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SCOTTISH CHAMPIONSHIP WINNERS

1921/22

RUNNERS UP

1938/39

SCOTTISH LEAGUE 1 RUNNERS UP

1976/77 1981/82

1984/85 1988/89 1999/00

2001/02 2009/10 2012/13

2016/17

SCOTTISH LEAGUE 2 WINNERS

1997/1998 2011/2012

CHALLENGE CUP WINNERS

1999/2000

RUNNERS-UP

2001/02 2014/15

STIRLINGSHIRE CUP WINNERS

1904/5 1907/8 1908/9

1912/13 1920/21 1924/25

1933/34 1946/47 1955/56

1957/58 1959/60 1965/66

1981/82 1996/97

MOST CAPPED PLAYER

Jock Hepburn, 1 Cap
(Scotland v Wales 1891)

*includes equivalent competitions

SClub Information

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Honorary Directors

Pat Lawlor

Ewen Cameron

Directors

Mike Mulraney (Chairman)

Martin Ross (Vice Chairman)

Steven Lynch

Dr Robert McElroy

Andrew Allan

Secretary

Carol Edgar

Head of Media

Lewis Russell

Child Protection Officer

Bill Anderson

Management

Brian Rice (Manager)

Paddy Connolly (Assistant)

Kenny Brannigan (Assistant)

Stuart Phin (Physiotherapist)

Andrew Deeley (Club Doctor)

Derek Nicholson (Head of Youth)

Robert Glen (Goalkeeping Coach)

Ground Staff

Alan Petrie

Kit Manager

Pat Dunne

Safety Officers

Robert Wilson, Carol Edgar

Wasp 2000 Manager

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	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
 DUNFERMLINE	36	23	12	1	63	21	42	81
 FALKIRK	36	19	10	7	70	39	31	67
 AIRDRIEONIANS	36	17	9	10	82	51	31	60
 ALLOA ATHLETIC	36	17	6	13	56	47	9	57
 QUEEN OF THE SOUTH	36	16	6	14	59	59	0	54
 FC EDINBURGH	36	15	6	15	59	51	8	51
 MONTROSE	36	13	9	14	50	55	-5	48
 KELTY HEARTS	36	10	10	16	39	54	-15	40
 CLYDE	36	5	9	22	35	68	-33	24
 PETERHEAD	36	3	7	26	19	84	-65	16

MIDWEEK FIXTURES





CHAMPIONSHIP PLAYOFF

 ALLOA ATHLETIC	 HAMILTON ACCIES
 AIRDRIEONIANS	 FALKIRK

PREMIERSHIP PLAYOFF

 PARTICK THISTLE	 QUEEN'S PARK
--	--

LEAGUE 1 PLAYOFF


 ANNAN ATHLETIC	 DUMBARTON
 EAST FIFE	 CLYDE

FRIDAY'S FIXTURES

PREMIERSHIP PLAYOFF





 QUEEN'S PARK	 PARTICK THISTLE
--	--

LEAGUE 1 PLAYOFF



 CLYDE	 EAST FIFE
---	--

SATURDAY'S FIXTURES

CHAMPIONSHIP PLAYOFF

 FALKIRK	 AIRDRIEONIANS
 HAMILTON ACCIES	 ALLOA ATHLETIC

PREMIERSHIP

 RANGERS	 CELTIC
 ABERDEEN	 HIBERNIAN
 DUNDEE UNITED	 ROSS COUNTY
 KILMARNOCK	 LIVINGSTON
 ST JOHNSTONE	 MOTHERWELL
 ST MIRREN	 HEART OF MIDLOTHIAN

LEAGUE 1 PLAYOFF

 DUMBARTON	 ANNAN ATHLETIC
--	---

LEAGUE 2 PLAYOFF

 SPARTANS	 ALBION ROVERS
---	--



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GOALKEEPERS

Scott GALLACHER

15/07/1989



DEFENDERS

Scott TAGGART

27/12/1991



Daniel CHURCH

21/07/2000



Michael DOYLE

01/08/1991



Keir BURT

09/09/2004



Andy GRAHAM

22/09/1983



Mark DURMAN

28/11/1992



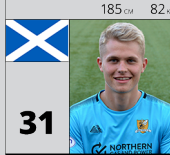
George STANGER

15/08/2000



Jay HOGARTH

18/07/2003



Paul MCLAREN

01/04/2004



David DEVINE

20/06/2001



Luke STRACHAN

22/03/2001



MANAGER

BRIAN RICE



MIDFIELDERS

FORWARDS

**Kevin
CAWLEY**

17/03/1989



**Jon
ROBERTSON**

25/04/1989



**Luke
DONNELLY**

20/01/1996



**Bradley
RODDEN**

21/08/1996



**Ross
MACIVER**

28/02/1999



**Murray
MILLER**

29/01/2001



**Stefan
SCOUGAL**

07/12/1992



**Conor
SAMMON**

06/11/1986



**Steven
BUCHANAN**

26/03/2003



**Luke
RANKIN**

27/11/2004



**Adam
KING**

11/10/1995



**Cameron
O'DONNELL**

29/09/2001



**Quinn
COULSON**

01/09/2003





BRIAN RICE



AFTER CLOSING OUT THE LEAGUE 1 CAMPAIGN

Let's be fair here, today, we played the champions. They won the league by a good distance and they're a really good team so congratulations on Dunfermline for winning the league. They've been the

best team over the season and deserved champions.

For us it was a case of getting through the game. If you look at our team today you've got five or six starters not playing and it's just fingers

crossed some of them will be available for Tuesday night. Wee Scougall's been in hospital - ill, Taggs never played, Church is out, Robertson is out so we're down to bare bones.

On Tuesday, it's not

about me [coming up against my old team], it's all about trying to get through after two games. It'll be really difficult because I know all about Hamilton. I know the type of player and the spirit at the club and

they are the Championship team. They've not come down automatically so they'll be holding onto that. We saw earlier on in the cup semi-final Falkirk who've done really well this season meeting Inverness - half way down the Championship - and running out 3-0 win-

ners. It's going to be really difficult.

We need to make sure we give it everything we've got. That's all I ask that we don't leave anything out on the park and to be fair to the boys looking at the league there's three full time teams above us and

we're the best of the part-time teams so I'm delighted with that.

So as much as I would've like to have won today [to wrap up the League] the main thing is getting through without any more injuries.





JOHN GLENCROSS



NEWSDESK

Welcome back to the Indodrill Stadium for the first Leg of the Championship Play Off Semi final , welcoming Ex Alloa Athletic manager Allan Maitland now a Director, Head Coach John Rankin, Brian Potter Goalkeeping Coach, the players, officials, and directors of Hamilton Accies FC.

Alloa Athletic have appeared in the play-offs on 8 previous occasions. They won in their first encounter. This came in the maiden play-off season back in 2005/06, where they completed the "great escape" by defeating Arbroath and Berwick to retain their Division 2 status. They

contested the First Division Play-offs in 2007/08 where they were to suffer heartbreak in the semi final. After defeating Clyde 2-1 in the home leg, Alloa then led 3-1 at Broadwood after an hour gone, but a collapse allowed Clyde to take the tie to extra time, where Pat Clarke scored the decisive goal to allow Clyde to progress. And after the demise of Gretna that season, reaching the final would have been enough to see Alloa promoted. 2 years later they lost again at the semi final stage in the First Division play-offs, defeated by Cowdenbeath after managing to go the

previous 7 games unbeaten against the Blue Brazil that season. The following season saw a real reversal in fortunes. Defeat to Annan, again at the semi final stage, saw them relegated to Division 3 for the first time in their history. Success finally came in 2013, Dunfermline were beaten 3-1 on aggregate which allowed the club to achieve back to back promotions and onto the Championship. In Season 2014/15 "The Wasps" again held on to their Championship status after a memorable 3-0 victory 2nd leg victory in the final after Forfar Athletic had won the 1st leg 3-1. Michael Chopra's goal just prior

to half-time gave the team the belief, Liam Buchanan scored a fantastic 2nd goal and Daryll Meggatt scored with a powerful header six minutes from time to complete a great comeback. However last season 2016/17 we were to suffer our first defeat in a Play-Off Final, having lost 1-0 at Glebe Park in the First Leg to Brechin City, a Greig Spence hat-trick saw "The Wasps" win the 2nd Leg 4-3, ending 4-4 on aggregate. Alloa then suffered defeat in the penalty shoot out losing 5-4. In season 2017/18 we had the chance to get promotion back to the Championship, in the

Championship Play-Off Semi-Final 1st Leg, "The Wasps" recorded a 2-0 victory with goals from Ross Stewart & Iain Flannigan at the Indodrill Stadium. And in the 2nd Leg at Starks Park for the 2nd Leg tie "The Wasps" recorded a 2-1 victory to win 4-1 on aggregate, inflicting Raith Rovers their only home defeat of the season. In the first leg of the 2017/18 Play-off final at The Indodrill Stadium, Dumbarton won 1-0 thanks to a Stewart Kettlewell goal, but in the Second Leg at Dumbarton "The Wasps" never gave in and had the best of the game but had to wait until the dying minutes when Ross Stewart was on hand to grab a deserved equaliser and Jordan Kirkpatrick scored the winner for Jim Goodwin's side in extra time. Tonight gives us the first opportunity to reach another Play-off final and a possible return to Championship football.

Alloa Athletic are delighted to announce that Charles Dignan has been appointed as the new Alloa Athletic Women's Team Manager and thank Sean Black for his period as Interim Women's team manager since the departure of Allan Salvona. Charles has been involved in coaching for the last ten years with Kennoway United, Thornton Hibs

and most recently with East Fife Ladies being part of the management team which gained Promotion to SWPL 2 as Scottish Women's Champions Play-Off winners. We welcome Charles to the club and look forward to supporting the development of the Women's squad. Welcome to the Wasps!

After the success of the History of Alloa Athletic book this season, the club will be producing a second book which will be available to purchase in June. Diary of a Season continues where the History book ends. It covers what has happened at the club over the course of this season through articles and stats as well as match photos by David Glencross. Both John Glencross and Stuart Latham have added additional information that has come to light since the history book was published. Stuart states "in 1981 I wrote a

handbook on the club to celebrate 60 years in the Scottish League and it was voted the best handbook ever produced for a Scottish team. This season John and I have written the history of the club and it again broke records for being the largest book ever written about a Scottish club, so at Alloa we like to be the best, so having looked at the annuals that Hearts produce I thought we could go for that record as well, so in June we will produce a book on the season and I hope it will reach about 175 pages to beat all other annuals. If it sells well then we could look to do another book next season".

As with the history book, all profits will go to the club. Exact price will be in the £17.99 to £19.99 estimate, but exact price will be confirmed at the end of the season when the final number of pages has been established.

As with the history book, we are offering subscribers a chance to have their names put into the book. If you are interested, please let me know and we will put your names in the publication. Contact – John Glencross, email jgxalloafc@aol.com or 07877 530314.

Another date for your diary is the Scottish Football Programmes & Memorabilia Fair, which on this occasion is being held at Forthbank Stadium, home of neighbours Stirling Albion FC, this will on Sunday 11th June, 2023, 10.30am – 2.30pm, Admission Free, please come along and support.

Wasps 2000 Draw - Week 17 29th April, 2023

- £ 100 1113 B.Ferguson
- £ 50 0438 H.Dawson
- £ 25 0713 E.McCallum
- £ 25 0177 A.Prentice
- £ 25 0541 D.Glencross





6th May 2023
Indodrill Stadium, Alloa
3:00pm KO

ALLOA ATHLETIC

0:2

DUNFERMLINE



(0:0)

SCORERS

0:1 15' Wighton

0:2 22' McGowan



STARTING XI

- 31 HOGARTH**
- 11 MILLER**
- 26 COULSON**
- 6 DURNAN**
- 7 CAWLEY**
- 5 GRAHAM**
- 15 MACIVER**
- 20 O'DONNELL**
- 16 KING**
- 23 DEVINE**
- 4 DOYLE**

SUBS

- 1 MUIR**
- 14 STANGER**
- 18 SAMMON**
- 24 RANKIN**
- 9 DONNELLY**
- 19 BUCHANAN**
- 28 CANNON**
- 24 RANKIN**

SUBS

- 20 LITTLE**
- 5 HAMILTON**
- 6 MACDONALD**
- 10 TODOROV**
- 11 MOCHRIE**
- 19 FENTON**
- 29 SUTHERLAND**
- 30 MAHON**

STARTING XI

- 1 MEHMET**
- 2 COMRIE**
- 3 EDWARDS**
- 4 BENEDICTUS**
- 8 CHALMERS**
- 9 WIGHTON**
- 14 MCCANN**
- 16 OTOO**
- 18 ALLAN**
- 21 RITCHIE-HOSLER**
- 23 MCGOWAN**

REFEREE: Calum Scott

5th April 2023
 Gayfield Park, Arbroath
 19:45 pm KO

ARBROATH

0:0

HAMILTON

(0:0)



STARTING XI

- 1 GASTON**
- 2 BANKS**
- 4 LITTLE**
- 5 O'BRIEN**
- 12 STEWART**
- 18 BEN EL-MHANNI**
- 8 MCKENNA**
- 20 BINDITSOU**
- 26 HETHERINGTON**
- 11 LINN**
- 9 HILSON**

SUBS

- 7 GOLD**
- 10 JACOBS**
- 14 KOMOLAFE**
- 15 TAIT**
- 17 OLOSANYA**
- 21 GILL**
- 23 ALLAN**
- 25 BALDE**

SUBS

- 5 EASTON**
- 7 SPENCE**
- 9 ASHLEY-SEAL**
- 10 ZANATTA**
- 11 SMITH**
- 12 SPARROW**
- 23 DE BOLLE**
- 31 SMITH**
- 46 MORGAN**

STARTING XI

- 1 FULTON**
- 15 MCGOWAN**
- 25 OWENS**
- 4 O'REILLY**
- 22 TUMILTY**
- 24 LAWSON**
- 18 MIMNAUGH**
- 8 MARTIN**
- 21 SMITH**
- 19 WINTER**
- 17 TIEHI**

REFEREE: Steven McLean

CHILD PROTECTION AND WELLBEING POLICY

Alloa Athletic FC acknowledges its responsibility to safeguard the welfare of those who engage with the club especially children and vulnerable adults. We are committed to protecting children and vulnerable adults from all form of harm and actively promoting the creation of a positive, safe and supportive environment.

We recognise -

- the welfare of the child (up to the age of 18) is paramount.
- all children regardless of age disability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, sexual orientation or identity, have the right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse.
- working in partnership with children and their families is essential in promoting and embedding this policy

The purpose of the policy and related procedures is to:

- promote and prioritise the safety and wellbeing of children and vulnerable adults
- provide staff and volunteers with appropriate training to recognise, identify and respond to safeguarding concerns relating to children and vulnerable adults
- ensure appropriate action is taken in event of incidents of concerns and that support is provided to those who raise or disclose the concern and that is dealt with confidentially;
- prevent the employment or engagement of unsuitable individuals by adopting rigorous recruitment and vetting procedures

Alloa Athletic Football Club's policy will be widely promoted and will be reviewed on a regular basis, or in the event of changes in legislation or government guidance, or as a result of any other changes.

MIKE MULRANEY, CHAIRMAN
ALLOA ATHLETIC FC

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JONATHAN MARKWELL



LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, THE PLAYOFFS!

Anything can happen in the playoffs. Alloa supporters are fully aware of that, having experienced both the euphoria and the gut-wrenching heartache of the playoffs since they were introduced to the lower leagues back in 2006. But, as the Wasps embark on a ninth end of season voyage in the topsy-turvy world of the end of season deciders, can past trends help us predict what might be in store in the next week or fortnight?

In terms of the league position of the Championship playoff winners, I was surprised to unearth that there has been a fairly even spread in the 16 seasons so far. Both the 9th place team in the Championship and the League One runners-up have been promoted on five separate occasions, but the 3rd and 4th placed sides have also been promoted three times each too. I would have expected the 9th or 2nd placed teams to have been way out

in front, but the broad spread of league positions of the eventual playoff winners gives all teams hope and perhaps, more than anything else, means an open minded approach is required as the final league position evidently has little bearing on the final outcome.

Delving a little deeper into the table of Championship playoff winners, there are some other lessons that can be learnt. Firstly, Falkirk will not want to be made aware of the

fact that the team who finished league runners up have not gone up the last five times the Championship playoffs have been played. In the past two seasons Airdrie have been beaten finalists having finished league runners-up, with the Wasps suffering the same cruel fate in 2016/17 (I still break out in a cold sweat thinking about that tumultuous defeat at the hands of Brechin City). Meanwhile, the runners-up in 2017/18 (Raith) and 2018/19 (Forfar) were

<p>dumped out at the semi-final stage, with Alloa memorably defeating Raith home and away after preventing Rovers from winning the league on the final day of the regular season. Never have the fine margins between success and failure been seen in the space of a week than at Stark's Park 5 years ago. Had Lewis Vaughan's scrambled close-range effort crept into the net rather than hitting Neil Parry's post in injury time Rovers would have been celebrating winning the league. Instead, mentally fatigued by the heartache, Raith were undone by the Wasps 2-0 at the Recs that midweek and 2-1 back in Fife the following weekend in the play-offs, as Jim Goodwin's Alloa side showed no mercy to Barry Smith's crestfallen troops. It is often said that the crushing psychological blow of missing out on automatic promotion means the runners-up mindset isn't switched onto the intensity of the play-offs, with that appearing to be evident at times here.</p>	<p>Another interesting fact is that even when the 9th placed Championship side does earn a reprieve from relegation, more often than not it transpires to only be a temporary respite, with automatic relegation following the very next season. Clyde survived in 2007/08 (Alloa fans will not need reminding of that, having agonisingly lost 6-5 on aggregate in the semi-final, having been 5-2 up with half an hour to play), but were relegated in 2008/09 after finishing bottom of the First Division. Likewise, Cowdenbeath memorably stayed up in 2013/14 after winning 3-0 at East End Park against Dunfermline in the second leg of the final, but the loss of deadly duo Greg Stewart and Kane Hemmings saw the Blue Brazil finish bottom the following season, a fate sealed at the Recs after Alloa's 3-0 victory saw the Wasps leapfrog Cowden on the final day. Alloa's subsequent great escape from the drop in the play-offs that season was only a stay of execution for the Wasps in the Championship, with automatic</p>	<p>relegation following in 2015/2016. As such, each of the first three Championship clubs to maintain their status via the play-offs were then relegated the very next season.</p> <p>Queen of the South came very close to joining that band of clubs, after beating the drop via the play-offs in 2018/19. During the next season Queens struggled again, but survived in controversial circumstances in the Covid curtailed season, being 9th when the season stopped and the play-offs being scrapped that campaign for obvious reasons. The Dumfries side were on a winless run in 2020 when play was curtailed, spanning 10 league games with 3 draws and 7 defeats, but having amassed 0.04 of a point more per game than Partick, the unfortunate Thistle were demoted, despite being 2 points behind with a game in hand and a quarter of the season still to go. Three years on and with Queens now in League One and Thistle currently involved in the Premiership play-offs,</p>	<p>the Jags supporters may be having a wry smile to themselves now.</p> <p>Morton were the only side who have really bucked the trend, with a 7th place finish in 2021/22 having survived in the play-offs the previous season. Some inspirational goals from Robbie Muirhead saw off a depleted Airdrie side in the 2021 playoff final. To even reach that final the 'Ton needed a 120th minute second leg winner from Craig McGuffie (now of Falkirk) to see off Montrose, who like Airdrie were evidently tired after playing twice a week for almost two months after the League One season was paused from January to March due to covid. So even if Hamilton do escape the drop this season, they'll be seeking to emulate Morton of bouncing back up, rather than Clyde, Cowdenbeath and Alloa who struggled after the high of beating the drop.</p> <p>When looking at the league positions of sides who won the play-offs from League Two to League One, the find-</p>
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League position of Championship playoff winners					
	1	2	3	4	5
9 th	Clyde 07/08	Cowden 13/14	Alloa 14/15	QoS 18/19	Morton 20/21
2 nd	Stirling 06/07	Ayr 08/9	Ayr 10/11	Alloa 12/13	Ayr 15/16
3 rd	Cowden 09/10	Dumbarton 11/12	Alloa 17/18		
4 th	Partick 05/06	Brechin 16/17	Queen's Pk 21/22		

ings are again mixed. On five of the sixteen playoff campaigns the 9th placed team has beaten the drop, memorably beginning with Alloa in the inaugural playoffs in 2006 (with the final effectively over following the Wasps 4-0 home success against Berwick) and emulated by Albion Rovers (2011/12), East Fife (2012/13), Stenhousemuir (2014/15) and Dumbarton (2020/21). However, on another five occasions it is actually the lowest ranked side, the 4th place team, who have triumphed. Edinburgh did it last season thanks to ex-Wasp Innes Murray's superb curled winner at Annan, while Stenhousemuir have pulled

off this special feat twice, first in 2008/09 and then latterly under the management of former Alloa and Hamilton player Brown Ferguson in 2017/18. Arbroath (in 2007/8) and Queen's Park (in 2015/16) also won promotion having finished 4th in League Two. That success rate is better than the runners-up (4 promotions) and 3rd placed (2 promotions) teams. So it seems at League One level at least that just sneaking into the playoffs can pay dividends and having that all important playoff momentum is alive and well.

The Premiership playoffs are a different equation altogether, with the format meaning

the 11th placed top-tier team goes straight into the final, often against battle weary Championship opponents. That gruelling schedule for Championship teams probably helps explain why no team that has finished 3rd or 4th in the Championship has ever won the playoffs yet, with 5 Premiership teams avoiding the drop and just 3 making it up having finished runners-up. Hamilton Academical, who we welcome to the Recs this evening, have been successful from both positions. For outsiders the amazing comeback victory over Hibernian at Easter Road to win promotion under Alex Neil in 2014 springs immediately to mind.

On the other side of the coin Accies also maintained their Premiership status in 2016/17 after a single goal victory over Dundee United, with the Tangerines team including current Alloa player Mark Durnan.

That means that Hamilton actually have a formidable 100% record in the modern-day playoffs, with two successes out of two playoff campaigns. The only other side with a perfect record, of clubs who have competed in the playoffs more than once, is perhaps surprisingly Albion Rovers, who like Accies have two wins out of two. The Wee Rovers have the ultimate pressure of being club 42 this season, with their



status in League Two dependent upon seeing off Lowland League winners Spartans. In terms of total wins in the playoffs since 2006, Alloa and Cowdenbeath actually have the best records in the country, having been victorious on four separate occasions. Alloa's successes in 2006, 2013, 2015 and 2018 certainly give the Wasps supporters some good muscle memory going into this year's battle, with Kevin Cawley a veteran of three of those successes and Michael Doyle (presumably a very interested spectator this evening!) been involved in two of those triumphs.

Alloa and Hamilton's previous successes are in direct contrast to the fortunes of the other Championship playoff candidates this time around, with neither Airdrie nor Falkirk having

ever been victorious. Airdrie in particular have a continuous tale of woe, having been beaten finalists on no fewer than six separate occasions, in addition to being knocked out at the semi-final stage on another two occasions (including by Alloa on penalties in 2017). There is a slight asterisk to that record, as on three separate occasions when Airdrie were beaten finalists they actually still won promotion, benefiting from the demise of Livingston, Gretna and Rangers respectively. Falkirk have been involved in the playoffs three times, being beaten at the semi-final stage twice and in the final once. All three have admittedly been at Premiership level, with the Bairns never having competed in the Championship playoffs before tonight.



Airdrie share the unwanted crown of being involved in the playoffs on the most occasions (8) without winning them, with Raith Rovers just behind on 7 unsuccessful end-of-season experiences. Finally, in terms of total appearances in the playoffs, Alloa supporters may feel like veterans with this being the Wasps ninth playoff campaign. That number of appearances is shared by both Cowdenbeath and Brechin, but is eclipsed by the ultimate play-off club, Queen's Park. The Spiders are about to

embark on an 11th play-off adventure, with life always interesting for Scotland's oldest league club as they bid to become the first club to ever win the League One, Championship and Premiership playoffs.

In conclusion, hopefully the above provides a bit more of a historical context as the Wasps do battle in the playoffs yet again. Strap yourselves in ladies and gentlemen, as literally anything could happen, and based on previous experiences, it probably will!

League position of Premiership playoff winners

11 th	Motherwell 14/15	Kilmarnock 15/16	Hamilton 16/17	St Mirren 18/19	St Johnstone 21/22
2 nd	Hamilton 13/14	Livingston 17/18	Dundee 20/21		
3 rd					
4 th					

League position of League One playoff winners

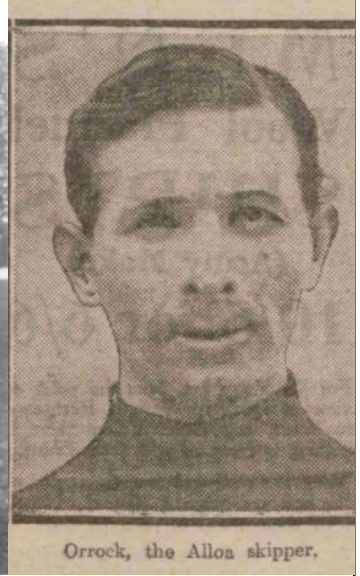
9 th	Alloa 05/06	Albion R 11/12	E Fife 12/13	Stenny 14/15	Dumbarton 20/21
2 nd	Forfar 09/10	Albion R 10/11	Forfar 16/17	Clyde 18/19	
3 rd	Queen's Pk 06/07	Stirling 13/14			
4 th	Arbroath 07/08	Stenny 08/09	Queen's Pk 15/16	Stenny 17/18	Edinburgh 21/22

League position of League Two playoff winners

10 th	Montrose 14/15	Cowdenbeath 16/17	Cowdenbeath 17/18
1 st Highland	Cove 18/19		
1 st Lowland	Edinburgh 15/16	Kelty 20/21	Bonnyrigg 21/22



DONALD POLLOCK



Orrock, the Alloa skipper.

BOBBY ORROCK

While May 2023 brings season defining games for Alloa, the Wasps of 100 years ago were already long resigned to their fate and relegation to the Second Division after one season with the elite. As the Alloa side which had taken the club from the Central League to the top flight began to break up in May 1923, some destinations were more exotic than others. Willie Crilley – the hero of the promotion season and villain of the

subsequent relegation campaign – had packed his bags and headed for the Big Apple. 100 years ago this week he was scoring his first goals for the New York Field Club. Back in Scotland there was an eye catching move to Rangers for a man who had come to Alloa as part of the transfer that had taken Crilley to his short spell with Celtic a year before. Tully Craig had been a makeweight in that deal but his successful season at

Alloa would transform his career, Craig making the journey from fringe player at Parkhead to Ibrox stalwart. Alloa goalkeeper James Thomson was also on the move as he agreed terms with Partick, while Arthur McNally, Bertie Dunn and Mick Connaboy were among other players who had opened negotiations with interested parties. But as those talks began, the oldest man in the Alloa squad was putting his future plans

on hold as he prepared for an unlikely epic summer trip.

Bobby Orrock had first arrived at the Recs back in 1919. Orrock was 34 at the time with one Scottish cap and a Scottish Cup medal with Falkirk in 1913 behind him but he wasn't coming to Alloa to wind down his career, the Dundee Evening Telegraph reporting that: "In his day, Bobby Orrock was one of the nippiest

and most successful backs in the country. There is lots of good play in him yet". The Telegraph was right with Bobby to the fore in the Central League Alloa team which defeated top flight Falkirk and Clydebank in the Scottish Cup before holding Rangers to a draw. He was the leader at the back as the Wasps stepped up to the Scottish League and immediately won the Second Division. He had held his place in the First Division at the ripe old age of 37 and newspaper reports had reported on the veteran stopper playing as well as ever in a season in which he had also earned a testimonial game against Hearts.

There was no word of a rest for Bobby at the end of a tough season. Instead he looked out his passport and boarded a ship for Buenos Aires as part of the Third Lanark squad on their summer tour to South America. The Glasgow men had struggled to assemble

a travelling party after agreeing to the tour and Bobby Orrock was one of a number of guests who agreed to answer the call. Thirds departed Glasgow for Southampton on May 16th followed by a three weeks at sea. Just a day after arriving in Argentina they took to the field at River Plate's new stadium in front of a bumper crowd and a large sign which proclaimed "WELCOME TO THE SCOTCHMEN". Orrock was watching on as Thirds were beaten 1-0 by a select outfit and was a spectator again in their subsequent 3-1 success against another select side. Bobby then took up his place at the back for game three as the visiting Scots crossed the border to face Uruguay, a game which finished 1-1 after Thirds had initially taken the lead. Orrock got a rest in the next match as Thirds forced a late equaliser to draw 1-1 with Argentina. He also missed a 2-1 defeat against Independiente before returning to the side in a 3-2 win over a provincial select, a game in which he was noted to be among

those who were "top for the tourists". That was Bobby's lot as he again watched on as the Hi-Hi finished up with a 2-0 win over Penarol and a 2-1 success over an Argentina/Uruguay XI. The visiting squad were all awarded with gold medals at a banquet to end the trip and in his book Still Seeing Red, Bert Bell notes that "Third Lanark had been warmly welcomed throughout and had proved worthy ambassadors for Scotland". Crowds had averaged 30,000 and Thirds had turned a profit, with the only slight complaint regarding the "at times extremely explosive nature of the South American fans".

Third Lanark set sail for home but there was more drama to come, the tourists stopping off in the Canary Islands on their journey where they encountered a Raith Rovers team who had been shipwrecked on their own summer tour. Clearly Scottish clubs did things differently back in 1923.

With Bobby's summer in the sun over, Alloa might well have hoped that he would agree to another season in the Wee County. He had been stalwart performer for the Wasps and had been reported to have been on the retained list at the end of the season. Given he had also owned a billiards hall at the bottom of

Clackmannan Road in this era, Orrock might have been expected to hang around in Alloa for a shot at going straight back to the First Division. As August 1923 arrived however, Bobby was on the move again. Just weeks after facing Uruguay in Montevideo, Orrock would line up in the inaugural season of the Scottish Third Division in the colours of East Stirlingshire. This was something of a homecoming for the old warhorse, Orrock having started his career with the Shire back in 1906. He returned with a typically gallant performance in a 2-1 win over Beith at Firs Park, the Falkirk Herald reporting that "Orrock's value in the rear line of defence was apparent", with the paper hopeful that he could "help to bring about the re-instatement of the Shire to the Second Division". And he would too - as well as eventually getting one over on both Falkirk and Alloa in the Stirlingshire Cup. Come the end of 1923/24, the Falkirk Herald would label the soon to be 39 year old "a veritable promotion mascot" and claim "there's plenty football in Bobby even yet". Clearly the summer jaunt to the sun hadn't done Orrock any harm at all. Anyone for a pre-season trip to South America?

Thanks to Pablo Ciulini for statistics on Third Lanark's tour of 1923.



APPEARANCES

	POS	LEAGUE		CUP		TOTAL		ALLOA CAREER LGE	
		APP	GOAL	APP	GOAL	APP	GOAL	APP	GOAL
GALLACHER	GOAL	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	15 (0)	0
MUIR	GOAL	3 (0)	0	1 (0)	0	4 (0)	0	3 (0)	0
BURT	GOAL	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	0 (1)	0
HOGARTH	GOAL	32 (0)	0	7 (0)	0	39 (0)	0	32 (0)	0
TAGGART	DEF	33 (0)	5	8 (0)	1	41 (0)	6	227 (0)	11
CHURCH	DEF	23 (4)	2	8 (0)	0	31 (4)	2	43 (8)	2
HOWIE	DEF	2 (5)	0	0 (2)	0	2 (7)	0	19 (8)	1
GRAHAM	DEF	11 (5)	1	7 (1)	0	18 (6)	1	187 (6)	14
DURNAN	DEF	13 (3)	0	0 (1)	0	13 (4)	0	46 (3)	4
STANGER	DEF	32 (0)	3	5 (1)	0	37 (1)	3	32 (0)	3
MCLAREN	DEF	1 (2)	0	2 (1)	0	3 (3)	0	1 (2)	0
DEVINE	DEF	7 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	7 (0)	0	7 (0)	0
STRACHAN	DEF	9 (2)	0	1 (0)	0	10 (2)	0	9 (2)	0
DOYLE	DEF	12 (0)	0	0 (0)	0	12 (0)	0	159 (0)	2
ROBERTSON	MID	28 (2)	0	1 (0)	0	29 (2)	0	175 (30)	2
SCOUGALL	MID	23 (5)	2	5 (2)	0	28 (7)	2	57 (18)	7
KING	MID	7 (16)	2	6 (0)	1	13 (16)	3	33 (21)	6
O'DONNELL	MID	7 (13)	1	3 (1)	0	10 (14)	1	14 (33)	1
MILLER	MID	24 (5)	2	7 (1)	0	31 (6)	2	24 (5)	2
CAWLEY	MID	23 (4)	1	4 (2)	1	27 (6)	2	321 (47)	63
DONNELLY	FWD	13 (9)	6	2 (0)	1	15 (9)	7	13 (15)	7
SAMMON	FWD	29 (6)	13	7 (1)	5	36 (7)	18	50 (19)	18
MACIVER	FWD	32 (3)	6	6 (2)	0	38 (5)	6	35 (8)	7
KHYAM	FWD	0 (1)	0	0 (3)	0	0 (4)	0	0 (1)	0
RODDEN	FWD	7 (8)	5	5 (2)	1	12 (10)	6	7 (8)	5
BUCHANAN	FWD	0 (7)	0	2 (3)	0	2 (10)	0	0 (7)	0
OFFORD	FWD	5 (8)	4	0 (0)	0	5 (8)	4	5 (8)	4
COULSON	FWD	9 (4)	1	0 (0)	0	9 (4)	1	9 (4)	1



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ALLOA CAREER CUP		ALLOA TOTAL	
APP	GOAL	APP	GOAL
0 (0)	0	15 (0)	0
1 (0)	0	4 (0)	0
0 (0)	0	0 (1)	0
7 (0)	0	39 (0)	0
56 (1)	3	283 (1)	14
14 (0)	0	57 (8)	2
5 (4)	0	24 (12)	1
53 (2)	1	240 (8)	15
2 (1)	0	48 (4)	4
7 (1)	0	39 (1)	3
2 (1)	0	3 (3)	0
0 (0)	0	7 (0)	0
1 (0)	0	10 (2)	0
0 (0)	0	159 (0)	2
1 (0)	0	176 (30)	2
14 (7)	2	71 (25)	9
6 (0)	2	39 (21)	8
0 (0)	0	14 (33)	1
7 (1)	0	31 (6)	2
66 (9)	11	387 (56)	74
2 (3)	1	15 (18)	8
7 (1)	5	57 (20)	23
6 (2)	0	41 (10)	7
0 (3)	0	0 (4)	0
32 (2)	1	39 (10)	6
2 (3)	0	2 (10)	0
0 (0)	0	5 (8)	4
0 (0)	0	9 (4)	1

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BRIAN ROACH



A FAN'S VIEW

With the league campaigns now completed I thought I would look back at various predictions I made in *The Wasp* all the way back in July when we played our opening competitive fixture against East Fife in the Premier Sports Cup. The outcome is largely a mixed bag, with some predictions notably way off the mark.

ALLOA TO FINISH IN PLAY-OFF POSITIONS- CORRECT.

Lets face it, this was the most important prediction- with the

rest relatively meaningless. Despite a fiercely competitive League One containing 3 full time clubs, Alloa have rarely looked off course for their fourth placed finish to compete in tonights Championship play-offs.

FALKIRK FINALLY GET THEIR ACT TOGETHER UNDER JOHN MCGLYNN- CORRECT (ISH)

My prediction of John McGlynn steadying the ship at Falkirk did come true to a point. They certainly have improved, with a Scottish

Cup run which didn't consist of any major upsets- but it gave their support a good day out at Hampden regardless despite losing 3-0 to Inverness. They did finish a fair distance behind eventual league winners Dunfermline- and ultimately the success of their season will be judged on the outcome of the play-offs, where they will largely go in as favourites to win.

AIRDRIE SUFFER AFTER THE LOSS OF IAN MURRAY TO RAITH ROVERS- INCORRECT

I predicted an

Airdrie collapse after Ian Murray's departure. I didn't feel Rhys McCabe would be up to the job of providing that continuity and progression following Murray's excellent work where they were very unfortunate not to be promoted last season. Despite a slump in form during the season which gave my prediction some potential- they recovered really well for a third-place finish. Not quite as good as last season, but McCabe certainly proved me wrong overall.



MY PREDICTION	FINAL TABLE
FALKIRK	DUNFERMLINE
MONTROSE	FALKIRK
DUNFERMLINE	AIRDRIE
ALLOA	ALLOA
QUEEN OF THE SOUTH	QUEEN OF THE SOUTH
KELTY HEARTS	FC EDINBURGH
FC EDINBURGH	MONTROSE
AIRDRIE	KELTY
PETERHEAD	CLYDE
CLYDE	PETERHEAD

Outside of League One, I also included the following:

CELTIC TO WIN THE TREBLE- INCORRECT which looks very likely, with the League Cup already won and the league championship essentially sealed. Only Inverness Caledonian Thistle stand between Celtic and the treble when they face the Highlanders in the Scottish Cup Final on 3rd June.

INVERNESS CALEDONIAN THISTLE TO WIN THE CHAMPIONSHIP- INCORRECT

In an amazing Championship campaign, the top 6 teams were sepa-

rated by the narrowest of margins. Dundee of course clinched the Championship in that dramatic final day shoot-out against Queens Park last week, and Inverness ended up dropping out of the play-off positions altogether.

DUMBERTON TO WIN THE LEAGUE 2- INCORRECT

This prediction looked likely to occur, but a brilliant run of form by Stirling Albion allowed them to surpass Dumbarton and take the championship. A failure to clinch promotion through the play-offs will at least allow the Alloa supporters the consolation of the derbies

returning next season- where Alloa would be looking to extend their long winning run over their neighbours.

LIVERPOOL TO WIN THE ENGLISH PREMIER-SHIP- INCORRECT

Way off the mark here as Liverpool experienced a disastrous season by their own high standards and look very unlikely to even clinch a place in next seasons Champions League.

MANCHESTER CITY TO WIN BOTH DOMESTIC CUPS IN ENGLAND- INCORRECT

Their rivals Manchester United took the first domestic trophy, the League Cup- although

City could take the FA Cup when they face United in the June show-piece final

MANCHESTER CITY TO WIN THE CHAMPIONS LEAGUE-?

Obviously this one is still to be determined, but I like the look of this one. City will need to be at their best to dispose of Real Madrid in the semi-finals, but I still fancy them to finally win the trophy. From a selfish point of view, it would be a bonus if talismanic striker Erling Haaland picks up a knock in that game prior to the Norway vs Scotland match in Oslo this June.



ANDREW COCKBURN



LOOKING BACK 11TH MAY 1985

In The Premier Division, matters were settled at both ends of the table. And Aberdeen, Champions for the second season running, signed off with a 2-1 victory at bottom club Morton, whose relegation fate had been sealed for several weeks, while runners-up Celtic were victorious by 2-0 at the other demoted side, Dumbarton. Dundee United ended in third place in spite of a 0-1 defeat at local rivals Dundee, who finished three places lower, Rangers retained

fourth spot, despite going down 0-1 at lowly Hibs, while St. Mirren's 5-2 home win v Hearts secured them a fifth-place finish. At the other end of the table, Morton and Dumbarton had both endured a miserable time of things in the 1984-85 campaign, and thus both returned to The First Division at the first time of asking. While Hibs, in spite of their fine win, still ended in third-bottom spot, though with a fair bit to spare over the bottom two.

Motherwell, despite being held 0-0 at Forfar, ended the season as First Division Champions, and thus returned to the topflight at the first attempt. The Well were accompanied by Clydebank, who also drew 0-0 on their travels, at East Fife, while third-placed Falkirk, who'd narrowly missed out on promotion to The Premier Division for the first time ever, were also involved in a goalless stalemate, at Brechin. Today's visitors Hamilton meantime, ended in fourth place

after a 1-1 home draw with Partick, Hamill netting a second-half leveller for The Accies. Doomed bottom club St. Johnstone salvaged some pride with a 3-2 win at Clyde, while the other relegated side, Meadowbank, whose taste of life at the higher level had lasted just two seasons, also signed off on a winning note, by 3-1 at Ayr. But there was no winning end to the season for third-bottom Kilmarnock, who despite now being safe, still suffered a 1-4 home beating v Airdrie.

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Second Division Champions Montrose completed their programme with a 3-1 win at Raith, but the battle for the second promotion spot was now a straight tie between second-placed Alloa and third-placed Dunfermline, with the former one point clear before the start of play. And it was The Wasps who secured runners-up spot, & thus an immediate return "upstairs", thanks to a 1-0 win at bottom

club Arbroath, Gary Thompson netting the vital first-half winner, Alloa having lined up at Gayfield as follows: Lowrie, Thompson, Thomson, Kelly, Dall, Martin, Murray, Barr, Shearer, Mackie, Cole (Lloyd). Thus Dunfermline's 2-1 home win v Berwick was rendered purely academic, while The Pars local rivals Cowdenbeath ended in fourth spot, after a 2-1 win at Albion Rovers.

South of the border, runaway First Division Champions Everton suffered their first defeat since December, by 0-1 at Nottingham Forest. Second-placed Manchester United were 3-1 victors at struggling QPR, Spurs retained third place in spite of a 1-5 home beating by Watford, while doomed bottom club Stoke suffered an eighth straight defeat, this time by 0-1 at home v Chelsea. Second

Division leaders Oxford took the title in style, with a 4-0 home win v Barnsley, runners-up Birmingham were also victorious on home soil, by 1-0 v Leeds, while Manchester City clinched the third promotion spot, thanks to an emphatic 5-1 win v Charlton at Maine Road.



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This evening Alloa return to the Championship play-offs as they welcome current Championship side, Hamilton Academical, to the Indodrill for this year's semi-final showdown. Accies rose from bottom spot to 9th on the final day of the season with a 0-0 draw against Arbroath meant that they could leapfrog Cove Rangers on goal difference. With 31 points on the board, the league campaign has been a disappointing one after finishing 6th last season. This accumulated into a tough end to the season with their last victory coming back

on April 4th against Raith Rovers. It was also that opposition where Accies highlight of the season came from, just a week prior. Against the odds 10-men Accies beat Raith 1-0 thanks to a Reghan Tumilty strike to lift the Scottish Challenge Cup. It will be a nervous week for both sets of supporters as Accies look to avoid a place in Scotland's 3rd tier for the first time since 2003/04.

THE BOSS – JOHN RANKIN

Accies will be managed by young, ambitious manager, John Rankin. The 39-year old

began his career at Manchester United before moving back to Scotland with Ross County in 2003. A midfielder also known for his fitness and consistency, he had a successful career in Scotland with most notably Dundee United and Hibernian. Towards the end of his playing career Rankin took a youth coaching position at Heart of Midlothian. First team football would follow as assistant at Hamilton in December 2021, before promotion to the manager following the departure of former boss, Stuart Taylor. Since taking full charge a year ago, there have been plenty of up's





Dundee. Dylan McGowan has taken captaincy on in that time. Having missed the first half of the season, he took the armband on the 7th of January and has only missed 1 game since then. The Aussie midfielder scored the all important equaliser in their last win against Raith Rovers.

ONE TO WATCH - CONNOR SMITH

This evening's one to watch is a name known to Alloa fans in Connor Smith. Having played against the club for Queen's Park last season and being the brother of former Wasp, Callum, it is someone who Alloa will be well aware of. Still on the books at Hearts, Smith joined his former youth coach, Rankin, on loan in January and has impressed in the centre of the park. It was his **CONTINUED ON P32**

and down's, such as the cup victory. However, the ultimate goal for his first season in charge will be maintaining Accies Championship status.

THE CAPTAIN - BRIAN EASTON / DYLAN MCGOWAN

Hamilton have experienced defender,

Brian Easton, as their skipper. He began his career at Hamilton and made his debut back in 2006 before going into cement his place in the starting 11 and secure promotion to the top division. Spells at Burnley, Dundee and St Johnstone would follow before he returned to Accies in 2019. During

that time away though, he most notably played his part in St Johnstone's Scottish Cup victory in 2014. Easton has made 17 appearances this season, however, most of these have come in the first half of the season. Since the turn of the year, Easton has only played once in the 7-0 defeat to champions,



BY KIEREN MOONEY

start in the red and white which really caught the eye with the opening 4 games seeing Smith bagged 3 goals and an assist. These seen strikes against Dundee and Scottish Cup finalists, Inverness. Since then he has taken up his tally up to 5 with another goal against Inverness and Cove. In joining the club, he has only missed 45 minutes of football, in his debut game, meaning he has become a vital cog in Hamilton's bid for survival. Having won these play-offs last year with Queen's Park, he will no doubt be looking to do the same again this time around.

THE CONNECTION

It is hard to avoid the obvious connection in the dug-out. Brian Rice, current Alloa manager, became synonymous

with Hamilton during his time with the club. It was his first role as a lead coach and joined back in 2019. Leading the club in 94 games, Rice managed Accies mostly in Scotland's topflight. In the Wasps ranks, Andy Graham, who recently hit 250 Alloa appearances, had a year stint at Hamilton in the 2010/11 season. More recently, New Zealand's George Stanger had 3-years with Hamilton in 2018. His time was mostly spent on loan but he did make his first professional start in a 3-1 defeat to Motherwell in 2019. Another connection who bridges the gap to both clubs is a man who will spectate from the stands, Michael Doyle. The powering right-back is currently on loan at Alloa from tonight's opponents where he captained earlier this season. Returning to

Alloa is only one man, however, he is one remembered very fondly. Dario Zanatta joined for an undisclosed fee back in August 2022 and has enjoyed his stint at the club so far. Alloa fans will remember him from his impressive 2018/19 season under Jim Goodwin in the Championship. The Canadian picked up the player of the month award in December that season and scored some big winners against the likes of Dundee United. Another small connection is young striker, Ryan One, son of former Wasp Armand, making his breakthrough season at Hamilton.

PREVIOUS MEETINGS

You have to go back to the 2014/15 season to find the last time the sides met in the Scottish

League Cup. Hamilton cruised to victory that afternoon with a 4-1 victory. Tony Andreu, Martin Canning, Louis Longridge and Eamon Brophy scored for the home side, with Greig Spence, another player to have played for both clubs, scoring for the Wasps. The season prior to that was the last time the sides were in the same division and Alloa notched 2 victories over the visitors. One of those came here at the Indodrill back in September 2013. Alloa ended Hamilton's unbeaten run that day when Ryan McCord tucked away his penalty for the only goal of the game. Michael Doyle played that day for Alloa, as did another current Wasp, Kevin Cawley, who will be looking to repeat the same fortunes.



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BRIAN ROACH



THREE OF THE BEST... PLAY-OFF NIGHTS

ALLOA 4 BERWICK RANGERS 0- 2ND DIV SEMI - 10TH MAY 2006

After a tough season where Alloa struggled for most of the campaign at the foot of the table- they produced this memorable result when it truly mattered in the play-off final. Alloa were 11 points adrift at the foot of the table in February but managed to gradually claw back this deficit- culminating in a vital home win over 9th placed Dumbarton followed by a final day win at Raith Rovers to seal 9th place- and an opportunity to retain their status in Division 2 via the play-offs. This was the maiden season of the play-offs being introduced, and Alloa edged past Arbroath

in the semi-final. They drew 1 1 at Gayfield in midweek, before coming out on top in a tight 2nd leg at Recreation Park through a Jamie Stevenson goal. Alloa faced Berwick in the final, who had despatched of Stenhousemuir in the other semi. Berwick looked a tough proposition- an experienced team managed by John Coughlin containing ex-Wasps Ian Little, Mark Cowan and Gareth Hutchison. The first leg was at home this time- a midweek tie at Recreation Park. Alloa were largely on top for the first half but only made their dominance count in the last five minutes of the first half. Tony Stevenson put Alloa ahead in 42 minutes before Paul McLeod

doubled their lead on the stroke of half time. The Wasps passed up a few chances in the second half and it appeared they would carry a relatively slender lead into the second leg. But left back John Ovenstone fired home two late goals to give Alloa an insurmountable cushion. Alloa went on to lose the second leg, but an early goal from Ross Hamilton effectively killed off the tie down at Shielfield.

ALLOA 3 DUNFERMLINE 0- CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL, 15TH MAY 2013

Another first for the club- with both legs of the play-off final on BBC Alba, this was the first occasion where an Alloa match was broadcast live on television.

Alloa had finished their league campaign as runners up to Queen of the South and had despatched Brechin in the semi-finals. Dunfermlines season had been plagued with issues off the field, and they were docked 15 points for entering administration. Despite a real rally to recover they could not escape a 9th place finish. They eliminated Forfar in the play-off semi-final in quite dramatic circumstances having lost the first leg at Station Park 3-1. An early Forfar goal at East End Park looked to have sealed their passage to the final. But the visitors picked up 3 red cards in the 90 minutes as Dunfermline pulled back the deficit to force extra time- where the

3 extra players played their part and led the Pars to an eventual 6-1 win. They rocked up to Recreation Park on a beautiful sunny evening backed by a large visiting support. The elements appeared to play a part in Alloas opening goal. With 27 minutes played Jonathan Tiffoneys speculative shot looked as if it would be saved comfortably by Pars goalkeeper Michal Hrivnak. But the low sunset appeared to leave him unsighted, and the ball ended up in the net. Alloa then cut the visitors defence open right on half time to extend their lead. Ryan McCord provided a perfect pass to Alloa striker Callum Elliott, who chipped the ball over Hrivnak brilliantly. The keeper made amends for his error for the opener with second half saves from Elliott and twice from Kevin Cawley. Alloa dominated possession as Dunfermline looked to be tiring- following their extra time exploits in the semi-final. Two minutes from time Elliott was upended in the penalty area by John Potter, but Hrivnak came to Dunfermlines rescue again when he saved Elliotts spot kick. But Alloa weren't to be denied and got the third goal their play merited in stoppage time. They produced 15 uninterrupted passes involving Kevin Moon, Stephen Simmons, Darren Young, Daryll Meggatt,

Graeme Holmes, Mark Docherty, Michael Doyle, Callum Elliot and Kevin Cawley as they looked to further punish the Pars. Upon receiving the ball in the Dunfermline half, Cawley drifted towards the penalty area, holding possession until Kevin Moon assumed his position to receive the ball on the left side of the goal. He side footed the ball home to rubber stamp a brilliant Alloa performance. Dunfermline would have to climb another 2nd leg mountain, but Alloa were never going to crumble like Forfar- despite losing 1 0 they produced another terrific performance and sealed consecutive promotions under Paul Hartley.

ALLOA 2 RAI TH ROVERS 0- CHAMPIONSHIP SEMI FINAL, 2ND MAY 2018

Alloa may have finished 3rd in League One behind Ayr United and Raith Rovers, but

they were decisive in the outcome of the Championship. On the second last day of the season Ayr were Alloas visitors- who required only a point to clinch the title. However, Alloa won this game 2-1 with the added late drama when Ayr's Craig Moore elevated a harshly awarded spot kick over the bar. This handed the initiative back to Raith Rovers, who now led Ayr by a point going into the final day. Alloa were the visitors to Starks Park this time and kept a clean sheet due mainly to the heroics of Neil Parry in goal. The goalless draw confirmed Ayr as champions- who had defeated Albion Rovers at Somerset Park. This massive setback would have clearly affected Rovers, who had to pick themselves off the floor and go again in midweek against Alloa in the play-off semi-final. Alloa took the lead in 22 minutes when Ross Stewart took

advantage of some hesitant Rovers defending to slot home the opener. Alloa received a setback when midfielder Stevie Hetherington left the field late in the first half through injury- his last action in the play-offs. But just before the hour mark Kevin Cawley and Iain Flannigan combined brilliantly and Flannigan fired the ball home to extend Alloas lead. Rovers' defender Iain Davidson was sent off late in the game after a foul on Scott Taggart. Alloa had opportunities to extend their lead but had to settle for a 2-goal advantage. They finished the job at Starks Park with a 2-1 victory and sealed promotion in dramatic circumstances at Dumbarton. We are in for a treat if Alloa can replicate any of these 3 performances in the play-off match against Hamilton tonight in another midweek play-off tie under the lights.

HT QUIZ

- 1. KAI KENNEDY HAS PLAYED AGAINST ALLOA FOR FOUR DIFFERENT CLUBS IN THE LAST THREE SEASONS. NAME THE 4 CLUBS.**
- 2. WHICH 2 TEAMS CONTESTED THE FIRST SCOTTISH PREMIERSHIP GAME THIS SEASON WITH VAR AVAILABLE**
- 3. IN 2017, CURRENT RANGERS MANAGER MICHAEL BEALE COACHED IN WHICH FOREIGN COUNTRY?**
- 4. NAME THE 8 ALLOA PLAYERS WHO HAVE SCORED FOR THE CLUB ON MULTIPLE OCCASIONS IN PREVIOUS PLAY-OFF TIES SINCE THEIR INCEPTION IN 2006?**
- 5. WHICH ENGLISH STRIKER WAS THE LAST NON-CELTIC/RANGERS PLAYER TO WIN THE PFA SCOTLAND PLAYERS PLAYER OF THE YEAR IN 2013?**
- 6. NAME THE NINE UK BASED TEAMS WHO WON THE FORMER EUROPEAN CUP WINNERS CUP TROPHY SPANNING FROM 1961 TO 1999?**

ANSWERS PAGE 37

KEY:				
	CAPTAIN		YELLOW CARD	
	GOAL		SECOND YELLOW	
	OWN GOAL		RED CARD	
			INELIGIBLE	

	DATE	OPPOSITION		SCORE	REFEREE
LC	12.07.22	EAST FIFE	H	1-1P	COOK
LC	16.07.22	BUCKIE THISTLE	A	1-4	WILLIAMS
LC	19.07.22	ROSS COUNTY	H	0-2	GRAHAM
LC	23.07.22	DUNFERMLINE	A	1-1P	LAMBIE
LI	30.07.22	DUNFERMLINE	A	1-0	AITKEN
LI	06.08.22	KELTY HEARTS	H	3-1	SNEDDEN
LI	13.08.22	EDINBURGH	H	2-4	MACFARLANE
LI	20.08.22	AIRDRIEONIANS	A	2-0	MUIR
LI	27.08.22	PETERHEAD	H	5-0	RONCONE
LI	03.09.22	CLYDE	A	2-4	COOK
LI	17.09.22	MONTROSE	H	2-1	MUIR
CC	23.09.22	AIRDRIEONIANS	H	1-0	STEVEN
LI	01.10.22	QUEEN OF THE SOUTH	A	1-1	SCOTT
LI	08.10.22	DUNFERMLINE	H	0-3	NEWLANDS
LI	15.10.22	AIRDRIEONIANS	H	2-0	LAMBIE
LI	18.10.22	FALKIRK	A	3-1	BEATON
LI	22.10.22	PETERHEAD	A	0-2	LUKE
LI	29.10.22	CLYDE	H	2-1	KIRKLAND
LI	05.11.22	KELTY HEARTS	A	1-1	WILLIAMS
LI	12.11.22	QUEEN OF THE SOUTH	H	5-1	AITKEN
LI	19.11.22	FC EDINBURGH	A	4-3	NAPIER
SC	25.11.22	OG BROOMHILL	A	1-2	DUNCAN
LI	03.12.22	MONTROSE	A	0-0	IRVINE
CC	09.12.22	QUEEN OF THE SOUTH	H	2-4	GRAINGER
LI	23.12.22	CLYDE	A	2-2	NEWLANDS
LI	31.12.22	KELTY HEARTS	H	0-0	SCOTT
LI	07.01.23	QUEEN OF THE SOUTH	A	1-2	FORDYCE
LI	14.01.23	FC EDINBURGH	H	2-1	SNEDDEN
SC	21.01.23	FALKIRK	H	1-2	SCOTT
LI	28.01.23	AIRDRIEONIANS	A	4-0	STUART
LI	04.02.23	PETERHEAD	H	1-0	LUKE
LI	07.02.23	FALKIRK	H	1-1	SCOTT
LI	18.02.23	FALKIRK	A	1-0	IRVINE
LI	25.02.23	MONTROSE	H	1-0	STUART
LI	04.03.23	DUNFERMLINE	A	2-0	ANDERSON
LI	11.03.23	FC EDINBURGH	A	0-2	NAPIER
LI	18.03.23	CLYDE	H	3-1	STUART
LI	25.03.23	PETERHEAD	A	0-2	RONCONE
LI	01.04.23	AIRDRIEONIANS	H	0-1	COOK
LI	08.04.23	QUEEN OF THE SOUTH	H	1-2	WILLIAMS
LI	15.04.23	KELTY HEARTS	A	0-1	MC FARLANE
LI	22.04.23	FALKIRK	H	4-1	DUNCAN
LI	29.04.23	MONTROSE	A	0-4	RONCONE
LI	06.05.23	DUNFERMLINE	H	0-2	SCOTT

GOALKEEPERS			DEFENDERS									
MUIR	BURT	HOGARTH	TAGGART	CHURCH	HOWIE	GRAHAM	DURNAN	STANGER	MCLAREN	DEVINE	STRACHAN	DOYLE
1	21	31	2	3	4	5	6	14	22	23	27	4
		90	90	90		90		90				
		90	90	90		90		90	3			
		90	90		90			90	51			
		90	90			90		90	15			
		90	90				72	90	18			
		90	26		90	64		90				
		90	45		61	90		45				
		90	90			90		90				
		90	90			90		90				
		90	55			55		90				
		90						90				
90		90	90			90		18	72		90	
		90	29					90			90	
		90				45		90			90	
		90	90		13						90	
		90	90		28			90			90	
		90	90		26	15		90			64	
		90	90		45			90	45			
90		90	90		90			90				
90		90	75		8			90				
90		90	90		90				26			
		90	90		26	90						
		90	90		90	90						
		90	90		7	83	45					
		90	90					90				
		90	90			90		90				90
		90	90					90				90
		90	90			64	66					90
		90	90			90	90					90
		90	90			63	90				27	80
		90	90			8	90				45	90
		90	90			90	90					56
		90	90			90	90					90
		90	90			90	90					90
		90	25			90	90				15	75
		90				90	90				62	28
		90				45	90				82	
		90	11	90		79	90				90	90
		90		21		69	69				90	90
		90				90	45	90		45	74	90
		90				90	90	45		45		90

MIDFIELDERS					
CAWLEY	ROBERTSON	MILLER	SCOU Gall	KING	O'DONNELL
7	8	11	12	16	20
		90	90	90	71
		90		90	87
39		76	26	90	14
75	45	68	90	22	
90		90	90	90	
54	36	90	62	90	
90	90	60	50	30	29
90	90	45		69	45
80	84	6		10	85
90	90		35	3	90
83	90		83	7	90
36		90	90	64	
65	90		90	25	61
45	90	27	90		90
90	90	72	90		18
62	90	90			
64	90	90			26
82	90	68			22
89	61	90			1
90	90	74	90	15	16
	90	64	90	26	55
90		90	64	90	
	82	8	90	90	
90		76	14	90	45
90	90	45		83	45
54	54	36	90		64
83	90		90	35	
62	90		49	90	41
90	90	22	68		
	90			52	
		90	90	24	
		90	67	23	
		90	90		10
	45	45	82	45	
34	90		45	45	
86	90	90		4	11
90	90	90	20		2
65	90	88	25		
90	90	62	28	28	
	82	90	90		8
16			74		
21	90	68	90		
90		79	74	16	16
66		90		90	90

FORWARDS									
DONNELLY	RODDEN	MACIVER	KHYIAM	SAMMON	BUCHANAN	RANKIN	OFFORD	COULSON	MOHAMMED
9	10	15	17	18	19	24	25	26	25
		62	14	90	28				
	87	90	3	87	3				
	76	90	14	64					
	45	90		90					
	18	90		72					
	28	90		90					
	40	90		90					
	30	90		60	21				
	73	90	5	80	17	10			
35	55	90		87		2	35		
27	21	90		63	7		69		
72	90	31		18	59				
29	29	90		61			61		
45	63	63		45			27		
72	64	26		77			18		
		90		90			90		
75	75	20		70			15		
90	63	27		27	8		27		
90	90	90		69			21		
82	8	59		82			31		
64		90		83		7			
90	53	37		77	13				
77		90		68	13		22		
	24	90		83	66	7			
	7	90		57	33		90		
		90		26	36	26	64		
7	55	90		90					
28		90		83					
61	23	90		90		6			
90		90		66	4		24		
		90		90		26	64		
		90		77		13	83	7	
23		90		90			67		
45		90		45			90		
34		90		90			56		
79		76		14			90		
88		55		35			70		
75		90		15		2	65		
90		62		28			62		
90		90		32			45		
		72		90	18				
		69		90	22		21		
		74		74	11		16		
24		66		24	8	2	88		



QUIZ ANSWERS

1. INVERNESS CALEDONIAN THISTLE, RAITH ROVERS, DUNFERMLINE AND FALKIRK

2. HEARTS VS CELTIC

3. BRAZIL- AT SAO PAULO

4. JOHN OVENSTONE (2 VS BERWICK 2006), ANDY SCOTT (VS CLYDE 2008, ANNAN 2011) CALLUM ELLIOTT (VS BRECHIN & DUNFERMLINE 2013), KEVIN MOON (VS BRECHIN & DUNFERMLINE 2013), MICHAEL CHOPRA (VS BRECHIN & FORFAR 2015), KYLE BENEDICTUS (VS BRECHIN & FORFAR 2015), GREIG SPENCE (3 VS BRECHIN 2017), ROSS STEWART (2 VS RAITH, VS DUMBARTON 2018), JORDAN KIRKPATRICK (VS RAITH AND DUMBARTON 2018)

5. MICHAEL HIGDON (MOTHERWELL)

6. TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR (1963), WEST HAM UNITED (1965), MANCHESTER CITY (1970), CHELSEA (1971,1998), RANGERS (1972), ABERDEEN (1983), EVERTON (1985), MANCHESTER UTD (1991), ARSENAL (1994)





ALLOA ATHLETIC



HAMILTON

#	POS				
	1		WILLIE MUIR		
	1		SCOTT GALLACHER		
	21		KEIR BURT		
	31		JAY HOGARTH		
	2		SCOTT TAGGART		
	3		DANIEL CHURCH		
	4		MICHAEL DOYLE		
	5		ANDY GRAHAM		
	6		MARK DURNAN		
	7		KEVIN CAWLEY		
	8		JON ROBERTSON		
	9		LUKE DONNELLY		
	10		BRADLEY RODDEN		
	11		MURRAY MILLER		
	12		STEFAN SCOUGALL		
	14		GEORGE STANGER		
	15		ROSS MACIVER		
	16		ADAM KING		
	18		CONNOR SAMMON		
	19		STEVEN BUCHANAN		
	20		CAMERON O'DONNELL		
	22		PAUL MCLAREN		
	23		DAVID DEVINE		
	24		LUKE RANKIN		
	26		QUINN COULSON		
	27		LUKE STRACHAN		
	MANAGER		BRIAN RICE		

REFEREE: Greg Aitken

ASST: David Dunne & Gordon McCabe

4TH: Ross Hardie

#	POS				
	1		RYAN FULTON		
	3		MATTHEW SHIELDS		
	4		DANIEL O'REILLY		
	5		BRIAN EASTON		
	6		JAMIE HAMILTON		
	7		LEWIS SPENCE		
	8		SCOTT MARTIN		
	9		BENNY ASHLEY-SEAL		
	10		DARIO ZANATTA		
	11		LEWIS SMITH		
	12		TOM SPARROW		
	14		MARLEY REDFERN		
	15		DYLAN MCGOWAN		
	16		DYLAN STEPHENSON		
	17		JEAN-PIERRE TIEHI		
	18		REEGAN MIMNAUGH		
	19		ANDREW WINTER		
	21		CONNOR SMITH		
	22		REGHAN TUMILTY		
	23		LUCAS DE BOLLE		
	24		STEVE LAWSON		
	25		FERGUS OWENS		
	31		JAMIE SMITH		
	32		RYAN SCULLY		
	37		CHRIS MCGINN		
	41		RYAN ONE		
	42		CIAN NEWBURY		
	43		GABRIEL FORSYTH		
	44		LEWIS LATONA		
	45		BEN BLACK		
	46		LIAM MORGAN		
	MANAGER		JOHN RANKIN		

CHAMPIONSHIP PLAYOFF

09.05.23, INDODRILL STADIUM, 19:45



ALLOA ATHLETIC



HAMILTON ACCIES

13.05.23, NEW DOUGLAS PARK, 15:00



HAMILTON ACCIES



ALLOA ATHLETIC

09.05.23, EXCELSIOR STADIUM, 19:45



AIRDRIEONIANS



FALKIRK

13.05.23, FALKIRK STADIUM, 15:00



FALKIRK



AIRDRIEONIANS



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