UNOFFICIAL GUIDE

RANGERS

Glasgow Greats in Pictures and Profiles

SUPERFANS



There's only one team in Glasgow... If the chant sounds familiar, it's because it's been used by more than one set of supporters over the years. Yet in terms of the recent past, Rangers fans can be forgiven if they widen the lyric to read: one team in Scotland.

As 1996 saw them chasing what would be their eighth Scottish League title in a row, the blue side of Glasgow had Europe on their minds. No matter that their team had proved themselves one of Scotland's best ever, it was the fact that the European Cup, soccer's biggest prize, remained out of reach. The pursuit of that ultimate goal would be the spur that motivated Walter Smith's team, gathered from all corners of the globe, as they aimed to continue their winning form into yet another season. The fact that a certain other team from a few miles distance once held it aloft was something of which they didn't need reminding...

The recruitment of Scandinavian star striker Erik Bo Andersen to add his firepower at the climax of last season alongside such expensive fellow imports as Laudrup, Petric and Gascoigne showed Smith's determination to bring the best players to the club no matter what the expense. Added to the likes of Goram, Gough, McCoist and Miller, they made a potent cocktail too strong for most of the Premier League. Yet European success was all-important to keep the coffers full.

Could this be the year?



SMITH

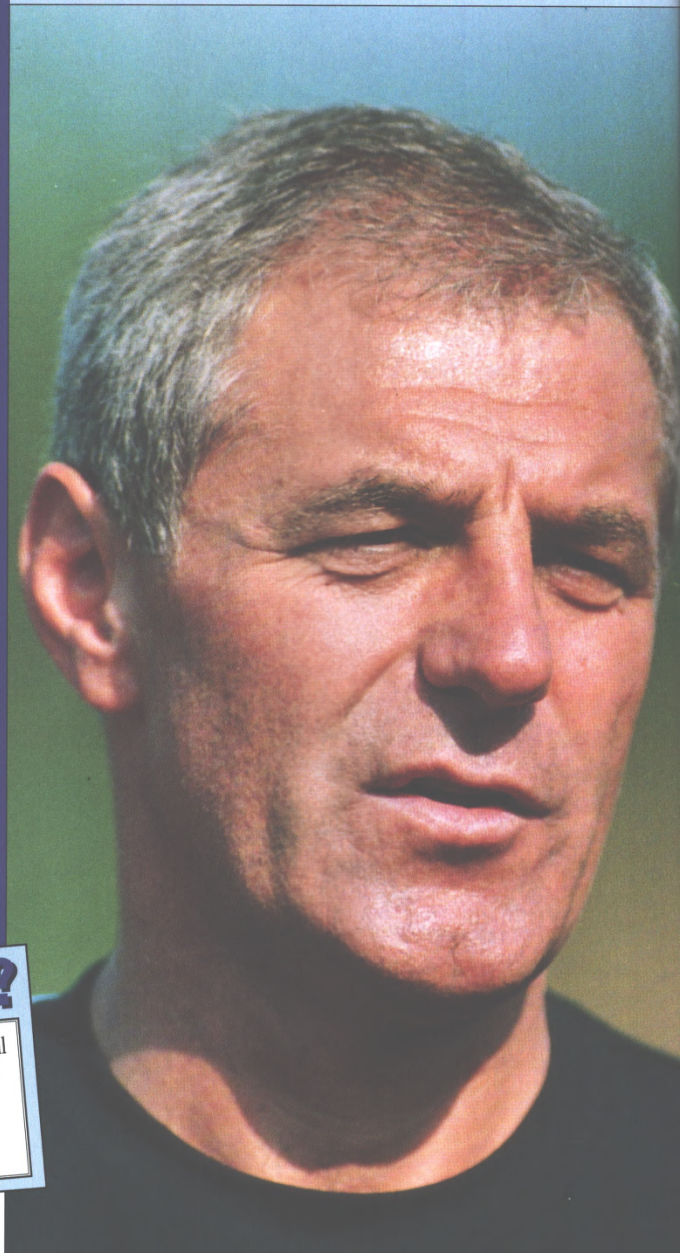
When Graeme Souness made his shock decision to quit Rangers for his former club Liverpool in April 1991, Rangers were widely tipped for a dip in their fortunes. That they have carried on pretty much as before, winning the Scottish League every season since his departure, says much about the motivational qualities of his successor Walter Smith.

Souness may well have instigated the revolution of Scottish football with the signing of numerous English players, but Smith has broadened his (and his club's) horizons. A regular flow of the top European players currently appears week in, week out at Ibrox Stadium – Brian Laudrup, Oleg Salenko and Alexei Mikhailichenko, to name but three.

If Souness' managerial style was on the abrasive side, then Walter Smith has been the complete opposite; quietly and efficiently going about his job, which is simply to make Rangers Football Club the best in Scotland and thereafter one of the best in Europe. A word of praise must also be extended towards assistant manager Archie Knox and first-team coach Davie Dodds, who between them have made Rangers the side that every Scottish team must catch for success.

WALTER SMITH *Managerial Record*

FROM	TO	CLUB
April 1991		Rangers



DID YOU KNOW?

One of Walter Smith's most important signings will never be seen on the pitch. He poached assistant manager Archie Knox from Old Trafford and persuaded him to return north of the border to work with him.

DURIE

Born in Paisley in 1965, Gordon began his career with junior side Hill O'Beath before signing with East Fife. He made an immediate impact, scoring 26 goals in 81 appearances and was soon transferred to Hibernian. After only 47 League games for the Easter Road club he was signed by Chelsea and formed an effective frontline with Kerry Dixon. With a strike-rate of just under a goal every other game for the Pensioners, Durie proved as effective as anyone in the penalty area.

In 1991 he was sold to Spurs, linking up with golden boy Gary Lineker. The partnership started well, registering five wins in seven games before Durie suffered a goal drought in the League.

Following a 1993 move to Rangers, Gordon enjoyed his best season for some years in 1995-96, with a tally well into double figures which included four in the 7-0 rout of Hibernian.

GORDON DURIE *Factfile*

Born:	6 December 1965
Birthplace:	Paisley
Height:	6' 0"
Weight:	12st

League Record (To start of 1995-96 season)

FROM-TO	CLUB	APPS	GOALS
1981-84	East Fife	81	26
1984-86	Hibernian	47	14
1986-91	Chelsea	123	51
1991-93	Tottenham Hotspur	58	11
1993-95	Rangers	45	18
Total		354	120

Did You Know?

There can be few players as patriotic to Scotland as Gordon Durie; he even named his son Scott in recognition of his roots.



GASCOIGNE

Paul Gascoigne's impact on Scottish soccer since joining Rangers in 1995 has been immense, even in a multi-national team of stars. Though his stamina may be suspect these days, he's proved he's lost little of the skill that marked him out as such a bright prospect back in the 1980s.

The story started of course on Tyneside where he made his first appearances in a team recently revitalised by Kevin Keegan – the player, not the manager. Chris Waddle was beginning to show his promise, but once Paul hit his stride there was no stopping him. Two full seasons in black and white saw him spirited south to Spurs, where he lined up with yet more stars in Waddle, Walsh and Samways, with future England boss Terry Venables pulling the strings.

World Cup year of 1989-90 saw Gascoigne hit his international peak, as manager Bobby Robson had planned. He'd restricted the player's appearances to avoid over-exposure, and the build-up worked perfectly. Sadly, the World Cup Final proved beyond him and his team-mates, but he remained in contention for Euro '96 and was still a player to build a team around. His £5.5 million move to Lazio went through in 1992, but he was under constant pressure to deliver in the high-tension *Serie A* and played relatively few games for the money.

Rangers brought him back to the British Isles, and though he missed the first game against Kilmarnock he was present for 11 of the next 15 League games. He chose the right occasion to make his scoring debut, netting the second goal in a late-August win over Celtic at Parkhead.

And as 1996 began, many of Gazza's goals turned out to be winners...two in the 2-1 victory at Firhill Park, a penalty in an otherwise goalless encounter at Pittodrie and the first in a 3-2 squeak past Falkirk. With Celtic breathing hot down their collars, no one wanted to slip up and every game became a Cup Final.

PAUL GASCOIGNE *Factfile*

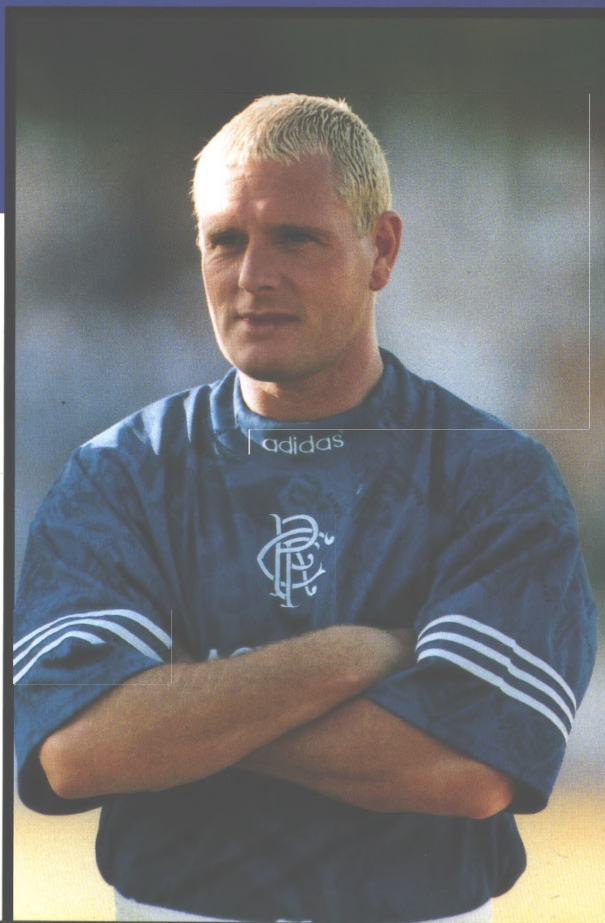
Born:	27 May 1967
Birthplace:	Gateshead
Height:	5' 10"
Weight:	11st 7lb

League Record (To start of 1995-96 season)

FROM-TO	CLUB	APPS	GOALS
1984-88	Newcastle United	92	21
1988-92	Tottenham Hotspur	92	19
1992-95	Lazio	41	6
Total		225	46

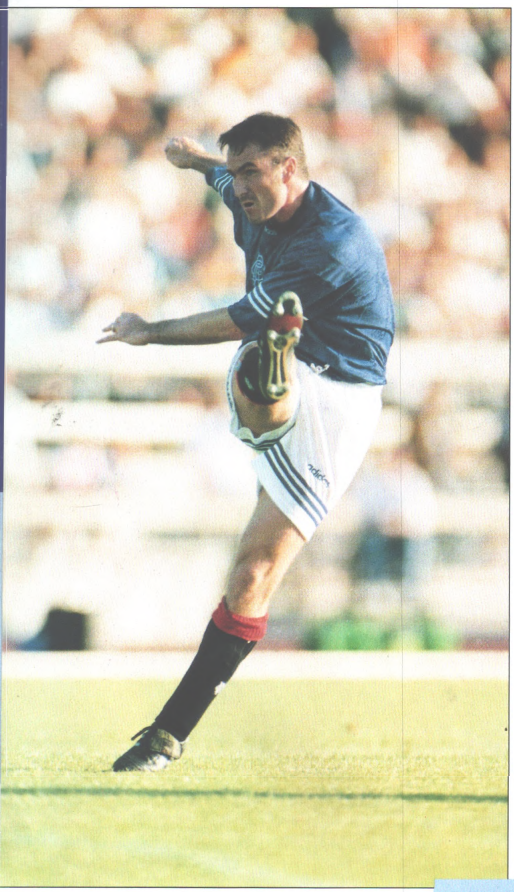
Did You Know?

Gazza teamed up with rock group Lindisfarne for the 1990 hit 'Fog On The Tyne (Revisited)' which reached Number 2 in the UK charts.





RANGERS FC HISTORY



An honours list the size of Rangers' is probably unequalled in world football. Yet how many people remember the one that got away? Thankfully for the boys in blue, it all happened over a century ago, when Vale of Leven were awarded the Scottish FA Cup in 1879 after Rangers failed to turn up for the replay following a 1-1 draw.

Little else has gone wrong for the Gers as they've swept from success to success under a series of managers well-known and lesser-heralded. Who for instance had heard of Walter Smith when he took over from Graeme Souness? Nowadays, his name is known throughout the football world. For barely a season has gone by that hasn't seen Rangers in one or other of Europe's great competitions. And though it's been nearly a quarter of a century since they brought home the Cup Winners' Cup from Barcelona in 1972, they have an irresistible look that suggests silverware to come.

Rangers and Ibrox are names that belong together, but they'd been playing 25 years before they arrived at that hallowed turf. A youth group from West Scotland had formed the club in season 1872-73, playing in three different locations before settling just before the century's end.

They'd already made their mark by then, sharing the first Scottish League Championship with Dumbarton in 1891. Between the wars, Alan Morton, George Brown and Andy Cunningham kept the honours coming, under the managership of Bill Struth. His time in the hot seat from 1920 to 1957 brought 18 League titles and 10 Cup wins. The 1960s saw midfielder John Greig and the talented Bill Baxter grace the park, adding to Rangers' reputation for playing winning football with flair.

Ibrox has been developed to provide a stadium matching the club's aspirations. Sadly, it was a disaster in 1971 that saw 66 supporters lose their lives that was the catalyst for greatest change, but a process of continuous development resulted in today's 50,000 all-seater, all-covered venue.

Two records currently held by Celtic remain in their sights: nine successive title wins and the European Cup.

RANGERS *Factfile*

Year formed:	1873
Ground:	Ibrox Stadium, Edminston Drive, Glasgow G51 2XD
Nickname:	The Gers
Club colours:	Blue and white
Manager:	Walter Smith
Record attendance:	118,567 v Celtic, 2 January 1939, Division One
Record victory:	14-2 v Blairgowrie, 20 January 1934, Scottish Cup First Round
Record defeat:	2-10 v Airdrieonians, 1886
Highest League scorer in a season:	Sam English, 44, 1931-32, Division One
Highest scorer during career:	Bob McPhail, 233, 1927-39
Most League appearances:	John Greig, 496, 1962-78

Honours Board

1876-77	FA Cup Runners-up
1878-79	FA Cup Runners-up
1890-91	Division One Champions (shared with Dumbarton)
1892-93	Division One Runners-up
1893-94	FA Cup Winners
1895-96	Division One Runners-up
1896-97	FA Cup Winners
1897-98	Division One Runners-up and FA Cup Winners
1898-99	Division One Champions and FA Cup Runners-up
1899-1900	Division One Champions
1900-01	Division One Champions
1901-02	Division One Champions
1902-03	FA Cup Winners
1903-04	FA Cup Runners-up
1904-05	Division One Runners-up and FA Cup Runners-up
1910-11	Division One Champions
1911-12	Division One Champions
1912-13	Division One Champions
1913-14	Division One Runners-up
1915-16	Division One Runners-up
1917-18	Division One Champions
1918-19	Division One Runners-up
1919-20	Division One Champions
1920-21	Division One Champions and FA Cup Runners-up
1921-22	Division One Runners-up and FA Cup Runners-up
1922-23	Division One Champions
1923-24	Division One Champions
1924-25	Division One Champions
1926-27	Division One Champions
1927-28	Division One Champions and FA Cup Winners
1928-29	Division One Champions and FA Cup Runners-up
1929-30	Division One Champions and FA Cup Winners
1930-31	Division One Champions
1931-32	Division One Runners-up and FA Cup Winners
1932-33	Division One Champions
1933-34	Division One Champions and FA Cup Winners
1934-35	Division One Champions and FA Cup Winners
1935-36	Division One Runners-up and FA Cup Winners
1936-37	Division One Champions
1938-39	Division One Champions
1946-47	Division One Champions and League Cup Winners
1947-48	Division One Runners-up and FA Cup Winners
1948-49	Division One Champions, FA Cup Winners and League Cup Winners
1949-50	Division One Champions and FA Cup Winners
1950-51	Division One Runners-up
1951-52	Division One Runners-up and League Cup Runners-up
1952-53	Division One Champions and FA Cup Winners
1955-56	Division One Champions
1956-57	Division One Champions
1957-58	Division One Runners-up and League Cup Runners-up
1958-59	Division One Champions
1959-60	FA Cup Winners
1960-61	Division One Champions, League Cup Winners and European Cup Winners' Cup Runners-up
1961-62	Division One Runners-up, FA Cup Winners and League Cup Winners
1962-63	Division One Champions and FA Cup Winners
1963-64	Division One Champions, FA Cup Winners and League Cup Winners
1964-65	League Cup Winners
1965-66	Division One Runners-up, FA Cup Winners and League Cup Runners-up
1966-67	Division One Runners-up, League Cup Runners-up and European Cup Winners' Cup Runners-up
1967-68	Division One Runners-up
1968-69	Division One Runners-up and FA Cup Runners-up
1969-70	Division One Runners-up
1970-71	FA Cup Runners-up and League Cup Winners
1971-72	European Cup Winners' Cup Winners
1972-73	Division One Runners-up and FA Cup Winners
1974-75	Division One Champions
1975-76	Premier Division Champions, FA Cup Winners and League Cup Winners
1976-77	Premier Division Runners-up and FA Cup Runners-up
1977-78	Premier Division Champions, FA Cup Winners and League Cup Winners
1978-79	Premier Division Runners-up, FA Cup Winners and League Cup Winners
1979-80	FA Cup Runners-up
1980-81	FA Cup Winners
1981-82	FA Cup Runners-up and League Cup Winners
1982-83	FA Cup Runners-up and League Cup Runners-up
1983-84	League Cup Winners
1984-85	League Cup Winners
1986-87	Premier Division Champions and League Cup Winners
1987-88	League Cup Winners
1988-89	Premier Division Champions, FA Cup Runners-up and League Cup Winners
1989-90	Premier Division Champions and League Cup Runners-up
1990-91	Premier Division Champions and League Cup Winners
1991-92	Premier Division Champions and FA Cup Winners
1992-93	Premier Division Champions, FA Cup Winners and League Cup Winners
1993-94	Premier Division Champions, FA Cup Runners-up and League Cup Winners
1994-95	Premier Division Champions
1995-96	Premier Division Champions and FA Cup Finalists



GORAM

For all of the many millions that Rangers have spent on some of the most exciting outfield players in the world, their supporters will be the first to admit that the purchase of first Chris Woods and then Andy Goram have proved to be sound investments. For as much as Rangers are an enterprising side when going forward, all their good work would count for nothing without a sound goalkeeper.

Goram arrived at Rangers in 1991, via Oldham and Hibernian and quickly made the goalkeeping berth his own, winning a title medal in his first season as well as being an ever-present. More impressive was the goals against column; only 14 goals were conceded at home and 17 away as Rangers ended the season with a goal difference of plus-70! And that's pretty much been the Andy Goram story ever since; sound, safe goalkeeping that's enabled Rangers to power their way to the Scottish title in each of his seasons in Glasgow.

First capped by Scotland in 1985-86 while with Oldham, Andy has seen off many challengers for the role of Scotland's regular keeper and began the 1995-96 season with 33 caps to his credit.

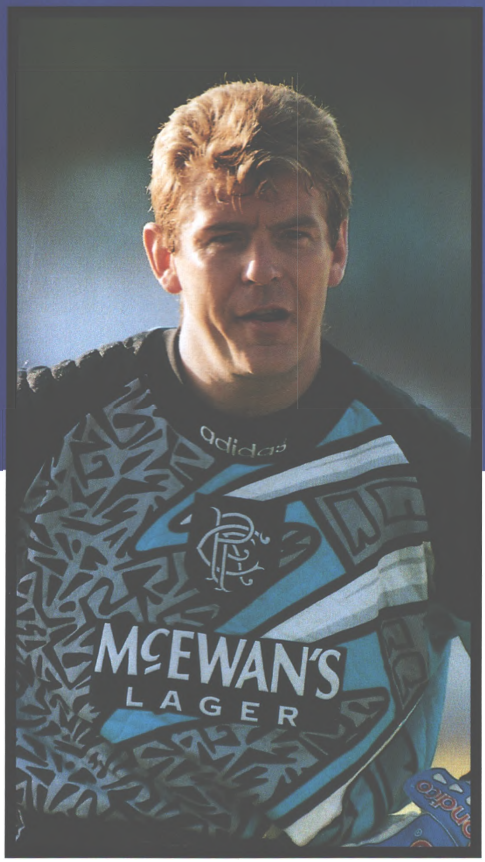
Extremely agile and an exceptional shot-stopper, Goram has become one of the best custodians Rangers have had. There can be few more imposing sights for a striker bearing down on goal than Goram rushing out to halt the danger. Indeed, Rangers' victory over Old Firm rivals Celtic in last season's Scottish Cup semi-final owe as much to Goram's agility between the sticks as it did t McCoist's prowess at the other end of the field. An while strikers and midfield men invariably grab th headlines, Rangers players themselves are quick t acknowledge Andy's contribution to their domination o the domestic game.

ANDY GORAM *Factfile*

Born:	13 April 1964
Birthplace:	Bury
Height:	5' 11"
Weight:	11st 6lb

League Record (To start of 1995-96 season)

FROM-TO	CLUB	APPS	GOALS
1981-87	Oldham Athletic	195	–
1987-91	Hibernian	138	1
1991-95	Rangers	105	–
Total		438	1



"I hope to be here so long they have to kick me out!"

Andy Goram


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McEWAN'S
LAGER
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McCOIST

When Alistair Murdoch McCoist captained the Scottish side against Australia in March 1996 on the occasion of his 50th cap, having won his first against Holland ten years earlier, he confirmed his position as a national treasure. Only those in the green of Celtic could possibly begrudge the compact striker his moment of glory...and only those with short memories would bet against more to come.

Not that everything's gone to plan for this likeable forward. As a 15 year old, St Mirren's boss reportedly rejected him because he thought he was too small. The man's name? Alex Ferguson. Happily he found a home at Muirton Park, the lair of St Johnstone – though not before Rangers had come in with a late bid for the (then) midfielder.

Having moved up front at his new manager Alex Rennie's suggestion, Ally scored rather more than a goal every other game for the Perth side in his first season as a first-team regular. It came as little surprise when he was snapped up by Sunderland, Rangers again just failing with a last-ditch bid: the televising of a four-goal feat against Berwick had clearly sold him to both camps.

But he failed to make the grade in English football, scoring just eight goals in two seasons. Undeterred, he returned north of the border for a bargain £185,000 – his price-tag two years earlier had been £400,000 – and promptly notched the fastest ever Old Firm goal after just 27 seconds.

A hat-trick against Celtic in the 1984 League Cup Final helped him win fans' hearts, but even then he admits, 'it took me a lot longer to settle at Ibrox than I expected.'

Things did improve, of course, and he's seen many a strike partner come and go – Kevin Drinkell, Robert Fleck, Mo Johnston and Mark Hateley among the biggest names. Another Old Firm hat-trick, in the Scottish Cup Final of 1986, was something of a public relations coup, and the following year saw Rangers' first League title since 1978. With 33 goals, McCoist could claim to have played a major part.

But Graeme Souness' final season at the helm, 1988-89, brought a barren year, just 9 goals and only 19 League games. 'Looking back on it, I probably didn't do myself any favours,' McCoist now admits of his

> "He would be on my list of all-time greats with Rossi and Lineker and all the others. Let's not have any criticism about him scoring goals in a lesser league – scoring goals is difficult at any level."
>
> **MARK HATELEY**



ALLY McCOIST *Factfile*

Born:	24 September 1962
Birthplace:	Bellshill
Height:	5' 10"
Weight:	12st

League Record (To start of 1995-96 season)

FROM-TO	CLUB	APPS	GOALS
1978-81	St Johnstone	57	22
1981-83	Sunderland	56	8
1983-95	Rangers	362	219
Total		475	249

stormy relationship with his boss. 'I should have just shut my mouth and taken it. I honestly don't hold any grudges though.'

Under Walter Smith, though, things were different – very different. McCoist managed a goal a game plus in the next two seasons before exploding with 34 goals apiece in the 1991-92 and 1992-93 title seasons. He twice won the European Golden Boot, and in the process outscored Arsenal's hotshot Ian Wright.

A broken leg sustained in 1993 suggested that the fairy story might be over, and the emergence of Charlie Miller, the so-called 'new darling of Ibrox', led many to believe Ally had been replaced. Yet 1995 saw McCoist show he'd lost none of his appetite for the game in his 34th year, showing his best goalscoring form for three years and aiming for yet more glory in the Euro '96 Championships.



DID YOU KNOW?

During the 1995-96 season, Ally McCoist broke Bob McPhail's record set in 1939 of 233 League goals during his Rangers career.

ROBERTSON



Did You Know?

David Robertson was a member of the Aberdeen team which completed the League and FA Cup Double in 1989-90 with a Hampden Park victory over Celtic.

DAVID ROBERTSON *Factfile*

Born:	17 October 1968
Birthplace:	Aberdeen
Height:	5' 11"
Weight:	11st

League Record (To start of 1995-96 season)

FROM-TO	CLUB	APPS	GOALS
1986-91	Aberdeen	135	2
1991-95	Rangers	136	8
Total		271	10

Ally McCoist may have got the all-important goal; Stuart McCall may have run all over Hampden Park to ensure victory; but for many the man of the match during last season's Scottish Cup semi-final clash between Rangers and Celtic was David Robertson.

It was not just his defensive qualities that shone on the day, as important as they were for a defender. But Robertson was just as effective when probing further forward as an overlapping full-back, linking well with the midfield and delivering many telling crosses and passes into danger areas. Like other defenders at Rangers, Robertson has been very much the unsung hero almost all season.

No prizes for guessing who most of the media attention has been directed towards, but the likes of Robertson performed exceptionally well all season and made Rangers a very difficult side to break down. It's also been a feature of his play that he has frequently popped up in the opposition penalty area looking for goals himself, including a vital goal in the 2-0 win against Falkirk earlier in the season.

As Rangers entered the home stretch of the season looking for the domestic double, their hopes would appear to rely just as much on the sterling performances of David Robertson and his ilk as they do on the creative play of some of the more celebrated players in the side. Should Paul Gascoigne end his first season in Scotland with a couple of winner's medals on his sideboard, it's a fair bet he'll acknowledge the contribution made by David Robertson.

MIKHAILICHENKO

Alexei Mikhailichenko was one of Rangers' first foreign imports, arriving in 1991-92 and becoming an instant hit with the fans who drooled over his skills. His introduction to the team, in a season when he made 27 appearances, was rewarded with 10 League goals and a title medal. More silverware followed with Alexei playing an important part in Rangers' success.

His progress slowed slightly in 1994-95 when he made only four starts and five substitute appearances in the League. And you don't have to look far for the reason – Brian Laudrup. The success and form of the Dane has given Walter Smith a difficult selection problem; within the current style of play Rangers employ they can't fit both Laudrup and Mikhailichenko in the side.

Alexei's route last season was similarly blocked; only seven full appearances up to and including the Old Firm clash in March, coupled with a few substitute appearances. Competition for places at Ibrox is so intense even getting on the bench can be something of a battle!

Alexei has had to content himself with appearances for the reserve side, but it says much for his attitude that the staff have praised him for going about his business without complaining, ready and willing should the call come from the first team.



ALEXEI MIKHAILICHENKO *Factfile*

Born:	30 March 1963
Birthplace:	Kiev, Ukraine
Height:	6' 2"
Weight:	13st 3lb

League Record (To start of 1995-96 season)

FROM-TO	CLUB	APPS	GOALS
1991-95	Rangers	99	22

RANGERS

Story Of A Season, 1995-96



The Ibrox success story continued as Rangers began another stage in their quest for a record-equalling ninth consecutive League title. Unfortunately, their attempt to top the European Champions League again failed before the final hurdle.

AUGUST

A lowly League position of third for Rangers as Kilmarnock restrict Rangers to a single goal at home.

26	Kilmarnock	(H)	1-0	McCall

P	W	D	L	F-A	Pos
1	1	—	—	1-0	3

SEPTEMBER

The end of September sees them restored to their rightful place atop the pile, though a 1-0 reverse at home to Hibernian spoils the clean sweep.

9	Raith Rovers	(H)	4-0	McCoist 2, Miller, Robertson
16	Falkirk	(A)	2-0	Salenko, Robertson
23	Hibernian	(H)	0-1	
30	Celtic	(A)	2-0	Cleland, Gascoigne

P	W	D	L	F-A	Pos
4	3	—	1	8-1	1

OCTOBER

Gordon Durie top-scores in October as Rangers find the net with awesome regularity, both at home and away.

3	Motherwell	(H)	2-1	Gascoigne, McCoist
7	Aberdeen	(A)	1-0	Moore
14	Partick Thistle	(A)	4-0	Gough, Durie 3
21	Hearts	(H)	4-1	Gascoigne, Salenko 2, Durie
28	Raith Rovers	(A)	2-2	Gough, Petric

P	W	D	L	F-A	Pos
5	4	1	—	13-4	1

NOVEMBER

Ally McCoist closes in on Bob McPhail's 57-year-old record with a brace against Falkirk and one apiece in the matches against Celtic and Hibs.

4	Falkirk	(H)	2-0	McCoist 2
8	Kilmarnock	(A)	2-0	McLaren, Salenko
11	Aberdeen	(H)	1-1	Salenko
19	Celtic	(H)	3-3	Laudrup, McCoist, McKinlay (og)
25	Hibernian	(A)	4-1	McCoist, Dodds (og), Miller, Durie

P	W	D	L	F-A	Pos
5	3	2	—	12-5	1

DECEMBER

An excellent finish to 1995 sees 13 goals scored in five games, and none conceded by the defence.

2	Hearts	(A)	2-0	McCoist (*pen*), Gascoigne
9	Partick Thistle	(H)	1-0	Durie
19	Motherwell	(A)	0-0	
26	Kilmarnock	(H)	3-0	Salenko, Durie, Gascoigne
30	Hibernian	(H)	7-0	Miller, Durie 4, Gascoigne, Salenko

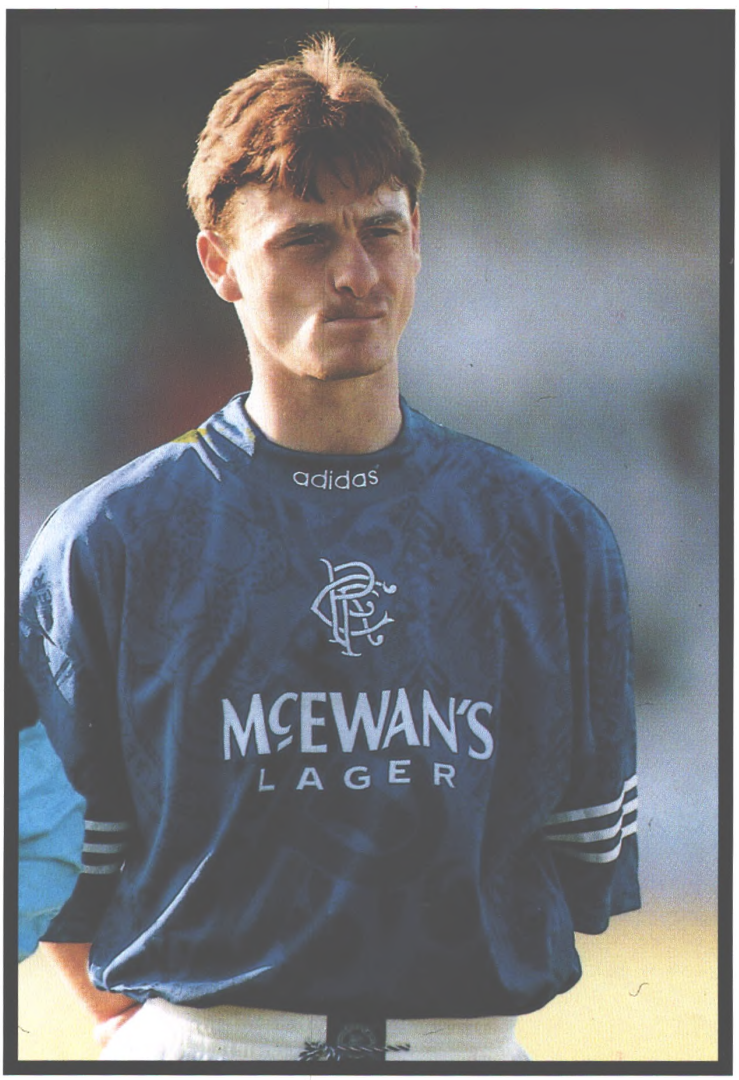
P	W	D	L	F-A	Pos
5	4	1	—	13-0	1

JANUARY

Rangers' Cup Final opponents Hearts shock the Ibrox faithful with a 3-0 victory in Glasgow but fail to knock them off the top.

3	Celtic	(A)	0-0	
6	Falkirk	(A)	4-0	Durie, McCoist 2 (*1 pen*), Robertson
13	Raith Rovers	(H)	4-0	McCoist, Durie 2, Ferguson
20	Hearts	(H)	0-3	

P	W	D	L	F-A	Pos
4	2	1	1	8-3	1







FEBRUARY

Gazza does it again, scoring three vital goals that bring in six points to keep Rangers at the top of the League.

3	Partick Thistle	(A)	2-1	Gascoigne 2
10	Motherwell	(H)	3-2	Ferguson, McLaren, McCoist (*pen*)
24	Aberdeen	(A)	1-0	Gascoigne (*pen*)

P	W	D	L	F-A	Pos
3	3	—	—	6-3	1

MARCH

A 1-1 Old Firm derby at Ibrox sees two points dropped as Celtic continue their unbeaten run and close in on Rangers.

3	Hibernian	(A)	2-0	Mitchell og, Laudrup (*pen*)
17	Celtic	(H)	1-1	Hughes
23	Falkirk	(H)	3-2	Gascoigne, Andersen 2
30	Raith Rovers	(A)	4-2	McCoist 3, Durie (*pen*)

P	W	D	L	F-A	Pos
4	3	1	—	10-5	1

APRIL

Hearts do the double over Rangers with their 2-0 victory, but Andersen returns the Ibrox side to winning ways with a hat-trick.

10	Hearts	(A)	0-2	
13	Partick Thistle	(H)	5-0	Andersen 3, McCall, Gough
20	Motherwell	(A)	3-1	McCall, Andersen, Gascoigne
27	Aberdeen	(H)	3-1	Gascoigne 3 (1 *pen*)

P	W	D	L	F-A	Pos
4	3	—	1	11-4	1

MAY

Yet another title for the Gers, and just one more for a share of the record. Roll on 1997!

4	Kilmarnock	(A)		

P	W	D	L	F-A	Pos
1	1	—	—	3-0	1

Tennents Scottish Cup

R3	Keith	(A)	10-1	Ferguson 3, Cleland 3, Durie (*pen*), Robertson, Miller, Mikhailichenko
R4	Clyde	(A)	4-1	Miller 2, Van Vossen, Gascoigne
R5	Caledonian	(A)	3-0	Thomson (og), Gascoigne 2
SF	Celtic		2-1	McCoist, Laudrup
F	Hearts		5-1	Laudrup 2, Durie 3

Scottish Coca-Cola Cup

R2	Stirling	(H)	3-2	Hateley, McCall, McCoist
R3	Celtic	(A)	0-1	McCoist
R4	Aberdeen	(H)	1-2	Salenko

MILLER

Competition for places at Ibrox has seldom been as fierce as it was last season. The arrival of Paul Gascoigne to the midfield has seen Stuart McCall and Charlie Miller in something of a struggle to hold down a regular place and for much of last season manager Walter Smith alternated between the two players.

Perhaps Charlie Miller is the more adaptable (although no doubt Stuart McCall would dispute this!), for in addition to his usual midfield duties Charlie has found himself covering for the likes of Ally McCoist when the striker has been injured.

Miller has proven to be a more than adequate replacement here too, having made the scoresheet last term both in the League and the Cup.

For Walter Smith, having the likes of Charlie Miller on standby is something of a bonus, for Miller has proved all season that he can rise to the occasion and cover just about any position he is asked to. One expects he'd take over in goal if the need arose!

CHARLIE MILLER *Factfile*

Born:	18 March 1976
Birthplace:	Glasgow
Height:	5' 9"
Weight:	10st 8lb

League Record (To start of 1995-96 season)

FROM-TO	CLUB	APPS	GOALS
1993-95	Rangers	24	3



"What I like about Charlie is his confidence. And the reason he has confidence is his footballing awareness. It's something that cannot be coached into young players. Miller is one of the lucky ones. He was born with it."

Tommy Craig, Scotland Under 21 coach

PETRIC

Gordan Petric's switch from Dundee United to Rangers was not entirely surprising; the football grapevine north of the border had been full of a possible transfer for some time, especially after Dundee United slipped out of the Premier League. Rangers were especially pleased to have landed the giant defender and he has turned out to be money extremely well spent and been almost ever present as Rangers combined the pursuit of domestic glory with a European challenge.

Gordan first shone in a World Cup youth tournament in Germany and then made his name with OFK Belgrade and Red Star Belgrade before a switch to Scottish football. Although the pace of the game in Scotland is somewhat different to what he's been used to, the easy-going defender has taken it all in his stride.

Indeed, Gordan was one of the few successes in what was a disastrous season for Dundee United in 1994-95 and signing for a team that is playing well (and winning!) has improved Gordan's game no end.

As to Gordan himself, more than a few strikers have named him as one of the most difficult opponents they've faced. His speed of thought and ability to read the game so well has prevented many a threat to Rangers at the back, and although he's rarely hit the net in Scottish football, his height at set pieces promises more goals in the years to come.

GORDAN PETRIC *Factfile*

Born:	30 July 1969
Birthplace:	Belgrade
Height:	6' 2"
Weight:	13st 9lb

League Record (To start of 1995-96 season)

FROM-TO	CLUB	APPS	GOALS
1993-95	Dundee United	60	3



McCALL

South of the border, Stuart McCall is chiefly remembered for becoming, along with Ian Rush, the first substitute to score twice in an FA Cup Final when Liverpool beat Everton 3-2 after extra time in 1989. North of the border, they will tell you that McCall epitomises Rangers' motto of 'ready'.

Transferred to Rangers in August 1991 from Everton after beginning his career with Bradford City, Stuart is an all-purpose midfielder and his performances last season alongside Paul Gascoigne saw him providing much-needed steel in the middle of the field and setting up his team-mates for the attack.

And while he was not always a regular in the Rangers line-up, Stuart responded well to being in and out of the side. Rangers have frequently looked a more effective outfit with him in the side, as was shown by the victory over Celtic in the Scottish Cup semi-final; the more the Parkhead men pressed in search of an equaliser, the harder McCall worked in stopping them.

If his two goals in the 1989 FA Cup Final represented the pinnacle of his career in England, glory still awaits him north of the border. First capped for Scotland while with Everton, he had collected 30 caps by the beginning of the 1995-96 season. If he has been in and out of the side at Ibrox, then the same cannot be said on the international front. A regular choice of Scotland boss Craig Brown, he effectively switches from being a foil for Gascoigne with Rangers to providing Gary McAllister with the same support in darker blue. His all-action, non-stop effort will be something they would rely on heavily during the European Championships.

If there is one aspect of his game that could do with attention then it is probably his goalscoring, though his team-mates appreciate he's set up far more and prevented a few from the opposition.



STUART McCALL *Factfile*

Born: 10 June 1964
Birthplace: Leeds
Height: 5' 6"
Weight: 10st 1lb

League Record (To start of 1995-96 season)

FROM-TO	CLUB	APPS	GOALS
1982-88	Bradford City	238	37
1988-91	Everton	103	6
1991-95	Rangers	136	11
Total		477	54


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LAGER

GOUGH

It's surely little more than coincidence that Rangers' recent domination of the Scottish game should pretty much have begun with Richard Gough's transfer to the Ibrox giants, for in each of his full seasons with the club they've ended with the Scottish League Championship in their boardroom.

Although born in Stockholm in 1962, Richard Gough is as Scottish as they come. He signed with Dundee United as a youngster, quickly establishing himself as a regular member of the defence, and his introduction saw the club emerge, alongside Aberdeen, as chief rivals to Celtic and Rangers. The media billed it as the New Firm against the Old Firm, with United winning the Championship in 1982-83 and appearing in numerous League and FA Cup Finals.

Gough's performance for his club earned him praise on a wider scale, with selection for the full Scottish side coming in 1983 and he established himself as a permanent fixture as a full-back. By 1986 he was being chased by a host of clubs, led by Rangers in Scotland and the London pair of Spurs and Chelsea. Gough eventually settled on a move to Spurs. Manager David Pleat had missed out on his original target, Terry Butcher preferring Rangers to Spurs when he moved from Ipswich, and hoped to convert Richard to a more central position in the back four.

Gough made an immediate impact at Spurs, forming a fine understanding with Gary Mabbutt, becoming club captain in January 1987 and helping the club to the FA Cup Final and Littlewoods Cup semi-finals in his first season. While that campaign ended trophy-less, Gough's outstanding contribution (he appeared in 40 of the 42 League games) gave hope to Spurs fans that he would be back to lead the club to further glories.

After a bright start to the 1987-88 season (6 wins and 2 draws out of the first 10 games) Richard dropped a bombshell; he was homesick for Scotland and his family had been unable to settle south of the border. Spurs reluctantly transferred him to Rangers, and if the sum



RICHARD GOUGH *Factfile*

Born: 5 April 1962
Birthplace: Stockholm
Height: 6' 0"
Weight: 12st

League Record (To start of 1995-96 season)

FROM-TO	CLUB	APPS	GOALS
1980-86	Dundee United	165	23
1986-87	Tottenham Hotspur	49	2
1987-95	Rangers	238	17
Total		452	42



received was some compensation (£1.5 million, a profit of £800,000 in a little over a year) then the fact that Spurs have yet to find a player as commanding in the penalty area is not.

Spurs' loss has undoubtedly been Rangers' gain, for the Ibrox club have collected the Scottish League in each of Gough's full seasons back in Scotland, as well as winning two Scottish FA Cups and five League Cups since he walked into the side. The player has collected 61 caps since making his debut for Scotland in 1983, a figure that should have been greater (perhaps even challenging Kenny Dalglish's tally of 102) but for a highly publicised fall-out with then Scottish manager Andy Roxburgh.

In the meantime Gough goes about his 'work' in much the same way; effective at breaking up opposing attacks, instrumental in setting up his own side on the break and a more than useful addition in the opposition penalty area in finishing off a move.

As well as proving himself an exceptional defender, he weighs in with more than his fair share of goals.

LAUDRUP

Few of the foreign players currently plying their trade in Scotland can have had quite the same impact as Brian Laudrup at Rangers – revered by the legions of Rangers supporters and admired by his team-mates.

The fans weren't the only ones to appreciate his play either, for Brian was the Scottish Football Writers' Association Player of the Year at the end of his debut season in Scotland. Brian made 33 appearances in his first term – but more importantly finished the season second top goalscorer behind Mark Hateley. And that underlines his contribution to the team; as a winger he would obviously be expected to set chances for the likes of Hateley and Ally McCoist, but by weighing in with more than his fair share of strikes, Rangers have become a dangerous proposition across the entire front line. Laudrup's role as a goal taker rather than a goal maker in his first season was largely the result of McCoist's absence for much of the campaign, but Rangers still ended the season as Champions.

An extremely difficult player to dispossess, he is a return to the golden age of football, when wingers hugged the touchline, hit the by-line and sent a succession of crosses into the danger area. The return to full fitness of McCoist has seen Laudrup return to a more orthodox role within the side, but he is perhaps at his most effective when running at full tilt against opposing defences.

BRIAN LAUDRUP *Factfile*

Born:	22 February 1969
Birthplace:	Vienna
Height:	6' 0"
Weight:	13st 2lb

League Record (To start of 1995-96 season)

FROM-TO	CLUB	APPS	GOALS
1994-95	Rangers	33	10



"Even in training, we can't get the ball off him! The only way is a rugby tackle. He's a gentleman. He has no right being at Rangers!"

Andy Goram


McEWANS
LAGER

McLAREN

With Rangers preferring to operate something of a three man defence, hopefully protected by a strong midfield, it needs agility and speed to be a part of that back line should anything go wrong!

Rangers were more than usefully served last term by Alan McLaren, who was almost ever-present.

As with their great rivals Celtic, much of the media interest in Rangers this term has centred on the midfield, with the arrival of Paul Gascoigne obviously a major factor in the club's success. At the same time, the defence performed superbly well.

Using the tight defence as a springboard for attack, Rangers then outscored everyone in their Division. Alan McLaren has weighed in with his share of these, confirming his importance to the team that looks likely to land the domestic double.

McLaren has been one of the outstanding defenders in the Scottish game since first shining for Heart of Midlothian, and his switch to Ibrox midway through 1994-95 only confirmed his status.



ALAN McLAREN *Factfile*

Born:	4 January 1971
Birthplace:	Edinburgh
Height:	5' 11"
Weight:	11st 6lb

League Record (To start of 1995-96 season)

FROM-TO	CLUB	APPS	GOALS
1987-94	Hearts	182	6
1994-95	Rangers	24	2
Total		206	8

Did You Know?

Alan McLaren made his debut for the full national side in the 1-0 victory against the USA in 1992.

At the start of last season he had 21 caps to his name and his consistent performances for Rangers seemed certain to ensure his place in Scotland's squad for the summer's European Championships.

It must also be said that almost every team that plays against Rangers treats it like a Cup Final and tension is always a factor in matches involving the men from Ibrox. Paul Gascoigne's run-ins with the match officials is well documented, but it is to Alan McLaren's credit that he picked up few bookings last season. Such a level head has been a bonus for Rangers.



ANSWERS

HOW DID YOU RATE?

1 Mark Walters
2 Jock Wallace
3 Gary McAllister
4 Trevor Steven and Gary Stevens
5 Danish
6 Cyprus
7 John Greig
8 Davie Cooper
9 Cricket
10 Celtic

11 Lazio
12 Leeds United
13 European Cup
14 Basile Boli
15 Duncan Ferguson
16 Mark Hateley
17 Graeme Souness
18 Austria
19 Gordon Durie
20 Terry Butcher

