

Boland clinches Collingwood victory!

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Substitute Mark Boland clinched a dramatic Collingwood Cup victory for UCD at The Mardyke as they overcame University of Limerick 2-1 on Friday afternoon.



The Dublin side left it late to net the game-winning goal which brings their dominant record in this competition up to an impressive 43 wins since it was first founded in 1914.

UL had looked the more likely to score in a tightly-contested opening half and that is exactly what happened on 19 minutes when Garbhan Coughlan fired in a superb volley.

Coughlan then went close to adding to his tally but he was denied by UCD goalkeeper Niall Corbet, while Brian Nolan rattled the goal frame with a left-footed effort.

UCD did respond with a couple of chances from Gary O'Neill and Tom O'Halloran before they drew level when George Kelly headed in 10 minutes into the second period.

Injuries to Nolan and Paudie O'Connor hurt UL, but they kept on fighting with their goalkeeper Andrew Walsh doing brilliantly to shut out UCD's Ryan McLaughlin.

The winning goal arrived in the late drama as the rain poured down and it was O'Neill who set it up as he picked out Boland for the striker to convert from the edge of the area with the pressure

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26 February 2016; Mark Boland, University College Dublin, celebrates after scoring his side's second goal. Collingwood Cup Final, University of Limerick v University College Dublin, The Maristke, UCC, Cork. Picture credit: Eoin Noonan / SPORTSFILÉ

The win completed an amazing Universities Cup double after Gary O'Neill had led our freshers side to victory in the Harding Cup at the start of February!

UCD: Corbet; Tobin, Kouogun (McLaughlin 46), Dent, Coyne; Coughlan, O'Neill, O'Halloran (Boland 70), Molloy, McClelland (Belhout 78); Kelly.

University of Limerick: Walsh; AJ O'Connor, P O'Connor (Hayes 74), Cowap (Hooton 62), Hanifan; McGrath, Maguire, Nolan (Fletcher 68), Collins, McMenamin, Coughlan.

Referee: R Murphy (Cork).

Match Report thanks to www.fai.ie