

UCD AFC put 5 goals past Parkvale in the Leinster Senior League Premier 1 Division.



UCD AFC's Leinster Senior League Premier 1 side looked to bounce back from the cup exit with a trip to Parkvale. A hatrick from Stiofan Sexton, a clean finish from Alan Sutton and a wonder strike from Sean Geoghegan gave UCD a comfortable 5-1 win.

Parkvale started the game with three midfielders and this caused problems for Niall Hanley and Sean Buckley from the beginning. After a number of half chances for the home side, UCD found their way into the game and began to create chances of their own. Sean Geoghegan and Kevin Dunne got early joy down the wings and Niall Hanley nearly put UCD ahead with an effort that

just passed the post.

UCD went ahead through a penalty decision that was harsh in the extreme. A Kevin Dunne ball into the box struck the arm of one of the Parkvale defenders and the referee pointed to the spot. Stiofain Sexton slotted the ball home with ease. The referee evened the penalty count minutes later when Robbie Keogh was penalised for holding his opposite number. 2 penalties awarded, 2 goals.

The game settled down again and UCD fell into their usual rhythm. Alan Sutton was strong in possession and ran at the defence at every turn. Kevin Dunne was getting great joy down the right with Stiofain Sexton a constant thorn in the side of the defence. One such Sexton run lead him into the box and his nimble feet brought him past the Parkvale defender who dragged him to the ground. Sexton again slotted the penalty into the back of the net, via the opposite corner.

An avalanche of goals in the second half killed off the tie. The wind at UCD's back meant that Parkvale struggled to get out of their own half and UCD were in a perfect position to take advantage. Sutton opened the second half scoring, latching onto a Geoghegan ball over the top and lifting the ball over the advancing keeper into the net.

Kevin Dunne did all the hard work for Stiofain Sexton to claim his 3rd and UCD's 4th goal of the game. Dunne's trickery brought him past players down the right wing and his ball into the box was finished expertly by Sexton.

"What happened next made history, brought tears to many eyes", so said UCD Fresher Niall Wright as he watched in awe as returning graduate Sean Geoghegan gave a glimpse of what the more seasoned campaigners have seen time and again over the years. Geoghegan took a corner from the left hand side that was cleared, Kevin Dunne picked up the loose ball and chipped it towards Geoghegan. He looked up and picked his spot in the bottom corner with a first time volley that was sure to be a contender for goal of the season.

UCD finished the game in a strong position and continue their push to win the league.

UCD AFC: Finnegan, Westman, Rogers, Keogh, Wright, Dunne, Hanley, Buckley (Culleton), Geoghegan, Sutton, Sexton (Horlick)