



Vs MLS Leeds,  
Sat 1<sup>st</sup> November 2008  
SC- 3<sup>rd</sup> Round,  
Ashgill, KO 2.00 pm



Team: Patterson; McCall, Hill, Shanta, Patrick; Gordon (McBride 70), Donaghey, Fotheringham, Parr; Duff (Hornell 65), McLennan.

A sun-drenched park in the back of beyond was the setting for the Uni's progression to the 4<sup>th</sup> round of the Scottish Cup after a hard-fought but well deserved victory over a hard-working MLS Leeds side.

The Clyde started this crucial cup tie without two of our most influential players, skipper Heggie away on international duty with the Missus to Gran Can and Pete Hamilton looking at a lengthy spell on the sidelines following a horrific challenge by Capp at training. Drafted in to replace the Flying Bus was Davie Patterson, another of the Clyde's Aberdeen contingent, who, although not really having a save to make in the game, looked solid throughout and will be an excellent addition to the squad in Pete's absence.

With gaffer Watson waxing lyrical about the opposition's physical presence before the game, Clyde knew that a strong performance was required to win this one. And so to the game....

Clyde started at a high tempo and pinned their opponents back early on without really creating any clear cut chances, apart from a few snap shots from Sausage Fingers from the edge of the area. This was the basic pattern of play in the first half, with MLS being well organised and tough to break down. Duffer had a sight of goal after about half an hour after a strong run from Paddy put him through, but after taking one too many touches the left back nipped in to take the ball off his toes. However, the biggest talking points of the first half were the two shocking offside decisions that prevented first Shanta with a towering back post header, and then Timo with a lob, from opening the scoring. Although Timo hit the bar with his strike he assures me if the whistle hadn't blown before he hit it he would have buried it. I believe you, Timo.

Half time arrived with the scoreline goalless, with Will Snr. urging us to remain patient as the goal was coming. Half time also saw the arrival of Team Handsome's vice-general, who had missed the first half as he was sitting somewhere on the M8 waiting for RAC to come and put a new tyre on his car. Manly.

The second half started a lot more positively for the Clyde, with much more penetration down the left hand side, culminating in Scotty getting in behind and squaring for Duffer, whose strike from 8 yards was well saved by the MLS keeper. The game then continued in this vein, with the Two Jonnys starting to get in round the back of their full-backs. However, Clyde could not force the breakthrough, and a combination of poor finishing from our boys and last-ditch defending from them saw the Clyde become a bit apprehensive as the clock ticked away.

However, the introduction of Capp and Kid Rock changed the game, and within 5 minutes of the big man coming on, we had the goal our play deserved. A long ball from Shants found Capp in space on the right and his near post delivery was turned into his own net by an unfortunate Leeds defender. This was certainly the turning point of the match, as the MLS players seemed to lose heart after that, and two quality deliveries from wee Sean saw both Capp and McLennan add to their tallies for the season with close range finishes, and put a more realistic look to the final score.

All in all a reasonable result and performance for the Clyde, especially after the first hour when it looked as if the goal was never going to come. Back to league duty next week, where more of the same will be required as we take on a tough East Kilbride side.