



BOUNCINGS



www.starebykifc.org



10 Feb 17

Stare Byki	4	National Soccer League 1st Division
FC Kosova	5	The Odeum 3 February 2017

Byki cannot overcome little things

Sometimes paying attention to the details can make all the difference. That was certainly the case last Friday, as the Byki fought hard for all 38 minutes versus FC Kosova, but ultimately came up on the short end of a 5:4 final score. Overzealous defending and sloppy play in the back third of the field opened the door for the opportunistic Kosova strikers. And the inability to convert quality chances at the attacking end added up to a missed opportunity.

In the first meeting between the sides, Kosova blitzed the Byki 9:2. They parked their striker in front of the Byki penalty area in the role of cherry-picker and the Byki were unable to figure out how to defend this simplistic tactic. Kosova tried the same gambit last week, but the Byki were better prepared for it. Coach George Gorecki emphasized the importance of a defense-first approach so that easy scoring chances could be minimized.

Sure enough, that tack went right out the window, as Kosova grabbed the lead just 1:26 into the contest. A careless turnover in the Byki end of the field made it easy for Kosova to knock the ball home.

They set up their cherry-picking striker once again, but the Byki paid much closer attention to him and gave him less time and space on the ball. After he took a tumble following Alan Bickel's challenge early on, the striker talked himself into a two-minute penalty after a prolonged whine session with the referee. The foolish blue card took the striker off of his game.

It didn't take long for the Byki to come back into the match. Shortly after the Kosova opener, Joe Sauerman fired from the top of the box. The shot was blocked and the rebound fell to Roman Kramarz in the left corner. His attempt slammed off of the post.

The Byki knotted the affair at the 6:17 mark when Marek Ciszewski and Bryan de Rama worked some give-and-go magic along the right flank. The play culminated with de Rama zinging a pass off of the back boards to the unmarked Ciszewski in the middle of the box. Ciszewski made no

mistake for his fourth tally of the season. The Byki emphasize using the boards at training and it certainly paid dividends en route to their first score of the night,

They grabbed the lead just 1:28 later. A Kosova defender turned the ball over in his own end and Kramarz found the streaking Sauerman on the right side with a well-placed diagonal pass. Sauerman converted easily for his team-leading eighth goal of the season.

Two goals by Kosova late in the first half put them back in front. A long shot from the left wing beat Ray Najera to make it 2:2 with 3:10 to go. The Byki ramped up the defensive pressure in the Kosova end of the field with 1:10 left and paid the price at the other end, as Kosova swooped in 3 v 2, giving Najera no chance.

The second half started out in wild fashion. Kosova continued to apply high pressure defensively, daring the Byki to exploit the open space. When they did, the Byki created excellent opportunities, thus leaving the game's outcome hanging on every counterattack.

When the Byki blocked a Kosova free kick at their defensive line after only 0:44, Ciszewski played the ball into space for de Rama, who blew past the last defender. The Kosova keeper came out of his area aggressively, prompting de Rama to go for goal early. His attempted chip over the goalie became a shot off the boards and the keeper cleared it to safety.

Moments later, the Byki lost their marks as Kosova pushed forward on the counter, increasing their lead to 4:2.

The Byki delivered their reply just 2:06 later. Bickel took control of a poor Kosova giveaway in midfield and slid a pass to Kramarz, who had plenty of green space on the left wing. Kramarz converted with deadly accuracy, burying a low shot just inside the far post to bring the Byki to within 4:3.

Kosova needed only 1:10 to regain their two-goal margin. Najera did well to anticipate a ball off of the back boards,

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but it slipped past his hands. A Kosova player punched home the loose ball. Najera took the blame for the gaffe: "I didn't get my body behind my hands and it got through."

The Byki kept coming and their alertness netted the fourth goal. Alan Stevens boomed a free kick from the left wing towards goal. The ball ricocheted off the glass and the crossbar in crazy fashion, landing at Ciszewski's feet. He bundled the ball home to make it 5:4.

The Byki would get no closer and had plenty to think about afterwards. Tightening things up in the back will go a long way to making the team consistently competitive. The giveaways are too numerous, and the good players at this level are always going to take advantage. These types of errors are avoidable, and it is up to the Byki to figure out how to eradicate them from their game.

BYKI LINEUP (2-2-1): Najera – Boeckeler, Stevens – Ciszewski, Sauerman – De Rama. **Bench:** Bickel, Khankari, Kramarz, Rodriguez.

BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

1:1 – Ciszewski 4 (De Rama); 6:17.

2:1 – Sauerman 8 (Kramarz); 7:45.

3:4 – Kramarz 2 (Bickel); 22:24.

4:5 – Ciszewski 5 (Stevens); 25:07.

Byki Man of the Match: Marek Ciszewski

Byki Stats

FIRST TEAM, NSL 1st DIVISION

Player	G	A	Pts
Sauerman	8	3	11
De Rama	5	3	8
Rodriguez	4	3	7
Ciszewski	5	1	6
Kramarz	2	4	6
Mowry	3	1	4
Banbor	2	2	4
Stevens	1	3	4
Sokolowski	1	2	3
Khankari	2	0	2
Stamatinos	1	1	2
Kekus	1	0	1
Mehagic	1	0	1
Bickel	0	1	1
Najera	0	1	1

Goalie	Min	GA	GAA
Stevens	2	0	0.00
Najera	288	36	4.75
Banbor	38	7	7.00
Khankari	52	11	8.04

Current record: 1-1-8

NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE STANDINGS

February 3, 2017

www.nslchicago.org

CHAMPIONS DIVISION

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
CKS Warta	10	8	2	0	43	19	26
Albanian Stars	10	8	2	0	44	25	26
Deportivo Guerrero	10	7	0	3	35	21	21
Bosnia-Herzegovina A	10	4	1	5	38	37	13
Vikings AA	10	4	0	6	38	33	12
SAC Wisla A	10	3	2	5	25	35	11
Real Michoacan	10	1	1	8	15	35	4
Czarny Dunajec	10	1	0	9	23	56	3

MAJOR DIVISION

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Berber Stars	10	8	1	1	47	17	25
SAC Wisla B	10	8	0	2	64	30	24
FC Tryzub	10	7	0	3	46	34	21
Albania FC	10	5	1	4	38	39	16
AAC Winged Bull	10	5	1	4	43	34	16
HDS Eagles	10	4	1	5	31	41	13
Jagiellonia	10	4	0	6	34	35	12
SC Unia Chicago	10	3	0	7	28	40	9
Urahan FC	10	3	0	7	35	54	9
Stal Mielec	10	1	0	9	27	69	3

FIRST DIVISION

Red Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts	Blue Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Vikings AA Over 30	9	9	0	0	47	13	27	Chicago Dynasty FC	10	8	1	1	55	18	25
FC United	9	8	0	1	60	26	24	Matehuala FC	9	5	1	3	44	36	16
FC Kosova	10	6	0	4	57	35	18	HNK Primorac	9	5	1	3	51	46	16
Chicago Inter Blue	10	4	1	5	27	45	13	Chicago Blast	10	4	1	5	46	39	13
Bosnia-Herzegovina B	10	2	1	7	41	59	7	SAC Wisla C	10	2	1	7	41	66	7
Stare Byki FC	10	1	1	8	36	54	4	Chicago Inter Yellow	10	0	0	10	20	88	0