



LEINSTER BRANCH I.R.F.U. DONNYBROOK
ST. MARY'S COL. v BLACKROCK COL.
J.P. FANAGAN UNDER 20 LEAGUE FINAL K.O. 2.30 P.M.

ST. MARY'S COLLEGE

BLACKROCK COLLEGE

15	PAUL MORAN	FULL BACK	TOM KEATING	15
14	ALAN CONBOY	RIGHT WING	SHANE HUNT	14
13	KELVIN McNAMEE	RIGHT CENTRE	DAVID QUINLAN	13
12	JASON VERDON	LEFT CENTRE	RUSSELL ROCHFORD (CAPT)	12
11	DECLAN KING	LEFT WING	DAVID JOHNSON	11
10	DAVID KELLY	OUT HALF	EMMET FARRELL	10
9	DAVID SWEENEY	SCRUMM, LF	BRIAN KEVINS	9
1	RONAN MCCORMACK	LOOSE HEAD PROP	MARK FEARON	1
2	JOHN LANE (CAPTAIN)	HOOKER	PETER SMYTH	2
3	STEVE TACART	TIGHT HEAD PROP	MALCOLM GIFFE	3
4	MARK ENGLISH	LOCK	JOHN SPELLMAN	4
5	NIALL KEANE	LOCK	JAMES SMITH	5
6	CIARAN MADIGAN	FLANKER	GAVIN MCCARTHY	6
7	MARK O'BRIEN	FLANKER	KEITH MURPHY	7
8	STEVE CONLAN	NO. 8	LEO CULLEN	8

REPLACEMENTS

16	MARK MCGROHAN	16	NIALL O'DONOVAN
17	MERVYN NEARY	17	RORY GUINAN
18	PHILIP GUNN	18	ANDREW BOYD
19	JOHN KILBRIDE	19	ROBERT CASEY
20	MICHAEL LAVELLE	20	TREVOR O'ROURKE
21	SHANE McLOUGHLIN	21	RICHARD WOODS
22	PADDY ROSSI	22	COLIN LENIHAN

REFEREE

TONY REDMOND

(A.R.L.B.)



Irish Shell



Irish Shell

Blackrock show the way

FOLLOWING on the heels of Ireland's whimpering demise, there was a glimpse of a brighter future for Irish rugby at Donnybrook yesterday as a star-laden Blackrock College Under-20 team captured the J P Fanagan League final.

A smattering of former schools' internationals formed the core of this practically-invincible side. Faced with this proposition, St Mary's fought tirelessly, and at times, knocked Blackrock out of their stride. But they never really looked like winning.

Out-half David Kelly's accurate goalkicking ensured St Mary's were only 14-9 adrift at the break. David Johnson had profited from out-half Emmett Farrell's quick thinking to go over for Blackrock's try.

And the longer the game went on, the more easily Blackrock floated away from their pursuers, with second-half tries from David

BLACKROCK COLL	34
ST MARY'S COLL	19

Des Berry

Quinlan and the outstanding Farrell, who ended proceedings with 24 points. That total included a mixed bag of four penalties, a drop goal, two conversions, and of course, his 50th-minute try.

Ten minutes from the end, Quinlan ripped through an overburdened Mary's defence, before centre Jason Verdon slipped in for a much-deserved St Mary's consolation try.

BLACKROCK COLLEGE: T Keating; S Hunt, D Quinlan, R Rochford, D Johnson; E Farrell, B Kevins, M Cuffe; M Fearon, P Smyth, J Spellman, J Smith, G McCarthy, K Murphy, L Cullen.

Replacements: R Woods for Murphy and R Casey for Spellman, both 50 mins.

ST MARY'S COLLEGE: P Moran; A Conboy, K McNamee, J Verdon, D King; D Kelly, D Sweeney, R McCormack; J Lane, S Taggart, M English, N Keane, M O'Brien, C Madigan, and S Conlan.

Referee: **T Redmond** (ARLB).

5/1/97 Rocks to top

BLACKROCK have spent heavily this year - not one but two foreign coaches - but the discomfort of a negative bank balance is eased somewhat by the knowledge that they have some of the country's most talented players available to them. This afternoon, their under-20's have an opportunity to show their worth against St Mary's in the final of the J P Fanagan League at Donnybrook (2.30).

In the past, we wondered whatever became of all those cup-winning schoolboys once they left school. Well, thirteen of this side earned Leinster Schools Senior Cup medals with the college and now a concerted effort has been made to keep them together. Consider also that former Irish schoolboys Barry Gibney and Robert Casey are missing because of injury.

The league involves ten clubs and not surprisingly, Blackrock have had an unbeaten run to the final, including

some landslide defeats along the way. Up until a fortnight ago, they had scored an average of 55 points per game, conceding just 2.95. Greystones provided more of a challenge, losing out 26-34 and then last week, today's opponents led at half-time only to go under 18-34.

By comparison, St Mary's have drawn their players from five schools and just squeezed through to the final on superior points difference to Terenure.

BLACKROCK COLLEGE: T Keating, S Hunt, D Quinlan, R Rochford, D Johnson, E Farrell, B Kevans, M Fearon, P Smyth, M Cuffe, J Spellman, J Smith, G McCarthy, K Murphy, L Cullen.

ST MARY'S COLLEGE: P Moran, A Comboy, K McNamée, J Vernon, D King, D Kelly, D Sweeney, S Taggart, J Lane, R McCormack, M English, S Keane, M O'Brien, K Madigan, S Conlon

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