



# BOUNCINGS

11 Feb 08



Hrvat B

2 : 3

Byki

A Team - NSL 1st Division  
Odeum - 8 February 2008

## Byki win in wild finish

Matches versus the whining crybabies of HNNK Hrvat are usually not much fun and almost always result in confrontations that can degenerate into something worse. Last Friday's tilt with Hrvat's B team lived up to that billing, as both teams had a player sent off following a brawl late in the first half. The Byki prevailed 3:2 on a pair of goals from striker Crisan Talpes, although Hrvat helped provide the final margin when one of their players knocked a loose ball into his own goal with 1:58 to go. The win improved the Byki to 3-1-7.

Coach Joe Gambino may have been happy to pick up the win, but it took a while for his consternation with the referees to subside. "I warned the referee that things could get out of hand with this team if they didn't get control of the game," said Gambino. "Then, after the fight broke out, the referee came back to me and said, 'How did you know that was going to happen?'" It didn't take a psychic to figure out that the constant stream of complaints from Hrvat regarding nearly every refereeing decision that didn't go their way would result in chaos.

With only three substitutes available, the Byki were in for a night of hard running. The group played cohesively and intelligently and were justly rewarded with three points, as they climbed the Blue Section table into ninth place.

Hrvat had the first good chance to score moments after the opening kickoff, catching the Byki defense flat-footed. A through pass led to a breakaway, but keeper Nicoara Talpes came hard off his line and made a tough save right at the feet of the Hrvat forward.

Twin brother Crisan gave the Byki the lead midway through the first half. Following a Hrvat foul on the right wing near the boards, Talpes lined up the free kick and fired a laser beam that nutmegged two Hrvat players before landing in the back of the net. Talpes' shot went through the legs of the defender blocking his view of the goal, nicked off of another player's foot and then slid through the goalie's legs for a 1:0 lead.

Talpes doubled the punishment 1:46 later when he converted a penalty kick. Josh Taylor dribbled through the Hrvat penalty area and was tripped as he passed the ball off to Dan Stanley on the right wing. Seeing a potential scoring opportunity for the Byki, the referee let the play go on. Stanley hurried his shot at the empty net and sent the ball wide. The referee then blew the whistle for the penalty, to the amazement of the Hrvat players. The grumbling from Hrvat had already reached an annoying level by this point, but the penalty kick was the first step at the pot boiling over.

The Byki were inches away from going 3:0 up with 4:13 left when they engineered a 3 v 2 counterattack. A weak clearance went to the feet of Jeff Samp, whose shot from the left side of the box pinged off of the far post.

Samp got into more trouble than he bargained for a couple of minutes later when his hard shot from short range was saved by the goalie. Samp's momentum took him into the keeper, where they made contact near the boards. Hrvat player John Milkovic went ballistic and shoved Samp from behind.

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Samp replied with his own shove and things went haywire from there. As the two players were locked up in bear hugs, they were surrounded by the other players on the field, as well as the entire Hrvat bench, who invaded the field. Security staff at the Odeum came in to intervene and quickly restored order. When the dust had settled, Samp and Milkovic were shown red cards. Ironically, Samp knew all about Milkovic. "I played with that guy in high school," said Samp. "He was a hothead then."

Gambino's frustration level increased in the aftermath of the fracas. "I asked the referee why there was no punishment for Hrvat coming on the field," groused Gambino. "He said they were there as peacemakers." This was an absurd explanation, as competent referees terminate matches where one of the teams invade the field. Gambino kept his bench players off the field, but was ambivalent about the decision afterwards because he saw his team outnumbered after the Hrvat mob took matters into their own hands.

Hrvat halved the margin to 2:1 with 9:48 left in the game on a fluky goal. The Hrvat keeper played a long ball in the air from his half of the field. Nicoara Talpes turned to play the ball off the boards, but watched in horror as the ball dipped and went into the goal.

Moments later, the complexion of the game changed dramatically when Taylor was given a blue card for dissent following a foul call. Taylor couldn't leave well enough alone and got an extra two minutes for continuing his tirade. The Byki had to defend a one-goal lead and kill a four-minute penalty with only two subs on the bench. Talpes made a couple of terrific saves during the sequence, as the well-organized penalty killers did their job for the most part.

Hrvat got their equalizer, however, in the dying moments of the power play when they pounded a loose ball in the goal area into the net.

That goal set up a wild finish in which the Byki eventually prevailed. Neither side appeared to be content with a draw, so the final minutes featured end-to-end action. Hrvat led a 3 v 1 breakout with 2:36 to go. Talpes came off his line to distract the shooter and the hustling Kvar Black backed up his keeper by blocking the shot.

Hrvat threw caution to the wind in the endgame and got burned for it. With five Hrvat players pushed forward to get the third goal, Minos Bouzoukis blocked a shot in the Byki area and immediately slid a pass up the middle for Crisan Talpes, who was alone at midfield. Talpes sprinted forward, with only the keeper to beat. He faked the goalie out of position, but incredibly missed the open net when he shot off balance. A Hrvat defender was trailing the play and handed the Byki victory when the rebound of Talpes' shot hit him in the leg and ricocheted into the goal with 1:58 left on the clock.

It was a game where grit, determination and discipline were as important as soccer skill. The Byki prevailed in both areas and walked away winners.

#### BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

C. Talpes 5; 9:45; 0:1. C. Talpes 6; 11:31; 0:2. Own goal; 36:02; 2:3

**BYKI LINEUP (2-1-2):** N. Talpes – Black, Bouzoukis – Samp – Stanley, Taylor. **Bench:** Carvajal, Sphar, C. Talpes.

Byki

2 : 4

Hrvat

Over 30 Team - NSL Over 30 Division  
Odeum - 8 February 2008

## Early hole too deep for Byki

The Over 30 Team dropped to 1-0-10 for the season when they lost 4:2 to HNNK Hrvat. The Byki fell behind 3:0 by the break and were unable to mount a comeback, despite improving their effort in the second half. Midfielder Russ Haynes scored both of his team's goals and took over scoring leadership of the oldboys with nine goals on the campaign.

The Byki had been outclassed by Hrvat in the first meeting between the sides and the Byki were intent on turning around that sub par performance. Last Friday's effort was much better, but crucial errors in the first half put the Byki at a disadvantage and they simply could not recover.

Hrvat fired the first salvo at the 1:58 mark when a long shot from the right side ticked off of the goalpost. Matt Treter was then sent to the sin bin for an early penalty, but the Byki

actually looked more dangerous than Hrvat during the power play. Joe Gambino worked a nifty 1-2 with Haynes, freeing Haynes for an open shot on the right side of the box. The Hrvat keeper made a tremendous leg save to deny Haynes. Moments later, Luis Arredondo was open in the box, but his shot was blocked.

The hustling Steven Pedlow won a loose ball in the corner and centered for Arredondo in the box. Arredondo had an opening, but the keeper had the shot covered. The active Arredondo was unmarked in the box just 0:30 later and the goalie saved that shot as well.

The back-and-forth action then swung to Hrvat. A clearance by the Byki defense was deflected by Pedlow, who intended to send the ball downfield. A Hrvat player stepped

up and drilled a shot from the red line through a maze of legs for a 1:0 lead.

The score went to 2:0 a couple of minutes later when the Hrvat netminder heaved a long throw over Enda McGrath to a waiting striker, who beat Ray Najera with a shot from the right side. "We talked about the goalkeeper's throwing ability before the game," said coach George Gorecki. "He burned us last time and we let down our guard again."

Hrvat increased their margin to 3:0 with 4:27 left before the break with a power-play goal. The Byki defense were guilty of chasing the ball, instead of keeping a compact, diamond shape, and the skillful Hrvat team swung the ball to the open man for an easy score.

The Byki regrouped at halftime and started playing up to their capabilities. At the 3:04 mark, Haynes went on a dribbling jaunt through midfield. After shaking off a bump from one defender, he was brought down by a second one, prompting a blue card from the referee. Haynes closed the loop by crushing the ensuing free kick past the wall and the startled goalie to bring the Byki to within 3:1.

Haynes was at it again with 9:20 left in the game. He

blasted a hard shot that the keeper was lucky to see in time. The ball came off the goalie's hands and Haynes pounced on the loose ball, driving it into the back of the net.

The Byki were back in the game and fought hard to craft an equalizer. Najera made a great play to keep the Byki in the hunt when he broke up a Hrvat counterattack with 6:27 to go, sliding out of his box to sweep the ball away from a sprinting Hrvat player. It was a brave effort from Najera, who fought a nasty flu bug in order to play.

Hrvat upped the lead to 4:2 with 5:04 on the clock when an open shot from the left wing beat Najera. The Byki peppered the Hrvat goal with several dangerous shots in succession during a power play in the last three minutes, but could not break through.

#### BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

Haynes, 8; 22:04; 1:3. Haynes, 9; 28:40; 2:3.

**BYKI LINEUP (2-2-1):** Najera – Zhang, Treter – Haynes, Gallo (c) – Elmkinssi. **Bench:** Arredondo, Gambino, Jedrzejowski, Lane, McGrath, Pedlow.

# Byki Stats

## A TEAM, NSL 1st DIVISION

Player	G	A	Pts
Biggs	6	1	7
Talpes, C.	6	0	6
Stanley	3	2	5
Samp	1	3	4
Black	2	1	3
Ruiz	2	0	2
Torossian	1	1	2
Taylor	1	0	1
Bouzoukis	0	1	1
Team goals	1	x	x
<b>Goalie</b>	<b>Min</b>	<b>GA</b>	<b>GAA</b>
Talpes, N.	171	9	2.00
Eliasek	243	31	4.85
Samp	4	1	9.50
Current record: 3-1-7			

## O-30 TEAM, NSL O-30 DIVISION

Player	G	A	Pts
Haynes	9	1	10
Ciszewski	8	0	8
Gambino	3	1	4
Pedlow	2	1	3
Jedrzejowski	1	2	3
Lane	0	3	3
Arredondo	2	0	2
Gallo	0	2	2
Elmkinssi	1	0	1
Fleming	1	0	1
Tower	0	1	1
Treter	0	1	1
Zhang	0	1	1
<b>Goalie</b>	<b>Min</b>	<b>GA</b>	<b>GAA</b>
Najera	418	64	5.82
Current record: 1-0-10			

## O-40 TEAM, SPORTSZONE LEAGUE

Player	G	A	Pts
Haynes	7	2	9
Kleine	3	4	7
Demarets	4	1	5
Farhan	2	1	3
Marvin	2	1	3
Siepiora	2	1	3
Towsey	2	0	2
Cooper	0	2	2
Bolesta	1	0	1
Neighbors	0	1	1
Pruim	0	1	1
Tower	0	1	1
Wiecek	0	1	1
<b>Goalie</b>	<b>Min</b>	<b>GA</b>	<b>GAA</b>
Pruim	210	37	7.40
Current record: 2-0-3			

**Byki****2 : 10****Deva**Over 40 Team - Sportszone Over 30 League  
Sportszone - 4 February 2008

# Dominant Deva crush Byki

Deva Development, who have been running roughshod over the competition in the SportsZone's Over 30 League for the second straight season, were at it again last Monday when they blasted the Byki by a 10:2 scoreline. Deva have a deep pool of excellent players, and no one else in the league can realistically compete with them. At this point, the other seven teams are really fighting for second place.

Deva raced out to an 8:0 lead before the Byki replied with two late goals, but the game was lost long before then. The defeat drops the Byki to 2-0-3 for the winter session.

The Byki started off in disciplined fashion, containing Deva, with the entire team marking well and keeping Deva's prime shooters in front of the defense. Goalkeeper Pete Pruij was a bright spot for the Byki, denying Deva with several excellent saves to prevent them from going up early. The Byki attack, on the other hand, was a bit tentative and provided only occasional relief.

Deva went ahead with an unbelievable shot from midfield. A Deva midfielder flicked the ball up and volleyed it under the crossbar from about 30 yards away in the sixth minute. "This is a goal you only see once a year," said an astounded Bernhard Kleine. "There was no chance for Pete."

That massive strike was a sign of things to come and the Byki tried to answer by moving the team numbers forward to create an equalizer. Dominic Demarets and Sal Farhan found some openings, but their shots missed their mark. Deva

took full advantage of this situation and scored with ease in the 12th minute to make it 2:0. A minute later, they upped their advantage to 3:0 when the Byki were caught outnumbered on the break. Deva added a fourth right before halftime and were comfortably in the driver's seat.

Kleine tried to come up with some kind of damage control, but Deva were better at every position and their passing sliced the Byki apart. The score went to 5:0 in the three minutes into the second half when poor marking allowed a Deva striker to slam the ball home for an easy score.

Deva tacked on three more goals in a ten-minute span, as they toyed with the Byki in cat-and-mouse fashion, putting the contest out of reach at 8:0. Demarets provided temporary relief of the frustration when he scored an unassisted goal with four minutes left. Deva meanwhile continued their strong play and got that one back to make it 9:1. George Siepiora got the second Byki goal when he converted a deflection that came off of the Deva goalie three minutes from time.

*Bernhard Kleine contributed to this story.*

## **BYKI SCORING SUMMARY**

Demarets 4; 37:00; 1:8. Siepiora 2; 39:00; 2:9.

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

# NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE STANDINGS

February 8, 2008

www.nslchicago.org

## MAJOR DIVISION

Red Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts	Blue Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
HNNK Hrvat	11	7	3	1	39	15	24	SC BiH	11	9	2	0	49	21	29
RWB Adria A	11	7	2	2	39	17	23	FK Kozarac	11	8	1	2	53	26	25
B-H Lilies	11	5	2	4	28	26	17	RWB Adria B	11	6	0	5	43	29	18
NK Prijedor	11	4	2	5	25	42	14	SAC Wisla	11	4	1	6	19	28	13
Albanian Stars	11	2	1	8	29	44	7	Royal FC	11	2	1	8	18	44	7
KF Ulqin	11	1	2	8	21	55	5	CKS Warta	11	2	1	8	24	40	7

## FIRST DIVISION

Red Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts	Blue Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
FK Republica Srpska	11	9	1	1	54	17	28	Podlasie	11	11	0	0	90	11	33
Deportivo Colomex	11	8	1	2	54	22	25	West Bosnia SC	11	9	0	2	48	29	27
Stal Mielec	11	8	1	2	50	18	25	Capitol Czarni Jaslo	11	7	2	2	53	22	23
Oak Park Tricycles	11	7	1	3	50	21	22	Real Independiente	11	7	2	2	32	14	23
CKS Warta C	11	6	3	2	44	31	21	CD Taximaroa	11	6	1	4	34	30	19
Chicago Thunder	11	5	1	5	34	23	16	HNNK Hrvat B	11	5	1	5	35	31	16
CKS Warta B	11	5	0	6	33	36	15	FK Bosanska Dubica	11	4	1	6	54	41	13
Khaboor FC	11	3	2	6	35	49	11	FK Podrinje	11	3	1	7	26	54	10
Lake Shore SC	11	3	2	6	44	38	11	Stare Byki FC	11	3	1	7	23	41	10
Montenegro SC	11	3	1	7	30	51	10	Los Chasquis	11	3	0	8	28	86	9
Juanacatlan	11	2	1	8	31	63	7	Lemont FC	11	2	0	9	30	51	6
Chicago Inter R-B	11	0	0	11	9	99	0	Pitbulls SC	11	1	1	9	26	69	4

## OVER 30 DIVISION

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
RWB Adria	11	11	0	0	84	24	33
B-H Lilies	11	8	0	3	51	37	24
Polonia SC	11	6	1	4	64	34	19
SAC Wisla	11	6	0	5	45	50	18
Arabian FC	11	5	1	5	43	52	16
HNNK Hrvat	11	4	2	5	35	42	14
NK Prijedor	11	1	0	10	30	76	3
Stare Byki FC	11	1	0	10	27	64	3

# SPORTSZONE OVER 30 LEAGUE

February 4, 2008

[www.chicagosportszone.com](http://www.chicagosportszone.com)

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Deva Development	5	5	0	0	49	16	15
Chicago Soccer	5	3	1	1	35	27	10
Peaked Venture	5	2	2	1	27	22	8
Chicago Force	5	2	1	2	24	22	7
Stare Byki FC	5	2	0	3	23	37	6
Arsenal	5	2	0	3	36	33	6
Team Demar	5	1	0	4	11	39	3
Tornadoes	5	1	0	4	20	29	3