

# Hyde sing a Christmas Carroll

RED-HOT Tony Carroll took his goals tally to five in three games as Hyde buried the battling Bishops on Saturday.

And with Val Owen signing off with a super strike before jetting off to Jamaica, it all added up to a cracking Christmas present.

The wonder win took the Tigers to second in the table and, with leaders Bamber Bridge crushed at Guiseley, it promises to be an exciting New Year.

To their credit, Bishops never stopped fighting. They never stopped trying, and they never stopped going forward; but with gutsy Gus Wilson having another dream game in midfield, Hyde's defence looked as tough as last year's Christmas turkey.

With strong crosswinds hampering play, both sides struggled early on, but the Tigers created what few chances there were.

Dave Nolan arrived almost unnoticed to head inches over the bar, and Billy Garton's back-

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**Hyde United.....3**  
**Bishop Auckland.....1**

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by DAVID JONES

header had to be clawed back off the goal line.

Bishops' resistance finally broke in the 26th minute, when Owen's low shot from the edge of the box zipped past Kevin Wolfe.

The visitors matched Hyde move for move, but it was the home side who crafted the openings, and Colin Little and Ged Kimmins were continually buzzing.

But it was Christmas Carroll who sent Hyde in singing at half time. Two minutes before the break, a corner caught Wolfe in no-man's land, and Carroll hooked home.

Kimmins should have added a third on 50 minutes, when he latched onto a faulty Wolfe clear-

ance, but the keeper got his hands to the shot.

Bishops had their chances. Stephen Carter fired wide of a yawning goal, and Paul Dobson shot over the bar.

Their failures gave Hyde even more confidence and, bang on the hour, Wolfe failed to grasp Jason Gallagher's power packet, and Carroll cracked his second into an empty net.

The Tigers should have had more, but the spotlight turned on Andrew Banks, who slipped a slick pass into the net on 72 minutes, just 90 seconds after coming on as sub.

It spurred Bishops and, with minutes to go, Mike Waller pulled one badly wide with just Arthur Williams to beat. Gary Hyde missed another sitter.

Hyde: Williams 7, Gallagher 7, Switzer 7, Wilson 8, Garton 7, Henshaw 7, Kimmins 7, Owen 7, Little 7, Carroll 7, Nolan 7.  
Subs: Tobin 7 for Henshaw (76), Esdaille, McLellan.

Bishops: Wolfe, West, Forest, Waller, Lobb, McKinlay, Dobson, Todd, Milner, Carter, Sinclair. Subs: Hyde for Dobson (62), Banks for Todd (74), Fletcher for Sinclair (76).