

# Tigers lacking vital spark

FIREMAN Tony Carroll may have scored a scorcher, but there was little in Saturday's clash to inflame the passions. Hyde won, but they often lacked ideas against a bargain basement Buxton side that had conceded 31 goals in 12 league outings.

Carroll had a good game and, with a bit more luck, could have cracked a hat-trick. Early on, he crashed in a blockbuster that tested Jim O'Donnell and, as the game was in its closing stages, smashed a rocket off the underside of the bar.

The only goal of a drab game came after 35 minutes, when Dave Nolan slipped a pass inside for Carroll to power low past O'Donnell.

At the start, the Tigers were in control, with Nolan curling one just wide of the post, and clipping in a close-range effort that brought the best out of O'Donnell.

However, the Bucks refused to lie down and, minutes later, Arthur Williams was diving backwards to punch out a belter of a cross from Mark Hopkinson; and racing out of his area to beat Carl Holmes in a chase for the ball.

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<b>Buxton</b> .....	<b>0</b>
<b>Hyde United</b> .....	<b>1</b>

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by **DAVID JONES**

Suddenly, a Hyde defence badly lacking the experienced Billy Garton began to look vulnerable, and the stylish Hopkinson put in a header that Williams tipped clear.

Minutes later, Buxton went close again, Richie Brown ending a run down the right with an angled shot that Williams saved at the near post.

Things might have looked more respectable if Tony Camilleri's corner that slipped past defenders and hit the post had gone in; but, really, all Hyde could be pleased about was that they took three points.

Buxton: O'Donnell, Goodison, Taylor, Bainbridge, Ryan, Green, Bancroft, Brown, Maxwell, Holmes, Hopkinson. Subs: Jacks, Martin, Godwin.

Hyde: Williams 8, Cox 6, Switzer 6, Wilson 6, McLellan 6, Donnelly 6, Kimmins 6, Camilleri 6, Little 6, Carroll 7, Nolan 6. Subs: Pybus 6 for Donnelly (69), Esdaille 6 for Little (80), Gallagher 6 for Camilleri (86).