

Scotland: Cup Final

23rd April 1956

~~Scottish Cup~~  
C. Connell

In the Scottish Cup Final - ~~the~~ <sup>Special</sup>  
~~The great day is here. The Final~~ hopes of East and West colour the  
Hampden scene as ~~the~~ Glasgow cheers salute Celtic, Renowned cup fighters -  
it's their 27th Final.

And that's why soccer sentiment favours the Edinburgh side, Hearts -  
because it's 49 years since their last Final appearance.

Over 132,000 fans cheer the rival Skippers - and with Freddy Gliddon  
winning the toss - Hearts are ~~backed~~ <sup>backed-up</sup> by the strong breeze.

All set and Celtic (in their familiar hoops) kick off. Playing in their  
third successive final, they're not bothered by Hampden nerves.

But the Edinburgh side can sense the moral support of the great crowd -  
and they're soon swarming round the Celtic goal.

Despite the unsettling late changes, Celtic are the first to settle down -  
but skilful approach-work is being wasted by poor finishing.

Then, after twenty minutes, Hearts took the lead. A fine pass to Ian  
Crawford - a twenty yard shot - and Beattie was reaching in vain.

yes, A goal is a grand tonic for final nerves - and now Hearts were warming  
to their task. Another lightning attack - and Beattie just gets his  
foot there...

The second half. Hearts set the ball rolling and <sup>are about to</sup> stagger Celtic with a  
shock goal - Ian Crawford hits the ball low and hard.

Now we saw that great Celtic team-spirit, ~~and~~ following a free-kick - a  
Haughy charge <sup>by Haughy</sup> wins the ball and soccer headlines.

That was the first <sup>cup</sup> goal Hearts had conceded, ~~in the competition~~ and it  
brought renewed life to Celtic. Now they ~~swarmed~~ swarmed eagerly into  
attack. ~~And~~ During this period the game was won...and lost...for as  
somehow - that Hearts defence kept them out.

Slowly, Celtic fell back, dishearted - and Hearts came more into the  
game. And once again, a free-kick turned the game <sup>tide</sup> as Conn  
~~slammed~~ slammed the ball home.

Final (continued)

So Hearts gained a three-one victory.

On this day, <sup>Hearts</sup> Hearts had dictated soccer fortunes - and warm was the praise for the sentimental favourites as Freddy Gliddon took the Cup back to ~~T...~~ their Edinburgh home - after fifty years...