

# Daniel Boateng expected to start in mini-derby



New loan signing Daniel Boateng is expected to start for Hibs' under-20s in tonight's mini Edinburgh Derby at Livingston's Energy Asset Arena.

The 21-year-old Arsenal U21s centre-half was an unused substitute for the first team on Saturday and it now looks likely that his first taste of competitive action in a green shirt will be against Hearts under-20s in what promises to be a hard fought encounter.

After last week's comprehensive win at Motherwell, Hibs are now in second spot in the table and head into the match determined to close the gap on league leaders Rangers.

Head of Academy Coaching James McDonough has urged his players to rise to the occasion, and told Hibernian TV: "We are all looking forward to it – it should be a good game played in front of a decent crowd.

"We cannot afford to underestimate Hearts; they've got a lot of good players and we have to show them respect.

"Just because they will probably field a younger team doesn't automatically guarantee us a win – our players have to go out and earn it.

"We have to focus on playing to our strengths and producing a performance that matches the standards set this season."