

Two goals from Sean McDonald and goals from Neil Farrugia and John O'Keane helped us to a 4-0 win over Salthill Devon last weekend to make it four wins from four to start the U17 SSE Airtricity League.



UCD started the game the brighter of the two sides and it wasn't long before we started to create some great chances. Sean McDonald thought he had the ball in the back of the net, however he was correctly adjudged to have been offside after a great save from the Salthill keeper kept out a header from a corner.

It didn't take long for us to create more chances and not long after that Sean McDonald had a great chance to give us the lead after Dylan Rowe picked him out with a great ball only for the keeper to make a great save down low to his left.

UCD were piling on the pressure and looked a real threat from set pieces, as both Joe Manley and Yaya Camara missed the target by inches with headers from corners.

Salthill Devon were then unlucky not to take the lead themselves, as a corner kick from the left found the free man at the back post but he just couldn't get enough on the header to trouble Finn McGowan in the UCD net.

The opening goal then finally came for UCD as Yaya Camara unselfishly set up Neil Farrugia to

score after a good break down the right wing.

The same pair combined again moments later and thought they had doubled our lead as Yaya released Neil Farrugia down the line but he dragged his shot narrowly wide.

With half time approaching, Salthill Devon thought they had unlocked our defence after a good through ball played their striker clean through, however the assistant was quick to flag for offside.

UCD then finally doubled their advantage early in the second half, as a cross field ball from Joe Manley found Neil Farrugia on the left wing, he then beat his man and cut the ball back for Sean McDonald to have the simplest of finishes.

That goal looked to give Sean McDonald confidence, and after a good piece of skill at the edge of the box he flicked the ball over the defenders head but the keeper was equal to his shot to tip it round the post.

Sean did eventually get his second and our third of the game as a tidy ball from Sean Quinn split the defence wide open and Sean McDonald flicked the ball over the onrushing keeper to extend our lead.

Determined to go in search of more goals, substitute Mark Dignam beat his man down the right before picking out Neil Farrugia with a great ball only for his effort to come back off the post.

Neil Farrugia then turned creator once more as his cross from the left picked out Sean Quinn in the area only for his header to come back off the cross bar.

We saved the best goal for last, as substitute John O'Keane picked up the ball wide on the left wing before cutting inside and curling the ball into the far top corner from the edge of the area.

Overall it was another great performance which keeps our great start to the season going. Next up for our U17s will be the visit of Cobh Ramblers to the UCD Bowl on Sunday, with a 2pm kick off.

UCD Team: Finn McGowan, Evan Farrell, Dylan Rowe, Joe Manley, Luke Boore, Yaya Camara, Jack Ryan, Sean Quinn, Neil Farrugia, Brandon Perry, Sean McDonald

UCD Subs: Mark Dignam for Yaya Camara, John O'Keane for Sean McDonald, Ryan Meaney for Brandon Perry

Man of the match: Sean McDonald – Took both of his goals well and looked a constant threat throughout. Also had two goals disallowed for offside. Neil Farrugia was a close second.