



SAD ENDING: St. Mary's College centre Vincent Cunningham is carried from the field with a damaged knee during his club's defeat by Dungannon yesterday.

Cunningham is doubtful

DUNGANNON	17
ST MARY'S	19

A **SPLENDID** victory for St Mary's was spoiled by what appears to be a serious injury to Ireland centre Vincent Cunningham.

It was a match the Dublin side had to win and there were euphoric scenes as they snatched only their second victory of the season.

Yet the celebration were dampened by news that Cunningham has suspected ligament damage to his right knee, making his chances of playing for Ireland against Wales, if selected, very doubtful.

Bangor's Mark McCall would be the obvious replacement.

St Mary's try scoring hero was flanker Kevin Potts who stormed across the line for a 63rd minute try, converted by Nicky Barry, to seal victory. It was no more than they deserved after starting and finishing the match more strongly than their Ulster counterparts.

Barry put over three penalties in the first half hour to set up a nine point lead. Remarkably, Dungannon were ahead by half time thanks to two penalties from outhalf Keith Megarry, and an unconverted try from Ronnie Carey.

Dungannon re-inforced their advantage with two more Megarry penalties within ten minutes of the restart. Barry cut the deficit with a long range penalty to set up a grandstand finish with Dungannon ahead only 17-12.

A lapse of concentration at a line-out near their line cost the home side dearly. Potts capitalised and stormed through for what proved to be a match winning score.

Both sides have now lost four games and are likely to be embroiled in the forthcoming relegation dog-fight.

Dungannon — S McDowell, R. Carey, A Burns, P Archer, T Howe, K Megarry, A Blair, D Miller, H McCaughey (capt), G Leske, W Anderson, J Davidson, Johnny Hastings, Jeremy Hastings, J Patterson.

St Mary's College — A White, G Halpin, G Lavin, V Cunningham, D Wall, N Barry, S Treacy, B Keane, M Concoran, D Gillen, S Jameson (capt), V Costello, K Potts, C Potts, K Devlin.

GREYSTONES	11
YOUNG MUNSTER	14

THE Young Munster revival continues. In desperate trouble when the League resumed after Christmas, they have now won two successive matches to considerably ease the pressure.

Two efforts from outhalf Aidan O'Halloran midway through the second half proved crucial in bringing them this latest victory. With the score 8-8 O'Halloran landed a drop goal and a penalty to leave Young Munster 14-8 clear.

It was then a matter of holding on to their advantage. And this they just managed to achieve after Greystones' outhalf Marc Evans had reduced the deficit to 14-11 with a penalty goal.

After O'Halloran had given Young Munster an early 3-0 advantage with a penalty goal Greystones deservedly went 5-3 in front when a move involving John Murphy and Brian Rigney ended with Popplewell passing to Ivan Power. The left-wing raced in from the '22' for an excellent try.

The home side should really have extended their lead before right-wing Paul McMahon secured a try to give Young Munster a fortunate 8-5 interval advantage.

A huge penalty goal from three yards inside his own half by Greystones' right-wing Alan Keyes made the score 8-8 early in the second half. By this stage though, the Young Munster pack was beginning to get on top and they provided outhalf O'Halloran with a number of opportunities.

The first two were narrowly missed before he finally came good with the drop goal and penalty goal which gave Young Munster a lead they never surrendered.

Greystones — M Carney (capt), A Keyes, R Vance, S Sexton, I Power, M Evans, R McNamara, N Popplewell, J Murphy, M Phelan, B Rigney, G McCabe, D Rigney, D Barrett, V Magannety. **Replacements:** R Corrigan for McCabe, 65 mins.

Young Munster — T Lenehan, P McMahon, N O'Meara, M Lynch, N McNamara, A O'Halloran, J Moloney, J Fitzgerald, M Fitzgerald, P Clohessy, P Meehan, R Ryan, D Edwards, R Coventry, G Earls.

Referee — A Watson (Ulster).

St Mary's make a costly clawback

Dungannon.....17
St Mary's.....19

From Michael Sadlier at Stevenson Park

ST Mary's desperately needed this game to salvage what remains of their season. Having trailed Dungannon by 17-9 early in the second half, they clawed their way back into the game to take a two point lead in the final quarter. But victory came at a cost.

Vinny Cunningham was buried in a ruck midfield and then had to be helped off the pitch with a suspected knee ligation injury. St Mary's may have to do without him for the remainder of their campaign; more immediately he may

miss Ireland's forthcoming game against Wales.

It was St Mary's pack that made this game certain. Even without the services of Brent Pope they were able to dominate the lineouts. In the scrum their front five also looked stronger and Dungannon sorely missed the services of Paddy Johns. For St Mary's, Victor Costello had an enormous influence.

St Mary's were nine points up after three penalty strikes from Nicky Barry before Dungannon responded. Keith McGarry kicked his first penalty just after the half hour and then came Ronnie Carey's score. Dungannon won possession on the floor and moved blind for

Carey to get the try. It was unconverted. McGarry kicked another penalty to make it 11-9 at the break and then kicked two more to give Dungannon a clear lead.

The Mary's pack now began to impose themselves, Kevin Potts plunging over and Barry converting from the touchline to give St Mary's a two point lead. They deservedly held on as Dungannon threw everything into attack.

DUNGANNON: S McDowell, R Carey, A Burns, P Archer, T Howe, K McGarry, A Blir, D Millar, H McCaughey (capt), G Leslie, W Anderson, J Davidson, Johnny Hastings, J Patterson, Jeremy Hastings
ST MARY'S: A White, G Halpin, G Lavin, V Cunningham, D Wall, N Barry, S Tracey, B Keane, M Corcoran, D Gillan, S Jameson (capt), C Potts, K Potts, K Devlin, V Costello.

Replacement: C Burke for Cunningham, 75 mins
Referee: B Smith (Munster)