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TODAY'S GAME
BATHGATE THISTLE
SUPER LEAGUE
9/04/11
No. 9

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FOUNDED 1947 (as amateurs) 1990 (as juniors)

3/04	Currie
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	Perth
09/10	Challenger
Champions	Craig S
09/96, 1998/99, 2002	1'
1990/91	Albert H
Centenary, (out)	
1/02, 2002/03	(Premi
00, 2008/09	Tame
95	

aca sports.co.uk	505050 Taxis Tayside/Fife Cup	Currie Cup (prov.)
East Super League	John Walker East of Scotland Cup	Challenge Cup (prov)
Emirates Scottish Junior Cup	D.J.Laing League Cup	

12 May 1996	1 June 2003	29 May 2005
2-0 (aet) v Camelon at Fir Park, Motherwell	1-0 (aet) v Linlithgow Rose at Firhill, Glasgow	2-0 v Lochee United at Tannadice
F. Mann	F. Fitzpatrick	F. Fitzpatrick
G. Buist	R. Gunnion	R. Morris
G. Paterson	G. Paterson	G. Paterson (L. Young)
M. Spalding	R. Morris	J. Ward
K. Nicolson	J. Ward	D. Wemyss
S. Wilkie	S. Peters	S. Peters
G. Miller (A. Ramsay)	J. Mitchell	B. McNaughton
S. Stewart	S. Stewart (D. Scott)	S. Stewart
S. Ross (B. Gray)	B. Craik (A. Ramsay)	R. Henderson (A. Ramsay)
D. Reilly	B. McNaughton	G. Middleton (R. Hunter)
G. Maher (J. Henry)	G. Dailly (D. Evans)	B. Livie
Scorer – S. Ross (2)	Scorer – Craik	Scorers – Middleton, Henderson
Att. 4,652	Att. 4,613	Att. 6,868

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 Travel Club Player of the Year – **Roberto Morris**;
 Morris Couper award for Goal of the Season (presented 1993 by the
 family of Morris Couper) – **Mark Whalley v Penicuik Athletic (h)**;
 Top Scorer award (presented by Andrew Robertson)
 – **Ronnie Kenneth**.

TODAY'S TEAMS

TAYPORT From		BATHGATE THISTLE From	
1	Frazer FITZPATRICK	G/K	Mark LUNN
20	Neal FERRIE		Willie WILSON
2	Barry DONACHIE		Chris WILSON
3	Brian LIVIE		Alan NEILL
4	David BLACK		Colin LEIPER
5	Derek WEMYSS		Gary McCULLOCH
6	Lee BRYCE		Marco ANDREONI
7	Robbie HENDERSON		Gary FALLON
8	James RUSSELL		Alex LURINSKY
9	Ronnie KENNETH		Lee JOHNSTONE
10	Stuart FERGUSON		Blair YOUNG
12	Roberto MORRIS		Brian McCOLLIGAN
13	Barry McNAUGHTON		Chris JEFFREY
14	Chris ANTON		Craig GUPWELL
15	Ross GUNNION		Ross HAMILTON
16	Grant MANZIE		Fraser LOVE
17	Stefan ELVIN		Gary FRATER
19	Mark WHATLEY		Stewart EASTON
21	Grant PATERSON		Graeme LOVE
22	Steven STEWART		Fraser LOVE

Assistant Referee: tba

PORT PROG VOL. 20 No. 9 – 2010/11

TODAY'S GAME
BATHGATE THISTLE
SUPER LEAGUE
9/04/11
No. 9

FOOTBALL IN THE COMMUNITY



TAYPORT THISTLE FOOTBALL CLUB

Results from 20th March

Age Group	Opposition	Result	
Under 13s	Monifieth (A)	W 2 - 1	D Brown Cup 1/4 Final
Under 14s	Dee Club (H)	W 6 - 0	
Under 15s	Mains	D 2 - 2	Scorers - Thomas Whyte, Andy McManus

Results from 27th March

Age Group	Opposition	Result	
Under 13s	Arbroath	L 2 - 3	
Under 14s	No Match		
Under 15s	Ferry Athletic	W 2 - 0	Scorer - Chris Lawson, Dylan Sorrie

Results from 3rd April

Age Group	Opposition	Result	
Under 13s	Broughty United	D 3 - 3 (aet)	Scorers: Matthew McDougall (2), Euan Scanlon Lost 4 - 3 on penalties. D Brown Cup semi-final
Under 14s	No Match		
Under 15s	DUSC	L 0 - 3	

Age Group	Opposition	Venue	Kick-off
NO-MATCHES THIS WEEKEND DUE TO HOLIDAYS			

DUNDEE SUNDAY MORNING FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

It's a busy time for both local Sunday teams with 2/3 matches per week (not all on a Sunday!).

In the Strathmore Glazing Premier Division **TAYPORT ARMS** (now playing out of the Auld Hoose) recorded a 5-2 victory on 29th March against Douglas Athletic then followed this with a 3 - 2 win at Harlequins on Sunday past. On Tuesday this week they entertained Club 67 in the Alex Smith Trophy and inspired by a fine solo from Dean Rennie, won by the odd goal in five. Daz Rennie and Reece Anderson were the other scorers. Tomorrow Tayport Arms travel to Dundee SC for a fourth round tie in the Tayside Cup while on Tuesday they visit Bonargrove in the League.

COBBIES have been in action on 29th and 31st March, 3rd, 5th and 7th April - all in the Pilot Garage First Division. It's been 5 wins out of 5 with an away win (3-1) at Ferry Innter, a single goal victory at home to Birkhill an away win (4-1) at Doc Ferry's, a visit to Royal Hotel on Tuesday resulting in a 2-1 win (Connel McKenna and Ross Burnett) and a 3-1 home win v Angus Thistle on Thursday (Trialist 2, Scott Imrie)

The next five days sees Cobbies in action on Sunday at home to Thomson Street Accies, Tuesday at home to Doc Ferry's and on Thursday away to Blackness. Kick offs at 11.00am and 6.15pm

Midlands AFA

Newport Amateurs exited the Ferrari's Shield, beaten 3-0 by the strong going Bank Street Athletic. Newport now face three Drain Doctor Div 1 games in 5 days, all at Waterstone Crook - FC Claypotts today, Harris FP on Monday (6.30pm) and FC Michelin on Wednesday (6.30pm)

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THIS AFTERNOON AT THE CANNIEPAIRT

ACA SUPER LEAGUE TAYPORT v BATHGATE THISTLE

In the programme for the League match at home v Camelon four weeks ago this column noted that *"a run of three wins or three defeats can send a side soaring towards the top or plummeting into relegation trouble. Today's combatants should be acutely aware of the position in which they find themselves. For both, a win is vital. We should, therefore, expect a cracking match."*

Well, two wins and a draw since has sent Camelon soaring up the table and for Tayport, sadly, three defeats on the bounce has sent us plummeting towards the relegation trapdoor. So, that part of the note was accurate. What wasn't accurate, however, was the part about expecting a cracking match. It may have been the expectation, but it certainly wasn't the reality. The Camelon game was generally considered to be one of the poorest spectacles of the season.

Tayport's two matches since, both away from home, may not have yielded any points but the match quality was certainly an improvement. Not really much consolation when only Newton-grange star's failure to beat Bo'ness on Tuesday evening, kept Tayport from dropping to the bottom of the Super League table. It's a chance today to reward the loyal support with a win and some entertainment. Although, in the circumstances, the support would no doubt just settle for a win.

When Tayport and Bathgate met back in February, Tayport gathered their solitary point of 2011. It was a game which Tayport looked to have in the bag but then again, Bathgate will consider themselves unlucky to have dropped two points, given that they led 2-1 into stoppage time. A draw, perhaps a fair result, then.

Since that result Bathgate have experienced mixed fortunes, three home defeats by Forfar West End, Hill of Beath and Keltie Hearts but in between, a creditable away win at Lochlee United. Maybe not surprising when one considers Thistle's away form is showing a sharp contrast to that shown at home, more than twice as many away successes than home successes this season in all competitions. Indeed today's visitors still have an unbeaten record away from home in 2011.

Although Bathgate may not have been too prolific when it comes to goalscoring, the Creamery Park team has, nevertheless, been pretty consistent, failing to find their opponents' nets only twice in 28 games. Tayport's consistency since the turn of the year has been in the manner in which they have lost goals. Invariably this has been as a result of a set piece, whether following a corner kick or a free kick, a situation which the management has no doubt been addressing.

Tayport welcome back Roberto Morris from illness and Lee Bryce from holiday and there is the possibility that Derek Wemyss, who was forced to come off after only a few minutes at Bonnyrigg last week, will be fit. Sadly, though, David Black's return from injury looks as if it is as far away as ever... and he's been badly missed.

Just Like Buses

You wait six months to complete three Super League fixtures at home then three home games come along in eight days. That's the schedule which will see Tayport all but complete their home season **next Saturday when Lochee United come calling. Three days earlier, on Wednesday ,we play host to Hill of Beath.** Kick-off 6.30pm.

We will then be left with Musselburgh Athletic at home, Newton-grange, Linlithgow, Bo'ness and Forfar West End all away from home to complete our season. Just as well we had ten postponements or we might have been finished in March



Stefan Elvin's header goes just over at Bonnyrigg Rose last week



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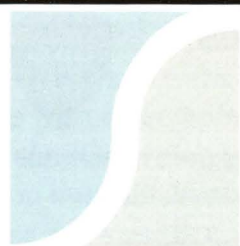
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Fly Emirates SCOTTISH JUNIOR CUP

SIXTH ROUND

Bo'ness United	4 - 0	Bonnyrigg Rose
Dalry Thistle	3 - 1	Kirkintilloch Rob Roy
Irvine Meadow	1 - 3	Auchinleck Talbot
Musselburgh Athletic	2 - 0	Kilbirnie Ladeside

SEMI FINALS

Teams will play each other home and away on 16th & 23rd April

Auchinleck Talbot	v	Bo'ness United
Dalry Thistle	v	Musselburgh Athletic

EMIRATES SCOTTISH JUNIOR CUP OUTRIGHT ODDS

As provided by William Hill
(Subject to Change)

5/4	Auchinleck Talbot
7/4	Bo'ness United
4/1	Musselburgh Athletic
9/1	Dalry Thistle



SCOTTISH JUNIOR CUP

Two from the east and two from the west. It's an even split in this season's Scottish Junior Cup semi finals. Bo'ness will reckon they've drawn the short straw, being paired with Auchinleck Talbot whilst the two surprise semi finalists, Musselburgh Athletic and Ayrshire District shock troops Dalry Thistle have been drawn to play each other.

The four communities will be buzzing for the next two weeks as the first and second legs draw close. The SJFA will be hoping for an East v West final but us in the East can hardly be blamed for looking for a Musselburgh v Bo'ness final showdown.

ARCHIVE PHOTO

FROM THE CLUB'S TRIP TO BELGIUM IN 1985

Tayport returned unbeaten but failed to make the final of the Ougree International Tournament in Liege after drawing 1-1 in their second game and going out on the corner count to the host club Manager Drew Herd and some of the players enjoy a few refreshing lagers after the match. l-r - Drew, a local, Bruce Burnett, Jimmy Bissett, Alan Hart, Brian Smith and Andy McRobbie



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A WORD FROM WILLIE

What we are doing as a team is taking the many positives from the two most recent games at Musselburgh and Bonnyrigg. I felt that in both games we were the better side. Against Musselburgh we defended well, we put them under real pressure and we created quite a few good chances, only to be caught out by a couple of free kicks which defensively we could have done better. We had an even better performance against a good Bonnyrigg team and created at least three even better chances in the first half and a couple in the second where if we had our shooting boots on we could have won the game comfortably, but again one mistake and we were punished.



The final results of both games left everyone at the club feeling disappointed but not despondent and as a manager I need to keep enforcing the message that we need to keep doing the good things that we are doing in games and work hard to eliminate mistakes.

Today sees us play the first of three successive games on the Canniepairt. Three very difficult games, but three very winnable games. The first against a Bathgate team that went down heavily last week, although having a man sent off in the opening minutes would not have helped. It was only a few weeks ago that we battled to a 2-2 draw with today's opponents, with us suffering from a sending off and needing to play 20 mins with ten men. I thought we showed a lot of character that day and to go behind late in the game when we had ten men and get a late equaliser through Derek showed the character and determination in the team that now needs to be evident in our remaining eight league fixtures.

This league is tough and at times unforgiving. Many games are decided on mistakes as we have found to our cost in our last two games. I can honestly say that our preparation for today's game has been first class. We have focused on certain aspects of our game that I feel can be better, and we have worked really hard at not only the physical and technical aspects of our play, but the camaraderie and teamwork elements that are so important at this time of the season. Teamwork and team togetherness are key to success, and that togetherness includes you the supporters. We all need to pull together over the remainder of the season and in particular the next three home games. Support the players and I am sure they will respond.

Support the Port,

Willie Garner

2010/11.....stats.....stats.....stats.....TAYPORT FOOTBALL CLUB.....stats.....stats.....stats.....2010/11

Date	Opposition	Comp	Result	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	Att
Aug 4	Lochee Harp	LCQ	W 5 - 1	Ferrie	Donachie	Livie	Ferguson *	Wemyss	Whatley	Henderson 1	Russell 1	Lunan 1	McManus 2	Manzie	Anton (8)	Kenneth (9)*	Gunnion (5)	102
Aug 11	NORTH END	LCQ	D 2 - 2	Ferrie	Gunnion	Livie	Morris	Donachie *	Whatley	Manzie	Russell 1 *	Kenneth	McManus 1	Lunan	Henderson (7)	Anton (11)	McNaughton(5)	131
Aug 14	LOCHEE UNITED	LCQ	W 2 - 1	Ferrie	Gunnion	Ferguson *	Morris *	Wemyss *	McNaughton	Henderson	Russell 1	Kenneth	McManus	Whatley	Kenneth 1 (7)	Manzie * (9)		234
Aug 18	DUNDEE VIOLET	LCQ	D 2 - 2	Fitzpatrick	Gunnion *	Livie	Stewart *	Wemyss	Whatley	Manzie *	Russell	Lunan	McManus 2	Donachie	Kenneth (9) %	Morris (4)		134
Aug 21	LINLITHGOW ROSE	SL	L 0 - 1	Ferrie	Gunnion	Livie	Ferguson *	Wemyss %	Whatley	Henderson	Russell *	Kenneth	McManus	Donachie*	Lunan (11)	Manzie (9) *		324
Aug 25	ARBROATH VICS	LC(SF)	W 3 - 1	Fitzpatrick	Gunnion	Ferguson	Elvin	Wemyss	Anton	Henderson1	McNaughton1	Lunan	McManus	Donachie	Russell () 1	Whatley (6)	Kenneth (4)	103
Aug 28	Kelty Hearts	SL	W 2 - 0	Ferrie	Gunnion	Livie	Ferguson	Morris	Whatley	Henderson1	Russell	Kenneth 1	McManus	Donachie*	McNaughton(10)	Elvin (11)	Lunan (5)	172
Sep 4	FORFAR WEST END	SL	D 2 - 2	Ferrie	Gunnion	Livie	Ferguson *	Morris **	Whatley	Henderson	Russell 1	Kenneth *	McManus	McNaughton1	Elvin (10)	Anton (2)	Lunan (19)	243
Sep 11	ST ANDREWS UTD	ES1	W 2 - 0	Fitzpatrick	Wemyss	Livie	Ferguson	Morris *	Anton	Henderson	Lunan %	Manzie 2	McManus	Elvin	Whatley (10)	Russell (7)		131
Sep 18	Hill of Beath Hawthorn	SL	W 3 - 0	Ferrie	Wemyss	Livie	Ferguson	McNaughton*1	Whatley	Henderson	Russell* 2	Manzie	Whatley	Elvin				173
Sep 25	Lochee United	SL	L 1 - 2	Ferrie	Morris	Livie	Ferguson	McNaughton*1	Whatley	Henderson	Russell	Manzie	Whatley	Elvin *	McManus (6)	Kenneth (8)	Bryce (9)	248
Oct 2	BONNYRIGG ROSE	SL	L 0 - 1	Ferrie	Gunnion	Donachie	Ferguson	Wemyss	McNaughton *	Henderson	Russell	Kenneth	Whatley	Elvin	Bryce (9)	McManus (3)		165
Oct 9	NEWTONGRANGE	SL	W 2 - 0	Ferrie	Gunnion	Livie 1 *	Ferguson *	McNaughton *	Donachie1	Henderson	Russell 1	Anton *	McManus	Elvin	Morris (8)	Manzie (10)		141
Oct 16	Camelon	SL	L 2 - 3	Ferrie	Gunnion	Livie	Ferguson	McNaughton	Donachie	Henderson	Russell 1	Anton	McManus	Elvin	Morris (4) %	Manzie (5) 1	Whatley (6)	178
Oct 23	Forfar West End	LC (F)	D 2 - 2a	Ferrie	Divine	Gunnion *	Elvin	Whatley	Donachie1	Henderson 1	Russell 1	Anton *	Manzie *	Bryce	McManus (11)	Kenneth (10)		202
Oct 30	Harthill Royal	S2	W 9 - 0	Ferrie	Divine	Livie	Gunnion	Whatley	Donachie * 1	Henderson 1	McManus 1	Bryce 2	Manzie 2	Elvin 1	Russell (8) 1	Kenneth (9)		103
Nov 6	Bathgate Thistle	SL	POSTPONED - Waterlogged Pitch															
Nov 13	Haddington Athletic	ES2	W 4 - 1	Ferrie*	Divine	Gunnion	Wemyss	Whatley	Donachie	Henderson 2	McManus 1	Bryce	Manzie	Elvin	Russell (5) 1	Kenneth (9)	McNaughton (8)	93
Nov 20	KELTY HEARTS	SL	W 4 - 0	Ferrie	Gunnion	Livie	Wemyss	McNaughton	Donachie	Henderson 2	Russell 2 *	Morris	Manzie 1 *	Elvin	Whatley (5)	Kenneth (8)	Bryce (10)	157
Nov 27	PETERSHILL	S3	POSTPONED - Frozen Pitch															
Dec 4	PETERSHILL	S3	POSTPONED - Snowbound Pitch															
Dec 11	PETERSHILL	S3	POSTPONED - Snowbound Pitch															
Dec 18	PETERSHILL	S3	POSTPONED - Icebound Pitch															
Jan 8	PETERSHILL	S3	POSTPONED - Waterlogged Pitch															
Jan 15	PETERSHILL	S3	POSTPONED - Icebound Pitch															
Jan 22	PETERSHILL	S3	POSTPONED - Icebound Pitch															
Jan 29	PETERSHILL	S3	POSTPONED - Frozen Pitch															
Feb 5	PETERSHILL	S3	D 0 - 0	Ferrie	Morris	Ferguson	Wemyss %	McNaughton	Livie	Henderson *	Russell	Donachie	Manzie	Elvin	Whatley (8)	Bryce (7)	Anton (9)	153
Feb 12	Petershill	S3 r	D 0 - 0a	Ferrie	Morris *	Ferguson	Wemyss	McNaughton	Donachie	Henderson	Bryce	Anton	Manzie	Elvin	Whatley (8)	Russell (6) *	Gunnion (9)	252
Feb 19	Bathgate Thistle	SL	D 2 - 2	Ferrie	Morris	Ferguson%	Wemyss 1	Gunnion *	Whatley	Henderson 1	Russell	Anton	Manzie	Elvin	McNaughton(10)	Donachie (8)	Bryce (7)	126
Feb 26	BO'NESS UNITED	SL	L 0 - 4	Ferrie	Morris	Ferguson	Wemyss	Gunnion	Whatley	Henderson	Russell	Anton	Manzie	Elvin	Kenneth (10)	Livie (4)	Bryce (11)	231
Mar 5	Sauchie	EoS3	L 1 - 2	Ferrie	Morris *	Ferguson *	Wemyss	Gunnion	Donachie	Henderson	Bryce *	Anton	McNaughton	Livie	Kenneth (8)	Manzie (6)	Elvin (11)	157
Mar 12	Bonnyrigg Rose	SL	OFF	Snow on Pitch														
Mar 19	CAMELON	SL	L 1 - 2	Ferrie	Morris	Livie	Wemyss	Gunnion *	Whatley	Henderson	Russell	Anton	Kenneth *	Elvin 1	Bryce (8)	Donachie (3)	Manzie (7)	158
Mar 26	Musselburgh Athletic	SL	L 1 - 2	Ferrie	Morris	Livie	Wemyss	Gunnion *	Donachie	Henderson 1	Russell	Manzie *	McNaughton	Elvin	Whatley (10)	Anton (9)		305
Apr 2	Bonnyrigg Rose	SL	L 0 - 1	Ferrie	Livie	Ferguson	Wemyss	Gunnion	Donachie **	Henderson *	Russell	Kenneth	McNaughton	Elvin*	Anton (4)	Manzie (9)		192
Apr 9	BATHGATE THISTLE	SL																
Apr 13	HILL of BEATH																	
Apr 16	LOCHEE UNITED																	



New look Creamery Park, Bathgate (pic by Ron Nicoll)

DUNMORE REPORTS...

"How long can such a run endure?"

2011 has been a difficult year to endure. The frustration regarding the winter postponements has been replaced by the frustration of a dismal sequence of results. Nobody will have felt this more keenly than the players and the management team and they will be all out to remedy the situation by quickly returning to winning ways.

Performances over the past few weeks have certainly improved from the low of the Camelon match, in mid-March. A boring first half was followed by a calamitous spell in the second, when goals from Craig Young and former Tayport forward Jonathan Mitchell gave the Mariners a two-goal advantage. Stefan Elvin clawed one back, in the 81st minute, drilling home after and in-direct free kick inside the area was laid into his path. Unfortunately, it was a case of too little, too late.

There was more zip in the display at Musselburgh, but the same 2-1 scoreline was a harsh reality. Chris King netted a first half free kick for the Scottish Cup semi-finalists, before 'Port went on to dominate the second half. To no avail, though. None of the visiting players reacted to a long free kick into the box and home defender Scott Gibson gleefully prodded the ball into the net, from close range.

Again, there was a late consolation, Robbie Henderson pouncing after 'keeper Renton had blocked Stefan Elvin's header, from a James Russell cross. Again, there would be no equaliser.

At Bonnyrigg, 'Port pushed forward from the start, this time dominating the first half. Russell was getting closer with each free kick, while Elvin was just off-target with a header. Surely, it was just a matter of time before the deadlock was broken. Bonnyrigg won a corner at the end of the half and Stephen Bunyan planted a header beyond Neal Ferrie. Incredibly, Tayport trailed again.

The second half was more even, with a few chances at each end. None were taken, and three more points disappeared. How long can such a run endure?



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Willie takes Andy on trial



When Willie Garner said he was looking to add experience to his midfield, few thought he had 80 year old Andy Phin in mind, but here's the evidence. It's understood Andy agreed, but only if excused training as he goes to his Zumba class on Monday and Wednesday nights. Said Andy, who last played Junior for Penicuik in 1950, "There's no substitute for experience and I'm not short on that"

ACA SPORTS EAST SUPER LEAGUE STATISTICS FOLLOWING MATCHES ON 5TH APRIL 2011

LEAGUE TABLE	Home						Away						GD	Pts
	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A			
Linlithgow Rose	16	6	1	1	19	12	4	1	3	15	14	8	32	
Bonnyrigg Rose Athletic	14	4	1	2	10	10	5	1	1	10	6	4	29	
Forfar West End	16	3	2	3	12	10	4	2	2	17	12	7	25	
Lochee United	14	4	1	3	13	8	3	2	1	13	11	7	24	
Bathgate Thistle	17	1	3	4	11	18	4	1	4	17	16	-6	22	
Bo'ness United	12	3	1	1	9	5	3	2	2	11	8	7	21	
Hill of Beath Hawthorn	12	3	2	1	11	8	3	3	1	10	9	4	20	
Camelon	19	4	3	3	19	17	1	2	6	8	21	-11	20	
Musselburgh Athletic	16	3	1	4	18	20	3	0	5	10	17	-9	19	
Kelty Hearts	15	2	0	5	9	12	3	0	5	11	16	-8	15	
TAYPORT	14	2	1	4	9	10	2	1	4	11	10	0	14	
Newtongrange Star	15	2	0	6	17	15	2	1	4	12	17	-3	13	

RESULTS CHART	Bathgate	Bo'ness	Bonnyrigg	Camelon	Forfar WE	HoB	Kelty Hearts	Linlithgow	Lochee Utd	Musselburgh	Newtongrange	TAYPORT
Bathgate Th				1-1	1-3	1-4	1-4		1-1	2-3	2-0	2-2
Bo'ness United	0-2		1-1	1-0			3-1					
Bonnyrigg Rose	2-0	2-2				0-2	2-1	0-3			3-2	1-0
Camelon	1-1	2-0	1-3		2-2		2-0	3-2	2-3	1-2	2-2	3-2
Forfar West End	0-1		4-1	1-1		1-1	0-2	1-0		2-0	3-4	
Hill of Beath	4-1	2-2		1-0					1-1	3-1		0-3
Kelty Hearts	2-4		0-1	3-1	0-2			3-0	1-2			0-2
Linlithgow Rose	4-2	2-1			2-1	2-2	2-0		4-3	2-1	1-2	
Lochee United	0-2	0-1	0-1	4-1	3-0			2-2		2-0		2-1
Musselburgh At	3-4	1-4	0-2	5-2	1-5	1-1		2-3			4-2	2-1
Newtongrange		0-1		4-0	1-2	4-0	2-3	3-4	2-3	1-2		
TAYPORT		0-4	0-1	1-2	2-2		4-0	0-1			2-0	

SUPER LEAGUE RESULTS - GUIDE TO FORM					
Last five league matches - most recent to the right					
Bathgate Thistle	D	L	W	L	L
Bo'ness United	L	W	L	D	W
Bonnyrigg Rose	L	W	D	W	W
Camelon	D	L	W	W	D
Forfar West End	D	L	L	L	D
Hill of Beath	D	D	L	W	D
Kelty Hearts	W	L	W	L	W
Linlithgow Rose	W	L	L	W	D
Lochee United	W	W	L	W	D
Musselburgh Athletic	L	L	W	W	W
Newtongrange Star	W	W	W	L	L
TAYPORT	D	L	L	L	L

SUPER LEAGUE TOP GOAL SCORERS		
Player	Club	Goals
Duell, Bryan	Forfar West End	16
Coyne, Tommy	Linlithgow Rose	10
King, Matti	Musselburgh Athletic	10
Sommerville	Newtongrange Star	8
Young, Craig	Camelon	7
Blackwood, Paul	Lochee United	6
Hagan, Phil	Lochee United	6
Morrison, Craig	Kelty Hearts	6
Russell, James	TAYPORT	6
Andreoni, Marco	Bathgate Thistle	5
Bathgate, Stevie	Hill of Beath	5
King, Chris	Linlithgow Rose	5
Pirie, Mark	Forfar West End	5
Walker, Nicky	Bo'ness United	5

RESULTS Saturday 19 th March			RESULTS Saturday 26 th March			RESULTS Saturday 2 nd April		
TAYPORT	1-2	Camelon	Bathgate	1-4	Hill of Beath	Bathgate Th	1-4	Kelty Hearts
Forfar WE	0-2	Kelty Hearts	Camelon	2-0	Bo'ness Utd	Bonnyrigg	1-0	TAYPORT
Tuesday/Wednesday 5/6th April			Linlithgow	2-1	Forfar WE	Hill of Beath	2-2	Bo'ness Utd
Newtongrange	0-1	Bo'ness Utd	Kelty Hearts	1-2	Lochee Utd	Forfar WE	1-1	Camelon
Hill of Beath	P-P	Kelty Hearts	Musselburgh	2-1	TAYPORT	Lochee Utd	2-2	Linlithgow
FIXTURES Saturday 9 th April			FIXTURES Tuesday 12th April			FIXTURES Saturday 16 th April		
Bonnyrigg	v	Forfar WE	Newtongrange	v	Bonnyrigg	Bathgate	v	Bonnyrigg
Musselburgh	v	Lochee Utd				Hill of Beath	v	Forfar WE
TAYPORT	v	Bathgate Th				Kelty Hearts	v	Newtongrange
Wednesday 13th April						Linlithgow	v	Camelon
			TAYPORT	v	Hill of Beath	TAYPORT	v	Lochee Utd

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THIS AFTERNOON'S VISITORS BATHGATE THISTLE

When Bathgate paid their last visit to the Canniepairt in the autumn of 2008 they were still flushed with the success of their Scottish Cup win only six months earlier. That cup win was the peak of former manager Willie Hill's long association with the club and taking the cup back to Bathgate for the first and only time vindicated successful businessman Willie's significant investment.

Would there be life after Willie? Well, Thistle struggled in 2008/09, finishing two points off a relegation spot but picked up last season, finishing 3rd top of the Super League.

Graeme Love, a former Hibs defender, who has been almost ten years at Bathgate, graduated from player to manager and has been charged with the task of taking the club forward in a new era. Love has been relying on experience and his squad today still has six of the team who played in his club's 1-2 defeat when they last played at The Canniepairt in November 2008, veterans Alan Neill, Willie Wilson and Fraser Love, Craig Gupwell, Stewart Easton and Brian McColligan.

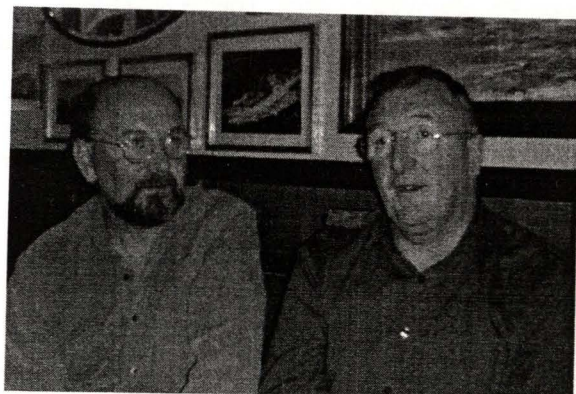
Bathgate have been missing Graeme McLaren who was transferred to Bo'ness last month but still pose a goal threat in strikers Alex Lurinsky, Lee Johnstone and Blair Young. Young's goal put Thistle ahead after only a minute v Kelty last week but within a minute the good was undone when their top league scorer Marco Andreoni, who netted v Tayport in February, was ordered off and will therefore likely be absent today.

The heavy snows brought down the Creamery Park enclosure earlier this year, giving the club a potential headache but the local Council's insurance apparently covered the matter and a replacement is planned so the fall of the old enclosure could have been a blessing in disguise.

ANDY & SANDY passing thoughts in the Bellrock Tavern

I think it's my roond,
but if I hang on, Sandy
will maybe go for his
tea

I'm starving but I'm
no' missing out on a
drink from Andy.



You couldn't make it up!

Children Writing About The Sea...

- 1) Some fish are dangerous. Jellyfish can sting. Electric eels can give you a shock. They have to live in caves under the sea where I think they have to plug themselves in to chargers (Christopher age 7)
- 2) On holiday my Mum went water skiing. She fell off when she was going very fast. She says she won't do it again because water shot up her fanny (Julie age 7)
- 3) When ships had sails, they used to use the trade winds to cross the ocean. Sometimes when the wind didn't blow, the sailors would whistle to make the wind come. My brother says they would be better off eating beans (William age 7)

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SMIFFING ABOUT WITH THE SNOOT



Charlie Kean, pictured, the Dundee based businessman, is a regular at the Tayport FC Car Boot Sales where he picks up bargains to sell on through Ebay etc. Not for his own benefit, you understand, but for children's charities, for which he has raised an absolute fortune in recent years.



Charlie, whose Kean's Children's Fund passed the £quarter million mark some time ago, tells us it has now topped £291,000, much of which goes towards helping local children suffering from cancer.

Thornton Hibs, whose efforts to improve the somewhat notorious Memorial Park playing surface have gone awry, have been forced to concede defeat, at least for this season, and play all their games away from home. Their opponents will then effectively each have two home games v Thornton. Getting Memorial Park shipshape for next season is going to be no easy task.

Sean Wilkie, Tayport's 1996 Scottish Cup skipper and former caretaker manager, is still putting in a shift on the field. Now playing alongside several other 'Port veterans with St James FC in the Midlands Amateur FA, Sean was first to volunteer when Saints' goalkeeper was a late call off for a recent match. Scoffing at the fact there were no goalie gloves available, Sean donned the yellow jersey and kept a clean sheet as his team ran out 4-0 victors.

As well as their respective successes in the Scottish Junior Cup, both today's contestants will also feature in the cup history for other reasons. Bathgate's semi final v Pollok in 2008 was the last semi final to be played as a one game semi-final on a neutral ground. The tie attracted only 1,772 to Broadwood Stadium and there were only 1,613 there the previous week to see Cumnock play Thornton. It's understood that relatively low attendances, cost of stadium hire and police charges prompted the SJFA to play the semi finals as two legged affairs at the home grounds of the contestants. For Tayport's part, their quarter final tie v Downfield in 1993 was the last ever Scottish Junior Cup tie to go to three games. All ties prior to the semi finals are now settled on penalty kicks after two games if the sides are still level. It was 0-0 at Tayport before a record Canniepairt attendance of 2,187, 1-1 aet at Downfield Park and 1-0 for 'Port at neutral North End Park in the third game.

Newtongrange Star manager Graeme Armstrong resigned his post following Star's 1-0 defeat at Bo'ness. Armstrong had been boss at New Victoria Park for the past 6 years. Armstrong, quoted in the Press, said, "This is not a decision based on any recent results nor is it because I am moving on to another job. Life as a football manager can be very rewarding but it can also have a detrimental effect on other aspects of life." Makes a change from the usual bland 'work commitments' reason.

There looks the possibility that Third Lanark FC who went bust 44 years ago whilst one of the top clubs in the country, could be revived. Their ground, Cathkin Park, in the shadow of Hampden Park, which once held a crowd of 45,544, still survives, albeit in a tumbledown state. A proposal has been submitted to Glasgow City Council (owners of Cathkin Park) to develop the ground as a community resource with semi professional football. If it did come to fruition then the logical step would be to take the first tentative steps in the Junior game and then see what developed from there. When there's hardly a club not wondering where their next £1 is coming from, it's gonna be a big challenge

Tayport are scheduled to play at home to Hill of Beath in the Super League next Wednesday and sadly, unless the East Region Association introduce a cup competition, this will be our first and last midweek game of the season. Kick-off is at 6.30pm. 7.30pm on a lovely balmy evening in late May might have been preferable...

FROM THE ARCHIVES 21 YEARS AGO MARCH 20 1990

How the *Evening Telegraph* broke the news that Tayport FC would be joining the Junior ranks



From the left—Tayport officials Andrew Robertson, Eric Beat and Albert Oswald.

TAYPORT STEP UP

TAYPORT AMATEURS, one of the top sides in the Midlands League for well over a decade, are to step up to junior level from next season (writes BOB ANGUS).

They have successfully applied to join the Tayside Junior Football Association and now only await ratification from the SJFA before their move becomes official.

That cannot happen until the national AGM this summer, but the rubber-stamping of the Tayside decision would appear to be little more than a formality.

And while, again, no formal decision has been taken by the club, the new team could be known as Tayport Violet JFC although plain Tayport Juniors is also a possibility.

Mr Albert Oswald, secretary of both Tayport and the Midlands Amateur Association, said that the plan was to create a new team and emphasised that Tayport Amateurs would not become defunct.

"We will still have two amateur sides next season," said Mr Oswald, who plans to continue as Midlands secretary and will therefore not be directly involved with the running of the junior side.

Currently Tayport have three teams, playing in the Midlands, Midlands Alliance and the East Fife Amateurs.

"There will definitely be one team in the Midlands and we have still to decide whether the other team will be in the Alliance or the East Fife Amateurs."

The junior side will be managed by Mr Peter Marr, formerly manager of Timex and currently with the prominent Midlands First Division side St James.

Current players may make the step up to junior level, but the club will also seek new players.

"We will be looking for senior, junior and any amateur players we think are good enough," said Mr Oswald.

"Mr Marr is obviously confident he can attract players who will be suitable to create a successful side or we would not be entering into this venture," he added.

However, the club are not making any rash predictions about winning trophies or gaining promotion to the First Division at the first go.

Founded in 1947, Tayport boast one of the best set-ups of any amateur club in North-East Scotland.

With the exception of the erection of a permanent perimeter fence, their Connepairt ground will need little upgrading and should breeze through the mandatory inspection by junior officials.

On the playing side, they've finished in the top six in the Midlands First Division for the past 15 seasons and were champions nine years ago.

They will be one of the few teams in recent times to step up.

The last new team was Hydra Dynamo who folded after only three seasons, although Elmwood did rejoin the league in the mid-80s.

"We are delighted Tayport have applied to become juniors," said Tayside secretary Alf Richards.

"Sadly, it is more often the case nowadays that teams are folding rather than coming in."

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