

Macca's men flounder in Welsh rain

THE Tigers are going to have to do a lot better than this if they are to live up to their billing as UniBond League title favourites.

On Saturday, in the gloom and continual rain, they were hustled out of the game by a Colwyn Bay side that had more physical presence, and which refused to settle down and let them play football.

Hyde were on top for the first five minutes, bringing one save from Richie Roberts, then the Welshmen snatched away the initiative, with Marc Limbert causing all kinds of problems out wide on the right.

After just eight minutes, one of his low crosses skidded off the wet surface, and just failed to find Peter Donnelly, who had dived to ground level.

On 25 minutes, Glenn Graham managed to head down a Limbert cross, despite the attentions of Billy Garton, and Frank Mottram - recently a subject of interest by Droylsden -

<i>Colwyn Bay</i>	3
<i>Hyde United</i>	1

by **MIKE PAVASOVIC**

somehow lofted the loose ball over the bar, with the goal yawning.

Although the Tigers had the odd half-chance, Ged Kimmins firing over on 23 minutes, it was Bay who were on top.

They piled attack on attack, and it was no surprise when they took the lead after 37 minutes, Lee Conferton scoring with a sweetly-struck volley after a clearance header had fallen to him on the edge of the box.

We can only assume Mike McKenzie made his feelings known during the break, because Hyde enjoyed their best period after they emerged. They finally got to play some football, and Colin Lambert slid home an equaliser on the hour.

At that point, a comeback looked to be in prospect, especially after Kimmins went close following some neat build-up play involving David Nolan and Paul Varden

However, the revival Tigers fans were hoping for never took place. It quickly ran out of steam, and Colwyn hit back.

Fifteen minutes from the end, they reasserted their dominance. No one picked up Graham, as he ghosted into the box and, when Limbert fired in a free kick from the right, the big centre-back was there to hammer home.

Hyde's misery was complete in the last minute, when that man Limbert cut in from the right before drilling goal number-three past Jones.

Hyde: Jones 7, Gallagher 6, Annan 6, Wilson 6, Garton 6, Lambert 7, Kimmins 6, Owen 7, James 6, Varden 6, Nolan 7
Subs: Brockie, Murray for James (83), Smith for Varden (77).

Colwyn Bay: R. Roberts, McCosh, Mann, Congerton, Graham, Price, Limbert, G. Roberts, Mottram, Donnelly, Lawton
Subs: Drury for Congerton (85), Rigby, Fuller for Mann (37).

Ref: John Blackburn (Prescot).