

**Saturday January 19<sup>th</sup> 2008**

**Midlands Division Five West South**

**Rugby St Andrews 68 Alcester 0**

A much changed and depleted Alcester side were put to the sword for the second week running by the unbeaten league leaders at their Hillmorton ground. Injuries and illness robbed Alcester of several players, and they faced their most difficult task of the season without any recognised back row players or a regular fly half. Three of the new additions to the team had very little 1<sup>st</sup> XV experience, making Alcester's task all the more difficult.

In truth, unlike last week, Alcester were never really in the game and as much as they battled, they were out thought and over powered by an impressive Saints fifteen.

The game was over long before half time in a first half where the home side racked up 42 points.

Both sides were hampered by the extremely wet and muddy conditions, but Saints coped best with it, particularly at the scrum, where the changes in the normally dependable Alcester eight contributed to them being shoved off it at will, especially in the second half.

In the end Alcester were grateful for the score staying at 68, such was the home side's domination of all areas of play. Only "try line" fever by some of the Saints players stopped the score being more. The visitors finished the game with fourteen men, after yet another injury after both substitutes had been used.

With their prides dented, Alcester hope to regroup and most importantly get some of their injured players back before next week's crucial visit of Nuneaton side Manor Park to King's Coughton for a 2.15pm kick off.