

ALCESTER RFC MATCH REPORTS

Saturday 13th October 2007

EDF Energy Junior Vase Round Three

Aldridge 10 Alcester 25

Alcester progressed to the next round of the national vase, with a well deserved win in the Black Country.

A much changed Alcester side took the lead early on through an Andy Smith penalty, after the home team had strayed offside in front of their own posts.

The hosts hit back shortly afterwards with the game's opening try as one of their wingers raced in following poor tackling from the King's Coughton men, before Alcester regained the lead thanks to another Smith penalty, but only after he had missed an earlier opportunity.

With new line out jumpers Andy Spires and Nod O'Dell working well, Alcester enjoyed the better of the half, but they were unable to turn their domination into points, and actually trailed at the break, as Aldridge scored another try to lead 10-6, following some more suspect Alcester defence.

The visitors didn't have to wait long before they reclaimed the lead in the second period. A good passage of forward play deep inside Aldridge territory culminated in inside centre Brett Allard crashing over, a try which Smith converted.

Despite often being second best the home side enjoyed some good spells of their own, and they pinned Alcester inside their own twenty two for a short period midway through the half. The visitors quickly turned defence into attack, however, and following a solid scrum, the ball found its way to wing Robbie Parker who set off an typically incisive run which took him from one end of the field to the other. Parker looked for support and the play moved to the opposite wing where James Daffern rounded off a good move.

The home side's heads dropped after this score and the remainder of the game belonged to the visitors. Allard blazed through the defence for his second try which Smith converted to round off the scoring and confirm a pleasing win for Alcester.

A big day for English rugby next Saturday starts with the resumption of the league programme and the visit of Harbury to King's Coughton for a 3pm kick off. The World Cup final will follow this on the big screen in the clubhouse and all are welcome to hopefully watch a win for Brian Ashton's men.

Alcester 2nd XV

For the second time this season, the seconds were left disappointed by the late cry off of their scheduled opponents leaving no time for an alternative fixture to be arranged.

Edwardians 3rds were the culprits on this occasion calling at 1.45pm to cancel the fixture.