

# Hyde narrow the gap on leaders Leek

UNIBOND leaders Leek Town must have cast a nervous glance over their shoulders after hearing of this result.

While they were playing out their second consecutive goalless draw on Saturday, the Tigers were rampant, taking another bite out of Leek's points lead.

However, Hyde took some time to break down a Knowsley side that had come to town hoping for a draw. It took them 36 minutes to put their first real shot and, amazingly, it resulted in a goal.

Lurking just inside in the box, Ged Kimmins brought down a cross from the left with his head and, in one sweet movement, lobbed the keeper.

Suddenly the game was alive and, perhaps, a little too much so for Dave Nolan, who was the victim of a sickening tackle by Mick Arnold.

The young midfielder was sent off a in effect

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by DAVID JONES

was the red card for Knowsley's hopes. The Tigers responded by piling on the pressure and, deep into first-half injury time, Kimmins left defenders chasing shadows as he surged up the left.

He rounded off the run with a crisp shot that Williams could only parry, and Nolan knocked the ball into an empty net.

The second half was totally one-sided, with wave after wave of attacks showing up the visitors.

Prompting and probing, Kimmins and Lutel James looked for the key to more goals, and they

found it after 62 minutes. James met a low Kimmins cross in the goalmouth, and tucked it past Williams.

Tony Carroll cracked a 20-yarder just wide but Knowsley's reprieve was only short lived.

With three minutes left, he unleashed a beauty into the bottom corner, and the fire siren sounds echoed over Ewen Fields.

Contractors are giving Hyde a ground fit for Conference soccer. Mike McKenzie has already produced a team that will be able to hold its own there.

Hyde: Jones 7, Megram 7, Donnelly 7, Wilson 7, Garton 7, Brockie 7, Kimmins 9, Owen 7, James 7, Carroll 7, Nolan 8. Subs: Henshaw 7 for Brockie (40), Moncrieffe 6 for James (74), Camilleri 6 for Owen (80).

Knowsley: Williams, Boland, Hughes, McKenna, Johnston, Gouldbourne, Arnold, Morley, Weathers, Furlong, Wilde. Subs: McHugh for Gouldbourne (69), Brown for McKenna (62), Blundel for Furlong (74).

Ref. Graham Salisbury (Preston).