Nolan injury is serious blow

HYDE travelled to Wincham Park seeking their first league win at Witton since their return to the NPL in 1982, and I am at a loss to explain why they failed to do so.

The well-worn cliche "If it were a boxing match it would have been stopped," certainly applied to this game. The Tigers dominated this match.

Hyde's early efforts fell to Val Owen and Ged Kimmins, who both put shots wide following good work by Lutel James.

The same players also hit the woodwork - Owen after another pass from the quicksilver James, and Kimmins when he attempted to lob keeper Tim Clarke.

It was five-figure signing Paul Robertson who provided Albion with their first



NOLAN: injured

Witton Albion0 Hyde Utd.....0

by SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

clear chance, but he fired wide.

James skipped clear of the defence once more, only to see his cross evade the Hyde forwards.

The second half began with the Tigers having a good appeal for a penalty turned down when Kimmins appeared to be fouled.

At the other end, Martin Jones looked his confident self, and dealt well with a testing shot from Liam Watson.

However, home keeper Clarke was looking less confident, and a poor clearance led to Garry Henshaw trying a Beckham-like lob from the edge of the centre circle, which dropped just over the bar.

On the stroke of time, David Nolan was stretchered off with what appeared to be a badly twisted ankle, to add to Hyde's seemingly endless injury list.

Witton: Clarke, Parsley, Robertson, Matthewson, Caton, Fahy, Brenchley, McDonald, Wilde, Whalley, Watson. Substitutes: Rodwell, Shorrock, Helme.

Hyde: Jones 8, Esdaille 8, Switzer 8, Wilson 8, Gallagher 8, Henshaw 8, Kimmins 8, Owen 8, James 9, Carroll 8, Nolan 8. Subs: Cameron, Hall, Donnelly for Nolan (89).

Ref: Allan Rawcliffe (Failsworth).