



BOUNCINGS

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6 Feb 09



Dynasty

2 : 4

Byki

Over 30 Red Team - NSL 2nd Division
Odeum - 30 January 2009

O-30s get their act together

After opening the season against Chicago Dynasty and seeing a 3:1 lead evaporate into a 3:3 draw, the Byki figured that they had a score to settle in the rematch last Friday. They took a commanding 3:0 lead early in the second half and then proceeded to let Dynasty back into the game at 3:2. But lightning was not about to strike twice and the Byki took care of business to walk away 4:2 winners. The victory improves the Byki to 3-1-6 on the season.

Better finishing by the Byki would have taken all of the drama out of the contest. In addition to two first-half goals, the Byki had five other gilt-edged opportunities thwarted by the Dynasty goalie and a few others that missed the target. The game could have been a blowout by halftime and all of the life would have been sucked out of an aggressive Dynasty team.

Dynasty tried to rattle the Byki by placing them under high pressure all over the field. The tactic was an abject failure, as sharp passes by the Byki quickly broke the pressure. Dynasty then left their goalkeeper to clean up the mistakes and he came up with several fine saves, many of them

desperate attempts to keep the ball out of the net. It was not a strategy that could hold up for the entire match.

The Byki executed a slick sequence of one-touch passes between Jakub Banbor, Maciej Kekus and Dan Jedrzejewski and opened things up for Jay Brough, who was denied by a tremendous play by the keeper. Moments later, Jan Winter sent Jedrzejewski on a jaunt down the right wing as the Byki came fast on the counter. Jedrzejewski celebrated his return to the lineup after missing two games with a toe injury by firing a rocket past the goalie.

With 10:44 left in the first half, Krzysztof Bajorek led a 3 v 2 run up the middle. He dished to Jedrzejewski on the right and his shot from a sharp angle forced a diving save from the goalkeeper. The Byki then ratcheted up the attacking pressure. They conjured three excellent scoring chances in the space of 0:31. The goalie thwarted two shots by Banbor and one from Winter.

The Byki got some breathing room with 1:53 to go. They patiently worked the ball to the open man and were rewarded with a terrific goal. Kekus was stuck in the right corner and dropped the ball to Bajorek at the halfway line. Bajorek calmly found Brough alone on the left and Brough did the rest, crushing a shot into the upper corner of the goal.

Dynasty shot themselves in the foot in the dying moments of the first half when their pest of a striker got sent off. After being tripped while he tried to dribble into space, he complained to the referee and dropped an f-bomb in the process. The referee showed him a blue card for his insolence and then it quickly became red when the Dynasty big mouth reacted with, "What the f#@! is that?"

The Byki had been handed a five-minute power play to rack up the goals. Although they only dented the net once during the advantage, the Byki solidified their dominant position in the match early in the second half. Kekus took a pass from Winter and slammed home his fifth goal of the season to make it 3:0 to the Byki.

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Roosters Barn & Grill
122 W Lake St in Bloomingdale

Slager's on 47th
9308 47th St in Brookfield

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But all of the hard work to that point appeared to unravel quickly. Poor marking on a Dynasty counterattack with 13:55 to go resulted in an open shot on the left wing. The shot scooted underneath the diving Dean Fukar, who had been left out to sea because of a lack of communication among defenders.

Dynasty weren't finished yet. A shot from the red line hit Fukar in the chest and a mad scramble to control the ball ensued. The Byki cleared it away, but things were getting nervous. Dynasty looked like they meant business with 11:41 to go, as a free kick from the top of the box deflected off a player in the box and into the goal to make it 3:2.

"We had clearly lost our way after dominating the game," said coach George Gorecki. "We had been playing smart soccer on both sides of the ball and all of a sudden, we allowed too much space on defense. Dynasty's shooting was terrible for most of the game, but they sure made the most of our mistakes during that short stretch."

The Byki were not about to fold their tents. Kekus replied just 1:34 after Dynasty's second goal. He put high pressure

on the goalkeeper, who cleared indecisively to Banbor. Seizing the opportunity, Banbor shot immediately and the keeper blocked it. The ball remained loose in the box and Kekus fought off a defender and the keeper to tap the ball home as he sprawled to the turf.

Many Byki took a bad mood away from the field as the players settled in for post-game beers, upset at what they perceived were fundamental errors. Gorecki tried to keep perspective on the result. "There were things we could have done better," he said. "When you add it all up, our play showed more positives than negatives. We can improve, but we earned these three points."

BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

Jedrzejowski 1 (Winter); 3:08; 0:1. Brough 1 (Bajorek); 17:07; 0:2. Kekus 5 (Winter); (pp); 21:18; 0:3. Kekus 6; 27:53; 2:4.

BYKI LINEUP (2-2-1): Fukar – Bajorek, Winter – Jedrzejowski (c), Kekus – Banbor. **Bench:** Brough, Ciszewski, Elmkinssi, Pedlow.

Podrinje

3 : 3

Byki

Senior Red Team - NSL 2nd Division
Odeum - 30 January 2009

Late comeback sparks Byki

The hard-working Byki squeezed a point out of last Friday's encounter against FK Podrinje just when it appeared that their situation was without hope. Two goals in the final 4:11 erased a 3:1 deficit and the Byki moved to 3-2-4 for the season.

A depleted roster forced coach Joe Gambino to call in two players from the Byki Blue Team just to bring the squad up to ten players. Blue Team manager John Flood sent over brothers Alex and Scott Kreydich to help the Red Team and the move paid dividends, as both players contributed to the result.

Podrinje have long been the bogey team for the Byki in indoor competition, having beaten the Byki in all five previous encounters. The Byki started off this latest meeting with Podrinje in shaky fashion, but rebounded nicely in the second half.

Podrinje snatched the lead after just 2:28 when a hard shot from the deep corner flew past Gambino. The Byki defense gave away too much space and Podrinje took full advantage. Moments later, Gambino was required to make a miracle save when his defenders were again guilty of slack marking.

The score went to 2:0 midway through the first half. A Podrinje player slammed a free kick in the left corner off of the back boards. The ball ricocheted to the far post, where

an unmarked Podrinje player blasted home a first-time shot. The Byki nearly replied a minute later when Jeff Samp's free kick from the arc snaked through the defensive wall and was repelled at the last moment by the Podrinje keeper's reflex save.

The Byki pulled one back with 4:24 left in the half. Minos Bouzoukis made an overlapping run on the right wing and sent a pass careening off the boards to the far side of the goal. Scott Kreydich had made the supporting run and knocked in the first-time shot. The Byki had a great chance to level the score 1:05 later. Josh Taylor fired a shot from the arc, prompting a diving save from the keeper. Jason Sphar pounced on the rebound, but his shot on an open net missed the target.

Podrinje reasserted themselves early in the second half, catching the Byki short on the counter. A Podrinje player sprinted along the boards on the right wing and fired a shot that found Gambino's far post. "I had the near post covered," said Gambino. "I figured that when he shot at the far post, the ball would just go wide. It hit the inside of the post and went in."

The Byki kept up their workmanlike approach and eventually clawed their way back. They were already in the middle of a power play when Jesus Martinez dribbled into the Podrinje area and was dumped to the turf by a clumsy

tackle. The referees awarded the penalty kick and Bouzoukis did the honors by converting the spot kick to bring the Byki to within 3:2.

Podrinje tried to put a clamp on the game as they worked a power play of their own, but the Byki had other ideas. With 2:12 left, Samp took a chance by putting the Podrinje keeper under extreme pressure. The gangly goalie coughed up possession and a weak clearance went directly to Kevin Biggs. Wasting no time, Biggs teed one up and sent a rocket screaming into the back of the net for his third tally of the winter season.

Draws make it hard to climb higher in the standings. The

Byki, however, did a fine job of reversing a listless first half and bringing back a point.

BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

S. Kreydich 1 (Bouzoukis); 14:36; 2:1. Bouzoukis 3 (pk); (pp); 33:49; 3:2. Biggs 3; (sh); 35:48; 3:3.

BYKI LINEUP (2-1-2): Gambino – Bouzoukis, Taylor – Black – Biggs, Martinez. **Bench:** Kreydich A, Kreydich, S, Samp, Sphar.

Byki

4 : 8

Croatia

Over 30 Blue Team - CPSL Over 30 Division
Max McCook - 3 February 2009

Up & down Byki end with a downer

The Byki met up with some old nemeses last Tuesday when they faced Croatia in CPSL play. Legendary NSL goalscorer Nick Dosen and a crew of old RWB Adria players made up the bulk of the Croatia roster, and they handily put away the Byki by an 8:4 scoreline. The Byki managed to climb out of a 5:0 halftime deficit to make the game interesting in the second half, but simply lacked the fortitude to blunt the potent Croatia counterattacks. The Byki fall to 1-0-3 for the season.

Coaches Doug Towsey and Eric Tower were unsure of how they would deal with Dosen and ultimately concluded that the Byki would be better off not giving Dosen any special attention by the defense. It turned out to be the right decision because the Byki played pretty good defense once they got all of their players back behind the ball. Where the Byki got killed was on the counter. Five of Croatia's eight goals resulted after weak turnovers became lightning-fast breakouts the other way.

The task was made more difficult by the stifling air quality at Max McCook on Tuesday. Some genius decided that it would be a good idea to repaint the lines on an adjacent basketball court with a solvent-based paint while soccer was being played. Both teams complained bitterly about the conditions and league chief Oscar Ponce moved the game at halftime to a different field where the odor was not detectable.

Croatia got on the board after just two minutes when they capped off a quick counter with a shot from the deep right wing. The Byki defenders gave up too much space and the shot found the far post.

The score went to 2:0 eight minutes later when the Byki gave away possession at midfield. Croatia broke out right up

the middle, made two simple passes to set up a tap-in on the doorstep of the goal. Dean Fukar got a hand on the shot, but could not prevent the score.

Another turnover midway through the half had a predictable result. The Byki defense was stagnant and slow to pick up their marks, leading to a ridiculously easy goal for Croatia. Moments later, the situation repeated itself and the score had swelled to 4:0.

The Byki picked up a curious power play late in the half when a Croatia player was sent off for two minutes for a slide tackle. The referee had warned both teams prior to kickoff that all slide tackles would be punished harshly. A Croatia player challenged Kris Zadlo for possession at midfield. Zadlo extended his arm to help shield the ball and knocked the Croatia player off balance. When the player hit the turf, his leg was extended as he fell underneath Zadlo. Fukar badgered the referee to rule the play a slide tackle and the referee incredibly agreed. The incensed Croatia player reacted with a tirade of profanity and left the field for good, prompting an angry reaction from his teammates. Meanwhile, the Croatians resumed the game with their full complement of players and the Byki complained that they had too many men on the field. The referee agreed with the Byki again and forced the Croatians to play two men short. The Byki attack welcomed the extra space, but generated just one decent scoring chance during the two minutes.

Croatia padded the lead right before the break when Joe Gambino handled the ball in his own area, leading to a penalty kick, which made the score 5:0.

After the game was moved to a new field, the Byki experienced a renaissance and got their game together on

both sides of the ball. The Byki cut into the lead after just 2:10 of the second half. Fukar booted the ball toward the Croatia goal. Delfino Zacarias fought to win the ball and eventually sliced a shot home from a sharp angle.

The score went to 5:2 at the 5:50 mark. Zacarias dropped an easy pass back for Tower, who dribbled across the middle and fired an off-balance shot past the diving goalkeeper.

Croatia looked set to add to their lead 3:04 later when a slick set of passes left the Byki totally unbalanced in their area. Fukar saved the day by blocking two point-blank scoring chances in succession.

Fukar showed that his long passes from the back were a legitimate weapon when he launched a goal kick deep into Croatia territory. Zacarias headed the ball straight up and then won possession after a wild scramble. He dribbled the ball into space and blasted home his third goal of the campaign.

The Byki tightened the screws with 14:06 remaining. Dan

Stirrat drilled a kick-in straight at the Croatia goal and found the upper 90 as the keeper helplessly flailed away at the ball. Suddenly, the offensive explosion had brought the confident Byki to within 5:4.

The early deficit was ultimately too big of a hurdle to overcome. The patient Croatia team moved the ball with precision and struck surgically when the defense eventually opened up. They scored three times in the final 9:23 to wrap up the victory.

BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

Zacarias 2 (Fukar); 27:10; 1:5. Tower 2 (Zacarias); 30:50; 2:5. Zacarias 3; 34:37; 3:5. Stirrat 3; 35:54; 4:5.

BYKI LINEUP (3-2-1): Fukar – Cooper, Towsey, Zadlo – Stirrat, Gallo – Brough. **Bench:** Bolesta, Gambino, Neighbors, Robertson, Tower, Zacarias.

Byki Stats

SENIOR, NSL 2nd DIVISION				O-30 RED, NSL 2nd DIVISION				O-30 BLUE TEAM, CPSL			
Player	G	A	Pts	Player	G	A	Pts	Player	G	A	Pts
Taylor	8	4	12	Kekus	6	3	9	Zacarias	3	2	5
Black	2	4	6	Banbor	2	4	6	Brough	2	2	4
Martinez	4	1	5	Ciszewski	4	0	4	Stirrat	3	0	3
Bouzoukis	3	1	4	Zacarias	3	0	3	Piotrowski	2	1	3
Sphar	1	3	4	Brough	1	2	3	Tower	2	1	3
Biggs	3	0	3	Winter	1	2	3	Towsey	1	0	1
Lubeck	2	1	3	Dec	2	0	2	Fukar	0	1	1
Slaga	2	1	3	Bajorek	1	1	2	Gorecki	0	1	1
Dziekiewicz	0	2	2	Cardenas	1	1	2	Qualiardi	0	1	1
Kreydich, S	1	0	1	Elmkinssi	0	1	1	Team goals	1	x	x
Najera	1	0	1	Najera	0	1	1				
Samp	1	0	1	Silverstein	0	1	1				
Rose	0	1	1								
Team goals	1	x	x								
				Goalie	Min	GA	GAA	Goalie	Min	GA	GAA
Goalie	Min	GA	GAA	Fukar	342	23	2.56	Fukar	200	30	7.50
Gambino	342	28	3.11	Najera	38	6	6.00				

Current record: 3-2-4

Current record: 3-1-6

Current record: 1-0-3

