

UCD advanced to the Semi Final of the 2011 Collingwood Cup with a 5-0 demolition of Coleraine.



UCD brushed aside Coleraine in a one sided Collingwood Cup Quarter Final. Goals from Brian O'Brolchain, Samir Belhout (2), Paul Corry and Tyrone McNelis ensured UCD cruised into the Semi Final. It could have been so different had UCD not been blessed with the strength in depth this current squad possess. A total of five changes from yesterday's starting eleven lined up to face the northern college.

The blustery conditions and poor surface hindered UCD in the first half. The opening exchanges were scrappy as UCD took their time settling into their usual passing game. Intricate midfield passing moves broke down time and again as UCD pressed their opposition back.

The first goal, when it came, owed as much to simplicity as skill. Paul Corry sliced the defence with an inch perfect ball and Brian O'Brolchain smashed it goalwards. The keeper made an instinctive save but the rebound fell kindly to O'Brolchain and he slid the ball into the back of the net.

One became two shortly afterwards with Corry again the architect. Another slide rule ball found Smair Belhout awaiting a mix up in the defence, when it duly arrived he was on hand to convert a simple chance.

Paul Corry then took centre stage as he wrote his name onto the scoresheet. In keeping with the game his goal was not a thing of beauty but it was worth just as much. A simple ball from Collingwood veteran, James Timmons, was smashed goalwards by his young pretender, Corry. The ball took a wicked deflection before flying past the stranded Coleraine keeper.

Mark McGinley played the roll of innocent bystander for much of the first half and looked to have had enough of the peripheral role as the half drew to a close. He proved he was equally adept with his feet as his hands, firing a pin point ball the length of the field to Michael Whelan. Samir Belhout latched onto the end of Whelan's cross and UCD found themselves 4-0 up with 45 minutes still to play.

UCD freshened their eleven again in the second half bringing on further young talent to torment the opposition in the form of McCabe, McNelis and Sexton. The later combined to give UCD another goal. Sexton played an inch perfect ball through the defence for McNelis to fire past the advancing keeper.

5-0 to the Belfield Students and UCC await in the next round. The Collingwood Cup has seen many a titanic battle between these two giants of the University game, tomorrow will be no different.

UCD: McGinley, Fallon, McFlynn, C O'Brolchain, Keogh, Doyle (McNelis), Timmons, Corry (McCabe), B O'Brolchain, Belhout (Sexton)