

Sports

Gulf Breeze NEWS



Jason Thompson/Gulf Breeze News

Athletic supporters

Junior Josh Epstein (above) and senior Andrew Davis (below) had their own special cheering sections in their first games back from injury Thursday. In Epstein's group were (from left): Haley Gross, Carly Loehr, Bianca Takacs and Brandon Buchalter. In Davis' group included (from left): Brittany Pyle, Lindsey Arnett, Meredith Fairchild and Natalie Blair.



Dolphins rout Milton, tie Raiders

● *Thirteen seniors to be honored before tonight's game with Pace*

BY JASON THOMPSON
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The Gulf Breeze Dolphin soccer team had already clinched the top seed in next week's District 1-4A Tournament, but still had a goal to shoot for - a perfect 10-0 slate in district play.

They came 10 minutes away from it until Navarre scored on a penalty kick to salvage a 1-1 tie with the Dolphins Friday at Bennett C. Russell Stadium.

The game, as are most when rivals meet, was an intense one as seven yellow cards were issued, five of them on the Dolphins. One of them was given to Ben Parrish, who was being kicked at by a Navarre player.

The Raiders (13-1-4) had a couple of shots in the opening minutes, but both were saved easily by Richard Benson.

The forward tandem of Brad Parrish and Leland Davis kept up the pressure on the Raider defense early, both firing two shots on goal in the first 20 minutes.

Stuart Parks' free kick was saved, while Chris Wilson fired a shot wide to the left in the final minutes of the first half.

A pair of offsetting yellow cards were issued within the first eight minutes of the second half.

In between the two 'double yellows,' Christian Mauldwin's long throw in was headed in by Brad Parrish to make it 1-0 in the 46th minute of play.

Gulf Breeze had two quality chances to take a 2-0 lead in a six minute span. In the 53rd minute, a Dolphin free kick went into the Raider box. The Raider keeper fell down, but no Dolphins could follow it up.

In the 59th minute, another long throw in by Mauldwin was headed by Austin Santiago, but a backpedaling, one-handed swat by the Raider keeper kept it from being 2-0.

The misses would prove costly as Navarre's Robbie Elsas was fouled in the Dolphin box in the 69th minute. Benson would get a piece of Cristhian Ramirez's penalty kick, but not enough to keep it from going in.

Gulf Breeze came within a yard of being awarded a penalty kick less than a minute later as Tommy Gibble was taken down



Jason Thompson/Gulf Breeze News

Workin' it out

Boys assistant coach Angel Savage works on the hamstring of Christian Mauldwin during the second half of the Dolphins' 1-1 tie with Navarre Friday. Mauldwin's long throw in set up the Dolphin goal.

outside the Raider box.

Dolphins 9, Milton 1 (60 minutes)
Possibly looking ahead to the Navarre game, the Dolphins starters were benched after giving up a goal six minutes into their match with Milton.

The strategy worked as the reserves put up six goals in the first half before GBHS won it with three in the second half.

Nick Malloy tied the game at 1-1 in the 17th minute, putting a pass from Jesse Ortiz, who would end the game with two goals of his own.

A minute later, Malloy fed Jack Begley for a goal, giving the Dolphins the lead for good. Jeff Lanza then scored a pair of goals to double the Dolphin lead.

Begley set up the first goal in the 26th minute, while Mauldwin had the assist on the second in the 31st minute.

Ortiz slid a ball near post off a Lanza pass in the closing minutes of the first half. Josh Epstein, playing in his first game of the season due to injury, scored off another Malloy feed.

Chris Wilson scored off a Gibble pass in the 45th minute before Wilson's pass led to a goal for Josh Pagonis in the 54th minute.

Ortiz's second goal in the 60th minute rounded out the scoring. Malloy recorded his third assist on the Ortiz goal.

Dolphin JV 2, Navarre 1

Danny Gibble and Nick Green both scored goals in the JV's win over Navarre. Mikey Green assisted on Gibble's goal.

Dolphin JV 5, Milton 0

Mikey Green scored twice, while Gibble, Tom Lampon and Nick Green all scored once for the Dolphins Jan. 8.

Jason Lambert, Steven Vernali and Billy McCormick all had assists in the win.

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Gulf Breeze News
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Greg Brown, CFA
Santa Rosa County Property Appraiser

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