morrison (another legend of the left wing) has come close to emulating Jim's brilliant career.

freud_{ON} football

Football must rate as a goldmine for budding psycho-analysts, eager to increase their knowledge of human behavioural patterns and of course plain simple lunacy. For many fans of the game, it's not just a way to spend Saturday (well perhaps for Aberdeen fans it is) but a way of life that leaves thousands of football junkies doing "cold turkey" in the close season. Only when the golf and cricket news makes way for the footer in the newspapers and the first few friendlies get under way, do the fans break out of their zombie like stupor.

It's at this time that the sacred robes are retrieved from the cupboard or a new set has to be purchased, as last year's set was either given to a player in celebration of a league win or thrown away after a particularly bad result. We are of course talking about the hat the scarf and the various other items, which are in most cases worn only at a game and at no other time in the supporters' lives. Even the most fashion conscious fans (I don't rate casuals as fashion conscious by the way) will wear the club's colours.

Public houses, supporters clubs and chip shops are the traditional venues for the pre-match refreshments, why people have to get pissed before a game beats me, speaking as one who has spent numerous games watching through



one eye, it's no fun. Inside the ground is where the real observations can begin as the fans take up their appointed places on the terracing or the stand.

Territorial rights are clearly defined on the terracings, there's the lads in the section opposite the stand, giving the backbone of the vocal support, the collections of old men ("I've stood here for forty years son and I've never seen a goal like that." con'td p.99) the kids down the front, the purists in the enclosure and the tartan blanket brigade that live in the stand. In much the same way as birds, the football fan will return to the same spot each game, more or less.

It is during the game that the analysts could bat off a few professional best sellers, as for ninety minutes the fans forget who they are, where they are and get into the game.

Consider for example the intricacies of the penalty kick on both sets of fans; those of the team conceding the penalty will naturally feel cheated and show their contempt in the traditional fashion. Those of the team taking the penalty will either be already celebrating (most unwise) or anxiously quiet. If things go to plan, then a goal will result and for the successful supporters the celebrating can really begin, for the others the inevitable has happened. There is nothing quite like the feeling of a missed penalty, if it's your team that has missed it, struck dumb barely expresses the full force of the desolation, what makes it worse is the other lot are going bananas as if they had scored the goal (a negative goal). One other variation of this could be the situation where the kick is punched out by the keeper only to be prodded home by an intruding forward. In the space of 20 seconds both sets of fans undergo despair and joy, no wonder Leish's hair is grey.

Many of you may disagree with the next statement but think about it for a while and you may want to change your mind; THERE IS ABSOLUTELY NOTHING LIKE A GOOD KICKING MATCH TO CREATE AN ATMOSPHERE. Be honest if the little winger who has been tormenting your full-backs all afternoon is suddenly chopped down by your defender (Falkirk fans will know all about this one) don't you feel good about it. At the same time fans of the injured party will be launching a verbal SS20 at the referee demanding the restoration of the death penalty or at least the red card. As the referee fumbles in his pocket for the card the tension is unbelievable, then the red card is out and the aggrieved fans go into raptures, particularly if the player has to walk past them on the way to the dressing rooms. Having two players sent off is even better, although Pars fans may have unhappy memories of a match against Dumbarton when

FREUD ON FOOTBALL CONTINUED

they had two men sent off, when they were 0-2 up and finished the game by winning 0-3.

It's always the quiet guys in the pub or on the bus who undergo some strange metamorphosis and turn into raving lunatics, with their mouths set on 5th gear and their arms swirling like windmill sails, they enact a bizarre ritual consisting of runs up and down the terraces, gesticulating at opposing players and uttering the age-old chants, 50 per cent of which is completely incomprehensible, whilst the other 50 per cent is composed of a fanatical obsession with a word meaning sexual intercourse. They tend to be maverick punters, who at times can have you wetting yourself at their wit, one example of this was during the recent 4-2 victory over Queens at East End. When a rather hefty Queens full-back had fallen down, with no-one near him a voice piped up "Hey ref get a tractor on the move that farmer". Once the game is over, these guys go back to their mild-mannered secret identities until next Saturday.

Sadly it looks as though the days of the "tranny men" are gone or going, the technology of today means that more fans have personal radios to listen to the results or progress of rivals. No longer can fans huddle in groups behind the guy who has the tranny pressed close to his ear, which may not be a bad thing if the infamous "we're promoted- no we're not" scenario is not repeated. No one has yet dared to bring in a ghetto-blasters to a game, probably in respect of the sanity of fellow supporters, can you imagine having John Greig mumbling his way through another Rangers match, at 20 watts per channel.

You probably will have your own thoughts and ideas on the antics that fans get up to, let's hear from you and remember it's the only game and for me the Pars are the only team.

MATCH COMMENTATOR

EVEN MORE FANZINES.....

Since the last issue of W.D.H.R., a few new issues of mags have appeared and at least three new ones have been born. Therefore we've cast our critical eye over the best and the worst and all we can now do is ask you to go out and buy them, particularly those of our rivals in the 1st division.

THE WILD ROVER (Raith Rovers) 113 Greenloanings Kirkcaldy KY2 6NL (30p + med s.a.e.)

The second fanzine in the Kingdom and a very good first effort indeed, personally I find word processed type face a bit hard on the eyes, but the 'zine is well laid out and full of stuff on the Rovers. Issue one has a certain Paul Smith on the cover and the article inside is entitled "too good to be forgotten"; let's hope Paul can do a similar job for the Pars. Other features are on Hamish McAlpine, Ian Porterfield? and Glenn Kerr. Support this fanzine if you come across it.

KILLIE MEN (Kilmarnock) Richard Cairns 34 Boyd Orr Crescent Kilmaurs (/30p + med s.a.e.)

Stands out a mile on the shelves due to the cartoon drawn by Killie fan and Record cartoonist Malky McCormick and the content is just as hard hitting and funny. For a first effort this is very good, Ally McLeod and Ayr are deservedly slagged to death and there are some really original ideas such as "Childrens Corner" and the fans guide to Rugby Park. A good mix of historical and topical articles, although they will have to avoid being sucked into the match report and statistical facts of other clubs grounds, that programmes do so well. Buy this one as well.

FOLLOW FOLLOW (Glasgow Rangers) Suite 32 Virginia House, 76 Wilson Street Glasgow G1 1UX (40p + med s.a.e.)

Oh dear, this fanzine is exactly what I hoped a Rangers fan would not publish, whereas it's predecessor "World Shut Your Mouth" wasn't that bad, this one is dreadful. For 40p ten pages are hardly good value but it's the content that worries me. For a team who moan about Mark Walters treatment this surprises me; it is racist, sectarian and does football and Rangers no good whatsoever. Descriptions of how pissed and obnoxious the worst elements of the faithful can be is not new, we've all seen it ourselves. The Celtic fanzine can be a little off as well but that is an exception, they can be subtle and harmless in their ribbaling of other teams. This is just offensive...

SHOCK HORROR



In an exclusive scoop, Walking Down The Halbeath Road, has come across this exclusive photograph, which proves beyond all doubt that Dutch hero and Mr. Personality of the recent European Champions, Rudd Gullit; was a DUNFERMLINE PLAYER in the early 80's.

Under the assumed name of Paul Donnelly, he scored a few goals and then moved on to the misty regions of Firhill, in case his cover was blown. Then in a dramatic bid for freedom, he purported to be going to Australia, instead he left for Holland and was at last able to reveal his true skill.

Another astounding fact is that this photograph also illustrates the only known proof that Queens Park players do in fact lay eggs, but the question is who is the mystery man on the right of the picture and who cuts his hair.

All rumours courtesy of H.M. DOCKYARD FIBS PLC

ON THE ROAD

The auspicious venues for our away fixtures will be well-known to many Pars fans, as well as the local hostelries and chippies in the towns or near to the ground. However W.D.T.H.R., now gives it's own views of the venues and the many dangers that await the supporters as they travel to the far-flung reaches of the Scottish football Universe. We accept no liability for mistakes in the accuracy, as our scouting team were far too tired and emotional to clearly remember where they had been.

- BROOMFIELD:** A compact little ground, not a real happy place for Pars fans, which has little shelter apart from the enclosure and the main terracing, the stand looks like the Munsters house, and there's always the local Section B boys who shout a lot and then stone the buses.
Pubs; Try the ones near the ground at least they'll be full of Pars fans.
- SOMERSET PARK:** A really good playing surface but Pars fans who went down for the Cup replay will know that the ground facilities leave a lot to be desired and the locals are not too friendly. Some care is needed if going by train as the road to the station is perfect ambush territory.
Pubs; Most of the ones in the town are good, take your pick.
- FIRHILL** : A good view of the game and you can change ends at half time if you wish, it takes a bit of practice to walk down the terracing and watch the game at the same time as you are liable to fall down the steep terracing. Has recently been a target for hordes of pre-pubescent casuals stoning the crowd as they leave, so watch out.
Pubs; The ones around the ground are dark and gloomy but not bad, try the Star and Garter.
- KILBOWIE** : A very good little ground but lacking in cover for away fans and the all-seated nature of the ground makes it difficult to raise an atmosphere. Some pretty hairy pubs nearby but the social club is good if you can get into it.
- BROCKVILLE:** An awful ground, little cover at either end, last time we were there there were only two gates open at the start and only one exit gate at the end, they do sell hot chocolate, albeit the watered down variety, and you can get really close to Baptye and co to give them a good slagging.
Pubs; The Roman Bar, Elliots, Behind the Wall
Fanzine; The Falkirk Unofficial Fanzine
- STATION PARK:** A long way to go for a bridie but a great day out and the facilities are good if a little chilly, Pars fans will probably break Forfar's attendance record again, and get two points into the bargain.
Pubs; All are good and friendly but try The Station Hotel near the ground.
- RUGBY PARK:** One of the best grounds in Scotland, and the one playing surface which stays playable despite the weather and lack of under-soil heating. Good cover for fans but a bit of a hike from the buses. A total lack of female toilets in the terracing and women are expected to use the ones under the stand.
Pubs; not many near the ground but the ones in the town are not too bad.
Fanzine; Killie Men
- MEADOWBANK:** Due to a stupid council ruling only the stand is open for matches, the stand being some three light years from the pitch means that there is little atmosphere, anyone wishing to remonstrate with the referee, would have to run the Decathlon to get there. Apart from that a very friendly club, women get in free and if you're skint you can watch from the back fence.
Pubs; Golden Gates, Trax.
Fanzine; A.W.O.L.
- CAPPILOW** : The most god-forsaken place on earth, perpetually raining, foggy and cold, take flippers and an aqualung for the toilets and do not go near the pie stall. A perfect place to commit suicide, which Morton often do against the Pars.
Pubs; Where are they, we found one and it was shut.
- PALMERSTON:** A very long journey to a town where Pars fans are simply not welcome, over the years we've had a mixed bag of results there but this year we're bound to get two points. Primitive facilities all round and lets hope that the cops get their prejudice out of the way and stop lifting Pars fans for merely complaining about the pathetic protection for our fans and buses.
Pubs. Stop somewhere on the way, they are really hostile.

LEISHMAN ATE MY HAMSTER!

"Walking Down The Halbeath Road's" gossip and scandal section "Heard in Lorenzo's" is very popular with all those supporters who like to believe every word that they hear about our beloved Pars. It is of course only a fraction of the stories floating around concerning the off-field activities of people employed by the club, but legality and common sense prevent many of them being published.

The last eighteen months or so has been a gossips delight, the club's struggle last season bringing multitudes of yarns from fans desperate to blame the defeats on any thing other than they were beaten by the better team on the day (Motherwell and Falkirk being the notable exceptions to this of course).

The supposed drinking exploits of the first team became legendary. Everyone had different stories of where players were supping on Friday nights and these storytellers were quite indignant when challenged about the authenticity of their stories. Of course the old saying no smoke without a fire and taking into account that there were a few boozers in the team, then maybe a couple of the stories were true but the vast majority were total crap. After all when two different people tell you they saw the same player at the same time in two different places, someone is telling porky pies. The players themselves were less than amused with it all. Being full time professionals their livelihoods were on the line at the best of times, without needing to drink themselves onto the dole queue.

There are always exceptions, however, John Donnelly is a very talented player but he seems to prefer exercising his elbow rather than his legs. He had a problem before signing for the Pars, as any Partick fan will tell you and the Thistle staff and support could not believe their luck when Dunfermline signed him. He had a habit of going AWOL for weeks on end despite several warnings and more chances than he should have got, he didn't change his ways and got sacked. He's probably quite at home in Stranraer as they take drinking more seriously than football down there.

Unfortunately, it looks as though Willie Callaghan is heading down the same road (Well Walsall but what's the difference), most of us would give anything to play for the Pars but Callaghan's had two chances and blown both them. Which is a great pity as he really was one of our best prospects.

Despite being full time the level of fitness in the Pars team is another topic for heated discussion. From people supposedly in the know about what goes on at training sessions, it seems that the club's coaching and training sessions leave a lot to be desired. It certainly looked like that last season when some of the second half collapses were downright embarrassing. So far this season we have been unable to tell how much fitter the players are in the last quarter of the match. This is simply because they think that they have the game won by halftime and do nothing in the second half, when it is imperative to knock up a good goal difference for the run into the last few games.

Velte Anderson was at the centre of loads of juicy gossip, his chat-up and sexual prowess reaching mythical proportions. His reputation as a womaniser was assured when he appeared in the SUN surrounded by half a dozen local blondes, in an article on as much about nookie as football. His way with women certainly seemed to alienate him from a section of Dunfermline's support, though it was probably through sheer jealousy one story had Hagar being attacked outside Lorenzo's by a well-known member of a certain Pars supporters club.

Eric Ferguson had an unhappy time of it at East End Park last season. Despite scoring four goals in the opening nine league games, he never started another league match whereas Shaggy played in twenty or so league matches and never scored at all. Rumour has it that Shaggy was picked because he could hold the ball better than Fergie, goalscoring was obviously not that important. It also seems that the reputed punch-up between Watson and Fergie was the subject of someone's fertile imagination. They even roomed together before one of the cup ties at St. Andrews, not by choice but they would not have been billeted together if they were enemies would they?

The Frank Stapleton saga was another beauty—several people saw him in the town he'd been signed till the end of the season—what a load of crap. He had no idea where the town was and to did it to get his name back in the British papers and to attract the attention of an English club.

After the goalkeeping cock-ups last season, the rumour was that the Pars were set to sign a keeper with English 1st Division experience, who was reckoned to be good, that was soon proved to be another load of bullshit when we signed McKellar from Accies for £15,000.

Paul Flexny of Clyde was going to be another signing according to the story tellers. The last time he played at East End for Clyde he was sent off after fouling Jenkins. Good grief did Dunfermline really expect to sign a player who couldn't win the ball from Shaggy without fouling him.

Colin O'Neill of Portadown was another prospect but that deal fell through too, he apparently lacked the pace for the Premier League (Motherwell still bought him though), if that were the case then several other players wouldn't have got a game either at East End and it was pretty clear then that we were going down to the first division and wouldn't he have made a good buy in retrospect. Portadown believed that they had a verbal promise from Dunfermline to buy the player for a fee in the region of £50,000. This was not taken up when O'Neill had a trial for the Pars and another member of the coaching staff reckoned that he didn't rate much and dissuaded the club from buying him. Portadown were not happy.

There were undoubtedly more rumours last year because of the club's struggle to avoid relegation but where do all of these stories come from? One source is Rosyth Dockyard, an absolute hotbed of unsubstantiated rumour, mainly because so many Pars fans work there. Cynics would say that yapping is what the Dockyard workers do best, work coming a poor second but we all know that's just another fantasy. However in order to let you see and appreciate the wide range of rumours this season already here's our own Top Ten.

1. Craig Robertson will be sold to Hearts or Aberdeen
2. Manchester City put in a bid of £200,000 for Davie Irons.
3. Mark Smith to be sold to Norwich, Bradford, Aberdeen or Dundee with the proceeds going to buy back Ian McCall from Rangers.
4. Leishman once turned down an offer of a full page colour spread from a national newspaper.
5. During the last season no-one wanted to wear the number 9 or 11 strips as they were the only ones substituted during the game.
6. That Mark Smith and John Brown had a punch up in the dressing room after our glorious and never to be forgotten victory in the cup last year.
7. That Dunfermline have made a successful bid for Ian McCall but that we wanted to pay in installments whilst the Gers wanted it in one go.
8. That Willie Irvine had a perfect understanding of the off-side laws.
9. The reason why Norrie McCathie was taken off during the Fife Cup was to enable him to open Cagneys.
10. That the Pars are going to sign Henry Smith (Hearts), Jim Smith (Dundee), Gordon Smith (Stirling Albion), Angus and Stephen Smith (Alloa) and Gordon Smith (East Fife) after which Leish and Munro would be sacked to be replaced with Alex Smith (Aberdeen) and Walter Smith (Rangers) and the new sponsors to be Smiths Crisps.

Of course this article is complete and utter rubbish except perhaps for a few small details. It's all a product of an over active imagination, over indulgence in alcohol and an inability to cope with another defeat from Falkirk. If you do hear of any stories we would of course be pleased to hear from you.

PARS ATE

BALL BOY

FREDDIE STAR!



Referees

LOOK HERE'S MY BIRTH CERTIFICATE, HONEST

Way back in issue one of "Walking Down The Halbeath Road" there was an article on how refereeing standards were plummeting to previously unknown depths. It was written during last year's struggle to avoid relegation but it was in no way meant as an excuse, rather in the hope that there would be an improvement in the coming year.

Sadly after only a few games, the officials seem to be worse than ever. Including the Fife Cup final, there have been three Pars players sent off with only one being deserving.

John Holt had to walk against Cowdenbeath but surely if there is a boxing match on the pitch, both participants should be ordered off. Not according to referee Renton, funnily enough from Cowdenbeath, who let Billy Herd stay on the park. Luckily because he is fairly local, he doesn't officiate in any of our league matches, but older Pars fans in particular detest him.

Onto the Skol Cup and more controversy at Bayview, the antagonism between East Fife and the Pars from Clarke's days is still there. The referee of this one Cathcart from Bridge of Allan, lost control of the game altogether and seemed oblivious to attempts by the Methil men to tear Mark Smith's legs off. He was also getting consistently caught up in the Pars attacks, at one point putting in a lovely tackle on Craig Robertson that had him sprawled on the turf.

The highpoint of Cathcart's night was to send off a Dunfermline player and he duly did so despite the fact that he had his back turned to the incident and couldn't possibly have seen a damned thing. He was swayed by Grant "I'm a cheat" Reid's dive to the dirt as Ross Jack walked past him. Many people at the match reckon that Reid clocked Jack and not as the referee interpreted the affair. Pars News while obviously subject to S.F.A. scrutiny and unable to say anything controversial, managed a subtle inference in the Motherwell programme, the caption under a photo of Jack stating - "Scarcely visible but but he is carrying a nasty swelling on his left cheekbone."

After Westie's heroics in the penalties, the next round brought Motherwell to East End, with their very own brand of attack minded total football. Duncan of Gorebridge the old firm's fave, was the referee and he didn't have a bad half, the only exception being a ridiculous decision to book Holt for handball that had the purists in the stand who had a perfect view in uproar.

Whatever happened at half-time will remain a mystery, but after the break Duncan was disgraceful. With Dunfermline in complete control, the ref decided to award Motherwell to make it a little more of a game, when Steve Cowan dived in the box, a dive worthy of five tens in Seoul and a gold medal. As if this wasn't bad enough, Holt's dismissal for a second hand ball offense was unbelievable. To be sent off for these minor offences while 'Well players were kicking lumps out of any thing in a Pars strip sickened everyone.

Mark Smith (as usual) was the main victim, with 'Well using a rotation system to ensure that no-one committed more than a few fouls and would therefore only risk a booking at the most. To illustrate the referee's consistent inconsistency, he later did not book Boyd after he had handled in Dunfermline's box.

Supporters of other clubs continually complain of Aitken and Miller's habit of harassing the referee but Steve Kirk puts them all to shame. Despite being booked, he spent half the game arguing with the referee and was instrumental in getting Holt sent off. (Funniest event of the night was the refusal by the Motherwell team to shake hands at the end of the match, must be the Tommy McLean influence).

After this display, it was surprising to read McLean's outburst in the press a few days later about inconsistent referees. But then he's always seen games through clear and amber coloured spectacles.

In issue one, several proposals to improve the standard of refereeing were mentioned and another one could be adopted from the world of cricket. The work of the umpire is scrutinised carefully, each captain writing a report form after every match. This form then is checked and demands analysis of the officials control, attitude, conduct and even positioning. The umpires are sent copies of the form two weeks later meaning that they do get some feedback. Although they seem to work well in county matches, there are



STEVIE COWAN

REFEREES...REFEREES...REFEREES...REFEREES...REFEREES...

fears that if football referees received copies of a report on their performance which wasn't praiseworthy, the twisted bigots would exact reprisals the next time they officiated that particular team.

When establishment figures such as Jim Craig and John Greig criticise the standard of refereeing then it's obvious that things are going the wrong way. The words of Clyde boss John Clark should also be heeded. He's on record saying that if referees keep dishing out the cards as they're doing just now, then by mid-season the teams will be full of reserves and trialists filling in for suspended first teamers. And that having seen many of the reserve teams is not a prospect most supporters would relish.

BALL BOY

Silver for young Pars

THE 1988 BP Scottish Youth Cup final was hailed a real winner by fans and clubs alike. After Dunfermline Athletic beat Dundee 2-1, the Dundee chairman Angus Cook told a post-match reception: "The class of football seen by us tonight promises well for the future of the game. It is a very important competition."

In the match programme Dunfermline's chairman Mel Rennie wrote: "The standard of play in matches leading to the final had been first class and BP's support of this competition is an endorsement in the future of football in this country."

Dundee, top scorers with 23 goals in four matches, all played away from home, had knocked out holders Celtic in Glasgow, and looked like having the edge at East End Park, Dunfermline.

CROWD

But the Pars, with the majority of the 3761 crowd behind them, upset the form book on the night. They deservedly took a 1-0 half-time lead through their best player, Sean Strang.

Dundee came surging back with a superb long-range equaliser from top marksman Ian Stewart, but the Fifers struck again through substitute Greig Donaldson, and came close to adding more goals before the end.

Dundee's skilful midfielder

Stephen Frail who, like several of his team-mates, had reserve team experience, was voted Man of the Match.

Dunfermline manager Jim Leishman told *Oil Producer* he was proud of the youth team.

EXCELLENT

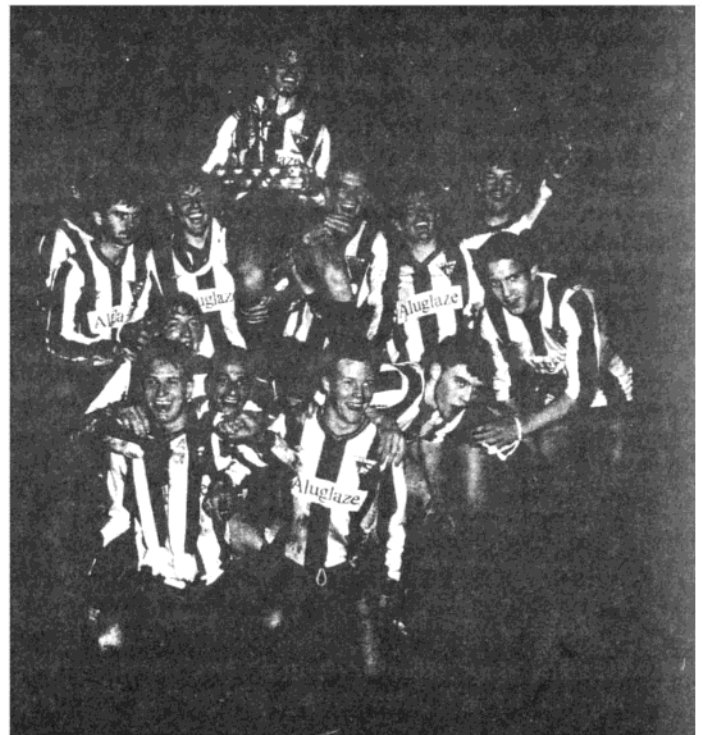
"The BP Youth Cup is an excellent competition. We have had made many new friends within the game," he said.

His senior team played a friendly at Ross County after the Highland League club and Dunfermline met in the first round of the BP Youth Cup.

DEBUT

Mr Leishman was so impressed with Sean Strang that he picked him to make his first team debut against League champions Celtic at Parkhead!

The competition, sponsored by the BP Group in Scotland, attracted a record number of 36 clubs, with newcomers Whitehill Welfare proving the shock team by reaching the semi-final.



WINNING SMILES: Dunfermline captain Martin Feenie shows off cup, which was presented by Ted Ferguson, Works General Manager, BP Chemicals, Grangemouth.

THANKS TO THE PEOPLE AT THE NORTHERN LIGHT ABERDEEN FANZINE, FOR THIS CUTTING FROM THE B.P. IN-HOUSE MAGAZINE THE "OIL PRODUCER"

zen and the title

As we reach the end of the first third of the season, it is apparent that with only four points separating the top eight teams, that the league will be the most exciting since reorganisation. The fact that only one team will be promoted at the end, which many believe to be a gross error, makes it vital not to slip too far away from the top three, in case any one team makes a gap over the rest. With so much competition, the winning margin is unlikely to be more than a few points and goal difference may yet settle the championship. Let's hope not as that is no way to decide a league far better to have a play-off.

The team that finishes with between 52-55 pts will probably win the league, the top teams will no doubt take points off each other and look to amass the bulk of their total from the rest of their fixtures. Chances are that we will finish up with two mini-leagues of six teams, similar to the Premier League, as already Kilmarnock, Queens, Partick and Clyde are out of the promotion race and well into the relegation race.

Contrast this with the Premier League, where already Rangers are being called Champions and look set for the treble, unless Aberdeen or Celtic can stop them. At present the gap is only seven points but the question is not whether Celtic can catch up but can they even reach second place. The Skol Cup looks set for Ibrox, as it's a home game for the Gers and the crowd are sure to influence the referee, due to recent incidents at Pittodrie. Hamilton will almost certainly be relegated and the rest will huff and puff but not really get anywhere, most of the huffing and puffing will come from Easter Road, where Archibald is in semi-retirement with the rest of the share issue. Hibs could be challengers for the top place but one really has to question their ability to sustain their efforts. Mr. Sunshine's lot at Tannadice could do well once their new players settle down and our Jim keeps his mouth and fists to himself and stops taking payoffs from the Sun. Motherwell and St. Mirren who are to football what Anita Dobson and Kylie Minogue are to rock and roll, will once again piss about make a half-hearted attempt at the league and settle for escaping the drop.

At the time of writing the Pars are where we would all like them to be at the end of the season, at the top, although the margin of one point is a little less than we would have hoped for we are still on course for the title. The fact that we have achieved this with a badly depleted pool due to injury, means that we have yet to see what a full-strength team can do on the field. The other plus factor is that we have a pool of 17 full time players, compared to Falkirks six and a pool of reserve and youth team players who are being gradually brought up to senior level, to take some of the pressure when the going gets tough. Where full time training will undoubtedly tell is the period after Christmas and in the final third of the season. If we can deal with the likes of Airdrie, when we are missing half of our midfield then we will have no problems once they get back into the team.

I would expect the challenges from Airdrie, Clydebank and Meadowbank to fall away, leaving the three relegated teams to fight it out, if we can take three points from Falkirk and four from Morton, then no-one can stop us.

What has been particularly pleasing for us, is the superb form of those players who did not favour too well in past issues of this fanzine. GARY RIDDEL, has improved with every game and shows a fine understanding with the ever changing back four, a strong, fair tackler, who could well feature in some player of the year awards later in the year. BOBBY SMITH, scored a cracker at Kilbowie and has looked good even against the trickiest of his opponents, will be invaluable when the nerves are strung out towards the end of the season. ROSS JACK, is at last showing the form that we all know he is capable of, his goals against Partick and Queens, were well taken and his strong running and good positioning will surely bring him more goals.

JOHN WATSON's form has been nothing short of wonderful, either in defence, where he has showed his worth as an astute centre-half, or in attack where his five goals will surely be doubled or even trebled, a great club player who gives 100 per cent every time.

TREVOR SMITH, has the makings of a very good player indeed, his close control and lethal finishing, as displayed at Clyde and against Queens, were surely portants of more goals to come. His namesakes Paul and Mark put in a power of work and once Paul gets his first goal, others will surely follow. Having a team where all of the forwards and some of the midfield are scoring will be a great asset

There is hardly a weak link in the team and special mention should be given to FEENIE and STRANG, who have looked good and with even more experience they can be even better. When we have BEEDIE and ROBBO back in the midfield, the dilemma facing Leish will be who to leave out, or put on the bench.

The only problem remains in goal, there is no-one to challenge Westie apart from everyone's favourite DAVE McKELLAR and that is no challenge. Leishman should cast his eye along to Kirkcaldy, where Gordon Arthur, a real Pars fan, is wasting away his days. In the meantime we'll just have to hope that WESTIE stays clear of injury.

Here's a brief look at our rivals and the rest of the league;

AIRDRIE: A good side, the two McDonalds link up well and John "Scab" Martin is a reasonable keeper, their problem will be sustaining the challenge and staying clear of suspensions. Last year they led for a while and then fell away, this will probably be the case again this year. VERDICT: Top Six.

AYR UTD: Finding it tough going in this league and discipline would appear to be their Achilles Heel. It will take them a year or two to establish themselves. VERDICT: Bottom Six.

CLYDE: Inconsistency is their main problem, despite having some good results against the top teams they may well find themselves fighting relegation. VERDICT: Bottom Six.

CLYDEBANK: Good at home but not that good, the bankies always manage to have a good team but seem incapable of doing much with them, their biggest handicap may well be Chic Charnley. VERDICT: Top Six.

FALKIRK: The team we all love to hate; Egghead Duffy seems to have reached the parts that Dave Clark couldn't reach. However suspensions and the fact that haven't any real forwards may cost them the title. Expect Baptie and Burgess to have long holidays quite soon and then we'll see how well they do. VERDICT: Top Six.

FORFAR: Once had ambitions of a Premier place but now seem happy to consolidate in the first, have lost a few players and should be good for at least five points. VERDICT: Bottom Six.

KILLIE: What has happened to Kilmarnock, at East End they looked an average side but they are in real danger of taking the plunge to the lower division. This would be a real loss to football, expect a sacking or two down Rugby Park way before too long. VERDICT: Bottom Six.

Meadowbank: Without the S.F.A.'s interference, thistle could have been playing in the Premier league this year, a maverick side who are very difficult to beat, they will probably be the only challengers to the relegated three. The one factor against them could be the lack of back up in their small first team pool. VERDICT: Top Six.

MORTON: Another side who have the habit of finding talented players and then selling them, last year they resorted to importing a job lot of Scandinavians, but they still finished bottom. With the old boys of Clinging and rely-poly Alexander up front they will be there at the end of the season. VERDICT: Top Six.

PARTICK: Not a lot to cheer about for Jags fans this year, and to be honest the only real fight they have will be against relegation. Their problems lie with being owned by Ken Bates, who seems keen to take the cash and the players but not put much back in, apart from trying to set up an American Football team to play on Sundays at Firhill. VERDICT: Bottom Six.

RAITH ROVERS: Even the enigmatic Frank Connor will have his work cut-out at Pratt st., to keep Raith in the top six, if they can keep taking points off the top teams apart from us then that's fine by me. VERDICT Bottom Six.

St. JOHNSTONE: Another team who will find it hard to adjust this season, even with four ex-Pars players, looked a fair side at East End but will have to wait a while for any success. VERDICT Bottom Six.

Q.O.S : Not a patch on their side of two seasons ago, they are heading for the second division again and it couldn't happen to a better team. VERDICT Bottom Six.

DUNFERMLINE: SUPERB ALL ROUND SIDE WHO WILL WIN THE LEAGUE EASILY.

NOSTRADMUS.

TRUE BLUE

One area of the new so called "Golden Era of Scottish Football" which has not changed one bit, is the media's continued bottom licking of the Old Firm and maybe a couple of other top Premier teams, compared with the insult they call coverage of the rest of Scottish football.

Many of you may well find at least part of that statement to be true but have you had a close look at the newspapers so far this season, far from improving, the coverage has got a whole lot worse. The warning signs came early, during the pre-season friendlies, on the same weekend that the Pars and a host of other Scottish clubs were involved in challenge matches and in the Pars case the Fife Cup, Rangers reserves were given a whole half page, plus a photograph, when they played Benbecula Utd or something, we were given a whole inch of typeface and the other teams were less fortunate.

Since then things have gone down hill rapidly. The Scottish press are the biggest culprits, always seeming to find newsworthy items about Rangers or Celtic, under the headline Rangers train at Ibrox, Celtic to sign Terry Butcher, all of these shock injuries and signing rumours are mostly fibs and are of interest only to people who want to believe everything they read in the papers. Witness the Sunday Mail's scoop a few weeks back that Aberdeen were set to swoop for Mark Smith, another load of crap.

Being ignored during the week is bad enough but on a Sunday is where the real fun starts, the first division teams lucky to have a six line match report and the Second seldom having more than one paragraph or just the results table. It is obvious that the National Press are keen to covet the attention of the top Premier clubs, teams in the bottom half of the league only see a decent match report if they have been up against one of the top teams. The only real press these teams will have is in their own local papers or if there is some juicy story that has nothing to do with football, for example John Lambie's period of celibacy, when Hamilton couldn't win a game.

It would be wrong to suggest that every team received equal coverage, it would be nice though as some of the games in the lower divisions can be pretty boring. However at least a serious attempt at coverage of matches and some team news during the week would appease the disgruntled fans of non Premier Clubs.

Dunfermline supporters can have little to complain about in the past two years, the efforts of the Board, Manager, players and the supporters have made us so called "Media Darlings", to be honest, some of the coverage can be positively embarrassing, but it is sporadic and if not especially for us then for the rest of the lower leagues we should speak out.

Television coverage is the only area which has shown a marked improvement, this being Sportscene at last realising that no matter how many goals are scored in the English league match Scots fans would prefer to see some highlights of first and second division games. Even ten minutes of coverage is better than none at all, and for some fans it represents the only chance to see their heroes in action on the telly. An Alloa fan was heard to say "Aye were just like Rangers", after Alloa made two appearances in two consecutive weeks of Sportscene. To date this season Dunfermline have made two appearances on Sportscene, one a ten minute edition of the 2-1 defeat at Brockville and the 4-2 gubbing of Queen of the South at East End, albeit because the Premier card was cancelled that week end. Two years ago there were at least five games covered by both channels which involved 1st Division teams, all of these included Dunfermline. When we were upstairs one game was covered, Clydebank v Hamilton, where Hamilton were already promoted. This may suggest bias towards the Pars as they are always guaranteed a crowd and can then save in having to overdub crowd sound effects but to me it suggests that the very presence of the Pars makes a game worthwhile covering.

The onset of cable and satellite telly means that already in London armchair fans can take in league matches from Spain, Italy and South America, perhaps someone is already planning to launch Pars T.V., with highlights of every game, if so I'll go out and buy my big dish right now. In the meantime here are our opinions of the coverage in the newspapers available in Scotland.



THE FOOTBALL SUPPORTERS ASSOCIATION

INSTEAD OF JUST READING ABOUT FOOTBALL'S PROBLEMS WHY NOT HELP TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT THEM.....

FOOTBALL SUPPORTERS ARE UNDER ATTACK FROM HOOLIGANS,PULITICIANS,PROPERTY TYCOONS AND EVEN SOME CLUBS,WHO APPEAR TO CARE LITTLE FOR THE FANS WHO PROVIDE THEM WITH THEIR INCOME.WE ARE PUSHED AROUND AND EXPLOITED BUT RARELY LISTENED TO.

OVER THE PAST THREE YEARS,THE F.S.A. HAS SOUGHT TO CHANGE ALL THIS.WE HAVE HAD A LITTLE SUCCESS,BUT WITH THE GOVERNMENT SEEMINGLY HELLBENT ON DESTROYING FOOTBALL AS A SPECTATOR SPORT,WE NEED TO BE BIGGER AND STRONGER.

MEMBERSHIP IS JUST £2(UNDER 16's £1)AND FOR THAT YOU GET OUR REGULAR NEWSLETTER AND THE CHANCE TO GET INVOLVED IN MONTHLY BRANCH MEETINGS AND LOCAL CAMPAIGNS.THE F.S.A. IS CURRENTLY INVOLVED IN PRESSING FOR INCRESED TICKET ALLOCATIONS FOR CUP FINALISTS: BETTER FACILITIES FOR EVERYONE BUT ESPECIALLY FOR WOMEN AND DISABLED SUPPORTERS;EFFECTIVE MEASURES TO ERADICATE RACISM AND RACIST CHANTING.THIS SEASON WE WILL FIGHT THE COMPULSORY MEMBERSHIP SCHEME.

MOST OF ALL WE WANT SUPPORTERS TO BE INVOLVED AND REPRESENTED AT EVERY LEVEL OF THE GAME.TOGETHER WE PAY OVER £60 MILLION A YEAR INTO THE GAME-FAR MORE THAN ANY SO-CALLED SPONSORS,INCLUDING TELEVISION.YET,WHEN HAVE YOU,THE CUSTOMER BEEN ASKED ABOUT ANYTHING?. THE ONLY WAY TO CHANGE THINGS IS TO ORGANISE AND ACT TOGETHER.

LOYALTY TO THE GAME MUST BE OUR OVERIDING LOYALTY.WE MUST TAKE RESPONSIBILITY NOW AND ACT IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE GAME.

WALKING DOWN THE HALBEATH ROAD FULLY SUPPORTS THE WORK OF THE F.S.A.AND WE WOULD URGE ALL OF OUR READERS TO COUGH UP TWO SQUID AND TAKE OUT A MEMBERSHIP.THERE IS A BRANCH IN GLASGOW WHICH IS ALREADY QUITE ACTIVE,SO WHY NOT THINK ABOUT ORGANISING AN EAST OF SCOT LAND BRANCH WITH OTHER CLUBS SUPPORTERS,AND THAT WAY WE'LL KEEP THE GAME WHERE IT BELONGS IN THE HANDS AND IN THE INTERESTS OF THE PAYING SUPPORTERS.

SIMPLY FILL IN AND SEND OFF THIS FORM TO THE ADRESS BELOW(OR MAKE YOUR OWN IF YOU DON'T WANT TO SPOIL YOUR COPY)AND MAYBE MENTION WHERE YOU HEARD ABOUT THE F.S.A.

.....

SURNAME..... FORENAMES

ADDRESS.....

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TEL.....AGE UNDER16 16-21 over21

ARE YOU DISABLED...NO/YES (PHYSICAL/SIGHT/HEARING)

SIGNED.....DATE.....

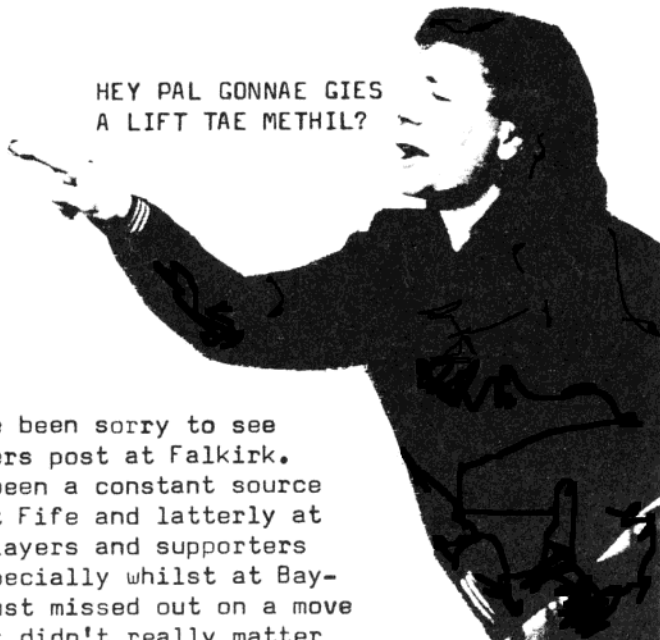
TEAM SUPPORTED.....

SEND TO:THE SECRETARY SCOTTISH FOOTBALL SUPPORTERS ASSOCIATION

608 POLLOCKSHAW ROAD GLASGOW G41 2PT (DON'T FORGET YOUR CHEQUE)

bye bye baby

HEY PAL GONNAE GIES
A LIFT TAE METHIL?



Few Dunfermline fans would have been sorry to see Dave Clarke get the sack from the managers post at Falkirk. Over the past few seasons this man has been a constant source of irritation to Pars fans, first at East Fife and latterly at Falkirk, managed to install in his own players and supporters a desperate need to beat Dunfermline, especially whilst at Bayview. If East Fife had a bad season or just missed out on a move up, you always got the impression that it didn't really matter as they'd beaten Dunfermline that season.

Clarke has never been much of a tactician, his only real idea was to play a team of six-footers and pump in high balls to them. Occasionally he discovered real talent, such as Gordon Durie, who became extremely unpopular at Bayview due to his almost constant stream of acrobatic dives in the box that gave his club several penalties. As he did not do this before he played for East Fife and after he had left them one does ask where the suggestion came from.

Of course Clarke did lead them to promotion in '83-'84 but by then he'd been in charge for six years and it was within the realms of probability that if they had not been successful he would have been given the boot. The supporters didn't mourn for too long, as they were quite frankly sick of Clarke's overcautious attitude to the game. East Fife had become the leagues score draw experts, more often than not attempting to defend a draw at half time.

Between them Clarke and Chairman Jim Baxter, caused much wailing and gnashing of teeth in Methil, not least over the infamous Gordon Durie transfer deal. Durie was sold to Hibs on the agreement that the Bayview club would receive half of any subsequent deal. The following season though, Hibs offered East Fife £50,000 to relinquish the agreement and Baxter accepted. A fortnight later Durie was sold to Chelsea for £400,000, it doesn't take a degree in Maths to work out how much East Fife lost on the deal.

The supporters may not have been too upset when Clarke left but they were when he returned to plunder East Fife's best team since reconstruction. Off to Castle Doom went Burgess, Marshall and a couple of lesser lights for quite a lot of money that East Fife did not reinvest in players, hence the team's slide since then.

The jewels in Falkirk's crown are undoubtedly the former Bayview duo, plus the much reviled Crawford Baptie. The rest of their team are very much incidental, their only job being to land high balls on the heads of Baptie and Burgess—Clarke's plan for aerial domination would have put Hermann Goring to shame. Such is Falkirk's reliance on this method that when Baptie was under suspension (again), Clarke threatened to move Burgess up front.

He was also in trouble with the league authorities last season, after an outburst in the press concerning a forthcoming match against Motherwell and how the 'Well players would conspire to provoke Baptie into a booking or a sending off. If anyone does not need provoking it's Baptie ask any of the Dunfermline forwards after the game at Doom castle this season. It's not only Baptie who can put himself about a bit, as Pars fans saw for themselves last season. Mark Smith was kicked black and blue all night, after which Clarke had the gall to call Smith a cheat, obviously to make Dave's claim more convincing. Mark missed two games.

Falkirk's style of play under the great man has kept many fans away, as happened at Bayview. Even the punters who go to Castle Doom include a few critics of Clarke, there are also a few who think it was a great achievement that he kept them in the Premier Div. With Hamilton and Clydebank in the same league even Morton would have had a fair chance of surviving (well perhaps not Morton, but you get the drift). Even Dunfermline's total of 26 points would have ensured survival that season.

ON THE ROAD TO METHIL WITH DAVE CLAKE (Continued)

Despite playing only three games this season, the Falkirk board had had enough and fired Clarke. Although the man himself said he saw it coming, many people were surprised that it happened that early in the season. He was perhaps unlucky that it didn't happen a week later, Falkirk (0 wins) would beat Dunfermline (3 wins) and he could have held the post a little longer. Seeing him frothing at the mouth during Dunfermline games would suggest that he didn't like us much. Rumour has it that he once applied for the boss's job at East End only to be casually rebuffed and that he's tried to get his revenge ever since.

He's not a popular man at any level whether it be an ex-teammate, an opposition player, an ex workmate from Rosyth Dockyard or just an ordinary punter none of those that I've talked to about Clarke had a good word for him. An arrogant big mouth was the most common description-especially by a friend whose trial for East Fife was ruined by him. Another common story is that he was thrown out of a Rosyth pub for antagonising Pars fans after East Fife had beaten us 4-2 in 1986.

If East Fife continue on their present course, it seems likely that manager Gav Murray (not a popular choice for the Bayview faithful) could be given the heave and Clarke reappointed as manager. Whether this would be any more acceptable to the fans is another matter. If he brought Marshall and Burgess with him, however, that could be a different story.

BALL BOY

FANZINE REVIEWS CONTINUED

HIBES GLASGOW GOSSIP (Hibs) 27 Guthrie Street Edinburgh EH1 1JG (20p=med s.a.e.)

Great value for only 20p and a good read as well. Issue 10 which we saw featured the usual witty forecasts for the coming season, which had Hibs winning the Skol Cup with out scoring a goal; all goalless draws and wins on penalties. Other features include a historical review and a report on the thrilling encounter between Dalkeith Thistle and Hibs. Pars fans will no doubt be able to buy it in the Scottish Cup tie at Easter Road.

THE WEB (Queens Park) 120 Prospecthill Circus Toryglen Glasgow G42 0LW (40p+med s.a.e.)

Published by the "Spiders" Supporters Association and therefore much of the space is quite rightly taken up with news for members and match reports from the Queens supporters football team. Apart from that, the remaining articles are on such diverse subjects as the perils experienced on a trip to Wembley, the Spiders tour of the North East, where they beat Lossiemouth and had a few drinks. Worth buying if you come across it.

THE NORTHERN LIGHT (Aberdeen) P.O. Box 269 Aberdeen AB9 8EN (50p+1ge s.a.e.)

One of the best Scottish 'zines around, it is well renowned for the cartoons which are liberally spread throughout. The issue we saw came after the demise of Ian Portafield a man who was not too popular with the Aberdeen support and who inspired many an article in previous editions. Apart from the celebrations on Portafield's departure the rest is a hilarious mix of spoof articles, predictions and an absolutely stunningly funny strip cartoon entitled "Oor Charlie". This one is our fanzine of the month; buy it.

AWOL (Meadowbank Thistle) 11a Forth Street Edinburgh EH1 1LE (£1=1ge s.a.e.)

A special Christmas edition, which includes a free single and a new A4 wraparound style a quid may seem like a lot to pay out for a 'zine but this one is really worth it. 56 pages, not all on football e.g. The Sharpville Six, Oor Willie and an interview with Ivor Cutler. The footballing bits deal mainly with the Brake Club's tragic experiences at Douglas Park Hamilton, a competition to win a holiday in Methil and loads of other stuff I could go on all day about it but suffice to say it's brilliant and it goes joint top with the Northern Light. Buy it when Thistle come to East End 22 Oct.

Others worth a look this time round are the all new readable "PUNT" and the excellent Proclaimer, which we don't have room to review. All these and the others we mentioned in the last issue are available at Football Crazy, Spittal Street Edinburgh.

CRAIG ROBERTSON

FOR SCOTLAND

In the last issue Alan Bairner put forward the suggestion that it shouldn't be too long before Robbo or another Pars player is selected for the Senior Scotland squads. Certainly with several of Dunfermline's youth team players already capped at under 18 level, the chance does appear to be more of a reality than it has been in recent years. However Scotland selectors are not renowned for keeping their faith with young players, up to senior level, particularly if they don't play for the Old Firm and especially if they play for a non-Premier club.

After the last match against Norway, no-one would have been surprised to see Roy Aitken omitted from the squad, after he came close to being sent off, however when the squad was announced for the match against Yugoslavia, there was Aitken. Surely there must be a suitable replacement for him somewhere in the game and for the multitude of players who have been tried and tried again and yet have shown none of their club form i.e. Sharp and Speedie to name but two.

Even the players who are selected, often pull out with surprise injuries, how many times has Souness pulled McCoist and co out of the squad only for them to make a remarkable recovery to play in the following league or cup match.

Why the does Andy Roxburgh spend half his time flying down to watch Scottish players playing in second division games in England, or jetting off to see Mo "Give us a shag" Johnstone in France?, why not take in some more Scottish league games and why not take a look at Dunfermline, whose first team squad are full-time and who have experienced football at top level in Scotland.

The most common excuse given by the S.F.A. is that players outwith the Premier league, are not considered for International duty as the standards of fitness and level of competition are not high enough. Bullshit, would the likes of Gary McKay and John Collins be left out of the squad if Hearts or Hibs were relegated, no chance, they would be one of those wonderful S.F.A. exemptions. And I challenge anyone to spot the difference in skill and fitness between a Motherwell v Hamilton fixture and any game in the 1st Division

Even the Under-21 squad is full of Anglos and the usual half dozen Celtic lads, the one exception to this is Gordon Hunter of East Fife. No matter how good Hunter is he cannot fulfill any of the the S.F.A.'s stipulations, playing for bloody East Fife in the second division. It makes nonsense of the rule that players have to be involved in regular football of a standard suitable for International level. Then again isn't there an East Fife official on the S.F.A. committee?. Then again East Stirling and Berwick are well known for their International stars and Olympian levels of fitness so maybe we shouldn't moan too much about this farce.

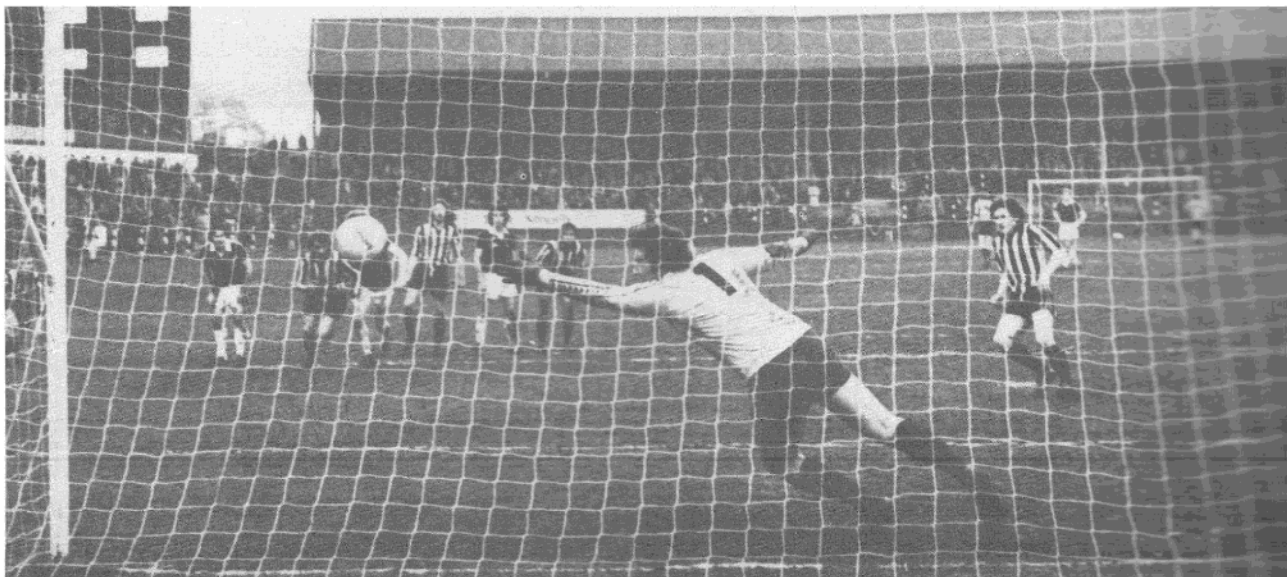
Out of our current first team squad, Craig Robertson, looks good enough right now to be at least considered for the under-21 squad, as a full time professional, he is in training regularly and his exceptional talents have attracted the interests of several clubs, his goal-scoring exploits last year and this year, should make him a good gamble to turn on that same form at International level.

Waiting in the wings are Davie Irons and Trevor Smith, who would I'm sure at least make an effort for their country, unlike some of the so-called stars we've had to suffer in recent years. It remains to be seen if our talented young players such as Sean Strang and Feenie will continue their International experience at a higher level, sadly at the moment the only way that could happen is if they are transferred to Celtic or Rangers.

With the Pars back in the Premier League next season and the World Cup due in Italy in 1990, the selectors will have an ample opportunity to view the talent on display at East End Park, at the required level and by that time the young players will be almost breaking through to the first team. Wouldn't it be great to see Robbo carving chunks out of Brazil's midfield and maybe Trevor Smith hitting a hat-trick against England, dreams maybe but who knows.



Down Memory Lane



DUNFERMLINE 1 FALKIRK 1 Scottish Division 2 MAY 1979

This feature was inspired by a poll result in the Falkirk Fanzine in which the Bairns described that glorious night as their most painful memory, well not having too many chances to write about successes against Falkirk, here we go with the night that a certain Andy Rolland had the Bairns well and truly greeting all the way home.

Since February 1979 the Pars had embarked on a great run of 14 games undefeated to push them up to first place in the league, hotly followed by Berwick Rangers and the Bairns. However April was not a happy month for the faithful, successive away defeats at Stranraer and Albion Rovers coupled with a measly point at home to Forfar and another defeat at Alloa, pushed us back into 3rd spot and it looked as though we had blown it again for another year. The league table looked like this:

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
BERWICK	38	22	10	6	82	43	38
FALKIRK	38	19	11	8	65	36	37
DUNFERMLINE	37	18	13	6	64	39	37

On a bright Sunday afternoon, a crowd of 4,500 turned up at East End to see the Pars take on Champions elect Berwick. It wasn't a particularly skillful game but the end result a 1-0 victory for the Pars, courtesy of a great John Salton goal from a Mercer cross did enough to push us into 2nd place above the babies, needing only a point from our last match against Falkirk at East End to go up a league.

A huge crowd of 6,000 came along (worry beads in hand) that Wednesday night to see what many believed would be the game of the season. It turned out to be a typical Falkirk Dunfermline clash, hard with no compromise given by either side. The tough going was clearly seen in the first few minutes when John Salton had to be escorted off with a knee injury from which he never fully recovered. As the whistle went for half time, the Pars support now starting to bite their toe nails, hoped for a similar score at full time, we were only 45 minutes away from the first division.

Disaster struck in the tenth minute of the second half, when Perry headed Falkirk into the lead and we knew we were up against it. However the Pars fans started singing and building up a huge wall of noise to urge the lads forward and all this shouting had its reward when shortly after a shot from Scott was handled and a penalty was awarded. The fans were either closing their eyes or in shock as Andy Rolland calmly walked up and belted the ball into the net. The roof over the town end terracing almost came off as some really, heavy celebrating got underway. The rest of the match was an agony of looking at the watch and finally the game was over, we were up and the Babies were down, the scenes were incredible. After the usual pitch invasion a procession of at least 2,000 marched all the way up the town to celebrate in style. What a night...

NEARSIDE LINESMAN

GEORGE COWIE



It's always a tragedy when a footballer has to give up the game, due to injury, even more so when football is his full-time occupation. Over the years Dunfermline have had their fair share of such tragedies, John Lunn, Bert Paton, John Salton and our own Jim Leishman to name but a few. Therefore it was sad news to hear of the forced retirement of George Cowie, at the start of this season.

George signed for the Pars, from Hearts, at the end of season 86-87, for a fee of around £25,000. At the time there were a few other clubs after him but he saw that the only team worth signing for were the Pars. He had been previously with West Ham Utd for a while, before going to Morton on loan. Sandwiched in between that was a very happy spell with Hearts for four years.

When he signed he was already carrying an injury which kept him out of the side for a while, it was this injury which eventually forced him to retire from the game. As his appearances were so few and far between the fans never really got a chance to see him on form, to be honest, the Premier League is so cut-throat, that it is very difficult for a player coming back from injury to

just slip back into the team. Therefore the fans and ourselves here at W.D.H.R. were not too complimentary to George. We are reliably informed put a heck of a lot of work into coaching and encouraging the younger players in the team, trying to build their confidence, with his knowledge and experience of top class football (we'll omit Morton from that category).

It's a great pity that Dunfermline supporters never got the opportunity to see George play at his best in the black and white stripes. Hearts supporters I've spoken to have all said that they appreciated his loyalty to the club and his efforts both on the field and in training, whilst he was at Tynecastle.

We hope that Pars fans will turn out in numbers for his Testimonial match, and we are delighted to be able to donate 5p from each sale of this issue to that fund. We thank George for his efforts and wish him well with whatever he chooses to do in the future.

ESCAPED FROM A HIGH SECURITY S.F.A. PRISON. BIMBO RETURNS TO SEEK OUT THOSE WHO PUT HIM THERE, THE HATED REFEREES. WHEN HE CAN'T DEAL WITH THEM HE TURNS HIS ANGER ON OPPOSING FORWARDS, DEFENDERS, KEEPERS BALL BOYS, SEA GULLS AND PIE STALL ATTENDANTS.

SHUDDER AS HE PLOUGHS INTO ANOTHER TACKLE,

SCREAM AS BONES SHATTERED....

SCREAM AS THE BLOOD SPILLS

THRILL TO THE FINAL CONFRONTATION AS BIMBO MEETS THE AWESOME HER THE EASTERN BLOCK: NORRIE McCATHSKI.

CERTIFICATE

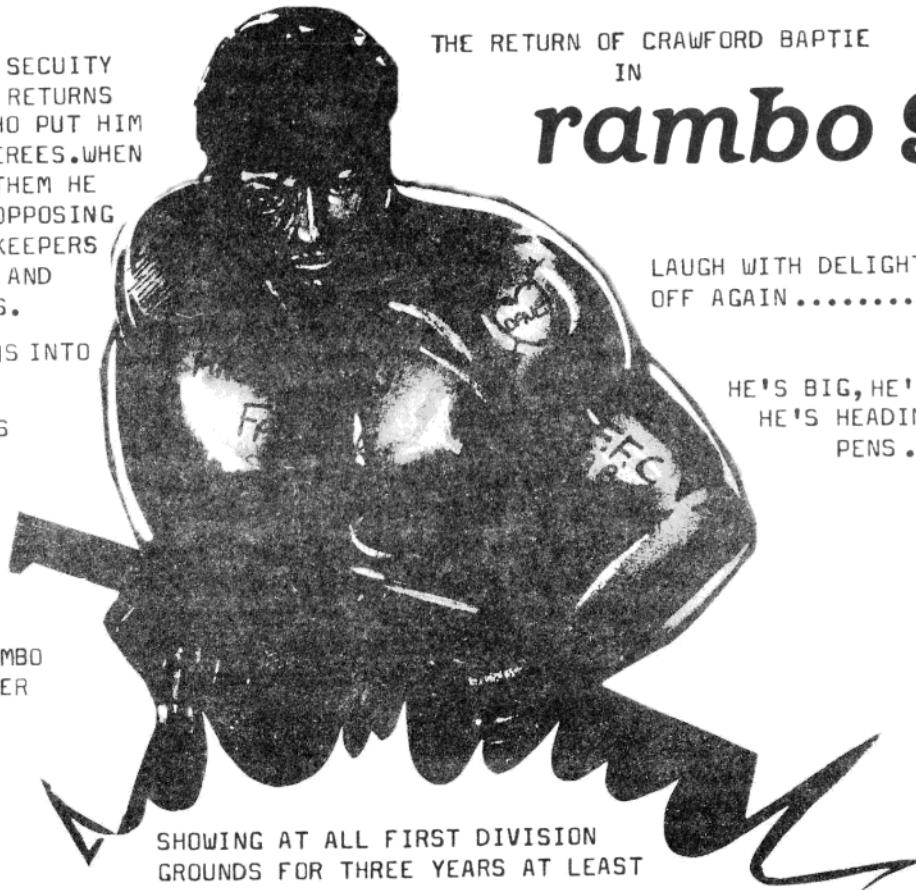
SHOWING AT ALL FIRST DIVISION GROUNDS FOR THREE YEARS AT LEAST

THE RETURN OF CRAWFORD BAPTIE IN

rambo 9

LAUGH WITH DELIGHT AS HE'S SENT OFF AGAIN.....

HE'S BIG, HE'S THICK AS SHIT HE'S HEADING BACK TO THE PENS.....



£

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND —
OUR BIGGEST PRIZE DRAW YET!

\$

WIN



COMPETITION COMPETITION COMPETITION

YES AT LONG LAST WE ARE GOING TO HAVE A COMPETITION IN THE FANZINE WHICH IS ABSOLUTELY FREE TO ANYONE WHO WANTS TO ENTER. THE PRIZES ARE SUPERB, WHAT ELSE WOULD YOU EXPECT FROM US?

FIRST PRIZE: A BILLY THE FISH T-SHIRT (HERO OF VIZ COMIC)

SECOND PRIZE: A SEASONS FREE SUBSCRIPTION TO W.D.H.R.

THIRD PRIZE : THE NEXT THREE ISSUES FREE

SPECIAL PRIZE: THE ORIGINAL ARTWORK FROM OUR GERSBUSTERS ISSUE

HERE'S WHAT YOU HAVE TO DO:

1. ESTIMATE HOW MANY SPELLING MISTAKES WERE IN ISSUE FOUR
2. SEND IN A SUITABLE CAPTION FOR THE UNLIKELY COLLAGE ABOVE
3. GIVE YOUR ESTIMATION OF THE I.Q. OF CRAWFORD BAPTIE.

SEND YOUR ENTRIES TO THE ADDRESS FOUND AT THE START OF THIS ISSUE AND MARK THEM COMPETITION.

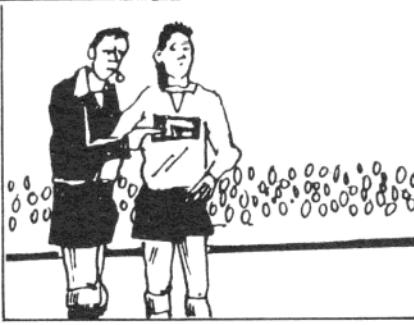


Referee

Test your knowledge of the rules of the game

1. When booking the Falkirk left back for a foul, you notice that he is a Nazi war criminal. Do you a) ignore it as he gave you a masonic handshake? or b) arrest him and take in the rest of the team for collaboration or c) send him off and tip-off the police about Jim Duffy being Lord Lucan and claim the reward?
2. During a Skol Cup match Steve Cowan slips a tenner down your shorts. Do you a) give him the penalty he dived for or b) send him off for ungentlemanly conduct but keep the tenner? or c) send him and the other guy you like and join them in the bath?.
3. At the end of controversial match the losing team capt. challenges you to a fight. Do you a) make a run for the dressing room? or b) call on the linesmen and give him a good kicking? or c) arrange to meet him at dawn with duelling pistols?

Thanks to Viz Comic



1. You have no authority to arrest war criminals (a) and membership of a set ret society should not affect your judgement. (c) would be the best idea and you could have the teammates arrested for aiding and abetting a known fugitive.
2. You should not give the penalty (a) as the player is obviously cheating. Under no circumstances should you leave the field during the game (b) so (c) would be best and you could always arrange to meet him in the bar later.
3. You're far too old and fat to beat him to the dressing room (a) giving him a good thrashing with the help of your linesmen is not recommended as he has ten on his side (b) so (c) the duel looks like the best idea, make sure that you wear your contact lens when about to aim though.



WRITE TO DAVIE

Last week I went along to my first match in 30 years, imagine my surprise to find the ground had been pulled down and Asda had a store there. I was thrown out for asking for a programme. It's a funny old game isn't it?

Ally McLeod
Ayr

People talk about Dunfermline's four Smiths but how about Celtic they have eleven players called C.R. SMITH, surely a record?.

A. Montford
Glasgow

Dear Davie, my son has to make a hallow'een mask as a school project would you be kind enough to send a photo of yourself that he can copy.

Mrs. C. R. Smith
Kirkcaldy

Could you settle a family feud my husband says that Dimintri Galgolopolus was top scorer in the Greek 4th division in 1957 and my son says it was CR. SMITH?

Mrs P. Head
Carnoustie

Sorry Mrs H but I haven't got a fucking clue.

Why can't the S.F.A. simply admit to fixing the cup draw not once in the history of the cup have Vale of Lethen and Coldstream been drawn in the semi-finals?. It's unfair.

G. Docherty
Gala

Hmmm, tricky one this can I suggest that you write to newspapers before you go to the pub.

DAVIE'S PUZZLER

Which would yield the best return, 5 per cent stock 136 or 7 per cent stock at 125. based on share index prices pre-budget?.

What is the current cost of a good plastic surgeon?.