RANGERS NEWS

The Official Newspaper of Rangers F.C.
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IBROX BOSS WILL BE READY . . . FOR THE RIGHT PLAYERS

UNTIL he signed Jim Stewart from Middlesbrough last week, hardly a day went past without some paper or other speculating about players that Rangers manager John Greig was showing interest in.

Criticism had also been made of the Club and the manager on one point — and it certainly wasn't merited.

The Press stated he should buy players. That's fair enough because, after all, the Light Blue boss has been trying to strengthen his squad for some time. What was annoying was that several reporters were stating it was time the Rangers board of directors should make money available in order that Greig could buy players.

THE MONEY IS ALREADY THERE!

"I have proved I am not afraid to buy players," points out John Greig.

"Ian Redford, Jim Bett, Colin McAdam and Jim Stewart were bought for over £650,000. That shows we are prepared to spend money. But a number of players whom I have enquired about aren't available. The fans, though, can still expect to see some new faces in the team before next season."

That means the Club must play out this term with the players already at Ibrox and, although they got back on the rails with a 2-0 win over Kilmarnock on Saturday, the players know they still have a hard task in front of them if they are to continue to gain important league points and, most important of all, win the Scottish Cup.

PORTUGUESE TRIP IS NO HOLIDAY

"We'll be working on our problems" — Greig

TODAY Rangers clash with Praia Estoril in Portugal and there will be no shortage of those who cast envious glances towards the Ibrox men's sunshine trip. But, if you think the Light Blue are lying around Estoril sunning themselves, the message from John Greig is simple . . . FORGET IT!

"This is no holiday," says the Rangers manager, "we're out here to work, to build up morale and to get the team spirit right for the last few weeks of the season.

"We've really paid the penalty for not qualifying for this season's European competitions and, by that, I don't mean the glamour aspect of playing against all the big names.

"For years, Europe has given us the chance to get away for a few days, eating, sleeping and working together as a team. This season, though, we've not had those opportunities and I believe our morale has suffered as a result."

His belief that his team are currently struggling due to the lack of European competition makes Greig doubly determined that Rangers will not miss out on the continental scene next season and he sees the Scottish Cup as an insurance policy against that.

"WE'VE GOT TO WIN THE CUP," he declares, "this little break should get us properly keyed up and help us towards that goal.

"The players know what they have to do and we'll spend these few days working on the things which have been causing us problems recently."

The forceful manner in which Greig made those points indicates that the players will see more of the training ground than the beach this week and, hopefully, the Light Blues will return to Scotland ready for the fray which will see them tackle their remaining fixtures with the confidence and determination necessary to bring success back to the Club.

The 15 players currently in Portugal are: Stewart, Miller, Jardine, T. Forsyth, Jackson, D. Johnstone, Bett, Russell, Redford, McLean, Cooper, McAdam, MacDonald, Mackay and W. Johnston.



● Colin McAdam fires in a fierce left foot shot in the second half of Saturday's match against Kilmarnock at Ibrox as Cockburn and Clark do their best to stop the attempt. More pictures and match slant on the 2-0 win on centre pages.

Still Saints tickets left

THERE are still some ground tickets available for Saturday's match against St. Mirren at Love Street. They are priced £1.50 and can be had from the Ibrox ticket office which is open from 9.30 a.m. to 3.30 p.m. Monday to Friday.



● Action at the other end, as Colin Jackson heads the ball out for a corner with Bourke and Bett close by.

THE SKILFUL BLEND



BELL'S

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IS CHARLIE THE OLDEST 'WINGER' IN TOWN?



● There she blows . . . Charlie Watkins celebrates his birthday with his team-mates as they open a bottle of champagne to celebrate the occasion.

THE PRESSURES of modern day football are such that many people feel players are past it when they get to 30.

One man more than disproves that theory . . . and he's double that age!

He is CHARLIE WATKINS, who celebrated his 60th birthday just two months ago, and the former Rangers man is in such good trim these days that he is still playing football almost every weekend in a Roundtable side which plays matches for charity in the Luton area.

Charlie was one of the Ibrox men who played against Moscow Dynamo in that legendary meeting between the two clubs in Glasgow in 1945 and he wore the number four shirt for the Light Blues' in their 2-2 draw against the Russian aces.

Charlie played for Luton Town after he left Rangers and he now lives there and runs a newsagent's shop in Streatley Road.

He plays for the Luton Roundtable team every Sunday and, in fact, on the day he celebrated his 60th birthday in January he scored one of the goals in a 3-3 draw against a select side which included the present Luton boss DAVID PLEAT and the club's coach JOHN MOORE.

Sounds like a case of the oldest "wing-half" in town!

"It was one of the best days of my life, "recalls Charlie," and scoring the goal was the icing on the cake I didn't get!"

It's nice to hear of ex-Rangers players doing well, but there's absolutely no truth that Rangers boss John Greig has had his scouts watching Charlie in action with a view towards the old player returning to the Stadium!

Rangers youngster GORDON MARSHALL was the Ibrox representative in the Scottish International Youth team's victory in the British Caledonian Challenge Cup match at Brighton last week.

Gordon was the substitute goalkeeper and he watched his team-mates clinch the Cup in a penalty play-off against Brighton after a 2-2 draw. The Scots won 4-3 and Gordon received a watch for being in the pool.

It seems as though the handing in of wallets to the Stadium is becoming quite a regular occurance these days. Derek Johnstone's was handed in by a kind gentleman a fortnight ago and only last week another one found it's way into Ibrox.

The wallet belongs to a WILLIAM LESLIE STEWART, and the only form of address inside is a membership card for the Coventry Loyal RSC.

If anyone should know Mr Stewart, would they please tell him to drop a line or phone Ibrox Stadium to identify and collect his wallet.

Rangers 'provisional' signing STEVEN EVANS was in action for the Scottish Schools Under-18 team who registered a fine 2-1 win over their English counterparts at Love Street on Saturday

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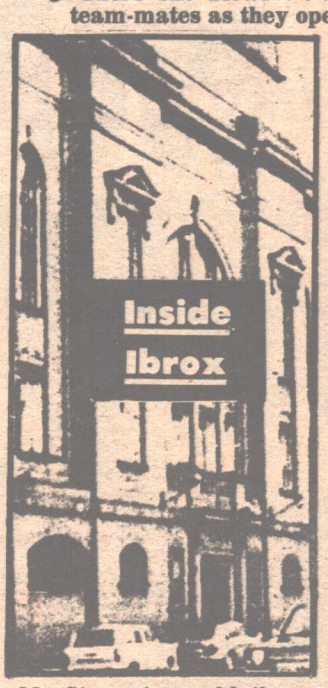
Defender GREGOR STEVENS has been disciplined by the Club for his ordering off against Dundee United last midweek. He automatically missed Saturday's match against Kilmarnock and faces another five game ban starting next weekend.





● Charlie in action . . . and still looking good.

Pics by courtesy of Watford Post-Echo.

Morton and Saints eye up Rangers

A FORTNIGHT AGO Rangers were on a Cup 'spying' mission when they had representatives at Cappielow to see the Morton v Clydebank match, but last week the Light Blues' Cup opponents had Rangers watched!

Morton boss Benny Rooney and Assistant Manager Mike Jackson saw the Club go down 4-1 to Dundee United last midweek and another interested spectator was St Mirren's assistant manager Eric Sorensen. Saints meet Rangers at Love Street on Saturday and, hopefully, the threesome will find the Ibrox men in better form when their teams come up against them.

John Greig, was on Cup business last week too. He went to Kilbowie last Monday to see Morton hit top form in a 6-0 win over the Bankies in the quarter-final Cup replay.

International boss Jock Stein took in the Dundee United — Rangers match last midweek too.

RANGERS NEWS

The official Newspaper of Rangers F.C.

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POOL SIX: 330 possibles, 11 goals, approx 250 winners each receive approx £8.

Winning Combinations: 22 with any four from 01, 03, 09, 10, 15, 20, 28, 29, 34, 42, 43.

● Agent's Golden Bonus was not won and now stands at £2,000.

Following is the check for Saturday's results. Game
01—2-0; 02—1-0; 03—2-0; 04—0-0; 05—0-0; 06—1-3; 07—3-1; 08—1-1; 09—2-0; 10—3-0; 11—3-1; 12—3-1; 13—1-2; 14—1-2; 15—2-0; 16—0-0; 17—0-0; 18—0-1; 19—3-1; 20—2-0; 21—1-2; 22—3-0; 23—1-0; 24—3-2; 25—3-2; 26—0-3; 27—0-3; 28—2-0; 29—2-0; 30—0-0; 31—3-1; 32—1-1; 33—1-1; 34—2-0; 35—1-1; 36—1-4; 37—1-4; 38—0-0; 39—1-0; 40—1-1; 41—1-1; 42—2-0; 43—2-0.

Following is official list of teams for Saturday, March 28:

01 Peterborough, 02 Rochdale, 03 Kilmarnock, 04 Partick Th., 05 Grimsby, 06 Luton, 07 Portsmouth, 08 Reading, 09 York, 10 St. Mirren.

11 Ayr, 12 Newcastle, 13 Oldham, 14 Rotherham, 15 Sheffield Un., 16 Bournemouth, 17 Dundee, 18 Dunfermline A., 19 Orient, 20 Wrexham.

21 Swindon, 22 Walsall, 23 Bradford C., 24 Hamilton, 25 Raith Rov., 26 Bolton, 27 Bristol Rov., 28 Barnsley, 29 Blackpool, 30 Hartlepool.

31 St Johstone, 32 Stirling A., 33 Cardiff, 34 Brentford, 35 Fulham, 36 Hereford, 37 Northampton, 38 Albion Rov., 39 Celtic, 40 Derby.

41 Huddersfield, 42 Hull, 43 Hearts.

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FOOTBALL WORLDWIDE

GERMANS GET ALL SET FOR LEAGUE CHANGES

In the past year or so, many critics have claimed the gap in quality between Premier League and First Division clubs in Scotland has widened to such an extent it could eventually be seriously damaging to the future of the game in this country.

As if to substantiate their claims, you have only to look as far as the 'yo-yo' mannerisms of both Hearts and Kilmarnock in recent seasons.

Another country with much the same problem is West Germany, for so long the nation with the top technically minded clubs.

They are taking steps to cure this, however, by reconstructing two of their lower leagues.

Next season, the top 18 in the Bundesliga will be unchanged, but, instead of a North and South Division comprising of 42 clubs, it will be drastically reduced to a total of just 20. They will play in an entirely new National League.

The German Football Association have stated the other 22 excluded clubs will have to do with top class amateur football as a result!

It would seem, however, the Association is about three years late in implementing this new system as crowds have been dropping away from Stadiums all over the country at an alarming rate.

The hooligan element is also stepping in, and this problem of violence on the terracings and around the grounds has caused the German Football Association migraines over the past year.

On their way to a recent away game in Aachan, Hertha Berlin supporters decided to set fire to a train for no apparant reason other than to herald their arrival! Water-cannons had to be called in to disperse feuding Frankfurt and Hamburg fans in another confrontation.

Although the two problems stated above have resulted in a huge loss of revenue to German clubs, they are still kept alive by the injection of advertising sponsorship into their bank balances.

Big business concerns such as 'BP' and 'Datsun' have their names emblazoned across the fronts of the jerseys of Hamburg and Borussia respectively.

Such has been the attractiveness of the game, that numerous wealthy entrepeneurs have also invested money into a dying club, thus saving them from extinction more through an emotional tie with the club rather than seeing it as a 'good risk'.

This sort of sponsorship has it's pitfalls, however, as the manager of Nuremberg found out a few weeks ago. The capital financier of the club, a carpet trader, had the Nuremberg coach fired, and he became the fifth Bungesliga manager to be sacked this season.

The German F.A. are worried about this, too, making the point that financiers see football clubs as a tax loophole and if this sort of saturation continues, then clubs will lose complete control of their own destinies.

Another country who are in the process of trying to change their present league set-up is Austria. They have been playing a Top Ten Super League, much the same as our own Premier League.

The Austrian F.A. would like to revert back to the former 16 team division, but the present Austrian champs, F.K. Austria are totally opposed to this. Developments are awaited.

LAST WEEK IN EUROPE . . .

European Cup, Quarter-finals
Second leg

CSKA Sofia (Bulgaria) 0, Liverpool 1. Aggregate 1-6.

Banik Ostrava (Czechoslovakia) 2, Bayern Munich (West Germany) 4. Aggregate 2-6.

Red Star Belgrade (Yugioslavia) 0, Inter-Milan (Italy) 1. Aggregate 1-2.

Real Madrid 2, Spartak Moscow 0 (Agg. 2-0).

Cup-winners' Cup, Quarter-finals, Second leg

Newport 0, Carl Zeiss Jena (East Germany) 1. Aggregate 2-3.

Dinamo Tbilisi (Soviet Union) 0, West Ham 1. Aggregate 4-2.

Feyenoord (Netherlands) 4, Slavia Sofia (Bulgaria) 0. Aggregate 6-2.

Benfica (Portugal) 1, Fortuna Duesseldorf (West Germany) 0. Aggregate 3-2.

U.E.F.A. Cup, Quarter-finals, Second leg

Ipswich 3, St. Etienne (France) 1. Aggregate 7-2.

Lockeren (Belgium) 1, Az'67 (Netherlands) 0. Aggregate 1-2.

Cologne (West Germany) 3, Standard Liege (Belgium) 2. Aggregate 3-2.

Suchaux (France) 2, Grasshoppers Zurich (Switzerland) 1. Aggregate 2-1.

AND THE WEEKEND . . .

LUXEMBOURG: Alliance Dudelange 0, Jeuness D,Esch 1; Spora Luxumbourg 1; Beggen 2; Ettelbruck 0, Red Boys 4; Grevenmacher 2, Union Luxembourg 6; Preogres Niedercorn 4, Eischen 2; Aris Bonnevoie 1, Stade Dudelange 0.

PORTUGAL: Viseu 1, Benfica 1; Porto 3, Portimonese 0; Coimbra 1, Amora 1; Sporting 1, Boavista 1; Setubal 0, Penafiel 0; Funchal 1, Braga 0; Belenenses 1, Espinho 0; Guimaraes 0, Varzim 0.

SPAIN: Atletico de Madrid 1, Salamanca 1; Barcelona 0, Zaragoza 0; Hercules 1, Real Madrid 2; Betis 2, Valladolid 2; Real Sociedad 3, Almeria 1; Las Palmas 1, Bilbao 3; Osasuna 2, Sevilla 1; Valencia 3, Murcia 2; Gijon 0, Espanol 1. Atletico de Madrid is leading the standings with 40 points followed by Barcelona and Real Sociedad with 36 each.

'News' around the World

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Those 'crazy' UEFA competition results mean

GOALS GALORE FOR EUROPEAN FANS

IT'S NOW fifteen years since Europe's football bosses decreed that, in an effort to stamp out dull negative play by away sides, goals scored on opponents' grounds in European competitions would double in value should the tie end all square.

We waited to see a rapid rethink of the tactics of visiting sides, but it was a case of 'as you were', the backs to the wall approach continuing with no sign of any reappraisal in strategy.

However, are we now seeing away sides adopt a more adventurous approach to ties?

Just look at some of the results in this season's competitions.

Barcelona 0, Cologne 4; Hamburg 0, St. Etienne 5; West Ham 1, Dynamo Tiblisi 4; St. Etienne 1, Ipswich 4.

There was certainly no sign of any dull play from the visitors in those games so we put it to Rangers manager John Greig, who has, of course, massive experience of Europe both as a player and a manager, that away sides are throwing caution to the wind in the bid to get the ever-so-valuable away goals.

"It's true that the away goals rule has changed the approach to the games," says Greig, "although the games you've quoted would appear to be really exceptional cases.

"Nobody would have predicted results like that and I think those are just cases of certain teams having a bad night while their opponents have gone 'daft.'

"But the fact that teams are scoring so many goals away from home indicates that they're adopting a more positive approach to the ties."

Greig is quick to point out that Rangers have always tried to get on to the scoresheet in away ties and he mentions the Club's European Cup-Winners' Cup triumph of season 1971-72 as evidence of that.

"We scored in every one of our away games in that campaign," he says, "and that was perhaps the strong point of that side.

"We were able to withstand a lot of pressure then hit hard on the break, getting the valuable 'double' goals.

"But at home we were careful not to give much away. Sporting Lisbon were the only team to score against us at Ibrox and that gave us the double edge of scoring away and losing very little at home."



● JOHN GREIG

One could write about that European triumph for page upon page but, on the subject of this season's Euro results, Greig was quick to praise Ipswich Town after their dismissal of French cracks St. Etienne.

"I saw Ipswich play Manchester City earlier in the season," says the Ibrox boss, "and I was very impressed by the way they played when going forward.

"However, they didn't look so comfortable when they were on the defensive, so the most likely explanation of their result in France is that they played to their strengths and caught St. Etienne unawares.

"And if results like that can encourage other teams to be more adventurous away from home then the game as a whole will benefit.

"If Continental sides are likely to come to this country and play attacking football it will certainly attract more spectators through the turnstiles but it is expecting a bit much to look for teams adopting all-out attack in away games."

But Greig knows that, with goals becoming more scarce all the time, if you get the chance of "doubling your money" in away games, you grab it with both hands.

To look at the extreme aspect of the away goals rule, is there not a case for teams playing all-out attacking football in away games while putting up the shutters on their own ground? After all, every goal conceded at home is doubly costly.

But, somehow it seems unlikely that we'll see the likes of Inter Milan come to Ibrox and spend the entire match trying to break down a Light Blue "wall" . . .

Fachetti says 'no' to his old boss



● FACHETTI . . . 'no to Herrera

Helenio Herrera is looking for a successor! At present, the man who led Inter Milan to a couple of European Cup wins during the '60's, is the boss of Spanish club, Barcelona, currently beset by a host of internal and league problems.

He has decided it is just about time for him to file away his tactics books and the man he would like to fill his seat is none other than that famous player who served under him at Inter, Giacinto Facchetti.

Facchetti has already turned down the offer, but Herrera has never taken no for an answer in his life. It will be interesting to see what transpires in the future . . .

Injury worry for 'King' Cruyff.

Johann Cruyff was rushed to hospital last weekend nursing a suspected broken leg, which would almost certainly have put an end to the career of this legendary 33-year-old Dutchman.

Thankfully there was no serious damage done, and he will be ready to play for his country in tonight's World Cup game against France.

Cruyff's new side is Spanish Second Division club, Levante and, seemingly, when news of his transfer broke, all hell was let loose as Levante publicly admitted they had debts totalling some £525,000.

The Spanish authorities also threatened to block the deal unless the club cleared an unpaid wages bill of £57,000. How they did only Leavante know, but they certainly got their man!

Johann, though, was absent from Levante's weekend fixture against Alaves Vitoria. He wasn't injured — his wife was ill and he stayed with her and withdrew from the Second Division club's league match.



● JOHANN CRUYFF

THE EUROPEAN DRAWS . . .

THE DRAW for the European tournament semi-finals was made last Friday. It is: EUROPEAN CUP: Liverpool v Bayern Munich, Real Madrid v Inter Milan. EUROPEAN CUP WINNERS' CUP: Dynamo Tblisi v Feyenoord, Carl Zeiss Jena v Benfica, UEFA CUP: Ipswich Town v Cologne, Socheaux v A.Z. 67. Matches on April 8 and 24.

'I'LL FIGHT BACK FOR MY PLACE'

— says Peter McCloy

THE ADDITION of goalkeeper Jim Stewart to Rangers first team pool caused Peter McCloy to miss his first match of the season when the Light Blues met Dundee United at Ibrox last midweek and it would appear that there are many in the game who are in a hurry to write off the big man from Girvan.

"A wee bit of competition never did anyone any harm," says the big goalkeeper, "and I'll just keep plugging away, fighting for my place."

Of course, big Peter is no stranger to competition for the yellow jersey. Since joining Rangers, he has fought off the challenges of Gerry Neef, Bobby Watson, Stewart Kennedy, Donald Hunter and George Young and new boy Jim Stewart will find the man from Girvan less than willing to part with his place without a fight.

"Football is all about competition", continues Peter "and there's nothing better for keeping you on your toes than the knowledge that someone else wants your job.

"I'll be working twice as hard to prove that I'm the man for the position and I'm sure Jim Stewart will also be getting right down to work to earn his place.

"THE ONLY SURE THING IS THAT THE CLUB WILL BE THE WINNER IN THE END."

Peter played for the Ibrox second string in the Second Eleven Cup tie at Rugby Park last Wednesday and played a valuable role in Rangers 1-0 win.

But reserve team football is certainly not to big Peter's liking. When asked about the game Peter, tongue in cheek, retorted: "It proved that I'm too good for reserve team football."

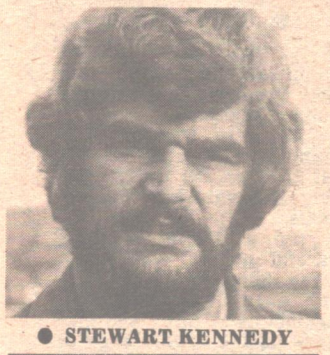
A fair point, perhaps, but football is a funny game and they do say that possession is nine-tenths of the law so big Peter has a fight on his hands.

It would be unwise to rule out a return to the top squad by big Peter because, after all, with more than 500 games under his belt, the former Motherwell man has been over the course before.

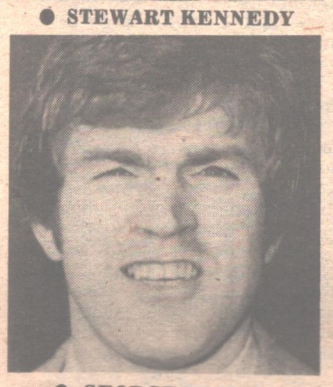
Some of his previous challengers



● DONALD HUNTER



● STEWART KENNEDY



● GEORGE YOUNG



● Happy Families . . . that's the McCloys, seen here at home with new arrival Justine. Dad, Peter, holds sons Peter Junior and Steven while mum Ann proudly shows off baby Justine.

It's a hat-trick for big Peter . . .

WITH JIM STEWART pushing for a regular place between the posts, Peter McCloy has certainly had plenty to think about of late and that also applies to the big 'keeper's family life.

On February 15th little Justine McCloy popped her head into this world at the Davidson Hospital in Girvan and to say that Peter and his wife Ann are delighted with their 8lb. 8oz. bundle of mischief is the understatement of the century.

With two sons, Peter, aged seven and Steven, aged five, the McCloys were hoping for a wee girl, so Justine's arrival was just what the doctor ordered.

But there was a slight flap just before her arrival.

"I had to take my wife to hospital at two o'clock on the Saturday morning," says big Peter," so that could hardly be described as the perfect build-up for a match.

"We played St. Johnstone that afternoon and it certainly wasn't my best game for Rangers, so I was more than pleased to see Ian Redford get that late equaliser.

"As it happened, Justine wasn't born until the Sunday but you could say that she caused a few scares on the Saturday."



● Time for bed . . . Peter puts young Justine in her cot for the night as the rest of the family look on.



● Peter McCloy's held a few shots in his time and there is little doubt who the 'big shot' is in this photo.



● Rangers new goalkeeper Jim Stewart poses for the "News" after his first training session with his new team-mates.

●●●Every time one lifts a newspaper and turns to the sports pages, the game's scribes are forever proclaiming that football in Scotland is so far inferior that that south of the border.

So we cornered new signing Jim Stewart who has, of course, sampled top league football in both Scotland and England and the Ibrox goalkeeper was quick to knock the opinions of the prophets of doom.

"Too many people look at the likes of Liverpool and compare them with teams in this country," says Jim, "but, if you use Liverpool as a yardstick, just about everybody is going to look inferior.

"There are a lot of poor teams in England, but they are not the ones who command all the attention.

"It's easy to say that the English game is better because they draw bigger crowds and are forever on television.

"But I have no doubt that Rangers, Celtic, Aberdeen, and Dundee United could hold their own down South."



● Stewart dumps Rangers . . . Jim Stewart saves from the onrushing Derek Johnstone in Kilmarnock's 1-0 victory over the Light Blues at Rugby Park in 1977.

THIRD TIME LUCKY



● Rangers dump Stewart . . . A Cutty Young shot eludes the diving Killie 'keeper, one of six Rangers' efforts to do so in a 'Gers goal spree in 1974.

THE old third time lucky adage was certainly proved to be more than applicable when Rangers signed Jim Stewart from Middlesbrough ten days ago because when the former Kilmarnock 'keeper put pen to paper for the Light Blues it was the third time his name had been linked with the Club.

After two 'false alarms' Jim comes home to Rangers

"I could have joined Rangers when I was still at school," says Jim, "but I decided against it because I was afraid of being lost among the countless number of young players who go to Ibrox.

"So I joined Kilmarnock and established myself with them before deciding to turn full time and there was a lot of talk of Rangers making a move for me.

"Unfortunately it was only talk and I moved to Middlesbrough, but I lost my place in the first team and, to be perfectly honest, I didn't know what direction my career was going in."

But Jim hadn't reckoned on the intervention of Rangers boss John Greig, who swooped for the twice-capped 'keeper just before the transfer deadline.

"I was sitting at home when Middlesbrough manager John Neal phoned me and when he said that Rangers were interested my first reaction was to say 'you're joking," recalls Jim.

"But he obviously wasn't and I was only too glad to sign for Rangers."

So, after two false alarms, Jim was an Ibrox player and he went straight into John Greig's team for last week's rearranged fixture against Dundee United.

But the fairytale didn't have the 'they all lived happy ever after' ending.

Dundee United overwhelmed Rangers with some excellent football but, despite being beaten on four occasions, Jim certainly justified the faith manager Greig had placed on him, making several fine saves.

"It could hardly be classed as a memorable debut," concedes Jim, "but it's not so easy to join a new club, play alongside new players and strike up an immediate understanding.

"That'll take a few weeks to get together but, when it happens, I'm very confident we've got what it takes to be a major force again."

Jim definitely did enough to indicate that he will be a valuable asset to the Club in the seasons ahead and he is looking forward to the future with no lack of relish.

"This is a completely new start for me," he says, "and I intend to make the most of it.

"The fans were great towards me last week and I'd like nothing better than to pay them back by producing the goods on the field."



● Me and my car . . . Jim rests on his smart Opel Ascona at Ibrox last week.

TWO OF THE BEST . . . A C



● The final moment in a great goal as Bobby Russell superbly chips the ball over the goalkeeper as Cockburn races in. This was the Light Blues' second goal just two minutes from time.



● Colin McAdam shows what he thinks about goal.



● Bobby Russell fires in a second half shot, but there was no power behind the effort and McCulloch saved easily.



● Alex Miller wins this duel for the ball with McBride.



● Bobby Russell prepares to move in on goal in the first half.



● Ian Redford's shot is blocked by McDicken in the 15th minute.

NFIDENCE BOOSTER

RANGERS ended what had been a difficult week for the Club by beating Kilmarnock 2-0 on Saturday and that victory, added to the current trip to Portugal, should suitably lift the players' morale for the important remaining weeks of the season.

There were many good things to come of the week-end's encounter, with Jim Stewart giving a faultless display between the posts and Tom Forsyth adding his "iron man" touch to the much maligned defence.

But it was in midfield that the Light Blues won the game, Ian Redford and Bobby Russell playing most significent roles in every Rangers attack and it was fitting that they got their names on the scoresheet with goals which had "quality" stamped all over them.

Redford was first to strike when he took a Colin McAdam back-heeler and shrugged off two challenges before beautifully slotting the ball past McCulloch from 16 yards some ten minutes before the interval.

It was not until the 88th minute that Bobby Russell secured both points when he took a magnificent pass from substitute Tommy McLean but found it "holding up" in the mud. However, Bobby casually checked and cut inside before bending a superbly measured chip shot past the diving McCulloch into the net.

And praise, too, must be showered upon Tommy McLean who, in his first top team appearance for six weeks, showed all the skills for which is renowned and indicated that, although in the twilight of his career, he can still do a job for Rangers when called upon to do so.

Many will point to Kilmarnock's rock bottom position in the league table and ask questions about the relative closeness of the winning margin but only some fine goalkeeping from McCulloch and stout defensive work by his team-mates thwarted Rangers from coasting home with several goals to spare.

Kilmarnock's best effort came in the 86th minut when Mauchlen crashed a great shot off the junction of Jim Stewart's left hand post and the crossbar. BUT, IF THE VISITORS HAD SNATCHED AN EQUALISER AT THAT POINT, IT WOULD HAVE BEEN NOTHING SHORT OF GRAND THEFT!



● Colin Jackson superbly outjumps McDicken to reach this Johnston corner, but McCulloch palmed the Ranger's header round the post.

FACT-FILE

SATURDAY, MARCH 21.
Premier League.
RANGERS 2, KILMARNOCK 0
Scorers: Redford (34 mins.), Russell (88).
RANGERS: Stewart, Miller, Dawson, T. Forsyth, Jackson, Bett, W. Johnston, Russell, McAdam, Redford, Cooper. Subs. — McLean (for W. Johnston), MacDonald (not used).
KILMARNOCK: McCulloch, Robin, Cockburn, Clark, Armstrong, McDicken, McBride, McLean, Bourke, Mauchlen, Doherty. Subs. — Bryce (for Clark), Hughes for (Doherty).
Referee: D. Ramsay (Edinburgh).
Booked: Robin, Bourke (Kilmarnock).
Attendance: 9,000.



● Jackson again, this time even beating team-mate Cooper to another Johnston corner.

● David Cooper neatly rounds Clark in the second half.



● New signing Jim Stewart deals comfortably with his first half shot as Mauchlen moves in.



● Redford heads a Johnston cross past the post while being challenged by Bourke.

Saturday's Results

PREMIER DIV.

Airdrie	1	Celtic	2
Dundee U	1	St Mirren	2
Morton	3	Hearts	0
Rangers	2	Kilmrnck	0

DIVISON I

Clydebank	0	Mothrwll	0
Dumbarton	1	Hibernian	4
E. Stirling	0	Dumfmline	0
Falkirk	0	Stirling A	0
Hamilton	1	Dundee	3
Raith Rov	1	Ayr Utd	1
St Jnstne	6	Berwick R	2

DIVISION II

Clyde	4	Albion R	0
Cowdnbth	5	Alloa Ath	2
Forfar A	1	East Fife	2
Meadowbk	1	Arbroath	2
Stenhmuir	3	Queen's P.	4

Premier Division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Celtic	29	22	2	5	70	30	46
Aberdeen	28	15	8	5	50	21	38
Dundee Utd	29	14	8	7	52	32	36
Rangers	28	12	10	6	47	27	34
St Mirren	29	12	8	9	42	41	32
Airdrie	30	8	9	13	30	42	25
Morton	29	9	7	13	30	43	25
Partick Th	29	8	9	12	22	36	25
Hearts	28	4	6	18	23	51	14
Kilmarnock	29	3	7	19	18	61	13

First Division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Hibernian	33	20	7	6	58	23	47
Raith Rovers	31	18	8	5	45	22	44
St Johnstn	33	16	10	7	53	37	42
Ayr Utd	34	15	11	8	54	37	41
Dundee	31	16	6	9	52	36	38
Motherwell	31	14	9	8	53	46	37
Hamilton	34	13	6	15	52	50	32
Falkirk	34	12	7	15	35	45	31
Dumbarton	32	9	9	14	39	44	27
East Stirling	29	5	13	11	33	41	23
Clydebank	28	7	9	12	36	47	23
Dunfermline	31	8	5	18	33	47	21
Stirling Alb	31	6	9	16	18	40	21
Berwick	32	4	9	19	27	73	17

Second Division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Queens Park	33	12	16	5	54	39	40
Alloa	33	14	11	8	54	40	39
Qn. of Sth	30	12	12	6	48	42	36
Brechin	31	12	12	7	43	37	36
Arbroath	32	11	11	10	51	46	33
Albion Rvr	33	12	8	13	54	60	32
Cowdnbeath	27	12	7	8	42	32	31
Montrose	29	13	4	12	52	39	30
Clyde	31	11	8	12	49	52	30
Forfar	30	11	8	11	45	48	30
East Fife	32	9	12	11	37	42	30
Stenhsmuir	32	10	9	13	55	51	29
Meadowbnk	32	9	5	18	36	56	23
Stranraer	31	6	5	20	26	62	17

SCORERS

IAN REDFORD'S opener against Kilmarnock takes the former Dundee star into double figures in the Ibrox scorers' chart and continues a good spell for the midfield man who has notched seven of his goals in the second half of the season. The full table is: Colin McAdam 23; John MacDonald 15; Ian Redford 10; Derek Johnstone 5; Jim Bett 4; Sandy Jardine 4; Bobby Russell 4; Davie Cooper 3; Alex Miller 3; Gregor Stevens 2; Gordon Daiziel 1; Ally Dawson 1; Willie Johnston 1; Own Goals 2.

WHY BILLY WANTS TO WIN SO BADLY

AFTER SUFFERING the unenviable fate of losing seven goals to one half of the "Old Firm," St. Mirren goalkeeper Billy Thomson is more than anxious to finish on the winning side this weekend against the other half.

And that means Rangers will have more than a tough task on their hands on Saturday when they travel down the motorway to met St. Mirren at Love Street in what will be the third clash between the two clubs this season.

The defeat was only the second in the last 14 matches, and brought the Saints goals against column to exactly the same as their goals for this season — both stood at 40 ((before Saturday v Dundee United).

Losing those goals obviously wasn't the best of confidence boosters for any goalkeeper, but Thomson is one of the better last lines of defence in the country and it won't affect him too much.

Indeed, he is held in such high regard by new Saints boss Rikki McFarlane that the manager has placed a price tag of £750,000 on his head just to frighten off any teams who might even consider attempting to purchase the player. Needless to say, any interested parties haven't been back!

One man who is more than convinced about Thomson's ability is his former manager Jim Clunie, who bought the player for St. Mirren from Partick Thistle for a bargain £60,000.

"When I was in charge I noticed a terrific improvement in Billy," he says.

"I hadn't seen him play when I signed him. I had just arrived from Southampton and bought him on the recommendation of Rikki McFarlane. I never regretted the move.

"Not long after the signing, I felt I had one of Scotland's next international goalkeepers and that was how things worked out."

Thomson's debut was in the full 'national match against Northern Ireland and he has been unable to manage another appearance in the side due to the form of Alan Rough — his former rival and team-mate at Partick Thistle.

Despite the fact that Rough was the man who also kept him on the sidelines for many years at Firhill, Thomson admits he has a lot to thank the number one national 'keeper for.

"I used to stand behind the goal at training and just watch Alan. He is a fantastic reflex goalkeeper and I know I learned a lot from him," says Billy.

Another man he has to thank is former Rangers goalkeeper Erik Sorensen. Erik is now Assistant Manager of St. Mirren, but before becoming second in command to Rikki McFarlane he helped coach Billy with special goalkeeping exercises and Thomson's play improved as a result.

However, while Thomson is attempting to keep the Rangers forwards at bay, one man who will be doing his best to score a few goals for Saints will be Doug Somner.

The big striker, also a former Partick Thistle man, hasn't had the best of seasons so far. He's found goals hard to come by and, in fact, in his last seven matches (before Saturday) he hadn't managed to get his name of the scoresheet.

But he has memories of the last time Saints won at Love Street against Rangers . . . he hit a hat-trick in a 4-1 win. A repeat would please him and the "Buddies" fans.

It all adds up to an interesting Saturday afternoon's football and, although both sides can now count themselves out of the league championship race, places in Europe have still to be won.

That's why the points are still important and why no extra incentive is needed for both sets of players this weekend.



● DOUG SOMNER . . . hat-trick against Rangers last May.



● BILLY THOMSON . . . at the end of a seven goal drubbing.

CLUB NOTES

NITHSDALE: Bus to Paisley v St Mirren leaves Torisdale Street at 1.45 p.m. Picking up at Devon Street Orange Halls at 1.50 p.m. Non-members welcome.

CATHCART: Bus v St. Mirren leaves Merrylea Road at 2.00. Picking up at Mount Florida, Marlbrough, Dumbreck Road,, Mosspark Boulevard. Limited number of tickets available for non-members. Tickets on bus. Members please note short leet meeting on April 6. All members must attend.

HELEN STREET: Bus v St. Mirren leaves Ibrox Bus Garage at 1.55 p.m., the Club 2.00 p.m. Seats available. Names required for Greenock outing.

IAN REDFORD (Strathkelvin): Regular meeting will be held in the Community Centre at 12 noon. Bus v St. Mirren will then leave Kilsyth Road, Queenzieburn, at 1.45 p.m. Non-members are welcome subject to availability of seats.

BALLINGRY LOYAL: Bus v St. Mirren will leave Auld Shank, Ballingry, at 11.30 p.m. Picking up at usual times and places. Non-members welcome.

KINNING PARK LOYAL: Bus v St. Mirren leaves McLean Street at 12 noon. Please note early departure for visit to Castle Street Social Club. Seats available for non-members. Phone 041-429-5578. On Saturday, April 4, bus for Greengairs (Cabaret Night) Social Club leaves McLean Street at 7.00 p.m. Seats at £1.50. Phone 041-440-2325, John McKay, for details.

PARTICK LOYAL: Bus v St. Mirren leaves Merkland Street at 1.30 p.m. Seats available for non-members. Please phone Mr K. McLean on 647-5198.

This Week's Football

Tonight
WORLD CUP QUALIFYING GROUP SIX
Scotland v Northern Ireland (kick-off 8 p.m.).

Saturday,
PREMIER DIVISION
ST. MIRREN v RANGERS, Celtic v Aberdeen, Hearts v Dundee Utd., Kilmarnock v Airdrie, Partick Thistle v Morton.

DIVISION ONE
Ayr United v Hibernian, Dundee v Berwick Rangers, Dumfermline Athletic v Motherwell, Hamilton Accies v East Stirling, Raith Rovers v Falkirk, St. Johnstone v Dumbarton, Stirling Albion v Clydebank.

DIVISION TWO
Albion Rovers v Cowdenbeath, Arbroath v Alloa, Clyde v Montrose, East Fife v Stranraer, Forfar Athletic v Meadowbank Thistle, Queen of the South v Stenhousemuir, Queen's Park v Brechin City.

Last Monday Jock Stein announced his pool for the game against Northern Ireland. It is:

Goalkeepers: Alan Rough (Partick Thistle), Billy Thomson (St. Mirren). Defenders: Kenny Burns (Nottingham Forest), Ally Dawson (Rangers), Frank Gray (Nottingham Forest), Willie Miller (Aderdeen), Danny McGrain (Celtic), Alex McLeish (Aberdeen), David Narey (Dundee United), Raymond Stewart (West Ham United). Midfield: Archie Gemmill (Birmingham City), Asa Hartford (Everton), Graeme Souness (Liverpool), John Wark (Ipswich Town). Forwards: Steve Archibald (Tottenham Hotspur), Kenny Dalglish (Liverpool), Andy Gray (Wolverhampton Wanderers), John Robertson (Nottingham Forest). Substitutes: Jim Leighton (Aberdeen), Alan Evans (Aston Villa), Alan Brazil (Ipswich Town), and Joe Jordan (Manchester United).

WIN TWO TICKETS FOR LAST UNITED CLASH

ONE TEAM THAT has really hit form over the past few months has been Jim McLean's men from Tannadice, with some superb displays both home and away.

This week we are giving you the chance to win two tickets for the last Premier League confrontation between Rangers and Dundee United this season.

The match is scheduled to be played on April 4th at Ibrox.

Here is all you have to do to stand a chance of winning. Look at the picture on the right.

It shows Rangers captain Derek Johnstone scoring a goal for his Club in season 1977-78 against St. Mirren at Ibrox.

This was Rangers first goal in a game which ended in a 2-1 victory for the Club. Alex Miller scored the second Rangers goal from a penalty kick.

All we want you to tell us is the half-time score.

That's all you have to do.

To give you some help we can tell you that the match was played in the month of November, 1977.

Put your answer down on a postcard and send it off to:





"Dundee United Tickets', Rangers News, 19 North Claremont Street, Glasgow G3 7NR.

The first correct answer pulled from our competition drum on Tuesday March 31 will win the two tickets.

Please remember to include you FULL name AND address with your competition entry and try and write as neatly as possible.

The Editor's decision is final in all matters.



(CONTINUING OUR GREAT SERIES)

After that 1934 Cup Final victory over St Mirren . . .

THEY ALL WANTED THE BALL!

THE WHISTLE had just blown, bringing the 1934 Scottish Cup Final between Rangers and St. Mirren to a close and Paisley winger Jimmy Knox promptly lifted the ball, hoping to keep it as a souvenir of his appearance in the Hampden final.

He had not, however, bargained for the watchful eye of referee Hutton who wasted no time in approaching the St. Mirren man demanding the return of the ball . . . he too wanted to have a momento of the big game! So it was the official who marched to the dressing room with the ball under his arm!

But even his moment of 'joy' was short lived. The accepted practice at that time was for the captain of the winning team to be presented with the ball and Mr Hutton was duly ordered to hand over the keepsake to Ibrox skipper Davie Meiklejohn!

It had been an afternoon of complete triumph for Rangers. The pre-match boastings from Love Street, claiming that St Mirren would win by at least two goals, were seen to be no more than misplaced optimism as the Paisley side collapsed.

Facing a Rangers team who hadn't a fault worthy of mention, the 'Buddies' found themselves under severe pressure from the very first whistle and, as early as the second minute, their 'keeper, McCloy was forced to dive the full length of his goal to save a shot from Rangers' outside right Bobby Main.

That was a taste of what was to follow and Bob McPhail was proving to be a constant thorn in the flesh of the Saints' defence as the Light Blues' continued to surge forward.

With wing half George Brown feeding his forwards with some superb passes, it was inevitable that St. Mirren would crack and the only surprise was that there had been 34 minutes of action before they did so.

The man who started and finished the move was outside left Willie Nicholson whose rocket shot had McCloy stretching to save, punching the ball clear. Two more Rangers' scoring attempts had the 'keeper rushing around his goal area before Nicholson nipped in and took advantage of McCloy being off his line and scored the opening goal.



● SCOTTISH CUP WINNERS . . . five of the Rangers team who won the Scottish Cup in 1934. They are Bobby Main, Willie Nicholson, Davie Meiklejohn, Jimmy Smith, and Bob McPhail.
Pictures by courtesy of Sunday Mail/Daily Record.

The referee was ordered to hand the ball over to Davie Meiklejohn'

There was no lack of pity for the Love Street goalkeeper, who, despite making three superb saves, found himself having to surrender to the might of the Ibrox attack and three minutes later he once more found himself having to bend to pick the ball out of the net.

Having made another fine save from Nicholson, the goalkeeper was helpless as Bob McPhail followed up to rattle home goal number two and kill off any slim hopes of a St Mirren fight back.

The first half ended with Rangers in complete control of proceedings and there was no let up after the interval, McCloy again stemming the Light Blue tide with several brave saves.

He was powerless, however, when Rangers went 3-0 up in the 55th minute. Jimmy Marshall pushed a magnificent pass through to Bobby Main and the Ibrox winger had no trouble in slipping the ball past the 'keeper.

The final now had 'rout' written all over it and, with an hour played, a melee in the St. Mirren goalmouth had the Rangers players claiming a penalty, but centre forward Jimmy Smith ignored the confusion around him and wasted no time in slamming the ball into the net.

By now, the Paisley contingent in the 113,400 crowd was rapidly pouring towards the exits while the jubilant Rangers fans celebrated and the Ibrox faithful were given more to roar about when a fierce Nicholson drive from just outside the penalty area bulged the St Mirren net, yet again.

In the last 14 minutes of the match, Rangers could have run up double figures if it had not been for the heroics of McCloy who defied them time and time again. To complete a miserable day's work for the Love Street players, though, forward Miller fired in a great shot which would have given them a consolation goal with only a few minutes remaining, had not 'keeper 'Big Tam' Hamilton made a superb save.

With a 5-0 victory to their credit, Rangers had every justification in feeling proud of themselves and when it later became known that centre half Jimmy Simpson and inside forward Bob McPhail had both been doubtful because of injury, it heightened the high respect which the Ibrox team had earned.

And the Press were quick to point to the outstanding play of George Brown and Bobby Main and suggested that if the Light Blues had been included in the Scotland team which had slumped 3-0 to England at Wembley seven days previously the international team would have fared much better.

As the players prepared to leave Hampden to celebrate their great win, St. Mirren's Jimmy Knox, still seeking the match ball as a souvenir, made a plea to Davie Meiklejohn to let him have the memento and the Ibrox skipper relented, gifting the ball to the Saints man.

AFTER ALL, KNOX AND HIS TEAM-MATES HAD SEEN VERY LITTLE OF IT DURING THE MATCH!

The Light Blues' line up which registered the Club's record Scottish Cup Final victory at Hampden that sunny April afternoon in 1934 was:

Hamilton, Gray, McDonald, Meiklejohn, Simpson, Brown, Main, Marshall, Smith, McPhail, Nicholson.



● GEORGE BROWN . . . the press said he was outstanding.

ROBERT'S 'IDEAL' DEBUT



● ROBERT CLARK

except for the result!

THE INCLUSION of Robert Clark in last Saturday's Ibrox first team pool to play Hearts at Tynecastle was yet another indication of Rangers manager John Greig's continuing youth policy and, although the end result in that Tynecastle game could have been an awful lot better, it was the ideal place to make his debut for the first team.

Who says so? Robert himself.

"It gave me the best of both worlds really. Usually, it's much better for a player to make his debut away from home, because it eases him into the style of play without the restlessness of a home crowd" said Robert.

"Against Hearts, though, the way things turned out, there was a lot of pressure involved. It really gave me an insight into how the first team works.

"It was a bit disheartening when Hearts got that goal, only minutes after I came on.

"We just couldn't string anything together after that though. It was just one of those days when nothing went right".

Experience-wise, Robert feels he has benefited greatly from his 15 minutes of first team football and was thankful to Boss Greig for giving him the chance to prove himself.

"Everything last Saturday was a different class from what I had been used to. But then that's the way it should be.

"I'll take some of the things I've picked up, and try to put them to good use in future matches.

"Now that I've achieved my life's ambition, I naturally hope to get a few more similar opportunities".

Cup replay at Ibrox?

IN THE event of both of this season's Scottish Cup semi-finals finishing in a draw, then one of the replays could take place at Ibrox . . . and it won't be the Rangers-Morton clash!

If the two games are still undecided on April 11, then the Celtic v Dundee United tie will be played at Ibrox the following Wednesday with an 8 p.m. kick-off.

Rangers match would be played on Tuesday, April 14 at Hampden also with an 8 p.m. kick-off.

If one game ends in a draw on the Saturday, then the replay will be at Hampden on April 15.

The last time Celtic played a match at Ibrox when Rangers weren't the opponents was against St. Mirren on May 11, 1979.

SANDY IS PRAISED AS COLTS MARCH ON IN CUP

RANGERS RESERVES marched into the semi-finals of the Second Eleven Cup when they travelled to Rugby Park and beat Kilmarnock's Colts 1-0 last Wednesday night.

It was a performance which greatly pleased Second Team Coach Stan Anderson and he was very quick to praise Sandy Jardine. The experienced defender gave plenty of encouragement to the youngsters around him and put his know-how to good use in the blustery conditions.

"Sandy's attitude was tremendous," said Stan.

"This was a potentially dangerous cup tie for the Club and let's not forget that Kilmarnock were one of only three sides to beat us in the league.

"We knew we had a lot of work to do and Sandy was always there to help the younger lads out whenever Kilmarnock looked dangerous.

"I was also very pleased with the way Robert Clark played. He made many runs into good positions, putting Kilmarnock under pressure."



● SANDY JARDINE

Sandy and Robert did much to keep Rangers on top throughout the game and it is nothing short of amazing that it was not until the 88th minute that the Light Blues got the goal they deserved.

With the wind at their back in the second half, Stan Anderson's side struck the post on three occasions and a superb run and shot from Billy Mackay almost demolished the Kilmarnock crossbar but, just when extra time appeared to be on the cards, Rangers struck.

Billy Mackay made good ground down the right and sent over a superb cross to Derek Johnstone who headed home to take the young Light Blues into the semi-final where they'll meet Hearts at Tynecastle on a date yet to be decided.

The team which won last week's tie was: McCloy, Richardson, A. Forsyth, Jardine, McIntosh, Clark, Mackay, McIntyre, D. Johnstone, Watson, Stirton. Subs: Davies (for Stirton), Lyall (not used).

A great contest for all



Young Rangers club members

What's Derek's best 'Top Ten' scoring run?

COULD YOU please give details of Rangers 1953-54 Canadian Tour? — Hugh McKinnon, Hardacre Road, Glasgow.

The Rangers party left the Tail o' the Bank on Saturday, May 8, 1954, on the ship Empress of Scotland and arrived in Montreal one week later. Their first game in that city was against Chelsea on May 16 and Rangers won 1-0, through a George Young penalty kick. After that the club went on to play another eight games, winning six, losing one and then drawing with Chelsea on the final day of the tour, June 6, in New York. The score was 0-0. They netted 36 goals and conceded five. The Rangers party arrived home on June 14.

YOU ASKED FOR IT!

When did Tommy Cairns make his debut for Rangers and who were the opponents? How many caps did he gain for his country? Alexander Young, Haig Street, Aberdeen.

Tommy's debut was made against Hamilton Accies on December 19, 1913. He was capped eight times for Scotland. Tommy played 493 first team matches for Rangers and scored 160 goals. He left at the end of season 1926-27.

Since the formation of the Premier League, what has been the longest consecutive scoring run from Derek Johnstone? John Kinghorn, Lincoln Avenue, Glasgow.

During season 1977-78, Derek had two scoring runs of seven consecutive matches. On January 14, 1978, he scored one against St. Mirren, then Berwick (2), Clydebank, Stirling Albion, Clydebank (2), Motherwell (2) and Forfar (2), that last game being on February 27. His second run started on April 9, once more against St. Mirren, then Dundee United, Ayr United (2), Ayr United, Clydebank (2), John Greig Testimonial Eleven, then against Dundee United on April 19.

I would like to know the results of every Rangers v Hearts game in season 1975-76 and also the Rangers goalscorers and dates. — Robert Langton, Muirton Park Drive, Glasgow.

Hearts 0, Rangers 2 (Anderson, Murray OGs) on September 6, 1975; Rangers 1 (Henderson), Hearts 2 on November 8; Hearts 1, Rangers 2 (Henderson 2) on January 3, 1976; Rangers 3 (Jackson, McLean, Johnstone), Hearts 1 on March 20.



● Alan Anderson scores one of the two Rangers goals in their 1975 win over Hearts at Tynecastle. See question below.



● BOBBY SHEARER . . . transfered to Rangers for £2,000.

I can remember that great player David Meiklejohn and would like to know when he played his last game for the Club? Kenneth Garvey, Langholm Street, Glasgow.

Davie's final league game for Rangers was against Hearts on April 22, 1936. In all he played 635 matches and scored 54 goals for the Club.

What was the Rangers Youth side which beat Barcelona 1-0 in the 1977-78 Croix Tournament? Also, what was the date of this game. — Frank Jarvis, Binend Road, Pollok.

The team was Walker, Langlands, Parlane, S. Richardson, McCallum, Sullivan, Mackay, J. Richardson, Dalziel, Wells and Watson. Sub: McIntyre (for S. Richardson). Rangers' scorer was J. Richardson. The game was played on May 13.

Have you any information on Bobby Shearer? — George Harvey, Hyndland Road, Glasgow.

Bobby's footballing career began with Burnbank Athletic, while he was still employed as a bricklayer. He turned professional with Hamilton Accies before signing for Rangers on December 20, 1955, for £2,000. He was appointed captain of the club in August, 1962. Among Bobby's many medals are three Scottish Cup winners, three League Cup badges and six League Championships.

He left Ibrox during season 1964-65 to become the captain of Queen of the South, a position he held for only one season. Before retiring Bobby played 431 matches for Rangers and had a run of 175 consecutive appearances.

It's the chance of a lifetime . . .

SPEND A DAY AT IBROX!

WELL KIDS, here it is! The Young Rangers Club competition you've all been waiting for.

It's open to all members of the Y.R.C., but only six of you will be lucky enough to win the prize. And what a prize!

For one whole day, you will be the special guests of Rangers FC . . . THANKS TO THE 'NEWS'.

You'll be shown around the Stadium, including trophy room, and the dressing rooms. Then you'll be going over to the Albion to watch all your favourite players in training and afterwards you can meet them personally for autographs and a general chat.

After all that excitement, you can be sure hunger pangs will have set in, but have no fear on that account. The lucky six will then be treated to a slap-up meal in the director's tea-room!

This is really the prize of the year as far as Young Rangers Club competitions go, and so instead of the usual picture quiz, we thought we'd bring back that old 'News' favourite, the crossword, to test your football knowledge.

All you have to do is fill in the spaces to the corresponding questions, and you could be on your way to winning the most memorable day's outing you'll ever have!

When you've completed the crossword, just cut it out of the 'News' or, if you don't want to spoil your copy, make a replica of the completed grid, put it in an envelope and send it off to: "Day Out", Rangers News, 19 North Claremont Street, Glasgow G3 7NR.

Please write in block capitals, and try to make your hand-writing as neat as possible. The closing date for this competition is Friday, April 3, and on this date the first six correct entries drawn from our competition drum will receive the invitations for that very special day out.

Don't forget to put your FULL name, address and YRC membership number in the envelope, too.

THE EDITOR'S DECISION IS FINAL IN ALL MATTERS.

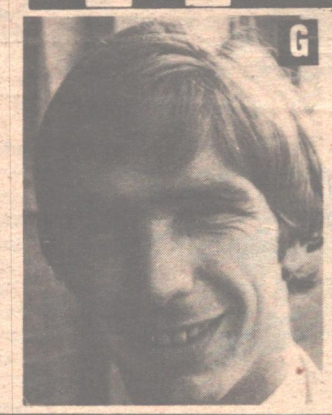


















Crossword Clues

ACROSS

5. Former Rangers star in picture D (9)
7. Second Division side who met Rangers in a pre-season friendly. (5)
8. A league club from Cyprus who have played in Europe many times. (6)
9. Brazilian player who played for his country in the last World Cup. (4)
11. Christian name of player in photo C (3)
13. How we feel when Rangers lose. (3)
15. A punishment for missing training perhaps. (4)
18. The crown which Rangers won in 1948-49, 1963-64, 1975-76 and 1977-78. (6)
19. The Bay where Rodney Marsh once played. (5)
20. The former Ranger in photo G. (4,5)

DOWN

1. Nation whom player B led to a World Cup triumph. (7)
2. The Ranger in photo A is an expert at this. (7)
3. The position we like to see Rangers in. (2,3)
4. Italian club with whom player H once played. (6)
5. Player F's club. (6)
6. We like to see Rangers put on a good one. (4)
10. What every player aims for. (3,4)
11. Christian name of the Celtic chairman. (7)
12. French side who met Rangers in a European Cup tie in 1961 (6)
14. Club with whom player E now plays. (3,3)
16. Country where Puskas established himself as a world class performer. (5)
17. The final before the final. (4)

Happy birthday to all our Club members

● The following Young Rangers Club members will be celebrating a birthday in the coming week.

TODAY, 25th MARCH

ANDREW THOMPSON, 21 Glendoe Terrace, Inverness, who is 16.
STEVEN COCHRAN, 16 Kilpatrick Crecent, Glenburn, Paisley, who is seven.
STEWART WILSON, 88 Kennedy Road, Fort William, who is 14.
GARY SMITH, 5 Hillside Avenue, Bearsden, Glasgow, who is 10.
CATHERINE FYFFE, 32 Glengarry Road, Perth, who is 13.
MARK JOHNSTON, 65 Loch Street, Townhill, Dunfermline, who is 11.
JOHN DOCHERTY, 7 Union Place, Lochgilphead, who is 14.
GARETH McCRONE, 32 Hill Crescent, Bathgate, who is nine.
DEREK McAVOY, 190 Hayfield Terrace, Denny, Stirlingshire, who is six.
AURTHUR DIXON, 42 Branchton Road, Greenock, who is 12.
IAIN McFADYEN, 10 Saint Barrs Crescent, Northbay, Isle of Barra, who is 13.
STEVE LOVE, 35 Sunnyside Crescent, Mauchline, Ayrshire, who is 13.

THURSDAY

BRIAN HENDERSON, 54 Glenburn Avenue, Newtown, Saint Boswells, who is 14.
DUNCAN McGOWAN, 9 Caldwell Road, Carluke, Lanarkshire, who is two.
NEIL DUNCAN, 20 Crammond Terrace, Banff, Bannffshire, who is 10.
GEORGE BALL, Newpark School, Fife, who is 16.
CAMPBELL BLAKELY, 34 Nith Drive, Renfrew, who is eight.
BRIAN VALENTINE, 28 Grange Road, Prestopans, who is 15.
STEPHEN HAMILTON, 67 Castle Gardens, Donegal Park Avenue, Belfast, who is 13.
MURDO MACLEAN, 11 Lawrence Street, Glasgow, who is nine.
WILLIAM SWANSON, The Cottage, Inverfarigaig, near Inverness, who is 14.
JULIA MAHON, 32 Langdale Road, Newton Estate, Lancaster, who is 13.
LEE NORTH, 11a Dyer Road, Jump, Barnsley, South Yorkshire, who is nine.
KEVIN WATSON, 17 Oaldlea, Saline, by Dunfermline, who is 12.
GERRY HERNAN, 10c Northburn Place, Airdrie, who is 11.
ELIZABETH FINLAY, 18 Allanvale, Dunlop, Ayrshire, who is four.
IAN McLEAN, 324 Tilden, Pontiar, USA, who is nine.
ROBERT DUNCAN, Lochardil Hotel, Stratherrick Road, Inverness, who is 15.
DIANE RAE, 238 High Street, Laurencekirk, who is three.

FRIDAY

CHARLES BELL, 36 Ward Road, Methil, Crieff, who is 13.
GRANT CLARIC, 18 Cathay Street, Milton, Glasgow, who is 15.
ALAN McINNES, 65 Aboyne Street, Govan, Glasgow, who is 15.
JAMES LINDSAY, 24 Lindsay Crescent, Largs, who is 12.
DAVID MILLIGAN, 16 Lockmark Avenue, Drongan, Ayrshire, who is 11.

SATURDAY

IAN BROWN, 1 Lovelle Drive, Coatbridge, who is nine.
GRAHAM KERR, 114 Whitburn Street, Glasgow, who is 15.
COLIN CAMPBELL, 4B Crowhill Crescent, Airdrie, who is ten.
FIONA McLEAN, 21 Kersavagh, Lochmaddy, North Uist, who is two.
STUART McPHAIL, 132 Alloa Road, Larbert, Stirlingshire, who is 12.
CHRISTOPHER HEPBURN, Kinlock Arms Hotel, High Street, Carnoustie, Angus, who is 11.
IAN STEWART, Westholme, Brioch Terrace, Crieff, Perthshire, who is 16.
D. CONWAY, 44 Wallace Avenue, Stevenson, who is 17.
STEVEN CLARK, 13a Stoneybank Gardens, North Musselburgh, Midlothian, who is nine.
COLIN BROSNLIE, 106 Woodhead Green, Hamilton, who is 12.
JOHN McGREACHAN, 30 Kelvin Way, Kilsyth, who is 16.
ALISTER SMITH, 2 Lesmurdie Place, Lossiemouth, who is 13.
WILLIAM CAMPBELL, 118 Highfield Road, Kirkintilloch, who is 17.
ALEX MUIR, 89/223 Stirlingfauld Place, Laurieston, Glasgow, who is 14.
DEREK BANKS, 48 Holytown Road, Holytown, Motherwell, who is eight.
CHRISTOPHER CLARK, 58 Mainshill, Park Mains, Erskine, who is seven.

SUNDAY

JOHN McCALLUM, 10 Glentorran Place, Easterhouse, who is 5.
COLIN PUNLER, "The Poplars", Albany Street, Dunfermline, Fife, who is 14.
ROBERT HERON, 8 Craigens Place, Netherthiro, Cumnock, who is nine.
SIMON MOWAT, Gordownstown, Grangie, Keith, Bannffshire, who is 14.
EWAN GARDNER, 97 Bathgate Road, Blackburn, West Lothian, who is 13.
ROBERT McNELLIE, 11 Kilmein Avenue, Patna, Ayrshire, who is 11.

MONDAY

FIONA CAMPBELL, 11 Kingsway, Tarbert, Argyll, who is 13.
GEORGE TAYLOR, 14 Craigmead Terrace, Fife, who is 12.
DEREK MACLEAN, 42 Monksbridge Avenue, Glasgow, who is 16.
LACHLAN RAE, 256 Lime Crescent, Abronhill, Cumbernauld, who is eight.
MARGARET SMITH, 18 Drumby Crescent, Clarkston, Glasgow, who is ten.
JOHN McAIESLAND, 20 Keir Hardie Hill, Cumnock, who is 13.
CHARLES WEAVER, 18 Timmons Place, Denny, Stirlingshire, who is 16.
GARY McKEOWN, 15 Calder Crescent, Armadale, West Lothian, who is nine.

TUESDAY

JOHN McMULLEN, 45 Dundee Terrace, Fountainbridge, Edinburgh, who is two.
ANDREW BARLTON, 15 Cloan Avenue, Drumchapel, Glasgow, who is four.
ANDREW TURNBULL, The Old Manse, Yetholm, Kelso, who is nine.
LAURA FRASER, "The Beeches," Drummadrochit, Invernesshire, who is nine.
KENNETH WATSON, 139 Dormanside Road, who is six.
TOM MARR, 50 Cumbrae Drive, Tamfourhill, Camelon, Falkirk, who is 11.
ALEXANDER WOOD, 3 Glebe Park, Corpach, Fort William, who is 13.
WILLIAM GORDON, Migdale Fearn, Rosshire, who is 12.
STEPHEN GREGG, 31 Hawthorn Walk, Dromore, Co. Down, N. Ireland, who is eight.
BILLY DICKSON, 27 Greenbush Court, Bramalea, Ontario, Canada, who is 13.

The two lucky Young Rangers' Club members who had their names read out over the Ibrox loudspeakers before last Wednesday's match with Dundee United were Alastiar McGill, 17 Catmoor Square, Scone, Perth, and Douglas McPhail, 101 Broomfield Avenue, Newton Mearns.

The names announced on Saturday were Gary Paterson (17), 118 Golfdrum Street, Dunfermline and Donald Laing, 35 Morar Crescent, Townhead, Coatbridge.



● FLASHBACK . . . the six lucky Young Rangers Club members who toured Ibrox last year. From left to right, Ralph Beattie, Tom Hamilton, David Graham, Murray Nichol, Colin Wheeler and Billy Castles.

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THE GOAL IAN HOPED WOULD BE DISALLOWED



● IAN REDFORD . . . a 'crazy' afternoon at Tynecastle.

— But he wanted these others to count!

THERE IS certainly no doubt whatsoever in the mind of Ibrox midfield star Ian Redford about what has been the bane of his life this season . . . disallowed goals!

At present, the ex-Dundee man is lying third in the scorers' table with ten goals to his credit, but if all those knocked off efforts had been granted to him, his tally would've been nearer the 15 mark!

"This has really been the worst year I've had for that kind of thing. But, even though I'm sorry not to have been allowed the goals, it's useless complaining. The linesmen and referees make their decision and you have to stick by it. It's as simple as that."

Mistake

The most recent example of Ian's bad luck was in last Saturday's Premier League match against Hearts. He collected a through ball from Willie Johnston and blasted it home from 12-yards, only to learn he had been judged offside a few seconds earlier.

That unfortunate incident really put the lid on what had been a ridiculous afternoon for him, one which started at precisely 3.04 p.m. last Saturday afternoon when he netted an own goal!

"That was my first ever own-goal, and I hope it's my last. I wish the linesman had given that goal offside!

"After that I knew I'd have to make up for that mistake, and when I got Rangers' goal just before half-time I was really relieved.

Then the 'gremlins' took a hand again in the second half, when I had that goal disallowed. I would say it was probably the craziest afternoon I've ever spent in professional football!"

This was a real bad night for 'Gers

UP TO LAST Wednesday night, Rangers had lost no more than four league goals at Ibrox this season but, on that cold, blustery evening, the Light Blues' 'goals against' tally doubled when Dundee United, hitting top form, registered a 4-1 win over John Greig's men.

It is unfortunate that the night it all went wrong, also happened to be new goalkeeper Jim Stewart's debut because the former Kilmarnock and Middlesbrough man played well although the visitors tore Rangers apart with some superb football.

Of course, it was disappointing to see the Ibrox men beaten so comprehensively but credit must be given where it is due and, make no mistake about it, the Tannadice side are nobody's fools.

They were 2-0 up inside the first half hour through goals by Kirkwood and Bannon but Rangers came back with Colin McAdam reducing the leeway some six minutes before the interval.

The remainder of the first half saw Rangers put the United defence under severe pressure and one got the feeling that, if Rangers could snatch an equaliser before the break, the Light Blues could have gone on to pick up both points.

But it was not to be and the second 45 minutes were something of a disaster for the Ibrox men, Sturrock and Bannon increasing the visitors' lead as Rangers found themselves with their backs to the wall.

It's hard to find good points when you lose 4-1 but the one light to shine through the darkness last Wednesday was Jim Stewart.

He showed all the qualities which prompted his inclusion in the international squad a few years ago and, indeed, one shudders to think what the final score may have been if he had been less impressive between the posts.

At the end of the night, there were no excuses from Rangers. Dundee United played well and deserved to win and the game was just another indication of the magnitude of the task facing manager John Greig as he tries to restore the Club to its former glories.

To complete a miserable night, Gregor Stevens was ordered off in the 71st minute for an incident with Paul Sturrock and he now faces another lengthy ban.

FACT-FILE

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18
RANGERS 1, DUNDEE UNITED 4.
SCORERS: Rangers: McAdam (39 mins); Dundee Utd: Kirkwood (19 mins.), Bannon (29, 61 mins.), Sturrock (58 mins.).
RANGERS: Stewart, Miller, Dawson, Stevens, Jackson, Bett, Johnston, Russell, McAdam, Redford, MacDonald. Subs: Cooper (for Miller), Forsyth (for Bett).
DUNDEE UNITED: McAlpine, Holt, Stark, Phillip, Hegarty, Narey, Bannon, Milne, Kirkwood, Sturrock, Dodds. Subs: Pettigrew (for Dodds), Kopel (for Sturrock).
ATTENDANCE: 9,000.
REFEREE: W. Anderson (East Kilbride).
ORDERED OFF: Stevens (Rangers).

. . And this Ian's out for more goals, too!



● IAIN STIRTON

OVER the past few weeks, the 'News' has kept you informed of the progress of the Club's two young strikers, Gordon Dalziel and Douglas Robertson, who have both been absent through injury.

Their untimely withdrawal from the team has, in effect, broken up a very successful goalscoring trio and has left the third man, Iain Stirton, in what, to most folk, would appear an unenviable position.

"Many people have said to me I must be under a lot of pressure, because they seem to think the goalscoring has been left entirely to me. I think that opinion is wrong," says Iain.

"It's the entire team who scores. It's only the man who gets the last touch of the ball who is credited with the goal!"

"Since Dougie and Gordon have been out, everyone has tried to cover for them and because of that Graham Watson, Billy Davies and Alex Forsyth have all got their names on the scoresheet.

"Mind you, I still want a few more, too!"

During last Wednesday night's Second Eleven Cup tie with Kilmarnock, Iain was substituted . . . much to his own surprise!

"I'd went in for a tackle and jarred my knee. I got to my feet and immediately Stan Anderson shouted over to ask if I was all right. I said 'yes' but the next moment moment Stan's got the boards out for me to go off!

"I can see their point of view though, I'd taken a knock and my knee would probably have been weakened in any other tackle. It's better to be safe than sorry!"

KEEP UP TO DATE

SUNDAY
AIRDRIE REJECT a bid of £160,000 for Partick Thistle for the "Diamonds" captain Sandy Clark. Airdrie, however, accepted a fee of around £30,000 for striker Bobby Russell from Raith Rovers.

MONDAY
Gordon Strachan, Aberdeen and Scottish internationalist midfield star, flies South to London to see a Harley Street specialist for the stomach injury which has kept him out of the Dons team for the past three months. He undergoes an exploratory operation and then surgery for a ruptured muscle behind the stomach wall.

RESULTS: Tommy Wilson Benefit match: Elgin City 3, Celtic 2. Scottish Cup, Fifth Round replay: Clydebank 0, Morton 6. Scottish Second XI. Cup, Quarter-Finals: Queen's Park 3, Dumbarton 3. (Queen's Park won on penalties).

TUESDAY
Hamilton Accies officially release their player-coach, Bobby Graham.

WEDNESDAY
RESULTS: PREMIER DIVISION: Celtic 4, Partick Thistle 1; Rangers 1, Dundee United 4. FIRST DIVISION: Dundee 2, Dunfermline 0; Falkirk 0, Motherwell 1; Hibs 1, St. Johnstone 2.

THURSDAY
The Anglo-Scottish Cup is scrapped because the English League cannot guarantee that the big English clubs will take part next season.

SUNDAY
Scotland manager Jock Stein calls Manchester United's Joe Jordan into the squad for the World Cup tie against Northern Ireland following the withdrawal of Graeme Souness and Kenny Dalglish who sustained injuries in the Liverpool v Everton 'derby' game.

TENNENT'S T LAGER

Reserve Review

Colts pay for their mistakes

"We lost bad goals at bad times."

That was the summing up comment from Rangers Second Team Coach Stan Anderson minutes after the Ibrox Colts had slumped to a 4-0 defeat against Motherwell in their Reserve League Cup tie at Fir Park on Saturday.

"We allowed Motherwell to open the scoring after only two minutes because of a defensive error and that put us up against it right from the start," said a disappointed Stan.

"We came back from that set-back, though, and looked as if we were going to get an equaliser but, just as we were getting into our stride, Motherwell broke away. Raymond McIntosh and one of their players went for a loose ball inside the box after Gordon Marshall had blocked a shot and the ref gave a penalty."

Motherwell scored from the penalty but, even at that point, the Colts still continued to press forward and the home side were more than thankful to get a third goal in the 60th minute which effectively sealed the match for them.

The Fir Park forwards beat the offside trap and calmly chipped the ball over Marshall, who had come off his line to try and clear the danger.

Ten minutes from time Motherwell were awarded another penalty, which they duly converted, but Rangers hopes of a comeback were finished by then and, having lost their opening two matches in the Reserve League Cup, the Colts now find the odds firmly stacked against them qualifying for the knock-out stages.

"I'm disappointed we've got off to this kind of start," added Stan.

The team v Motherwell was: Marshall, Richardson, A. Forsyth, Jardine, McIntosh, Clark, Mackay, McIntyre, Stirton, Watson, D. Johnstone. Subs: Davies (for Watson) and Lyall (for Stirton).

LOVE STREET SPECIAL

BRITISH RAIL have organised a "Football Special" for those Rangers fans who are travelling to see the Club play St. Mirren at Love Street on Saturday.

The outward train leaves from Glasgow Central at 2.10 p.m. and will arrive in Paisley Gilmour Street at 2.21 p.m. The return train will depart at 4.58 p.m. and will arrive back in Glasgow Central Station at 5.10 p.m.

A second class return fare to Gilmour Street will be 96 pence.

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