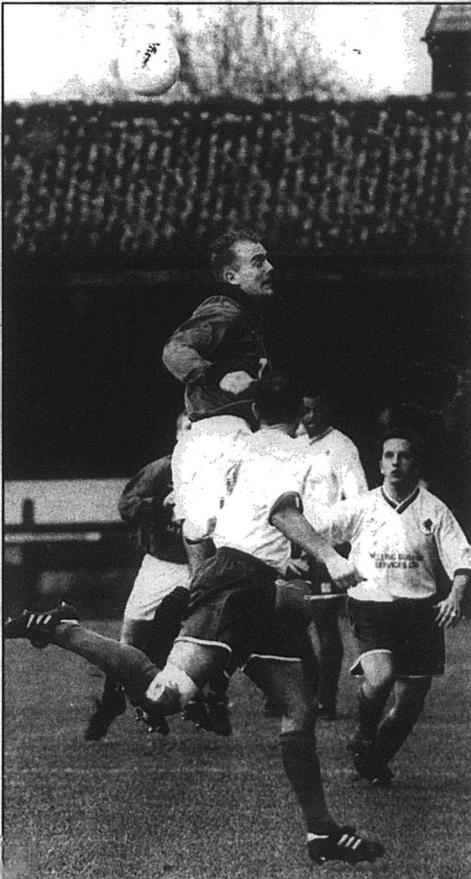


Speedy Kimmo pumps up fee



WINNER ... Tony Carroll gets to the ball ahead of the towering Welling players. Picture: Tim Holt.

Hyde United	4
Welling United	1

by **DAVID JONES**

F.A. Umbro Trophy
second round

GED KIMMINS could be the next big-money signing to leave Ewen Fields, after a four-goal five-star performance on Saturday that must have upped his value by thousands.

Ice-cool Kimmo cracked a hat-trick in the first 15 minutes, then swooped to head a fabulous fourth as Hyde dominated and destroyed yet another Vauxhall Conference outfit.

The Kent kingpins - hardly a player was under six feet - were cut down to size by a Tigers team emerging as one of the best non-league sides in the country.



It was fitting Kimmins should have been the slayer, as he had just heard he had been named as a member of the Eng-**WILSON: superb** land squad for the semi-pro international with Ireland, on February 29.

But, on a day when Hyde became the real pride of Tameside, every man played out of his skin, with Gus Wilson at the heart of a defence that made Welling wail.

The Kimmins show started after five minutes of solid pressure, when he took part in a neat exchange with Tony Carroll before cracking home from just inside the area.

Sixty seconds later, Welling's Trophy hopes lay in tatters when Kimmo ended a run down the right with a shot that scorched past Andy Harris, and in at the far post.

The men of Kent pulled one back after 13 minutes, when Ollie Morah beat Billy Garton for speed, and his long ball was stabbed in from close range by ex-Peterborough striker Liburd Henry.

But the slick, quick Tigers came again and, three minutes later, Harris could only push a Kimmins effort onto the bar and over the line.

A Welling side studded with former Football League players was being beaten for pace and class as Hyde continually punched holes in a defence that is normally teak tough.

More goals always looked on and, ten minutes from the break, Kimmins ducked to deftly head home a Jason Gallagher cross for his 24th goal of the season.

The second half was an anti-climax. It was more a case of the Tigers keeping what they had rather than risking a Kentish revival.

Welling had what openings there were. Dean Wordsworth, trying a chip, clipped the ball into Arthur Williams' hands; then Paul Copley fired straight at the keeper. Indeed, Williams came into his own as Welling tried to score.

Hyde: Williams 7, Gallagher 7, Switzer 7, Wilson 8, Garton 7, Henshaw 7, Kimmins 9, Owen 7, Dowe 6, Carroll 7, Nolan 7. Subs: Esdaille 6 for Dowe (70), Murphy 7, for Henshaw (75), McLellan for Owen (90).

Welling: Harris, Farley, Horton, Tierling, Copley, Berry, Wordsworth, Watts, Morah, Henry, Brown. Subs: Gorman for Copley (78), Smith for Watts (78), Hales. Referee: Michael Pike (Barrow).

Trophy win delights Macca

TIGERS' manager Mike McKenzie declared himself "very pleased" after his side put paid to yet another Conference side on Saturday. He said: "We did what we had to do. We just blitzed them. Conference sides don't like it when you step it up, and Welling struggled to keep up with us.

"The lads believe in themselves,

and that helped a lot, and the result has set things up nicely for the next two or three games.

"The result was good, and I'm dead, dead chuffed with the way the team played. Ged got four goals, and Gus Wilson was different class."

However, the match left McKenzie with injury problems. Gary Henshaw twisted his knee at the start of the game and, later, had to be substituted.

McKenzie said: "It's the same knee that kept him out for a season. He's worse for wear at the moment, and I have no idea how long he'll be out. It could be a long job, it could be a short one."

Colin Murphy and Tony Carroll were hurt during Tuesday's Manchester Premier Cup tie at Maine Road, both players falling heavily on the sticky pitch.

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