

Tigers outplay champs

Barrow.....2
Hyde Utd.....2

HYDE had to make do with a point, on Saturday, in one of the most one-sided draws witnessed this season at Barrow.

That they did not come away with a victory was a travesty, as they made constant inroads into the UniBond champions' defence.

Colin Lambert, Val Owen and Lutel James bossed the game; and it was not until the last ten minutes that Barrow made a last dash effort which helped them restore their pride.

Barrow looked as though they expected the Tigers, beaten 3-0 at Ewen Fields, to be sacrificial lambs; but Hyde were having none of that.

James could have opened his account twice in the opening 15 minutes. He raced through, only to be stopped by a desperate challenge; and then headed fractionally too high.

He then laid on a splendid opportunity for Nolan, who fired against the post; but he finally found the net on 20 minutes.

Paul Varden was carried off on 34 minutes, when as he over-stretched while attempting to beat a defender.

The Tigers continued in the ascendancy, after the interval, and Owen saw a low drive cleared off the line by McCauley.

James added his second, on 66 minutes, when he pounced on a through ball; and rounded Farrelly before slotting into the empty net.

They looked to be heading for a comfortable win but, within two minutes, they were twice pegged back.

With ten minutes left, Tony Wright ran into the area, was brought down, and the referee immediately pointed to the spot. Morton lashed home the ball.

A minute after the restart, Barrow won a corner, which Coates headed home to bring the scores level.

However, Hyde were not finished, and only an outstanding Farrelly save denied Owen of what would have been the winner.

After the match, during which injured referee David Whitby was substituted by a linesman, Barrow went up to collect the UniBond championship trophy, which they paraded before the crowd of 1,995 fans.

Barrow: Farrelly, McCauley, Robertson, Higgins, Jones, Johnston, Baureas, Prior, Coates, Morton, Marginson.
Subs: Wright for Jones (70), Brown for Marginson (60), Cooper for Prior (63).

Hyde: Scargill 6, Gallagher 6, Annan 6, Wilson 7, Garton 7, Lambert 8, Kimmins 6, Owen 8, James 8, Varden 6, Nolan 7.
Subs: Switzer 6 for Varden (34).
Refs: David Whitby (Liverpool), Gary Donoghue (Bootle).