



BOUNCINGS



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21 March 14

Stare Byki	6	National Soccer League 1st Division
Tricycles B	3	Odeum North Field 14 March 2014

Byki finally find W column

Smiles and laughter have been hard to find in the Byki locker room this winter. That all changed last Friday, when the Byki delivered a comprehensive 6:3 victory over Tricycles B, the same team that had defeated them 4:3 one week previous. Marek Ciszewski led a balanced Byki attack with two goals and an assist, as eight Byki found their way on to the scoresheet.

The Byki came ready to play in this one, jumping into the lead after just 5:40 had elapsed. In the first encounter between the sides, the Tricycles raced out to a 3:0 advantage by halftime and were unlucky not to have led by more, as three other scoring attempts clanged off of the woodwork. The Byki had a lot to do with that, allowing the Tricycles to run freely on the attack. On Friday, the Byki were the aggressors and authoritatively stepped into the passing lanes.

“Tonight, we didn’t do anything spectacular or out of the ordinary,” said coach George Gorecki. “What we did do is demonstrate excellent teamwork and soccer intelligence. It isn’t anything that we could not have done in any other match. Every game could have displayed the quality we showed tonight.”

That simplicity underscored the build-up to the first goal. Daniel Zielinski sent a quick pass to Mike Stamatinos

in the corner. Stamatinos slammed the ball off the boards to the unmarked Ciszewski, who fired a first-time shot from the middle of the box.

The Byki controlled the pace of the game for the balance of the first half, but the resilient Tricycles kept plugging away and tried to turn momentum their way in the final five minutes. With 3:44 left, the Byki were sleeping on a restart at their defensive line. With two players lining up on the dead ball, the Tricycles quickly found the open man on the wing, and only Amit Khankari’s alert kick save kept the Tricycles off the board.

But the Tricycles would not be denied and their equalizer hardly came as a surprise. They caught the Byki defense unbalanced on the counterattack. An open man on the flank waited patiently for a teammate to run to the far post. When he did, no defender followed him and the tap-in was a matter of easy execution to make it 1:1 at the break.

That kind of goal could have deflated a frustrated Byki team. Instead, the Byki came fast out of the gates in the second half and had full control of the affair within the first three minutes. Zielinski concluded a long dribbling run by sliding a pass to Juan Rodriguez, who was parked in the box. He shielded the ball from a defender and dropped a pass back for Jeremy Utley, whose shot eluded the Tricycles goalkeeper, diving at full stretch.

The Byki needed just 1:39 to double the margin. Kuba Banbor won the ball at midfield and launched a long pass for Ciszewski on the right wing. His long-range rocket was on target for his tenth goal of the season. It was the 12th time that Ciszewski has achieved double-digit goals in one season during his Byki career.

Banbor and Ciszewski were at it again just moments later. They played a nifty give-and-go on the left side, leaving Ciszewski with a sharp-angle shot. The Tricycles goalie showed remarkable reflexes with a desperate kick save.

Khankari bailed out the Byki when they were beaten on the break. A 2 v 1 situation for the Tricycles provided a striker with an open shot from close range, but Khankari tipped the ball over the glass.

The Byki put their foot to the gas over the next five minutes to put the game out of reach. With 10:06 to go, Banbor dropped a pass back for Ciszewski, whose shot beat the keeper, but not the goalpost.

STARE BYKI FC
Pre-Season Kickoff Party

SATURDAY, APRIL 5
Host: Rick Bolesta
6.30 PM start time

WE ARE THE BYKI - Friends - Passion - Soccer

Two minutes later it was Byki tiki-taka on display. Zielinski passed the ball deep into the left corner for Ben Rodriguez, who immediately played a diagonal ball into the middle for Chris Hurley, making a supporting run. Hurley made no mistake from six yards out. All of the passes in the sequence were one-touch, as the Byki left the Tricycles a step behind.

The score swelled to 5:1 with 5:16 left when the Byki converted a 2 v 2 counterattack. Ciszewski dished off to Zielinski, who dribbled straight up the gut and fired past the goalie from long range.

The Tricycles got one back with 3:33 to go, as they outworked the Byki to gain possession of a loose ball in the Byki end. The Tricycles pulled their goalie in a frantic attempt to get back into the contest, but the Byki blew up that strategy with 2:04 left. Juan Rodriguez intercepted a poor clearance by the Tricycles and shot from just inside the defensive line, catching the Tricycles off guard to give the Byki a 6:2 lead. A long-distance drive by a Tricycles player on the run provided the final margin.

“It was refreshing to see the guys put in a strong effort,” noted Gorecki. “This season has been frustrating for everyone and it would have been easy to throw up your hands and try to forget all about it. Our guys have continued to battle, and we’ve shown we can play well in the closing weeks of the season.”

BYKI LINEUP (2-2-1): Khankari – Stamatinos (c), Sabo – J. Rodriguez, Ciszewski – Zielinski. **Bench:** Banbor, Hurley, B. Rodriguez, Stopka, Utley.

BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

1:0 – Ciszewski 9 (Stamatinos); 5:40.
2:1 – Utley 2 (J. Rodriguez); 20:32.
3:1 – Ciszewski 10 (Banbor); 22:11.
4:1 – Hurley 3 (B. Rodriguez); 29:57.
5:1 – Zielinski 3 (Ciszewski); 32:44.
6:2 – J. Rodriguez 3; 35:56.

Byki Man of the Match: Marek Ciszewski and Daniel Zielinski

Jake's Stars	16	Odeum Over 40 League
Byki 0-40	5	Odeum North Field 17 March 2014

Byki left seeing stars

By Eric Muehlbauer

After an embarrassing loss in their previous match, the Over 40 Team looked to rebound against powerhouse Jake's Stars on Monday. Despite knocking home five goals, including a hat trick from Gregorio Siervo, the team's defensive woes continued, as the Byki have given up

double-digit goals for the third time this session in a 16:5 defeat.

Having teammates who were a bit more familiar working together helped, as the sides were on even terms for the first five minutes of play. Tighter marking led to fewer open lanes and passes. But the Byki were unable to sustain their marking consistently and it was just a matter of time before the Stars broke through.

They took advantage of some openings and loose marking and converted two quick sores, both almost in identical fashion: long, hard shots from the right side to just inside the left post of keeper James Vlahakis.

The Byki were poised to fight back, however. They pulled to within 2:1 at the 6:40 mark when Siervo took a pass from Charles St. Clair, who pounded it off the boards to the right of the keeper, setting up Siervo with a good opportunity. Siervo's shot from the right side was deflected by the keeper to a waiting Marek Ciszewski, who pounded the ball home.

The Stars made it 3:1 nine minutes in on a shot from the left side that somehow deflected off a striker in the box and consequently snuck under the legs of Vlahakis, who was lunging to his left to stop the original shot. The Stars made it 4:1 a couple of minutes later after Vlahakis saved a point-blank shot. The rebound trickled out of his hands right back to the striker, who made no mistake on the second try. The score went to 5:1 with some quick, accurate passes inside the box to an unmarked Stars striker. The Byki encouraged each other to stay closer on their marks, but as the game wore on, the defense lost discipline and started chasing the ball, which led to more open shots.

At the 15-minute mark, Siervo got onto the scoresheet when a shot from Dominic Demarets was too hot for the goalkeeper to handle cleanly, leaving Siervo to pounce on the rebound to make it 5:2.

The Stars upped their lead to 6:2 after a failed clearance led to a man-on-man situation for the Stars at the top of the box. Eric Muehlbauer's aggressive defending resulted in a foul and the Stars converted the ensuing dead-ball situation when two Byki defenders marked the ball and left a striker open on the left side.

The Stars made it 7:2 at 17:35 when they caught the Byki on the break and converted the 3 v 1 situation into an easy tap-in goal. Byki frustration mounted and the defense broke down comprehensively. The Stars ran out on the break and the Byki failed to give chase. Within three minutes, the score had swelled to a gaudy 10:2.

The beleaguered Vlahakis faced a barrage of shots and stuffed many of them. “He was great on deflections and sprawled numerous times to intercept passes in the box,” noted Muehlbauer. “If he got a hand on the ball, he would scramble to cover it as quickly as he could.”

After Vlahakis smothered a shot from the Stars' ex-pro Montenegrin striker, he made a terrific long pass to Siervo on the right side, initiating a give-and-go with Demarets.

Siervo's quick shot with his left foot beat the keeper to make it 10:3.

After the Stars added two more goals to extend their lead to 12:3, Siervo completed his hat trick with 13:50 to go. Ciszewski found Siervo alone on the left side and his blast into the left corner made it 12:4.

The Stars got that one back right away when they converted a 2 on 1 situation. St. Clair added the last Byki goal with 12:35 left when he received another long pass from Vlahakis and took the ball down the right side, firing past the surprised keeper to make it 13:5.

The Stars racked up three more goals in the span of about four minutes. One of those was a painful reminder of how deeply the Byki had failed at their defensive responsibilities.

While the Byki were eager to get another score, they incredibly sent all five players into attack, despite warnings from the bench to make sure that somebody should stay back. The Byki failed to find another goal and this led to a 3 v 1 counterattack, and predictably, another Stars goal.

It is amazing that Vlahakis, who is a lawyer in his professional life, did not file a lawsuit against his teammates for cruel and unusual punishment for their lax attitude about defending.

Despite the lopsided score, some Byki tried to be upbeat about the team's effort. The occasions of patience with the ball and having men back defending were far too infrequent, however.

James Vlahakis contributed to this story.

BYKI LINEUP (3-2): Vlahakis – Gorski, Muehlbauer, Farhan – Siervo, Demarets. **Bench:** Ciszewski, Marquez, Neighbors, St Clair.

BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

2:1 –Ciszewski 1 (Siervo); 6:40.
 5:2 – Siervo 2 (Demarets); 15:00.
 9:3 – Siervo 3 (Demarets); 20:00.
 12:4 – Siervo 4 (Ciszewski); 26:10.
 13:5 – St Clair 1 (Vlahakis); 27:25.

Byki Man of the Match: Gregorio Siervo

FIRST TEAM, NSL 1st DIVISION				O-40 TEAM, ODEUM O-40 LEAGUE			
Player	G	A	Pts	Player	G	A	Pts
Ciszewski	10	5	15	Siervo	4	3	7
Rodriguez, J	3	6	9	Bianchi	4	0	4
Hurley	3	3	6	Ciszewski	1	1	2
Rodriguez, C	2	4	6	Gorski	1	1	2
Stopka	2	4	6	Demarets	0	2	2
Jimenez	4	1	5	Aper	1	0	1
Zielinski	3	2	5	Farhan	1	0	1
Sabo	2	3	5	St Clair	1	0	1
Stamatinos	2	3	5	Muehlbauer	0	1	1
Kekus	2	0	2	Vlahakis	0	1	1
Koenig	2	0	2				
Utley	2	0	2	Goalie	Min	GA	GAA
Onaissi	1	1	2	Bolesta	120	30	10.00
Wood	0	2	2	Terracciano	40	12	12.00
Mehagic	1	0	1	Vlahakis	40	16	16.00
Ortiz	1	0	1	Current record: 0-0-6			
Banbor	0	1	1				
Khankari	0	1	1				
Rodriguez, B	0	1	1				
Goalie	Min	GA	GAA				
Stopka	5	0	0.00				
Stopka	1	0	0.00				
Khankari	465	66	5.39				
Avalos	97	19	7.44				
Zielinski	2	1	19.00				
Current record: 1-1-13							

NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE STANDINGS

March 9, 2014

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MAJOR DIVISION

Red Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts	Blue Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Albanian Stars	14	12	0	2	88	42	36	CKS Warta	14	12	1	1	68	37	37
Chicago Fire U-23	14	8	1	5	77	53	25	RWB Adria A	14	12	0	2	90	32	36
Tricycles SC A	14	6	3	5	65	52	21	Chicago Stars	14	8	0	6	47	43	24
SAC Wisla	14	5	2	7	44	57	17	Ethnikos Chicago	14	6	0	8	47	68	18
RWB Adria B	14	2	3	9	44	72	9	ANCI Assyrian A	14	4	2	8	44	59	14
KF Tirana	14	1	2	11	35	68	5	Zaglebie SC	14	1	0	13	31	97	3

FIRST DIVISION

Red Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts	Blue Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Albania FC	14	9	1	4	61	56	28	Lancer FC	14	12	2	0	78	21	38
FC Kosova	14	9	1	4	59	40	28	HNK Primorac	14	10	0	4	66	43	30
Chicago Dynasty FC	14	7	1	6	62	49	22	Stal Mielec	14	8	0	6	53	47	24
Gremio FC	14	6	2	6	53	58	20	Jagiellonia Chicago	14	6	2	6	67	48	20
ANCI Assyrian B	14	5	2	7	39	59	17	Tricycles SC B	14	2	0	12	28	68	6
Chicago Inter	14	3	2	9	37	65	11	Stare Byki FC	14	0	1	13	34	83	1