



James leaves the Silkmen in tatters

CONFERENCE kingpins Macclesfield may be just a step from the Football League, but they were humbled by Hyde at the Drill Field on Saturday.

The Silkmen were outclassed, out-thought and out-fought by a Tigers team that was simply superb.

Macc, seemingly certs for the Conference title, were odds-on favourites for the county cup.

However, they struggled to live with Mike McKenzie's men during the last 20 minutes of normal time; and, in extra time, Hyde stepped up a gear to make the Conference thoroughbreds look like park pitch carthorses.

Lutel James was at his creative best, Billy Garton snuffed ex-Man United star Peter Davenport out of the game, and keeper Ademola Bankole pulled off a series of superb saves.

Early on, Phil Power and Scott Wood looked a handful but, as the game progressed, they got nowhere.

Suddenly, it was will o' the whisp James, Steve Jones and Ged Kimmins - at his international best - who had the neutrals cheering. James, in particular, looked more Premier League than UniBond League.

Sharp raids that started deep in defence, were suddenly catching out the Silkmen, and keeper Ryan Price was looking decidedly unhappy.

At the other end, Bankole brilliantly got down to deny Power from 15 yards. Then, George Switzer cleared off the line.

As the game wore on, Hyde's confidence grew and it was they that began to look like Nationwide League material.

Seventeen minutes from the end of normal time, Prince Moncrieffe came on for Jones, and he was to prove the ace in the pack.

The Tigers started extra time like an express train and, after nine

**Hyde United.....3
Macclesfield T.....0**

by DAVID JONES

*Cheshire Senior Cup final
after extra time*



minutes, their fans were cheering. Moncrieffe, alone on the left, launched a cross that slipped through Price's fingers; and the unmarked Kimmins stabbed into an empty net.

Four minutes later, the true pride of Tameside had doubled their score. Once again, the fast and fluent Moncrieffe was the provider. He put a cross inside, and James turned on a sixpence to scorch the ball past Price and into the roof of the net.

The Silkmen were made to look like ragmen as Hyde kept on turning the knife and, in the 115th minute, James turned up to hammer the final nail in the coffin.

With Macc throwing men forward, Garton sent a long ball upfield. Price hared out, but he could not match lethal Lutel, who won the sprint, skipped past the keeper and shot into an empty net.

Mike McKenzie had maintained his record of a trophy a season.

Hyde: Bankole 9, Leberl 8, Switzer 8, Wilson 6, Garton 9, Henshaw 6, Kimmins 5, Owen 8, James 10, Jones 8, Nolan 8. Subs: Moncrieffe 9 for Jones (73), Donnelly 8 for Henshaw (111), Reid.
Macclesfield: Price, Edey, Bradshaw, Payne, Howarth, Sorvel, Askey, Wood, Davenport, Power, Byrne. Subs: Peel for Davenport (82), Williams for Sorvel (105), Lavantes for Power (105).
Ref: Joe Copeland (Wirral).



JUBILATION ... Top, the delighted Tigers players celebrate their Cheshire Senior Cup victory over mighty Macclesfield. Lutel James is extreme right of kneeling group. Above, Ged Kimmins challenges goalkeeper Ryan Price.

Pictures: Tim Holt