

Skipper Roy is superb

ROY McFARLAND was superb, 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 bookies laid odds on which sides would go down, they never mentioned us."

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

He and Kevin Hector worried Tommy Booth and Dave Watson by their mobility and pace and Gemmill even won a few balls in the air against the towering 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 was fortunate to get a penalty.

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

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.

DECIMATED RAMS BRING OFF EXHILARATING TRIUMPH

Derby County 4, Manchester City 0

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.

By Gerald Mortimer

DERBY COUNTY: Boulton; Langan, Webster, Daly, McFarland, Todd, Powell, Gemmill, Hector, Newton. Sub: O'Riordan. MANCHESTER CITY: Corrigan; Clements, Donachie, Booth, Watson, Davis, Barnes, Kidd, Boyd, Owen, Keegan. Power replaced Royle after 74 minutes. Referee: J. H. Yates (Reddish). Attendance: 29,127.

ment in the early weeks of the season and some ham-fisted handling of the situation 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, Boulton 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.

Boulton'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, Daniel 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 lunging to turn it in.

By now, City were thoroughly rattled and the bookings began. Hector, Gemmill 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. Gemmill placed his kick to the back of the area and Corrigan could not hold Daly's volley.

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

Finally, Owen was deemed to have brought down Gemmill 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.

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).



GOAL NO. 3 . . . Joe Corrigan is left on his knees after falling 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

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SCHWEPES
COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP
DERBYSHIRE
v.
ESSEX
at Derby
WED., THURS., FRI.
MAY 4, 5, 6.
Hours of Play — First 2 days 11 a.m. to 6.30 p.m., Third day 11 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. or 6 p.m.
ADMISSION: ADULTS 80p
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AMPLE CAR PARKING
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