



Saturday saw The Clyde face bottom of the table Moorcroft. Vinny let the lads know before the game that they were in a false position as they had gone reasonably far in the cup competitions and that it would be a tough game. With Brokeback Jackson Basset missing again, Dave "DP" Paterson took his place between the sticks. There were also some changes to the outfield line up with Hammy, Doc and Moray all out. The Clyde team for the day was a back four of Mr Murray, Shanta, DRX and McIver. The midfield welcomed back Tam who had been demoted from the first team because of his outrageous barnet. He was joined in the centre with "I love fat birds" Wilson with the flying machine Niall on the right and the bad banter machine Stevie "Tinny" Stirling on the left. Up top was the in form, but late again, Pikey and he was joined with Rooray (not sure that is correct spelling). The bench was a strong one with Euan, Hammy, Phil Gal and Mikey S who got lost in the new training gear handed out by Crossy before the match.

The match started with Clyde playing the ball about nicely and creating some early chances. The opposition did not enjoy the way Clyde kept the ball and their frustration became evident when a Right Said Fred look-alike almost broke Tinny's leg with a horror challenge that the ref deemed too sexy for a red card and only produced a yellow. This challenge set the tone for the whole match and the Clyde knew it was going to be a long hard slog.

The breakthrough came about five minutes later when great play down the right by Phil, Ross and Rooray set Niall driving to the by-line. He whipped in a great cross that was met with a flying diving header by the smallest man in the box, Pikey, it crashed the bar and went in to give the Clyde a deserved lead. After the goal Clyde almost gave their opponents a life-line when some poor play led to their striker being through on goal only for the injured DP to pull off a tremendous save at the lads feet. After this small scare a goal of the season contender made it 2-0 for the Clyde. The ball started at the back with the defence keeping great possession before passing it into the midfield where some neat interplay got the ball out to the right. A cross came in and Rooray sold two of their defenders a sublime dummy to let the ball run through to Tinny who then megged their right back before firing a sweet strike into the far corner.

The centre midfielders where bossing the game along with Rooray who was enjoying his free role. These players combined brilliantly to set up the third and killer goal just before half-time. Neat play by Tam and Ross set up a shooting chance for Rooray who forced a save by their keeper. He fumbled the ball straight to the man on fire Pikey who slotted the ball in the corner to make it three goals and two for the Irish Man. The pike man was then put through on goal by a great pass by McIver for the hat trick but was rugby tackled by their defender in the box but the ref somehow "missed" it and no PK was awarded.

With the game at 3-0 it looked all over and Rooray saw the wild challenges flying in and picked up a "suspect" Achilles knock. He was replaced by Euan who played on the right with Niall moving up front. The second half was a wild one. The Moorcroft players obviously had had enough of Clyde's passing game and began to assault the team every time they got on the ball. On any other day there would have been about five red cards for this team. The worst of these incidents came mid way through the half when their left back gave glamour boy and wind up merchant Euan a Haymaker to the top lip which left him looking like Coolio from Celeb Big Bro. The ref did not see it once again and Clyde now understood why his shirt was sponsored by the Guide Dogs Trust. They got a consolation goal soon after the incident from a corner where their height advantage paid off. Their keeper kept the score respectable with a string of great saves. Most notably were the saves that saw Crossy twice denied and the amazing stop that ended Niall's goal run. Pikey and Niall were replaced by Phil Gal and Mikey S who managed to escape from the Giant training gear in time to make an appearance. Both strikers had chances to extend the lead but could not convert them.

The ref eventually sent one of their players off after a Kung Fu kick on Tam. This tackle saw the "hard" Ayrshire rugby man Paul Shanta follow the example of Rooray in declaring a suspicious foot knock but as there were no more subs left he was told to man up and finish the game. The ref blew his whistle and the game was over with another crucial three points in the bag for the Clyde who moved to joint second with this hard fought 3-1 victory. The ref gave the man of the match to Clydes number 11 which was Stevie Stirling but as he was sponsored by the guide dogs trust this decision was a controversial one.