GALWAY SOCCER WRAP UP

## Knocknacarra upset odds in high-scoring Cup clash

Gallagher's brace is not enough to rescue Renmore against Athenry

## MIKE RAFFERTY

THE second round of the FAI Junior Cup dominated the weekend action and while there was no clashes of big name teams, the wins of Knocknacarra and West Coast United over Premier Division opposition was certainly remarkable, while Colga certainly left their mark in Tuam with a six goal drubbing of Dynamo Blues.

Although 4-1 up at one stage, Knocknacarra recovered from conceding three in succession to level matters at 4-4 with Loughrea, before two late goals by the city side saw them see off the home side on Sunday after-

Knocknacarra also enjoyed a 2-1 interval advantage as Cathal Mac Donnacha (two), Adam Nolan (two), Conor Creane and Davey Knight all found the range Bruno Henrique (two), Gavin Shaughnessy and Anthony Burns took the scoring honours for the home side, while Shaughnessy also had a late penalty saved by Knockgoalkeeper Josh пасагга Gaynor.

Shane Lydon got a late winner for West Coast United as they saw off Corrib Celtic by 2-1 in Letterfrack. With the game looking like it was heading for extra time, Lydon got on the end of a Sean Mullen knockdown to despatch the Annaghadown visitors. The home side had taken an early lead as Theo Joyce finished the good work of Noel Varley and Lydon as they enjoyed a 1-0 advantage at the break.

However, the resumption was a different story as Corrib Celtic piled on the pressure and



Renmore's Keith Fitzgerald is taken down by Stephen Cunningham of Athenry FC during the clubs' FAI Junior Cup clash in Renmore last Saturday, EIREFOTO.

while Ryan Forde did level matters, the excellence of home custodian Matthew McCarthy kept the game alive as he made a string of fine saves.

Josh Lydon and Robert Gannon also played their part in an outstanding defence, while the likes of Mullen, Joyce and Eoin Mahon were also functioning impressivly in midfield. The late Lydon winner clinched the outcome in what can only be described as an upset.

After losing a two goal advantage, Athenry required a crack-

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ing winner from the game's outstanding performer Cathal Fahy as they just sneaked past Renmore by 3-2 on Saturday afternoon. The striker also got the visitors opener as they led by one at the break, before he also set up Adam Kelleher to head home the second.

Young Cian Gallagher is an way by 4-3. impressive performer for Renmore and aided by a converted penalty after he was fouled himself and a stunning free kick from outside the box, the sides were now level at 2-2. Fahy, however, had the final say with his wonderous winner gave Athenry a 3-2 win and a place in round three.

On a day of celebration for the home side when they officially opened their new pitch and were also presented with their FAI Club of the Year award by Noel Mooney, Colemanstown United came from behind on two occasions, before substitute Dylan Grady struck an extra time winner as the home side saw off NUI Gal-

The visitors led by 2-1 at the break as David Tierney converted two frees kicks, before stretching their advantage on the resumption, as he completed his hat trick. However, it was the home side who gained inspiration at that stage as the goals of Tomas Flannery, Damien Wynne and Geordan Kenny sent the game to added time where Grady proved to be the match winner.

Goals in each half by Jason Finn and Paddy Mullins gave St Bernard's a 2-0 away win over Mervue United B, while Mervue United A were always in command in a 6-1 home win under lights against Moyne Villa. Barry Moran scored four, while Enda Curran added a brace for the home side. Adam Quirke got the visitors lone reply from the penalty spot.

Meanwhile, in the much anticipated derby meeting, courtesy of goals by Brendan Tully (two), O'Dowd (pen), Hickey, McDonagh and Black, Maree-Oranmore A saw off the club's B side by 6-2, with Thornton and Murphy on the mark for the losers.

It was a bad day for the two Tuam sides as both were given a bit of a hammering. Dynamo Blues were six down at the break before eventually losing by 9-3 against Colga. Neil Greaney and Boris Ajang both struck hat tricks for the visitors, with Cian Greaney (two) and Dan O'Connor also on the mark, with Christian Ryan (pen), Fiadh McHugh and Ryan Keane responding for the home side.

The concession of a penalty just before the break and the sending off of a player for some verbals was the downfall for Tuam Celtic as West United emerged comfortable 8-1 winners at South Park.

Ronan Caldwell notched a hat trick for Rodney Grant's charges, while Eoin Whelan, Chris Duffy, Mixer Devanney, Barry McEntee and Alan Conneely also added to the tally of the home side. Colin Quinn got a lone late reply for the visitors.

However, there was little joy for Corrib Rangers as they made the journey out to Craughwell, only to get a walkover as the home side could not field a full compliment of players, while East United conceded their game to Salthill Devon.

## Airtricity Leagues

Just two Galway United Academy sides were in action over the weekend and it was the U17 team who made the greatest impression with a 3-2 away win over Cork City. Liam Melody (two) and Filip Mostowy got the goals for Gary O'Connor's side.

The U19 side shared the spoils in a 3-3 draw with Cork City as Francley Lomboto, Josh Keane Quinlivan and Harry Rogers (pen) all found the net for the home side at Castle Park.



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Seller's prize: Mike Glynn. Next Draw: Friday night, 4th October Venue: The Medin Bar Next Jackpot €6,500

