

Gilbert's double helps Magpies to big win in opening home game

Hockey

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Harleston Magpies opened their Premier A home campaign in impressive style with a 6-1 drubbing of Saffron Walden.

Will Martin, unavailable for the opening day draw at Wapping, slotted home the opener before Sam Paterson and Dave Gilbert converted short corners to make it 3-0.

The visitors then pulled one back but it was 4-1 at the break, with Andrew Bedwell adding to the home tally.

After a positive team talk from coach Tim Whiteman, Magpies went on to add two more after the interval through Gilbert and Simon Hipwell.

In Premier B, Norwich City bounced back from a 5-1 drubbing at Cambridge City II on the opening day by beating Bourne Deeping 4-2 in their first home game.

Raunaq Rai scored an excellent early goal and although Bourne levelled the hosts were 4-1 up at



Goal scorer Oli King brings the ball forward during Norwich Dragons' 3-0 win over Cambridge University III.

Picture: CLUB

the break. Cameron Cooke slotted the ball home and further goals were added by Josh Bailey, who scored from a rebound off the keeper, and Rai with another

emphatic finish.

The second half was low-key by comparison and although Bourne scored again City ran out comfortable winners.

Dereham have four points from two games following a 1-1 draw at home to Wisbech,

The hosts enjoyed long periods of pressure throughout the game but found themselves behind at half-time after a breakaway goal.

Dereham finally got their reward with a well-taken short-corner finish from vice-captain Will Edwards and were inches away from a late winner, with forward Falko Rosbergen hitting the post after a well-worked move.

Dereham will look to build on the performance next week as they make the trip to Watford to face West Herts. Magpies II are the early pacesetters in Division 2NE following an eye-catching 11-3 win against the club's third team.

Norwich Dragons recorded a pleasing 3-0 home win over visitors Cambridge University III. First-half goals from Sam Avery and Oli King put them in control before a fine finish from Charlie Nunn provided the icing on the cake.

Norwich City II drew 1-1 at St Ives (Jeremy Elliott).

In Division 3NE Dragons II beat their third team 5-0 with first half goals from Tom Vaughan (3), Alex Browne and Max Laming while City III drew 2-2 with Ipswich and ES II (Reece Leonard 2).



Max Laming and Tom Harris in black chase the ball whilst being closed down by Jonathan Chaney Baxter during Norwich Dragons' 5-0 win over their third team.

Picture: CLUB

Norwich City Ladies turn on style to hit their outclassed hosts for six

Women's East League

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Norwich City showed no mercy on Division 1N newcomers St Neots, coming away with an emphatic 6-1 victory.

City drove forward early on, with Ellie Brine sweeping home their opener only for the hosts to get the ball past Summer Haylock to equalise.

This was a wake-up call and City then took charge. Olivia Williams dived to deflect in a

short corner before Krystal Bishop scored with an acute angle finish to make it 3-1 at the break.

City came out for the second half on a charge and Bishop set up Williams to extend the lead before further goals from Micayla Tootill and Abbie Ingham completed a comprehensive win.

Dereham were disappointed with their 1-1 home draw with Newmarket after dominating the game but failing to capitalise on their lead.

The hard work from the midfield of Sarah Steele, Georgie Edwards, Becca Colman and Grace Cresswell paid off in the second half when captain Colman put away a well-worked short corner.

Dereham held onto the lead until the last play of the game when Newmarket put away a short corner of their own.

In the same section Harleston Magpies II hammered Lowestoft 7-0 while Watton lost 3-1 at Wisbech.

In the top flight a depleted Norwich Dragons made the long journey to Kent to take on Maidstone and were beaten 1-0.

The first half saw chances for both sides, with Dragons goalkeeper Siobhan Cleave making some crucial saves. After the break Hayley Toleman saw a penalty flick saved before Maidstone capitalised on a moment of disorganisation to break through and score.

The last 10 minutes saw the Dragons press the ball high up the pitch but chances and short corners came to nothing.

Norwich City II saw off Yarmouth 2-1 in Division 2NE, with all the goals coming after the break. Hannah Jarvis and Milly Brown put City two up before the visitors pulled one back.

Like their neighbours, Dragons II have also started the season with two wins. They beat visitors Magpies III 4-2 thanks to goals from Emma Tabrett, Laura Ward, Hannah Hardy and Maddy Reynolds, who was player of the match along with Marie James.



Norwich Dragons Ladies II players charge out to defend a penalty corner during their 4-2 win over Harleston Magpies Ladies III. Pictured from left to right are Jess Bennett, Charlotte Pounder, Emma Cleland, Karen O'Neill Simpson and Sarah Borrett.

Picture: CLUB