

UCD romped to a comfortable 4-0 win over Jordanstown in Belfield.

Colleges and Universities Football



4-0



Wed 9th October 2013

Two goals in either half sealed a comfortable win for UCD AFC as they sent their Northern rivals packing with an extremely clinical display of attacking football and impressive finishing. Dean Clarke and Robbie Benson netted in the first half while Tom O'Halloran and Conor Gannon grabbed the limelight in the second half.

In truth UCD's superior fitness and touch of Airtricity League quality told as UUJ struggled to get a foothold in the game. From the back UCD were winning everything as McGinley, captaining UCD for the first time, marshalled an impressive defence. This strong back four gave UCD's midfield the confidence to impose themselves on the game and look to seize the three points.

The first goal of the game arrived before ten minutes had been played. Niall Wright and Samir Belhout exchanged passes on the right hand side to create some space which eventually saw Tom O'Halloran sprint clear. Faced with the whites of the keepers eyes, O'Halloran heard the screeches of the the supporting Benson and he slipped the ball into his team mates path and Benson finished calmly.

The intervening period between UCD's first and second goal was dominated by a UCD midfield hungry for more goals. Robbie Murray in particular was relishing a return to University football and with the bit between his teeth UUJ struggled to find a way through. Murray's rottweiler snarl turned to chirping songbird as he sent Dean Clarke through on goal with a sumptuous through ball. Clarke ate it up and advanced on the keeper from 35 yards and finished coolly when the time came into the bottom corner of the net.

Two nil up at half time, UCD were in no mood to hang back as their opponents belatedly put another striker up front. This had little effect on the flow of the game as UCD continued to pour forward. Conor Gannon and Tom O'Halloran combined on the left flank as another UUJ attack came to nothing. Quick thinking from the mischievous twosome sent the Belfield Students breaking into the UUJ half once more. O'Halloran cut in on his right foot before smashing the ball past the exposed visiting keeper.

Things got worse for the UUJ keeper as he landed awkwardly following a challenge in the box and needed to be substituted.

Following a lengthy delay in proceedings, UCD slipped back into their rhythm and notched their fourth goal of the game. Conor Gannon received the ball just inside the visitors half before turning his man and sprinting towards goal. His outside of the right boot finish was the perfect way to round off an impressive start to the Colleges and Universities Football League campaign.

Next up for UCD is a trip to Letterkenny.

UCD AFC: McGinley, Wright, Dent, Cullen, Butler, Belhout (McNelis), O'Halloran, Murray, Molloy, Clarke (Gannon), Benson (Reilly)