

UCD cause a shock

ST MARY'S COLLEGE... 16
UCD 24

Gerry Thornley

SUCH is the Leinster Senior Cup's diminished status since the inception of the All-Ireland League that last night's surprise second round result at Templeville Road could hardly be called earth-shattering. Nevertheless, the defeat of a first division side by the third division champions does constitute a tremor.

UCD played with the verve and gusto one would expect of a varsity side, taking the game irreverently to their more fancied opposition with the strong wind behind them in the first period. Yet they were indebted to their hospitable hosts for handing them two soft tries. Despite giving it a good shot after the resumption, the 21-3 half-time deficit was too much for St Mary's to peg back.

Diminutive hooker Andrew Donovan lead from the front, and outside half Killian Keane used the wind and his big right boot to pull St Mary's back. He landed two from four, a penalty and a conversion of Kevin Hogan's try granted to him by Ray Hernan's fumble. Shane Buckley then took over the kicking to stretch the lead to 11-0 on 26 minutes.

St Mary's upped a gear and appeared to have given themselves a reasonable second-half target when Nicky Barry landed a penalty. However, from a quickly taken throw-in two minutes before the break which caught St Mary's in a collective slumber, Aiden White promptly granted David Frame another soft UCD try by directing Hogan's grubber into the centre's hands. Buckley converted and landed a superb penalty; suddenly it was 21-3 at the break.

To compound matters, White had injured himself in the process, sustaining a suspected broken finger, and St Mary's played the second-half with only two of the back-line which started the season.

Brent Pope and Victor Costello had better success in punching holes through the UCD line, the latter leaving a trail of bodies behind in comic-book fashion to score a forceful try which Barry converted before kicking a penalty, all within six minutes of the restart.

Crucially, one of many forward drives soon after took St Mary's over the UCD line, but Gordon Black ignored pleas for a score, as he had done on two occasions when St Mary's were beaten 13-12 by Garryowen in the league. Although Barry kicked a 64th minute penalty to make it 21-16, UCD weathered the storm.

ST MARY'S — A White, A Gillen, C Burke, R Hernan, D Hernan, N Barry, P Lynch, B Keane, D Whitty, D Dowling, S Jameson capt, V Costello, K Potts, B Pope, K Devlin. Replacements — G Halpin for White (38 mins), G O Kelly for Keane (66 mins).

UCD — S Buckley, D Odumeru, K McCarthy, D Frame, D O'Mahony, K Keane, K Hogan, P Walsh, A Donovan, D Porter, C Torrence, H Kos, Y Murphy, K Spicer, G McKonkey.

Referee — G Black (ARLB).

OLD WESLEY place in the Leinster Senior Cup successive summary has round at night. Despite a very d Blackrock O that problem tion without degree of dif

This win g place in the meeting with Lansdowne night.

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Quite apart benefits of the have infinitely pleased, bearing they fielded than eight of players. Old W Farren and s Lowry, however capacity to ta their second- when playing ble wind lacked semblance of a tion. Blackrock not have to be vail, but they greater aware better up fro Whelan the m Old Wesley's t

Old Wesley enough, but it turned out, an ter of their s Out-half Adria lucky to see a come back off eighth minute reasonable jo Blackrock in th the end of whi 9-3, with Whe ties in the 17t minutes, all from wide angl Mooney dropp Old Wesley in

A very good scrum-half Des worker in their Nick Assaf and came on as a r 35th minute fo the nearest the ducing a try.

Six points wa

RACING RESULTS

Bunchestown

Students teach Mary's lesson

UCD.....24
ST MARY'S.....16

ST MARY'S paid dearly for a couple of careless first half defensive errors in this Leinster Senior Cup second round tie at Templeville Road last evening.

UCD would hardly have backed themselves coming out of division three to beat Mary's but they took their gifts gratefully and now meet Terenure in Saturday's semi-final.

COLM SMITH REPORTS

In the first instance Mary's winger David Hernan tried to fly kick a bouncing ball and missed leaving student scrum half Kevin Hogan the simple task of picking up and diving over in the right corner.

That was in the 13th minute but, more crucially, a similar thing occurred a minute from half time when full-back Aiden White failed to clear and center Dave Frame picked up and ran in behind the posts.

This time full-back Shane Buckley converted and UCD, somewhat surprisingly, found themselves with a comfortable 21-3 half time lead having had the wind in their backs for the forty minutes.

Mary's did rally after the interval. They brought the score to 21-16 with sixteen minutes remaining.

But, in another twist of fortune the students were awarded a penalty a few yards from their own line to which Mary's had laid siege.

The relief of this pressure rekindled their fight and they actually put the match beyond the reach of the home side eight minutes from the end when Buckley scored his third penalty.

Kilian Keane opened the scoring for the students with a penalty goal in eleven minutes.

Hogan scored the first of their two tries two minutes later before Buckley took over the kicking role. He kicked three in all and also converted their second try by Frame.

St Mary's only first half score was a penalty by Nicky Barry who, in the third minute of the second half, converted a try by Costello and then kicked two more penalties before the end.

ST MARY'S — A White, A Gillan, R Hernan, C Burke, D Hernan, N Barry, P Lynch, B Keane, D Whitty, D Dowling, S Jameson, V Costello, K Polts, K Devlin, B Pope. **Replacement:** G Halpin for White (39 mins), K O'Kelly for Keane (66 mins)

UCD — S Buckley, D Odumeru, K McCarthy, D Frame, D O'Mahony, K Keane, K Hogan, P Walsh, A Donovan, D Porter, C Torrance, H Kos, T Murphy, G McConkey, K Spicer.

REF — G Black (Leinster)

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