

UCD beat Shamrock Rovers 3-2 after extra time in the Moore Cup.



UCD continued their progress in the Moore Cup knocking Shamrock Rovers out on Sunday morning, following a thrilling extra time win. Two goals from Niall Daly and one from Fran Moran past long time friend and one time colleague Sean Coffey gave the Students a deserved win in this extremely tight cup match.

Passing football was the order of the day as UCD immediately settled into their rhythm. Timmons, Lynagh and Moran combined several times to release UCD's attacking options at every opportunity. Tyrone McNelis was the first to unleash a drive at goal having tricked his way around the opposing full back. His effort came back off the woodwork and bounced to safety.

The game burst to life when Rovers grabbed a surprise lead on the break. Building the ball down the left hand side of the pitch Rovers moved up the field before playing a ball in field where the striker was waiting to smash the ball past McGroarty. UCD tried to get back into the game through Eoin Roche but to no avail as they went in 1-0 down at half time.

UCD started the second half in much the same way as they ended the first, dominating possession but struggling to put their chances away. Ronan Lynagh was guilty of the first miss off the second half blazing over from inside the box following a neat interchange of passes between Niall Daly and Fran Moran. It was an early warning for the Rovers defence and it was not heeded as Niall Daly broke through the defence and lobbed the advancing Coffey to bring The Students back into the game.

Both sides struggled to create further chances as extra time loomed. The inevitable arrived and UCD took control of the game in the extra time period. Substitute Crag Sargeant made an immediate impact as he chipped a ball over the Rovers defence and Niall Daly slid the ball under the advancing keeper.

UCD increased their lead when Eoin Roche swung a teasing ball into the box and Fran Moran arrived late to power a header into the back of the net and seal a deserved win for the Belfield side. Rovers got a late consolation from the penalty spot following a mix up in the UCD defence. A clumsy challenge in the box gave the referee no option but to point to the spot. UCD held on and recorded an impressive cup victory.

UCD AFC: McGroarty, O'Reilly, Lehane, McFlynn, Dillon, Timmons (Bourke), Moran, Lynagh, Roche (B O'Brolchain), McNelis (Sargeant), Daly