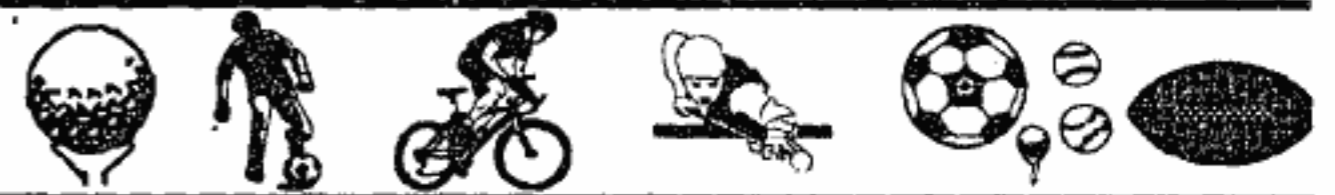


SENTINEL SPORT



City clubs advance in Connacht Junior Cup

THE Connacht Junior Cup took centre stage over the weekend and Renmore, Salthill Devon and Hibernians all advanced to the last eight of the competition.

At Schoolboy level a trio of magnificent results saw city sides Mervue United, Newcastle United and Salthill Devon still involved in the latter stages of three national competitions.

In the Foley & Mullery Connacht Senior League NUI Galway were the only Galway side playing and they improved their league position with a comfortable success over Ballina Town.

Meanwhile the AIB Connacht Senior Cup draw has thrown up a first round meeting of Mervue United and Galway United and these sides face one another next Saturday.

Salthill Devon1
Bohemians1
(Devon won 4-3 on Pens)

Devon goalkeeper Noel Holland and First Division side Bohs have been out of the limelight in recent months, but both showed they could rise to the challenge when the occasion arose.

Holland, out for five months since suffering a shoulder injury against Hibernians in the FAI Junior Cup, marked his return on Sunday with three flying saves in the shoot-out that helped Devon advance.

Meanwhile Bohs were returning to the ground on which they were relegated last May, but they showed that they can still match the Premier sides with a solid performance.

Little separated the sides throughout the contest, but an understrength Salthill side were certainly stretched at different periods of both halves by a Bohs outfit which revelled through the ability and workrate of striker Garry Bohan.

A scoreless opening half

which saw Devons central defender John Kilrairie emerge as the shining light gave an indication of where the attack was focused.

However, it was the home side who snatched the lead on 69 minutes. Paul Hynes effort was tipped on to the crossbar by Lee Maher and Ronan Gilligan was first to the rebound to tap home.

Bohs responded with an equaliser seven minutes from time. Liam Keane provided the delivery from the left and Des Joyce's effort was swept home off the underside of the crossbar.

It was also Joyce who came closest to securing a winner in extra-time, before penalties decided the issue.

In the shoot-out Bohs Lee Maher showed he was no slouch in shoot-outs when he made the first of his two saves by denying Martin O'Loughlin. However, Joe Tracey, John Clarke and Hughie O'Loughlin all converted theirs for Devon, with Mark Folen, Gerry Bohan and Tommy Murray doing likewise for Bohs during the relegation five kicks.

In sudden death Ronan Gilligan made it 4-3 and Holland showed he had lost none of his ability during his long lay-off as his third save of the day put Devon through to a last eight home confrontation with Cliffoey Celtic next Sunday.

Manulla1
Hibernians2

"A work-man-like performance, which showed

plenty of character particularly after last week's shoot-out defeat in the FAI Junior Cup" was how coach Joe Reilly described Hibs extra-time win in Mayo on Sunday.

Hibs started without the injured Nigel Keady, Kenny Talbot and Dermot McSweeney who was a steading influence when brought on late in the game, while they were replaced by Michael Harty, Johnny Walsh and Tommy Ward. It was Manulla who got the only breakthrough in the opening half when Clarke scored six minutes from the interval.

Hibs levelled matters after 77 minutes when a quick free-kick gave Walsh possession and he blasted home the equaliser. The dismissal of Dave Samuels reduced Hibs options, but the introduction of David Burke for the injured Tommy Ward also gave them a fresh injection.

Burke then produced the most telling contribution of the day when in the opening minutes of extra-time his far post finish was a fitting finale to some excellent Alan Shaughnessy creativity.

Hibs also left Manulla in awe of the superb facilities available. The surface was as good as Terryland and the general surroundings was akin to a mini-stadium. They now face a home tie against Calry Bohs next Sunday with a semi-final place at stake.

Renmore3
Moyleough1

Renmore's customary flutter with danger certainly lasted for a spell in this Connacht Cup tie on Sunday afternoon.

After having taken a first half lead through Ronnie McGowan, they let the lead slip when Dermot Donnellon got the better of Martin Greaney in a one on one situation to level matters.

However once the urgency was restored and Eoin Keane set up Benny Fahy for the second, there was no turning back. Ciaran Conneely tucked away the third from the spot after a handball in the area and only a series of super saves by Moyleough keeper Mark Dempsey kept the scoreline intact there after.

Renmore who introduced 17 year old Derek Talbot in the closing stages saw opportunities from Mike Keating, Eoin Keane, Benny Fahy and Willie Carr all go abegging in the closing stages. A reward for victory is a home tie against holders Strand Celtic in the last eight.



Attending the Connacht Rugby Referees annual dinner in the Corinthians Club were, Joe Tighe, Harr O'Connor, Bert Gillard and Stuart Ellis.

PREMIER LEAGUE

Moyne Villa3
Mervue United2

A late Noel Mullan winner was enough to give the home side the points at Headford and more importantly a comfortable mid-table position in the Western Hygiene Supplies Premier League.

In a well contested encounter Villa took the lead twice only to be pegged back on both occasions. From Ger Lee's delivery Jason Sullivan fired Moyne Villa in front, but from the penalty spot Gary O'Connor left matters tied at 1-1 by the break.

Villa went ahead from a similar set piece after the restart. Conor Mortimer was fouled by Mike Cooke and the young Mayo man got up to make it 2-1 from the spot. Ten minutes from time Anthony Quinn powered a far post header past Dave O'Connell to tie it up once more.

The winner four minutes from time saw the previous goalscorers Sullivan and Mortimer involved in the build up as Mullan completed the task from close range.

FIRST DIVISION

Mervue United B4
McDara3

Junior footballs highest scorers hit four for the second week in succession as they moved into contention amongst many others for promotion to the Premier League.

Only three goals by a committed McDara side in the closing stages made this result look a competitive contest as the home side led 4-0 at one stage.

Davy Honan set up Trevor Horan to head the opener, while Honan got on the end of a Keith O'Gorman delivery to notch the second. A cheeky lob from Timmy Madden presented Mervue with the third, while Honan was again the provider as John Fahy headed home the fourth.

Corofin United0
O.L.B.C.1

Tony Ward set up Billy Mannion for the matchwinner

here as Boys Clubs fourth win of the season moved them a little way from a rather congested relegation area.

With Na Forbacha already doomed, one from West Coast United, McDara, Corofin or Boys Club look likely to join them in Division 2A next season.

DIVISION 2A

Two first half goals from Conor O'Grady and Michael Noone gave Athenry a winning lead away to St. Bernards before it finished 2-1 in favour of a side that have just moved into joint second place behind clear leaders Colga.

For Bank of Ireland and Oranbay a share of the spoils did little for either side's promotion hopes. After a scoreless opening half Sean Holland put Oranbay in front, but sustained pressure from the Banks in the closing stages was rewarded when Mike McMahon headed the equaliser following a Dave Hickey corner.

DIVISION 2B

Remarkably seven teams still remain in contention for promotion from Division 2B. Leaders Craughwell aided by goals from Mike Rabbitte and a Damien Gilligan hat-trick were 4-1 winners over Gort and remain four points clear of their closest rivals.

Mallinckrodt - 3-1 winners over Tuam Celtic and Thermo King 2-1 victors over

Knocknacarra lie joint second while a Leo Greaney goal gave St. Pats a 1-0 win over Dynamic Blues. Kinvara defeated Renmore B by 4-3.

CONNACHT SENIOR LEAGUE

N.U.I. Galway4
Ballina Town1

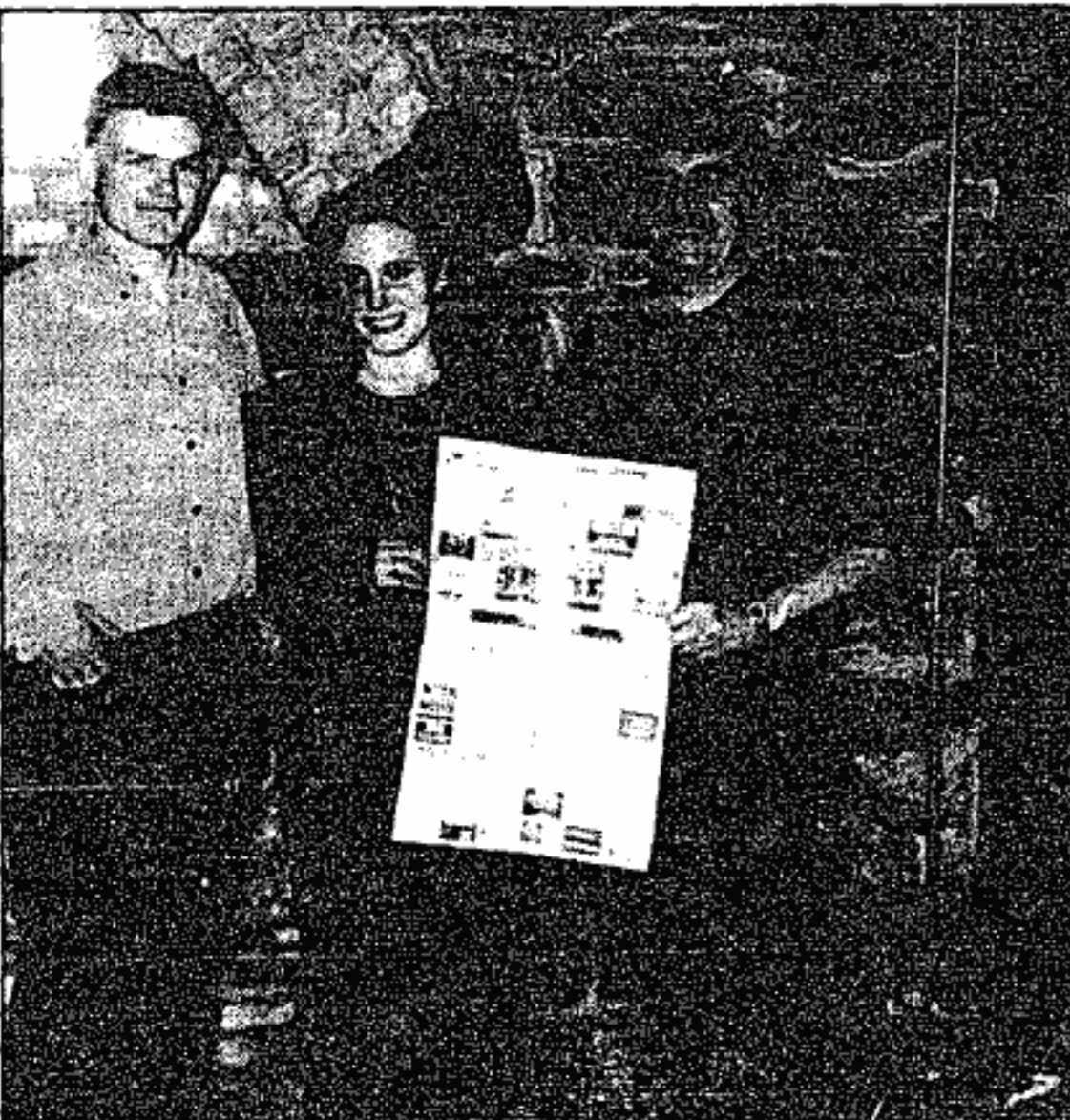
Goals have been rather scarce in the Foley & Mullery Connacht Senior League for the students in recent times but in Dangan on Sunday a three goal interval lead put them on course for an easy win.

Gordon McCann set up Alan O'Donnell for a close range opener, while O'Donnell turned provider as Brendan Meehan notched the second. O'Donnell was again deadly in the six yard box to make it 3-0 before substitute Alan O'Boyle got involved in proceedings.

When his goalbound effort was kept out by the hands of a defender, O'Boyle became the second player in successive weeks to fail from the spot when his effort was saved. He did, however, atone for his error when he slotted home the fourth after been set up by Declan Cassidy.

While plenty of chances continued to go abegging Ballina struck back a the other end when a speculative long range effort from Thomas O'Connor flew past keeper Philip King.

In the only other game played Castlebar Celtic defeated Sligo Rovers 2-1.



Attending the launch of the Oranbay '90 FC Millennium calendar were: Brian Kenny, Oranbay '90, Marie McGrath Quinn of the Old Brewery, and Liam Higgins of the Old Brewery, team sponsor.

Galway Hibernians

Lotto

Sponsored by Buckley's Builders Providers

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2.Match 3 - £50 each: Mike Kelly c/o Hibs; Tommy Corcoran c/o S. Lawless.

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