

## ● SOCCER

# Coláiste Feirste win their first-ever soccer trophy

U12 Plate

Coláiste Feirste 3  
St Joseph's 0

BY OISÍN MAC CRÁBHAGÁIN

Wednesday 30th April 2014 is a day that will be etched in Coláiste Feirste's sporting history. The Year 8 squad became the first-ever soccer team from the school to attain silverware.

They faced a tough challenge against St Joseph's in the U12 Vauxhall Plate final. They began the match in brilliant form.

Shea Ó Maicín seemed to be everywhere on the pitch and was involved in breaking up play which prevented St Joseph's making any real attempt to breach the cohesive back line, which was made up of Fionntan Ó Tuathaláin, Micheal Bléine, Gearóid Mac Thiarnáin, Niall Ó Broin and Lewis Ó Tresaigh.

They got off to a brilliant start when after about 10 minutes of play Cóilín Opong opened the scoring with a fantastic solo run and finish resulting in the first goal of the match.



Team captain Niall Ó Broin with the U12 Vauxhall Plate



The history-making Coláiste Feirste Year 8 squad with their coaches before their U12 Plate final victory over St Joseph's

Coláiste Feirste received words of encouragement from assistant coach Caoimhín Groves, a past pupil who played in the first-ever soccer team with the school nearly ten years ago.

His advice came with a blistering start to the second half. Another Cóilín Opong goal made the lead a little more comfortable and the first final win was now tangible.

A clever switch from manager Cathal Mac Seáin saw captain Niall Ó Broin moved up into midfield position, resulting in a majestic run from him and culminating in a great save from the St Joseph's goalkeeper but Micheal

Ó Bradaigh was on hand to tap in at close range from the rebound.

Na Feirstigh held their nerve towards the end to see out a magnificent victory for the team. Final score: 3-0.

A mention has to be made to the fans who showed up in force in Ballymena and sang as Gaelge throughout the game, with the chairperson of the Cup commenting that 'an Irish League team would pay to have that level of support.'

The end of the game saw a jubilant mass pitch invasion from the ebullient fans.

We would like to once again thank Fáilte Restaurant for the generous donation towards our new kit.

Man of the match  
Coilín Opong  
(right) and (below)  
jubilant scenes at  
the final whistle



## ● GOLF



## deterMND effort from Colin Valley golfers

Pictured above is Joe Finnegan accepting a cheque for £500 from Joe McCartney of Colin Valley Golf Club, following a recent charity Night at the Races in aid of raising funds towards deterMND. deterMND has been established on behalf of Anto Finnegan, the former Antrim Gaelic football captain, after being diagnosed with Motor Neurone Disease (MND)

