



LATE SURGE SEES BUFFALO OVER INDY

By Alex Goff | 09.18.11

The Buffalo Rugby Club got a tough road win 37-22 over Indianapolis in Midwest DI action Saturday.

It was a big day for Buffalo, but early on it looked as if the Impalas would emerge victorious.

Indy answered Buffalo flyhalf Nick Kusmierski's penalty with two tries (one converted) for a 12-3. Buffalo inched back later in the first half. Mike Hall turned the ball over and a long break involving six players resulted in tighthead prop Jeff Qualey scoring. Kusmierski's conversion put Buffalo within two at halftime 12-10.

The Nickel City boys had the momentum and took the lead early in the second half. Captain and scrumhalf Danny Ryan cleanly fielded his own box kick and put away rookie flanker Brandon Kirk for a try and a 15-12 Buffalo lead.

Indianapolis scored again to retake the lead before Kusmierski slipped through a gap and touched down under the posts. His conversion gave Buffalo a 22-17 lead.

On the ensuing kickoff Buffalo pressed again and Kusmierski knocked over a penalty to give his side a two-score lead.

Indianapolis, hit by a yellow card for tackling the man in the air, saw the game slip away as Buffalo scored during the man advantage to make it 32-17.

Buffalo were in danger of giving back that advantage as lock Justin Metcalf got a yellow card stemming from a fracas. Indy scored a try soon thereafter, but they had too much of a mountain to climb. When Kusmierski's penalty kick bounced off the upright, Buffalo hooker Pat Boice was there to grab it and touch down to finish the scoring at 37-22.

For his part, Kusmierski had a big day, scoring a try and kicking two penalties and three conversions for 17 points.