

Greystones take their first McCorry Cup

Greystones 14
St Mary's.....12

From Mark Jones at Anglesea Road

GREYSTONES clinched the McCorry Cup for the first time in their history when they edged home in yesterday's final.

It was a game which failed to live up to expectations, and while Greystones just about deserved their victory the St Mary's outhalf Fergal Campion had an opportunity to snatch the spoils deep into injury time. However, his difficult

penalty from wide on the left touchline drifted across the posts.

The match was largely a duel between the rival place kickers Campion and Richard Murphy. Murphy, with the wind behind him, thumped over a penalty and then struck a dropgoal to put Greystones 6-0 in front after 18 minutes.

Despite some forceful driving by the back row of Mick Hanley, who was outstanding, John O'Beirne and No 8 Colin McEntee, that lead looked slender heading towards the break.

But then Greystones put themselves in good shape with a vital try just before the changeover. From a close range scrum, McEntee linked with scrum half John Sherwin and he worked the blind side for O'Beirne to crash over. Murphy failed with a difficult conversion.

Campion put St Mary's back in contention with two penalties, but Murphy was able to put Greystones further ahead with a penalty into the breeze.

St Mary's began to turn the screw again and Campion hit the target with his third penalty and then added a drop

goal to cut the gap to just two points.

Sherwin was stretchered off with an apparent neck injury, and in a tense final injury time period Campion couldn't find the range with three more penalty attempts and it was to be Greystones' day.

GREYSTONES: A Temple A McCleane G Brennan R Noble K O'Kelly R Murphy captain, J Sherwin D Kelso M McBride F Quinn N McManus S Tuthill J O'Beirne M Hanley C McEntee. Replacements: D Cunningham for Sherwin, 68 mins; D Leonard for O'Beirne, 73 mins

ST MARY'S: R Larkin P Lane E Gibney D Lyons G Bell F Campion C McGuinness captain M Kennedy P Power J Roche M O'Kelly P Sullivan G Walshe K Moylan G Twohig

Referee: T Redmond (ARLB)