

# UCD NEWS



## The UCD FC Supporters' Club Newsletter

Issue 18

August 2005

**WELCOME TO THE** eighteenth issue of UCD News. In this issue, we have a profile of another prodigal son, a look back at our biggest triumph and, as always, the Belfield Diary.

July was a reasonably quiet month on the pitch, with no Cup games or midweek games. We were, however, live on telly for only the second time ever with an away tie against Bohemians in Dalymount Park. The day wasn't exactly the best for football – very heavy rain – but we played our part in a very entertaining game and but for some woeful finishing, we could easily have wound up winning 4-1. Indeed, Mick O'Donnell's miss – six yards out only to slice across the ball and send it yards wide – was being mocked by the likes of Paul Byrne and Pat Sullivan in the hospitality area at half-time of the Finn Harps game! So there's probably one player who wasn't exactly thrilled about the game being on telly!

What is a bit annoying, though, is the fact that Bohs get E5,000 for that match, whereas we, who contributed just as much as they did, get absolutely nothing. I suppose we can't really complain at having games being shown live regularly, but this is certainly one rule which needs changing, especially if the Big Four Dublin clubs are going to get all the money!

This week sees the UCD Ladies' team in UEFA Cup action for the third consecutive year – they got their first point last season, and are hopeful of building on that and recording a win this time around. They travel to Croatia to meet opposition from Croatia, Austria and Italy.

In the U-21 league, UCD are still top of the table after an iffy month, though Bray can go top if they win their game in hand, while Pat's can draw level by winning their games in hand. The top two go through to the league quarter-finals. One new signing who has made an immediate impact is Conan Byrne, who made his debut at the start of the month (a 3-0 win over Gards) and is already on 11 goals for the season! His strike rate, in fact, mirrors namesake Paul's from last season, and Paul already has four goals for the first team despite being injured for much of the last two months!

And speaking of namesakes, as Derek Doyle adds to his growing reputation with another goal (v. Kildare, to take his tally for the season to three for the U-21s and one for the seniors), his namesake Willie has re-signed as a busy July ended off the pitch. July, of course, was the month when the transfer window was open in the eL, and UCD have made seven transfers – with Doyle the only player coming in! Kieran Foley has signed for Shamrock Rovers after they lost much of their squad during the month – Foley made eleven appearances since signing at the start of last season. Aidan Lynch has gone on loan to Dublin City, where he scored on his debut. Adrian Murphy has gone on loan to Kildare County, with Pete Mahon noting that Murphy remains in his plans for the future. Paul Whitmarsh has retired citing business commitments – his only goal in five starts came on his debut against Shamrock Rovers in the League Cup. Darren O'Brien – an U-21 player who made six appearances in total this season and last – has left the club, as has Rob McAuley, who has made over 230 appearances. McAuley hasn't featured at all this season as a knee injury has kept him out, and the club agreed to pay up his contract. The very best of luck to all four players leaving on a permanent basis!

## BELFIELD DIARY

**9th July** – After all the chopping and changing, UCD and Waterford play out a dull 0-0 draw in Waterford in front of one of the lowest crowds in the division this season. Paul Whitmarsh comes off early with a cracked knee-cap – the game will turn out to be his last for UCD. The draw for the Women's UEFA Cup sees UCD face Verona of Italy, Neulench of Austria, whom UCD faced last season, and ZNK Maksimir of Croatia, who will host the group. Games take place between the 9th and 13th of August.

**11th July** – UCD's U-21s enjoy their biggest win against rivals Trinity in a long while – 7-0 is the final score, with UCD easing up after going 4-0 up inside the first quarter-hour! Anto Murphy scores twice, John Brophy and Jimmy Hussey get one apiece while Conan Byrne brings his tally to five goals in his first week at the club with a hat-trick.

**15th July** – UCD will face Shels in Tolka in the League Cup semi-final, while holders Longford travel to Derry in the other semi. The games are down for the 8th of August. UCD bounce back from the hammering against Cork to beat St Pat's 1-0 in Tony McDonnell's 250th league game for UCD – Stephen Hurley scores the only goal in front of a crowd containing 30 AC Milan youth team players. Setanta announce that they are to show live coverage of the Bohs-UCD game on the 29th July.

**17th July** – A big (in terms of importance this time, not margin!) win for the U-21s – 1-0 away to traditional title rivals St Pat's. Francis Moran scores the only goal.

**22nd July** – UCD are comprehensively outplayed for the second time in a month, this time going down 3-0 to Derry, for whom former Student Ciarán Martyn scores twice. Tony McDonnell comes off after an hour with a stomach bug which caused him to be sick on the pitch during the first half.

**24th July** – Conan Byrne is on the mark again as UCD's U-21s record a 5-1 win over Mullingar – to be precise, Byrne scores every one of College's goals!

**27th July** – As the transfer window draws to a close, Dublin City sign Aidan Lynch on loan for the season, Shamrock Rovers sign Kieran Foley, UCD re-sign Willie Doyle after his release by Waterford while releasing Rob McAuley, the club's second longest serving player and top scorer in Europe, after failing to recover from an injury which has kept him out of the team all season.

**29th July** – In only UCD's second time ever on live TV (after the Cup Final of 1984), the Students turn in an excellent performance in all areas of the field except in front of goal as Bohs escape from Dalymount with a 1-1 draw. John Paul Kelly puts Bohs ahead only for Robbie Martin to equalise through a dubious penalty. Stephen Hurley hits the post and puts another two good chances wide, Pat McWalter twice goes close, Bohs keeper Matt Gregg twice has to deny man-of-the-match Tony McDonnell while Mick O'Donnell somehow slices wide from six yards.

**30th July** – The U-21s lose their first game of the season – 2-1 at home to Bray, the other team usually in the running for the South Leinster title. Brian Gannon scores one penalty but crucially misses another for UCD.

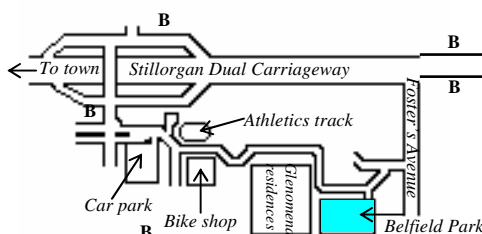
**1st August** – As Shels re-arrange their league games which had been postponed due to the European campaign, the Shels-UCD League Cup semi is moved back two weeks to the 22nd August. Shels will now have a game on both Mondays and both Fridays before the tie, so a reserve team is a strong possibility.

**2nd August** – UCD crash out of the Enda McGuill U-21 Cup at the Second Round stage after losing 1-0 to St Pat's in Richmond Park.

**5th August** – After drawing 1-1 with one of the form teams in the league, UCD follow that up with a 1-1 draw at home to the bottom team, Finn Harps. Robbie Martin scores another penalty to equalise after former Irish youth international Stephen Capper puts Harps ahead with a deflected shot from long range.

**7th August** – UCD end the only unbeaten run in the U-21 league in winning 4-0 in Kildare. Conor Sammon, Derek Doyle, Francis Moran and Conan Byrne score the goals.

## WHERE IS BELFIELD PARK???



### Buses to Belfield:

3	10
11	11B
17	46
46A	46B
46C	46D
63	84
<b>B – Bus stop</b>	

## THE GRADUATES

*A quick look at some of UCD's most famous past players.  
Abridged from Declan Hughes' article in the UCD v.  
Shelbourne match programme, 03/10/03*

A number of famous players – both for footballing and non-footballing reasons – have graced Belfield Park down through the years. Before the 1970s, we were a true college team, and many of the country's brightest minds played for the first team while studying for their future careers. **David Andrews**, later to become Minister for Foreign Affairs, his father, **CS Andrews**, later chairman of CIÉ, and **Brian Lenihan**, who ran for President in 1990, are some of the better known names. Lenihan – who won amateur caps for Ireland – played when we reached the First Round of the FAI Cup in 1955, going out to Sligo Rovers in a replay. Current Shels chairman **Ollie Byrne** also played, though we tend to keep that a bit quieter!

In 1959, the Republic of Ireland played South Africa in a B international – playing at centre-back that day was **Willie Browne**, to this day the player to have been represented at the highest level for Ireland while at UCD. He went on to win four senior caps for Ireland.

In the 1970s, we were still an amateur team, and players playing two sports wasn't uncommon. **Kevin Moran** famously won the Sam Maguire for Dublin in 1974, but the same year, he was lining out for UCD, winning Collingwood Cup medals. He played for the UCD graduate team, Pegasus, in the 1977 FAI Cup, and his performance caught the attention of Manchester United. The rest, of course, is history!

Another dual-sporter was **Hugo MacNeill**, who scored 46 goals for UCD in our last season as a non-league side. He graduated that year and so couldn't play for us in the league – he went to do a post-grad in Trinity!! – but made a name for himself five years later, helping Ireland to the Triple Crown, while he also went to the 1987 Rugby World Cup in New Zealand.

Drury Sports Management – the agency company who came up with, among other things, the idea of ads on hurleys a couple of years back – employs a number of former UCD players. Éamon McLoughlin is one, but head man **Fintan Drury** is another – he scored our first ever league goal against Home Farm in 1979. In media circles, Sky Sports presenter **Paul Denspey** played for us in the 1983/84 season before taking up a job with the BBC.

**Dave Norman** joined UCD for three summers in the early '80s as his club manager at Vancouver Whitecaps – one Johnny Giles – recommended a spell in the League of Ireland to keep his fitness up in the Canadian pre-season. In 1986, Norman was in Mexico representing his country in their only World Cup finals appearance.

In 1984, we won the FAI Cup, with the club taking a chance on splashing out on big names to win success. It worked – though we later nearly went broke – with the biggest name being **Peter Lorimer**, Leeds United's record scorer and now their chairman. Lorimer played just three games before returning cross channel to play for Aston Villa. **Paddy Dunning**, a former Irish international, was in centre-defence that year.

A number of players have left UCD to go to England – **Joe Hanrahan** (Manchester United), **Clive Delaney** (West Ham), **Shay Kelly** (Cardiff) **Ken O'Doherty** (Huddersfield and Crystal Palace) and **Tony McCarthy** (Crewe, Colchester and Millwall, playing alongside Tony Cascarino and Teddy Sheringham at the latter) among others. Others have U-21 international appearances – **Mick O'Byrne**, **Ciarán Martyn**, **Robbie Doyle**, **Hugh Davey**, while Shay Kelly has a B cap from his time at Belfield.

There've been fewer famous players in recent years – partly because many of our recent players haven't had the chance yet to make themselves famous! – but when Dublin last won the All-Ireland, they did so with another UCD player – **Jason Sherlock** helping them to the title in 1995 at the same time as his goals propelled UCD to the First Division title, Leinster Senior Cup and First Division Shield in our centenary year! He's been a regular ever since – even giving up soccer to concentrate on the GAA – and was for a while joined in the squad by another UCD player, Eóin Bennis.

*To unsubscribe from the UCD Supporters' Club, simply send us an e-mail at [ucdafc@yahoo.ie](mailto:ucdafc@yahoo.ie)*

## FOCUS ON – WILLIE DOYLE

**Name** – Willie Doyle

**Date of birth** – 05/11/85

**Place of birth** – Wexford

**Position** – Striker

**Joined UCD** – January 2004 and July 2005

**Signed from** – Bohemians in 2004; Waterford in 2005

**UCD debut** – v. Bray Wanderers (A), 19/03/04; won 2-0

**First goal** – v. Bray Wanderers (A), 19/03/04; won 2-0

**2005 UCD statistics** – Played 1 (1 league)

**UCD career statistics** – Played 32 (25 league)

**Did you know?** – Willie holds the record for the most league goals in a season for UCD – 15 last season. He broke the record by July – after just 18 games – but immediately got injured for four weeks and didn't score again all season! He joined Waterford United in November, but only scored twice before being released because of United's financial problems.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**12<sup>th</sup> August** – Home to Longford Town, who recently crashed out of the UEFA Cup after a 5-1 away defeat to Carmarthen Town. The hope is that we'll take the lead at some stage (duh!) so we can sing "Carmarthen, It's just like watching Carmarthen!". John Martin is set for a first return to Belfield Park since leaving in 2003.

**19<sup>th</sup> August** – Away to Shamrock Rovers in Dalymount Park. Setanta's TV cameras seem to be stuck in Dalryer, so don't be too surprised to see this game live on telly!

**22<sup>nd</sup> August** – Away to Shels in the League Cup semi-final. The winners will face either Longford or Derry on the 19<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> of September.

**27<sup>th</sup> August** – Away to Longford Town, who recently crashed out of the UEFA Cup after a 5-1 away defeat to Carmarthen Town, in the FAI Cup Third Round. The hope is that we'll take the lead at some stage (duh!) so we can sing "Carmarthen, It's just like watching Carmarthen!".

**2<sup>nd</sup> September** – The start of the third series of games and the home run in the league – away to reigning champions Shels, who have yet to beat us this season. Though, then again, we've also yet to beat them too...!

*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
- 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.Post.ie/forum> – the UCD messageboard, which will continue to provide match reports all season – drop by and have your say!
- RTÉ Medium Wave and Newstalk 106, both of which offer regular eircom League commentary on Fridays.
- [www.UCDsoccer.com](http://www.UCDsoccer.com), the new official UCD website
- [www.Eleven-a-side.com/ucd](http://www.Eleven-a-side.com/ucd) - A handy site for UCD news and match previews.
- The long-talked about new Supporters' Club website is also under design and we hope to have it launched in the next couple of weeks weeks. Really!