

Tigers lacking teeth

Radcliffe.....0
Hyde Utd.....0

HYDE United stretched their unbeaten run to five games with a point at struggling Radcliffe on Boxing Day. However, with an in-form striker in the side, they would have secured all three.

The Tigers dominated the game, except in the final third of the field, and their lack of fire-power denied them the win they deserved.

From the first whistle, Hyde pressed forward and soon took control of the midfield on a quagmire-like surface.

Lutel James and Paul Snape had early efforts on goal, but were both denied by keeper Steve Berryman.

Val Owen and Colin Lambert worked tirelessly for the cause, and it was James again who looked the more likely to score when he produced a stinging shot through a crowd of players. Once again, however, Berryman produced a super save.

Hyde continued to control matters after the break, when an Owen strike was again well stopped by Berryman.

As the game progressed the pitch became heavier, and quality football was at a premium. Radcliffe also struggled to make any impact on the game, against a solid back line in which Gus Wilson was outstanding.

It was substitute Russ Brierley, on for the veteran Colin McCrory, who created Borough's best chance, but his header produced a great save from Jon Scargill.

Radcliffe: Berryman, Astley, McHugh, Greenhalgh, Bean, Edwards, Allen, Farrelly, McCrory, McDonald, Russell. Sub: Levendis for Farrelly (50), Brierley for McCrory (60), Lyons for McDonald (69).

Hyde: Scargill 7, Gallagher 8, Switzer 8, Wilson 9, Garton 8, Lambert 8, Kimmins 7, Owen 8, James 7, Snape 6, Nolan 7. Sub: Varden for Snape (46), Henshaw, Finley.