

Buffalo rugbymen beat Ontario team

The State University of Buffalo rugby team closed out its 1968 fall season by defeating St. Catharines of Ontario, 6-5, Saturday afternoon, before a bone-chilled crowd of about 25.

The low-scoring game was played in about two inches of rain, and according to fullback Andy Smith, the weather was so cold that "nobody could move."

Despite the final score, Buffalo actually outplayed their Canadian visitors by a wide margin. Buffalo had a 6-0 lead before St. Catharines scored five points late in the game to make it close.

Buffalo opened the scoring early in the first half when Maury Dullea booted a 30-yard penalty kick squarely between the uprights for a 3-0 Bull lead. There was no more scoring in the first half, although Buffalo kept St. Catharines penned in its own zone for most of the playing time.

Buffalo upped its lead to 6-0 midway in the second half when winger Joe Nolly recovered a fumble in the St. Catharines' end zone. The play was set up by a

vicious tackle on the St. Catharines' fullback, causing the Canadian player to fumble in his end zone.

With about four minutes left in the game, St. Catharines put together one of its few successful offensive rushes. The Wasps roared down the field and scored when Jeff Samuels fell on the ball in the Buffalo end zone.

St. Catharines' two-point conversion kick was good and the Wasps pulled to within one point at 6-5. But the Buffalo defense stiffened and the Canadians never did muster another offensive threat.

The victory over St. Catharines gave the Bull "rugbymen" a final team record of 5-2. The Buffalo rugby squad will next compete in the Eastern Rugby Union Tournament scheduled for Nov. 30 in New York City. About 35 to 40 of the top rugby teams in the east are expected to compete in the elimination. Such teams as Harvard, Yale, Princeton and Columbia are expected to provide the Bulls with rugged opposition.