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City Tribune

Galway sides continue to shine on provincial scene



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Soccer Wrap-Up with Mike Rafferty

With the Connacht Junior Cup down to the last 16 stage following the weekend action, the Galway representation is strong as eight clubs remain with the potential of another as a number of outstanding ties still have to be played.

The likes of Salthill Devon, West United and University of Galway present a serious challenge, while Athenry, Cois Fharráige and two teams from Colga have all advanced to the fifth round. The game between Corrib Celtic and Mervue United was postponed due to a frozen pitch on Sunday morning and is rescheduled for this weekend, while Renmore will meet Sligo side Strand Celtic in two weeks' time.

The local league is also providing half the remaining teams in the Connacht Shield as Salthill Devon B, Knocknacarra, Maree/Oranmore B and Athenry B all advanced in different shades of comfort to the last eight.

CONNACHT JUNIOR CUP

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West United have not enjoyed the best of good fortune this season and with such poor league form behind them, an away Connacht Cup tie in Roscommon seemed daunting. However, two opening half goals set them on the path to a 2-1 win over CP Ajax and in the process a place in the Last 16.

A Denis Lydon header gave them an early advantage before Shane Maughan launched a long-range effort into the net to put them two up at the break, with a Paul Mee free-kick pulling a goal back for the home side.

Visiting goalkeeper Colm Power played his part with a penalty save to maintain their advantage and no doubt the city side will get a confidence boost with the win here.

Salthill Devon were not at full strength for their 4th Round tie with Sligo/Leitrim Super League champions Carbury in Drom, and they almost paid the price before eventually edging a competitive contest on a 3-2 scoreline.

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