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Programme 1997/98**



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**TODAY'S MATCH
EAST CRAIGIE
LEAGUE
18/4/98
No.16**



TAYPORT JUNIORS

1997/98

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Winners 1995/96.

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1993/94, 1994/95, 1995/96.

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Cream of the Barley Trophy 1994/95

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Whyte & Mackay (Currie) Cup
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1992/93, 1993/94.

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1990/91, 1993/94.

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Albert Herschell Trophy Winners
1990/91, 1991/92, 1992/93, 1993/94,
1994/95, 1995/96.

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24hrs per day, 7 days a week for all match details and info on Tayport FC.

Cover Photos
Development of
the Canniepairt
1975-97



TODAY'S TEAMS

TAYPORT.

From

- | | |
|----|------------------|
| 1 | Fraser MANN |
| 2 | Grant MILLER |
| 3 | Grant PATERSON |
| 4 | Mark SPALDING |
| 5 | Keith NICOLSON |
| 6 | Sean WILKIE |
| 7 | Allan RAMSAY |
| 8 | Steven STEWART |
| 9 | Stephen ROSS |
| 10 | Dave REILLY |
| 11 | Barrie GRAY |
| 12 | Grant BUIST |
| 15 | Barry GARDINER |
| 16 | Stephen HUTCHEON |
| 17 | Ian GREIG |
| 18 | Paul REILLY |
| 21 | Billy COVENTRY |

East Craigie.

From

- | | |
|--|-----------------|
| | Scott LINDSAY |
| | Ralph HENDERSON |
| | Ronnie HARROW |
| | Frank SYME |
| | Stephen FLIGHT |
| | Scott GORRIE |
| | Ian MURRAY |
| | Cammy McRAE |
| | Paul HAXTON |
| | Martin McGREGOR |
| | Steven BURNS |
| | Davie MILNE |
| | Steven SMITH |
| | Lee MARSHALL |
| | Chris BEATTIE |
| | Ryan BEATTIE |
| | Scott McINTOSH |

Referee :
Referee Assistants :

A.W. Coutts
A. Paterson
D. Munro

Perth
Perth
Perth

**N.C.R. League Division 1
TAYPORT v East Craigie.**

Kick Off -----2:30

'PORT PROG' Vol.8 No.16 1997/98

NEXT MATCH

HOME v NORTH END

TUESDAY 21 APRIL

6.30pm

TODAY'S MATCH
EAST CRAIGIE
LEAGUE
18/4/98
No.16

THIS AFTERNOON'S GAME

On paper, this afternoon's league game should be no contest but, as we all know football has a habit of producing the unexpected and history is littered with the evidence. Tayport will have to ensure that are not added to that list this afternoon.

Although Craigie look doomed to Division Two, it's not a certainty and in theory Kirrie, Jeanfield, Elmwood and even Downfield could be overtaken.

This afternoon it's a contest between the side with the league's best attacking record against the team with the worst defensive record. The team with the best defence against the team with the worst attack but one. Tayport huffed and puffed against Kinnoull, the division's bottom team, last week and, as the *Perthshire Advertiser* reported, their finishing was 'reckless'. Hopefully this will not be the case today.

Craigie will be out to get last week's 0-4 home cup defeat by Forfar Albion out of their system and also erase the recent memory of a 0-5 cup defeat here six weeks ago. But with a small player pool their options are limited.

Tayport will be without international midfielder Steven Stewart today. Steven is presently in the Republic of Ireland with the Scottish International team. Steven had a slight strain and, because he was leaving early Thursday morning, he wasn't risked against Lochee.

There will almost certainly be changes in the Tayport line-up today with Ian Greig, Mark Spalding, Barrie Gray, Billy Coventry and Stevie Ross all likely to start the game.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE WILL BE NO *PORT PROG* FOR TUESDAY'S HOME MATCH. WE REGRET THAT WE ARE NORMALLY UNABLE TO PUBLISH IN MIDWEEK.

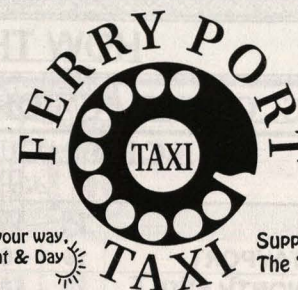
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HOW THEY STAND.

SCOTTISH JUNIOR F.A. TAYSIDE REGION

N.C.R. LEAGUE DIVISION 1 1997/98

At 17th April 1998

	P	W	D	L	F	A	G/D	Pts
TAYPORT	19	16	2	1	60	12	48	50
NORTH END	20	16	1	3	49	18	31	49
VIOLET	23	11	5	7	43	33	10	38
LOCHEE UTD	23	11	5	7	33	31	2	38
CARNOUSTIE	22	11	4	7	60	39	21	37
FORFAR WE	22	11	3	8	46	41	5	36
ST. JOSEPHS	15	11	1	3	32	12	20	34
ARBROATH SC	20	7	7	6	34	33	1	28
DOWNFIELD	19	6	5	8	32	36	-4	23
ELMWOOD	22	5	5	12	27	44	-17	20
JEANFIELD	21	5	5	11	41	63	-22	20
KIRRIE	17	5	4	8	23	32	-9	19
EAST CRAIGIE	22	3	2	17	24	67	-43	11
KINNOULL	23	0	3	20	18	61	-43	3

SCOTTISH JUNIOR F.A. TAYSIDE REGION

N.C.R. LEAGUE DIVISION 1 RESULTS 1997/98

At 17th April 1998

	ASC	CAR	DOVE	E/CRELM	FWI	JEAN	KINN	KIRRIE	LOC	N/EN	JOE	TAY	VIO	
ARBROATH SC		3-3	4-2	5-3		5-1	2-1		0-0	0-0		0-3	3-4	
CARNOUSTIE			2-2	8-0	3-1	2-3	9-3	3-0	0-2	1-3	2-2	6-3	1-0	
DOWNFIELD	2-2	1-1		3-2	2-0	0-2	1-0	2-0	1-4		0-2	1-3		
EAST CRAIGIE	0-2	1-2	2-3		4-3	2-4	0-6	3-2	1-2		2-5	0-3	0-1	
ELMWOOD	2-0		1-1	0-0		2-4	0-3	1-0	2-1		2-3	0-2	0-2	1-1
FORFAR WE	1-1	1-2		3-0	0-2		4-1	2-0	1-1	1-0	3-4		2-1	
JEANFIELD		4-3	0-5	3-1	2-4	6-7		1-1	2-2	0-0	0-3		1-2	
KINNOULL	0-1	0-3		1-2	2-2	1-2	1-2		1-3	1-3	2-4	0-3	0-7	2-4
KIRRIE	0-1	0-5		3-0	2-1	5-0	2-2	3-2		1-2		0-7	0-1	
LOCHEE UTD	4-2	2-3	2-2	0-0	5-2	2-1	2-0	3-1	0-0		1-0		0-2	0-3
NORTH END	3-0	3-1	4-1	4-0	3-0	4-2				0-1		2-0	1-2	3-0
ST.JOSEPHS	2-1	2-0			3-0	2-1	4-1			3-0	0-1		2-1	
TAYPORT	1-1	3-0	2-1			0-0	5-0	6-0		4-0		1-0		2-0
VIOLET	1-1		3-2	4-1	1-1	3-2	3-3	0-0	3-0	4-0	1-2		2-4	



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FROM THE ARCHIVES

16 YEARS AGO - MAY 1982



In May 1982 Tayport FC lifted their one and only Midlands Amateur League title and our photo shows the Committee showing off the league shield in the Tayport Arms bar. Pictured (l-r) are Abby Oswald, Drew Herd, Jimmy Herd, Iain Cougan, Chas Anderson, Davie Ayre, Alastair Oswald, Jimmy Lindsay and Winker Watson. Customer Sid Burnett is peeking round from his stance at the bar.

WHO ARE THEY KIDDING?

It isn't surprising that there is resistance from the Ayrshire Juniors to a rationalising of the Junior game when the 'What's like us attitude prevails' as typified by Auchinleck Talbot's assistant boss Willie Young's statement last week prior to their West of Scotland Cup replay against Pollok. - *"Down here we still believe we have the best teams in the country"*.

Such arrogance is hardly borne out by Ayrshire clubs' results against Tayport. Talbot have lost on both occasions we've met and Cumnock, hot favourites for the current championship, have lost three out of three against the 'Port. Ayrshire's last success was Glenafton five years ago.

Still on Ayrshire. Talbot went out of the West of Scotland Cup, beaten in a penalty shoot-out at Newlandsfield by Pollok in the quarter final replay after a 1-1 draw. No real surprise there. After all, Pollok have been getting plenty practice of late! Talbot boss Dennis Gray was in a real lather after the game. Talbot's McCulloch had apparently headed the winner in the dying seconds of extra time but their joy was shortlived when the linesman flagged for offside. Gray, who doubles up as Scotland boss, made his feelings very clear. *"we were robbed.....but for an incompetent linesman we would have won it"*

TAYSIDE SHARPSHOOTERS

29	DAVE REILLY	TAYPORT
26	STEVE HUTCHEON	TAYPORT
22	STEVE ROSS	TAYPORT
	KENNY CAMERON	ST JOSEPHS
21	DARREN TAYLOR	CARNOUSTIE
19	SHUG McLAUGHLAN	FORFAR WE
16	HAMISH SOUTAR	KIRRIE THIS
15	IAN McKENNA	KIRRIE THIS
	RONNIE KENNETH	ST JOSEPHS
14	BRIAN CRAIK	CARNOUSTIE
	DANNY POWELL	CARNOUSTIE
	PAUL YULE	NORTH END

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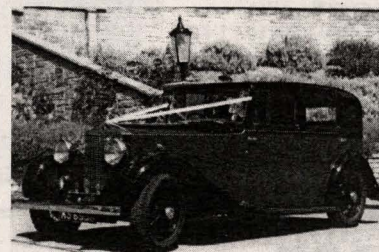
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FROM THE MANAGER'S PEN....

Hello and welcome to the Canniepairt for today's NCR League game against East Craigie.

Today's visitors have found it extremely difficult so far this season and find themselves fairly firmly anchored near the foot of the table. They are a young side, however, and I am sure that if Mark Bennett can keep them together for a couple of seasons, they will improve immensely and will soon be back challenging for a place in the first division. Today we should be almost at full strength and on paper be too strong for our visitors. I and the players, though, will be taking nothing for granted. We will prepare for, and approach today's game as if we were playing our championship rivals and I am positive that if we do, then we will be successful.

Looking back to last Saturday's cup tie at Kinnoull pleases me in a few different ways. Firstly, and obviously, we won the game went into the draw for the next round and this keeps us involved in every local tournament. Secondly we kept to our game plan even although Kinnoull were happy to defend in numbers and hit on the break. I had asked the players to play the ball on the ground and use our wide midfielders to try and get in behind them. I believe we did exactly that and, although we created several chances in the first half without scoring, the players deserve great credit for not letting frustration getting the better of them, sticking to the game plan and eventually winning comfortably.

Lastly I had warned the players not to get involved in any off-the-ball incidents and to accept the decisions of the referee even although they might not have agreed with them. I believe they did just that and I can't praise them enough in this respect.

As I sit here on Tuesday night penning this article the snow is falling heavily and I am wondering if tomorrow night's match against Lochee United will go ahead. I hope so. It will be a very tough game as Lochee United have been going really well of late but if we got a result at Thomson Park, it would keep us ahead of our rivals, North End and St Josephs who played each other the same night. The ideal results would have been a 0-0 draw at North End and a win for us. We'll just have to see.

Kenny Bunce

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Match Stats Match Stats Match Stats **TAYPORT JUNIORS** Match Stats Match Stats Match Stats

DATE	OPPOSITION	RESULT	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	14	15	Att
18th August	Carnoustie (L)	L 3-6	MANN	BUIST	PATERSON	MILLER	NICOLSON 1	P.REILLY	RAMSAY	STEWART	HUTCHEON 2	D.REILLY	GRAY	SPALDING (8)	COVENTRY (11)	CAMERON (4)	281
20th August	VIOLET (L)	W 2-0	MANN	BUIST	PATERSON	MILLER	NICOLSON	WILKINSON	COVENTRY	CAMERON	HUTCHEON 2	D.REILLY	RAMSAY	GRAY (11)			234
23rd August	Elmwood (L)	w 2-0	MANN	WILKINSON	PATERSON	MILLER	NICOLSON	BUIST	COVENTRY 2	CAMERON	HUTCHEON	D.REILLY	SPALDING	GARDINER (3)			134
27th August	Downfield (L)	W 3-1	MANN	BUIST	PATERSON	MILLER	NICOLSON	P.REILLY	COVENTRY	CAMERON 1	ROSS 2	D.REILLY	GREIG	RAMSAY (11)			143
30th August	ARBROATH SC (L)	D 1-1	MANN	BUIST	PATERSON	MILLER 1	NICOLSON	P.REILLY	HUTCHEON	RAMSAY	ROSS	D.REILLY	COVENTRY	GARDINER (11)			162
13th September	BANKFOOT (N1)	W 5-1	MANN	MILLER	PATERSON	SPALDING 1	NICOLSON	BUIST	RAMSAY	COVENTRY 1	ROSS 1	D.REILLY 2	GARDINER	GRAY (8)	CAMERON (8)	HUTCHEON (10)	135
20th SEPTEMBER	LOCHEE UTD (L)	W 4-0	MANN	MILLER	PATERSON	BUIST	STEWART	GARDINER	RAMSAY	COVENTRY	ROSS	D.REILLY 1	GRAY 3	WILKINSON(8)	NICOL (7)		255
4th OCTOBER	North End (L)	W 2-1	MANN	MILLER	PATERSON	STEWART	NICOLSON	WILKIE	RAMSAY	GREIG	ROSS	D.REILLY	GARDINER 1	HUTCHEON (4) 1	SPALDING (7)		286
11th OCTOBER	JEANFIELD (L)	W 5-0	MANN	BUIST	PATERSON	MILLER 1	NICOLSON	WILKIE	STEWART	GREIG	ROSS 1	D.REILLY 2	GARDINER 1	HUTCHEON (9)	WILKINSON (8)		144
18th OCTOBER	Violet (L)	W 4-2	MANN	SPALDING	PATERSON	STEWART	NICOLSON	WILKIE	HUTCHEON	GREIG	ROSS 2	D.REILLY 1	GARDINER 1	RAMSAY (7)	NICOLL (11)		212
25th OCTOBER	LONGSIDE (N2)	W 4-0	MANN	BUIST	PATERSON	SPALDING	STEWART	WILKIE	RAMSAY	GREIG	HUTCHEON 3	D.REILLY	GARDINER	ROSS (11) 1	MILLER (8)		168
1st NOVEMBER	THORNTON (T2)	W 6-3	MANN	BUIST	PATERSON	SPALDING 1	STEWART	WILKIE	RAMSAY	GREIG	HUTCHEON 2	D.REILLY 2	GARDINER 1	MILLAR (8)			212
8th NOVEMBER	Forfar Alb (S2)	W 4-0	MANN	BUIST	PATERSON	SPALDING	NICOLSON	WILKIE	STEWART	RAMSAY	HUTCHEON 1	D.REILLY 1	GARDINER 1	ROSS (11)	GREIG (3) 1		182
15th NOVEMBER	ST JOSEPHS (L)	W 1-0	MANN	BUIST	PATERSON	SPALDING	NICOLSON	WILKIE	STEWART	RAMSAY	HUTCHEON	D.REILLY 1	GARDINER	ROSS (8)	MILLER (11)		384
22nd NOVEMBER	Kinnoull (L)	W 7-0	MANN	BUIST	PATERSON	SPALDING 2	NICOLSON	WILKIE	GREIG	STEWART	HUTCHEON 4	ROSS 1	GARDINER	CAMERON (11)	MILLER (8)	WILKINSON (2)	129
29th NOVEMBER	FORFAR WE (L)	D 0-0	MANN	BUIST	PATERSON	SPALDING	NICOLSON	WILKIE	MILLER	STEWART	HUTCHEON	CAMERON	GARDINER	COVENTRY (8)	GREIG (7)		181
6th DECEMBER	STONEHAVEN (S3)	W 1-0	MANN	BUIST 1	PATERSON	SPALDING	NICOLSON	WILKIE	RAMSAY	STEWART	HUTCHEON	ROSS	GARDINER	D.REILLY (11)			276
13th DECEMBER	East Craigie (L)	W 3-0	MANN	BUIST	PATERSON	SPALDING	NICOLSON	WILKIE	RAMSAY	WILKINSON	ROSS 1	D.REILLY 1	GREIG 1	MILLER (8)	GARDINER (11)		138
20th DECEMBER	KINNOULL (L)	W 6-0	MANN	MILLER	PATERSON	GREIG	NICOLSON 1	BUIST	RAMSAY 1	STEWART	ROSS 2	D.REILLY 1	GARDINER	P.REILLY (4) 1	B.COVENTRY (8)		149
27th DECEMBER	Kirrie (L)	W 7-0	MANN	MILLER	GREIG 1	SPALDING	NICOLSON	BUIST	RAMSAY	STEWART	ROSS 2	D.REILLY 4	GARDINER	COVENTRY (6)	HUTCHEON (4)	CAMERON (11)	139
10th JANUARY	Arbroath SC (L)	W 3-0	MANN	MILLER	PATERSON	GREIG	NICOLSON	BUIST	RAMSAY	STEWART	ROSS 1	D.REILLY 2	GARDINER	WILKIE (6)	SPALDING (7)	HUTCHEON (11)	139
17th JANUARY	Cumnock (S4)	W 2-1	MANN	BUIST	PATERSON	SPALDING	NICOLSON	WILKIE	MILLER	STEWART	ROSS	D.REILLY 2	GREIG				1428
24th JANUARY	DOWNFIELD (L)	W 2-1	MANN	BUIST	PATERSON	SPALDING	NICOLSON	P.REILLY	HUTCHEON 1	STEWART	ROSS	D.REILLY 1	GREIG	MILLER (8)	GARDINER (8)		202
7th FEBRUARY	TURRIFF (N3)	W 1-0	MANN	WILKINSON	PATERSON	GREIG	NICOLSON	P.REILLY	MILLER	STEWART	ROSS	D.REILLY 1	GARDINER	HUTCHEON (11)			205
14th FEBRUARY	LINLITHGOW (S5)	W 2-0	MANN	BUIST	PATERSON	STEWART	NICOLSON	WILKIE	RAMSAY	P.REILLY	HUTCHEON 1	D.REILLY 1	GREIG	ROSS (8)	MILLER (11)		636
21st FEBRUARY	CARNOUSTIE (L)	W 3-0	MANN	BUIST	PATERSON	GREIG	NICOLSON	WILKIE	MILLER	P.REILLY	ROSS 1	D.REILLY 2	STEWART	GARDINER (11)	HUTCHEON (7)		264
28th FEBRUARY	LOCHORE (T3)	W 8-0	MANN	MILLER	PATERSON	P.REILLY	NICOLSON	WILKIE	GREIG 1	RAMSAY	ROSS 3	D.REILLY	HUTCHEON 5	WILKINSON (2)	STEWART (7)	SPALDING (8)	202
7th MARCH	EAST CRAIGIE (W1)	W 5-0	MANN	BUIST	PATERSON	MILLER 1	NICOLSON	WILKIE	RAMSAY	GREIG	ROSS 3	HUTCHEON	GARDINER 1	GRAY (10)	STEWART (8)	SPALDING (6)	191
14th MARCH	POLLOK (S6)	D 3-3	MANN	BUIST	PATERSON	SPALDING 1	NICOLSON	WILKIE	RAMSAY	STEWART	ROSS	D.REILLY 2	GREIG	MILLER (4)	HUTCHEON (8)		1862
21st MARCH	Pollok (S8R)	D 0-0 *L	MANN	MILLER	PATERSON	SPALDING	NICOLSON	WILKIE	RAMSAY	STEWART	ROSS	D.REILLY	GREIG	GARDINER (11)	HUTCHEON (8)	COVENTRY (4)	2104
28th MARCH	LEWIS Utd (N4)	W 4-0	MANN	BUIST	PATERSON	SPALDING	NICOLSON	WILKIE	RAMSAY	MILLER	HUTCHEON 2	D.REILLY	GARDINER 1	P.REILLY (8)	COVENTRY (11)	GRAY (8) 1	211
11th APRIL	Kinnoull (D1)	W 4-0	MANN	BUIST	PATERSON	P.REILLY	NICOLSON	WILKIE	RAMSAY	MILLER	HUTCHEON 2	D.REILLY 1	GARDINER	GRAY (8) 1	SPALDING (4)	GREIG (7)	102
15th APRIL	Lochae Utd (L)	W 2-0	MANN	BUIST	PATERSON	P.REILLY	NICOLSON	WILKIE	RAMSAY	MILLER	HUTCHEON	D.REILLY 1	GARDINER	GRAY (11)	ROSS (9) 1		209
18th APRIL	EAST CRAIGIE (L)																
22nd APRIL	NORTH END (L)																
25th APRIL	HILL of BEATH (T4)																
28th APRIL																	
2nd MAY	ST.JOSEPHS (NSemi)																

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PRESS REPORT



"Dave Baikie and his backroom staff have breathed a new lease of life into the Club, bringing back a pride and respectability which will hopefully continue and lead to greater things"

- Arbroath FC chairman John Christison addressing members at his club's recent AGM (ARBROATH HERALD)

"Tayport trounced Lewis United 4-0 to book their place in the semi-finals of the North End Centenary Cup. The Fifers were not firing on all cylinders but were still too hot for their opponents."

- SUNDAY MAIL (26/3/98)

"To sum up, 'Port did not seem to be firing on all cylinders in the first period, although they improved after the break, thus progressing to the next stage of the competition with the minimum of fuss. It is encouraging that Barrie Gray now appears to have recovered from his injury problems, as he will no doubt have a significant role to play in the quest for honours. Another positive aspect was that Tayport recorded their 21st clean sheet of the season"

- FIFE HERALD (3/4/98) Tayport 4 Lewis United 0

"Port took charge immediately and most of the action was around Buckley's goal. Barry Gardiner opened in 20mins. Steve Hutcheon(2) and comeback man Barrie Gray on target in 2nd half "

- SCOTTISH PYRAMID NEWS (3/4/98) Tayport 4 Lewis United 0

"Late in the game, Tayport substitute Barrie Gray, livened up proceedings with a superb individual goal. The mercurial winger made his way into the opponents' area, turned his bewildered marker inside out and stroked the ball nonchalantly past Buckley before going to take the acclaim of the young fans who were gathered behind the goal "

- FIFE HERALD (3/4/98) Tayport 4 Lewis United 0

[What'll you do now that there is a fence up, Barrie, a committee man commented. No problem to my fans, replied Barrie!]

"Kinnoull defended stoutly at home to Tayport in the cup but when Stephen Hutcheon broke the deadlock in 83 minutes there was never any doubt about the result"

- COURIER (13/4/98) Kinnoull 0 Tayport 4

" Kinnoull were at home to league leaders Tayport and they confounded the pundits by holding their much vaunted opponents to a 0-0 draw at half-time. Tayport had a host of chances throughout this half but their finishing could only be described as 'reckless'"

- PERTSHIRE ADVERTISER (14/4/98)

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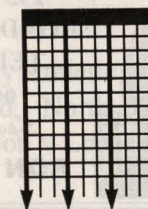
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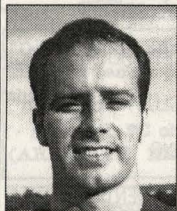


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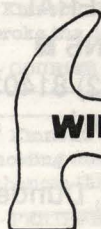
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FORTHCOMING FIXTURES

A veritable feast of football is in store for the Canniepairt faithful during the next few weeks. First visitors next week are **North End** for a crucial **league** game on **Tuesday evening**. **Kick-off is 6.30pm.**

Then a week today, **Saturday 25th April**, is the first of two big semi finals. **Hill O' Beath** are the visitors in the **semi-final of the Taycars Trophy**, the final of which is rumoured to be planned for Dens Park. Surprisingly, considering that the combatants have dominated Junior football north of the Forth for the best part of the last ten years, it's a first competitive meeting between the sides.

There will be a **midweek league game**, probably on the on the **29th April**, opponents could be Elmwood or Kirrie at home or more likely an away game v either Forfar WE or Jeanfield.

It's unlikely to be against **St Josephs** because we meet them here on **Saturday 2 May in the semi-final of the Dundee North End Centenary Cup.**

The **DJ Laing Cup 2nd round** which was drawn earlier this week, has favoured us with yet another **home draw**. On this occasion **Luncarty** are the visitors.

The other ties are :- Scone or Forfar WE v Broughty Athletic; Brechin Victoria v Elmwood; Carnoustie v Lochee United; North End v St Josephs; Violet v Montrose Roselea; Forfar Albion v Lochee Harp; Arbroath SC v Bankfoot.

Another tie to be fitted in on the **Canniepairt** is the **Whyte & Mackay 2nd round tie v Carnoustie Panmure.**

Yes, it's all action at this time of the season. Don't forget, if you want to check on what the next action is for Tayport contact the **Newsline** on **552755.**

It's maybe all action for us with a possible 17 competitive fixtures before the end of the season but worse off are Hill O'Beath with something approaching a possible ten more than us.

BAIKER'S LIFE WITH THE LICHTIES

Dave Baikie carved out his managerial career at Tayport and was for seven years the dominating force behind the club. His move to Gayfield ten months ago to take over the reins of the 'worst team in Scotland' (the Red Lichties had just finished 40th out of the 40 teams in the Scottish League) wasn't entirely unexpected. He had achieved everything in the Junior game and deserved the opportunity to test his skills at Senior level.

Clubs had looked and pondered, newspapers had speculated but nobody in the Seniors was prepared to take a chance on Baikie. It was as if there were two unwritten rules 1) no Junior boss would ever be good enough for a Senior club & 2) a Senior manager must have played Senior football. Well, Baikie has shattered both myths.

Arbroath must now be reflecting on the scores of ex-Seniors who had been given the reins and done sod all other than spend a fortune achieving sod all. Baikie arrived at Gayfield despite not being the unanimous choice of the committee but he has confounded any critics which he might have had by revolutionising the club and leading them to a situation where they are still very much in the race for promotion for the first time in 26 years. Indeed there is still the outside chance of a first ever honour in the club's 120 years history.

With Dave still a Tayport resident and mine host at the Tayport Arms, we thought you might be interested in his first ten months at Arbroath. First we take a few snippets from the *Arbroath Herald* report of the Arbroath FC annual meeting held last month and then reproduce the manager's report on the next page.

The treasurer was questioned as to why, although attendances had increased, match income had not. This apparently was down to letting children in for nothing. On the transfer front, the biggest sale, somewhat incredibly, was £3000 from Armadale Thistle for Jamie McCarron. Sponsorship income from the SFA and SFL amounted to £25,000. The hire of Gayfield to Dundee United for Reserve games realised £243. Transfers and signing on fees amounted to £37,695. This included the fees to Brechin City for Brian Mitchell (£7,500), Montrose for Kevin Tindall (£6,000) and Hill O' Beath for Billy Spence (£4,500). It was also reported that the club had just acquired a Portacabin which was to be done up to provide a corporate facility.

In his report, manager, Dave Baikie, thanked a number of people who had helped him to ease into the job after leaving Tayport. "John Christison, Charles Kinnear and all of the committee have given me a great deal of advice," he said. "My coaching staff have also been a great help. Graeme Irons works hand-in-hand with me and was also with me at Tayport where we enjoyed a great deal of success. I also felt it was important to bring back Tom Fairweather and John Martin, because they are local guys who have a great knowledge of the local scene.

"Tom, especially, is a great help. Some of the players work shifts and as Tom is retired, he takes them for training sessions in the afternoon and does a tremendous amount of work. I would also like to thank the kit man, Peter Nicol; physio, Bill Shearer; groundsman, Iain Gunn; the ladies in the tearoom and the 36-0 Club, all of whom have been a magnificent help to me."

Mr Baikie told the meeting that, on being informed of his success in gaining the position of team manager, he had mixed emotions. "When John 'phoned me to tell me I had got the job, I didn't know whether to be happy or sad," he revealed. "I had enjoyed seven great years at Tayport with unrivalled success, but it was probably the right time to move on. Had I not taken the job, then I would always be asking myself 'what if'."

"When I came here, we had only 12 players on the books and four out of contract. Since then, we have brought in another 16 players, including a couple of youngsters, and the playing staff is looking a lot healthier.

"Initially, we had players from Arbroath, Edinburgh and Glasgow, so we decided to do pre-season training at Kilgraston School in Bridge of Earn. This proved to be very important for the players. I am very strong on team spirit and fitness. This helped in both of those departments and I think that showed in the start we made to the season and our early results."

The Lichties boss added that the fostering of a youth squad is the only way forward for the Club, with money simply not available to be spent in large amounts in the transfer market.

"Obviously, when I first came to the Club, we concentrated on the first team which had finished bottom of the Third Division. However, it is important the you build a foundation and we are now putting a youth structure in place. The committee said I could have a youth team or a reserve team, but I couldn't have both. So, I asked them if the youth team was self-financing, would that be alright and, naturally, they did not disagree.

"We currently have about 20 youngsters training with the Club on a Tuesday night," continued Mr Baikie. "Initially, we were going to enter these youngsters in the Scottish Professional Youth League, but we felt that playing Rangers, Celtic, Hearts, etc., would be difficult for them. We now plan

to enter a team in the Dundee and District Juvenile Under-16 League next season, possibly under the banner of Arbroath Lads' Club, and, hopefully, they will progress into the youth league, the reserve team and, ultimately, the first team.

"Our first youth coaching course, which is to be held in the Easter holidays, will give us an opportunity to look at local talent first hand. There will be two more courses in summer and autumn. It is important for the Club to pick up local players. Dundee recently signed someone from Arbroath, but it should be Arbroath that sign local players, not Dundee."

Looking back over the season, the Gayfield suprémo was pleased with it so far, but feels there is more to come. "After finishing bottom of the league last season, to be sitting second in the league this season shows a vast improvement. However, I will not be happy until we win the division and I will not give up until it is mathematically impossible for us not to win the league.

"We play Alloa on Saturday and, of the seven games we have lost this season, they are the only side to have caused us any real problems. I know we have lost to Montrose twice, but I honestly believe that is because the players are put under too much pressure by the fans because of the intense rivalry. Beyond that, I feel we are doing OK and I will be working non-stop until we win the division or at least gain promotion."

In a question and answer session that followed, Mr Baikie was asked if he had been forced to by-pass players because of the Club's financial position. He responded, "Tayport were a Club which didn't have a lot of funds. I have never been with a Club which has had a lot of money to spend and I have always had to work within the parameters set out. I asked the committee if Bruce McLean could come on board as commercial manager and the funds he has raised enabled us to buy Kevin Tindal and Dougie Scott.

"We must continue to generate more finance if we are to attract a better class of player. This will be particularly important if we gain promotion to the Second Division, as we must have a continual improvement."

The Maroons' manager was also asked if he was working with a contract. "When I took over the job, I was asked if I had a problem working without a contract which I don't. It works both ways, as I can walk away from the Club if things are not going well, while the committee can also get rid of me if I am not doing a good job," he replied.

Another member asked Mr Baikie about the situation regarding Steve McCormick. He

"We circulated all of the Scottish Second and Third Division Clubs, but we haven't received any offers. We have had offers from a number of Junior Clubs, but Steve feels he is good enough to play in the Third Division and that is the way it stands at the moment," said the manager.

THE OVD SCOTTISH JUNIOR CUP 1997/8



With **Hill O' Beath's** surprise home defeat by **Kilwinning Rangers** in the clubs' OVD quarter final replay, the media got the all-west coast semi-finals they wanted.

With the OVD Cup now history Haws, like **Tayport**, will see next week's Taycars Trophy semi-final on the Canniepairt as the next best thing to the Scottish Cup Final. "**Haws paired with Tayport in glamour tie**" as *The Courier* described it.

The OVD semi-finals, as stated above are the ties the punters wanted. The *Scottish Pyramid News* commented "...and who could have asked for better semi-finals, with the possible exception of Tayport - still in my view, the best junior team in Scotland- not amongst them. But the four finalists won't miss them!"

So, out of the hat came **Arthurlie v Kilwinning Rangers** and **Maryhill v Pollok**.

The 'Lie v Buffs tie goes on at **Love Street, Paisley on Friday 1 May (7.30pm)** and the clash of Glasgow's top duo is on stage the following afternoon at **Firhill Stadium (3pm)**.

It's tough to pick the finalists but the Port Prog goes for **Arthurlie v Pollok** with the 'Lok perhaps making it a spring hat-trick of winning a vital tie via a penalty shoot-out.

No word yet whether Sky will be televising the semis.



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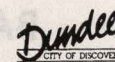
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DOWNFIELD	Idle	L	L	W	D	L	Idle	Idle	D	W	L	Idle	L
EAST CRAIGIE	Idle	L	L	L	L	W	D	L	L	L	Idle	Idle	L
ELMWOOD	Idle	W	L	W	D	L	D	Idle	L	Idle	L	Idle	D
FORFAR WE	Idle	W	Idle	L	L	D	Idle	Idle	W	W	W	Idle	L
JEANFIELD	Idle	W	Idle	L	W	L	L	Idle	D	L	D	Idle	L
KINNOULL	Idle	L	Idle	L	L	L	L	Idle	L	L	D	Idle	L
KIRRIE	Idle	D	L	D	W	W	Idle	Idle	D	L	L	Idle	D
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TAYPORT JUNIORS SHARPSHOOTERS

PLAYER	Total	League	Local Cups	NEC Cup	Taycars	O.V.D. Cup
D.REILLY	29	17	1	3	2	6
S.HUTCHEON	26	10	2	5	7	2
S.ROSS	22	14	3	2	3	
B.GARDINER	7	3	1	1	1	1
M.SPALDING	5	2		1	1	1
B.GRAY	5	3	1	1		
L.GREIG	4	2			1	1
B.COVENTRY	3	2		1		
G.MILLER	3	2	1			
K.NICOLSON	2	2				
E.CAMERON	1	1				
G.BUIST	1					1
A.RAMSAY	1	1				
P.REILLY	1	1				
TOTALS.	110	60	9	14	15	12

TAYPORT JUNIORS SHUT OUTS.

PLAYER	Total	League	Local Cups	NEC Cup	Taycars	O.V.D. Cup
E.MANN	23	13	2	3	1	4

SNIFFING ABOUT WITH THE SNOOT



COLIN Downie, the former Tayport Amateurs player, is the new manager of Glenrothes Juniors. Snout tipped him to join St Andrews United, another of his former clubs but he probably saw the new town club, another of his former sides, as having the greater potential. Colin who has had outstanding success with Kettle United amateurs. won't join up at the Warout until the end of the season. St Andrews meanwhile have appointed senior players Alan Finlay and Tommy Falls as their management team. It's not always a formula that works but, they obviously impressed the committee whilst in the job on a temporary basis.

ANDY Sommerville is expected to be manager of the Tayside Select XI which travels to meet the North Region in the Chapman Cup on Sunday 24 May.

THE delay in the kick-off in our last home game v Lewis United was because Referee A.W. Coutts insisted that Tayport, as the home club, change both shorts and socks because Lewis were also wearing white shorts and socks. Whilst it is obviously preferable to have a contrast, there should be some consistency in this regard. TV games, most recently Rangers v Celtic, frequently show teams with the same colour of shorts. As the referees are members of the same association, why the inconsistency? I can't really see Mr Coutts popping into the Ibrox dressing room at five to three and asking Archie Knox if the lads would mind changing their shorts. It wouldn't just be the jerseys that would be blue!

NEWBURGH went to the top of the Fife League following their win over Tulliallan Thistle last weekend. Only ten days previously the East Shore Park side were visitors to the Canniepairt for a midweek friendly when they were beaten 9-1. Star that night was Barrie Gray who gave a virtuoso performance and showed that he's fully recovered from his shoulder operation. On Monday evening past Newburgh consolidated their top of the league placing with a 3-1 win at St Andrews United. Apparently it was 'Burgh's first league win over St Andrews in 13 seasons.

ONE of the alleged reasons for Cowboy McCormack getting the bullet from Dens was allegedly his failure to appoint a coach or assistant. Jocky Scott hasn't appointed one either. Eight years ago Peter Marr, Dave Baikie, Mel Irons were together at Tayport. We often hear of things turning a full circle.....

LOCHEE United's disciplinary record is set to cause them team problems. Two players, Jimmy Brown and Murray McDowall, were suspended for the midweek game against ourselves. Another two, Charlie Adam and Mike Feeney, received six games and two games suspension respectively at Tuesday night's disciplinary meeting. Then against us on Wednesday John Mitchell and Paul Goodman were the recipients of red cards. Not to be outdone, assistant manager Davie Martin got into the act on Wednesday and was sent to the dressing rooms by referee McGregor for something he said.

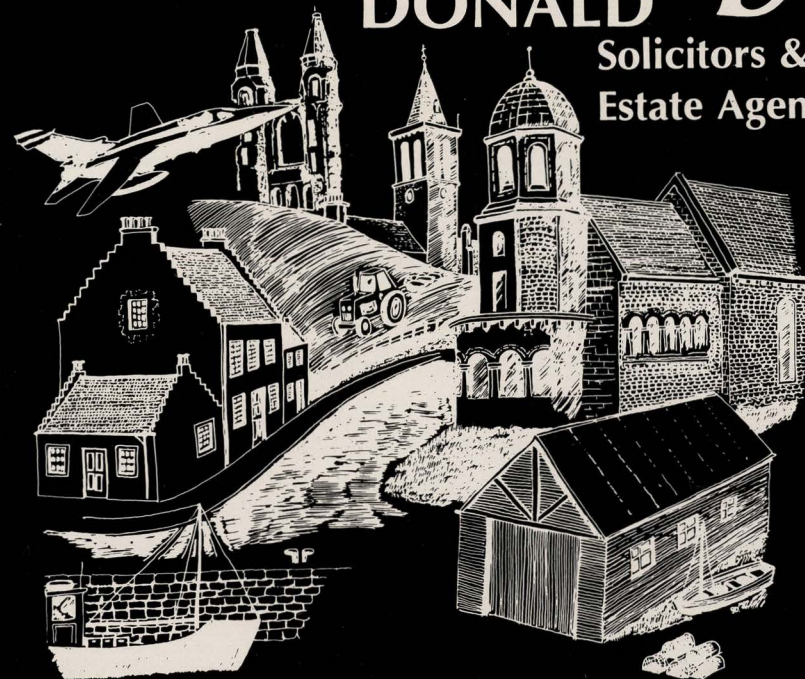
THE cup semi-finals to be held at the Canniepairt on the next two Saturdays are run by the organising committees of the respective tournaments. All the proceeds from the gate AND the half-time draw go to the cup associations. The match programme, however, will be a Tayport FC production. Both these semi-finals will be played to a finish with extra time and penalties if required.

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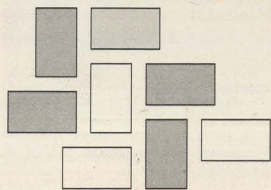
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