



St. Mary's Football Club

Match Report

"St Mary's make hard work of victory!"

St Marys 6-3 Bangor

After 2 hard fought wins against Aquinas and Ardoyne in the previous 2 weeks St Marys went into their game against Bangor knowing they were more than capable of another win over Bangor after defeating the same opponent 7-2 on the first day of the season. St Marys started the game as they started the previous week at a high tempo and some nice passing moves. It took St Marys less than 10 to have the first clear chance of the game went a well worked move sent Gareth Morgan through one on one with the Bangor keeper only to fire into the side netting. Full backs Adam Turner and Seamus Girvan were joining the St Marys attacks as Bangor found it hard to get out of their own half! Another well worked move in midfield saw Rory McAllister take the ball around the keeper only to scuff his shot and the Bangor defender was able to clear the attempt of the line! It was only a matter of time before the deadlock was broke, when left back Seamus Girvan made an attacking run from a St Marys throw in and was able to calmly finish at the near post.

St Marys regained the ball straight from the restart and this time Rory McAllister redeemed himself, again he rounded the keeper and this time was able to coolly finish. At 2-0 up with 15 minutes gone St Marys knew they could finish the game in the first half and they continued to attack in numbers and were rewarded with a third shortly after the 20 minutes mark when Gareth Morgan was able to slot home after a well worked move involving left winger Conor birch and striking partner McAllister. Morgan then got his second of the game went a wonderful moved created from a rare Bangor attack saw St Marys turn defence into attack, with the move starting with Turner at right back and finished at the other end by Morgan. The game was all but over at 4-0 but St Marys kept pushing and McAllister made it 5 with a neat finish after another nice passing move involving Murdock Gorman and Birch.

St Marys replaced the untested goalkeeper Brendan Morgan with Sean Mahon at half time. Bangor made the brighter start to the second half but St Marys soon upped the pace of the game with Dylan Le Mahieu and Conor Birch linking well with Morgan and McAllister in attack to drive at the Bangor defence. Gorman and Murdock were having a quiet day in comparison to recent weeks but still were able to pull the strings in the middle of the park. Niall Magee was then introduced after his suspension replacing Conor Birch.

St. Marys soon made it 6-0 with McAllister teeing up Girvan for his second of the game. At 6-0 up the management and support from the side line were delighted by the performance that was on show but this was soon to change as St Marys began to take it easy and let Bangor back in the game. Bangor got 1 back when they caught St Marys on the counter attack and finished well. James Kelly

was introduced in place of Dylan Le Mahieu and took his position at right back with Turner moving into right midfield. St Marys forgot how to defend for the rest of game and Bangor looked the more likely to score. St Marys did create a good chance when Jordan "JCB" Burke made a driving run from centre back only to be stopped with a great tackle from the Bangor defence. Bangor then scored their second of the game when the forward found himself in space and coolly slotted pass Mahon. With 5 minutes to go it looked as if Bangor were leading 6-2 as they were the team pressing for more goals and putting pressure on Eoin O'Hare and Jordan Burke at the heart of the St Marys defence. With a few moments of the game remaining Bangor got their 3rd goal with a nice strike sailing into the corner. The referee brought the game to a close soon after with St Marys making hard work of a 6-3 win.

Manager Steven Turner told the boys after the game that lessons should be learnt from the game as St Marys stopped playing at 6-0 up but also to remember that it was another 3 points on the board and hopefully 3 points closer to winning the league title.

Man of the Match: Rory McAllister