



BOUNCINGS



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4 April 14

Stal Mielec	6	National Soccer League 1st Division
Stare Byki	2	Odeum North Field 21 March 2014

Byki bid winter goodbye

The Byki said good riddance to one of the most dismal indoor seasons in club history. A seven-man squad limped through the season finale on March 21, a 6:2 drubbing at the hands of playoff-bound Stal Mielec. The Byki finished the season at 1-1-14, last place in the 1st Division's Blue Section.

"Our lack of a full squad was very disappointing tonight," lamented coach George Gorecki. "We showed reasonably well in our last three games and it would have been nice to go out on a strong note. It's tough to compete with just one sub on the bench."

If only it was even one substitute. At kickoff, the Byki had just five players on the field. The referees delayed the start of the game so that the just-in-time Marek Ciszewski could get his uniform on. Mike Stamatinos arrived about midway through the first half to give the Byki some level of relief.

But the tactical discipline that a shorthanded Byki side demonstrated against HNK Primorac on March 9 was nowhere to be seen versus Mielec, who needed just 0:17 to grab the lead. The disorganized Byki allowed a Mielec player to waltz into their zone to slam a shot past the defenseless Amit Khankari.

The Byki were able to right the ship somewhat after that calamitous beginning. The Mielec keeper thwarted a bid for an equalizer at the 4:26 mark with a full-stretch dive. Tony

Sabo stole the ball at midfield and dished to Daniel Zielinski, who dribbled into the clear to fire a shot from distance.

Khankari was in the right place 2:09 later. A Mielec player came in alone after winning a battle for the ball near the side boards. With only Khankari to beat, the Byki keeper came up big, denying the shot with a kick save.

Mielec doubled their lead with 3:59 left before the break when they took intercepted a Byki pass in the back third. A Mielec player beat Khankari handily for a 2:0 advantage.

The Byki came out of the halftime interval with a plan in mind and the game turned into a back-and-forth shootout for the next five minutes. Marek Ciszewski got the Byki back into the contest after just 1:26 when he won the ball in the deep left corner. After dribbling his way out of traffic, he turned and cracked a shot from a tough angle. A slight deflection might have helped his attempt fly past the keeper.

At a point in the match when the Byki really needed discipline, their discipline totally escaped them. Mielec scored twice in the span of 1:22 to take a commanding 4:1 lead. Stamatinos tried to break up a pass at midfield, but arrive too late, and the result was a Mielec breakaway, which they converted to go 3:1 up. Slack marking on a free kick made Mielec's fourth goal rather easy. They passed the ball back out of the corner to an unmarked player, who ripped a shot past Khankari.

Ciszewski's second tally of the night brought the Byki to within 4:2 just moments later. A fantastic interchange of rapid ball movement unlocked the Mielec defense. Stamatinos slid a pass into Zielinski in the box and Zielinski immediately laid off to Ciszewski, whose first-timer gave the keeper no chance. Ciszewski led the Byki with 12 goals this season.

The climb to get back into the match was too steep for an undermanned Byki squad. They were not set up for the wide-open game that developed at the start of the second half. By the middle of the frame, the gas tank started to run low and the odds of a comeback became increasingly longer. Mielec wrapped up the contest with two more goals in the final 1:54.

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

BYKI SCORING SUMMARY
2:1 – Ciszewski 11 (Stamatinos); 20:26.
4:2 – Ciszewski 12 (Zielinski); 23:40.

Byki Man of the Match: Marek Ciszewski

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

Byki O-40	1	Odeum Over 40 League
Tricycles SC	13	Odeum North Field 31 March 2014

Byki end season battered

By Eric Muehlbauer

The Over 40 Team blundered their way into another double-digit loss in their final game of the indoor season, losing to the Tricycles 13:1 in action last Monday. The Byki expected to have a full roster of 11 players for the game, but ended up with only 8 players, due to last-minute cancellations. Meanwhile, the fully loaded Tricycles fielded 15 players and ran the Byki into the ground with efficient subbing.

The first five minutes saw both teams tentatively feeling each other out, and neither side made any aggressive runs toward the goal, with play being contained mostly in the midfield.

The Tricycles got on the board first when a striker made a surprisingly sneaky shot from the right side that caught the Byki off guard. The striker faked a pass to the left and quickly blasted the ball just inside the right post to make it 1:0. Moments later, sloppy marking again led to another shot from the right side and the Tricycles doubled their lead.

The Byki tried to get one back. Gregorio Siervo passed off to Sal Farhan on the left wing and his hard shot caromed off the boards toward the net, but the alert keeper made a nice save. The nimble Tricycles then went to work, scoring three times in the next five minutes to take command of the contest. A nice slip pass from the left side found a striker charging toward the right post, just beating his man for a quick tap inside post to make it 3:0. Then, a couple of quick passes at the top of the box unhinged the Byki defense and a curving shot got past Byki keeper Rick Bolesta. The score swelled to 5:0 on a couple of ricochets inside the box and a nifty, no-look, back-heel shot on a bounding ball.

A shot from 20 feet by double agent Dave Safford made it 6:0. And then two quick passes open things up on the right flank to up the advantage to 7:0. At this point, Bolesta was replaced between the pipes by Fleet Neighbors. Bolesta's back had stiffened by that point, presumably from having to bend over so often to pick the ball out of the back of the net. It didn't take long for Neighbors to feel Bolesta's pain. At the 16-minute mark, the Tricycles again converted a 3 v 2 to go 8:0 up.

The Byki finally got on the board halfway through when Siervo hit Eric Muehlbauer with a pass from midfield on the right side. From the corner, Muehlbauer found Dominic Demarets at the top of the box. Demarets fired a shot from the right side of the area and Muehlbauer was in the perfect spot to pounce on the rebound, guiding the ball home to make it 8:1.

The Tricycles got that one back a few minutes later when Neighbors trapped a hard shot between his legs, but the ball's

momentum allowed it to sneak through his legs. At this point, the Byki seemed to lose whatever discipline they had and got caught with too many men on the attack. This resulted in a 2 v 1 for the Tricycles, and a blistering shot whizzed past Neighbors' ear to make it 10:1 with 14:40 to go.

"This was a very frustrating game because of basic defensive mistakes," noted Steven Pedlow. "Cover the guy and not space! Don't leave a guy wide open in front of the net to double-team the man with the ball. That leads to an easy pass and uncontested point-blank shot on our goal."

As the Byki tried dribbling through defenders, they repeatedly coughed up the ball and appealed to the ref instead of getting back on defense. The Tricycles were happily killing the Byki on the counter to the tune of three more scores. Poor Neighbors was left to his own devices to thwart the onslaught. "Fleet did not give a single ball away inside our defensive zone, despite at least 20 possessions under pressure," said Pedlow.

Steven Pedlow contributed to this story.

BYKI LINEUP (3-2): Bolesta – Gorski, Muehlbauer, Pedlow – Siervo, Demarets. **Bench:** Farhan, Neighbors.

BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

1:8 – Muehlbauer 2 (Demarets); 20:00.

Byki O-40	2	Odeum Over 40 League
Thrylos	10	Odeum North Field 24 March 2014

By Eric Muehlbauer

The porous Byki defense again let the team down in a 10:2 drubbing by Thrylos on March 24. Although there are aspects of an improvement in team cohesion, the Byki simply make too many mistakes in the back third and it costs them.

Thrylos needed only 1:30 to break out on top when a Byki defender went for an interception and ended up overrunning the ball, resulting in a two-on-none breakaway, which Thrylos easily converted. Moments later, the Byki got caught with too many men upfield and left a striker alone in the box. He received a simple crossing pass and nailed a low shot to the right side to make it 2:0.

At the 10:25 mark, Kuba Banbor led a 4 v 2 counterattack and fed Gregorio Siervo, who turned and shot immediately and was denied by a good save. Just 1:25 later, the Byki halved the deficit when Nick Bianchi and Siervo battled for the ball with a Thrylos player in the corner. Bianchi finally won it and toe flipped it to Eric Muehlbauer, who did not wait to trap the ball and slotted inside the left post.

Two minutes later, however, Thrylos went back to a two-goal margin. Muehlbauer and Bianchi tried to contain a Thrylos dribbler, but the striker juke into the clear and went toward the middle, executing a quick toe-poke, wrong-footing goalie Rick Bolesta.

Thrylos scored five times over the next nine minutes to

put the game away. Four of the goals came as a result of the Byki failing to get back on the counter and Thrylos finishing was clinical all around.

The Byki eventually lost their discipline, with defenders either marking open space, or situations where two defenders chased the ball, leaving Thrylos strikers unmarked. Once the score rose to 9:1, the Byki were once again searching for answers. The Byki made some nice runs, but came up empty.

Thrylos added a tenth goal to their total with 1:37 left when a breakdown in the middle left Bolesta alone with a striker, who beat him to the right side.

The Byki racked up one more goal with 0:48 left when Steven Pedlow read the situation correctly. When he saw that the keeper was poised to stop a Byki shot, he intercepted the pass in front of the goal. With a defender on his back and

Charles St. Clair behind the defender, screening the keeper, Pedlow maneuvered through the tangle of legs and slid a quick turnaround shot that went through St. Clair's legs and past the keeper.

Afterwards, the players felt that there were occasions of good play, but the stupid plays allowed Thrylos to capitalize on mistakes.

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

BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

1:2 – Muehlbauer 1 (Bianchi); 11:50.
2:10 – Pedlow 1; 39:12.

Byki Stats

FIRST TEAM, NSL 1st DIVISION

Player	G	A	Pts
Ciszewski	12	5	17
Rodriguez, J	3	6	9
Hurley	3	3	6
Zielinski	3	3	6
Rodriguez, C	2	4	6
Stopka	2	4	6
Jimenez	4	1	5
Sabo	2	3	5
Stamatinos	2	3	5
Kekus	2	0	2
Koenig	2	0	2
Utley	2	0	2
Onaissi	1	1	2
Wood	0	2	2
Mehagic	1	0	1
Ortiz	1	0	1
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	503	72	5.44
Avalos	97	19	7.44
Zielinski	2	1	19.00

Final record: 1-1-14

O-40 TEAM, ODEUM O-40 LEAGUE

Player	G	A	Pts
Siervo	4	3	7
Bianchi	4	1	5
Muehlbauer	2	1	3
Demarets	0	3	3
Ciszewski	1	1	2
Gorski	1	1	2
Aper	1	0	1
Farhan	1	0	1
Pedlow	1	0	1
St Clair	1	0	1
Vlahakis	0	1	1

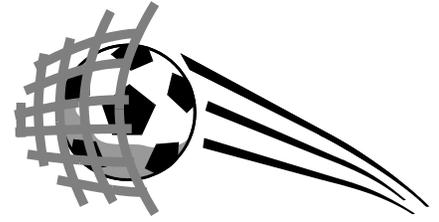
Goalie	Min	GA	GAA
Neighbors	24	6	10.00
Bolesta	176	47	10.68
Terracciano	40	12	12.00
Vlahakis	40	16	16.00

Final record: 0-0-8



BYKI

bits & pieces



The Byki are awaiting their league schedules for the outdoor season, but the off-the-field schedule is starting to fill up. This is a good time to mark your calendars.

PRE-SEASON PARTY
SAT APR 5, 6.30 PM
Rick Bolesta's house

Rick Bolesta, who aspires to be the goal-keeper for the Byki Over 48 Team, is hosting a pre-season party at his place on April 5. Everyone should have received the e-vite in their mailbox. The festivities begin at 6:30 PM. A wide range of quality beers and snacks have been promised. Also available will be limited-edition Byki beer glasses and scarves. Don't forget to bring your wife or girlfriend. If you're feeling especially adventurous, why not bring both?

BYKI DAY at TOYOTA PARK
SUN JUN 1, 3.00 PM
Chicago Fire v LA Galaxy

The Byki return to Toyota Park for a fundraiser outing, as the Fire take on the Los Angeles Galaxy on Sunday, June 1. Kickoff is at 3.00 and tickets are \$28. Our group will be 100 strong, so we need everyone to get the word out to the soccer fans among your friends and family. Tickets are available right now. See this weekend for your tickets.

As an added bonus, kids from the Byki family will be on the field that day as members of the Fire Tunnel to greet the Fire (and boo the Galaxy) as the players walk out of the locker room. This fan experience is available to only the first 30 kids who order tickets and have paid for them. Order your tickets early!

BYKI GOLF OUTING
SAT AUG 9
White Pines, Bensenville

The Byki will be hosting their annual Golf Outing on Saturday, August 9. We'll be at White Pines in Bensenville this year. Save the date! Details will be arriving soon.

NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE STANDINGS
FINAL STANDINGS
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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	16	13	0	3	97	54	39	RWB Adria A	16	13	1	2	96	33	40
Chicago Fire U-23	16	9	1	6	85	61	28	CKS Warta	16	12	3	1	71	40	39
Tricycles SC A	16	7	3	6	76	63	24	Chicago Stars	16	10	0	6	56	46	30
SAC Wisla	16	6	3	7	52	63	21	ANCI Assyrian A	16	6	2	8	53	64	20
RWB Adria B	16	3	3	10	48	77	12	Ethnikos Chicago	16	6	0	10	52	77	18
KF Tirana	16	1	2	13	35	74	5	Zaglebie SC	16	1	0	15	38	107	3

FIRST DIVISION

Red Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts	Blue Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Albania FC	16	11	1	4	75	67	34	Lancer FC	16	14	2	0	89	26	44
Chicago Dynasty FC	16	9	1	6	75	53	28	HNK Primorac	16	11	1	4	74	50	34
FC Kosova	16	9	1	6	65	51	28	Stal Mielec	16	9	1	6	62	52	28
Gremio FC	16	7	2	7	63	66	23	Jagiellonia Chicago	16	6	2	8	75	59	20
ANCI Assyrian B	16	6	2	8	45	66	20	Tricycles SC B	16	2	0	14	32	79	6
Chicago Inter	16	3	2	11	43	79	11	Stare Byki FC	16	1	1	14	42	92	4