

Tigers blunt Macc attack

MIKE McKENZIE and his staff were understandably jubilant on Tuesday, when the Tigers protected a 2-1 first-leg lead with a confident display against Conference champions Macclesfield.

The surface may have been difficult, but Hyde showed a defensive steele in addition to their usual stylish attacking. The Silkmen could find no way through and, once again, it was Paul Varden who found the net - scoring his fourth goal in three games.

Tony Carroll, returning from injury, also looked menacing, and the home defence struggled to contain the Tigers early on. Ged Kimmins raced through to beat fellow England man Ryan Price, but failed to control the ball.

Hyde took a deserved lead on 27 minutes. A Colin Murphy corner was flicked on by Billy Garton, and Varden rifled home a shot from the edge of the box, sending the large contingent of Hyde supporters wild.

Now trailing by two goals, Macclesfield to up the tempo. Wingers Tony Hemmings and Darren Lyons provided some teasing crosses, but the Silkmen failed to convert their chances. In fact it was only sloppy defending by the Tigers that allowed the Conference champions their chance to equalise.

On 36 minutes, as the ball bobbled around the box, Hyde failed to clear, and

Macclesfield 1
Hyde Utd..... 1

by **STAFF REPORTER**

*Cheshire Senior Cup
semi-final second leg
Hyde win 2-1 on aggregate*

Hemmings pounced to steer the ball past Arthur Williams.

Varden was unlucky not to double his count, when his shot went just wide shortly after.

The were on top at the start of the second half, with Hemmings, Lyons and Power all looking dangerous, and the latter produced a good save from Arthur Williams.

A stinging shot from Tony Carroll, following fine approach work by Val Owen, ensured Price was kept on his toes at the other end.

The Tigers' back line was growing in confidence, and the ever-dependable Gus Wilson was ably supported by Paul Cox, Jason Gallagher and Garton.

Macc were now reduced to long-range efforts, the best of which came from former Stafford full-back Mark Bradshaw. Sammy McIlroy brought on Marc Coates and Simon Hutchinson in an attempt to break Hyde's resistance, but neither man could produce the required touch in front of goal.

Hyde: Williams 8, Cox 8, Gallagher 8, Wilson 8, Garton 8, Murphy 7, Kimmins 7, Owen 7, Varden 8, Carroll 7, Nolan 7. Subs: Evans 7 for Carroll, Esdaille, Camilleri.

Macclesfield: Price, Edey, Bradshaw, Payne, Howarth, Sorvel, Lyons, Gardiner, Cavell, Power, Hemmings. Subs: Wood, Hutchinson, Coates.

Ref: Stephen Brand (Wirral).