

2003

Buckie Thistle 2 Brora Rangers 0 (H/L)

Buckie: Bowman, Pirie, Lamberton, Gairns, Slater Craik, McDonald, Taylor, McGuigan, Shewan, Grant. Subs, Wood and Rattray (used), Milne, Reid, and Angus.

Jan 7 **Buckie Thistle and also Buckie Rovers were idle on Saturday** as were by far the bulk of teams in both the junior and Highland League ranks because of **frozen pitches**. One junior game did go on this was at Whitehills where the home team lost to the visitors Islavale.

Jan 14 **Buckie Rovers 5 Nairn St Ninians 1 (L)** Steven Bruce had a field day here besides scoring two goals he had a hand in others and generally gave the visiting side a torrid time.
Rovers: Barron, Low (Mowat), Brockie, Masson, Innes, Lyon, Costello, Burnett (Paul Robertson) Bruce, Matheson, Shand (James Morrison) Subs, Cowie and Nicol.

Football news - James Morrison a young lad from Aberchirder while Paul Robertson was from Portsoy, both had been playing in the Elgin and District Welfare League. Frozen pitches saw all other junior games off also those in the Highland League. Merson Park was just playable and no more with the surface having quite a bone.

New signing for Buckie Thistle - He is John Coutts a former trialist for Manchester United. The 21 year old striker, who was bought from Cove Rangers for undisclosed sum has signed a two and a half year contract with Buckie Thistle, and it is hoped that the investment will aid the Victoria Park side in boosting its place from fourth in the league to compete with leaders Deveronvale.

Since signing for Cove Rangers, John has also attracted the attention of Aberdeen, Ross County and Livingstone.

Said manager, Kevin Will:” *He’s still a young player and we hope that he utilises the platform we will give him to go on to a higher level*”.

Jan 21 **Buckie Rovers 1 Turriff United 2** (Cup game) *“The Rovers gifted this game to their adversaries, with an ‘ogee’ and a blatant mistake. “*

Football news - A minute’s silence was observed prior to the game as a mark of respect for two people who had connections with the Rovers and passed away the previous week. Jim Penman who played in goal at one time for the Rovers and Mrs Moira Geddes a dedicated committee member, along with her husband Eric, for many years.

Keith 1 Buckie Thistle 0 (H/L) *“Missed Chances Prove Fatal”*

Feb 4 **Buckie Thistle 2 Deveronvale 2 (H/L)** *“Top two’s Classic Derby”*

Buckie Rovers 3 Kinloss 1 (L)

Rovers: Barron, Paul Robertson, Brockie, Low, Innes, Lyon, Cowie, Burnett, Farquhar (Mike Slater), Matheson (Graham Shand) Costello (Shewan), Subs. Morrison, Nicol.

Feb 11 **Forres Mechanics 0 Buckie Thistle 2 (H/L)**

Rovers: Bowman, Pirie, Lamberton, Catto, Slater, Cairns (Davidson), Shewan, Taylor, Coutts, Green (Milne), Macdonald. Subs – Wilson, Craik, and Wood.

**** **Burghead Thistle 0 Buckie Rovers 2 (L)** A minutes silence was observed prior to the kick off in memory of John ‘Jock’ Niven (my brother –in-law) a stalwart right half with the Rovers after the WWII who played in the first ever cup won by the Rovers at Junior level and scored their goal in their first ever Scottish Cup tie away to Cumnock Juniors on Saturday January 2nd 1948. Jock liked his football and was seen at every home game almost up to the last, watching the match from a seat in his car.

- Feb 18 **Buckie Thistle U-18's 1 Ayr United 2 Quarter Finals of the Scottish Youth Cup**
The Buckie team was – Michael Smith, Kyle McKay (Paul Forbes). Mike McDonald, Adam Wilson, David Angus, Neil Henderson, Sean McCartney, Paul Laing, Stuart McGuigan, Darren Stewart (Ashley Forbes), Sub – Jamie McInnes, Scott Mair, Lee Sweeney (G.K)
Football news - There were only about three of the players from the local area, the rest were all imports.
- Buckie Thistle 3 Fort William 2 (H/L)**
- Buckie Rovers had a blank day** - their opponent's ground being unplayable.
- Feb 25 **Fraserburgh 0 Buckie Thistle 4 (H/L) (Wed.)** A good win over the League Champs.
Buckie: Bowman, McPherson, Lamberton, Davidson, Slater, Wilson, Shewan (Milne), Taylor, Wood (McGuigan), Coutts, McDonald (Craik), Subs – Gairns, Angus.
- Football news** - Alan 'Mickey' McPherson who played his first ever games for Buckie Thistle with a substitute appearance against the Dons in an Aberdeenshire Cup at Victoria Park and played here against the Broch was the recipient of two gifts at the match on Saturday. One was handed over by committeeman, Joe Jappy, on behalf of the Club with the other by George 'Bunny' Murray on behalf of the Supporters Club.
- Farewell Johnny Dutch** - The keystone in the famous Thistle half line of the 1950's - Thain, Dutch and Jeffrey died this week. His body was cremated with the ashes strewn on the sward of Victoria Park.
- Buckie Rovers 4 Lossiemouth United 0 (L)** *“ Four but It Should Have Been More ”*
- Mar 4 **Buckie Thistle 3 Clachnacuddin 2 (H/L)**
- Forres Thistle 2 Buckie Rovers 1 (L)** *“ The Rovers Fail To Topple the League Leaders ”*
Rovers: Barron, Mowat (Robertson), Brockie, Low, Innes, Lyon, Cowie, Costello, Farquhar (Slater), Matheson (Findlay), Shand. Subs. Campbell, Nicol.
- Mar 11 **Islavale 2 Buckie Rovers 1** Gordon Williamson Trophy 1st round With this result the 'Vale had now beaten the Rovers 10 times in the last 12 meetings between the two. The 'Vale appeared to have taken on the mantle once held by Deveronside when they were the Rovers' bogey side.
- Inverurie Locos 0 Buckie Thistle 1 (H/L)**
Buckie –Bowman, McPherson, Lamberton, Slater, Wilson, MacDonald, Davidson, (J. Shewan), Coutts, McGuigan (Gairns) and Green. Subs. Milne and Wood.
- Mar 18 **Buckie Thistle 2 Keith 5 (H/L)** *A good result for the cyards*
- Whitehills 1 Buckie Rovers 4 (L)** In this game Michael 'Scammers' Smith was replaced by his son Nikki who was on the bench while Colin Nicol replaced Jason Brockie.
- Mar 25 **Lossiemouth 2 Buckie Thistle 2 (H/L)**
- Buckie Rovers 0 New Elgin 1 (L)**
- Football news** - The Rovers received six all weather manager and subs tops from Zafar Ali, of Buckie Furniture Centre, sponsoring these for the club.

- April 1 **Huntly 2 Buckie Thistle 2 (H/L)**
Buckie Rovers 3 Fochabers 2 (L)
- April 8 **Buckie Thistle 1 Cove Rangers 3 (H/L)**
Buckie: Bowman, Pirie, Lamberton, Davidson, (McGuigan), Shewan, Catto (Wilson), MacDonald, Taylor, Green (Wood), Coutts and Gairns. Subs. McPherson and Craik
Dufftown 2 Buckie Rovers 2 (L)
Rovers: Barron, Robertson, Brockie, Low, Innes, Lyon, Findlay (Slater), Costello, Farquhar (Smith), Matheson, Shand (Nicol), Sub. Mowat and Cowie.
- B.T. U18 2 Keith U18 0** The under 18 years of age Thistle team lifted **The Highland League Youth Cup** for the first time. It has to be said that the only local lads who took any part in the game were Paul Forbes and Darren Stewart with Darren replacing his buddy. The rest were all from the Aberdeen area with a number regularly appearing in the big team.
- Apr 15 **Cove Rangers U18 1 B.T. U18 3** For the second Sunday running Buckie Thistle U18 side secured well-merited silverware as they clinched **The Highland Youth League (East) Championship** for the first time in the club's history. Darren Stewart was the only local loon in the Buckie side.
Bishopmill United 2 Buckie Rovers 2 (L)
- Apr 22 **Nairn County 3 Buckie Thistle 3 (H/L)**
Strathspey Thistle 3 Buckie Rovers 1 (L)
- Apr 29 **Neither the Thistle or the Rovers had games on Saturday**
- May 6 **As above**
- May 13 **Roths 2 Buckie Thistle 2 (H/L)** This was the Thistle's last game of the season and **finished up third from the top the same position as the year before.**
Buckie: Bowman, McPherson, Lamberton, Craik (Grant), Wilson, Gairns (Milne), Shewan, Taylor, Wood, Coutts (Green) and MacDonald. Sub. Angus.
Buckie Rovers 1 Islavale 1 (L) This was the Rovers' last game of the season. **The League had been won by Forres Thistle**, so there wasn't all that much enthusiasm showed by either side.
Rovers: Barron, Low, Brockie, Farquhar, Innes, Lyon, Cowie, Costello, Findlay, Matheson (Nicol), Shand (Smith), Subs, Robertson and D. Wood.
- May 20 **B. T. U18 3 Clach U18 2.** The Buckie Thistle U18 team won the overall **Highland Youth League Championship** at Grant Park, Lossiemouth on Sunday. On this occasion four local loons played a part in the winning of the trophy. Paul; Forbes was replaced by Dale Munro while Darren Stewart was replaced by Dale Fraser.
- Jun 24 **Football news - Buckie Thistle** this week unveiled ambitious plans for the building of a new purpose-built function hall and sponsor suite at their Victoria Park ground. A picture shows Jags president, Mark Duncan and his brother Murray holding up the plans. The two are the sons of John Duncan of John Duncan Construction and Planwell Roofing.

Jly 22 **Buckie Thistle 1 Greenock Morton 1 (F)**
Buckie: Main, Small, Lamberton, Gairns (J. Milne), Wilson, Munro, Shewan (Grant), Taylor, (Craik), C. Milne, Bartlet (Moir), McDonald. Sub. Flannigan.
New Thistle players included Kevin Main from Lossiemouth and Small, who was with Rothes. A number of trialists also played one being Steve Bartlett who showed up well, according to the report and scored the Thistle goal. Donnie Munro, a Fochabers loon, was with Huntly the previous season

Buckie Thistle 0 Stirling Albion 3 (F)

Football news - Main played in goal for Stirling who arrived without a keeper. He had a great game.
Buckie: Bowman, Davidson, Grant (Wilson), Munro (Gairns), Small, Lamberton, Smith (Shewan), Taylor, C. Milne, Bartlet (J. Milne), MacDonald. Sub Moir.

Jly 29 **Buckie Thistle 0 Ross County 0 (F)**

Buckie Thistle 1 Montrose 2 (F)

Buckie Thistle Supporters Club AGM - president – Alistair Jamieson, vice president – James Jappy, Secretary – Pauline Rigby, Treasurer – James Newlands.

Aug 5 **Buckie Thistle 3 Fort William 1 (H/L)**

Buckie; Bowman, Small, Lamberton, Munro, Angus, Davidson, Shewan, S. Taylor, C. Milne, McGuigan, MacDonald. Subs – Grant, Main (GK)

Aug 12 **Rothes 0 Buckie Thistle 3 (H/L)**

Buckie: Main, Slater (Smith), Lamberton, Angus Small, Wilson, Shewan, Davidson, C. Milne (McGuigan), J. Milne (Taylor), MacDonald. Subs – Grant, Gairns.

Buckie Thistle 0 Inverurie Locos 1 Aberdeenshire Cup

Buckie Rovers 3 Banchory St Ternans 0 Grill League Cup

Rovers: Barron, Massie, Low, Collins (Costello), Innes, Lyon, Cowie, Taylor, Wood, Findlay (Munro), Brockie (MacPherson), Subs. Campbell, Robertson.

Football news - Substitute Munro was Dale Munro son of Mike Munro former keeper with the Rovers and Deveronside, while Daryl McPherson is the son of Mikey McPherson a legend with Buckie Thistle who this season signed for Forres Mechanics. Both are teenagers and show a lot of promise. Both play for Thistle Youth team. Dod Massie was from Huntly Michael Collins was from Keith.

Aug 19 **Wilson's XI 3 Buckie Rovers 1 Grill League Cup**

Football news - A majority decision (I opposed on the question of travelling times and cost) saw the Rovers join the First Division East this season which meant they will have to travel longer distances to meet teams in Aberdeen, Portlethen, Fraserburgh and Peterhead not to mention Maud, Banchory and Ellon. This was their first game played at Keith Park, part of the Bon Accord Sports Complex near the beach.

Rovers: Barron, Low, Massie, Collins, Innes, Lyon, Cowie (Farquhar), Taylor, Wood, Costello (Robertson), Brockie. Subs – Nicol, Tallis.

Newcomers in the team include – Mark Taylor, bought for a substantial fee from Speyside, Dod Massie was bought from Islavale. Mike Collins came for free formerly with Islavale while Mark Wood returned from Buckie Thistle. He again didn't cost the Rovers anything.

Buckie Rovers 0 Maud 1 (L) *“Three points thrown away.”*

Rovers: Barron, Low, Campbell (M. Slater), Innes, Massie, Lyon, Cowie, Collins, Wood, Mike Findlay (Robertson), Brockie. Subs- Costello, McPherson, Farquhar.

Buckie Thistle 1 Inverurie Locos 3 (H/L)

Buckie; Main, Slater, MacDonald, Small, Angus, Lamberton, Shewan (Gairns), Wilson (S. Taylor), C. Milne, J. Milne (McGuigan), Davidson. Subs – Smith, R. Taylor.

Aug 26 **Fraserburgh United 1 Buckie Rovers 2 (L) “Rovers collect first points”**
The Rovers had Mike Laing (a man of many clubs) in their side; he had been signed earlier in the week and made a difference in defence.
Football news - The Rovers’ pool was too small with manager Tallis having to put himself on when Shand was injured.
Rovers: Barron, Robertson, Brockie, Laing, Massie, Lyon, Costello, Taylor, Wood, Shand, (Tallis), Farquhar (Nicol), Subs Cowie, D. Wood.

Buckie Rovers 4 Burghead Thistle 0 (L) “Four but it could have been more “, said A. L. Nath.

Keith F. C. 0 Buckie Thistle 0 (H/L)

Sept 2 **Buckie Rovers 1 Dyce Juniors 2 (L) “Shot-shy Rovers again squander league points”**

Nairn County 2 Buckie Thistle 5 (Q/Cup)

Buckie: Main. Slater, Small. Catto, Pirie, Smith (More), Shewan, S. Taylor (Wilson), Milne (Gairns), R. Taylor, MacDonald. Subs. Lamberton and Bowman.

Cullen won the Elgin and District Welfare League First Division. The League consists of two leagues a Premier and a First Division. **Cullen played 16 games won 13 and drew three.**

Sept 9 **Parkvale 2 Buckie Rovers 2 (L) ‘Jimmy’ Shand hits the right notes to send them reeling ‘said A. L. Nath** Shand, a Cornhill lad, had the two goals for the Rovers.

Buckie Thistle 3 Lossiemouth 3 (H/L) “Jags come back down to earth”

Sept 16 **Buckie Rovers 3 Buchanhaven Hearts 2 (L)**

Football news - Mike Laing, formerly with Dufftown, now a signed Rovers’ player, and Duncan Lamont who plays with Cullen both came on as substitutes in the second half.

Nairn County 3 Buckie Thistle 5 (H/L)

Football news - New floodlights were installed at Victoria Park this week. It is reckoned that the final bill for the lights will be £11,000. The sum of £8,000 has already been raised since the ‘Floodlight Appeal’ Fund was begun in February.

Sept 23 **Ellon United 3 Buckie Rovers 1 (L) “Rovers lose two strikers through injury - Wood and Findlay likely to be out for some time.”**

Rovers: Barron, Brockie, Low, Laing, Lyon, Massie, Collins, M. Wood (D. Wood), Findlay (Nicol) (Costello). Sub Tallis.

Deveronvale 1 Buckie Thistle 3 Scottish Qualifying Cup (North) quarterfinal “Jags Glory was Taylor Made,” said Jagsman. Buckie up and down form continues with this win over the reigning Highland League Champions.

Buckie; Bowman, Slater, Pirie, Catto Angus, MacDonald, Shewan, S. Taylor, Milne (Munro), R. Taylor (Lamberton), Coutts (Smith) Subs – More, Main (GK)

Sept 30 **Brora Rangers 1 Buckie Thistle 0 (H/L) “Buckie show an amazing lack of consistency”**

Buckie Rovers 3 Hall Russell United 2 (L) “The Rovers scratch team steals the points”

Oct 7 **Inverurie Locos 1 Buckie Thistle 2 Semi Final of Qualifying Cup.** Buckie will face the Clach in the Final.

Buckie Rovers 1 Banchory St Ternans 2 (L)

Oct 14 **Lewis United 3 Buckie Rovers 1 (L)** *“Fleckless Finishing sees Rovers Forfeit the Points”*
Rovers: Mair, Robertson, Brockie, Laing, Innes, Costello (Williams), Low, Massie, Shand, Lyon, Collins. Subs – Nicol, Wood, M. Wood, and Taylor.
The Rovers had Cullen keeper, David Mair in goal in place of the injured Barron.

Clachnacuddin 4 Buckie Thistle 1 (H/L) A minute’s silence was observed prior to the start of the game in memory of two former Clach players, **Dennis Murray and Jimmy Pines**, both whom had died during the week. Jimmy Pines also played for Elgin City.

Oct 21 **Cove Rangers 1 Buckie Thistle 2 (H/L)**
Buckie - Main, Slater, Lamberton, Small, Pirie, Wilson (Catto), More, Taylor, Milne, Bartlet (Gairns), Smith (Macdonald). Subs – Angus, Shewan.

Buckie Rovers 1 Buchanhaven Hearts 1 AET (Rovers won 4-2 on penalties) NCR North/Tayside Inter Regional Cup 1st Round

Oct 28 **Buckie Thistle 2 Forres Mechanics 2 (H/L)**

Deveronvale 2 Buckie Thistle 1 Semi- final of the Aberdeenshire Shield

Buckie Rovers 1 Maud 1 (L)

The Rovers had Mike Munro in goal in place of the injured Barron. The rest of the Rovers’ team was Robertson and Lamont; Low, Innes, Lyon; Costello (Laing), Taylor, Findlay (Wood), Collins and Brockie. Subs – Smith, Williams, and Nicol.

Nov 4 **Deveronside 1 Buckie Rovers 2 (L)**

Buckie Thistle 1 Inverness Clachnacuddin 1 Thistle Final of Qualifying Cup
Buckie won 6-5 on penalties

*** **Buckie Thistle won the Scottish Qualifying Cup for the first time since 1958.**
The Clach had to play the two periods of extra time with only 9 men as they had two players sent off before the end of normal time.

The Thistle team was - Main, Slater (Gairns), Lamberton, Munro, Pirie, Shewan, Smith, S. Taylor, Milne, R. Taylor (Couotts), and Macdonald. Subs – Wilson, Bowman (GK)
Jamie Shewan, a Buckie loon, formerly played for the Rovers, while Munro was from Fochabers, and a grandson of ‘Pow’. Main was from Lossie while Lamberton was from Keith.

Nov 11 **Cambuslang Rangers 4 Buckie Rovers 0 OVD Scottish Junior cup 2nd Round.**
Rovers - Barron, Williams, Brockie, Massie, Robertson, Lyon, Collins, Taylor, Smith, Shand, Slater. Subs – Findlay, Tallis, Reid, Wood, and (Tom?) Coble. The Rovers were short of players for this tie as can be gathered from the names of those on the bench. Coble is believed to have been someone who just offered his services on the day. Williams was a Keith lad.

Buckie Thistle 2 Wick Academy (H/L)

Nov 18 **Fraserburgh 1 Buckie Thistle 2 (H/L)** A.L. Nath, wrote the report of the game; such an honour doesn’t come along that often!
For the record the **Thistle team** was – Main, Slater (Small), Lamberton, Gairns (Wilson), Pirie, Munro, Shewan, S. Taylor, Milne (R. Taylor), More and Macdonald. Sub – Angus.

Glad of the help - Buckie Rovers received a set of kit bags from Regency Car Sales, Buckie, while GT Seafood's, Peterhead, gave a set of training tops. Co- manager and former player Graeme Tallis owns the firm GT Seafoods.

The Rovers had a free date.

Nov 25 **Arbroath Sporting Club 3 Buckie Rovers 1 North/Tayside Inter Regional Cup 2nd Round.**
Rovers: Barron, Lamont, Brockie, Low, Robertson (Williams), Campbell (Nicol), Collins, Taylor, Smith, Costello, Wood, Sub - Tallis.
Smith was a young player namely Mike Smith from Portsoy. He was a son of Grant Smith ex Deveronside.

Spartans 6 Buckie Thistle 1 Scottish Cup 1st Round “Spartans Slay the Jags”

Football news - The Spartans, an Edinburgh club who play in the South of Scotland league, ran rings round the Thistle, so disappointing for everybody but more so for those from these airts who now live in the capital or thereabouts and went to see the Jags play and hopefully win.

Buckie Rovers 6 Whitehills 1 (L)

Football note - The Rovers were at last able to field probably their strongest team for the first time for a long time, with good replacements on the bench. A new addition to the team being **Nathan Sharp, the ex Islavale player**, signed on loan from Huntly until the end of the season. One of those on the bench being Willie Farquhar who had been missing for over three months with his work as an electrician taking him south to London.

Rovers: Barron, Robertson (Campbell), Brockie, Low, Sharp, Massie, Collins, Taylor, Wood, Shand (Farquhar), Findlay (Smith), Subs – Lyon, Costello.
Mark Wood scored two goals, as did Smith.

Buckie Thistle 0 Fraserburgh 0 (H/L)

Dec 9 **Fort William 0 Buckie Thistle 3 (H/L) Note.** This win meant that the Thistle had beaten Fort William eight times on the trot in Lochaber.
Buckie: Main, Pirie, Lamberton, Catto, Angus, Macdonald, Smith (Shewan), Munro, Milne (Gairns), Coutts (R. Taylor) and more. Subs – Wilson and Slater.

Dufftown 0 Buckie Rovers 4 (L) Dod Massie (a Huntly lad) had a hat trick

Dec 16 **Burghead Thistle 1 Buckie Rovers 2 (L) “Rovers Dared to Meddle”**

Buckie Thistle 1 Rothes 0 (H/L)

Dec 23 **Buckie Rovers 2 Hall Russell's United 2 (L) Note.** The Rovers were without a keeper. Barron was still out through injury and no replacements to be had. The decision was taken to play striker. Mark Wood in goal.

Rovers: Wood, Robertson, Brockie, Low (Lamont), Sharp, Lyon, Lyon, Collins, Taylor, Farquhar (Smith), Massie, Shand. Subs – Costello, Wood, and Nicol.

Buckie Thistle 2 Cove Rangers 2 (H/L)

Buckie: Main, Pirie, Lamberton, Gairns (Wilson), Angus, Munro, More, S. Taylor, R. Taylor (McGuigan), Coutts (Davidson) and Macdonald. Subs – Smith, Slater.

Dec 30 **Buckie Rovers 1 Fraserburgh United 1 (L)**

Inverurie Locos 3 Buckie Thistle 3 (H/L) Note- Buckie were leading by three clear goals until the Locos put on a sub, Low, in the 70th minute. This proved to be an excellent change with Low going on to score a hat-trick before the end to bring the two teams level.