

West 43-19 Carrick

West faced newly promoted South Ayrshire side Carrick in what might be the first fixture at 1st XV level between the clubs. As West go back to 1865 it's hard to tell. Conditions were good, sunny but a bit blustery.

West were quick to get started, scrum half Jacob Seims sniping well early on. West broke through after sustained pressure, Jamie McAulay finding a gap to score. Dru Nicholson converted and soon after landed a penalty shot after several strong West scrums and it was 10-0.



West were overpowering Carrick in the forwards and after a driving maul Dylan Matthews wriggled through the defence to score. Dru Nicholson added the extras, having a good game with the boot.

Then Dru Nicholson executed a lovely delayed pass to Jamie McAulay who did the hard work, breaking the defence so that Nicky Sutcliffe had only to touch down to score. Dru Nicholson again converted to make it 24-0 at half time.

West were totally dominant in the scrum and Jamie McAulay scored off the base of a driving scrum, unconverted but West had their try bonus at 29-0.

Another break off the back of a powerful scrum saw Calum Booth score, Dru Nicholson converting to make it 36-0. Then for many the highlight of the match when James Harley chipped forward, followed it up, booted ahead and grounded in what seemed like slow motion to score a rare try. James does a lot of hard work in the pack, but will never be a winger. Dru Nicholson converted and it was 43-0.

Shortly after, Carrick ran out of props and scrums became uncontested. They have a lively set of backs and once they had some ball, they woke up. Prop Andrew McColm managed to force his way over the line twice after Carrick pressure, one of them converted by Greg Montgomery. They were now showing what they could do and a sweeping move saw John Dewar score in the corner, converted by Greg Montgomery. Right at the end they nearly got their bonus when their winger dropped the ball when he looked to have a clear run in to score, but the final score saw West win comfortably 43-19.



West are now second in the league on points difference to Newton Stewart and have a good young team which is now starting to look fluent. Next week sees an away trip to Haddington, who are currently anchoring the table.

West team 1. Peter Rhodes, 2 Danny Dineen, 3. Andy Love, 4. Scott Cochrane, 5. James Harley, 6. Marc Zoma, 7. Craig McCall, 8. Jamie McAulay, 9. Jacob Siems, 10. Dru Nicholson, 11. Dylan Matthews, 12. Nicky Sutcliffe, 13. Gareth Hopkins, 14. Calum Booth, 15. Harry Brewster. Subs 16. Dylan Dawson., 17. Neil Fullarton, 18. Jack Gemmell, 19. Matthew Irvine.