

Arthur comes to the rescue

A BRILLIANT last-minute save by Arthur Williams rescued Hyde from what would have been a second humiliating Easter defeat on Monday.

The former Runcorn keeper was brought from the treatment room after missing two games, and he responded with a fantastic one-handed save from Imre Varadi.

Struggling Matlock were making one last bid for glory when Varadi unleashed a 25-yard power packet that had goal written all over it. Williams saw it late but twisted in mid-air to palm the ball over the bar.

A draw against bottom of the table Town was bad enough - defeat would have been unforgivable; but a Hyde side looking physically drained after a long, hard season, came close to it. They started well enough, with a Gary Henshaw through ball in the first minute opening up the Gladiators' defence for Tony Carroll to slot past the advancing Jonathan Scargill.

A minute later a Matlock raid had the Tigers' spread-eagled, and Chris Kerry cracked a thundering shot off the bar.

Hyde rallied, with Ged Kimmins bursting between two defenders to thump a shot against the post; and Carroll put in a teasing

**Hyde Utd.....1
Matlock Town1**

by **STAFF REPORTER**

shot that was scrambled clear.

Matlock's nine-man defence proved a tough nut to crack but, with so many men back, they never really looked like scoring. Then, on the hour, the ball fell beautifully for Nick Tilly, whose superb 35-yard shot curled in at the top corner of the net.

Although the Tigers struggled, they still had the chance to beat Town. However, in a series of one-to-one encounters with Scargill, the Tigers came off second best.

Carroll twice found himself running at the keeper but, each time, Scargill spread his body and the shot was blocked. The Kimmins, in a similar position, shot against Scargill's legs.

A couple of weeks ago, both players would have put the ball away. In the present climate they missed. Let's hope the weather changes for Saturday.

Hyde: Williams 8, Gallagher 6, Switzer 6, Wilson 7, Henshaw 6, Henshaw 7, Kimmins 5, Murphy 5, Vardin 5, Carroll 6, Nolan 7. Subs: Dowe, Cox 6 for Gallagher (30), Evans 5 for Vardin (67).

Matlock: Scargill, Hanbury, Loughan, Williamson, Flynn, Fox, Tilly, Burton, Culley, Kerry, Taylor. Subs: Wood for Williamson (12), Varadi for Wood (61), Harrison.

Ref: Jim McGrath (Birkenhead).