

Buffalo Can-Am 7s:

Buffalo Old Boys

by Lex Maccubbin

Buffalo, NY

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The Buffalo Old Boys defeated the Nasty Boys (Toronto, Ont.) 24-7 to capture the Cup Championship of the 1993 Buffalo Can/Am Sevens tournament. The tournament was held in hot and humid conditions at Delaware Park, the Old Boys home pitch.

The cup final matched two sides that had walked through pool play undefeated. In the semifinals, the Nasty Boys defeated Lockport (NY) 29-5 while the Old Boys coasted over the Snarly RFC 40-0.

Final

The final began with the Old Boys knowing that first time tackling and team support were the keys to victory. The Nasty Boys had shown tremendous team speed and, if given the chance, they could outrun any defense.

The first score was set up by Buffalo's Mike Lewis, who took the opening kickoff, spun out of the Nasty Boys attempt at a crushing tackle, and set off for the goal line. Lewis was caught from behind just inside the 22 meter line but after three quick rucks, Jeff Calabrese picked up and darted over for a try (5-0).

At the 3 minute mark, referee Paul Clift caught the Nasty Boys playing the ball on the ground and awarded a penalty to Buffalo. The Old Boys ran a crash play to prop Tim Moran. After a nice ruck, Buffalo scrumhalf Augustine picked up, but was stopped just short of the line, leaving the ball for Penman who dove over for the try, (10-0).

Minutes later, Augustine pitched the ball to flyhalf Terry Nashwinter who sidestepped his defender and

started a break from midfield. The Nasty Boys quickly covered but Nashwinter was able to get the ball to Peter Gagon who sped down the touchline. Just before the Nasty Boys defense caught up to him, Gagon flipped the ball back to a hustling Nashwinter who juked one more defender and touched down. Augustine's conversion gave the Old Boys a commanding 17-0 halftime lead.

Second Half

The Old Boys were reminded that they had blown a 12-0 lead to lose last year's final and it looked like history might repeat itself after Nasty Boys wing Mark Thompson flew past Buffalo's cover defense and touched down under the posts (17-7).

The Old Boys quickly rebounded, however, when Nashwinter alertly covered a weak side attempt and made a thundering tackle, jarring the ball loose. Augustine scooped up the gift and darted away for a try. Calabrese converted and the Nasty Boys were dealt the finishing blow, 24-7, Buffalo.

Buffalo O.B.s

Lewis 1
Penman (c) 2
Moran 3
Augustine 4
Nashwinter 5
Gagon 6
Calabrese 7

Nasty Boys

Reid
Dawkins
Phillips
+MacIntosh
Rogers
Johnson
Thompson

Referee: Paul Clift (NYSRC)

+replaced by Dawkins

Bowl

The Buffalo Old Boys II, who had lost all their open round matches, beat Canisius in the semifinals, and then defeated Fredonia, 19-10 for the Bowl Championship. The Old Boys II had tries from Jeremy Keating, Bob Palmer and Red Anson and two conversions from Dan Shaw.

Thanks

The Old Boys want to thank the referees, Paul Clift, Pat Giles, Rory O'Connor, and Bruce Marzahn who handled the matches with great skill. Thanks are also due to Doug Miller for tee-shirt design, Molly Giles and Gareth Maccubbin for touch judging and Jane Giles for preparing the fields. For information about next year's tournament, contact Lex Maccubbin.