

UCD AFC moved back up the table with 3 points against Sacred Heart.



UCD AFC climbed closer to their rivals at the top of the table following a stunning 4-0 demolition of Sacred Heart in the Leinster Senior League Saturday Major 1 A division. Sacred Heart had thumped UCD 5-0 earlier in the season and it was time for the Students to gain revenge. Revenge was sweet as two goals from Mike Arnold, and one each from Saheed Ogunfowora and Tristan Dent sent UCD home happy.

The game started at a frenetic pace as Hearts looked to take over from where they left off all those months ago. For the first 20 minutes of the game UCD were pinned back in their own half and were required to weather an almighty storm. Midway through the first half UCD began to get a foothold in the game as Ryan McErlane and his more experienced partner in crime, David Campion, grabbed control of the midfield.

It was Campion who started the attack that led to UCD's first real attack. Campion picked up the ball deep in his own half and swept it out to Brian McDonald on the left flank. McDonald played a sharp one two with Alan Sutton. This intricate piece of play sent McDonald away with one man to beat. In the box a neat piece of trickery brought him past the full back, his shot with his weaker right foot was parried by the keeper and eventually scrambled to safety.

UCD did not have to wait long after to have another chance and this brought the first goal of the game. Saheed Ogunfowora, Alan Sutton and Mike Arnold all combined to set Ogunfowora free on the edge of the box. He faked to shoot and instead passed the ball into the middle of the goal, the defence had gone AWOL and Arnold was on hand to finish calmly.

UCD went in one goal to the good at the break and were fully deserving of their lead. Following a shaky start they had grown into the game and were now dominating. The second half began with UCD in the ascendancy as Campion and McErlane threatened to run riot. The midfield two some controlled possession and drew countless fouls as Hearts became more frustrated.

UCD were controlling the midfield and threatening on the wings. It was another break on the wing that brought UCD's second goal. Arnold received a cross from the left, controlled the ball on his chest and in the same movement, swivelled and volleyed into the far top corner. It was a stunning goal and one that will no doubt be described right the way across his native Canada.

UCD were now well in the ascendancy and looked to press for further goals. Tristan Dent was next up to write his name on the score sheet. He controlled a ball back into the box from Campion and with the Hearts defence caught out he steered the ball into the back of the net.

Three became four when Ogunfowora popped up to finish coolly. The tricky winger took on and beat his man on the right hand side of the box and then calmly slipped the ball under the hapless keeper.

The result puts UCD within touching distance of the top two in this division and gives them every opportunity to grab promotion.

UCD AFC: Barber, Mollumby, Dent, O'Brolchain, Keogh (Gallagher), McDonald (Geoghegan), McErlane, Campion, Ogunfowora, Arnold (Hanley)