



# BOUNCINGS

22 Feb 08



Byki

6 : 7

Podrinje

A Team - NSL 1st Division  
Odeum - 15 February 2008

## Blown leads prove costly to Byki

The Byki saw leads of 2:0 and 5:2 melt away last Friday when they faced FK Podrinje. The Bosnians scored two late goals to squeeze out a 7:6 win as the Byki were victims of a short roster and their own poor discipline.

Coaches Joe Gambino and Russ Haynes were forced to suit up with their charges because the squad only had seven other players available. Haynes scored two goals in the match, but it was a shocking situation to see so few players on the roster. In an e-mail sent to his team over the weekend, Gambino said that the showing on Friday was a disgrace.

Things actually started out great for the Byki, who zoomed out to a 2:0 lead in the early going. Crisan Talpes added to his team-leading goal total when he faked a defender out of his way and blasted a shot inside the far post during a Byki power play. Moments later, Jason Sphar worked hard to win the ball in the corner to the left of the Podrinje keeper. When the goalie came out to challenge, Sphar calmly tucked the ball past him for his first Byki tally.

Podrinje leveled the affair with a pair of goals 1:11 apart in the middle of the first half. Poor marking was the culprit

on both goals.

Haynes put the Byki back in front with 4:12 to go in the half. He got into the path of a weak pass in the Podrinje end, dribbled in and crushed a shot past the helpless goalie.

Nicoara Talpes made a brilliant save with 1:10 to go when Podrinje had a free kick at the Byki arc. After Podrinje put the ball in play with a quick pass, a hard shot looked to have the screened Talpes beaten, but the youngster reacted well and blocked the shot.

The Byki scored twice in rapid-fire succession early in the second half. Defender Minos Bouzoukis took an opening with aplomb, drilling a shot from the right wing to beat the keeper. Just 0:42 later, the Byki came quickly on the counter. Sphar played a brilliant diagonal pass across the Podrinje penalty area, finding the streaking Dan Stanley at the far post. Stanley knocked the ball home for his fourth goal of the campaign.

With less than 15 minutes left in the game, it should have been easy work for the Byki to put the three points on ice. Instead, sloppy play and a decided lack of discipline let Podrinje back into the match. The Byki turned the ball over in midfield with 11:58 to go and Podrinje launched a 3 v 2 counter the other way to get back to within 5:3.

Nicoara Talpes goofed 1:23 later when he saved an easy Podrinje shot and then released the ball to the ground. When a Podrinje player challenged for the ball, Talpes mistakenly picked it back up, resulting in a violation, resulting in a free kick for Podrinje at the top of the arc. Podrinje set up a shot that found a path through a thicket of defenders, and suddenly, the Byki looked vulnerable at 5:4.

Talpes became unglued moments later when he was whistled for another illegal touch of the ball. He angrily kicked the ball out of play, earning a two-minute penalty. The Byki killed off the penalty, but Podrinje got their second equalizer soon afterwards, beating the Byki on the counter.

The see-saw battle swung back to the Byki with 5:28 to

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go. With a free kick in the corner to the right of the Podrinje goal, Crisan Talpes slid a spectacular pass across the penalty area for Haynes, who buried it into the back of the net with a first-time shot.

That strike should have set things right for the Byki, but there was too much time left. Podrinje drew level yet again with 3:36 left. Poor marking by the Byki left a man wide open. Podrinje got the game-winner with 1:44 to go when the Byki were unable to control a loose ball in the corner. A Podrinje player passed it into the middle of the box, where an unmarked teammate slotted home with ease. Haynes nearly tied the game seconds later, but the Podrinje goalie saved his

one-timer and was helped when the ball ticked off the goalpost.

Gambino has challenged his players to come up a strong finish to the season. It's up to the players to respond to the challenge.

#### BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

C. Talpes 7; (pp); 5:00; 1:0. Sphar 1; 6:38; 2:0. Haynes 1; 14:48; 3:2. Bouzoukis 1; 22:31; 4:2. Stanley 4 (Sphar); 23:18; 5:2. Haynes 2 (C. Talpes); 32:32; 6:5.

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

Byki

1 : 4

Polonia

Over 30 Team - NSL Over 30 Division  
Odeum - 15 February 2008

## Little mistakes add up to another loss

When the Byki took on Polonia SC in their first meeting back in December, the Byki had quite a few wounds to lick on the heels of a 9:1 smackdown. Polonia ran the counterattack to perfection, tying up the Byki in knots, resulting in a harsh exchange of opinions in the Byki locker room over who was responsible for the mistakes. Last Friday, the Byki came out on the wrong end of the rematch, dropping a 4:1 decision. But the luckless Byki were victims of weird deflections on two occasions, which contributed to the Polonia cause.

The Byki were, for the most part, a well-organized group on defense. Polonia pushed the pace in the early going and the Byki survived a few missteps. Polonia sliced a through pass down the heart of the Byki defense, leading to a clear breakaway. Keeper Ray Najera boldly charged off his line and made a sliding save to clear the ball away. Moments later, Polonia pounced on a loose in front of Najera, poking it past him for a 1:0 lead.

“Polonia play with much more speed than the rest of the Over 30 teams,” commented coach George Gorecki. “That speed of play made it tough for us at both ends. On offense, we allowed them to steal the ball too easily. On defense, they played the ball behind the back line quite often. It was a good thing Ray [Najera] had a strong game.”

Once the Byki got themselves on track, the game became much more competitive. Although Polonia controlled much of the possession, they didn't create a lot of scoring chances. Their one other good opportunity in the first half came with 7:50 left. Polonia played a quick pass into the box and Najera showed sharp reflexes when he knocked away a flick header from short range.

The industrious Enda McGrath tried to get the Byki back into the game with 1:38 to go. He ran onto a bouncing ball at midfield and struck a brilliant half-volley that was tipped over the glass by the goalkeeper. McGrath doesn't get many opportunities to score, but he tried to make the most of that one.

Polonia turned up the pressure after the break. With 1:43 gone, the Polonia striker danced past two Byki on the left side and fired past the onrushing Najera. The shot hit the inside of the far post and somehow managed to stay out of the net.

Luck went Polonia's way 1:10 later when Matt Fleming stuck his head into the path of a Polonia shot. The ball then deflected off of McGrath and past Najera to make it 2:0. “That goal really hurt badly,” said Gorecki. “We were starting to find our way into the game and then we give up a crap goal like that.”

Andy Lane tried to answer with a tough shot from the right corner, but the Polonia keeper did well to protect his near post.

Polonia should have made it 3:0 with 11:07 left when a long heave from the keeper ignited a slick 1-2 in the Byki end of the field. The Byki dodged a bullet when a Polonia player missed a sitter.

Polonia finally got their third goal with 5:26 left and it was a real beauty. A Polonia player deftly flicked the ball over Dan Jdrzejowski's head on the right wing and boomed an incredible volley past Najera. Polonia quickly made it 4:0 when they caught the Byki losing focus and scrambled the ball into the goal.

The Byki pulled one back with 4:14 to go. Lane turned

his defender at the Polonia red line and slipped a remarkable pass to Fleming in the Polonia penalty area. Fleming had already shed his marker dribbled the goalkeeper to the turf and slotted home for his second goal of the season.

The Byki could not find the extra pressure needed to mount a comeback. "Polonia are probably the best team in Over 30 after Adria," said Gorecki. "After this great effort, I'm sure that our guys would love to play them again."

#### BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

Fleming 2 (Lane); 33:46; 1:4.

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

Venture

7 : 4

Byki

Over 40 Team - Sportszone Over 30 League  
Sportszone - 18 February 2008

## Byki lose their cool, lose game

The Byki Over 40s faced an aggressive Peaked Venture squad last Monday in a rough-and-tumble encounter that the referee was unable to control. With bodies flying and accusations zinging, the Byki and their stationary, watch-the-ball defense came away on the wrong end of a 7:4 scoreline.

The Byki were taken out of their game by an extremely erratic referee, who was easily influenced by shouting from the players and had little knowledge of how to manage the game. "We didn't lose the game because of the referee," snorted George Gorecki afterwards. "We made plenty of mistakes. But rec league referees are hard to deal with sometimes because so many of them are grossly incompetent." The referee's poor performance cost the Byki a goal, as well as losing scoring ace Dominic Demarets, who was sent off right after the second half kickoff following the disputed goal.

The underlying problem for the oldtimers was their inferior defending. Venture played a physical style, which threw the Byki attackers off of their game. With the Byki offense operating in fits and spurts, they really needed a solid defensive effort to remain competitive in the match. The Byki were unable to get players behind the ball quickly, which allowed Venture to penetrate into Byki territory. The Byki did not help themselves by failing to track opponents running into space. Beleaguered goalkeeper Pete Pruum was called upon to stop numerous point-blank scoring chances.

Venture broke out on top 2:14 into the contest when a slow roller from outside the box slipped through a crowd of players, leaving Pruum unsuspected. But the Byki bounced right back 2:30 later. Sal Farhan split the defense with a cheeky back-heel pass to Bob Marvin, who made the easy tap-in to level things at 1:1.

Venture regained the lead a couple of minutes later when the Byki were slow to cover the counterattack. As the Byki desperately chased the ball, Venture's rapid passing found the open man and he slotted past Pruum from short range.

The Byki applied pressure on the Venture goal midway through the first half. Farhan tried to beat the goalie with a toe poke, but was denied by a good save. The rebound came back to Doug Towsey, and his header was knocked out for a corner kick. After Venture failed to clear the corner, the ball went back to Eric Tower, who saw his opening and launched a marvelous shot from long range that found the back of the net.

Pruum came up big late in the first half. A poorly conceived back pass out of midfield by the Byki led to a Venture player coming in alone on a breakaway. The alert Pruum came off his line and made a sensational diving leg save.

The Byki fell asleep at the wheel in the dying moments of the first half, conceding two very weak goals in the last 0:42. In both cases, lax defending was the problem. The Byki were waiting for the first half to run out, while Venture were greedily looking to regain the lead.

Venture's greed knew no limits at the start of the second half, in a series of plays that saw the game totally unravel. Pruum had received a slight knock at the end of the first half and was a little slow getting back into his goal as the teams changed ends. Despite seeing the partially injured player out of position, the referee blew the whistle to start play. Pruum was not yet in his box when Venture kicked off, and Venture tried to take advantage by lobbing the ball over his head. Pruum desperately got a hand to the ball, tipping it out for a corner. Venture capitalized by converting the corner kick into a goal while the Byki were spewing their venom towards the referee.

"That's what I call crap refereeing," fumed Gorecki. "Even bad referees know enough to check with both goalies before starting the half." The Byki lost their composure and Demarets was shown the red card just before the ensuing kickoff for his complaints to the arbiter. Kleine was unhappy with his team's lack of restraint, but the referee only compounded his mistake by sending off Demarets. "Dominic

may have said things that were out of line,” said Gorecki. “But the referee had to know that he messed up. At that point, he has to be a man and accept some complaining. His first error cost us a goal, and the second one cost us our top scorer.”

The three-goal deficit was too much for the Byki to overcome. The teams traded goals in the second half, as the Byki lacked the extra push necessary to overcome the deficit. They also lacked the defensive cohesion needed to contain Venture’s attackers, leading to easy scores.

The Byki cut the margin to 5:3 with 17:08 left in the game. Towsey dribbled up the middle of the field and then drew the Venture defense toward him. At just the right moment, he made a simple square pass to Farhan, who knocked the ball past the diving keeper.

Venture got that one back two minutes later. George Siepiora then hit an amazing blast on the power play to make

it 6:4. The Byki bench induced the referee to give the two-minute penalty after Tower had been tripped. “The referee was initially giving only a free kick,” said Gorecki. “I yelled, ‘Two minutes!’ from the bench and bingo, the dope pulled out the blue card.”

It was a bitter and disappointing outcome for the Byki. They still have six games left in the session to correct their tactical and mental mistakes.

#### BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

Marvin 3 (Farhan); 4:44; 1:1. Tower 3; 10:03; 2:2. Farhan 3 (Towsey); 24:52; 5:3. Siepiora 6; (pp); 29:06; 6:4.

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

# Byki Stats

## A TEAM, NSL 1st DIVISION

Player	G	A	Pts
Talpes, C.	7	1	8
Biggs	6	1	7
Stanley	4	2	6
Samp	1	3	4
Black	2	1	3
Haynes	2	0	2
Ruiz	2	0	2
Bouzoukis	1	1	2
Sphar	1	1	2
Torossian	1	1	2
Taylor	1	0	1
Team goals	1	x	x

Goalie	Min	GA	GAA
Talpes, N.	209	16	2.91
Eliasek	243	31	4.85
Samp	4	1	9.50

Current record: 3-1-8

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

Player	G	A	Pts
Haynes	9	1	10
Ciszewski	8	0	8
Gambino	3	1	4
Lane	0	4	4
Pedlow	2	1	3
Jedrzejewski	1	2	3
Arredondo	2	0	2
Fleming	2	0	2
Gallo	0	2	2
Elmkinssi	1	0	1
Tower	0	1	1
Treter	0	1	1
Zhang	0	1	1

Goalie	Min	GA	GAA
Najera	456	68	5.67

Current record: 1-0-11

## O-40 TEAM, SPORTSZONE LEAGUE

Player	G	A	Pts
Haynes	7	2	9
Demarets	6	2	8
Siepiora	6	1	7
Farhan	3	4	7
Kleine	3	4	7
Marvin	3	1	4
Tower	3	1	4
Bolesta	1	3	4
Towsey	2	1	3
Silverstein	1	1	2
Cooper	0	2	2
Espinoza	0	1	1
Neighbors	0	1	1
Pruim	0	1	1
Wiecek	0	1	1

Goalie	Min	GA	GAA
Pruim	294	46	6.57

Current record: 3-0-4

# Byki teamwork yields dividends

The Byki got back on the winning track on February 11 when they smashed bottom feeders Team Demar 8:2. George Siepiora recorded a hat trick, while Rick Bolesta contributed a hat trick of assists. In all, six different players contributed to the scoring, as the Byki evened their mark for the season at 3-0-3.

Coach Bernhard Kleine challenged his team before the game. "Team Demar is an opponent that is behind the Byki in the standings," he said. "These are tasks that have to be mastered if the Byki want to solidify their position in the middle of the table."

Although the Byki have a notoriously bad habit of playing down to the level of their competition, they suffered no such letdown versus Demar. Although the game started with a surprising flurry of Demar shots on Pete Pruim's goal, the Byki oldboys weathered that mini blitz to take the lead after three minutes. "We had to get into the game and realize that the Demar was reinforced with additional players, bringing better quality to their lineup," said Kleine. The initial Byki goal was a well-executed counterattack. Dominic Demarets passed to Jon Silverstein on the left flank, and his low shot into corner gave the goalie no chance.

Demar pressed very hard and the Byki continued with a somewhat defensive posture. Pruim backed up his teammates nicely, making terrific saves on four dangerous scoring opportunities.

The Byki made it 2:0 in the 16th minute when Silverstein returned the favor for Demarets and set up the striker for his fifth goal of the season. The Byki now displayed a more mature level of play, and three minutes later, Eric Tower increased the margin to 3:0. Tower made the run through the middle and Sal Farhan timed the ball perfectly past a Demar defender for Tower to finish.

Demar began the second half with a bang. A strong shot from the top of the box was deflected by Kleine past Pruim to make the score 3:1. Moments later, Demar got new life when they took advantage of a Byki defense that was unable to clear the ball away. They deposited the ball into the goal to make it 3:2.

But the Byki didn't panic; they responded in the best possible way. With Demar now looking tired after their comeback effort, the Byki entered their best phase when George Siepiora put his stamp on the match. The score went to 4:2 in the 25th minute when Bolesta hit a ball off the boards and Siepiora redirected the carom into the back of the net. The score swelled to 5:2 three minutes later when Bolesta set up Siepiora once again, putting the game beyond any doubt.

The Byki showed some genuine killer instinct and did not relent. Demarets stole the ball from a Demar midfielder and finished in his typical fashion to make it 6:2 with 13 minutes left in the contest. Siepiora completed his hat trick in the 34th minute and Tower added some spice to the mix with a nice finish four minutes from the end.

Kleine was naturally upbeat about his side's performance. "It was encouraging to see the scoring so well spread amongst the squad," he noted afterwards.

*Bernhard Kleine contributed to this story.*

## BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

Silverstein 1 (Demarets); 3:00; 1:0. Demarets 5 (Silverstein); 16:00; 2:0. Tower 1 (Farhan); 19:00; 3:0. Siepiora 3 (Bolesta); 25:00; 4:2. Siepiora 4 (Bolesta); 28:00; 5:2. Demarets 6; 29:00; 6:2. Siepiora 5 (Bolesta); 34:00; 7:2. Tower 2 (Farhan); 38:00; 8:2.

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

# NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE STANDINGS

February 15, 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	12	8	3	1	47	16	27	SC BiH	12	10	2	0	58	23	32
RWB Adria A	12	8	2	2	45	18	26	FK Kozarac	12	9	1	2	58	28	28
B-H Lilies	12	5	2	5	29	34	17	RWB Adria B	12	6	1	5	44	30	19
NK Prijedor	12	4	2	6	26	48	14	SAC Wisla	12	4	2	6	20	29	14
Albanian Stars	12	3	1	8	33	44	10	Royal FC	12	2	1	9	20	49	7
KF Ulqin	12	1	2	9	21	59	5	CKS Warta	12	2	1	9	26	49	7

## FIRST DIVISION

Red Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts	Blue Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
FK Republica Srpska	12	10	1	1	59	20	31	Podlasie	12	12	0	0	96	12	36
Deportivo Colomex	12	9	1	2	66	23	28	West Bosnia SC	12	9	1	2	50	31	28
Stal Mielec	12	8	1	3	54	23	25	Real Independiente	12	7	3	2	34	16	24
Oak Park Tricycles	12	8	1	3	52	21	25	Capitol Czarni Jaslo	12	7	2	3	56	26	23
CKS Warta C	12	6	3	3	44	33	21	CD Taximaroa	12	7	1	4	38	33	22
Chicago Thunder	12	5	1	6	36	27	16	HNNK Hrvat B	12	5	1	6	36	37	16
CKS Warta B	12	5	0	7	36	41	15	FK Bosanska Dubica	12	5	1	6	57	41	16
Lake Shore SC	12	4	2	6	49	42	14	FK Podrinje	12	4	1	7	33	60	13
Khaboor FC	12	3	2	7	39	54	11	<b>Stare Byki FC</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>10</b>
Montenegro SC	12	3	1	8	31	63	10	Los Chasquis	12	3	0	9	28	89	9
Juanacatlan	12	3	1	8	35	65	10	Lemont FC	12	3	0	9	35	52	9
Chicago Inter R-B	12	1	0	11	14	103	3	Pitbulls SC	12	1	1	10	27	74	4

## OVER 30 DIVISION

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
RWB Adria	12	12	0	0	89	26	36
B-H Lilies	12	8	0	4	55	46	24
Polonia SC	12	7	1	4	68	35	22
SAC Wisla	12	7	0	5	50	54	21
Arabian FC	12	6	1	5	52	56	19
HNNK Hrvat	12	4	2	6	37	47	14
NK Prijedor	12	1	0	11	34	81	3
<b>Stare Byki FC</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>3</b>

# SPORTSZONE OVER 30 LEAGUE

February 18, 2008

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

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Deva Development	7	7	0	0	72	29	21
Peaked Venture	7	4	2	1	40	31	14
Chicago Soccer	7	4	1	2	50	41	13
Chicago Force	7	3	1	3	35	34	10
Stare Byki FC	7	3	0	4	35	46	9
Arsenal	7	2	0	5	50	52	6
Tornadoes	7	2	0	5	32	39	6
Team Demar	7	1	0	6	16	58	3





