

Tigers must have done enough

HYDE look certain to play mighty Macclesfield Town in the final, despite shoddy defending that gave the North West Counties League side a last minute goal.

I just can't see the Tigers losing the second leg at Ellesmere Port, on Tuesday.

But, although Monday's win was fairly convincing, fans expecting a hatful of goals following Saturday's sorry Trophy showing were disappointed.

The Tigers went ahead with the quickest goal seen at E-ven Fields for many a year. Forty seconds were on the clock when Dave Nolan bundled in a low cross that deceived keeper Russ Hughes.

The cross came from Tony Carroll who, in the space of five minutes, had launched a header that Hughes brilliantly turned for a corner; then crashed in a shot the keeper saved with his legs.

<i>Hyde United</i>	3
<i>Vauxhall G.M.</i>	1

by **DAVID JONES**

Cheshire Senior Cup semi-final, first leg

Hyde looked good for more and, after 25 minutes, it was 2-0. Trying to clear a centre with Lutel James bearing down him, Neil Williams only succeeded in turning the ball into his own net.

At time, Vauxhall played some nice football, and they went close on the half-hour when Leigh Williams broke through only to put his shot right at Martin Jones.

Then, in a frenzied sequence that produced three corners in as many minutes, former Hyde

favourite Dave Billows headed just over the bar. Hyde, workmanlike rather than spectacular, clinched the game four minutes from the break, when Val Owen tricked his way through to beat Hughes from close-in.

The second half was an anti-climax. The visitors bustled without really looking dangerous, and the Tigers were not much better.

Jason Donnelly was sent off on 71 minutes, for pulling back Tony Ungi back as the Vauxhall man powered through on goal and, in the last minute, dosing defenders allowed the unmarked Ungi to head past Jones.

Hyde: Jones 6, Gallagher 6, Donnelly 6, Wilson 6, Garton 6, Brockie 6, Kimmins 6, Owen 6, James 6, Carroll 7, Nolan 6. Subs: Camilleri 5 for James (78), Moncrieffe 5 for Kimmins (64), Henshaw.

Vauxhall: Hughes, N.Williams, Fox, McLoughlin, Billows, Nesbitt, Wenham, L. Williams, Young, McNicholas, Smith. Subs: Hardacre for Smith (60), Ungi for McNicholas (60), Scott for McLoughlin (60).

Ref: Steve Brand (Irby).