Skipper Roy is superb

ROY McFARLAND was supe b, outclassing his England rival Dave Watson, but he was quick to place the credit for Derby's win elsewhere.

"The way Archie played up front could not fail to inspire the rest of us," said the Rams' captain. "And Colin Boulton kept us in the game with two world class saves." Had Derby woken up to the reality of the relegation threat?

Bookies

"We have been thinking that we're too good to go down and everybody else has been telling us the same thing.
"When the bookles laid odds on which sides would go down, they never mentioned us.
"Then the games started to run out and we realised to run out and we realised

"Then the games started to run out and we realised that we did not have enough points.
"We might be better than the others, but the table takes no notice of that. Only the points gained matter and this has finally come home to us."

One-off job for Archie

ARCHIE GEMMILL. ARCHIE GENERALL, playing up front in Derby's striker crisis, had one of the finest of his many fine matches his many fur for the club.

He and Kevin Hector worried Tommy Booth and Dave Watson by their mebility and pace and Gem-mill even won a few balls in the air against the tower-ing Watson.

But Archie was certainly not on the brink of a new career as a striker.

"That's it," he said as he left the ground, "It was a one-off job and I don't think I will be playing there again."

He had no doubt that he as fortunate to get a

he may was fortunate to get penalty.

"Definitely not," he said when asked if it should have been awarded,

DECIMATED RAMS BRING OFF KHILARATING TRIUMPH

THIS WAS MAGNIFICENT. Derby County, so decimated by injuries that they could field only one recognised striker, played superbly to rout Manchester City and, in the process, put a brake on the title hopes of Tony Book's team.

Before the start, it was hard to see how the Rams could score a goal but, with the aid of a fortunate penalty, they hit four past Joe Corrigan.

City completely lost their heads and John Yates, in his last First Division match before retirement, issued six cautions and sent off Brian Kidd, who had been involved in several scuffles off the ball.

It all moved into the world It all moved into the world of farce when the referee could not find the penalty spot and brought on groundsman Bob Smith, armed with tape measure and paint, to produce a new

one. Corrigan had been booked for disagreeing with the referee's original placing of the ball. The fact that he was right made no difference. difference

There will be no petitions to keep Mr Yates on the list. When he could have clamped down in the first half, he contented himself with lectures and a smile for everybody.

everybody.

His lack of control was alarming.

It was an extraordinary Derby team, Coln Boulton returned after missing one match woth a thumb injury, but Leighton James foired Charlle George and Derek Hales on the injured list.

Manager Colin Murphy

Hales on the injured list,
Manager Colin Murphy
shuffled his forces shrewdly,
Daniel played in the back
four, Todd moved into midnield and Daly played as a
spare man between midfield
and the strikers, Hector and
Genmill.

and the strikers, flector and Genmill.

How they all battled. For Derby supporters, who have suffered so much from this bungled season, it was an exhiberating performance. There is still plenty to be done, but this victory moved Derby nearer to safety.

The inspiration of this d'apay was Archie Genmill who, like a persistent wasp, gave Dave Watson no peace in the air or on the ground. Genmill was absolutely brillbant and, by his play upfont, emphasised what a fine footballer he is.

There were no weaknesses.

There were no weaknesses.
On a day like this, one wonders how on earth Derby are involved in the relegation battle. The answer is obvious enough really — bad manage-

DERBY COUNTY Boulton: Langan, Webster, Daily, McFarland, Tood, Powell, Gammitt, Daniel, Hoctor, Newton, Sub: O'Riondan, MANCHESTER CITY: Corrigan, MANCHESTER CITY: Corrigan, Dovlz, Banca, Kidd, Royle, Owen, Kecgan, Power replaced Royle after 74 minutes.

By Gerald Mortimer

Referee: J. H. Yates (Redditch), Attendance: 29.127,

ment in the early weeks of the season and some ham-fisted handling of the situa-tion since by the men in the boardroom.

tion since by the men in the boardroom.

Derby, battling for every ball, dictated the pattern of the first half without being able to finish their moves. Equally, Boutton had spent an untroubled 45 minutes, but he was soon in action as City hit their one good spell of the match.

When Kidd headed on a free kick from Doyle, Boulton saved brilliantly from Keegan and then capped this by getting back across his line to beat out a header from Kidd.

Boutton's saves kept Derby alive and they were soon firmly in control. With 67 minutes gone, Hector and Daly exchanged passes and Gemmill followed in to score his first goal of the season off a post.

Five minutes later, Danfel pinched a second. Gemmills

Five minutes later, Danfel pinched a second. Gemmill's corner was half-cleared and Powell headed back into the area. As McFarland was turning, Langan steamed in to slash the ball across the face of the goal. Daniel luncing to turn it in.

luneing to turn it in.

By now, City were thoroughly rattled and the bookings began. Hector, Gemm'il and Kidd were all cautioned in the same incident and Clements soon followed them after kicking Hector from behind.

The free-kick brought the Rams a third goal after 79 minutes, Gemm'il placed his kick to the back of the area and Corrigan could not hold Daly's volley.

As the ball broke loose.

As the ball broke loose, Hector was in first to rattle in his shot.

in his shot.

Kidd departed soon after this. He had wanted to fight all and sundry during the second half and his ultimate fate was inevitable. Kidd has been a great investment at £100.000 and has tremendous talent, but there is still an undisciplined side to his game.

game.
Finally, Owen was deemed to have brought down Genmill in the penalty area and, after the affair of the disappearing spot, Daly kept his 100 per cent record, even though Corrigan went the right way.

appearing spot. Daly kept his 100 per cent record, even though Cornigan went the right way.

There was still time for Watson to be booked for tackling McFarland from behind and for substitute Power to whack the innocent Langan across the shins.

Having complained about the penalties awarded against Derby recently, it is only fair if I record that Owen was trying to get out of the way when Gemmill went down. Swings and roundabouts.

Derby were tremendous. They must continue to establish that they have a right to be in the First Division next season.



GOAL NO. 1 . . . Archie Gemmill gives the Rams the lead, his shot beating Joe Corrigan and going in off a post.



GOAL NO. 2 . . . Peter Daniel celebrates on the floor after deflecting in a cross from David Langan (right).



O. 3 . . . Joe Corrigan is left on his knees after failing to hold a shot from Gerry Daly, allowing Kevin Hector to nip in and make it 3-0.

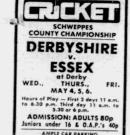


GOAL NO. 4 . . . Archie Gemmill collided with Gary Owen to win a penalty and Gerry Daly makes no mistake from the spot.

Pictures by Peter Turton

We're not finished yet, says City boss Book

TONY BOOK was clearly shaken by an afternoon which had seen previously rosy championship hopes become distinctly remote. Four of his players had been booked and one, Brian Kidd, sent off.



"I will wait to see the referee's reports before I decide what action to take within the club," said the Manchester City manager. "I don't want to take anything away from Derby, but that was our worst performance of the season.

ance of the season.

"We did not really play at all and several players completely lost their composure.

"Certainly the pitch did not help. It is a disgrace for First Division football, but it is the same for both sides and I don't want to make that an excuse.

"We have four games left and we're not dead yet. We will set out to win them and then see where that puts us."