

Gallagher's strike crowns fightback

HYDE United's Tigers nickname was certainly well-earned on Saturday, against managerless Chorley.

The Magpies somehow managed to take a 3-1 lead, but were eventually pegged back thanks to midfield tenacity provided by inspired substitutions.

Hyde had two quality chances in the first five minutes, through Tony Carroll and Ged Kimmins, but both went begging.

Then, the Magpies had an amazing escape when Kimmins, Dave Nolan, and Carroll all had shots blocked. The final shot was clearly handed on the line by Tony Ward, but the referee failed to spot the offence, and the ball was cleared.

Chorley took the lead, against the run of play, with their first shot on 25 minutes. A ball over the top of the defence from Kenny Mayers found

Chorley	3
Hyde United	3

Ian Blackstone who, in turn, found the net.

Things became a little heated when Gary Thomas and Lutel James clashed, and both men were cautioned, but James' sorrow turned to joy when he capitalised on a defensive mistake and ran on to slot home the equaliser.

However, Chorley regained their advantage within 60 seconds. The Tigers' defence was caught napping, and Blackstone's cross was headed home by former Marine man Steve Haw.

Hyde enjoyed vast amounts of possession, but it was the Magpies who took the chances and, on 54 minutes they made it 3-1. Lee Trundle skipped past two defenders and crossed for Blackstone, who scored from close range.

The game changed after Mike McKenzie brought on Vinnie Brockie and Jason Donnelly to toughen up midfield and, as Chorley began to tire, Hyde increased the pressure.

On 77 minutes they won a penalty when Kimmins was upended in the box, and David Nolan gave Simon Marsh no chance from the penalty spot.

Now it was Hyde pressure all the way and, with five minutes left, a Brockie pass found Jason Gallagher 25 yards from goal, and he unleashed a terrific drive which flew into the net.

Hyde: Jones 7, Gallagher 7, Cox 7, Wilson 7, Reid 8, Henshaw 7, Kimmins 7, Eadaille 8, James 7, Carroll 7, Nolan 7. Subs: Brockie 6 for Henshaw (65), Donnelly 6 for Eadaille (60), Camilleri.

Chorley: Marsh, Ward, Thomas, Mayers, Thorpe, Wright, Fleming, Emerson, Haw, Trundle, Blackstone. Subs: Worthington, Proctor, Clarke.

Ref: Steve Caterall (Liverpool).



GALLAGHER: super goal