

High Scoring Match: Hyde vs Frickley

Lutel's strike proves to be a false dawn

LUTEL JAMES went topless to celebrate the goal which Hyde fans thought had paved the way to victory on Saturday.

Unfortunately, the defence gave away another gift goal.

James' gem came six minutes from the end of a first half which promised plenty but produced little. Jason Gallagher squared the ball across the goalmouth, and James appeared from nowhere to crash home.

You would have thought he had scored a cup final winner as he pulled off his shirt and raced towards the crowd. These days, however, any Hyde goal is practically greeted with mass hysteria.

With height and bite needed in attack, Mike McKenzie played midfielder Colin Lambert in a front role.

It paid off, with the player not frightened to put himself about, and he almost scored after five minutes, when he cracked a close-range effort which David Goldsborough gratefully grasped.

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by DAVID JONES

However, the first real chance fell to Frickley, when Scott Armstrong slipped defenders and put in a neat shot that brought a brilliant save from Jon Scargill.

Armstrong was close again, minutes later, finishing off a run on the left with a shot that flashed just wide of the far post.

With Lambert up front, Ged Kimmins was playing slightly deeper; but, on 25 minutes, he joined the attack in a move which should have produced a goal.

James sprinted down the left and floated over a measured cross which seemed to fall just right for Kimmins but, with only the keeper to beat, he fired badly wide.

Chances were also sporadic in a scrappy second half.

Paul Varden's header looped wide, and Val Owen burst through but lost the ball at the edge of the area, just as he was looking good to score.

Frickley also went close and, on the hour, big Mark Haran rose unchallenged to head home a corner.

Somehow, you knew the Tigers would give one away, just as you knew they would waste a great chance of clawing a win.

With minutes left, the ball broke to Dave Nolan, yards from goal.

Not suprisingly, given Hyde's luck these days, he ballooned his shot over the bar.

Hyde: Scargill 6, Gallagher 8, Switzer 6, Wilson 6, Garton 7, Lambert 7, Kimmins 7, Owen 6, James 7, Varden 6, Nolan 6. Subs: Manning for Varden (81), Annan, Tucker.

Frickley: Goldsborough, Kelly, Hatto, Thorpe, Haran, O'Donnell, Hancock, Armstrong, Fothergill, Hilton, Fuller. Subs: Green for Fothergill (83), Frank, Stratford.

Ref: David Commins (Preston).



JAMES: goal