

GP 2424

Cup Semi-Final

In recent years, Hampden Park has become a home from home for Celtic - the Parkhead boys are one step away from their fourth successive Final. In contrast, Kilmarnock are hoping to make post-war Cup history. In the centre circle - the opening exchanges favour Kilmarnock - as Willie Toner winsthe toss.

So Celtic (in the dark sleeves) kick off - and with a free kick in the opening seconds - it certainly looked a needle-battle for that place in the Final.

Celtic's opening attack petered out - and no wonder! The Killie defence on their goals-against record is the best in Scotland. Encouraged by that rock-like defence, they attack with mounting confidence and nearly take an early lead.

Seasoned Cup fighters, there are no Hampden nerves for Celtic - but somebody seems to have left his shooting-boots at home. Gradually, Kilmarnock get a grip on the game...and here it comes - leading cup goal-scorer Mays ^{is} in on target again!

AN Through~~out~~ the second half, Celtic threw everything except the main grandstand at that Killie defence.

Then, when all seemed lost - they gained a partial advantage....

~~in~~ ~~the resultant goalmouth scramble~~ ^{AND} - Higgins scored the goal that saved the day for Parkhead.

And with the one-all draw a fitting result - the replay should bring another close struggle..