

Tigers maul new boys

Lancaster0
Hyde Utd.....4

by STAFF REPORTER

MIKE MCKENZIE'S Hyde United side gave their travelling army of fans an opening day victory to savour, when they supplied a dazzling display of free-flowing, attacking football, on Saturday.

Hyde, without the injured Billy Garton, Ged Kimmins and Derek Hall, started brightly, and a Dave Nolan header flashed just wide of the post.

Then, with just nine minutes gone, they took the lead when Tony Carroll headed home a Vince Brockie corner. The goal served to stir Lancaster into action, and they were, perhaps, unlucky not to draw level when a 30-yard free kick by veteran John Coleman struck a post.

At the other end, Carroll brought a fine save from Thornley, with a fine turn and shot. The home side threatened again through Coleman, but the excellent Martin Jones saved well.

Val Owen tested Thornley with a fine drive as Hyde continued to dominate, and the Tigers soon increased their advantage. Following a pin-point free kick from Brockie, scored with a looping header into the far corner.

As the second half began, in torrential rain, Lancaster displayed greater determination, but struggled to make any real headway. On the other hand, with Owen, Lutel James and Carroll all looking dangerous, the Tigers were now definitely rampant. Carroll had a goalbound effort tipped away by the busy Thornley but, with 20 minutes to go, Brockie was replaced by Gary Henshaw, and Hyde made it 3-0 when Owen used his strength to shrug off challenges before firing the ball past the advancing goalkeeper.

Any confidence in the home defence was now gone, but their misery continued when Steve McNeill was shown the red card after committing a second bookable offence. The Tigers sealed their fine victory with a fourth goal. Great work by Henshaw and James set up Nolan - playing his 250th game for the Ewen Field side - with a chance to score from close range.

New striker Prince Moncrieff, signed from local football, was introduced for the last ten minutes, which featured a barrage of shots from the Tigers' big guns.

Hyde: Jones 8, Cox 7, Switzer 7, Wilson 7, Gallagher 7, Brockie 8, Varden 7, Owen 8, Jones 8, Carroll 8, Nolan 8. Subs: Eadwille 6 for Varden (75), Henshaw 8 for Brockie (70), Moncrieff 6 for Owen (80).

Lancaster: Thornley, McAuley, Armstrong, McNeill, Dullaghan, Gelling, Trainor, Flannery, Diggle, Coleman, Borrowdale. Subs: Stimpson, Hartley, Kay. Ref: Andy Breckell (Accrington).