



BOUNCINGS

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21 Feb 09



Warta C

3 : 5

Byki

Senior Red Team - NSL 2nd Division
Odeum - 13 February 2009

Byki repel Warta comeback

The Byki made it three games without a defeat on February 13 when they downed CKS Warta C 5:3. Kevin Biggs scored two goals, while Jesus Martinez and Minos Bouzoukis each contributed a goal and an assist. The Byki improved their record to 5-2-4 and remain seven points away from the final playoff spot with three games left in the season.

It was a game that the Byki dominated early and even though it appeared that they had Warta well in hand, a couple of quick lapses turned a 3:1 lead into a 3:3 deadlock early in the second half. The Byki kept their composure, continued to work hard and pounced on Warta mistakes to bring home all three points.

Biggs gave the Byki the lead in the first few minutes of the contest. Bouzoukis fed Biggs with a bouncing pass from midfield. Biggs shielded the ball, turned and blasted a rocket of a shot from the top of the area. The keeper dove and got a hand to the ball, but was unable to prevent it from getting behind him.

Warta replied a few minutes later with a blistering shot

from the left wing. Joe Gambino was helpless to stop a shot struck with such pace from close range. The Byki regained the lead with 6:02 left before the break. Martinez sent the ball to Biggs, who rifled a shot from the right flank just as a defender crashed into him. Biggs has scored seven goals this season.

The Byki took advantage of a critical Warta error with just 0:07 left in the half. The Warta goalie came out of his box to clear a ball in the corner. Andrew Slaga put pressure on the keeper, whose clearance wrapped around the boards to Bouzoukis at the Warta red line. Seeing the keeper stranded in a hopeless position, Bouzoukis sailed a shot into the unguarded net.

There was a lot of good soccer on display by the Byki at both ends of the field. They defended with tenacity and limited Warta to possession between the red lines. Snappy passing kept the ball moving and forced Warta's defense to do some chasing. If the Byki could continue with the same momentum in the second half, the result would be a foregone conclusion.

The Byki had a great chance to extend their lead to three goals in the first three minutes of the second half. Martinez played the ball to Jeff Samp, who was deep in the left corner. Spotting Jason Sphar cutting to the middle, Samp laid off an excellent diagonal pass into the middle. Sphar hit the ball first-time, but the goalie made an incredible save to deny Sphar.

Warta started their comeback at the 6:40 mark. Gambino had the ball at his feet and was looking for an open teammate. Just as he made his pass, no Byki players were in the vicinity of the ball and a Warta player calmly lobbed over Gambino's head into the empty net.

Warta leveled the affair 1:23 later. A turnover became a quick shot from the wing and Gambino came up with a big save. The rebound remained free, however, and Warta punched the ball home before the Byki could react.

Sponsor Corner

The Byki have two bars sponsoring the club during the indoor season:

Roosters Barn & Grill
122 W Lake St in Bloomingdale

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

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Stare Byki FC: Friends, Passion, Soccer



What should have been a game that was well in hand was on the verge of slipping away from the Byki. But they displayed confidence and poise all the way and it was only a matter of time before they would find the goals needed to win the game.

The Byki regained the lead with 6:54 to go. Chris Rose played a kick-in from the deep corner back to Sphar, who was not bashful to take a shot. His attempt snaked through a maze of legs and found the far post, leaving the goalie frozen in place.

Warta made another bid for an equalizer 0:34 later. Gambino made a leaping save on a long-range drive and then scrambled back into position to smother the rebound at the near post.

The Byki deflated Warta's comeback hopes with a clinching tally 2:32 from the end. Kvar Black had the ball in the left corner and sent it back to Martinez in the middle of the Warta penalty area. The young marksman made no mistake, slotting a first-time shot underneath the keeper.

BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

Biggs 6; (Bouzoukis); 5:00; 0:1. Biggs 7; (Martinez); 12:58; 1:2. Bouzoukis 6; 18:53; 1:3. Sphar 4 (Rose); 31:06; 3:4. Martinez 5 (Black); 35:28; 3:5.

BYKI LINEUP (2-1-2): Gambino – Bouzoukis, Rose – Black – Biggs, Martinez. **Bench:** Dziekiewicz, Fleming, Lubeck, Samp, Slaga, Sphar.

Kosova

5 : 2

Byki

Over 30 Red Team - NSL 2nd Division
Odeum - 13 February 2009

Counterattacks leave Byki chasing

When a team with a relatively old roster find themselves competing against younger opponents, there always exists the danger of being overrun when the game is played at too fast of a pace. This was precisely the situation that the Byki faced on February 13 when they took on FC Kosova. Four of the five goals scored by Kosova came on the counterattack and the overwhelmed Byki dropped a 5:2 decision to leave them at 3-1-8.

The Byki showed that they had a poor recollection of the first meeting between the sides. Kosova used their superior pace to roar out to a 3:1 lead, only to see an inspired Byki squad rebound for four unanswered scores and a 5:3 win. Coach George Gorecki recalled the circumstances of that game prior to kickoff and tried to get the message across that defending against the counter was the top priority. "As far as speed goes, we had a hard time keeping up," he said. "They had a few guys who were very good shooters and did not hesitate to shoot from almost anywhere."

Kosova wasted no time putting the Byki goal under siege. A long-range shot barely missed the target in the first minute, and then seconds later, a Byki turnover at midfield allowed Kosova to launch a lightning strike counterattack. A long bomb gave Dean Fukar no chance.

The score went to 2:0 a few minutes later. Fukar made a tremendous save after a restart, but another Byki giveaway set Kosova off on 2 v 1 counterattack. Two quick passes later, the Byki were suddenly down by two.

A slick passing sequence with 10:36 left in the half got the Byki back into the game. Jakub Banbor sent the ball to Maciej Kekus in the corner. Kekus read the play perfectly and one-touched the ball back to Banbor, who had made the

run into the middle of the box. Banbor slammed a first-time shot into the back of the net.

Kosova made it 3:1 with 2:11 left in the half. Slack marking undid the Byki and Kosova's ridiculously easy shot attempt was unstoppable. Banbor tried to get that one back just before the break when he stole the ball at the Kosova red line, but was denied by a splendid save from the keeper.

Kosova took command of the contest with 11:05 to go in the game. The Byki were slow to retreat as Kosova countered, leaving the Byki to stare at a three-goal deficit on the scoreboard.

The Byki kept plugging away and were rewarded with 8:34 left. Banbor crushed a shot from the right wing off the boards and Kekus was in just the right spot to knock in the rebound, cutting the score to 4:2. Kekus leads the team with eight goals for the season, while Banbor is the top playmaker with five assists.

Kosova kept Fukar busy in the final minutes as the Byki desperately pushed forward in the hunt for more goals. He made two brilliant saves on plays that appeared to be certain scores. He was finally beaten with 0:22 to go and Kosova bearing down on the counter, as the Byki were once again a step too slow.

BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

Banbor 3 (Kekus); 6:24; 2:1. Kekus 8 (Banbor); 29:26; 4:2.

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

Tatra

6 : 4

Byki

Over 30 Blue Team - CPSL Over 30 Division
Max McCook - 17 February 2009

Byki hang tough with Tatra

The Byki learned what hard work and timely plays from set pieces can do to improve a soccer team's fortunes when they faced Tatra last Tuesday at Max McCook. Tatra clobbered the Byki 10:3 in the first match between the teams and might have expected the Byki to be pushovers in the return encounter. The Byki had other ideas, keeping the match within reach until the final nine minutes, when Tatra broke open a 3:3 deadlock with three unanswered goals in 4:30 en route to a 6:4 victory.

Nobody can feel satisfied with losing, but the Byki were a couple of little mistakes away from pulling off a stunning upset. "I've always told players to play their best and the results will take care of themselves," said George Gorecki. "We were not our absolute best tonight, but it was a tremendous effort."

Tatra opened their account 3:27 into the game when they worked the ball along the right wing. A quick little pass that cut to the inside found an open player running through the Byki penalty area and he slotted past Dean Fukar.

The Byki leveled the score five minutes later when Fukar launched a long pass to Ted Piotrowski, who found Dan Stirrat open on the right flank. Stirrat crushed a long drive from distance that gave the goalkeeper no chance.

Tatra regained the lead with 10:01 left in the first half when they came hard on a counterattack. The Byki were a little tardy in getting their men marked and Tatra made easy work of the play, ending it with a tap-in on the doorstep of the goal.

The Byki continued battling and were rewarded for their efforts with another equalizer with 5:42 remaining. The play began with Fukar's long boot upfield to Jay Brough, who left a delicate header across the face of the goal for the onrushing Stirrat, whose shot clanged off of the post. Tatra cleared the loose ball away and the Byki took advantage. Stirrat played the kick-in from the deep corner, sending a low zinger towards the near post. As the panicked Tatra defense tried to get control

of the ball, the resourceful Rick Bolesta muscled his way into the fray to knock the ball home to make it 2:2.

The invigorated Byki took the field in the second half looking like a team that was ready to win the game. Tatra, however, stamped their authority on the match and took a 3:2 lead after 8:27 had been played. They took the play right up the middle of the Byki defense and shot past Fukar.

The Byki crafted their third equalizer of the night just 1:48 later. Stirrat played a kick-in to Eric Tower on the right side of the field. Despite being a good 25 yards from the goal, Tower wound up and fired past the diving goalie with an impressive shot.

A couple of costly gaffes led to two Tatra goals, which were enough to give them some badly needed breathing room. The Byki had two chances to clear the ball out of their box, but failed both times and Tatra pounded the ball home. Moments later, two Byki miscommunicated on which player would take control of a pass and the turnover led to an easy score for Tatra. They appeared to wrap up the affair with 4:49 left when a bicycle kick hit the crossbar and another Tatra followed up the rebound to smash the ball into the net to give Tatra a 6:3 lead.

The Byki kept up the pressure, but all they could do was muster one more goal in the final minute of play. Tower gained possession of a loose ball just inside the Tatra half of the field fired on goal immediately. The keeper dove and almost got a hand to Tower's booming shot, but could not prevent the ball from finding the back of the net.

BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

Stirrat 3 (Piotrowski); 8:32; 1:1. Bolesta 1 (Stirrat); 19:18; 2:2. Tower 3 (Towsey); 35:15; 3:3. Tower 4; 49:16; 6:4.

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

NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE STANDINGS

February 6, 2009
www.nslchicago.org

MAJOR DIVISION

Red Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts	Blue Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
RWB Adria A	11	9	2	0	43	21	29	Deportivo Meridienne	11	10	0	1	44	19	30
Albanian Stars	11	5	2	4	32	23	17	FK Kozarac	11	8	0	3	45	26	24
B-H Lilies	11	4	2	5	30	34	14	HNNK Hrvat	11	7	0	4	37	30	21
RWB Adria B	11	4	1	6	32	41	13	Podlasie	11	4	1	6	24	31	13
FK Republika Srpska	11	3	2	6	26	35	11	NK Prijedor	11	4	0	7	30	33	12
CKS Warta A	11	1	1	9	15	41	4	SAC Wisla	11	1	1	9	17	41	4

FIRST DIVISION

Red Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts	Blue Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Tricycles SC	11	11	0	0	47	14	33	Stal Mielec	11	7	1	3	45	27	22
Zaglebie SC	11	7	1	3	34	22	22	Capitol Czarni Jaslo	11	6	3	2	40	18	21
Real Independiente	11	6	0	5	33	30	18	CKS Warta B	11	7	0	4	43	36	21
West Bosnia SC	11	4	2	5	34	31	14	Jahbat FC	11	4	3	4	43	44	15
Albanian Stars B	11	3	0	8	34	57	9	CD Taximaroa	11	3	1	7	24	34	10
HNNK Hrvat B	11	0	1	10	25	57	1	Deportivo Colomex	11	2	0	9	20	52	6

SECOND DIVISION