

Ladies on cloud nine after rout

From the archive, first published Wednesday 5th Oct 2005.

WINSFORD ladies turned on the style as they thumped old adversaries Manchester City 9 – 2 at Barton Stadium on Sunday.

And the Mid Cheshire club easily maintained their superiority, having beaten their big city rivals to the Division Two title last year and knocking them out of the cup too.

City simply couldn't cope with an excellent Winsford team, playing their best football of the season. The first goal arrived on 18 minutes; a well struck free-kick from the outstanding Danielle Lydiate was parried by the City keeper for Michaela Thompson to head the ball into the net.

A minute later and it was 2 – 0, Thompson's pace took her past two players and blasted the ball into the roof of the net.

City were stunned and a third came on 33 minutes, a fine individual effort from player-of-the-match Lydiate who collect the ball midway in the City half and skilfully beat two players before lashing an unstoppable shot. Three minutes later and it was 4 – 0, this time Sarah Lee rounding the keeper to score from a tight angle.

City pulled one back but Winsford regained their four goal advantage on the stroke of half-time, when City failed to clear a corner and Becky Hilditch found the net.

The second half was pretty much the same with Thompson adding two more goals to round off an impressive performance, sandwiching Lydiate's outstanding 40-yard volley. Becky Hilditch completed the rout on 70 minutes.

Winsford will hope to repeat their display when they travel to league leaders Saffron this weekend.