

# **David Gray praises his side's character when responding to adversity after Staggies win**

**Hibs head coach David Gray praised his side's character when responding to adversity as they came from behind to beat Ross County at Easter Road yesterday.**

The Staggies took the lead in the opening 10 minutes of the game, however goals from Dwight Gayle, Elie Youan and Josh Campbell saw Hibs take all three points.

When speaking to Hibs TV after the game, Gray said: "I'm delighted with the three points; that was the most important thing today.

"The performance wasn't where it's been in recent weeks, and credit to Ross County because they made it difficult for us and started better.

"My challenge to the players was to win the game today because of the opportunity of leapfrogging them in the table, and we found a way to win the game.

"We probably could've taken chances earlier to make it comfortable, but we came through it, showed character and ability to defend the box and that was very pleasing. To score at the end and put the game to bed was pleasing for everyone."

It was a disappointing first half display, however an

excellent moment of quality between Junior Hoilett and Dwight Gayle saw us equalise right on the half-time whistle.

Gray explained how that changed his message to the players at the break.

“That goal was very important. How we started the game was poor and we came into the game at the end of the first half, but it was decision making on the final ball that wasn’t quite right. We were well below where we needed to be in terms of competing at times. We lost too many second balls, and struggled to deal with them coming forward. Their centre-forward caused a lot of problems.

“To go in 1-1 knowing we could improve the level of performance was pleasing. It definitely helped the team talk because you know how you can adjust and tweak things knowing we will get better. The players reacted well from that.

“We started the second half on the front-foot, had good chances, then we had the penalties. Ideally, I’d have liked to have killed the game off, but on another hand, it shows that we can hold out and go on and win a game.”