

Senior Cup
3rd May 1992

RUGBY: Skerries survive late pressure to go through

Mary's dumped out

Brendan Fanning

Skerries 21
St Mary's College 20

SKERRIES survived some fretful moments in injury time at Holmpatrick yesterday before deservingly hanging on to beat St Mary's and advance to the next round of the Leinster Senior Cup.

A try from Emmet Byrne, converted by Craig Fitzpatrick, brought Mary's to within a point of the home side at the end of normal time. But the First Division team lacked the ideas and the personnel to complete the comeback and Skerries went through.

The crucial score came just before half time when a perfect angle by Skerries centre Dermot O'Sullivan — the best back on the field — created the space for Clive Lawless to put flanker Dave O'Sullivan in at the corner.

That reduced St Mary's lead to 13-8 and from the start of the second half, the home side used the wind to close the margin. Two penalties from Joe Dempsey put them 14-13 in front, and then a hugely popular try from captain Billy Mulcahy — who followed up his own kick-ahead — put them in the driving seat at 21-13.

Despite enduring a creaking scrum, Skerries restricted St Mary's to that late score.

Starline: P Beggs, C Lawless, Dermot O'Sullivan, C Ealy, E Curran, J Dempsey, A O'Sullivan, J Hyatt, B Mulcahy (capt), J O'Reilly, T Gies, K Gorman (22), S Gilmore, E Dwyer, K Higgins, Dave O'Sullivan, B Mulcahy, E Curran, A Conboy, D Lyons, M, C Fitzpatrick, C May, U Keogh (23), E Byrne, B Brown, P Sheel (6), P Doyle, S Janssens (capt), F Regan, D Woods (Leinster).

Clontarf 52

Carlow 29

CLONTARF gave Carlow a 17-point start after a sluggish opening in the Leinster Senior Cup Game at Castle Avenue yesterday but then steadied to get on level terms at the interval, before finishing well on top. Very slack marking by the defence let in Andy



Burnett St Mary's Victor Costello is tackled by Skerries' Eamonn Darcy

Photo: David Conahy

Dooley, Andrew Melville, and Martin Fenton for Carlow tries, one of which Philip Jones converted to leave the visitors 17 points ahead after the opening quarter.

After 22 minutes, Michael Coughlan had a "Tarf" try, which Murphy converted, but Carlow hit back with a try by Tim Ashmore, after No 8 Andrew Melville had run like a centre to draw the home defence before sending Ashmore over.

In the closing stages of the first half, Clontarf struck back with tries by Karl Hoffman (2), and Richie Noble one of which Murphy converted.

In the second half Clontarf went ahead after a blind side break by Roman O'Reilly and then Richie Murphy nipped over for a great try under the posts. After 70 minutes, a good Clontarf passing movement ended with Pat Ward crossing for another try near the post, Murphy converting on all three occasions.

Richie Noble crossed for the final Clontarf try, Murphy

again adding the points.

Starline: M Woods (U Meath), K Holman, R Noble, D Russell (S Monaghan), M Fitzsimons, R O'Reilly, R Murphy, J Cummins, D Kyrle, P McQuillan, M Lavelle, M Duggan, A Duggan, P Ward (S Galway), C Burnette.

Carlow: L. J. Widdock, B. Ginn, T. Ashmore, R. Larkin, P. Jones, R. Dick, P. Bennett, J. Hyatt, L. Hyatt, A. Doherty, L. O'Brien, N. Campbell, M. Fenton (A. Kerry), A. Mervin (S. Fitzpatrick).

Lansdowne 26

Monkstown 10

LANSDOWNE were too strong for Monkstown in a scrappy match at Lansdowne Road. Full-back Rory Kearns put the home side ahead with two early penalties and the home side made it 11-0 when Brian Melvin scored a controversial try after what looked like a knock-on.

Ronan McInerney and Rory Kearns then traded penalties to leave the half time score at 14-3 to Lansdowne. The second half was riddled with errors and this contributed to a Rory Kearns' breakaway try after five minutes. John Hannah went over in the corner for Monkstown with five minutes left but Lansdowne wrapped it up with a Brian

Melvin try in the last minute.

Starline: E. Beane, C. Egan, D. Egan, S. O'Connor, W. Atkins, S. Rooney, G. Meeley, C. McElroy, J. O'Malley, J. Woods (I. Murphy), B. Mervin, W. Clancy, B. Cennedy, M. McNamara, R. Kearns, Rgt. I. Murphy for J. Woods.

Monkstown: B. Mervin, D. Doherty, J. Hyatt, M. Ginn, R. Larkin, T. Herbert, C. McCallum, D. O'Brien, C. Healy, A. Vaneck, G. McNamara, R. McInerney, D. Mervin, B. Cennedy, J. Ginn.

Old Wesley 25

Garda 25

OLD Wesley squeezed through to the quarter-finals of the Heineken Leinster Senior Cup when they overcame Garda in a cliffhanger at Donnybrook. At the final whistle, both sides were level at 25-25 and 20 minutes extra-time was played. Neither side registered a score in this period so the number of tries scored decided the result. Wesley, with four tries to Garda's three, were declared the winners.

Wesley's all-important tries came from left-wing Brian Doherty (2), lock David Bursey and full-back Chris Henderson, while No 8 Dave Clarke (2) and full-back Ollie Henry crossed for Garda.

Blackrock College 20
Beckite Rangers 26

DESPITE late Blackrock pressure, Beckite Rangers held on for a victory in this dreary Leinster Senior Cup game at Stradbroke yesterday. Tries from Ian Dwyer, Bryn Cunningham, Dessie Jackson and James Hardy set the Donnybrook side up for victory. Rock replied with tries from Alan McGowan, Aidan Guinan and Hubie Kos.

● The draw for the quarter-final of the Heineken Leinster Senior Cup quarter-finals is: Dublin

Unit v Terenure Coll, College Park; DLSF v Beckite, Kilterman; Clontarf v Skerries, Castle Avenue; Lansdowne v Old Wesley, Lansdowne Road, (matches take place Tuesday (6.0), semi-finals Saturday).

Cork Con 61

Richmond 27

CORK Con secured their place in the semi-final of the Munster Senior Cup at Temple Hill when they overcame a plucky Richmond, who battled gamely to the end.

After the game, the draw pitched UCC against Young Munster in Cork, with Cork Con having to make the journey to Limerick to take on League champions Shannon.

Ballinacorney 10

Malone 15

NEIL Doak steered Malone to success in the AIB Division Two/Three play-off first leg at Ballymacarn Park, rifting over five penalties to give his side a five-point advantage for next week's return leg.

Metro replay

THE Heineken Metropolitan Cup final, due to be played today at Donnybrook, has been postponed. The Leinster Branch of the IRFU has decreed that Old Belvedere and Blackrock should meet instead to decide which will meet St Mary's College in the final.

Blackrock beat Old Belvedere in the semi-final a week ago but there has been a series of objections about the legality of certain players so meet again today (2.30) — minus those considered illegal last time out.

Skerries edge out St Mary's

SKERRIES PRODUCED the upset of the Leinster Senior Cup second-round ties on Saturday when they edged out St Mary's College 21-20 at Holmpatrick. The reward for that victory is a trip to northside neighbours Clontarf on Tuesday night (6.0).

Skerries fully deserved their victory, coming back from 13-8 down and surviving a late try by St Mary's prop Emmet Byrne, converted by out-half Craig Fitzpatrick. A try by flanker Dave O'Sullivan after a fine break by his brother Dermot saw Skerries claw back to 13-8.

Two penalties from Joe Dempsey saw them edge in front before captain Billy Mulcahy grabbed a fine try.

Clontarf survived a whirlwind opening from County Carlow at Castle Avenue, during which the visitors scored 17 unanswered points in as many minutes before running out 52-29 victors.

Junior side Garda produced a magnificent effort to draw 25-25 with Old Wesley at Donny-

CLUB ROUND-UP

John O'Sullivan

brook. Twenty minutes of extra time failed to break the deadlock and Garda lost out to Wesley's superior try count, 4-3. Wesley will now face Lansdowne, conquerors of Monkstown, 26-10.

In the other ties, which are all to be played on Tuesday night (6.0), Dublin University take on Terenure College at College Park and DLSP play host to Bective Rangers at Kilternan.

Elsewhere, Cork Constitution ousted Richmond 61-27 in a Munster Senior Cup second-round tie at Temple Hill, while Corinthians surprised Buccaneers in the Connacht Senior Cup semi-final. In the AIB League Division Two/Three play-off, Malone beat Ballynahinch 15-10 at Ballymacarn Park to take a vital lead into the second leg.