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## Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by blameless - 26-03-2008 16:14

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Continuation of the thread from the old board.

Some crazy SFL scheduling of previously postponed games last night. With Thistle already having played a game less than most of the teams in division one (and a cup quarter final with Rangers to fit in at some point), which team doesn't get to play this midweek? Yep, you got it.

By the time we eventually get through our postponed league games (and Rangers play their UEFA cup games), the quarter final could well be Thistle Reserves vs Rangers Under-17s.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Dink - 26-03-2008 16:59

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I got a bit lax in the old updating everyone on how Alloa's season was going department so I'd be as well making my first post on here a recap of how our season has been going so far.

We started off with some wildly variable form as an opening day 4-1 victory over Peterhead was followed up with a 6-0 defeat from Airdrie in the first game on our shiny new plastic pitch. We then had two defeats in our next three games and it looked like our season was heading toward yet another fight against relegation.

A 2-0 victory against Queens Park seemed to turn our season around and we began to look like we might even launch an unlikely title challenge as we embarked on an eight game unbeaten run. That fine run was brought to an end by Livingston in the Scottish Cup and we stumbled again the next week away to Queens Park. The next two games gave the impression that this was just a temporary blip, however, as we won them both and managed probably our best game of the season as we played Ross County off the park in a 3-1 home victory.

Yet again a game against Airdrie was to turn things around for us and after a 2-0, going on 6-0 defeat at New Broomfield we only won one of our next seven games. Thankfully we managed a lucky win at home to Cowdenbeath and haven't lost a game since including two very good wins against Raith Rovers and Peterhead.

Currently we sit in 4th place with just five games to go, if we can keep up our current form we should be looking good for the final play-off spot. In the last few weeks we have been without Graeme Brown, Andy Ferguson, Derek Fleming, Dougie Wilson and one of either Fraser Forrest or Chris Townsley. They would all be considered first choice players so if we can get them back for the run in we will hopefully be able to keep up or recent good form.

Oh, and can I be the first to say it in this shiny new forum - Pearse Flynn is an utter cunt!

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Fuzzy Dunlop - 27-03-2008 12:12

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Ignore that impostor below. Pretending to be the real Scottish Football thread, the bloody nerve.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by imp - 27-03-2008 18:16

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Are the Accies equipped for the SPL? I haven't been since they moved from Douglas Park. They supposedly have an American defender, or at least he's American-born or raised or something. Forgotten his name. And the bloke called Offiang who always scores, I bet someone else nabs him before next season. Please, I hunger for news from Hamilton.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by blameless - 28-03-2008 10:31

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Accies are now the proud owners of New Douglas Park, which is situated in Hamilton about a quarter of a mile from their old midden.

NDP has two stands in an "L" configuration (one along the touchline, one behind the goal), and has a plastic pitch. Whether this makes them SPL-compliant or not depends on what version of their "rules" the SPL are using this week.

Richard Offiong is indeed the lad who scores most of their goals, but they also have a teenage prodigy in midfield called James McCarthy, who was the subject of a tug-of-war between the Scotland and Ireland U-19 teams (I think he plumped for Ireland in the end).

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Hofzinser - 28-03-2008 11:28

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I didn't know McCarthy had declared for Ireland. He was born and bred in Scotland, wasn't he? Is it another Aiden McGeady situation?

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Crusoe - 28-03-2008 11:29

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Is McCarthy the lad often linked with Liverpool?

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by blameless - 28-03-2008 11:31

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"yes", "yes," and "yes" respectively.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Hofzinser - 28-03-2008 12:02

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UEFA to investigate "anti-Queen, pro-IRA" singing by Celtic supporters in Barcelona.

I assume (and hope) that it's the IRA bit they are objecting to rather than the anti-Queen bit.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by falski - 28-03-2008 12:14

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Richard Offiong is apparently known by team-mates as Dick Awfyolong. I've no idea why.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Hieronymus Bosch - 28-03-2008 12:15

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Hofzinser wrote:

I didn't know McCarthy had declared for Ireland. He was born and bred in Scotland, wasn't he? Is it another Aiden McGeady situation?

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Like McGeady, he's getting some horrible sectarian abuse for it too. There was an interview with him in the Sunday Times recently which mentioned it.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Hofzinsler - 28-03-2008 12:19

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I'm not exactly shocked to hear that. There's no shortage of sectarian cunts in that part of the world.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Fuzzy Dunlop - 28-03-2008 12:44

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Hey, sectarianism! Are we warming up for tomorrow's OF game already?

Blameless - I thought the SPL had already decided that Hamilton's pitch had to go.

Did anyone see the U21s game on Wednesday? Apparently Kevin MacDonald scored a peach to win the game. Couldn't see us being able to hold onto him for much longer.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by imp - 28-03-2008 13:14

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Do you reckon it's worthwhile for a club like the Accies to go up? In one step they go from being a sort of local in-the-community team with a pitch everyone can use, to being wannabe big-timers for a year or two who will inevitably get dumped back down. Not that I want to defend plastic pitches, which I hate, but I can see why they make sense for a team this size trying to attract as many hearts and minds away from the OF as possible.

Crying shame about the McCarthy lad - that Scotland lost him, but primarily that he gets abuse for making a personal choice. I wonder how many more generations it will take for that kind of fuckwit to die out. Still, as a player, he must think, "I'm glad I opted for Ireland so I don't have these cunts cheering me on."

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Hieronymus Bosch - 28-03-2008 13:53

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I see Martin Bain is still trying to get the SPL season extended to accommodate Rangers, even though they themselves caused a lot of the mess by postponing their game with Gretna last December in order to prepare for the match against Lyon (and by not being able to win at home to Partick Thistle).

Is there no limit to the bastards' arrogance?

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by mike toreno - 28-03-2008 14:02

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Did anyone see the U21s game on Wednesday? Apparently Kevin MacDonald scored a peach to win the game

It was indeed a cracking finish. In fact all the goals in the game were rather good.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Hofzinser - 28-03-2008 14:12

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I think I'm right in saying that the season can only be extended if all other SPL clubs agree to it. If Celtic have any sense, they'll give it short shrift.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Duncan Gardner - 28-03-2008 14:26

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he must think, "I'm glad I opted for Ireland so I don't have these cunts cheering me on"

Ha ha. Co-ordinating travel plans at the FAI must be a nightmare now. What with the hapless Italian manager, Scottish best player, home fixture in England and Brian Kerr scouring the playing fields of Derry, Newry and Andytown for any random Taig good enough (as my good friend Bosch so charmingly put it).

Loth as I am to avoid barracking the old firm, haven't UEFA anything better to do than fine Celtic because some fans sing about the Bon Jovis? The racism in Spain and Italian violence, say.

Saturday's Irish Cup semi final between Criminalville and Linfailed has been deliberately timed to clash with the other gruesome twosome. Police are worried about repeats of the leg of lamb incident at Ballymena and the bottle thrown at Georgia's infant keeper.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Hieronymus Bosch - 28-03-2008 14:27

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Hofzinser wrote:

I think I'm right in saying that the season can only be extended if all other SPL clubs agree to it. If Celtic have any sense, they'll give it short shrift.

What's next? A request for Minister McCurry to referee all their remaining games?

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by blameless - 28-03-2008 14:31

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Fuzzy Dunlop wrote:

Blameless - I thought the SPL had already decided that Hamilton's pitch had to go.

Was this before or after Lex Gold and Chums threw their stadium rules out the window and let Gretna play some home games at Almondvale?

In any case, Accies have the SPL over a barrel due to Fairytale's imminent demise - if Accies win division 1 and refuse to replace the pitch, what are the SPL going to do - play a season with only 11 teams? Invite in Dundee or the Young Tories? Throw out St.Mirren so they can have an even number of teams?

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Hofzinser - 28-03-2008 14:37

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Or they could promote Dundee instead.

Edit: written before you wrote that last bit.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Fuzzy Dunlop - 29-03-2008 12:36

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what are the SPL going to do

A question which, I think, even they don't know how to answer. As you pointed out earlier they're pretty 'flexible' when it comes to rule changes. I guess any of your options are viable.

Hof has the right answer though.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by blameless - 30-03-2008 15:42

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Hamilton drop points to Thistle yet again. Fuzzy, if your lot do eventually overtake Accies, your players will owe ours half their promotion bonus.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Fuzzy Dunlop - 31-03-2008 10:07

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That game sounded like it was all Hamilton and your keeper was playing a blinder. I had a good old-fashioned shout at the radio every time a report came over.

your players will owe ours half their promotion bonus

Give us the three points tomorrow night and they could be in with a shout.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Dink - 31-03-2008 10:31

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Alloa 1 - 2 Ayr

If we manage to get into the promotion play-offs despite having to play Adam Coakley up front for so many games this season it will be faintly astonishing. I don't think I've ever seen a promotion chasing team with a less effective striker.

We largely dominated the possession on Saturday but with Coakley leading our line we consistently failed to turn good possession and some top quality balls into the area into goals. Coupling that with the defence having a day where they couldn't defend set-pieces and it was the perfect smash and grab effort from Ayr.

Can we please have at least one of our injured front players back for the remaining games?

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Hieronymus Bosch - 31-03-2008 14:09

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Inverness CT 3-4 Aberdeen

I wish I had watched this instead of the crud served up at IpoX.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Just Say No To Vorderman - 31-03-2008 14:31

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Hieronymus Bosch wrote:

I see Martin Bain is still trying to get the SPL season extended to accommodate Rangers, even though they themselves caused a lot of the mess by postponing their game with Gretna last December in order to prepare for the match against Lyon (and by not being able to win at home to Partick Thistle).

Is there no limit to the bastards' arrogance?

i seem to recall the SPL were fairly unsympathetic to Celtics build up of fixtures before the UEFA final in Seville :-(

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Fuzzy Dunlop - 02-04-2008 11:41

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Harry Wraggs 1 Dundee 0

Bah!

That is all.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by dalliance - 03-04-2008 09:13

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While not advocating that the season should necessarily be extended to assist Rangers, with the postponement of matches to help Scotland prepare for the Italy game and after Phil O'Donnell's death there have been what could termed as some exceptional circumstances.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Fuzzy Dunlop - 06-04-2008 12:07

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Morton 1 Dundee 2  
Hamilton 2 St Jings 0

Still 4 points in it as squeaky bum time fast approaches.

We've got Stirling at home and QoS away; Hamilton have Franchise (North) away and Clyde at home before we play each other at Dens on the last day.

Stirling may well already be relegated by the time we play them, so there's no way of knowing how that game will go. Queens are the big manky fly in our ointment though. We don't have a great record at Palmerston and I can see our title chances dropping away there.

Franchise and Clyde may still be battling to avoid the play-offs. Hopefully, they'll be able to nick points from Hamilton. I don't really see it happening, mind.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Hieronymus Bosch - 07-04-2008 19:55

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Aberdeen have just conceded a risible equaliser at home to Falkirk. A low cross into the box resulted in a mad scramble which culminated with the ball bobbling over the line in bizarre fashion. They're crediting it to Carl Finnigan, but it's

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effectively an o.g. by the goalkeeper Soutar.

I think this game decides which of them gets into the top six before the division splits in two.

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### Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Hieronymus Bosch - 07-04-2008 20:26

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Maguire puts Aberdeen back into the lead with about eight minutes left, squeezing the ball home from close range.

Robert Olejnik has been booked for protesting that the ball was over the byline when Aluko crossed it, but it wasn't. And it's not good goalkeeping by Olejnik, either -- he gave Maguire far too much of a sight of goal.

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### Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Fuzzy Dunlop - 08-04-2008 11:51

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Another record tumbled in Scottish football at the weekend - Fairytale v ICT managed to pull in 431 punters, beating the previous 'best' held by Fairytale and My Friends and Neighbours.

The fourth lowest crowd in the country. Even East Stirling v Elgin managed to draw more.

If Fairytale were a dog, you'd put them out of their misery.

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### Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by blameless - 09-04-2008 08:54

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Ach, shite.

Sorry Binos. Inevitable they would go down, but I really, really didn't want Thistle to be the ones to pull the trigger on them.

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### Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Fuzzy Dunlop - 12-04-2008 11:45

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Scottish Cup Semi.

QoS 1 Aberdeen 0

Mon the Doonhamers!

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### Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Fuzzy Dunlop - 12-04-2008 11:51

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1-1.

Pish!

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Duncan Gardner - 12-04-2008 11:56

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Bah, Aberdeen have equalised.

Just lapsing into the realm of daydream here- if rangers don't make the final, what will be the likely crowd?

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Fuzzy Dunlop - 12-04-2008 12:00

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Oh, I don't know about the daydream, Dunc. Thistle are capable of sneaking a win against the knackered Huns.

Two 1st Division teams, one from Dumfries - not a big crowd but Thistle should bring a fair few.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Fuzzy Dunlop - 12-04-2008 12:23

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2-1.

Could be a high-scoring game this one.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Fuzzy Dunlop - 12-04-2008 12:25

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Jesus. 2-2.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Fuzzy Dunlop - 12-04-2008 12:29

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3-2.

Is anybody watching this?

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Fuzzy Dunlop - 12-04-2008 12:32

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3-3.

Ha ha. It's fuckin' shooty-in at Hampden.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Fuzzy Dunlop - 12-04-2008 12:34

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4-3.

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I think I've tuned into a basketball game by mistake.

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**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by gerontophile - 12-04-2008 12:35

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I am watching it, but just speechless.

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**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by sidjames - 12-04-2008 12:35

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I'm watching because QOS are a team I've never seen play either live or on TV.

And they've just gone 4-3 up. Brilliant!

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**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by gerontophile - 12-04-2008 12:36

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This is the first time QOS have ever appeared on live TV.

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**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by Fuzzy Dunlop - 12-04-2008 12:38

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Is the defending as bad as it sounds on the radio?

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**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by Fuzzy Dunlop - 12-04-2008 12:44

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Come on lads. 10 minutes without a goal? Buck yer ideas up!

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**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by sidjames - 12-04-2008 12:45

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Aberdeen's centre backs are all over the place.

And now Aberdeen hit bar and post. Bold prediction - I think there may be more goals.

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**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by gerontophile - 12-04-2008 13:00

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What a fantastic tackle by the QoS defender.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by gerontophile - 12-04-2008 13:08

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Congratulations to Queen of the South. That was a brilliant effort.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by DG2 9BA - 12-04-2008 13:09

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Magnificent effort by the Doonhamers. What was it like on TV?

Er, bring on the Partick!

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by mike toreno - 12-04-2008 13:11

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Brilliant stuff. Shame it had to bust my coupon though.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Fuzzy Dunlop - 12-04-2008 13:11

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Whoo-hoo!

Now, mon the Harry Wraggs.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Melbourne Arab - 12-04-2008 13:37

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That was absolutely bloody brilliant. That one game has justified the expense of getting Setanta.

Has any team ever defended worse than Aberdeen?

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by gt3 - 12-04-2008 13:41

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That was hilarious. The game went from 2-1 to 4-3 in nine minutes!

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Hieronymus Bosch - 12-04-2008 14:12

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I slept it out and missed this entire game. Rats' arses.

I see ex-Celtic reserve Jamie McQuilken was playing in defence for QOTS today.

Just lapsing into the realm of daydream here- if rangers don't make the final, what will be the likely crowd?

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Hampden was a little under half-full this afternoon. A Partick-QOTS encounter would probably pull a crowd of maybe 35,000, with the extra 10,000 or so drawn in by the fact that it's the final.

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**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by dalliance - 12-04-2008 19:04

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That result has made my day, well done Queens. I know big, dastardly Rangers are probably going to spoil all the fun but it has been the most chaotically fun Scottish Cup competition I can remember.

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**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by imp - 12-04-2008 19:37

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This is the day to declare it loud from the rooftops - my Dad was born in Dumfries. Wahay!

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**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by dances with sheep - 12-04-2008 21:11

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What a fucking day. I just tried to post a 500 word cathartic rant only to be told I couldn't post it as I wasn't logged in. If I can find the strength, I will redo it later.

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**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by dalliance - 12-04-2008 23:16

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Anyone got a link to the goals at all ?

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**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by Hieronymus Bosch - 12-04-2008 23:23

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Here's one, filmed off a TV set.

<http://video.aol.com/video-detail/queen-of-the-south-goal-4-3-v-aberdeen/898276045>

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**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by Duncan Gardner - 13-04-2008 07:18

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Fuck it, I'm related to Imp. See ye and the pater at Hampden.

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**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by Fuzzy Dunlop - 13-04-2008 11:59

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Dundee 3 Stirling 0

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Franchise (North) 1 Hamilton 3

4 points and a +4 goal difference, and 2 games to go.

We've got everybody's favourite team from the south-west of Scotland away on Saturday. I expect to lose.

Hamilton have got Clyde at home. Clyde are still trying to avoid the play-off spot, but Hamilton have a great home record so the title race will be over next week.

Ochone, ochone...

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Fuzzy Dunlop - 14-04-2008 10:28

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Wankers In The Scottish Press: An Occasional Series.

Number 1 - Darryl Broadfoot.

Writing about Scotland's second UEFA Cup spot going to the 4th placed team in the SPL, rather than the runners-up in the 'sponsorless' Scottish Cup.

'... will be vindicated should Queen of the South find themselves in the embarrassing possession of a place in the UEFA Cup on the back of five games, only one against top-flight opposition.'

Darryl Broadfoot there. What a wanker.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Dink - 14-04-2008 10:37

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Alloa 2 v 0 Ross County

Two goals in the last 5 minutes were enough to see us climb back into 4th place, above Brechin. It was a fairly entertaining game (albeit Ross County are already champions and had nothing to play for) with a couple of great saves from Ray Jelema preventing County from scoring and a couple of goal-line clearances from County keeping us out until Andy Ferguson came on to scramble one goal over the line and score another from a suspiciously offside looking position. That makes it 5 goals from 6 starts for Andy Ferguson, if he'd been fit for most of the season I think we would have already claimed our play-off place.

Away to Airdrie (three victories against us already this season) next Saturday and a win there should ensure we end up in 4th place with already relegated Berwick our opposition in the final game of the season.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by blameless - 14-04-2008 10:54

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That's a spectacular piece of sneering by Broadfoot there, almost Spieresque in its snobbishness and disdain.

You know what? Fuck Darryl Broadfoot and his kind - if QoS do end up in the UEFA cup, they'll be there on merit. Forza Doonhamers!

(Oh, and apologies for not being able to make it a clean sweep for the SFL over the SPL this weekend, but at least we put up more of a fight than Sporting Lisbon did).

Dink - how are Bruno Ferguson and Flea doing?

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Fuzzy Dunlop - 14-04-2008 10:59

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They've still got to get past the Super Saintees, blameless. So the 1st Division Final is still on the cards.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Dink - 14-04-2008 11:16

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Their performances are very much in line with what, I guess, you'd be expecting.

Bomber is capable of putting in some fantastic performances in midfield but all too often goes missing in games. It isn't that unusual to realise that 15-20 minutes have passed since he last made a meaningful contribution in a match. Mind you, when he does do something it tends to be an important contribution either scoring or setting up a chance. I've perhaps been a bit harsh there, but he's a player who frustrates me as he is capable of being a very good midfielder indeed.

Flea is another utterly frustrating player. His delivery from set-pieces is fantastic and he is probably one of our more skillful players. Unfortunately we are playing him at left-back where he has a bad habit of either making costly errors or deciding that despite being surrounded by opposition players and on his own bye-line an intricate passing move is just what's needed to get us away from danger.

Having said all of that I'd be very happy to see them both at the Recs again next season - Bomber having signed an extension to his contract last week.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by blameless - 14-04-2008 14:36

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I can't believe Maitland is still persisting with Flea at left-back - that's a Dick Campbell idea, which is pretty much all you need to say about how stupid it is.

Mind you, at least you're playing Bomber in midfield - Campbell seemed to think he was a centre-half...

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Dink - 14-04-2008 15:38

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When your other options for left-back are Sandra Hodge and Ross Clark you begin to appreciate Flea's merits in that position. I think a proper left-back will be pretty high up Allan Maitland's wishlist for next season.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Dink - 15-04-2008 14:51

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Anthony McMullen has bought a 50% share in the Lionheart Consortium that runs Franchise. Expect to see a lot of property development going on around the stadium and Roddy Collins parachuted in as manager. On the plus side it will hopefully mean that the Emanuel Dorado situation finally gets sorted out and, fingers crossed, this might be the first step toward getting Pearse Flynn out of Scottish Football.

The BBC story is [here](#).

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by blameless - 17-04-2008 08:55

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Come the revolution, the bonfire for destructive club chairmen is going to be pretty crowded (Alan Mackin, Hugh Scott, Mad Vlad Romanov), but I'm sure we can find room on there for Pearse the Liar too.

Worrying news coming out of Firhill is that Alan Archibald's knee-knack is much worse than originally thought and they now think he'll be out until the end of the year. This has no bearing on this season (whether we finish 4th, 5th or 6th in the table is neither here nor there), but if not addressed this could ruin next season before it starts, as John Robertson isn't as good a centre-half as Archie, and David Rowson isn't as good a captain.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Fuzzy Dunlop - 20-04-2008 18:23

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QoS 1 Dundee 0  
Hamilton 2 Clyde 0

This is how it ends. Not with a bang but with a final whistle at Palmerston.

Ah well. Congrats and best wishes to the Accies. Plastic pitch or no plastic pitch, they've been consistently good the whole season and deserve the title. Hopefully they can make a good go of it in the SPL.

To be honest, I'm kinda glad we didn't make it to a winner takes all game next Saturday. I'm going to be off in the Hielands and I would have missed it, which would have been a sickener if we'd gone on and won the damn thing.

It also means that we have another season in the real greatest league in the world.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by blameless - 21-04-2008 07:15

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Commiserations, Fuzzy. Look on the bright side: Fairytale - if they survive - will be a shambles next season, leaving Thistle and Dundee in a straight fight for the title (Queen of the South won't be contenders as they'll be concentrating all their efforts on the UEFA Cup).

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Fuzzy Dunlop - 21-04-2008 12:14

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Cheers, blameless.

Queens will still beat us, no matter where they're concentrating their efforts. Bogey team bastards that they are.

Hopefully we can hold on to most of our players for next season, although I expect MacDonald to go sooner rather than later.

With ourselves, Thistle, St. Jings, a more grounded Dunfermline, a possibly revitalised Franchise, and trips to Dingwall back on, it should be another great season in the 1st.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Fuzzy Dunlop - 21-04-2008 12:47

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Did anyone hear Chick Young on the radio this morning?

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Apparently, Billy Reid didn't deserve the manager of the year prize because it was only the 1st Division. According to Chick, Walter Smith was the more deserving as Rangers were 'on the verge' of winning four trophies.

Now, if Rangers win the UEFA then he'd certainly have a great case. But the SPL, the Scottish Cup (neither of which have been won yet) and the League Cup? Titles that Rangers have won christ knows how many times? With the resources that Smith has? That's better than Reid's achievement with Hamilton?

Bawbag!

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Chippy - 21-04-2008 13:48

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Did anyone see this bizarre apology in the Sunday Herald?

<http://www.sundayherald.com/sport/shfootball/display.var.2210592.0.0.php>

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Dink - 21-04-2008 15:31

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Airdrie Utd 1 - 1 Alloa

Saturday saw us gain our first ever point against Airdrie United, the previous 7 league meetings have seen an aggregate score of 18 - 3 in favour of Scotland's second Franchise. In light of that I was delighted to get a hard fought draw that was enough to make sure we will go into the final game of the season knowing that a win will put us into the play-offs.

In the previous games against Airdrie we have stood off them and allowed them to play pretty passes around our players. On Saturday we accepted that we would have to get in their faces, put a foot in and foul players where necessary. This led to a far more competitive showing than in previous matches and after weathering some early pressure we took the lead with Kyle McAuley heading in after Chris Townsley had sent a cross back across goals.

It never seemed likely that we would be able to hold on to the lead and despite creating a couple of chances to extend our lead Airdrie were still the better team and they equalised through Bryan Prunty.

One game to go and if we manage to beat bottom of the league (and now managerless) Berwick next Saturday we will face either Clyde or Morton in the play-offs.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Gangster Octopus - 21-04-2008 15:40

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Dink wrote:

we will go into the final game of the season knowing that a win will put us into the play-offs.Good luck!

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Dink - 21-04-2008 15:57

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Cheers, although the truth is it would be a real surprise if we manage to get promoted through the play-offs (assuming we manage to get into them). Our record against Airdrie is, as I outlined above, dreadful. Our record against Raith is slightly better with two wins each this season, but the all time record is 23 wins for us and 43 for Raith.

We will meet one of those two in the final if we get through to that, so first we will have to beat the team that finishes 9th in the first division, either Morton or Clyde. Against Morton our record is even more pitiful than against Raith with 14 wins

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against 47 and last season when Morton ran away with the second division we won 1 and lost 3 against them. Thankfully Clyde are giving us a glimmer of hope with a record of 17 wins against 22 and until a few seasons ago we filled the role of their bogey team.

Of course being Scottish football nothing is ever simple, it could be that both of the play-off finalists get promoted depending on Gretna's fate. Also if Clyde lose Saturday's game 1-0 and Morton lose 2-1 then both teams will have identical points totals, goal difference and goals scored meaning they would have to play-off to see which team is in the play-offs.

Whatever happens this has still been a very good season for us as many people were tipping us for relegation at the beginning of the season. Instead Allan Maitland has put together a good, if unspectacular, team that is managing to compete well against teams with greater resources.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Fuzzy Dunlop - 22-04-2008 11:40

Did anyone see this bizarre apology in the Sunday Herald?

Yeah, I saw it Chippy. It's even more bizarre that the guy had written that phrase or that it managed to get through the editorial process. Did they really think that no-one would notice or take offence?

Latest rumours regarding our players exodus:

Kevin MacDonald to West Brom.  
Scott Robertson to United.  
Gavin Swankie to St Jings (or maybe Killie).

Swankie's a hot and cold player. The other two will be sorely missed.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Just Say No To Vorderman - 22-04-2008 13:40

is it any wonder we're paranoid?

[http://news.bbc.co.uk/sport1/hi/football/scot\\_prem/7360790.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/sport1/hi/football/scot_prem/7360790.stm)

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Fuzzy Dunlop - 22-04-2008 13:53

They're all out to get St. Mirren. Bloody Paisleyphobes!

It just wouldn't be the SPL without a court case to round off the season.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Duncan Gardner - 22-04-2008 14:00

Be honest Vordi, you're delighted with yet another excuse for moper\*.

I probably wouldn't have rearranged. Rangers and Celtic have large enough squads to cope with playing more games than everyone else. Other clubs will lose players to holidays etc. in late May.

On the other hand, fitting in cup replays and the resultant SPL postponements are an unfair disadvantage to their league

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opponents.

And of course, earlier this season they postponed a whole day's fixtures before the international date.

Let's hope the teddy bears lose to Fiorentina and make the whole thing unnecessary.

\* Most oppressed people ever (really, yes)

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Dink - 22-04-2008 14:03

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Yeah, bloody masonic referees they'll use every sneaky trick in the book.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Hofzinsler - 22-04-2008 14:51

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Yeah, Vorderman, it's all one big fucking conspiracy. For fuck's sake.

As for that apology that Chippy linked to, that I've only just seen, I'm astonished by it. Not by the content of it - although it's certainly noteworthy - but because I used to work alongside the writer of the piece, Kenny Hodgart, in the Herald offices when I was living in Glasgow.

And knowing him, I'm sure he'll be utterly mortified at being the centre of this story. The guy's a big Aberdeen fan and, if anything, I'm pretty sure would favour Celtic over Rangers. He certainly has no sectarian agenda whatsoever, and is actually a very decent and generally right-thinking guy who'll be hugely regretting his (decidedly ill-advised) choice of words.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Duncan Gardner - 22-04-2008 15:07

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That's hilarious as well as bizarre. Sub-editors eh?

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Dink - 23-04-2008 08:58

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Details of Gretna's debts have emerged from their administrators. Basically it looks as though, as suspected, they're fucked. The thinking at the moment seems to be that the SPL and the administrators will do everything they can to get Gretna through to the end of the season and then land the whole mess in the lap of the SFL. That way the SPL don't get made to look any worse than usual by having to figure out whether all of Gretna's results should be invalidated and the administrators get to keep on accumulating their fees.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Nil a fhios agam - 23-04-2008 13:38

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£250,000 for 5 weeks work for the administrators is a tidy sum. How do administrators fees work? Do they get first call on the assets or will they be included in a possible x pence in a pound creditors deal?

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Dink - 23-04-2008 15:33

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I'm fairly sure that the administrators get first dibs on any money that is lying around, judging by what has been said in the Gretna thread on Pie and Bovril.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Chippy - 23-04-2008 16:32

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Of course they do or they wouldn't do the work!

£200 per hour isn't particularly outrageous.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by blameless - 27-04-2008 09:19

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Quite an eventful last day to the regular season in the SFL... Clyde thump Stirling but still end up in 9th place because Morton win at Firhill (cue paranoid rantings about Thistle lying down so our old rivals end up in the shit), and Alloa hold off Peterhead for the last div.2 playoff place, despite the latter's surprise 5-2 away gubbing of Raith.

All of which leaves us with this play off semi-final line up:

Alloa vs Clyde (forza Wasps)

Raith vs Airdrie (forza Gli Azzurri Kirkcaldesi)

Arbroath vs Cowdenbeath

Montrose vs Stranraer

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Dink - 28-04-2008 14:04

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Alloa 2 - 1 Berwick

We got the win we needed courtesy of a performance that flirted with being disastrous but thankfully settled for just being really, really dreadful. Still, we managed to fluke the win that guaranteed we will be in the play-offs for the first division and, cliché that it is, that's really all that matters.

Scott Agnew gave us an early lead after he curled in a shot from the corner of the box after Derek Fleming had played the ball to him from a corner. We then missed two easy chances to score and that had a real effect on the players as for the remainder of the game they failed to string two passes together and Berwick went on to dominate the game. Despite us being really, really poor Berwick continued to squander the chances they created and when they did eventually score we managed to go back in front almost immediately from an Andy Ferguson header. The remainder of the game was a case of our players throwing themselves in front of the ball and thanking our lucky stars the referee missed what looked like a stonewall Berwick penalty.

4th place is a very good finish for us and marks a successful season in itself, so we can look forward to the two games against Clyde with any real pressure on the players.

Oh, and well done to the Shire - 41 out of 42. Let's hope that this is the beginning of better things and Spencer Fearne can continue to reverse the effects of Alan Mackin's attempts to run down the club.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Gangster Octopus - 28-04-2008 14:11

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Dink wrote:

Oh, and well done to the ShireFuck them. Vile filth.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Dink - 01-05-2008 10:12

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Alloa 2 - 1 Clyde

A really enjoyable game last night, which ended with us taking a slim lead into the second leg. Allan Maitland clearly set us up to attack Clyde with both Graeme Brown and Andy Ferguson up front and Scott Agnew and Andy Scott out wide. We carried that intention into the game and pushed forward from the off, almost getting our reward when Agnew hit the post with an effort from outside the area. We eventually scored after good work from Graeme Brown out on the left and despite Andy Ferguson's fresh air shot Andy Scott was on hand to finish.

To be fair to Clyde they came back into the game and could have equalised when they hit the post with a good low effort. We made it through to half-time with our lead intact but then faced a far more fired up Clyde team in the second half. Clyde equalised when a good free-kick found the bottom corner of our net and after that they really kicked on to try and win the game. Fortunately we had our super-sub and all round lucky mascot - Adam Coakley - to come off the bench and score a great curling effort from 25 yards out, giving us a single goal lead to take into the second leg.

The results of the other play-off games were:

Raith Rovers 0 - 2 Airdrie United

Arbroath 1 - 1 Cowdenbeath

Montrose 1 - 1 Stranraer

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Chippy - 01-05-2008 12:32

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I am thinking about going to the 2nd leg at Broadwood with some friends from Cumbernauld.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by blameless - 01-05-2008 12:38

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Take a warm jacket - despite the fact that one of the ends has been filled in, Broadwood remains a gie draughty place.

And after last nights results, it looks like Clackmannanshire's finest are our best hope of keeping division 1 a Buckfast-free zone next year. Come on you Wasps...

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Dink - 01-05-2008 13:58

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I'm not sure if the second leg will be quite as good as the first. I think we'll probably go for a more conservative line-up at Broadwood, bringing in Brown Ferguson for Andy Scott and probably starting Kyle McAuley in place of either Graeme Brown or Andy Ferguson.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by imp - 01-05-2008 21:42

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Is this the right thread to celebrate the glorious re-emergence of Glasgow Rangers FC as a major force in European football?

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Fuzzy Dunlop - 03-05-2008 12:27

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a Buckfast free zone

I don't know, blameless. I wouldn't be so quick to write off Raith. My Airdrie-supporting (and non Buckfast drinking) mate was very pessimistic despite the 2-0 lead.

I'm kinda split over this one. I want Airdrie to win because of my mate, but I'd like Raith to win because I love Stark's Park and have always had a soft spot for them.

Other than that - Mon the Angus teams!

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Fuzzy Dunlop - 04-05-2008 12:25

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Clyde 5 Alloa 3 (6-5 on aggregate)

Jesus, that must have been some game. Commiserations, Dink.

Airdrie 2 Raith 2 (4-2 on aggregate)

According to my mate, it was bad defending that gave Airdrie all four goals. Commiserations to Smallweed when he appears again.

So, Clyde v Airdrie for the right to play in the world famous In-Bru Division 1. Contrary to the prevailing opinion on this thread - Mon the Diamonds!

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Dink - 06-05-2008 13:03

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<http://i2.photobucket.com/albums/y28/dinkwasp/football/7432021000331006ae741c2188c50f1a2c0.jpg>

Clyde 5-3 Alloa (aet) (6-5 on aggregate)

Fucking hell - three goals in front on aggregate, less than 45 minutes to go, and your first goal of the game was a shot from 30 yards that was beautiful to behold. It really should be time to sit back and savour the moment as the players on the pitch play out the remainder of the game with nary a worry in their hearts. Unfortunately what actually happened was Brown Ferguson got injured, our midfield dropped out of the game, Gary Mcswegan began to cause our defence problems, Clyde pulled a goal back, our players visibly wilted as the difference in fitness between part-time and full-time teams really began to show and going into extra-time it really looked as though defeat was inevitable.

Looking back on the game now that a few days have passed Clyde were much the better team, probably deserved to go through over the two legs and our failure to deal with Masterton's corners was our downfall. But that doesn't make it any easier to take when you've somehow scrambled into a three goal aggregate lead. I know that we probably weren't good enough to go up and it could be that another season in the second division to strengthen the team is just what we need

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but, by fuck, that still doesn't stop it from feeling like a massive kick in the guts.

Oh well, roll on next year.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by blameless - 06-05-2008 14:08

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Condolences, Dink. Clyde winning at all is never a good thing, but Clyde in their current guise (The John Brown Bluenose Retirement Home Loyal) coming from 3 goals behind against a decent mob like Alloa is a real sickener.

Airdrie vs Clyde in the final. Ugh.

And if this weekend hadn't been shite enough already, Thistle's increasingly cunty board have restarted their campaign of victimising the people who run pfc.net. Fucking bastards.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by blameless - 08-05-2008 09:48

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Looking increasingly likely that Clyde will reverse the recent trend and escape relegation via the play-offs (both previous 9th placed teams have gone down). A 1-0 win at NewBroomfieldShyberryExcelsiorWhateverItsNameIsTheseDays Stadium in the first leg of the final means they're most of the way there.

And it looks like the division 2/3 play-offs are going to supply this year's "unfair" promotion. Arbroath - who finished in 4th place in division 3, thirteen points behind 2nd-placed Stranraer and thirty-six points behind champions East Fife - won the first leg of the play-off final last night, beating the aforementioned Stranraer 2-0.

Oh aye, and Rangers maintain their crawl to the SPL title, scuffing a 1-0 win over Motherwell at Ibrox.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by imp - 08-05-2008 15:34

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Blameless, if you've a minute can you drop me a PM with the story behind the pfc.net harassment? Or send an e-mail to: [webwatch@wsc.co.uk](mailto:webwatch@wsc.co.uk)

Cheers.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by blameless - 08-05-2008 15:53

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imp - will do, either this evening or tomorrow morning. There's a couple of points I want to check first (make sure I've got my facts straight).

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Melbourne Arab - 11-05-2008 03:02

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As I watched last night's fiasco from Ibrox on Setanta, I realised that David Murray was right when he said Scottish football is a laughing stock. I hope Murray will speak up in defence of Craig Levein when he appears in front of the tribunal to explain his post match comments.

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If Mike McCurry isn't biased, then he should obviously be suspended for not knowing how to do his job.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by You never take Gibraltar - 11-05-2008 08:28

Ooh, feel that conspiracy.

I look forward to seeing Dundee United's appeal. What will they demand? All Baptist refs to be burnt at the stake? Replacement officials from those epitomes of footballing non-corruption, Italy and Germany? Celtgers and Rangtic to start every game handicapped with a one-footed kickboxer?

McCurry- like every ref in the SPL- is assessed after every game, by both the clubs involved and independently. No doubt MA and all the deranged Old Firm fans on here will claim and counter-claim some ingrained bias at HQ, either to fix games or hide incompetent officials. But they should remember that once Levein and Lorraine Kelly calm down, someone from Tannadice will score McCurry out of ten. As they do every week. With a higher mark than most of his peers.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Melbourne Arab - 11-05-2008 11:56

You never take Gibraltar wrote:

someone from Tannadice will score McCurry out of ten. As they do every week. With a higher mark than most of his peers.

I think that's highly unlikely.

I don't believe "conspiracy" comes into it. McCurry's performance yesterday is easily explained - he was scared shitless. Until supporters of the Mickey Mouse teams can intimidate like the Gruesome Twosome nothing is likely to change. What we saw yesterday was just a bit more blatant than usual.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Just Say No To Vorderman - 11-05-2008 14:16

The highlights I saw last night were an absolute disgrace...surely to god Cousin will be punished for the headbutt on video evidence? neat the way the United player hardly flinches :-)

The ref's performance yesterday will go down in history as one of the most blatant. is it true he's retiring and asked for that game as his last at Ibrox?

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Impact Substitute - 11-05-2008 20:46

A more likely explanation for such refereeing decisions is the most simple - he bottled it. Referees at this stage of the season are conscious of the impact their decisions have. Giving a decision against a side challenging for the title has serious consequences, and no ref wants to give a decision that might be deemed crucial or decisive in the outcome. Hence you get decisions like yesterdays.

I wouldn't call it conspiratorial, but I find it to be no surprise that when critical incidents arise we see the decision going for the 'big' club.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Hieronymus of Hesselink - 12-05-2008 01:19

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I would hazard a guess that Impact Substitute and You Never Take Gibraltar haven't watched an awful lot of Scottish league football in the past eight or nine years if they reckon that what happened at Ibrox on Saturday was merely the product of honest human error. This is Mike McCurry that we are talking about.

McCurry has been a long-standing joke in the SPL (see below), and Craig Levein deserves a lot of praise for going public with this and spelling out what everyone has been able to see for a long time.

Yesterday, a clear-cut penalty when David Weir chopped Noel Hunt's legs from behind was not given. No red card for the attendant professional foul was given either.

Another red card for a punch in the face (Kirk Clubfoot on Noel Hunt) was not given.

An own goal by David Weir (with a Dundee United player offside but running away from the play at the time, and clearly not interfering with play, given that Neil Alexander was diving the other way, in the direction of the original shot!) was not given.

A red card for Daniel Cousin headbutting Lee Wilkie was not given. Instead McCurry brandished a yellow card, which means that he saw the incident but didn't want to send Cousin off.

Four big decisions and they all just happen to benefit Rangers. Mike McCurry cannot even be bothered to make it look good or semi-plausible. Dundee United have lost a place in Europe next season because of this guy.

All this "he's scared of being intimidated" stuff is a neat way of dodging the issue. This is not a case of an honest broker shitting himself in stressful times. And it does not involve Celtic in any way either, despite certain other posters' valiant attempts to drag them in with the usual "old firm" shite. What we have here is a biased referee who is consistently favouring one team again and again.

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/sport/main.jhtml?xml=/sport/2000/11/15/sfnabe15.xml>

[http://news.bbc.co.uk/sport1/hi/football/scot\\_prem/2438919.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/sport1/hi/football/scot_prem/2438919.stm)

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/sport1/hi/football/teams/d/dundee/4088257.stm>

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/sport1/hi/football/teams/m/motherwell/6226555.stm>

[http://news.bbc.co.uk/sport1/hi/football/scot\\_cups/7215941.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/sport1/hi/football/scot_cups/7215941.stm)

Today, Dougie McDonald was in a similar situation to McCurry yesterday. He was reffing Celtic-Hibs, a game with one side chasing the title and another going for a European place, just like Saturday's match. It was a very eventful game, with a lot of good football played by each side. He did an excellent job apart from refusing a penalty to the home team when Ian Murray got Gary Caldwell in a headlock and wrestled him at a set-piece. That's okay -- these things happen, and any ref can make a mistake. McDonald didn't get anything else wrong today.

Mike McCurry is a different kettle of fish altogether. The whole of Scottish football knows what he's about. That is why Craig Levein went mental yesterday and screamed at McCurry: "Why don't you just blow the whistle cause we won't get anything?"

Here's Levein's radio interview on Saturday evening. Have a listen.

<http://media.putfile.com/Craig-Levein-post-match-interview>

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Melbourne Arab - 12-05-2008 03:28

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The interesting thing about the disallowed goal was McCurry's positioning - he could not have been better placed. The linesman may have mistakenly thought that Robertson, not Weir, scored the goal (and then tried to cover himself by claiming that Robertson was blocking the keepers view 25 yards out from goal) but McCurry was just 5 yards away. He couldn't possibly have missed that it was Weir who diverted the ball into the net. Weir, of course, then put his head in his hands knowing he'd scored an own goal. There were no protests at all from Weir or any other Rangers player that Robertson was offside.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by You never take Gibraltar - 12-05-2008 09:31

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I think that's highly unlikely

In the Melbourne Sunday leagues, like all grass-roots leagues everywhere, all refs get marks from both teams. Any refs seeking to progress to higher leagues get further marks from independent assessors. So of course the same system, writ large, applies in the SPL. The refs with the highest marks get the most games in the highest division, as you would expect. And usually, such refs would expect to do a disproportionate number of games involving the leading teams in the top division. (Perhaps someone familiar with the SPL's appointments system could confirm whether this happens, or alternatively if Old Firm games go at random to anyone eligible for the Premier league).

Even if the latter, McCurry (or any other referee attracting occasional hysterics from daytime TV presenters, or the more consistent inanity from Kerrydale Street or Kilmacud) is clearly one of the 10- 20 objectively best officials in the country. How and why exactly is it "highly unlikely"?

McCurry's performance yesterday is easily explained - he was scared shitless

A more likely explanation for such refereeing decisions is the most simple - he bottled it

Of course he might have been scared shitless, but it's hardly the easiest explanation. He's been refereeing for 25 years and has done plenty of other high profile games, as Vitriol von Heavylump reminds us. Somehow failing to lose his Premier League status in the process.

I would hazard a guess that You Never Take Gibraltar hasn't watched an awful lot of Scottish league football in the past eight or nine years

You'd be wrong. I watch it on TV just like you. Anyway, on your references:

"The report of the referee supervisor who was at Pittodrie is the only evidence that will be considered", said the SPL after Aberdeen- Rangers in 2000. And did the supervisor not back McCurry? Or is he in on the freemasonic conspiracy too?

Did the SPL not punish Bobby Williamson, rather than McCurry, for the former's accusation of bias in 2002? Or they all in on the scam too? Fuck's sake, it's like Murder on the Orient Express this...

Jim Duffy thought a penalty award was highly controversial. Coincidentally, that's exactly what 17 bad tempered Dundee United players, subs and officials said to me after a similar incident in a recent London Supporters' Club League Division 2 tussle. But since I award a spot-kick every fifth or sixth game on average, I wouldn't draw too many conclusions from another ref getting stick for a dodgy decision four years ago.

Maurice Backpass suggests that McCurry wasn't biased, but "conned" by a Rangers player. So as he's conned so often, I wonder why he stays on the top list. Might it be that other refs are conned more often?

Christian Nade was fouled outside the box and Hearts didnae get a penalty? Jizzens!

The whole of Scottish football knows what he's about

The whole? Excluding the part that's in on the conspiracy, ye mean?

And it does not involve Celtic in any way either, despite certain other posters' valiant attempts to drag them in with the usual "old firm" shite

While I will equally valiantly try to avoid dividing the whole of Scottish society into pro- and anti- Celtgers and Rangtic camps, this is just a wee bit disingenuous. In a competition where the gruesome twosome almost invariably fill the top two places, any bent or incompetent ref whose decisions favour Rangers is bound to disfavour Celtic.

There were no protests at all from Weir or any other Rangers player that Robertson was offside

I think we're agreed he was onside.

is it true he's retiring and asked for that game as his last at Ibrox?

You tell us. And if so, it suggests what exactly?

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As I suggested in a previous post up-thread, bent referees aren't exactly unknown in other football leagues. McCurry may well be culpable. But let's see some evidence that his errors in big games lead to low marks and thus deserved demotion, eh?

Craig Levein deserves a lot of praise for going public with this and spelling out what everyone has been able to see for a long time

For fuck's sake. He's a ranting football manager who lost a goal or two unluckily. If the rant's followed up with a demand for systematic evidence of McCurry's failings, maybe he deserves to be lauded for forcing out bad officials. That'll make the fine for abusing McCurry bearable, I suppose.

Er...you've just listed other examples of managers making similar claims dating back to 2000. So Levein's hardly the first to go public. Although presumably the SPL didn't find the others' evidence conclusive.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Hofzinsler - 12-05-2008 10:00

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The idea that because the SFA and match supervisors tend to back the refs in these situations can only mean either that the refs are right or that there's some sort of pro-Rangers conspiracy afoot is ludicrous, and doesn't suggest a great deal of knowledge about how these things work in the Scottish league.

Equally, punishing a manager for speaking out against a terrible referee does not mean the SFA are saying the ref did a good job, and nor does it mean that there is conspiracy afoot. It's just what the SFA do. It counts as absolutely fuck all evidence that the referee is any good at all.

I'm wondering if you actually saw McCurry's performance on Saturday. It was worse than just an off-day. It was worse than just one terrible decision. It was a systematic series of terrible, inexplicable decisions, all of which favoured one team. I honestly can't remember a worse performance (and that's if we are charitable and assume it was due to gross incompetence).

On the basis of Saturday's match, even if McCurry was at one time a good referee, he is no longer able to be relied upon to get even fairly straightforward decisions right and should be immediately told that his services are no longer required.

If he does continue to get appointed in top games then this won't - as you seem to suggest - indicate that he is actually a pretty good referee. It will indicate that the whole system of appointing referees in the Scottish leagues is flawed.

I honestly don't think there's any excuse for Saturday's performance. On the most charitable interpretation possible, he's utterly incompetent and not fit to referee professional football matches ever again.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by You never take Gibraltar - 12-05-2008 11:50

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The idea that because the SFA and match supervisors tend to back the refs in these situations can only mean either that the refs are right or that there's some sort of pro-Rangers conspiracy afoot is ludicrous, and doesn't suggest a great deal of knowledge about how these things work in the Scottish league

You say tending to back the refs, I say appointing the refs with the highest marks to the top games. Marks awarded not merely by shadowy assessors, but by the clubs. So Craig Levein or his assistant, if not Lorraine Kelly, as well as all the other whingers listed by our Dublin correspondent. I only raised the possibility of a pro-Rangers conspiracy sarcastically (as I hope you realised). Without it, my conclusion that Mike McCurry has long been one of the top 10-20 referees in the SPL (and so presumably better than the rank and file in lower leagues) is fair, I think. Unless I've missed some crucial aspect of how the SPL (like every other league) works in appointing its refs. If so, please enlighten us. Otherwise, your suggestion of lack of knowledge just reads like lazy rank pulling.

Equally, punishing a manager for speaking out against a terrible referee does not mean the SFA are saying the ref did a good job

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I don't suggest it does. There are two separate processes. In one, the SFA should punish Levein if guilty of publicly accusing McCurry of dishonesty. In the other, they should withhold top games from the official- relegate him to lower-ranked games, or ultimately relegate him from the league list.

It counts as absolutely fuck all evidence that the referee is any good at all

I think it does. He stays on the list, so there's presumably some evidence (from his marks). If not, how does he stay on the list? Are the SPL referees like the House of Lords, or College of Cardinals?

I'm wondering if you actually saw McCurry's performance on Saturday

Only the highlights. I agree there were three bad decisions at least- I saw the non-offside goal, the non penalty and the non dismissal of Cousin.

if we are charitable and assume it was due to gross incompetence

That sounds like pretty lame charity to me. Come on, spit it out. I think he was incompetent in this game- YOU see a liar and a cheat.

he is no longer able to be relied upon to get even fairly straightforward decisions right and should be immediately told that his services are no longer required

If his marks are that low, and a result he doesn't get any more games, fair enough. it's a results business, after all. Equally, if he's retiring. Maybe his successor will be better.

If he does continue to get appointed in top games then this won't - as you seem to suggest - indicate that he is actually a pretty good referee

It will suggest- I repeat- that prima facie he's one of the top 10- 20 referees in the league, and thus hopefully the country. The rest may be worse than hopeless, of course.

It will indicate that the whole system of appointing referees in the Scottish leagues is flawed

Indication without evidence?

PS I've just had a text (from another reader and sometime poster), congratulating Hof for having "roundly ridiculed" my "usual bullshit". Normally I'd put the pair in touch, but for the little inconvenience that one previously dismissed the other as "constantly brain-numbingly inane in just about everything he said, to be frank. And if he wasn't being inane he was being sectarian...unless has had a brain transplant in the last three months, there's little reason to suppose he'd be any less inane"

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by EIM - 12-05-2008 11:54

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I wonder who that could have been?

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by The\_Liquidator - 12-05-2008 12:39

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I didn't text him.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Harry Parsons - 12-05-2008 12:46

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Is YNTG real and did he have a different name previously?

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by You never take Gibraltar - 12-05-2008 12:48

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Yes, I change my user name occasionally. Although possibly not as often as you.

Otherwise, what's your point?

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Harry Parsons - 12-05-2008 12:54

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Well, if you go back and read my post it was a couple of questions not a point as such. I have regrettably little knowledge of Scottish football, you see.

I was just wondering what your previous moniker was and quite how much of the above is a wind-up.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Melbourne Arab - 12-05-2008 13:07

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You never take Gibraltar wrote:

He stays on the list, so there's presumably some evidence (from his marks).

If his marks are that low, and a result he doesn't get any more games, fair enough. it's a results business, after all.

So what constitutes an acceptable mark?

Rangers will obviously award McCurry 10 out of 10 and Craig and Lorraine will give him 0.

10 out of 20 = 50%. In my O Grade days, that was a pass. Is there a system whereby the 2 Establishment Clubs have their votes weighted?

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by You never take Gibraltar - 12-05-2008 13:09

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The first question was loaded, Harry.

If you really don't follow Scottish fitba (although didn't you have a spell working in nearby Carlisle?), why would you assume ANY of my contributions up-thread were winding up? I've answered points by others in some detail, I think.

As for the second question, if you show me yours etc.

Arab- in the leagues I've refereed in (more Ferguslie Park than Firhill), between 60% and 70% was typical. Of course sometimes I and others scored tending to zero, but if repeatedly then we'd be downgraded. You'll note that I mentioned my own game in Division 2- I was relegated in 2006 alas.

If McCurry regularly scored 50%, either he'd have been relgated or the overall average must be lower.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Melbourne Arab - 12-05-2008 13:09

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Here's a statement from that fine body The Rangers Supporters Trust:

In recent days, Dundee United have now heaped embarrassment twice on themselves and Scottish football.

By supporting the fixture scheduling demanded by the cowardly hand of hidden forces that permeates Scottish football their anti-Rangers agenda was exposed. Now their disgraceful attack on one the most respected referees in our game appears to have reinforced their bitterness against our club.

Today's laughable 'complaint' shows all the recklessness of a Willo Flood (!!!???) passback.

The RST calls for Rangers to decline any ticket allocation for Tannadice next season and urges all Rangers supporters to back this course of action.

Let's see whether the loss of at least £250,000 income is easier to swallow than their anti-Rangers bile.

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### Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Nil a fhios agam - 12-05-2008 13:29

Did Willo Flood play a reckless passback or is it just a coincidence that they singled out a Irish Dundee United player?

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### Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Melbourne Arab - 12-05-2008 13:37

It was Mark Kerr who made the terrible passback in the League Cup Final.

United's Irish players (notably Noel Hunt) were subjected to lots of chanting about the potato famine on Saturday. I reckon we should complain about that as well. A couple of years ago, Rangers reported United to the SFA for "sectarian singing" by the away fans at Ibrox:

Hello, Hello how do you do?  
We fuck the boys in royal blue  
We fuck the boys in emerald green  
We are the boys in tangerine

being the offending song. Now that United have 4 Irishman in the team we seem to be public enemy number 2. Which is great.

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### Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Melbourne Arab - 12-05-2008 13:44

In the weekly email I get sent from Tannadice, there was a piece last week saying that United had been bombarded with abusive emails and phone calls over our refusal to agree to a postponement of Saturday's game so Rangers could prepare for the UEFA Cup Final. This is despite the fact no-one actually asked United for a postponement.

Rangers didn't object to United playing away to Celtic 4 days before the League Cup Final and I don't remember much assistance coming our way in 86/87 when we played 6 games in 18 days including 3 cup finals.

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### Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Harry Parsons - 12-05-2008 13:46

You never take Gibraltar wrote:

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The first question was loaded, Harry.

If you really don't follow Scottish fitba (although didn't you have a spell working in nearby Carlisle?), why would you assume ANY of my contributions up-thread were winding up? I've answered points by others in some detail, I think.

As for the second question, if you show me yours etc.

Fuck me, you're a bit touchy! I suppose dwelling in the internicine tribal hotbed of the Scottish Football threads can do that to a man.

I think that a fair amount of the style (if not necessarily the content) of all your posts I've seen is intent on winding up. Same with your screen name and profiles. It's not a crime, I am just interested.

My screen name always has "Harry" in it if you really need some help in identifying me.

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### Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by the cantering captain - 12-05-2008 13:48

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Flood made an identical disastrous back pass to Kerr's during the game at Tannadice a couple of weeks ago.

This title race is producing alot of good games, and it is going to be fascinating to see if Rangers blow a gasket over the next 2 weeks.

Harry, one thing you should know about Scottish football is everyone loves talking about refs. Personally, I thought he bottled it, nothing more. He'd have had to give a penalty from 30 yards away , directly behind the players, without the confirmation of his linesman, and overrule a linesman on an offside.

One thing I couldn't believe over the weekend was how quiet Parkhead was, the ref at Ibrox seemed affected by the atmosphere, but the Celtic fans just didn't seem bothered at 0-0 against Hibs. It's like they want Strachan to fail.

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### Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Hofzinsler - 12-05-2008 13:51

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The Rangers Supporters Trust like to present a veneer of respectability but this sort of outburst exposes them for the shower of meatheads that they really are.

It's representative of what seems to be an increased militancy about Rangers fans in recent months, however.

The outspoken (and completely wrong) comments by David Murray regarding the fixture rescheduling last week seems to have come about after he was stung into action by a mobilisation of fans looking for a more bullish attitude from the club.

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### Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by You never take Gibraltar - 12-05-2008 14:23

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Fuck me, you're a bit touchy! I suppose dwelling in the internicine tribal hotbed of the Scottish Football threads can do that to a man

I only come in occasionally, usually when old firm self-pity gets out of hand. Otherwise, I'm no more touchy than a Porthcawler accused of Cardiff gloryhunting.

I think that a fair amount of the style (if not necessarily the content) of all your posts I've seen is intent on winding up. Same with your screen name and profiles. It's not a crime, I am just interested

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Guilty as charged, probably. I think it's partly down to the medium. Doesn't everyone on here do it? My profile refers a supporters' chant in recent games against Spain, as part of the OTF tradition to associate with a finalist in the imminent fiesta de futbol.

My screen name always has "Harry" in it if you really need some help in identifying me

I was thinking more of your real (sur)name. Unless I imagined the whole thing in a sunstruck haze, ain't you the poster who detailed his playing career at Carlisle United and Stockport County, inter alia?

I was previously known as (and will likely revert to) as a Belfast-based horticulturalist.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Dink - 12-05-2008 14:43

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Posted on the SFA's Whistleblower site -

Referee Michael McCurry has today moved to explain the reasoning behind two of the decisions he took during this weekend's match between Rangers and Dundee United at Ibrox.

"In the 55th minute of the match Rangers were in possession of the ball and attempted to clear it from their defensive area. As is normal practice, I started to run towards the half way line, anticipating the ball being cleared from defence. The clearance, however, was not successful and the ball struck Noel Hunt of Dundee United, who then played a very quick "one-two" allowing him to chase the ball into the penalty area closely followed by David Weir of Rangers.

"At this point, given the very quick change of the direction of play, I was caught out of position and my line of sight was partially obstructed by another player.

"I saw Noel Hunt fall to the ground with David Weir in close proximity behind him. As my vantage point was extremely poor it was not possible for me to say what or, if any, infringement had occurred.

"Given this significant doubt in my mind it would have been improper for me to simply conclude that an infringement had occurred on the opposite side of the field of play from me. On this basis, I had no option but to allow play to continue amidst the appeal for a penalty kick.

"I have now had the benefit of seeing the incident again on television. I believe that were it not for the fact that I had been caught out of position by the quick transfer of play I would have awarded Dundee United a penalty and would have cautioned the Rangers player David Weir. In my opinion there was another defender in close proximity with the possible opportunity to make a defensive challenge on the attacker.

"In the 71st minute Dundee United were in possession of the ball and Danny Swanson shot towards the Rangers goal from approximately 30-35 yards. The ball appeared to me to be deflected off a Rangers player and entered the goal.

"As I turned to award a goal to Dundee United it was brought to my attention that the stand side Assistant Referee had his flag raised signalling that an offside infringement had occurred. I also noticed that a Dundee United player required medical treatment.

"Having made sure that the player received the required treatment, I then went across to the Assistant Referee and confirmed that he was signalling for an offside infringement. He confirmed this was the case and informed me that a Dundee United player had been in an offside position and that he had played the ball prior to it entering the goal.

"I informed the Assistant Referee that it appeared to me that the ball was deflected off a Rangers player. The Assistant Referee told me that he had not seen it touch a Rangers player but had definitely seen it played by the Dundee United player, David Robertson. Given that David Robertson was behind the Rangers player, my view was such that I could not tell if the ball had been played by Mr Robertson last before entering the goal. Consequently, I decided to accept the advice of my Assistant Referee.

"Again, having had the opportunity to review the incident on television, it is clear to me that the ball is not played by the Dundee United player Robertson who was, however, technically in an offside position and was in close proximity to the ball.

"I can understand the difficulty faced by my assistant referee in this incident and why, David Robertson may have been

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considered offside.

"Again, with the benefit of seeing the incident again numerous times on television, I consider it would have been more appropriate to conclude that the player, David Robertson, was not involved in active play and would have allowed the goal to stand."

Scottish FA Chief Executive Gordon Smith said:

"Everyone at the Scottish FA is hugely disappointed in the accusations that have been levelled at one of our match officials following the match at Ibrox on Saturday. To impinge on a man's integrity in this way is extremely unfair and does nothing to encourage more people to take up refereeing.

"Michael McCurry has been a top class referee for a number of years and has handled many a high profile, high pressure game. He has shown his own strength of character by being willing to be up front with his explanation of why he made these crucial decisions during the game.

"To suggest that there was any kind of agenda behind the decisions made on the day does a massive disservice to the game and, quite frankly, is completely unfair.

"Football is a game played by people and people can make mistakes. It is always frustrating when decisions go against you - but this has been a part of football since the game started. We rely on our referees to make decisions in a split second and without the benefit of countless replays. I think that it is extremely sad that an honest, dedicated professional has been treated in this way."

My own take on it is that it's simply a referee giving the benefit of the doubt to the big team in an important match. It has happened in Scottish football for years and it will continue to happen for years to come. I'm sure I can recall Andy Walker, a few years, back talking about, when he started out at Motherwell, how surprised he was at the way Old Firm players got the benefit of doubt from referees, then he went to Celtic and that only confirmed his thoughts. Mind you, despite a bit of googling I haven't been able to find anything to confirm that I'm remembering this correctly.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Harry Parsons - 12-05-2008 14:43

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You never take Gibraltar wrote:

I only come in occasionally, usually when old firm self-pity gets out of hand. Otherwise, I'm no more touchy than a Porthcawler accused of Cardiff gloryhunting.

And that's pretty fucking touchy.

I think that a fair amount of the style (if not necessarily the content) of all your posts I've seen is intent on winding up. Same with your screen name and profiles. It's not a crime, I am just interested

Guilty as charged, probably. I think it's partly down to the medium. Doesn't everyone on here do it?

I certainly do.

I was thinking more of your real (sur)name. Unless I imagined the whole thing in a sunstruck haze, ain't you the poster who detailed his playing career at Carlisle United and Stockport County, inter alia?

Well Harry isn't my real forename. It was actually me who imagined my former footballing career as it was a complete lie I had forgotten about.

I was previously known as (and will likely revert to) as a Belfast-based horticulturalist.

Ah! Thank you Duncan, I couldn't quite place the style, as you were.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Dink - 12-05-2008 14:54

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On to slightly more important matters and we've announced the list of players that we are releasing - Michael Bruce, Adam Coakley, Alan Comrie, Ross Clark, Derek Fleming, Sandy Hodge and Chris Mackie. In addition Scott Agnew has left us to sign for Ayr. We're left with the nucleus of a decent team as almost all of the guys who were left were fringe players, the exceptions being Scott Agnew and Derek Fleming. Our remaining players are:

Raymond Jellema

Fraser Forrest  
Scot Buist  
Chris Townsley  
David McClune

Francis Kelly  
Steven McKeown  
Brown Ferguson  
John Grant  
Dougie Wilson

Joe Andrew  
Graeme Brown  
Kyle MacAulay  
Andy Ferguson and  
Andy Scott.

We really need to bring in a backup goalkeeper, a new left-back, a centre-half, a left winger, and another centre midfielder. The current rumour-mill has us bringing in Dougie Hill (centre-half) and Pat Scullion (hard working midfielder) from Cowdenbeath.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by ursus arctos - 17-05-2008 12:43

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C'mon Motherwell.

1-1 with 8 minutes gone in the second half.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by ykikamoocow - 17-05-2008 13:47

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1-1.

Walter Smith did what he did against Zenit and threw 3 up front - it didn't work then and it hasn't worked today. Motherwell should take a lot of credit in battling all the way considering they had already qualified for Europe.

Still think it'll go to the wire though.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Rogin the Armchair Fan - 17-05-2008 18:01

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I'd hate to be a Rangers fan tonight. They got to a European final that they lost, and now they've bollocksed up the title

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(the way I'm reading the table, if Celtic beat St.Mirren in their final match it's all over).

I feel a bit sorry for them in a way, like I did for Ipswich in 1981 (although they did win the UEFA Cup) and Spurs the year later, who were up for everything in March, but lost the League and League Cup to Liverpool and the Cup-Winners' Cup semi to Barca.

I think Dundee United have previous in this too, don't they - weren't they once nailed on for a double, but then lost both the Cup Final and their last league game 3-0, or something?

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by gerontophile - 17-05-2008 18:06

Celtic are away to Dundee Utd on Thursday in their last match. Rangers are away to St Mirren on Monday night, before going to Aberdeen on Thursday.

Theoretically, and quite possibly, Rangers could stuff the saints on Monday, and the goal difference would disappear.

And you might mean Hearts... they lost their final league game 2-0 to Dundee, and Celtic won 5-0 (or 5-1).

(sorry to be picky)

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Rogin the Armchair Fan - 17-05-2008 18:08

Dundee United, is it, sorry, not St Mirren.

Even so, if Celtic win that game even 1-0, Rangers need to win their last two games by a total of about 9 goals, don't they?

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by gerontophile - 17-05-2008 18:11

Pretty much, yes. I will be bricking it come Thursday... and probably it wont be on TV.

\*Scratch that. Both games are on Setanta.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Melbourne Arab - 17-05-2008 23:30

Rogin the Armchair Fan wrote:

I think Dundee United have previous in this too, don't they - weren't they once nailed on for a double, but then lost both the Cup Final and their last league game 3-0, or something?

We should have won the league in 86, the year everybody remembers as the one Hearts threw away.

Celtic and Hearts finished level on points with United 3 behind. After we lost 3-0 to Hearts in the "league decider" (nobody thought Celtic had a chance at that stage) the players gave up and we lost 2-1 at home to St Mirren and 2-1 away to Clydebank. Obviously, we would have won the league if we'd won those two. Hearts also beat us 1-0 in the Scottish Cup semi after we played them off the park.

Last night's result hilariously now means that Rangers will need to rely on their new mortal enemy doing them a favour against Celtic in the last game. If we lose, we will obviously be accused of lying down and rolling over - what else can you

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expect from a club with 4 Irish players that used be Dundee Hibernian and has had a green away strip twice in recent years?

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by GypsyDownUnder - 19-05-2008 04:41

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Albeit that since 86, it only involves 2 teams, but Scotland does put on a tight finish to its Leagues.

I remember the 86 well. A few years ago I got talking to a bloke at a work drinks thing. We got on well and got pissed. I've always been nervous declaring a scottish team, but I have a slight yearning for Celtic. Anyway this bloke was a Celtic fan too. . So well later on, when he was pole-axed, he declared, "Sure I won the League for Celtic". I thought he was joking until I realised I was actually talking to Albie Kidd.  
Top bloke he was too.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Melbourne Arab - 19-05-2008 05:04

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I was at Easter Road watching the Hibs-United game the day Kidd scored those goals. The atmosphere in the last few minutes was magnificent.

It was 1-1 with about 5 minutes to go when Stuart Beedie scored the winner for United. At almost the exactly the same time, Albert Kidd scored the first for Dundee. We then had the extraordinary sight of thousands of Hibs supporters apparently cheering wildly just as the opposition had scored against them (obviously, we'd all worked out was going on).

As the last few minutes played out, and news came through that Kidd had scored a second, there was a real carnival atmosphere in the ground. Feeling bitter and twisted about what Hearts had done to our season (and they were a really ugly team to watch), I enjoyed it immensely.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by trimster - 19-05-2008 05:59

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Alby Kidd has lived in Adelaide for years- played for West Adelaide Hellas in 89-90 in the old NSL, coached state league clubs here for years, and currently does radio commentaries on Adelaide United's A League games for 5rph.

He sounds like a bit of a perfectionst- he has a thing about "strikers not doing their job and putting away easy chances...."

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by GypsyDownUnder - 19-05-2008 09:07

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Yep, Trim, I was living in Adelaide in 98/99 and that's where I met Alby Kidd.

He was coaching at Elizabeth at the time. Enjoyed a drink.

MA did you know a brother of the famous Dundee Utd Bannons lived in Melbourne? Another top bloke I've imbibed too much with.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Senyor Pirotecnic - 19-05-2008 09:15

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Didn't the Hibs supporters club vote him Player of the Year ... two years running?

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**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by Dink - 19-05-2008 12:06

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It looks like Gretna are a step closer to going out of business. The administrator set a deadline for bids of midnight on 17 May and that passed without an acceptable bid being made, although their latest statement claims that they are still negotiating with an interested party. The administrators then met with staff this morning and all of Gretna's staff have been made redundant.

Now, when are the BBC going to show repeats of their Living The Dream documentary.

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**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by gerontofiel - 19-05-2008 18:53

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0-1 to Rangers 4 minutes gone. Fuck.

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**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by Impact Substitute - 19-05-2008 19:02

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Rangers are playing three up front tonight - they're looking to close the seven goal difference with Celtic.

They're on their way. Another 2003 could be on the cards.

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**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by gerontofiel - 19-05-2008 19:11

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0-2 Darcheville. Double fuck.

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**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by gerontofiel - 19-05-2008 19:15

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and a big punch up

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**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by Impact Substitute - 19-05-2008 19:23

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Was wondering what happened there. Don't have the Setanta pay channel so I'm watching updates on the BBC website, and there was four bookings for unsporting behaviour at 29:10.

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**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by Kowalski - 19-05-2008 19:30

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For the Cup Final

[http://www.classicfootballshirts.co.uk/Other-UK-Clubs-Scottish-Clubs-Other-Scottish-Clubs/c76\\_77\\_168/p7354/1985-87-Queen-of-the-South-LS-Home-Shirt-L/product\\_info.html](http://www.classicfootballshirts.co.uk/Other-UK-Clubs-Scottish-Clubs-Other-Scottish-Clubs/c76_77_168/p7354/1985-87-Queen-of-the-South-LS-Home-Shirt-L/product_info.html)

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**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by gerontofiel - 19-05-2008 19:33

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Unfortunately I cant help IS. All the P2P's are shite, so I am listening to it on the radio.

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**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by Impact Substitute - 19-05-2008 19:43

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Not at all. I'm quite enjoying it this way. You wait for the two minute updates in great anticipation - it feels like anything can happen.

I might watch Scottish football this way in future.

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**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by ursus arctos - 19-05-2008 19:45

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Try this media player stream

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**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by gerontofiel - 19-05-2008 20:02

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cheers ursus. I think it may have reached its client limit. And as Impact says, I am enjoying watching it on the radio.

\*although as Rangers are winning 2-0, enjoy isnt the correct word.

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**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by gerontofiel - 19-05-2008 20:15

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0-3 and about 20 odd minutes left

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**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by ursus arctos - 19-05-2008 20:34

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Less than five left now.

I still can't figure out how Fiorentina lost to Rangers.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by gerontofiel - 19-05-2008 20:40

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finishes 0-3 to Rangers... roll on Thursday.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by ursus arctos - 19-05-2008 20:41

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0-3 full time.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Duncan Gardner - 20-05-2008 08:16

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Leaving aside for a moment my feelings for both Rangtic and Celtgers, it's a pity they didn't score another two or three last night. Imagine the delighted screams of outrage if there was only a sliver of goal difference between them.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by ykikamoocow - 20-05-2008 09:49

---

At this stage, I'm nervous. I don't know why – for Celtic to be level on points with a better goal difference was the best possible scenario prior to the two Old Firm games at Celtic Park. It is simple enough really; should Celtic win on Thursday that should be enough. However on the last 2 occasions that Rangers have won the title they did it on the last day of the season. I have visions of Celtic conceding an equaliser at the last minute whilst Rangers nick a winner in injury time.

At least Celtic will go to Tannadice with no major injury worries; furthermore they will be galvanised with the desire to win this one last game for Tommy Burns, whose funeral takes place today – if the minute's silence(or applause) that should take place before kick off doesn't stir Celtic then nothing will. However Craig Levein may be just as determined, given the decisions that went against Dundee United at Ibrox you get the feeling that he won't offer any favours to one of the Old Firm. And Barry Robson has been inspirational of late, but coming back to the club that sold him in January will be a tough test for him.

Rangers won't get an easy ride at Pittodrie either, but the fatalist in me believes that they will win and the conspiracy theorist in me believes that they will win by five clear goals. But I think Strachan's handled the whole thing well, not getting drawn into what Rangers do on the pitch. Even if Rangers were ahead on points, his approach to Thursday would still be the same – to go out and win. Let's hope.

=====

## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Dink - 21-05-2008 14:17

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Well, we've made our first signings of the (almost) close season. Dougie Hill and Pat Scullion have signed for us from Cowdenbeath.

Dougie Hill was with us a few seasons back playing as a left full-back, since then he has moved to playing centre-half and was Cowden's player of the year last season. According to Cowden fans he is quick, strong in the tackle, great in the air and able to play the ball out from the back - I suspect they may be over-hyping him slightly.

Pat Scullion is a tough tackling centre-midfielder. To be honest I can't really remember him from his games against us but if he lives up to his billing he should add some much needed bite and defensive cover to our midfield.

Now - a left back, a left winger, a creative midfielder and a pacey striker please Mr Maitland.

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**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by gerontofiel - 22-05-2008 17:33

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well, the nerves have begun, and due to unforeseen circumstances, I will have to settle for radio commentary, and hope that our friends at Sopcast can sort themselves out enough to show a clear picture.

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**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by 1845 and all that - 22-05-2008 18:49

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They're under way at P & T. Synchronised kick offs to allow for minute of silence at Tannadice.

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**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by gerontofiel - 22-05-2008 18:54

---

minutes applause, which both sets of fans joined in.

=====

**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by ad hoc - 22-05-2008 18:59

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The matches are both on (not quite sure what criteria they use to switch between them yet) on a Romanian channel called Sport 1 - not sure if that's available on Sopcast, but if so, that's one to try

=====

**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by gerontofiel - 22-05-2008 19:02

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What a fantastic save by the United keeper with McGeady clean through.

=====

**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by gerontofiel - 22-05-2008 19:03

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and channel 3842 is doing the Celtic game in English, with a decent picture on Sopcast

=====

**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by 1845 and all that - 22-05-2008 19:04

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Sorry, minute's applause. So far, United have created two decent chances while Celtic have forced two saves. Nothing clearcut at Aberdeen.

=====

**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by gerontofiel - 22-05-2008 19:51

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From what I can work out, Dundee Utd came right back into it just before the break.

Halftime 0-0 in both games.

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### Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by E10 Rifle - 22-05-2008 20:00

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Ger, yeah they did. Celtic look a bit frightened in front of goal at the moment - they don't look much like scoring.

---

### Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by bckjags - 22-05-2008 20:02

---

Unlikely scenario of the day from a funny guy on radio scotland. 'if its 1-0 to aberdeen and 5-0 to dundee utd, rangers win the league'

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### Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by rick derris - 22-05-2008 20:09

---

1 0 aberdeen!!

---

### Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by GypsyDownUnder - 22-05-2008 20:11

---

yesssssss. Get it.

---

### Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by ursus arctos - 22-05-2008 20:14

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Sky Calcio is actually doing a multiplex for these, switching from Aberdeen to Dundee on the basis of where the most action is.

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### Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by ursus arctos - 22-05-2008 20:18

---

Woo hoo.

---

### Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by gerontofiel - 22-05-2008 20:18

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YA FUCKING BEAUTY... Go the Dutchman!

---

=====  
**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by E10 Rifle - 22-05-2008 20:23

---

2-0 Aberdeen. Heh heh.

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=====  
**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by gerontofiel - 22-05-2008 20:23

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I really used to hate Aberdeen

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=====  
**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by Harry Carpenter - 22-05-2008 20:23

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The Dons have a second

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=====  
**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by rick derris - 22-05-2008 20:24

---

2 0 aberdeen

---

=====  
**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by ursus arctos - 22-05-2008 20:24

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This is turning into a classic meltdown for Rangers.

C'mon QoS.

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=====  
**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by Harry Carpenter - 22-05-2008 20:24

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I know very little about these things but this link is good;

[http://www.justin.tv/widgets/jtv\\_live.r7031.swf?channel=mstv](http://www.justin.tv/widgets/jtv_live.r7031.swf?channel=mstv)

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**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by ursus arctos - 22-05-2008 20:25

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Novo sent off at Pittodrie.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by rick derris - 22-05-2008 20:25

---

nacho novo off. straight red

---

## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Harry Carpenter - 22-05-2008 20:25

---

Misses the Cup Final

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by ursus arctos - 22-05-2008 20:26

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Are there any Tangerines at Tannadice? At least two of the stands appear to be all Celtic.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by rick derris - 22-05-2008 20:29

---

if celtic spend 45 mins in the ground jumping up and down, i take it when they get on to the road back to glasgow it will be full of disgruntled rangers fans who left aberdeen on the final whistle

---

## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by gerontofiel - 22-05-2008 20:31

---

yes, its almost a certainty that their paths will cross at some point... and as both trains arrive at the same station, you wont be able to move in Queen Street for coppers.

---

## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by ale - 22-05-2008 20:36

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incredibly Celtic are two goals and two points off being champions for eight consecutive seasons...

---

## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by EIM - 22-05-2008 20:37

---

Wonderful news about Rangers, of course. Shame it's Celtic who are benefiting.

Large numbers of Manchester United fans are marvelling at the way karma is working over the past two days. They've gone all spiritual, man.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by gerontofiel - 22-05-2008 20:39

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fantastic... fan-fucking-tastic.

---

**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by 1845 and all that - 22-05-2008 20:40

You're not just playing for a football team, but a people and a cause

What a load of sanctimonious shite. I know it's a quote from Tommy Burns, but even so.

Nacho Novo is a naughty boy- sent off for two footed lunge with the referee, a Padre Pio of Piacenza, mere centimetres away.

Er, hail hail.

Anyone heard from OTF's resident Chelsea/ Rangers squad?

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**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by Harry Carpenter - 22-05-2008 20:40

Am I completely wrong in thinking the turnaround in this title race has coincided with Lennon going to coach at Celtic?

---

**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by ursus arctos - 22-05-2008 20:40

Come back Hieronymous, all is well north of Hadrian's Wall.

Congrats to Hof, Gero and Vonderman, too. And condolences to dalliance, wherever he is.

I may just watch the Cup Final now.

---

**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by gerontofiel - 22-05-2008 20:41

commiserations to all the Rangers fans here... too many games in too short a time done for you.

---

**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by GypsyDownUnder - 22-05-2008 20:41

briliant.

great link harry.

thanks.

i'll have to find out more about how these things work

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**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

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Posted by Rogin the Armchair Fan - 22-05-2008 20:42

I can see Celtic's "karma" balancing out vis-a-vis League battles with Rangers, but United's? That's two European Cup Finals out of two won despite being hopelessly outplayed while your opponents repeatedly hit the woodwork instead of finishing the game off? I rather think Man U have stocked up that much "yin", they'll probably need to get relegated to a league several below FCUM to make it up to the world ...

---

**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by Harry Carpenter - 22-05-2008 20:44

I was anticipating the Celtic team all wearing shirts with Burns' name and number on for the presentation, no sign of it yet.

---

**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by EIM - 22-05-2008 20:45

Ah, we missed you last night, Rogin.

Hopelessly outplayed. Apart from the half a match where they hopelessly outplayed Chelsea?

Anyway, this aint the thread for it. Huzzah for Celtic and Aberdeen and also to the Family Ness. You can knock it, you can rock it, you can go to Timbuktu, but you'll never find a Nessy in the zoo.

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**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by Harry Carpenter - 22-05-2008 20:46

Ah, t-shirts dedicated to him instead.

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**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by Blue is the Cuellar - 22-05-2008 20:49

Bah. The fcukers get a bye into the next Chumps' League and all.

---

**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by Melbourne Arab - 22-05-2008 22:06

Can't believe we only finished 5th after such a fine season - and below Aberdeen!

---

**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by GypsyDownUnder - 23-05-2008 00:02

I'm pissed off with Aberdeen too. How come they didn't lose, that way Celtic could have won the league on goal difference.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by bruno glanvilla - 23-05-2008 08:02

---

Am I completely wrong in thinking the turnaround in this title race has coincided with Lennon going to coach at Celtic?

no. you are spot on.

this occurred to me watching the game last night. no idea what he has brought or if it is coincidence, but it is a fact that results have improved since he returned to the club (in fact i think they have won every game).

=====

## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by ykikamoocow - 23-05-2008 10:38

---

Dundee United competed well and for me won the midfield battle on the night. Celtic needed a fantastic corner from Hartley to settle it, and I was glad that V of H got the nod as he battled for everything. And that sums up Celtic's title win. It was a triumph based on character over craft.

Neil Lennon's appointment was also a masterstroke – with McManus being so young a skipper then it's good to have his predecessor on hand for guidance. It's like Lennon is still the captain, but in more of a Ryder Cup non-playing sense. Either way, it's done the trick.

Billy McNeill's also called for supporters to back Strachan. Personally, I think wee Gordon likes a scrap. If the fans said 'never mind' after Celtic lost at home to Motherwell instead of 'fuck off', then Celtic may not have found the spirit that saw them claw back a 7 point deficit to a three point lead in seven games. As Montgomery Burns once said, keep your friends close and your enemies closer.

=====

## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Harry Carpenter - 23-05-2008 10:42

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bruno glanvilla wrote:

Am I completely wrong in thinking the turnaround in this title race has coincided with Lennon going to coach at Celtic?

no. you are spot on.

this occurred to me watching the game last night. no idea what he has brought or if it is coincidence, but it is a fact that results have improved since he returned to the club (in fact i think they have won every game).

Well, according to wiki he started as a coach on April 3rd and the did lose the game to Motherwell on the 5th but have won every one since then.

Good point from ykikamoocow about a "Ryder Cup" style captain's role.

I wonder if a lot of Martin O'Neil's former players are going to have a good go at management?

=====

## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by blameless - 23-05-2008 11:06

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Have none of the Aberdeen fans from the old board migrated over here?

I thought they'd have been in their element last night - short of UEFA reinstating the ECWC so the Dons can have another go at winning it, beating Rangers to deny them a title is about the most fun an Aberdeen fan can have in the last game of the season.

Oh, and a loud, nay defeaning "COME ON!" to Queen of the South. Despite the grim spectres of Celtic collecting another title, Man U and Chelsea contesting the CL final and Dick Advocaat winning a European trophy, this season will still be a

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resounding success if a 1st division team can turn over one of the OF in the cup final.

FORZA DOONHAMERS!

=====

## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Hofzinser - 23-05-2008 11:22

---

Six short weeks ago I was contemplating the grim possibility of this being the worst footballing season ever (in fact, I think I may have said something to that effect shortly after Rangers beat Fiorentina).

And now look. Rangers not just beaten in the UEFA Cup final but disgraced by their fans for all of Europe to see.

John Terry missing that penalty for Chelsea.

And then Celtic snatching the title that looked guaranteed to be Rangers' on the last game of the season. With them losing at Pittodrie and getting Novo sent off into the bargain.

I actually kind of agree with gypsydownunder - it may have been even sweeter if Rangers had beaten Aberdeen and lost the title on goal difference but I'm not going to quibble about that.

Life is good.

=====

## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by chippy - 23-05-2008 12:30

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and he still thinks he isn't a Celtic supporter..

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by mike toreno - 23-05-2008 12:50

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Congrats to Celtic and come on QoS! I can't see it happening but...

=====

## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Dink - 23-05-2008 13:44

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It looking increasingly likely that Mark McGhee is going to be the new Hearts manager as Hearts approach Motherwell for permission to speak to McGhee. I'd be very surprised if this was being done without Romanov and McGhee having already come to an agreement. So, how many games before McGhee resigns or Romanaov sacks him?

Oh and, C'mon QOS.

=====

## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Hofzinser - 23-05-2008 14:05

---

and he still thinks he isn't a Celtic supporter..

Haha. I'm quite happy to be thought of as a Celtic supporter, to be honest. As I've said a couple of times on here before, since moving to London I've found myself cheering them on with more gusto than I did previously.

---

In a head to head contest for a trophy, I'd still support the likes of Hibs, Aberdeen, Dundee United, Motherwell etc. over them. But since in practice that rarely happens, I suppose I am to all intents and purposes a Celtic supporter (or fan, or however the "real fans" on the other thread wish to class it).

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### Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Hofzinser - 23-05-2008 14:08

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I don't know what Mark McGhee is thinking. Why would he walk away from a European campaign and a very decent team at Motherwell to go and work for a lunatic like Romanov? Madness.

=====

### Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by ursus arctos - 23-05-2008 14:12

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You're a Celtic simpatizzante, Hof.

It's such a common attribute in Italy that we have a word for it.

You can try it out next time you're strolling through Islington . . .

=====

### Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Blue is the Cuellar - 23-05-2008 14:13

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Presumably the lairy Livonian is offering him more lucre?

I am quite looking forward to seeing Stephen Craigan in Europe, actually.

PS yesterday's Daily Camerograph had an interview and photo with a large family from East Kilbride (Hof's home town, I think). I was delighted that not one of the 11 kids was wearing a gruesome twosome replica (or any other club's, admittedly).

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### Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by gerontofiel - 23-05-2008 14:17

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"I was born under a Wand'rin Star" has just come on the radio... bliss.

=====

### Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Hofzinser - 23-05-2008 14:39

---

"Simpatizzante" - I can live with that.

Yeah, that family has been in a lot of papers, Dunc, including the Guardian. I've been following the story with some amusement.

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### Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Dink - 23-05-2008 15:03

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Despite Hearts' flirtatious advances and McGhee's come hither looks it seems that Motherwell are keen to ensure that their man remains faithful - or ensure that they get a bigger payout from Hearts.

=====

**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by Reed of the Valley People - 23-05-2008 16:09

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[http://foros.eluniversal.com.mx/blogs/imagenes/Nelson\\_Muntz\\_rie2.jpg](http://foros.eluniversal.com.mx/blogs/imagenes/Nelson_Muntz_rie2.jpg)

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**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by smallweed - 23-05-2008 20:27

---

Hello again everyone. New messageboard, eh? I'll be disappointed if I don't find the same old people talking the same old shit - I certainly intend to do so myself.

So how was the end of the season for everyone? I've been away for a bit.

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**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by Ralph Dangerfish - 23-05-2008 21:01

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Your fellow Raith fan has been caught putting next year's season ticket on expenses.

=====

**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by ykikamoocow - 24-05-2008 08:13

---

Alas McGhee has been in this situation before where he walked away from Leicester, who were doing pretty well if memory serves before a certain Martin O'Neill came along, to join Wolves. It was not one of his better moves.

As long as Romanov is around the managerial position at Hearts offers as much stability as a tightrope in an earthquake. McGhee, like Craig Levein and even possibly the Moose at Hibs, is on the cusp of providing the nearest thing that Scottish football have had to a New Firm in 20 years. He should stay, no question.

=====

**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by I.Wright - 24-05-2008 09:41

---

Aye, it seems to me both the OF have had as many tough games in the spl as i can remember in recent years. No easy games etc has never been truer, however the 20 plus points gap between the top 2 and the rest suggests otherwise.

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**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by gerontofiel - 24-05-2008 14:09

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Lee McCulloch booked for Rangers within 4 minutes.

=====

**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

---

Posted by gerontofiel - 24-05-2008 14:34

Kris Boyd scores a belting 25 yarder. 1-0 to Rangers.

=====

**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by rick derris - 24-05-2008 15:15

ha ha ha

2-2 now

=====

**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by Impact Substitute - 24-05-2008 15:20

This has just got very interesting. Wonder how Rangers legs hold up if there's an extra 30 minutes to play.

That's some tache on Kris Boyd. He looks like Midge Ure.

=====

**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by gerontofiel - 24-05-2008 15:21

I dunno... I switch over at half-time, and forget to turn it back, and when I do its 2-2. Rangers look knackered already, and are starting to flap a bit.

=====

**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by blameless - 24-05-2008 15:28

Shit, we're one goal from the most sensational result in the entire fucking history of Scottish football.

COME ON, DOONHAMERS!

=====

**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by gerontofiel - 24-05-2008 15:31

bollocks

Boyd again with a header, and its now 3-2 with about 20 to play.

=====

**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by blameless - 24-05-2008 15:35

Erse!

Come on, you mad Dumfries bastards, you can do this.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by gerontofiel - 24-05-2008 15:49

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Great tackle by Boyd on the linesman there. Dropped him right on his arse.

=====

## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Jorge Porbillas - 24-05-2008 15:51

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I logged on especially to ask about Boyd's stupid 'tache. He looks like a 15-year-old who's proud of his bum fluff

=====

## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by gerontofiel - 24-05-2008 15:54

---

bugger... Well done Rangers, and especially well done Queen of the South for putting up such a bloody good fight.

=====

## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by blameless - 24-05-2008 15:58

---

Ach, what a shame. Well done QoS, thoroughly deserving of your UEFA Cup place, no matter what that snobby prick from the Herald thinks.

=====

## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by dances with sheep - 24-05-2008 16:16

---

Yeah, I'm still here but there seems little point in crowing over Rangers loss. The season ended for me after the Scottish Cup semi. By all accounts, Pittodrie was absolutely rocking though.

I still don't see why a losing cup finalist should get a European place. I would say that if it was my own team as well.

How poor has Barry Ferguson been in these recent crunch games for Rangers ? He stank the place out today.

=====

## Imagine no Old Firm

Posted by Duncan Gardner - 24-05-2008 18:08

---

Scottish League Division 1, 2008

1 Motherwell 27 15 3 9 48  
2 Dundee United 27 13 6 8 45  
3 Hibernian 27 12 7 8 43  
4 Aberdeen 27 12 7 8 43  
5 Falkirk 27 11 9 7 42  
6 Hearts 27 10 8 9 38  
7 Inverness CT 27 10 3 14 33

8 Kilmarnock 27 8 8 11 32  
9 St. Mirren 27 8 8 11 32  
10 Gretna 27 4 5 18 17

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## Re:Imagine no Old Firm

Posted by Rogin the Armchair Fan - 24-05-2008 18:11

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No hell below us, above us, only Sky ... (well, Setanta)

---

## Re:Imagine no Old Firm

Posted by smallweed - 29-05-2008 15:54

---

Gretna have been relegated to the third division - which almost certainly means the only potential buyers will pull out, they'll go under and there'll be a league spot open to new bidders.

In the meantime Airdrie and Stranraer can get on with planning life in divisions 1 and 2 respectively.

---

## Re:Imagine no Old Firm

Posted by smallweed - 03-06-2008 10:25

---

Cumnock Juniors 1 Bathgate Thistle 2

Scottish Junior Cup Final, at Rugby Park on Sunday. Half-decent game, reasonable standard of football though there were very few chances. Cumnock took the lead with a very sweet volley in the first half, Bathgate plugged away and finally came up with two late-ish goals, the winner (which probably crossed the line) coming from, of all people, Paul McGrillen - I had no idea he was still alive.

So that's the season finally over. As anticipated, Gretna's only interested party have withdrawn their offer so we're just waiting for the formalities of them being kicked out, with Spartans, Annan, Preston Athletic and Cove Rangers the four teams most expected to be lining up bids for the vacant third division spot.

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## Re:Imagine no Old Firm

Posted by blameless - 03-06-2008 11:23

---

Jeezoh, Mowgli must be about 40 by now.

Several minor occurrences over the last few days (assorted journeymen changing clubs, Czech Republic reserves beating Scotland's 3rd XI 3-1, Fairytale crawling slowly towards the exit door), but the biggest and best story has to be this:

Good Fucking Riddance.

One less thieving, lying bastard in the Scottish game has to be good news. Now where did I put that voodoo doll of John Yorkston...

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## Re:Imagine no Old Firm

Posted by Ralph Dangerfish - 03-06-2008 11:37

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Spartans, Annan, Preston Athletic and Cove Rangers

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Greek, Ghanaian, English and Irish respectively?

You'd think that after bringing in one unsustainable club from another country, the Scottish authorities would have learnt a lesson.

=====

## Re:Imagine no Old Firm

Posted by Melbourne Arab - 03-06-2008 11:51

smallweed wrote:

with Spartans, Annan, Preston Athletic and Cove Rangers the four teams most expected to be lining up bids for the vacant third division spot.

What about Gala Fairydean? Don't they always get a mention when there's a place available?

=====

## Re:Imagine no Old Firm

Posted by Dink - 03-06-2008 12:17

smallweed wrote:

As anticipated, Gretna's only interested party have withdrawn their offer so we're just waiting for the formalities of them being kicked out,

And the fat lady has finally sung as Gretna resign from the SFL. Hopefully they can start up again as a community club in either the South of Scotland league or even back in the pyramid down south. Just as long as they stay well away from eccentric sugar daddies they should be able to build themselves back up to what they were before Mileson arrived on the scene.

=====

## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by ykikamoocow - 03-06-2008 12:36

Maybe this lot should take Gretna's place, if only to give East Stirlingshire a fighting chance....

Highland League 2007/2008

Fort William 28 1 0 13 12 72 0 0 14 4 86 -142 3

It is to my eternal regret that when I stayed there just over a month ago I didn't watch them play when I had the chance - I had visions of me and the Mrs starting a riot Sid & Doris Bonkers-style in a vain attempt to get the game abandoned. I may have even got a game...

The final result that day was...

Fort William FC 0  
Inverurie Loco Works 13

=====

## Re:Imagine no Old Firm

Posted by Gangster Octopus - 03-06-2008 14:12

smallweed wrote:

with Spartans, Annan, Preston Athletic and Cove Rangers the four teams most expected to be lining up bids for the

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vacant third division spot.Ooo, I hope it's Spartans. They'll keep up the wonderful Scottish habit of having teams with names unrelated to their town/city. Unless there actually is a town or city in Scotland called Spartans...

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## Re:Imagine no Old Firm

Posted by chippy - 03-06-2008 14:36

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Edinburgh, Annan, Prestonpand and Aberdeen respectively.

Aberdeen could really do with a second league club, although they might not agree which one would become the catholic club.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Hofzinser - 03-06-2008 14:37

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Well it won't be the one called Rangers...

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by blameless - 03-06-2008 14:41

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GO: most of the teams applying for the place aren't directly named for their town: there is no place called Preston in Scotland (it's Prestonpans), and the village of Cove technically doesn't exist any more (it was swallowed up by Aberdeen years ago).

Only those radicals at Annan Athletic have actually used their town's name.

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## Re:Imagine no Old Firm

Posted by Gangster Octopus - 03-06-2008 14:41

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Hmmm, the last time that Edinburgh were given a new league team, it ended up going horribly wrong. What's to say that it won't happen again.

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## Re:Imagine no Old Firm

Posted by blameless - 03-06-2008 14:44

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Well, the last time the SFL allowed in a team from Dumfries and Galloway it all ended in tears, but that's no reason to keep Annan Athletic out.

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## Re:Imagine no Old Firm

Posted by chippy - 03-06-2008 14:47

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Just as likely an exact repeat of the Nice Ground, No Fans scenario. I think a few of the Meadowbank fans went on to support Spartans and Edinburgh City. Maybe there would be some justice.

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## Re:Imagine no Old Firm

Posted by dglh - 03-06-2008 14:52

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I know a lot of them who moved on to Edinburgh City. They never mentioned Spartans, so that is probably true as well.

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## Re:Imagine no Old Firm

Posted by You never take Gibraltar - 03-06-2008 15:00

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I hope it's the D&G option, if only through knowing Annan as a pleasant stop on the route to Stranraer.

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## Re:Imagine no Old Firm

Posted by gerontofiel - 03-06-2008 15:48

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I dont often join in the Scottish thread, unless Celtic are doing well, but now that Gretna are proved to be the shambles that everyone suspected, its time for the Juniors to get a chance, as some of them did well in the cup.

Whoever wins the Junior league, should play off with the Highlands and/or Uplands league winners (I know less than zero about title names) to get into the 3rd division, where they will equip themselves really/fairly well... any of them.

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## Re:Imagine no Old Firm

Posted by smallweed - 03-06-2008 16:29

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The likes of Pollok and Linlithgow Rose could no doubt do pretty well in the Scottish third, but as far as I know there are no clubs interested in bidding, they're preferring to stay junior.

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## Re:Imagine no Old Firm

Posted by smallweed - 03-06-2008 16:31

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And yes, good riddance to Pearse Flynn. He won't be missed.

The new owners will no doubt be aware of the Manny Dorado situation, so I would presume some sort of resolution to that would have to have been sorted out as part of the deal?

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## Re:Imagine no Old Firm

Posted by gerontofiel - 03-06-2008 16:58

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font has changed again!

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bA6OwycDpfY&feature=related> (its only sound)

Billy Connolly strikes again.

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## Re:Imagine no Old Firm

Posted by smallweed - 03-06-2008 17:22

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Proctor sacked by the new regime at Livi.

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## Re:Imagine no Old Firm

Posted by chippy - 04-06-2008 07:40

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I think we need to campaign to reinstate Meadowbank Thistle. With average crowds approaching 1,000 they would be a better bet than any of the proposed candidates.

However there should be conditions like:

- Ban on Terry Christie's 7-2-1 formations
- Move the park closer to the stand

The Commonwealth stadium needs to be preserved or else they could play at City Park.

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## Re:Imagine no Old Firm

Posted by blameless - 04-06-2008 10:16

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Aye, the return of Meadowbank (minus the offside-trap-toting human duffel coat) or Clydebank (minus the Steedmans) would be fitting. As would booting Franchise into the East of Scotland league for Flynn's financial jiggerypokery.

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## Re:Imagine no Old Firm

Posted by gerontofiel of trutje - 04-06-2008 12:16

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(whisper... by Franchise, do you mean A\*\*dr\*e U\*\*\*\*d? Please dont tell anyone... )

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## Re:Imagine no Old Firm

Posted by ursus arctos - 04-06-2008 12:23

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I don't claim fluency in Pie&Bovril speak, but think that

Franchise = Livingston  
Fairytale = Gretna

Personally, I'm hoping for a return for Third Lanark, but somehow doubt that is on the cards.

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## Re:Imagine no Old Firm

Posted by gerontofiel of trutje - 04-06-2008 12:37

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If I am wrong and not for the first time, I think that I will stand clear.

As far as I know, Airdrie polevaulted. I cant remember Livingston doing so (but I was asleep then, cos Celtic were shite, which proves me as a pure gloryhunter, ya bassa)

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## Re:Imagine no Old Firm

Posted by blameless - 04-06-2008 13:38

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The abridged Pie & Bovril lexicon:

Franchise = Livingston  
New Franchise = Airdrie United  
Franchise (England) = MK Dons  
Fairytale = Gretna  
Fermers or St.Jings or Young Tories = St.Johnstone  
Luvvies = Partick Thistle  
Ugly Sisters = Old Firm

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## Re:Imagine no Old Firm

Posted by Dink - 04-06-2008 14:07

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ursus arctos wrote:

Personally, I'm hoping for a return for Third Lanark, but somehow doubt that is on the cards.

Third Lanark (or at least a resurrected version of them) are back at Cathkin Park and playing in the Glasgow Amateur Leagues. Unfortunately I don't think a return to the SFL is on the cards any time soon.

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## Pearse Flynn

Posted by smallweed - 18-06-2008 21:17

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Further to the aforementioned departure of Pearse Flynn, he's given the Livi fans his own little parting shot, enough to give the uninitiated just a taste of an idea of the measure of the man.

Check out posts 13 and 28 on this thread on Livi's forum. (And yes that is Flynn's own log-in, he'd used it in the past in official capacities.)

<http://www.livilions.co.uk/forums/showthread.php?t=13376>

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by mike toreno - 18-06-2008 23:16

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Quote:

Originally Posted by Plug  
Who are / what is Livingston FC?

nothing without me or my money

Fuck me. Just when you think your opinion of someone can't get any lower...

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Dink - 03-07-2008 14:07

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The newest member of the Scottish Football League is Annan Athletic, taking the place of near neighbours Gretna. The BBC has some information on their bid here:

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[http://news.bbc.co.uk/sport1/hi/football/scot\\_div\\_1/7479486.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/sport1/hi/football/scot_div_1/7479486.stm)

It looks as though Galabank is a tidy little ground and it was reported to have impressed the inspectors who went over Annan's bid. It's also vaguely amusing that Spartans lost out after much of the Scottish media assuming they were favourites to get in largely because they were shouting the loudest.

It's always good to get a new team, and a bit of variety, into the league it's just a shame there's no proper pyramid structure to let it happen naturally.

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**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by Gangster Octopus - 03-07-2008 14:09

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Was there an Annan team in the Scottish League during that boom period in the twenties?

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**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by Dink - 03-07-2008 14:31

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Hmmm, I'm not really up on my SFL stats but you could always try the Pie and Bovril stats forum,

<http://www.pieandbovril.com/forum/index.php?showforum=55>

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**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by blameless - 03-07-2008 14:37

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Well done and welcome to Annan.

Their manager is the indestructible Harry Cairney, the only man to be given a testimonial by two different teams - he played 10 years for Stenhousemuir, and then another 10 for Brechin.

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**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by Gangster Octopus - 03-07-2008 14:44

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Gangster Octopus wrote:

Was there an Annan team in the Scottish League during that boom period in the twenties?

To answer my own question: Yes, there was. Solway Star. I remember getting this page after hitting Random Article one lazy afternoon...

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**Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)**

Posted by Yoss - 03-07-2008 14:57

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Excellent, well done Annan.

On geographical grounds I was always hoping they'd get it, just so long as their bid was up to scratch, and supposedly their facilities were best in any event.

So, really pleased about this, look forward to a trip down there at some point.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Gangster Octopus - 03-07-2008 15:05

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Of course, it means that Queen Of The South can stop hating Carlisle, and go for someone closer. Did they hate Gretna?

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Jimmy Bignutz - 03-07-2008 15:15

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Stranraer are their main rivals, surely?

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by blameless - 03-07-2008 15:18

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GO: QoS detested Gretna, and with good reason; many of Gretna's marketing schemes (such as handing out free tickets to schoolkids in Dumfries) seemed designed to undermine QoS as much as help Gretna.

I'd never heard of Solway Star, but it seems clear that Annan Athletic are their direct descendents: same amber/black/white colour scheme, and Annan were formed the year after Solway folded.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Dink - 03-07-2008 15:22

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There was a fair bit of animosity between the two clubs based largely on geography, and the final game between Queens and Gretna in the first division sparked the bust up that saw Rowan Alexander being given compassionate leave, after some alleged fisticuffs in the dressing room. There was also a bit of ill-feeling from QOS fans that Gretna were seen to be going into schools in Dumfries and offering free tickets and coaching in order to poach kids that might be seen as natural Queens supporters.

Or, you know, what Blameless said.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by AMMS - 03-07-2008 15:35

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Jimmy Bignutz wrote:

Stranraer are their main rivals, surely?

You've clearly never driven to Dumfries from Stranraer.

Well done Annan, didn't they have a decent cup run recently where they played QOS?

I make it only Stranraer and Berwick have no obvious derby game now in Scotland.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by imp - 03-07-2008 15:41

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From a pronunciation point of view, this is dull news. I'd have much preferred a Gala Fairydean, an Inverurie Loco Works or a succinct Buckie Thistle.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by Gangster Octopus - 03-07-2008 15:49

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Maybe we could get them to change back to Solway Star.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by mike toreno - 03-07-2008 19:06

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Well done to Annan. No doubt they'll be dumping us out of a cup in the not too distant future. Probably the Challenge Cup season after next.

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## Re:Scottish football 2007/8 (part 2)

Posted by the cantering captain - 03-07-2008 19:28

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In th early 90s I shared a flat with a QoS fan, and ,despite the distance, the Stranraer rivalry was alive and well. Possibly it's cooled now Qos have gone up in the world.

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