

UCD NEWS



The UCD FC Supporters' Club Newsletter

Issue 6

May 2004

WELCOME TO THE sixth issue of UCD News. In this issue, we have a profile of Hugh Davey, news on Alan Cawley's protracted transfer to Shels and of course the Belfield Diary.

The season has begun in differing styles on and off the pitch. On it, we're out on top of the league, with four points separating us from the first non-promotion position. We've scored eleven goals in our three home games, giving hope that more high-scoring games are to follow at Belfield! Willie Doyle has made a sensational start to his UCD career with five goals from his first six games, while Robbie Martin also has four goals, which have seen him rise to ninth position in our all-time goalscoring charts. And it may seem like we're being bad losers, but the only two games we've failed to win – away to Finn Harps and Kildare County – have been on atrocious pitches which have compromised our usual passing game.

Off the pitch, though, things have been dominated by the Alan Cawley saga. The story in brief is that Cawley signed for Shels in the close-season, with Shels apparently under the impression that he was a free agent. The rules state that players who are under 23 and have been playing with a club for two years cannot move on free transfers (this is a proviso of the Bosman ruling designed to compensate clubs who develop young players and to sweeten the pill of bigger clubs robbing them once they show some promise). Shels claimed that the "two seasons" had to be two full seasons – Cawley signed for UCD a month into the 2002/03 season, but had his contract and wages back-dated to cover this scenario. Shels also claimed that they were angry at the way they were informed of the decision – they were informed shortly before the opening game of the season, with Cawley in their team – but UCD have said that Shels were given plenty of notice and that Shels "had their heads in the sand", as the UCD club secretary put it. The case went to a tribunal – as is provided for if the clubs can't agree a transfer fee – and it was held that we were in the right and that Shels had to pay E20,000. Remarkably, they then decided to cancel the transfer rather than pay the fee, leaving Cawley in limbo. The previous week, the tribunal had ordered that Derry pay Galway E22,000 for Alan Murphy, which they did without any fuss. In the meantime, Cawley has taken the league to court over a restraint of trade issue, with the result that he has now been cleared to play for Shels, though a decision whether the transfer fee is due or not is pending. If he is successful, a revamp of the Bosman ruling may take place across Europe, with the possibility of "Cawley" transfers in the future!

In international news, all followers of the league will have been delighted at the news of Jason Byrne's international debut in Poland – Glen Crowe and John O'Flynn were in line for call-ups too, but were injured. Jason has been in fine form since joining Shels from Bray, and last season scored in all of Shels' six pre-season friendlies and in the first five league games before his run was halted by UCD at Belfield – unfortunately for us, they still won 2-0. And we mightn't be too far off our first ever senior international ourselves as Hugh Davey started at left-wing for Northern Ireland's Under-23 team against Serbia and Montenegro – the team was basically the U-21 team, but then Davey is only just gone 20, so is shaping up well for a senior international cap at some stage!

BELFIELD DIARY

19th March – Football is back as UCD take on league favourites Bray Wanderers in Bray and play them off the park in a 2-0 win. Willie Doyle on his debut and Robbie Martin score in the last twenty minutes to leave Bray manager Pat Devlin absolutely livid with his team's performance.

26th March – The first home game of the season is a top-of-the-table clash with Athlone, 4-1 winners against Monaghan the previous weekend. That score is almost reversed as UCD lead 4-1 with five minutes to go, but somehow let Athlone in for two late goals and end up hanging on for a victory which puts us top of the table. Willie Doyle – now with three goals for UCD in his first two games – and Robbie Martin notch a brace each, helped in part by some incredible Athlone defending. Indeed, it's just a shame that no-one had a camera at the match as they could have sold the highlights to You've Been Framed! Former Student Niall Donnelly scores on his return to Belfield, while Adrian Murphy nets two late on as UCD ease up to soon. Hopefully, that'll have given us the kicking we deserve and we won't ease up against teams again this season!

2nd April – The kicking doesn't seem to have done much good as Harps beat a lacklustre UCD 1-0 in Ballybofey, with Kevin McHugh scoring the only goal. The result sees UCD drop out of the promotion places on goal difference, but there is much anger at the state of the pitch and the referee's failure to give at least one clear cut penalty. Pat Sullivan, Willie Doyle, Robbie Martin and Rob McAuley all require treatment after Harps adopt an overly physical approach, with the former two being subbed off with their injuries.

4th April – Athlone are docked three points for fielding an unregistered player, putting UCD back into the top three. The points are later reinstated pending an appeal, which proves unsuccessful.

9th April – A much improved performance sees UCD hammer 9-man Galway 4-0. Willie Doyle scores within 30 seconds for the second home match running, but only lasts an hour before coming off with concussion. Robbie Martin, Pat McWalter and Brian Gannon all score quality goals to put the College back on top of the league.

16th April – Another comfortable win against 9-man opposition – this time, Monaghan have two sent off, but we only manage three against them – McWalter getting two and Rob McAuley scoring his first of the season. The 4-0 result could have been repeated but Robbie Mac misses a late penalty. Colm Kearns, another pre-season signing, makes his debut, while Alan Mahon starts his first match in a year and a half at full-back.

23rd April – Alan Cawley is given permission to play for Shels pending his appeal against the E20,000 transfer fee imposed by an Eircom League tribunal.

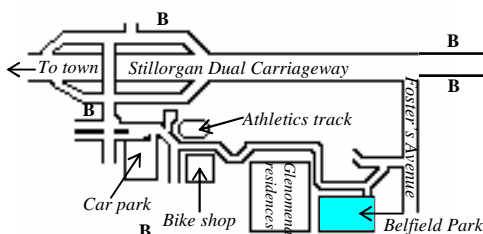
24th April – A poor game and a slightly disappointing result on another appalling pitch as UCD draw 0-0 away to Kildare County, when a win would have seen us go four points clear at the top. Willie Doyle had our best chance after a 35-yard run, but Kildare had chances towards the end too.

26th April – Hugh Davey plays the first half as NI's U-23s hold Serbia and Montenegro to a 0-0 draw.

27th April – Ireland draw 0-0 away to Poland, with Shels' Jason Byrne coming on for his international debut.

30th April – The month ends on a high with a 3-0 win over Limerick – Willie Doyle scores again, Seán Finn scores a sensational 25-yard volley and Pat McWalter notches his fourth goal in four games.

WHERE IS BELFIELD PARK???



Buses to Belfield:

3	10
11	11B
17	46
46A	46B
46C	46D
63	84
B – Bus stop	

STAYING PUT?

From eleven-a-side.com – link [here](#)

Bohemians striker Robbie Doyle has settled his differences with the club and has returned to training, much to the delight of manager Stephen Kenny.

Doyle had handed in a transfer request after failing to force his way into the side even though the league campaign is only in its early stages and he immediately fell out of favour with Kenny.

The former UCD striker was upset that new signing Tony Grant had become first choice partner for Glen Crowe in the Bohs attack and handed his transfer request to the club's board.

Kenny ordered Doyle to train on his own and it looked as if he would be on his way out of the club but he has since apologised for his actions and Kenny is now keen to put the incident behind them.

"Robbie did something that he regrets now. He left me in a situation that I wasn't going to tolerate, regardless of our situation. Ultimately he let not only me down, but also he let his teammates down too. But he has apologised to me now and he has apologised to the rest of the players," Kenny told the club's official website.

Bohs have struggled with their form so far this season with defeat to bottom club Dublin City last weekend being further hampered by the fact that former Gypsies striker Gary O'Neill caused most of the damage for the Vikings.

Doyle will now go straight back into the squad for their eircom league meeting with Cork City at Dalymount Park on Friday night.

PAYING UP?

From eleven-a-side.com – link [here](#)

Alan Cawley, the man at the centre of an eligibility wrangle since the start of the eircom League season, will make an appearance at the High Court next Wednesday morning (April 14th) in a bid to force the league to accept his registration and allow him to play this season.

Shelbourne signed the midfielder from UCD at the end of last season, but he was informed just hours before the season started that he would not be eligible until Shels made a compensation payment to his former club.

That arose due to his age - he is 22 - but Shels have refused to pay the Eur20,000 fee settled upon by an independent transfer tribunal this week, leaving the Dubliner in limbo.

The situation has prompted him to seek legal advice and, according to a statement from his representatives in the PFAI, he has applied to the courts for an injunction to allow him to play, with the cornerstone of his argument believed to be the denial of his trade rights as listed under European Union legislation.

The Cawley case could well be a landmark one in terms of European football on the whole, as it is believed to be the first time that an individual has taken issue with the compensation system for detrimentally affecting his right to work.

WIN MATCH TICKETS

We've improved our match tickets giveaway for the new season – now, in addition to four free match tickets, each winner will also pick up two match programmes and two fanzines. Our winners this month are Kevin Moore, David Mullen and Peter and Jack Dineen,

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FOCUS ON – HUGH DAVEY

Name – Hugh Davey

Date of birth – Newry

Place of birth – 31st March 1984

Position – Left-back or left-wing

Joined UCD – August 2002

Signed from – Blackburn Rovers

UCD debut – A v. Shamrock Rovers, 11th August 2002.

First goal – None yet, though he has scored an own-goal against Waterford!

2004 UCD statistics – Played 7 (ever-present), scored 0

Career UCD statistics (league only) – 43 games, 0 goals.

Did you know? – Hugh was frozen out of the Northern Ireland youth set-up when he joined UCD originally. Then manager Paul Doolin intervened personally, and since playing for the North in the Milk Cup last year, Hugh has gone on to win **Under-21 and Under-23 caps.**



UPCOMING EVENTS

4th May – Back to a still cold Bray for the second time in two months – for the League Cup this time, with UCD hoping for a repeat of the 2-0 opening day win. 7:45 is kick-off time.

8th May – The long trek to Cobh Ramblers, famous for having Roy Keane and playing him as a striker and not a lot else really. By all accounts, the ground hasn't changed much from that famous picture of Keane from the late 80s either!

14th May – Sligo Rovers are the visitors to Belfield Park - the Bit O Red have 100% home and away records this season; hopefully the one of no points and no goals away from home will continue a while longer!

17th May – Premier Division opposition returns to Belfield in the form of Shamrock Rovers in our second League Cup tie – it'll be interesting to see how we acquit ourselves as Pete Mahon continues to build his team. The date is to be confirmed though.

20th May – UCD make the journey up to Dundalk – there's a coach running to this game, priced E15 – e-mail us or ask at the programme shack for more details!

28th May – The first round of matches ends with a home game against traditional whipping boys Kilkenny City, who have tightened up a lot this season. Will it help combat UCD's free-scoring home form?

Don't forget – if you can't go to a UCD game, you can keep in touch with the Students in many ways –

- Aertel page 222
- ThreeText page 267 (on TV3)
- The UCD text service – text UCD to 53131 to receive goal flashes and news; texts cost 30p each. To unsubscribe, text "Unsub UCD" to 53131.
- <http://www.fcst.ie/forums> – the UCD messageboard, which now includes match reports from all our matches this season as most of the rest of the papers don't seem to care!
- RTÉ Medium Wave and Newstalk 106, both of which offer regular eircom League commentary on Fridays.
- www.ucd.ie/~soccer, the official UCD website
- www.ucd.ie/~soccup, the unofficial website.