

Curzon Ash2

by MIKE PAVASOVIC

His first came after Craig

Nimm had failed to hold on

and the second was scored

to a ot from Terry Nestor

when he touched home

Chris Pickering cross at the

far post.
O'Connor might have had

the second half when he

brought the ball down and

but Nixon produced a great

After that the game fil-

hat -trick at the start of

Malc lights up drab afternoon

O'Connor, Curzon did just about enough to win this one - a match that had end of season stamped all over

The match programme was full of references to the match being their last chance to avoid the drop nto the North West Counties League. Having tried so hard to

convince themselves there was something to play for they then proceeded to let the game pass them by. However, as is often the

fired all in one movement case in matches like this. the underdogs took the lead. Fleetwood showed flashes of flowing football. and had gone close on a missed two superh chances couple of occasions before

Pickering and Chris Lee they went ahead.
With 34 minutes both fired wide when faced with open nets after the Nick Brown found Jimmy keeper had committed him-Rasul, who made his way through the Curzon box despite attempts to pull him back - to give the home

self.
Fleetwood: Nixon, Boal, Fryer,
Moran, Miller, Brown, Gough, Shaw,
Washington, Haslam, Rasul. Subs.
Richards, Howarth, Barnes.
Curzon: Williams 6, Ashton, 6,
Randles 6, Finley 6, Wardle 7, Nestor
7, Burns 6, Warder 6, Lee 6, O'Connor 8, Pickering 6 Subs. Street for
Ashton 465, Jeffrey for Lee 1850, side the lead. However, Fleetwood's hopes were raised only had blown for half time

at the treble aspirations are now clearly over and, with Kidsgrove also play-ing for nothing, there was an unreal end of the season feel to this game - that is, until the Lilywhites took

the lead in the 28th Richard Bevan's cross from the right invited a typ-

ically physical challenge from Bernie Hughes on Stuart Sutton, and Andy Baines gratefully hooked the loose ball into the open Labour Club call old boys

It was the start of a spell of presture in which Mossley look d far too good for Kidsgrove and, by half time, the match was as good as The Lilywhites second

goal came on 39 minutes, after Hughes had missed a sitter, and Peter Withers had lobbed against the bar. This time, former Marine man Withers snapped a header into the bottom cor ner from 12 yards after

and Scotland captain Bill Bremner, and the Bevan had provided yet another fine cross. comedy will be supplied by local comic Austin Mossley looked capable of scoring at will as Kids-Any former players or officials interested in attending should congrove's defensive discipline dissolved and, a minute before the break, Matt Holt crossed for Baines to make

tact club chairman Ged Musgrave on 0161 231 it 3.0 Baines did not have long Mossley... Kidsgrove Ath....2

by MATTHEW CARTER

Baines

strikes

to wait for his hat-trick Only 13 minutes of the second half had elapsed when Chris Lomas's 50-yard pass sent him clear to lob Sut-

Kidsgrove had created absolutely nothing so, when derbolt past Peter Cole minute. Mossley felt they had no reason to be unduly worried.

They were six minutes later, however, when Cole made a mad rush at a short free kick by Steve Norris and Peter Hall rolled a simple shot into the gaping

It gave Mossley a more nervous final 19 minutes than should have been necessary and, had Steve Oliver done better with two chances in the dying minutes, the Lilywhites might have faced an unlikely

Graw.
Mossley: Cole 5, Bevan 8, Lemas 7,
Thomas 7, Allcock 7, Holt 7, Conien 9,
Joynes 8, Subs. Turner 7 for Conien 9,
Joynes 8, Subs. Turner 7 for Conien 105, Murray 7 for Joynes (SJ, Crane 5), Murray 7 for Joynes (SJ, Crane 5), Murray 7 for Joynes (SJ, Crane 5), Murray 7 for Joynes (SJ, Crane Nortis, Evans, B Hall, Britten, Oliver, Kneley, Coxon, Booth, Subs. P.
Hall for Burton (46), Griffiths for Bedeen (57), Niceley,
Ref. Edward Turry (Brooklands).

er was their downfall That was a pity because in every other depart-ment, the Hillmen were equal to their were equal to their high-spending oppo-nents and played some good football into the bargain.

Smallwood's return made a big difference; but the unavailability of Chris Ringland, Steve Pick-ford and Steve Burns did much to offset that

Paul Higginbotham soon showed his paces when he interchanged clev-erly with Jimmy Clarke, only to shoot directly at Steve Mor

Kevin Scarborough was just wide with an effort for North End, and a free kick from the little striker was scram-

bled away. Smallwood was making his presence felt with some timely runs and passes; and combined well with Scarborough, who was thwarted the keeper.

Morris was again brought into action when he palmed away a chip from Clarke, and saved from Chris

After the break, Flixton looked more like a title-chasing side, and forced the pace accord-ingly. They were rewarded just after the hour when a corner was somewhat luckily forced home by Paul

That setback spurred or Glossop but, hard though they battled, they could not get in any goal attempts; and they paid for it in the

75th minute.

A through ball from Gary Cooney found Clarke, looking yards offside, and he beat Morris low to his left

It was a case of playing out time from that content to sit on their lead and remain top of the North West Coun-

the North West Coun-ties League.
Glassop Morris 7, Sinnott 7, Pat-terson 8, Coyne 8, Reproleds 7, Boyle 7, Hulms 6, Imrie 6, Smallwood 7, Searborough 6, Smallwood 7, Searborough 6, Fulliams Moloney, Dizon, Anderson, Bayne, Hall, Mellilams, Moloney, Dizon, Anderson, Bayne, Hall, Sube Berningham for Dizon (73), Cameron for Hall (23), Hibbert for Clarke (69).

Heaton denies tiring Tigers

CENTRAL LANCASHIRE CRICKET LEAGUE Fields comback lasted just six minutes on Friday, when he ASHTON v. became the first of two play LITTLEBOROUGH ers to be stretchered off with broken legs. Saturday 4th May start 2pm The match had already started late after Match Soonsor: THWAITES BREWERY Droylsden turned up with the wrong kit. Then, the match had barely begun, when

Match Ball Songer SAVOURIES, STAMFORD ST

HYDE SUNDAY LEAGUE - DIV. Two

JOHN WOOD CUP

Sunday 5th May – K.O. 11 a.m. Haddon Hall F.C. v Halfway House F.C., Droylsden

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MINNING YANKEI

into goal.

The Tigers equalised on 58 minutes when Keith Evans ended a run by

slotting how a watch

tooksits usual injury toll Keeper Williams was left hobbling, and kicking with his left foot while Tony Carroll injured and possibly broke a

son, Garton, Henshaw, Evans Esdaille, Camilleri, Carroll Nolan. Subs: McLellan, Donelly for Henshaw, Hawtin for Esdaille

McMahon fell awkwardly following a tack-It was obvious the injury was bad by the players' reactions, and Darren Pybus ran towards the press box shouting "get an ambulance'

lance was called for after Dave Nolan and Mark Molyneaux went for a 50/50 ball. The Bloods' keeper seemed to catch the full impact on his legs, and was also stetchered

McMahon later underwent more three hours' surgery for a broken fibula and tibia. Molyneaux broke his ankle. Both incidents were purely accidental, with no one to blame. However, they threw

a tense cloud over a game that Droylsden needed to win, and almost did. goal; but, on each occasion, Paul Cox made Simon Heaton took over in goal and, although he performed heroics to keep out,

it the Tigers, it was by no means one-way traffic.

The electric pace of Nigel Evans, and the bludgeoning of Allan Pannett, gave Hyde's shaky central defence plenty of problems,

Droylsden by DAVID JONES

lead when Tony Carroll headed a Gary Henshaw cross over Molyneaux.

But the glory was shortlived. Four minutes later, Evans rounded Gus Wilson with alarming ease, to squeeze a shot between Arthur Williams and the post.

If Hyde thought beating the stand-in' keeper was easy, they were made to think again. Heaton courageously came out to block shots and make saves any goalie would have been proud of.

But the Tigers through should have scored. Keith Evans wasted a great chance, and a Gary Henshaw cracker hit the bar. In the main though, the strong Bloods' back four restricted Hyde's chances and, with Evans so good on the break a shock was always on against the tiring Tigers. In might have happened in the last minute, when Evans twice glided towards

7, Tunnicliffe 8, Lattie 8, Heaton 9, Pybus N.Evans 9, Heywood 6, Subs. Panett 7 for Chr.

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******* HYDE SUNDAY LEAGUE - Div. Four Dennis Mooney Memorial Trophy At Droylsden Football Club Friday 5th May - K.O. 6.45 p.m.

Stamford Arms F.C. Audenshaw v Hustage F.C.

European Super League

Macca's men gain revenge

clock on Sunday, to produce the kind of football that was their hallmark just a few weeks ago.

The tired legs and lack of ideas - so common in recent games - were gone as Macca's men gave Geordies a lesson in foot-

Blyth took a 12th-minute ead when a dreadful Gus Wilson clearance fell to Richard Bond, who blasted past goalkeeper Arthur Then, the Tigers took

control, with Dave Nolan playing his 200th consecutive game for Hyde - having a blinder He equalised four min-

utes later when he slithered a shot, practically from the by-line though Paul Connor's slippery fin gers.
The red-haired Liver nudlian almost grabbed

another, seconds when he pounced on a high bouncing ball, only to hook it over the top of the crossbar. Hyde made Spartans look

a spent force, and Paul Var-

Hyde Utd..... Blyth Sp1

by DAVID JONES

Connor was kept busy with shots from all angles and on the stroke of half time, be brilliantly pushed a Varden shot round the

The escape was short lived, however. The corner found George Switzer, who despatched an absolutely glorious 35-yard shot into Hyde kept up the pres

sure after the break and, on 68 minutes Gary Henshaw's cracking 20-yard shot hit the bar, and Tony Carroll headed in the rebound

Five minutes later, Dave Esdaille found Carroll on the edge of the box, and he gently pushed the ball past

gently pushed the Dali past Connor. Hyde Williams 7, Cox 8, Switzer 7, Wilson 7, Hawtin 7, Henshaw 7, Evans 7, Esdaille 7, Varden 7, Car-roll 9, Nolan 8 Subs Donnelly 6 for Esdaille (79). Camiller 6 for Varden

Dubious goal is sickener

by DAVID JONES

THE end of season merr

go round continued at

Ewen Fields on Wednesday

last week, when a bunch o

tired Tigers struggled to keep up their fading chal-lenge for the UniBond title.

With injuries sidelining at

least five key players. Mike McKenzie shuffled the side

and threw the number-nine

Hyde's strike came three

minutes after the break

the ball to Carroll who

Tony Outhart . looking

to run down the right and

his cross was knocked in at

the far post by Lutel James

Hyde Williams 6, Gallagher 6, C. Wilson 6, Hawtin 6, Henshaw

miles offside · was allow

goal of the season.

slammed home his 34th

McMahon

to veteran John

OLDHAM BEARS Hyde Utd..... Guiseley1

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HYDE SUNDAY LEAGUE - Div. Five KEVIN FURNESS CUP At Droyleden Football Club
Thursday 2nd May - K.O. 6.45 p.m Friendship F.C., Mossley v

Sportsman Inn F.C. Referee - P. Woolley; Linesmen - M. Kieron & fit-Healy *****

Trophy finalists rip Celtic defence to shreds

STALYBRIDGE'S home programme tered away, and Curzon came to a shattering end on Thursday last week, when they conceded four goals in a chaotic last 20 minutes.

GORTON Trades and

Labour Club F.C. are cel-ebrating their 21st

birthday with a sports-

dinner

premises on Thursday

The guest speaker will be former Leeds United

and

man's

Knight

3756

A run of four successive home victor ries was torn apart by Vics' exposure of Celtic's defensive frailties. The margin of defeat would have

been even more embarrassing had it not been for some great work by Har vey Willetts, who made three excelent saves in one-on-one situations. It had all been so much different

early on, with Stalybridge ir Playing with width and pace, wit and Stalybridge...

phy finalists, and were unlucky to be only level at the break.

and the last 20 minutes were little short of humiliating Brian Butler shot home from a free kick, and Steele completed his hat-trick as the home defence went walkabout.

Stalybridge: Willetts 9, Megson 8, Coathup 8, Frain 7, O'Shaughnessy 6, Hall 6, Burke 6, Powell 7, Jones 8, Arnold 6, Challender 7, Subs: Wilson 7

Northwich Vics.....5

by MARTYN TORR

invention, they tore into the F.A. Tro-

After falling behind to a Carwyn Williams goal, after a mistake by David Hall, Celtic blasted back. Steve Jones' towering header crossed the line after it hit the bar, and Brendan Burke saw a penalty saved after

vein after the interval, but were robbed when Lee Steele forced home from a rare Northwich corner.

After that, Celtic simply fell apart

7, Jones 8, Arnold 6, Challender 7. Subs: Wilson 1 for Challender (65), Goodacre, Edmonds. Northwich: Ball, Ward, Duffy, Burgess, Cooke Walters, Williams, Butler, Tate, Steele, Vicary Subs: Oghani, Sweeney, Hilson. Ref: Mr Mark Warren (Walsall).

Trable winners receive 27 1-42 each a £2 6270 Julie Moher, Hattersley, 60 8270 Keith Windebünk, Dukinfield, 07 9240 Glenys, Pikes Laivie, c/o A. Lester, 63 9250 Pauline Tougher, Hollingworth, 49 9260 Alan Phillips, Hottersley, 60 9279 Mrs J. Simpson, Staybridge, 34 9290 Patricia Wilde, Hadfield, 63 den after swivelling in the