

# Sweet revenge for the Tigers



Hyde United .....2  
Witton Albion .....1

by MIKE PAVASOVIC

*UniBond Cheshire Senior Cup  
second round*

**THE Tigers may have gained revenge for last season's Cheshire Senior Cup final defeat, but there was little to warm the fans on a bitterly cold Monday evening.**

Recent boardroom upheavals have clearly taken their toll of the Witton team, but Hyde played well within themselves, and the result was a poor night's entertainment for the 311 hardy souls who risked the icy weather.

Manager Mike McKenzie commented: "It was a poor game. We didn't perform particularly well. I don't know how much that had to do with them, or us, but the main thing is that we won."

In fact, the goal which won the match just about summed up what had gone before. With 16 minutes left, Tony Carroll got his head to a ball that had been floated into the box. Gary Dullaghan presumably tried to head clear, but succeeded only in putting the ball past Mark Statham.

The Tigers had, in fact, gone ahead after just six minutes, after a neat move up the right. Carroll supplied Lutel James, whose shot was parried by Statham. Jason Donnelly, on the left of the box, was able to pick up the pieces.

At that point, it seemed that Hyde would go on to win comfortably, and that belief was compounded when Donnelly hit the underside of the bar after 19 minutes.

However, Witton were given the chance to come back. With half an hour gone, the Tigers wanted too much time on the right. Liam Watson was able to get his cross in, and it went through a crowded box to Darren Marl, who drove home a low shot.

After that, the game seemed destined to peter out into a draw, but Hyde came back and Witton's two-year hold on the county cup was broken.

Hyde: Jones 7, Gallagher 7, Cox 8, Wilson 7, Reid 8, Brockie 7, Kimmins 6, Owen 7, James 7, Carroll 7, Donnelly 8. Subs: Henshaw for Brockie (65), Nolan for Donnelly (69), Camilleri for James (85).

Witton: Statham, Gould, Critchley, Pritchard, Dullaghan, Jones, Carroll, Brown, Marl, Thomson, Watson. Subs: Bishop, Brenchley, Borwick.  
Ref: Richard Sutton (Bollington).

**DEFLECTION ...** Tony Carroll's 74th-minute header was put into the net by Witton defender Gary Dullaghan. Picture: Jon Snape.