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2022-2023 Official Match Day Programme Vol.32 No.7

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**TAYPORT
FC
v
BROUGHTY
ATHLETIC**



**MIDLANDS
LEAGUE
SATURDAY
26th November
2022
Canniepairt**



1992 /1993 First Scottish Cup Final Appearance

30th Anniversary Year



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TAYPORT FOOTBALL CLUB SEASON 2022-2023

Club founded 1947 as Amateurs and 1990 as Juniors

Affiliated to the Scottish Football Association and the Scottish Junior FA

members of the Midlands Football League in Tier 6 of the Scottish Football Pyramid

The Canniepairt, Shanwell Road, Tayport, Fife DD6 9DX Colours: Red /white Change: Black /white

Scottish Junior Cup Winners: 1996, 2003, 2005. Runners-up: 1993, 1997, 2004

East Super League Champions: 2003, 2006. Runners-up: 2004, 2005.

Chairman: David Baikie [davidbaikie@hotmail.com]

Secretary: John Morris [johnmorris37@btinternet.com]

Programmes - Alberto Oswald [ajoswald@hotmail.co.uk]



Cover pic

Ethan Samson
has scored in his past
two away games



Pic
by
Ryan Mashedor

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Tayport
from

TODAY'S TEAMS

Broughty
Athletic
from



gk	Thomas WELSH
gk	Darren BROWN
gk	Charlie KENNEDY
	Bradie HEGGIE
	Craig STURROCK
	Jamie HUME
	Greg McCOLM
	Ross McDONALD
	Callum WALLS
	Caleb ADDO
	Ryan PATERSON
	Dominic NAGLIK
	Daryl McKENZIE
	Jamie GILL
	Keiran STURROCK
	Niklas EDWARDS
	Kyle McMULKIN
	Adam FRASER
	Ethan SAMSON
	Innes BARBOUR
	Rikki GILLESPIE
	Andy WALLS



Saturday
26th November
2022
Kick-off
1.30pm

Referee:

Tim
WOODCOCK

Assistant 1:

David
REID

Assistant 2:
John Hugh
EDENS

Port Prog

Vol. 32

No. 7

gk	Fraser BURNETT
gk	Sean DIAMOND
	Ryan FERGUSON
	Ben SIVEWRIGHT
	Greig McNAUGHTON
	Lewis FRASER
	Ben MIDDLETON
	Ryan WINTER
	Jamie REID
	Josh SKELLY
	Brad SMITH
	Ruari HENRY
	Louie ANDERSON
	Lewis BOYLEN
	Mitchell FINDLAY
	Ryan McINNES
	Craig TOSH
	Oliver BRANDER
	Ben STEWART

Player / Manager

Daryl McKENZIE

Manager

Darren SCOTT



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TODAY'S GAME MIDLANDS LEAGUE

TAYPORT v BROUGHTY ATHLETIC



An interesting affair this afternoon. Broughty Athletic are managed by our former player, Darren Scott, while Canniepairt boss Daryl McKenzie was assistant to Darren at Whitton Park last season.

It's the first of a double header against our visitors from across the river. It's a league game today and in 7 days time the sides meet again, this time at Whitton Park in the Quest Tayside/North (regional) Cup.

After 18 games last season Broughty had won 12, drawn 4 and lost 2 games, exactly the same record as they have today, but they had scored 30 more goals and conceded 4 fewer than this season and were 4 points off the top of the table. They arrive here today 3 points off the top and with designs on the league title.

A title challenge is a forlorn hope for Tayport as their form since the start of September hasn't exactly been sparkling with only two wins chalked up in seven league games, results which have seen us slip down to 8th in the League.

Injuries and other enforced absences have had an impact on our performances over the last five weeks, but profligacy in front of goal, careless defending and unnecessary cards [an average of over 2 yellows per game] haven't helped the situation.

It may be recalled that an accumulation of cards cost the club dearly last season when

suspensions kept several players out of the cup final line-up.

Greg McColm (pictured) was welcomed back last game following the injury sustained at North End and both Kieran Sturrock and Jamie

should week. down-ever,

will be until the having collar-against Downfield three weeks ago.



Hume be back this On the side, how- Kyle McMulkin unavailable new year, broken a bone

Broughty arrive here this afternoon, not having tasted a league defeat, home or away, since way back at the beginning of August and today they are looking for a fifth successive league win on the road.

Last season's prolific marksman Josh Kelly still knows the road to goal but injuries and suspension have restricted his game time. Brad Smith, however, has taken over his mantle and since netting twice against us on the opening day of the season, has been popping them in regularly and has five in his last four games.

Next home game
v St James in League
Saturday 17th December

FIRST and LAST with

BRADIE HEGGIE

Age - 26

School - Craigie High School

Further Education -

Dundee & Angus College, Dundee University

Occupation - Highways Engineer

Previous Clubs -

Broughty Athletic, Dundee Violet

Favoured Position - right back

Sponsored by - Molly Brown



Your FIRST...

Football boots - Umbros

Tayport appearance -

November 2020, a 1-0 win at home v Blairgowrie in the abandoned season

Replica shirt - Scotland

Car - Peugeot 206

Celebrity crush -

Jennifer Aniston

Phone - Sony Ericsson

Your LAST...

Takeaway meal - Chinese

TV series watched -

Mortimer & Whitehouse Gone Fishing

Holiday destination - Florida

Concert attended - Catfish and The Bottlemen

Pub you were in - Boars Rock

Train journey -

Dundee to Edinburgh

Laugh! who's the biggest joker in the club? - Kieran Sturrock

Pete's Page

What's happening at the top of the Midlands League?

In the next few weeks most teams in the league will have played 19 league games, the halfway point. The big exception being **Carnoustie** who have played 7 games less than North End at the top, mainly due to their run in both the Scottish Cup and Scottish Junior Cup. Although currently sitting in 7th place Carnoustie will believe that they can retain their league title by winning their games in hand.

However there will be many teams at the top of the league that believe they can stop Carnoustie returning to the top and who can become Champions themselves, one of them being **Downfield** who drew 1-1 with Panmure two weeks ago. Downfield are on great form and, having won 8 of their last 10 games, they need to be considered as real title contenders.

The one team to beat Downfield in that run of 10 league games was current league leaders **North End**. North End are now under the management of Kevin McNaughton and Lewis Toshney, both well known locally. McNaughton played over 400 games for Aberdeen and Cardiff City, while Toshney can count Celtic and Dundee United as former clubs. They've had a great start to their tenure winning their first five games.

Currently in second place are our opponents today, **Broughty Athletic**. Broughty were narrow winners at Letham last week but they surprisingly dropped points at home to Coupar Angus the previous week and this may prove to be costly at the end of the season in their race for the title.

East Craigie in third place have continued their good form of last season and it looks like they will again be at the top end of the league come the end of this season. The surprise package of the season so far continues to be **Kirrie Thistle**. Their recent defeat by Carnoustie and last week's loss at East Craigie, might mean that top spot is too much for them this season, but at this stage it looks very likely that they will at least better their league position of last season, seventh.

Lastly, **Lochee United** who have been embroiled in the Kevin Harper managerial saga all week. Although United currently occupy 6th place, a new management team will still feel that with a good run of wins, they could claim the title. By the time we enter January we will probably have a clearer idea of who has a real chance of winning the league but at the moment, a number of clubs will strongly believe that they are in the frame.

Peter McCleny, Tayport FC's Communications Officer

PAUL BERG WITH THE TAYPORT FC WALKING FOOTBALLERS UPDATE

For more information, contact **Paul on 07831 535555**



Sunday November 6th saw our final group games in the Walking Football Scotland over 50s 2022 league season.

With little to play for, as we were already guaranteed 4th place, we had a disappointing day, winning 1 game but narrowly losing the other 2.

Our final game against Arbroath meant more to them, as if they beat us they finished runners up, draw and they finished 3rd.

It was a very close game. We went 0-2 down early on but got a goal back and tried desperately for an equaliser, but it wasn't to be, and we lost 1-2.

In our other games we beat Fife Wanderers 4-1, but lost to Carnoustie Panmure 0-2.

Nevertheless it was another great season for us, in only our second season in the league. Next year will hopefully see a 2 division set up, and we are guaranteed a place in the Premier Division. We are also looking to enter a second team in the Championship Division.

On Sunday December 11th we have been invited to participate in the Raith Rovers' Christmas Cup, to be played at Starks Park. Last year we finished 5th out of 16 teams.

This year we are entering 2 teams, the only club to do so, and this will give players who haven't played in the league, the opportunity to get some experience of what you cannot get away with playing in a competitive environment!

Hopefully we can get a better final position than last year.

EAST of SCOTLAND O 50s FINAL LEAGUE TABLE

		GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
1	ST. JAMES	24	18	4	2	66	17	49	58
2	ARBROATH	24	18	3	3	60	18	42	57
3	CRIEFF JUNIORS	24	18	3	3	66	26	40	57
4	TAYPORT	24	15	1	8	42	28	14	46
5	FAIRFIELD	24	11	5	8	36	30	6	38
6	CARNOUSTIE PANMURE	24	10	7	7	36	26	10	37
7	DUNDEE UTD CT	24	10	4	10	30	33	-3	34
8	RAITH ROVERS	24	9	4	11	36	33	3	31
9	FIFE WANDERERS	24	8	4	12	33	46	-13	28
10	MONTROSE	24	5	5	14	21	44	-23	20
11	SAINTS IN THE COMMUNITY	24	2	9	13	26	47	-21	15
12	DUNFERMLINE DYNAMOS	24	1	6	17	16	62	-46	9
13	ST. ANDREWS & EAST NEUK	24	2	1	21	9	67	-58	7

FROM THE ARCHIVES — NOVEMBER 1972

50 years ago, season 1972/73, Tayport fielded two sides in the Midlands AFA, the first XI in Division 1 and the Alliance XI in Alliance Division 1.

On **Saturday 18th November 1972** the 1st XI lost 3-0 in a league game at Carnoustie YM. Team was Raymond White; Walter Kemp (below top), Abby Oswald; Stewart Ritchie, Jim Mathers (below bottom), Lindsay Ancell; Cormac Andrews, Andy Johnstone, Eddie Gilmour, Mev Hunter and Ian Howe. No substitute that day. Sadly, Messrs. Mathers, Ancell and Hunter have passed away. It was to be Hunter's one and only 1st XI start. Messrs Howe, Oswald and occasionally Johnstone are match attendees these days.

The Alliance XI, midway through a run of eight successive defeats, lost 3-1 at home to Lawside FP that afternoon in a league match on the East Common (new ground at Canniepairt was still four years away). The team that day was Gordon Brankin (sub Mick McCaig); Collins, Alan Davie; John Porter, Nobby Shipley, Dave Mitten; George Caldwell, Heggie, Frank Leslie, Frank Feechan and Alex Ritchie. Collins, Shipley and Mitten were RAF guys from Leuchars and it was Heggie's sole appearance for the club. Frank Feechan plays for the club's Walking Football team. The now St Andrean, Frank Leslie, scored the goal. Despite the poor mid-season form, the Alliance XI avoided relegation, as did the 1st XI.



SEASON 1972-1973								
DIVISION 1								
Lawside F.P.	26	19	5	2	86	36	40	
Grove Amateurs	26	17	6	3	82	39	37	
Broughty United	26	15	7	4	80	47	34	
S.M.T.	26	15	7	4	100	68	34	
Harris F.P.	26	13	7	6	63	49	32	
Monifieth	26	11	8	7	50	51	29	
Auchterhouse	26	10	9	7	66	64	27	
N.C.R.	26	11	10	5	50	52	27	
Longforgan	26	10	10	6	67	69	26	
Y.M.C.A.	26	10	10	6	51	54	26	
Tayport	26	8	15	3	60	82	19	
Carnoustie Y.M.	26	5	14	7	65	92	17	
Morgan F.P.	26	4	19	3	45	96	11	
Kingsway T.C.	26	1	22	3	30	96	5	

ALLIANCE 1								
Broughty Utd.	20	16	3	1	91	27	33	
Longforgan	20	13	4	3	60	42	29	
Grove Amateurs	20	13	5	2	53	26	28	
Harris F.P.	20	10	7	3	42	49	23	
N.C.R.	20	10	8	2	49	43	22	
Lawside F.P.	20	9	9	2	58	42	20	
Y.M.C.A.	20	5	10	5	35	53	15	
Carnoustie Y.M.	20	6	11	3	47	53	15	
Monifieth	20	6	11	3	37	76	15	
Tayport	20	5	13	2	37	68	12	
Y.M. Anchorage	20	3	15	2	38	68	8	

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PHOTOGRAPHY



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IS THERE A CASE FOR A MIDLANDS LEAGUE RESTRUCTURE?

Since the advent of the Midlands Junior League there has been one division, with 19 clubs contesting the League Championship and no relegation. However, it has become increasingly clear that there are effectively two divisions in the one league. This can be demonstrated by looking at Tayside Junior League history.

We take a look at the final league positions of the clubs finishing outwith the top ten in the Tayside Juniors during the 1990s. This was the last full decade prior to the advent of the East Region re-structure. Also, look at the clubs outwith the top ten in last season's league table and look at today's league positions below the top ten.

Of the nineteen clubs in the Midlands League, seven clubs have been practically resident outwith the Tayside top ten in each of these twelve seasons. Of the 84 finishing positions during these twelve years, only 4 of the 84 positions have not been occupied by these seven clubs i.e. only 4 of the 7 clubs have ever finished top ten, two in 1993, one in 1996 and one last season.

What does this tell us?

At least seven clubs in our league are unlikely ever to challenge for a championship.

Seven clubs will be on the wrong end of regular hammerings

Seven clubs are never going to experience the excitement of challenging for a title or experiencing the drama of a relegation struggle.

With the significant gulf between top and bottom, a competitive edge is often absent with the result that our top clubs can potentially struggle in cup ties when pitched against clubs playing in competitive leagues elsewhere in the country.

With so many meaningless and poorly matched games in a season, attendances will continue to fall and perhaps lack of written media exposure - sadly already evident - will affect advertising and hospitality income.

What can be done? Well, maybe consider two divisions, which would allow the season to start in mid August. Re-introduce several local cup competitions and replays in said competitions, the cups for which are probably gathering dust somewhere!

Montrose Roselea are understood to have applied to join next season's Midlands League. It's understood the cost of travel in the North Region is one reason for the change.

Maybe it's worth wooing our Fife neighbours Newburgh and St Andrews United and maybe even Kinnoull or Luncarty who all have lengthy visits to the Borders in their league itineraries.

Giovanni

Date	Opp	C	WDL	Res	1	2	3	4	5	6
23 July	Broughty Ath	L	L	0-2	C.Kennedy	Heggie	C.Walls	McColm	J.Malone	Hume
27 July	LOCHEE UTD	L	L	0-1	Brown	Heggie	Walls	McColm	Malone	Hume
30 July	NORTH END	L	L	1-2	Kennedy	Heggie	CSturrock	McColm	Malone	Hume 1
3 Aug	St James	L	W	3-0	Brown	Heggie	CSturrock	McColm	Malone1	Hume
6 Aug	Forfar WE	L	W	3-0	Brown	Heggie	CSturrock	McColm	RMcDonald	Hume 1
10 Aug	SCONE THIS	L	W	2-0	Brown	Heggie	CSturrock	McColm	RMcDonald	Hume
13 Aug	LOCHEE HARP	L	W	3-1	Brown	Heggie	CSturrock	McColm	McDonald	Hume
17 Aug	Letham	L	W	1-0	Brown	Heggie	CSturrock	McColm	Walls	Hume
20 Aug	ARBROATH V	L	W	3-1	Brown	Walls	CSturrock	McColm 1	McDonald	Hume 1
24 Aug	Coupar Angus	L	W	2-0	Brown	Walls	CSturrock	McColm	McDonald	Hume
27 Aug	Dundonald	SC	L	1-3	Brown	Walls	CSturrock	McColm	McDonald	Hume
3 Sept	Arbroath Vics	L	D	2-2	Brown	Walls	CSturrock	McColm	McDonald	Hume 1
10 Sept	North End	L	X	XX				match	postponed	following
24 Sept	ARDEER THIS	SJC	W	7-1	Brown	Walls	CSturrock	McColm	McDonald	Hume
01 Oct	VIOLET	L	D	2-2	Brown	Walls	Malone	McColm	McDonald	Edwards
8 Oct	North End	L	L	0-1	T.Welsh	Heggie	Malone	McColm	Walls	Hume
15 Oct	FORFAR UTD	L	W	8-0	Welsh	Heggie	Malone	C Sturrock	Barbour 1	Hume
22 Oct	Kirrie This	L	L	1-4	Brown	Heggie	Malone	CSturrock	McDonald	Hume
29 Oct	RUTHERGLEN	SJC	L	0-4	Brown	Heggie	Malone	Walls	McDonald	McKenzie
05 Nov	DOWNFIELD	L	L	0-4	Brown	C.Walls	Malone	A.Walls	McDonald	McKenzie
12 Nov	Blaigowrie	L	W	2-0	Welsh	Heggie	C.Sturrock	McColm	C.Walls	McKenzie
19 Nov	BRECHIN VICS	L	X	XX		postponed		flooded	pitch	
26 Nov	BROUGHTY ATH	L								
03 Dec	Broughty Ath	QC								
10 Dec	Lochee Utd	L								
17 Dec	ST JAMES	L								
07 Jan	Downfield	L								
14 Jan	FORFAR WE	L								
21 Jan	Scone Thistle	L								
28 Jan	LETHAM	L								
04 Feb	Lochee Harp	L								
11 Feb	TBA									
18 Feb	COUPAR ANGUS	L								
25 Feb	TBA									
04 Mar	TBA									
11 Mar	CARNOUSTIE	L								
18 Mar	Violet	L								
25 Mar	EAST CRAIGIE	L								
01 April	Forfar United	L								
SEASON 2022-2023					MATCH STATISTICS					

7	8	9	10	11	SUB	SUB	SUB	Att
L.O'Brien	Paterson	Fraser	R.McInnes	K.Sturrock	K.McMulkin (10)	N.Edwards (9)		122
O'Brien	Paterson	McInnes	D.McKenzie	K Sturrock	Fraser (9)	Edwards (7)	McMulkin(11)	130
O'Brien	Paterson	McInnes	Edwards	McMulkin	Caleb Addo (9)	C.Petrie (10)		112
O'Brien	Paterson	K.Sturrock 2	Walls	McMulkin	Ross McDonald(5)	Edwards (11)	Addo (4)	88
O'Brien 1	Paterson 1	K Sturrock	McKenzie	McMulkin	DRobertson (11)	Addo (2)		90
O'Brien	Paterson	K Sturrock	McKenzie	McMulkin	D.Naglik (11)	Edwards (7)	Walls (3)	98
O'Brien 1	Paterson	K.Sturrock 2	McKenzie	Naglik	Armstrong (10) 1	McMulkin(11)	Cameron (8)	101
O'Brien	Paterson 1	K Sturrock	McKenzie	Naglik	Cameron (2)	McMulkin (11)	Walls (8)	95
O'Brien	Paterson	KSturrock 1	McKenzie	Naglik	Edwards (7)	McMulkin (11)	Edwards (7)	91
Naglik 1	Paterson	Edwards 1	McKenzie.	McMulkin	O'Brien (2)	Abbo (2) / (10)	Cameron (10)	47
Edwards	Paterson	KSturrock	McKenzie 1	McMulkin	Ethan Samson(2)	O'Brien (11)		219
Naglik	Paterson	KSturrock 1	McKenzie	Samson	Cameron (3)	McMulkin (7)	Edwards (2)	61
death	of	Queen	Elizabeth			Malone (3)	Barbour(10)	X
Edwards 1	Paterson 2	KSturrock 3	McKenzie	Samson	McMulkin (7) 1	Heggie (2)	Fraser (11)	140
Naglik	Paterson	KSturrock 1	McKenzie	McMulkin	Addo (7)	Fraser (11)	Barbour (7) 1	111
Naglik	Paterson	KSturrock	McKenzie	Samson	Fraser(7)	McMulkin (2)	Edwards (8)	148
Fraser	Paterson 2	KSturrock 3	McKenzie	Samson 2	Brown (1)	Naglik (9)	Barbour (12)	107
Fraser	Paterson	R Gillespie	McKenzie	Samson 1	Edwards (7)	McMulkin (8)	Addo (4)	132
Edwards	Paterson	Naglik	Barbour	Samson	McMulkin (9)	Naglik (5)	Barbour (8)	162
Edwards	Paterson	Gillespie	McMulkin	Samson	McMulkin (10)	C Sturrock(7)	Fraser (9)	120
A.Walls	Paterson	Gillespie 1	Barbour	Samson 1	Naglik (10)	Barbour (9)	Fraser (8)	63
							Fraser (10)	X

GOALS

Kieran Sturrock 13
Ryan Paterson 6
Jamie Hume 4
Ethan Samson 4
Niklas Edwards 2
Luke O'Brien 2
Innes Barbour 2



Greg McColm 1
Dominic Naglik 1
James Malone 1
Daryl McKenzie 1
Kyle McMulkin 1
Lewis Armstrong 1
Rikki Gillespie 1
Own Goals 1

SC	Scottish (Snr)Cup			SJC	Scottish (Jnr) Cup			QC	Quest Cup	

WHAT?, WHERE & WHEN?

(answer inside back cover)

WHAT game was this? **WHERE** was pic taken and **WHEN**?



The Rapidly Changing Face of Scottish Football

This weekend we see the 3rd round of the 'big' Scottish Cup being played with clubs looking to win through to the last 32 and potentially a tie against a Premiership club.

Joining previous Scottish Cup winners Dundee, Falkirk, Queens Park, Clyde, Dumbarton, Morton, Airdrie and Inverness CT at this stage, are former Junior clubs Auchinleck Talbot, Forthmont United, Hill of Beath, Kelty Hearts, Linlithgow Rose, Pollok and Sauchie Juniors, most of whom were regular visitors to the Canniepairt in cup and league encounters over the past couple of decades

The presence of so many of these clubs, previously described as non-league clubs, illustrates the rapid change brought about by the long overdue introduction of the Scottish Football Pyramid and the end of the 'closed shop' mentality. Mind you, Brechin City, Cowdenbeath, East Stirlingshire and Berwick Rangers might not agree!

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THE MANAGER'S THOUGHTS



I want to start today's Manager's view by thanking the committee and supporters for showing patience with the team so far this season. Our last home game vs Downfield was a real tough one to take, going down 4-0 that day. Our Injury ravaged squad was well beaten and to rub salt in the wounds we lost young Kyle McMulkin to a broken collarbone early in the 2nd half so he will be ruled out to until at least the New Year.

A good victory away at Blairgowrie two weeks ago stopped a run of 3 straight heavy defeats and was pleasing for players and management. It was no coincidence that game also saw the return of some of our key players which helped in periods of the game. This week, top scorer Kieran Sturrock will return after a 5-week absence, and it will leave us with only captain Jamie Hume, Ross McDonald and long-term absentees Jamie Gill and Kyle still on the injury table.

Some positive news on Jamie Gill is that later this month he will undergo an operation to resolve his ongoing knee problems that have kept him out for the entire season. Jamie was a player I was really looking forward to working with when I took the Manager's job and it's been tough on him and the squad watching him regaining fitness.

Following our defeat to Downfield I made the tough decision to change my coaching staff. When I accepted the manager's role in July, I agreed to work with Allan & Bobby and they were a massive help to me in settling into the club. As the weeks went by, I just felt that I wanted to bring my own coaching staff in to freshen things up and felt the team needed to hear some new ideas and training methods. I speak on behalf of the players and committee when I wish Allan and Bobby the best and know they won't be out the game for long.

We welcome my old club Broughty Athletic here today in another league game where 3 points and a positive home performance is crucial. I hope we can make up for the disappointment of our last 2 home games and send the supporters away happy. As always, your support plays a massive part and is appreciated by players and staff.

Regards, *Daryl*

BLUEBELLS ARE TALK OF THE TOWN

There's no doubt what's been at the centre of the football talk in the Midlands Juniors this week and it's not the World Cup, it's Lochee United's abrupt turn around of the managerial appointment of Kevin Harper the ex-Hibs player and former Albion Rovers boss.

Lochee's club president, the business tycoon Graeme Carling, CEO of United Capital Investments, along with Lochee club secretary Marc Stanton who is also president of the SJFA, had appointed Kevin Harper to the vacant Thomson Park manager's post.

Larry Duncan, United's general secretary, took issue with this, pointing out that such a decision had to be ratified by the club committee, and the decision was subsequently not sanctioned by said committee. When questioned on the decision to appoint Mr Harper, Mr Carling said *"there has only ever been two people who have appointed a manager at Lochee United, the committee has never been involved, it has always been done by the president, which was me and the club secretary who was Marc Stanton"*.

Carling continued *"I can understand why Larry was able to terrify a few folk on the committee with talk of what we were paying - but we were not paying over the odds. It was fair market value"*. Larry Duncan in response said *"The reservations stemmed from a desire to keep the club financially stable in the long term and maintain that"*. Mr Carling, who along with his businesses, had sponsored the club for the last two years, pointed out that there were sponsors willing to underwrite this.

He continued *"I am so upset for Kevin Harper. He was a standout candidate, head and shoulders above anyone Lochee have ever had. It was one of the most impressive and interesting appointments in Junior football in many years. He was the guy to take us to the SPFL, 100%"*

The press commented that despite the friction, all parties involved accept that Carling supported key infrastructure projects for Lochee, from dressing rooms to floodlights and storage - all with a view to realise the club's aspirations of reaching the SPFL.

Social media has been having a field day
(story even made The [Portsmouth] News !)

*Larry has the best interests of
the club at heart*

*Kevin Harper was unable to comment
as the matter was being dealt
with by his legal team*

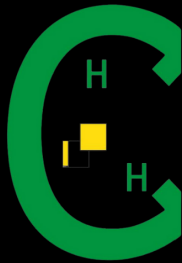


*Leigh Griffiths for a grand a week
may have been the final straw of
sheer stupidity*

Apparently Mr Carling signed Harper on a 3 year contract worth £75,000. He now wants his strips back. Harper wants his £75,000. I think (hope) the deal was with Carling and not Lochee for the financials, as clearly the club could not afford that.

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- Mixed fortunes over the last two games, a biggest ever thumping from Downfield, followed up by three points at Blairgowrie.

Downfield's good form continued but the magnitude of the home defeat was much of Tayport's own making.

Three reasonable first half chances were passed up but on the balance of play, a lead would have flattered the home side. Tayport's Achilles heel again let them down when they conceded a goal with the last kick of the half.

It didn't take long in the second half for the Spiders to increase their lead. Nik Edwards conceded a foul, for which he received a second yellow card and first use of the showers, allowing former 'Port winger Stephen McPhee to step up and send the free kick flying past Darren Brown.

Despite being a man down, Tayport had their chances but another free kick led to a second former 'Port player, Liam McArtney, taking the game out of their reach at 3-0. The game had moved into added time when McArtney grabbed his second and Downfield's fourth. And so a disappointing run of one league win in six since August continued.

Surely matters would improve at Blairgowrie the following week which kicked off at 2.30pm, the first league game of the season to be played under lights.

Blairgowrie were experiencing a real downturn in league fortune having lost four successive games and conceding a barrowload of goals into the bargain. It came into the 'must win' category for Tayport and they duly delivered with a comfortable 2-0 win.

Thomas Welsh, Greg McColm, Craig Sturrock, Innes Barbour and Bradie Heggie were back in the starting line up. Tayport were ahead at half time with well taken goals from ex-Broughty man Rikki Gillespie, his first for the club, and Ethan Samson. No goals in the second half but again the inability to put away reasonable chances, a feature of recent games, is something of a concern with Tayport slipping into a mid table position.

Charlie's Chat

DID YOU KNOW?

When Pollok hosted Annan Athletic at Newlandsfield in the 2nd round of the Scottish Cup last month, the attendance was 900. When Tayport played Pollok at Newlandsfield in the Scottish Junior Cup in March 1998, the attendance was 2,107.

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	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
NORTH END	19	14	2	3	58	25	33	44
BROUGHTY ATHLETIC	18	12	4	2	50	14	36	40
EAST CRAIGIE	17	13	1	3	49	18	31	40
KIRRIE THISTLE	18	11	4	3	60	35	25	37
DOWNFIELD	17	11	3	3	50	23	27	36
LOCHEE UNITED	16	10	5	1	52	16	36	35
CARNOUSTIE	12	9	2	1	35	9	26	29
TAYPORT	17	9	2	6	33	20	13	29
LETHAM	17	7	4	6	30	26	4	25
FORFAR UNITED	18	7	2	9	30	49	-19	23
ARBROATH VICS	17	6	4	7	27	24	3	22
VIOLET	16	5	3	8	23	39	-16	18
COUPAR ANGUS	15	5	2	8	24	37	-13	17
FORFAR WEST END	18	5	1	12	21	42	-21	16
BLAIRGOWRIE	18	4	2	12	23	51	-28	14
LOCHEE HARP	17	2	4	11	22	46	-24	10
DUNDEE ST JAMES	19	3	1	15	24	59	-35	10
SCONE THISTLE	17	3	1	13	19	56	-37	10
BRECHIN VICS	18	0	5	13	15	56	-41	5

Current League Form - most recent result to left

Lochee United	. W W W W W D	Arbroath Vics	. L W W L W L
North End	. W W W W W L	Kirrie Thistle	. L W L W W L
East Craigie	. W W W L W W	Letham	. L W L W D W
Broughty Athletic	. W D W W D W	Forfar United	. L W L L L W
Tayport	. W L L W L D	Brechin Vics	. L D D L L
Downfield	. D W W W W W	Scone Thistle	. L D L L L L
Carnoustie Panmure	. D W W W W W	Blairgowrie	. L L D L L W
Coupar Angus	. D D W L W L	Forfar West End	. L L L L W L
Lochee Harp	. D L L D W D	Violet	. L L L L D L
St James	. D L L L W L		

THE CHAIRMAN...

Good afternoon to our supporters and may I welcome the players and officials of our visitors Broughty Athletic Two weeks ago saw us get a welcome 2-0 victory over Blairgowrie. The manager must be relieved after a poor run of results which, in my opinion, was largely due to our horrendous injury list.

Prior to the Blair game we faced a much improved Downfield side with seven probable starting players missing, as was the case in the Scottish encounter with Rutherglen. No team in our division can afford to lose seven players from their starting line



up and not struggle. The difference was evident at Blairgowrie two weeks ago, just with a couple of players in the right areas. I'm pretty certain if there had been linesmen, the winning margin would be a lot more.

Prior to that game the manager made the decision to part company with two of his coaching staff. On behalf of Tayport Football Club I'd like to take this opportunity to thank both Allan & Bobby for their service and contribution and wish them well going forward.

Today we face Broughty Athletic who are very much in the title race. If we put in a professional performance and sort out the issues that plagued our last two home games, we can get a positive result.

Enjoy the game.

Davie

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WHAT? The pic shows Tayport's Duncan Bruce saving the crucial penalty the Scottish Junior Cup quarter-final replay penalty shoot out v Clydebank before an attendance of 1,202

WHERE? Glenhead Park, Duntocher

WHEN? March 18th 2006

As team manager Keith Burgess recalls "They were great spot kicks by ourselves, aligned with super saves by Duncan which presented the confident Bryan Duell with the chance to put us in the Scottish Cup semi-finals for the 5th season in a row. The pressure was on but Duell sent the keeper the wrong way to place the ball in the corner of the net and send the Tayport players, coaching staff and fans into wild celebrations"

Young Duncan had been signed from Dundee United in January 2005 as back up to Frazer Fitzpatrick and had an impressive two and a half years at Canniepark, playing 37 games, conceding only 33 goals and enjoying 17 shut-outs.

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