

West 17-64 Biggar

West faced Biggar needing points, getting near the bottom of the table. The weather was much improved from previous weeks, calm but wet at times.

Early exchanges were even, but Biggar scored first, winger Rowan Steward scoring in the corner, unconverted. They extended their lead after a breakaway when scrum half Luhann Cotze scored under the post. Euan Bogle converted, and the visitors lead 0-12.



West were hitting back but passes weren't reaching the intended target until after a period of sustained pressure near the Biggar line, Danny Dineen smuggled the ball over from a tap penalty. The conversion was missed but West struck again when Blair Smith kicked forward, collected his own kick and was nearly in to score when he was stopped by the Biggar defence. The ball was recycled to Ross MacAulay who scored, Pete Burns converting, and it was level at 12-12.

Biggar were not only passing better but dominant in the scrums and it was no surprise when Luhann Cotze grounded a pushover try from a scrum 5. Euan Bogle converted, and it was 12-17 at half time.

Biggar scored two rapid breakaway tries for their bonus after half time from – improbably – prop Calum Henderson, then Rowan Steward added his second. Both were converted and the match looked gone from West's point of view at 12-33.

Still, West went in search of a try bonus of their own and Robbie Greenhalgh scored an excellent try, bursting through three tackles to score. The conversion was missed and that was that for West.

After Fraser Smeaton was yellow carded, Biggar scored from an interception by Ryan Moffat just when West looked set to score, a pushover try from no. 8 Andrew Orr and a breakaway after a scrum against the head by winger Rowan Stewart.

Another roll of the dice from West went wrong when an attempted chip over the defence found hooker Ewan Stewart who intercepted and ran the length of the pitch to score. Right at the death yet another Biggar breakaway saw winger Ross Bradford end the scoring at 17-64.



Not a good afternoon for West, handling and scrums being much worse than this team is capable of. West face nervous wait for Whitecraigs results – another loss for the Newton Mearns club should mean West should be safe for another year but nothing can be taken for granted. West finish the season with difficult away trips to Dumfries and league leaders Kirkcaldy.

West: 1 Neil Fullarton, 2. Danny Dineen, 3. Mark Vallance, 4 Alan Bodel, 5. James Harley, 6. Craig McCall, 7. Jamie McAulay, 8. Fraser Smeaton, 9. Harry Brewster, 10. Ross McAulay, 11, Pete Burns,

12. Blair Smith, 13. Robbie Greenhalgh, 14. Nicky Sutcliffe 15. Alexander Fiskén. Substitutes 16:
Stuart MacDonald, 17. Stuart Ferguson, 18. Nathan Smit, 19. Robert Osborn.