

# Tigers regain roar

**Altrincham ..... 1**

**Hyde Utd.....3**

by **DAVID JONES**

WITH the lights from a nearby big top twinkling in the background, the Tigers turned from kittens into big cats, on Saturday.

Those dismal defeats at the hands of Barrow, Ilkeston and Colwyn Bay were forgotten as Hyde dictated play and demoralised Alty.

The commitment of every Ewen Fields player was unbelievable. They ran till they dropped, defended so well the home attack hardly had a look in, and the front line was dynamic.

Ironically, the Tigers took time to find a way to goal and, in the meantime, George Switzer and Billy Garton - my men of the match - both cleared shots off the line.

However, Hyde still looked the fast-flowing masters, and they went ahead after 25 minutes, when the unmarked Kimmins rose to head a Paul Varden cross past Matt Dickins.

That strike had the Tigers buzzing, and home fans were silenced as a Val Owen header arched wide, and Lutel James had a shot palmed out before firing in a blistering shot that cannoned off Dickins' arm.

Alty were handed a lifeline, 15 minutes after the break, when a Stuart Terry shot crashed off Colin Lambert's arm. The penalty decision seemed harsh; but Scargill, who had a sound game, pushed the kick for a corner.

The Robins tried to hit back, but Niel Hardy and Chris Sharratt missed sitters, and any hope they had of snatching a point disappeared when the Tigers struck twice in two minutes.

On 69 minutes, a super Switzer corner was met by Dave Nolan, who headed in at the post. Then, Kimmins raced onto a Jason Gallagher pass, eluded the onrushing Dickins, and hit the ball into the net from the acutest of angles.

Altrincham grabbed a consolation goal on 76 minutes, when a Mark Maddox free kick hit a defender and squirmed past Scargill.

With four minutes left, we were saved a nailbiting finish when a Tony Kelly free kick crashed against the bar.

Altrincham: Dickins, Shepherd, Adams, France, Maddox, Taylor, Terry, Brown, Hardy, Carmody, Sharratt. Subs: Kelly for Taylor (54), Anne for Brown (54), McGoona for Hardy (84).

Hyde: Scargill 7, Gallagher 8, Switzer 9, Wilson 8, Garton 9, Lambert 8, Kimmins 8, Owen 8, James 8, Varden 8, Nolan 8. Subs: Raffell, Murray, Annan.

Ref: David Whitby (Liverpool).