



BOUNCINGS

11 Jan 08



Czarni Jaslo

4 : 4

Byki

A Team - NSL 1st Division
Odeum - 4 January 2008

Byki save their best for last

Just when things looked their bleakest, the Byki revved up their offense and roared back from an imposing 4:1 deficit against Capitol Czarni Jaslo last Friday to forge a 4:4 draw. The Byki scored three goals in the last six minutes, the final two coming in the last 28 seconds. The result improves the Byki record to 1-1-6, inching them past Lemont FC into tenth place in the Blue Section.

The Byki have given a very good account of themselves in consecutive matches versus playoff contenders. They disappointingly lost 3:2 to third-place West Bosnia SC in their previous game, and now have stolen two points from second-place Jaslo.

With a 13-strong squad at his disposal, coach Joe Gambino finally had the manpower to implement his optimal tactics. The Byki still displayed a few mental breakdowns and the skillful Jaslo side capitalized. But the Byki rolled up their sleeves when necessary and got back into the game.

It was hardly a bright start for the Byki, who conceded a very poor goal just 1:57 into the match. They picked a really bad time to make substitutions and Jaslo's quick counterattack

ended with an easy tap-in past a stranded Ryan Eliasek.

After that mistake, the Byki settled down quickly and got their defense in order. The sides battled tenaciously for possession for most of the first half. The Byki were stymied by the tight and aggressive marking from Jaslo, which limited their chances in the final third of the field.

Jaslo got a break with 7:00 left in the half when defender Minos Bouzoukis was sent to the penalty box for four minutes after shoving a Jaslo player to the turf. The decision to double the penalty time appeared harsh and the Byki did a tremendous job at both ends of the field. On defense, they kept things compact and denied Jaslo any openings.

The shorthanded situation led to a Byki equalizer toward the end of the penalty time. Rather than clear the ball away, the Byki tried to hold possession to kill time. Surprisingly, Jaslo backed off of their aggressive marking and allowed the Byki time and space to move the ball upfield. After several consecutive passes, the Byki struck decisively when Jeff Samp found Kvar Black making a run to the far post. Samp's diagonal pass through the Jaslo penalty area split the defense and Black took full advantage of his ball-watching marker, pounding Samp's pass into the back of the net.

Jaslo regained the lead with 1:25 left when they stole the ball from the feet of a Byki defender. It looked as though the Jaslo player needed a foul to pry the ball loose, but no whistle came from the referees. A quick pass and a hard shot gave Eliasek no chance.

The Byki came out with renewed enthusiasm in the second half. Abraham Ruiz narrowly missed tying the game with an open shot in the box. Five minutes later, Daniel Carvajal almost made his Byki debut a memorable one when he latched onto a delicious through ball from Josh Taylor at the top of the Jaslo area. The Jaslo goalie made a great leg save to deny Carvajal.

Jaslo looked poised to put the three points on ice when they struck for two goals within 0:56 midway through the

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second half. The Byki defended a free kick at their arc poorly when they left a man wide open to make it 3:1. The score swelled to 4:1 when Jaslo ran the counter to perfection.

The Byki made their move with 5:57 to go. Bouzoukis spotted Dan Stanley making a run behind the defense and delivered a masterful through pass from the midfield. Stanley saw his opportunity and nailed a first-time shot to cut the deficit to 4:2.

Moments later, the Byki went on the power play and created loads of pressure on the Jaslo net. When the Jaslo defense got too cute with the ball in their end of the field, Carvajal made them pay when he stole the ball and looked to slip the ball past the poorly positioned goalkeeper. It took a miraculous lunge, but the keeper pounced on Carvajal's shot before it could cross the line.

Jaslo clearly were on the back foot the rest of the way, hoping to absorb Byki pressure and watch the clock run out. Their strategy exploded in their faces in the dying moments of the contest. The Byki closed to within 4:3 with 0:28 to go. Black drilled a hard shot from long range and Samp, who was in the path of the ball, deftly redirected it past the stunned goalie.

Sensing an opportunity, the Byki pushed everyone forward for one final push. Not one to be bashful, Eliasek got himself involved and drove a shot toward the crowded Jaslo penalty

area. His shot hit a defender in the arm and the referee whistled for a penalty kick. The Byki Over 30 players who were watching the game from the gallery were shocked. "A lot of our guys give referee Ninos Alexander quite a bit of stick for decisions that went against us in the playoffs in 2006," said George Gorecki. "It would have been easy for Ninos to rule that the Jaslo handball was unintentional, or to give a free kick outside the box in a game-changing situation. So I hope the guys with memories like elephants will remember this game."

Striker Kevin Biggs blasted the spot kick past the diving keeper and the Byki losing streak became a thing of the past.

It's taken the Byki half the season to find their bearings in the 1st Division. With a clear vision of what's ahead, they have an opportunity to climb the table in the final eight matches.

BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

Black 2 (Samp); (sh); 14:33; 1:1. Stanley 3 (Bouzoukis); 32:03; 4:2. Samp 1 (Black); 37:32; 4:3. Biggs 5; (pk); (pp); 37:53; 4:4.

BYKI LINEUP (2-1-2): Eliasek – Black, Bouzoukis – Samp – Ruiz, Biggs.
Bench: Carvajal, Dziekiewicz, Rose, P. Mansur Jr, Sphar, Stanley, Taylor.

Byki

1 : 4

Wisla

Over 30 Team - NSL Over 30 Division
Odeum - 4 January 2008

Byki still pointless at halfway mark

The Byki oldboys stumbled over themselves when they met Wisla last Friday at the Odeum, and all of the mistakes added up to three easy goals for Wisla by halftime. The Byki made a nice turnabout after the break, but it's hard to stage a comeback against the likes of Wisla when they have a three-goal advantage. Wisla took their second-half standoff and walked away 4:1 winners.

The defeat makes the Byki eight-for-eight for the 2007-08 season. But that's eight losses, and definitely not where the team wanted to be at this point of the campaign. "We just have to learn to play together," said Nick Elmkinssi afterward. "These other teams have been together a long time." Although this exact collection of Byki is playing together as a unit for the first time, the level of experience on the team should not be holding this group back.

The Byki looked like they were slow to awake from a holiday slumber last Friday. Their marking was far too loose for a Wisla side that makes the most of every possession. If not for the heroics of goalkeeper Ray Najera, the halftime score would have been of blowout proportions.

Wisla broke out on top with 5:54 gone in the match. They caught the Byki flat-footed on the counterattack and the Byki were slow to react defensively. The awful marking left Najera out to dry. Moments later, the Byki coughed up possession at their red line, thanks to excessive dribbling. Najera made a spectacular save on an open Wisla player on the left side of the box.

The score went to 2:0 with 10:35 left in the first frame. The Byki allowed too much room to a shooter on the left flank and he promptly buried his shot into the upper corner at the far post. Wisla's third goal came with 4:19 left and was the most embarrassing of the night for the Byki. Wisla executed a 3 v 2 counter and blasted three shots at the Byki goal before finally getting one past Najera. During the entire period of the shooting barrage, the two Byki defenders got no help from their other three teammates, who never bothered to come back.

The second half was like a breath of fresh air for the Byki, but one has to wonder where this type of soccer was hiding in the first half. The Byki finally got one on the board with

9:45 left in the game. After a lengthy period of sustained possession and intelligent ball movement, the Byki got their just reward. Matt Treter crushed a shot from above the penalty area off of the back boards. The carom came right to Marek Ciszewski, who alertly flicked a neat little header over the keeper's outstretched arm, nicking off the underside of the crossbar, giving the striker six goals for the season.

Ciszewski nearly got his second tally of the night with 5:45 to go when he hit a bomb from the red line on the right flank. The keeper was late to react and was fortunate that the ball missed the near post by inches.

With 2:47 to go, the Byki unhinged the Wisla defense with clever ball movement. Wei Zhang sent a pass to Elmkinni, who played a first-time ball into the middle of the box. Ciszewski got there first and his clever flick nearly beat the goalie.

Wisla got their insurance goal with 1:25 left, as the Byki began leaving too much space in the back as they searched

for more goals. Even though the Byki were 4:1 behind, they kept up the pressure, creating two great chances in the final minute. Ciszewski delivered a great pass for Steven Pedlow, who was unmarked at the top of the box. Wisla's keeper was equal to the task and denied Pedlow's shot. Eric Tower nearly got one at the death, but his shot clanged off of the goalpost.

"We have a lot of good, smart players on this team," said coach George Gorecki. "They're learning a hard lesson, that fundamental mistakes will kill you against teams of this caliber."

BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

Ciszewski 6 (Treter); 28:15; 1:3.

BYKI LINEUP (2-2-1): Najera – Treter, Zhang – Jdrzejowski, Gallo (c) – Gambino. **Bench:** Ciszewski, Elmkinni, Fleming, Pedlow, Tower.

Byki

2 : 6

Force

Over 40 Team - Sportszone Over 30 League
Sportszone - 7 January 2008

Rudderless Byki lose their way

The second session for the Over 40 Team was supposed to be a turn for the better, following several disheartening matches at the start of the indoor season. Instead, the Byki struggled for most of the contest last Monday at the Sportszone when they took on the Chicago Force. The Force won 6:2 and used solid teamwork to dominate for long stretches.

Teamwork was an element that was sorely missing for the Byki. On the rare occasions when they did have the foresight to string several passes together, the Byki were right in the game. But those occasions came all too infrequently, as too many players took it upon themselves to try to win the game on their own. The excessive dribbling and reluctance to make early and simple passes doomed the Byki to yet another moribund performance.

Player-coach Bernhard Kleine left the squad in the 2-2-1 formation that they used in the final match of the first session. The switch from the traditional 3-2 system was well-received by the players and Kleine decided to stick with it. Unfortunately, the system won't matter much when players don't use their heads.

The Byki welcomed goalkeeper Pete Pruim into the team when Sal Farhan indicated he would prefer to return to an attacking role in the field. Kleine, mindful that Farhan accepted the keeper slot without any complaints, was eager

to find a new netminder. Rick Bolesta did the recruiting to get Pruim on board, and Pruim did his best under the trying conditions that Byki defenders so often create for their goalies.

The Force went on top after only three minutes when they capped off a quick counterattack with a hard shot from the left wing. The Byki tried to slow the game down and keep possession, and this calming effect turned the game into a back-and-forth battle in the midfield.

The Force had a great chance to extend their lead midway through the first half when they came 3 v 2 at the Byki. A great pass left a Force striker alone on Pruim, but the keeper came hard to smother the shot. A hustling George Siepiora cleared the rebound to safety.

The score went to 2:0 with 8:56 left when a Force player dribbled across the middle and cut loose with a long shot from distance, driving the ball past the diving Pruim.

The Byki replied with 0:52 to go when Farhan and Bob Marvin double-teamed a Force player near the boards in his defensive end of the field. Farhan came away from the scrum with the ball and laid off to Kleine, who made no mistake with a blast from the left side.

The Force took control of the game in the early moments of the second half. They scored twice within 0:30 to break things open. On both goals, the Byki were slow to react defensively and the Force took full advantage.

The Byki cut the deficit to 4:2 with 12:32 left in the match. Eric Tower made the simple pass to Dominic Demarets on the right. The Byki striker picked his spot and fired past the Force goalie.

But the Byki would get no closer. They shot themselves in the foot when they had to kill two time penalties in the final nine minutes after Farhan and Jon Silverstein tripped Force players from behind. The Byki found it difficult to build

momentum from that point and the Force scored two more goals to put the game out of reach.

BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

Kleine 1 (Farhan); 20:08; 1:2. Demarets 1 (Tower); 24:37; 2:4.

BYKI LINEUP (2-2-1): Pruum – Cooper, Silverstein – Kleine, Farhan – Demarets. **Bench:** Bolesta, Gorecki, Marvin, Neighbors, Siepiora, Tower, Wiecek.

Byki Stats

A TEAM, NSL 1st DIVISION

Player	G	A	Pts
Biggs	5	1	6
Samp	1	3	4
Stanley	3	0	3
Black	2	1	3
Ruiz	2	0	2
Talpes, C.	2	0	2
Torossian	1	1	2
Bouzoukis	0	1	1

Goalie	Min	GA	GAA
Talpes, N.	57	3	2.00
Eliasek	243	31	4.85
Samp	4	1	9.50

Current record: 1-1-6

O-30 TEAM, NSL O-30 DIVISION

Player	G	A	Pts
Ciszewski	6	0	6
Haynes	5	0	5
Gambino	2	1	3
Jedrzejowski	1	2	3
Pedlow	1	1	2
Gallo	0	2	2
Elmkinssi	1	0	1
Fleming	1	0	1
Lane	0	1	1
Treter	0	1	1
Zhang	0	1	1

Goalie	Min	GA	GAA
Najera	304	49	6.13

Current record: 0-0-8

O-40 TEAM, SPORTSZONE LEAGUE

Player	G	A	Pts
Demarets	1	0	1
Kleine	1	0	1
Farhan	0	1	1
Tower	0	1	1

Goalie	Min	GA	GAA
Pruim	42	6	6.00

Current record: 0-0-1

NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE STANDINGS

January 4, 2008

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MAJOR DIVISION

Red Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts	Blue Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
HNNK Hrvatska	8	5	2	1	29	10	17	SC BiH	8	7	1	0	38	16	22
RWB Adria A	8	4	2	2	25	13	14	FK Kozarac	8	5	1	2	30	21	16
NK Prijedor	8	4	2	2	21	20	14	RWB Adria B	8	4	0	4	29	24	12
B-H Lilies	8	4	1	3	20	21	13	SAC Wisla	8	3	1	4	15	20	10
Albanian Stars	8	2	1	5	23	31	7	Royal FC	8	2	0	6	15	35	6
KF Ulqin	8	0	2	6	13	35	2	CKS Warta	8	1	1	6	17	29	4

FIRST DIVISION

Red Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts	Blue Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Stal Mielec	8	6	1	1	28	13	19	Podlasie	8	8	0	0	64	9	24
FK Republica Srpska	8	6	1	1	42	11	19	West Bosnia SC	8	6	0	2	31	22	18
Oak Park Tricycles	8	6	0	2	41	16	18	Capitol Czarni Jaslo	8	5	2	1	46	15	17
Deportivo Colomex	8	5	1	2	40	16	16	HNNK Hrvatska B	8	5	1	2	30	19	16
CKS Warta C	8	4	3	1	35	23	15	Real Independiente	8	4	2	2	12	11	14
Chicago Thunder	8	4	1	3	21	14	13	CD Taximaroa	8	4	1	3	26	19	13
CKS Warta B	8	4	0	4	23	23	12	FK Bosanska Dubica	8	3	1	4	44	32	10
Lake Shore SC	8	3	1	4	36	30	10	FK Podrinje	8	3	1	4	21	35	10
Montenegro SC	8	2	1	5	19	35	7	Los Chasquis	8	3	0	5	23	64	9
Khaboor FC	8	1	2	5	28	37	5	Stare Byki FC	8	1	1	6	16	35	4
Juanacatlan	8	1	1	6	15	47	4	Lemont FC	8	1	0	7	19	35	3
Chicago Inter R-B	8	0	0	8	4	67	0	Pitbulls SC	8	0	1	7	16	52	1

OVER 30 DIVISION

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
RWB Adria	8	8	0	0	61	19	24
B-H Lilies	8	7	0	1	41	25	21
SAC Wisla	8	5	0	3	35	30	15
Arabian FC	8	4	1	3	33	32	13
Polonia SC	8	4	0	4	40	28	12
HNNK Hrvatska	8	2	1	5	24	35	7
NK Prijedor	8	1	0	7	21	54	3
Stare Byki FC	8	0	0	8	17	49	0

SPORTSZONE OVER 30 LEAGUE

January 7, 2008

www.chicagosportszone.com

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Deva Development	1	1	0	0	16	2	3
Chicago Force	1	1	0	0	6	2	3
Arsenal	1	1	0	0	5	3	3
Peaked Venture	1	0	1	0	2	2	1
Chicago Soccer	1	0	1	0	2	2	1
Tornadoes	1	0	0	1	3	5	0
Stare Byki FC	1	0	0	1	2	6	0
Team Demar	1	0	0	1	2	16	0