

Prized scalp for Pace

REGARDLESS of the fact that this encounter was ultimately decided on penalties, the result was no injustice.

In appalling conditions, of wind, driven rain and an increasingly cut-up pitch, Droylsden displayed greater speed, skill and commitment than their lacklustre opponents, who appeared to carry on where they left off against Guiseley the previous Saturday.

An impartial observer would have concluded that the Bloods were the premier division outfit, and if they maintain this degree of teamwork, flair and commitment, they can indeed deliver their ebullient chairman's promise of top division football next season.

The awful conditions ensured that this was no classic, but whereas Hyde relied ever more desperately en-route one, a method alien to their skills, Droylsden attempted, throughout, to exploit midfield.

They edged a fairly even first half in which chances fell at both ends, notably a fine diving header by Peter Band which deserved a better fate than striking the keeper's legs.

During the second half Droylsden, quite playing into the wind and rain, became ever more dominant in midfield; thus dictating what pattern of play there was. Hyde crumbled in that

Droylsden.....0
Hyde Utd.....0

*UniBond President's Cup
first round replay
after extra time*

Droylsden win on penalties

department, allowing oceans of space to open up.

John Stannard, Mick Jones and Anthony Wright spewed out a succession of accurate passes, both to the wings and through the middle, few of which were intercepted; and which put the Tigers' defence, who performed heroics, under increasing pressure.

This mid-park deficiency needs immediate remedy if Hyde are to challenge this season; the defence is too often exposed while, at the other end, the forwards receive minimal service.

One inevitable result is that the habit of conceding late goals is starting to re-emerge.

At the end of 120 minutes, under the type of conditions which normally cause enough errors to ensure a high-scoring match, the result was a surprising 0-0 stalemate.

There followed nine well-struck penalties, and an orbital effort from Prince Moncrieffe, which decided, fairly, the result.

Droylsden: Williams 7, Lattie 8, M. Wright 7, Ashton 7, Hennigan 7, Holmes 7, Jones 8, A. Wright 8, Cooper 7, Kinney 7, Stannard 9. Subs: Taylor, Quinn, Hyland.

Hyde: Scargill 8, P. Richardson 9, Annan 8, G. Wilson 8, Edey 9, Dolby 5, Haw 6, P. Taylor 8, James 8, Band 6, Paige 5. Subs: Washington 5, P. Wilson 5, Moncrieffe 4.