

SPORT

GAA CONNACHT SENIOR FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL

Tierney goes to town as Galway retain Nestor Cup

• First half goals pave way for win over Sligo

Galway	2-20
Sligo	0-12

By Billy Coss
At MacHale Park

BACK-TO-BACK Connacht titles for the first time in two decades and progress to the All-Ireland series as a number one seed were the tangible takeaways from Galway's comfortable 14-point victory over Sligo on Sunday afternoon.

History has shown that even the biggest of underdogs can bite and bite hard on provincial final day, but that prospect never gained any serious traction as the Tribesmen underlined the gulf that currently exists between All-Ireland contenders and the rest.

Matthew Tierney's man of the match performance lit up the day and his pair of first half goals sucked the life out of the first of the year's provincial deciders in front of a somewhat disappointing attendance of 11,867 at MacHale Park.

Tierney's haul of 2-7, 2-5 from open play, was the centrepiece of another accomplished display and it was a measure of Galway's overall dominance that an under-the-weather Shane Walsh, Robert Finnerty and Cillian McDaid



GOAL! Matthew Tierney scores his and Galway's second goal in Sunday afternoon's Connacht Senior Football Championship final win over Sligo at MacHale Park, Castlebar.

PHOTOS: RAY RYAN

could all be withdrawn by the three-quarter mark.

Despite a bright opening from Sligo that included scores from Pat Spillane, Seán Carrabine and Niall Murphy, Galway exerted control and their goals crystallised the difference between Division 1 and Division 4 standard - even



DAMIEN COMER pressurises Sligo 'keeper Daniel Lyons.



YOUNG Galway supporters get behind their team.