

Tigers cruise to top of table

Frickley Ath0
Hyde Utd.....3

by **SPECIAL
CORRESPONDENT**

HYDE cruised to the top of the UniBond premier division with a crushing defeat over a physical Frickley outfit on Tuesday.

Chances were at a premium early on, and neither keeper was tested. A Mark Hancock shot flew well wide for Athletic while, at the other end, Val Owen failed to connect properly with a Ged Kimmins cross.

Soon afterwards, it was Kimmins who failed to convert a Paul Cox centre.

The best chance fell to Ian Dring, who was put through by Dempsey, but Martin Jones saved superbly.

Frickley were enjoying their best spell, but it was the Tigers who opened the scoring on 35 minutes. A pinpoint cross from Lutel James found Kimmins some 15 yards out, and he struck a sweet shot past Tommy Allen.

After the break, Hyde increased the tempo and a Tony Carroll free kick rattled the bar before bouncing away to safety. Val Owen tested the keeper, and the home side, looking increasingly ragged, began to resort to physical methods.

The Tigers increased their lead on 74 minutes when Vinnie Brockie launched the ball into the penalty box. As Jason Donnelly challenged Allen, the ball broke to Brockie who, while others were appealing for a foul, knocked the ball into the net.

Now, it was Hyde all the way. Kimmins missed glorious chances and, after a surging run, Owen put his shot finish just wide of the post.

The final goal again involved the versatile Donnelly. His shot across the box found Kimmins unmarked, and the winger tapped into an empty net.

With Andy Reid again outstanding, Hyde are now looking formidable.

Frickley: Allen, Stubbs, Hatto, Field, Taylor, Kelly, Hancock, Thorpe, Dring, Duffy, Dempsey.
Subs: Armstrong, Thompson.
Hyde: Jones 8, Gallagher 8, Cox 8, Wilson 8, Reid 9, Brockie 8, Kimmins 8, Owen 8, James 8, Carroll 8, Nolan 8. **Subs:** Henshaw 6 for Brockie (75), Donnelly 6 for James (67), Garton.
Ref: Carl Boyeson.