



# BOUNCINGS



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28 Feb 14



Dynasty FC	<b>4</b>	National Soccer League
Stare Byki	<b>4</b>	Odeum North Field 21 February 2014

## Losing streak finally over

The Byki were not really on their game last Friday, but they made up for any shortcomings admirably, coming back from a three-goal deficit versus Chicago Dynasty to forge a 4:4 draw. The Byki scored twice in the final 1:40, the equalizer coming with just 0:03 left on the clock. The first point of the season provided a huge measure of satisfaction for the players.

Showing a penchant for conceding goals all season long, the Byki continued that trend on Friday. Little mistakes continued to add up, but the Byki showed grit and determination to overcome the errors and demonstrate their capability to play some good soccer.

Things didn't start out auspiciously when defender Tony Sabo was given a blue card for a hard tackle, a punishment that was probably too harsh for such a foul. The Byki foursome on the field to kill the penalty held their form and it set the table for a first half of good defensive soccer.

Chris Hurley dribbled through the Dynasty defense at 6:30 mark and fired from distance. The keeper was caught off-balance, yet somehow pulled off a kick save to keep things scoreless.

A couple of minutes later, Hurley led a Byki counterattack and dished to the overlapping Sabo on the right flank. Sabo's blast was parried away by the goalie.

A clever play by Dynasty led to the contest's first goal with 5:33 left before the break. They launched a long ball from their half of the field and it rebounded off the glass above the crossbar. Goalkeeper Amit Khankari couldn't react fast enough and his defense left Dynasty's lone striker unmarked for the tap-in on the doorstep.

With 3:39 to go, the speedy Ben Rodriguez came hard on the counter and his pass sent Marek Ciszewski into space on the right. Ciszewski fired a bullet that the keeper could only stab away with an outstretched leg.

The Byki had equalizer on their minds just moments after the second-half kickoff. Cesar Avalos played the ball to Ciszewski on the right wing. Ciszewski dribbled deep into the Dynasty zone and centered for Rodriguez, whose first-time shot was miraculously saved by the keeper.

Byki marking was substandard just a minute later and a long shot gave Dynasty a 2:0 lead. "This shoddy defending has been a struggle for us all season," said coach George Gorecki. We lost the ball in midfield and our player failed to chase after it. Then the next guy gives way too much space, just inviting a shot. With goals this big, it's going to happen every time."

The Byki pulled to within 2:1 with 13:25 to go. Hurley dispossessed a Dynasty player in his back third and his shot found the inside of the far post.

But the Byki hardly had time to celebrate, as Dynasty shot back moments later with a pair of goals 1:21 apart. They made it 3:1 off of a restart following another Byki penalty. Dynasty then upped their advantage to 4:1 when a steal at midfield quickly became a 2 v 1.

That would have spelled the end for the Byki in previous matches. This game was different and the Byki simply kept working for chances. Ciszewski scored his sixth goal of the season midway through the second on a combination play with Hurley that was as simple as it was brilliant in its execution. Ciszewski held the ball in midfield and sent an easy pass for Hurley, who had made the run to show for the ball. Hurley read Ciszewski's intentions perfectly and his delicate flick at the Dynasty defensive line sent the sprinting Ciszewski in alone on the keeper. Ciszewski slotted home past the advancing netminder.

Ciszewski was inches away from trimming the deficit to one with 3:32 to go. A mostly impotent Byki power play nearly ended in ecstasy when Ciszewski's shot slammed off the crossbar.

The score went to 4:3 with 1:40 to go. Cristian Rodriguez played a free kick in the corner back for Mike Stamatinos at the top of the arc. Stamatinos fired a one-timer to notch his first tally of the campaign. "I didn't want to hit the ball too hard and miss the target," said Stamatinos afterward. "I hit the ball with the side of my foot and kept it under control."

One last piece of fireworks was left for the Byki. Hurley worked hard to win possession deep in the left corner and

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slid a pass back into the box for an unmarked Ciszewski, who calmly sent the ball into the back of the net.

“We’ve got five games left, all against Division opponents,” said Gorecki. “Despite our poor position in the table, I see every game as an opportunity to show these teams that we were not at our best the first time we played. We’re a better team now and this is the chance to show it.”

**BYKI LINEUP (2-2-1):** Khankari – Stamatinos (c), Sabo – Banbor, B. Rodriguez – C. Rodriguez. **Bench:** Avalos, Ciszewski, Hurley.

**BYKI SCORING SUMMARY**

2:1 – Hurley 1; 24:35.  
 4:2 – Ciszewski 6 (Hurley); 28:49.  
 4:3 – Stamatinos 1 (C. Rodriguez); 36:20.  
 4:4 – Ciszewski 7 (Hurley); 37:57.

**Byki Man of the Match:** Chris Hurley

Byki O-40	<b>2</b>	Odeum Over 40 League
Albania FC	<b>8</b>	Odeum North Field 24 February 2014

## Loose marking open doors for Albanians

The Over 40s tried to revamp their approach last Monday by lining up with three men in the back against Albania FC. That approach was successful only as long as the Byki understood the concept of holding their marks. The breakdowns began about 12 minutes into the match and the Albanians broke open what had been a competitive contest to that point and ran away 8:2 winners. Nick Bianchi, in his first appearance for the Byki this winter, netted twice and was in position for even more opportunities.

The Albanians got on the board first within the first three minutes when they knocked home a loose ball in the Byki penalty area. The Byki, however, responded decisively two minutes later. Mariusz Gorski, returning to Byki colors for the first time since 2012, muscled his way past an Albanian defender in front of goal. Gorski’s shot deflected to Bianchi, who finished the job to make it 1:1.

The Byki clamped down defensively and keeper Rick Bolesta did his part when the Albanians managed to get shots on frame. The Byki tried to generate offense on the counterattack, but were generally ineffective. Steven Pedlow lamented the lost opportunities: "We had a lot of odd-man rushes. Mostly wasted, though, through selfish play, shooting, even from a terrible angle, rather than pass to the open man for an empty netter like [the way] other teams constantly score on us.”

The Albanians took the lead after 12 minutes and never looked back. Byki marking and defensive discipline fell apart, leaving Bolesta to deal with a seemingly endless

string of breakaways. Bolesta played the angles well and was helped by the ego-driven Albanian strikers, who were intent on finishing the breakaways with nutmegs on Bolesta. He quickly figured out what they were up to and kept the five-hole shut.

The Albanians then proceeded to score five unanswered goals and were 6:1 up with eight minutes left in the match. Bianchi’s hard work paid off when he bagged his second of the night with about five minutes to go.

The players tried to find positive aspects in their effort, despite the six-goal deficit and the numerous breakdowns in the back. But playing catch-up against a team that has a potent attack is going to be an uphill climb. The emphasis on better defending is certainly the right idea, but the execution is the next step.

*Eric Muehlbauer and Steven Pedlow contributed to this story.*

**BYKI LINEUP (3-2):** Bolesta – Gorski, Bianchi, Siervo – Pedlow, St Clair. **Bench:** Farhan, Muehlbauer, Marquez.

**BYKI SCORING SUMMARY**

1:1 – Bianchi 1 (Gorski); 5:00.  
 2:6 – Bianchi 2; 35:00.

# Byki Stats

FIRST TEAM, NSL 1st DIVISION				O-40 TEAM, ODEUM O-40 LEAGUE			
Player	G	A	Pts	Player	G	A	Pts
Ciszewski	7	1	8	Bianchi	1	1	2
Rodriguez, C	2	4	6	Farhan	1	0	1
Jimenez	4	1	5	Gorski	0	1	1
Hurley	1	3	4	Siervo	0	1	1
Sabo	1	3	4				
Stopka	1	3	4	<b>Goalie</b>	<b>Min</b>	<b>GA</b>	<b>GAA</b>
Rodriguez, J	1	2	3	Bolesta	80	13	6.50
Kekus	2	0	2	Current record: 0-0-3			
Koenig	2	0	2				
Onaissi	1	1	2				
Stamatinos	1	1	2				
Wood	0	2	2				
Mehagic	1	0	1				
Ortiz	1	0	1				
Khankari	0	1	1				
Zielinski	0	1	1				
<b>Goalie</b>	<b>Min</b>	<b>GA</b>	<b>GAA</b>				
Stopka	5	0	0.00				
Stopka	1	0	0.00				
Khankari	315	46	5.55				
Avalos	241	37	5.83				
Zielinski	2	1	19.00				
Current record: 0-1-10							

# NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE STANDINGS

February 21, 2014  
www.nslchicago.org

## MAJOR DIVISION

<b>Red Section</b>	<b>GP</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>GF</b>	<b>GA</b>	<b>Pts</b>	<b>Blue Section</b>	<b>GP</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>GF</b>	<b>GA</b>	<b>Pts</b>
Albanian Stars	11	10	0	1	68	28	30	CKS Warta	11	11	0	0	52	23	33
Chicago Fire U-23	11	5	1	5	52	44	16	RWB Adria A	11	9	0	2	65	28	27
SAC Wisla	11	5	0	6	35	43	15	Chicago Stars	11	5	0	6	26	38	15
Tricycles SC A	11	4	2	5	45	43	14	Ethnikos Chicago	11	5	0	6	30	50	15
RWB Adria B	11	2	2	7	35	53	8	ANCI Assyrian A	11	4	1	6	35	44	13
KF Tirana	11	1	2	8	26	41	5	Zaglebie SC	11	1	0	10	30	64	3

## FIRST DIVISION

<b>Red Section</b>	<b>GP</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>GF</b>	<b>GA</b>	<b>Pts</b>	<b>Blue Section</b>	<b>GP</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>GF</b>	<b>GA</b>	<b>Pts</b>
Albania FC	11	7	1	3	45	45	22	Lancer FC	11	9	2	0	59	15	29
Chicago Dynasty FC	11	6	1	4	52	38	19	Stal Mielec	11	7	0	4	46	32	21
FC Kosova	11	6	1	4	43	35	19	HNK Primorac	11	7	0	4	54	37	21
Gremio FC	11	5	1	5	43	47	16	Jagiellonia Chicago	11	5	2	4	52	36	17
ANCI Assyrian B	11	4	2	5	29	46	14	Tricycles SC B	11	1	0	10	20	54	3
Chicago Inter	11	3	1	7	33	50	10	Stare Byki FC	11	0	1	10	25	66	1