



DENIS HURLEY

YOUTHS SOCCER

Cork City 3
College Corinthians 0

A BETTER ability to take their chances helped Cork City into the fourth round of the FAI Umbro Youths Cup fourth round at Bish- opstown on Tuesday afternoon.

While the scoreline may point to a game that was one-way traffic, it was more even than that, though it would be hard to deny that Paul Bowdren's side were the better team.

Nobody in a green shirt played badly, with central defensive partnership Ian McConville and Craig Burns nigh-on impenetrable at times while wide men Cian O'Connor and Alan O'Driscoll helped to engineer a number of chances.

In attack, and later midfield, Eoin McGreevey was full of energy, getting a goal for his efforts, and midfielder Jason Higgins was also rewarded for his industry late on when he found the net for City's third.

City goalkeeper Gary Farrell was very solid throughout, dealing with anything that Corinthians threw at him, but while his opposite number Cian Hammond was beaten on three occasions, he made numerous good saves to keep his side in it and ensure that the result was not too lopsided.

Others to shine for the Castletreasure side were James Furlong in defence, midfielder David O'Donovan and Canice Caffrey, while subs Ian Long and Darragh O'Sullivan did their best to effect a turnaround in the second half.

Early on, the exchanges were even, both sides doing their best to play good football on what was an excellent surface for the time of year, a testament to the good work of City groundsman Jerry Kelly, and while Luke Connolly was looking dangerous for Corinthians, real chances for either side were not presenting themselves.

In fact, it took until just before the 20th minute before a goalkeeper was tested, Hammond tipping over Brendan Cullen's flashed effort from the corner of the area, though this chance seemed to usher in a period of dominance for the home side.

A minute later, Corinthians defender Cian McWhinney made a good block to deny City's O'Driscoll, and while at the other end O'Donovan was desperately unlucky not to meet Jordan Philpott's corner when sliding in, a City goal looked likelier.

It came just after the half-hour, Burns rising

Clinical City ease past Corinthians



Jason Higgins (right) was rewarded for his industry late on when he found the net for City's third goal against College Corinthians.

well to meet an O'Driscoll corner after Hammond couldn't claim the ball in the air. A second almost followed immediately after, but Hammond first kept out Ian Lordan's free-kick before denying McGreevey's follow-up.

Six minutes before half-time, City almost

contrived to gift their visitors a goal, though, as Farrell, Lordan and Burns played an impromptu game of pinball in their own area under pressure from Connolly and Ian James.

That danger was averted, however, and on 41 the lead was doubled, O'Connor producing

an inch-perfect cross that allowed McGreevey a free header from close range.

Though Corinthians had the last chance of the half, Farrell saving James's low 20-yard shot, City retained the two-goal lead until the interval. With the rain getting heavier, the visitors attempted to turn things around by re-jigging their side slightly, introducing Long and Alan Murphy as well as moving Connolly up front.

While they did enjoy plenty of possession in the opening period of the second half, they were still being frustrated in their efforts to carve out clear-cut opportunities. Instead, City were going close from corners, captain Ben Twomey having a half-volley cleared off the line by Long while Hammond had to save well from Cullen on the hour after a good O'Driscoll cross.

The tempo had dropped by this stage, though Connolly aimed to lift it again with a good run into City territory, however his intended pass for the impressive Caffrey was cut out by Twomey.

At the other end, City sub Ciarán McCarthy was denied a goal with his first touch by Hammond after a lovely weighted ball from McGreevey. While that would have made it 3-0, a minute later Corinthians could have made it an interesting last 10 minutes only for Farrell to deny Parkes.

The chances continued to come at both ends, Corinthians' Caffrey coming closest when he hit the post after a lovely flowing move which travelled the length of the pitch, but City's Higgins had the final say, scoring a good individual goal after Hammond had again denied McCarthy.

The third goal capped a fine win, with City now progressing to the fourth round, where they await the winners of Avondale United and Glounthaune United, whose game scheduled for Monday was postponed.

CORK CITY: Gary Farrell; David Philpott, Ian McConville, Craig Burns, Ian Lordan; Cian O'Connor, Jason Higgins, Ben Twomey, Alan O'Driscoll; Brendan Cullen, Eoin McGreevey. **Subs:** Des Mallon for Cullen (64), Ciarán McCarthy for Twomey (75), Colin Harte for O'Driscoll (85).

COLLEGE CORINTHIANS: Cian Hammond; Kevin O'Connor, James Furlong, Cian McWhinney, Canice Caffrey; Luke Connolly, Niall Harte, David O'Donovan, Jordan Philpott; Mark Parkes, Ian James. **Subs:** Alan Murphy for James (h-t), Ian Long for O'Connor (48), Darragh O'Sullivan for Harte (72).

Referee: Denis O'Driscoll.

Fishhooks and herringbones: the life of a GAA footballer

THE GAA goes into hibernation in December. The odd intercounty team might indulge in the scandalous practice of surreptitious early-winter training, but the association has its spies everywhere and such indecent behaviour can easily be thwarted.

The GAA fan must also get his fix elsewhere, usually in the form of a Christmas present wrapped in the shape of a book.

This week, we have also been treated to that rare enough animal, the contemporary GAA documentary.

TV tends to stick with nostalgia when it goes down the documentary route. We are probably soon due another unnecessary gaze back on the feats of Ring and the Kerry-Dubs rivalry from the 70s and 80s.

Insightful documentaries on stars of our own day are less likely to be aired.



Robert O'Shea

THE LONGSHOT

TV3 kicked off the recent run with *Rebel Yell*, an account of Cork's successful football year and somehow contrived to make the ending of the 20-year famine seem humdrum.

RTE's review of the football season on Christmas Day, on the other hand, conveyed what an exciting season it actually was. Down's rejuvenation, Dublin's topsy-turviness, Kildare's bad luck, Louth's robbery, Kerry departing with a whimper and Joe Kernan's disastrous time in Galway were just some

of the subjects that could have had a whole programme devoted to themselves.

The following day TG4 profiled the most successful footballer of the modern era, Darragh Ó Sé. It was standard enough, a good round-up of his career, but didn't offer anything new. And then there was your man last night. Cork's favourite pantomime villain appeared in *Galvinised - A Year in the Life of Paul Galvin* on RTE One.

The definition of 'galvinised' in the dictionary is "to shock with an electric current".

The definition of 'galvinised' is now "to shock with red GAA socks worn over incredibly tight jeans while taking Corn Uí Mhuirí training".

Last year the actor Joaquin Phoenix left Casey Affleck follow him around with a camera for a year to chart his increas-

ingly strange behaviour. It turned out to be a mockumentary and during much of last night's show, as Paul squeezed himself into ever tighter trousers, you couldn't help feeling the same thing was happening here.

I watched the show with a German who doesn't know who Paul Galvin is and has never seen a Gaelic football game. He thought we were watching a comedy.

Here we have Paul giving out about unwanted media scrutiny of his private life. Telling this to the documentary team he has invited to follow him around.

The only grating thing was that Galvin says "like" and "you know" more often than Sonia O'Sullivan and Roy Keane combined. But if you don't have the talk, at least have the walk, and Galvin's waddle is easily the funniest seen since John Cleese's day.

Although it neglected to search for where Galvin's inner drive for sporting success came from, it was RTE's funniest documentary since January's account of Charlie Bird's stint in the US. Perhaps we could give the two of them their own show.

We probably won't appreciate Galvin until he is gone. And his influence will be wide-ranging; just wait for the day when all GAA jerseys have necklines that plunge to the nipples.

Recommendation: Feeling quite smug about yesterday's prediction that Blackpool would win away to Sunderland at 11-2, Longshot will go more long-term today. A treble on Kerry to win the League and Kilkenny to win the League and All-Ireland double gives you 19-1 with Paddy Power.

Add in Tyrone for Sam and you have a 153-1 four-timer.