

ST. MARY'S COLLEGE RFC IS SPONSORED BY

Firestone

AIB LEAGUE - DIVISION ONE



St. Mary's College RFC

15. KEVIN NOWLAN
14. DENIS HICKIE
13. RAY MCILREAVY
12. GARETH GANNON
11. JOHN MCWEENEY
10. FERGAL CAMPION
9. EOIN MCCORMACK
1. EMMET BYRNE
2. BARRY BROWNE
3. PETER COYLE
4. STEVE JAMESON (Capt.)
5. MARK REILLY
6. KARL JENNINGS
7. MARK CUDDIHY
8. VICTOR COSTELLO

SUBSTITUTES

16. JOHN KILBRIDE, 17. RICHARD ORMOND,
18. PADDY POWER, 19. DEREK DOWLING,
20. A. N. OTHER, 21. DAVID LYONS

REFEREE:

Ronny McDowell
(MRA)

SATURDAY

24th January

1998

at 2.30 p.m.

Templeville

Road



TOUCH JUDGES:

David Tyn dall
(ARLB),
Andrew Baird
(ARLB)

Cork Constitution Football Club

15. MATTHEW MCLOUGHLIN
14. JAMES KIERNAN
13. NIAL MURRAY
12. ALAN BYRNE
11. DAVID O'BRIEN
10. RONAN O'GARA
9. BRIAN O'MEARA
1. IAN MURRAY
2. FRANK SHEEHAN
3. JOHN O'DRISCOLL
4. KEN MURPHY
5. ULFAN O'CALLAGHAN (Capt.)
6. JERRY MURRAY
7. JIM CANNING
8. CONOR KEHELLY

SUBSTITUTES:

16. BARRY MCLOUGHLIN, 17. KEVIN MULLEN,
18. CONOR TWOMEY, 19. DONNACHA O'CALLAGHAN,
20. SHANE O'CONNOR, 21. JULIAN KAHN

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Hennessy happy as St Mary's deliver

TWO TRIES either side of half-time proved the decisive factor in an impressive win for St Mary's over Cork Constitution at Templeville Road on Saturday.

Not alone did St Mary's pick up two badly needed league points, their first of the new year, they finally and perhaps more importantly delivered a performance commensurate to the team's ability.

While coach Steve Hennessy was able to single out a number of key players, he was also quick to point to the importance of the favourable conditions. "Victor Costello and John McWeeney delivered, they gave us a target going forward. The ball retention was fantastic. We won because of a very good second half performance. But the key for us was the firm ground and the dry ball," he said.

Hennessy admitted to being concerned in the early stages as a hungrier Constitution raced into an 8-0 lead thanks to a penalty by O'Gara and a try by Brian O'Meara. At that stage a hesitant St Mary's looked on their way to a third straight defeat.

However, two minutes after O'Meara's try and very much

ST MARY'S 38 CORK CONSTITUTION. 23

Kieran Garry

against the run of play, St Mary's gave a glimpse of what they were capable of. Constitution lost possession in midfield and the ball was flashed out wide to left wing McWeeney, who outpaced the cover with some ease before touching down for a fine try.

Constitution, however, continued to look the more cohesive outfit and it was no great surprise when they went further ahead thanks to a try by flanker Jerry Murray on the half hour.

That score marked the high point of their afternoon's work as St Mary's, with Costello to the fore, began to get a grip on proceedings. The Cork side, whose captain Ullan O'Callaghan was a late injury withdrawal, had no answer to Costello's power.

After a bout of sustained pressure in the run up to half-time, right wing Paddy Lane, in for the injured Dennis Hickie, dived over for a try, converted by Fergal Campion, to cut the visitors' lead to 15-14.

St Mary's maintained the momentum in the second half and when prop Peter Coyle crashed over for their third try inside two minutes, the home side were on their way. McWeeney shrugged off O'Meara's tackle en route to his second try in the 57th minute and five minutes later full-back Kevin Nowlan put plenty of daylight between the teams when he cut through a scattered defence for his side's fifth. O'Meara, Constitution's best performer on the day, got over for a late consolation score two minutes from time.

Scoring Sequence: 7 mins — O'Gara pen, 3-0; 15 mins — O'Meara try, 8-0; 17 mins — McWeeney try, Campion con 8-7; 30 mins — Murray try, O'Gara con 15-7; 40 mins — Lane try, Campion con, 15-14; 42 mins — Coyle try, Campion con 21-15; 49 mins — O'Gara pen, 21-18; 57 mins — McWeeney try, Campion con 28-18; 62 mins — Nowlan try, Campion con 35-18; 78 mins — O'Meara try, 35-23; 84 mins — Campion pen, 38-23.

ST MARY'S: K Nowlan; P Lane, R McIlreavy, G Gannon, J McWeeney; F Campion, E McCormack; E Byrne, B Browne, P Coyle, S Jameson (capt), M Reilly, K Jennings, M Cuddihy, V Costello. **Replacements:** P Sullivan for K Jennings 38 mins.

CORK CONSTITUTION: M McLoughlin; J Kiernan, N Murray, A Byrne, D O'Brien; R O'Gara, B O'Meara; I Murray, F Sheehan, J O'Driscoll, K Murphy, S O'Connor, J Murray, J Canning, C Kehelly. **Replacements:** K Mullen for M McLoughlin 43 mins, D O'Callaghan for C Kehelly 50 mins, P Soden for I Murray 60 mins. Referee: R McDowell (MRA).