



BOUNCINGS

12 May 07



Turkish FC

3 : 5

Byki

A Team - NSL 1st Division
Walker Park - 6 May 2007

Zach attack crushes Turkish FC

The Byki opened the 2007 outdoor season in smashing style, with a smothering 8:0 victory over Turkish FC last Sunday at Walker Park in Burr Ridge. Zach Dance pounded in five goals to pace the Byki, who shredded the Turkish defense with quick passes to the wings that created acres of space. In all, eight different Byki found their way onto the scoresheet.

Dance's big day equaled the Byki record for most goals in an outdoor match. Marek Ciszewski went for five in September 1997 when the Byki lost a thrilling 6:5 barn-burner to KF Ulqin (then known as Albanian Stars B). Back in those days, Ciszewski's teammates relied on him to carry them on his big shoulders when the going got tough. Today, Dance represents just one of many potent scoring options for the A Team.

The squad have expanded their roster to 20 players and the newly-acquired depth was on full display on Sunday. Kyle Battles and John Gwin made their debuts versus the Turks, while five players who started the 2006 season with the B Team have moved to the A Team. "Our team have

really improved their talent level," said coach George Gorecki. "This match was not a strong test for us, but we will have a lot of good players competing for playing time."

Turkish FC received the Lazarus treatment during the NSL off-season. After a disappointing 2006 campaign that saw them relegated to the 2nd Division, the Turks were spared when a vacancy in the 1st Division allowed them to stay up. After Sunday's performance, they may be regretting not having stayed in the lower flight.

The Byki came hard at the home side right from the outset. They were three goals to the good inside of 18 minutes and the rest of the match was a test to see whether they could stay interested. Two of those first three goals were the result of breakaways, thanks to an ill-conceived offside trap that the Turks had hatched. Defenders who are old or slow are not the ideal candidates to play such a high defensive line.

Matt Fleming, who had a revelation during the past indoor season when he led the team in scoring, opened up the Turkish defense in the 10th minute with an excellent through pass to Ahmed Goudeaux. A slow fullback on the left side kept Goudeaux onside and the rest was easy for the speedy striker.

Dance opened his account three minutes later. Paul Mansur won the ball in the midfield and sent a pass to the inside. A defender deflected the ball right into Dance's path and Dance homed in on the near post, as his shot beat the diving keeper.

In the 18th minute, Chris Moore sent a terrific pass over the Turks from his fullback spot. Dance raced to get the ball first, leaving a trail of Turkish defenders raising their arms wildly for offside. Dance sent a short, looping shot over the keeper for a 3:0 lead.

The Byki should have had a fourth two minutes later. Jeff Samp launched a long throw into the box from the left side. Gwin shot quickly, but a defender blocked it. The loose ball went to Pierre Delaunay, who took his opening well, but was denied by a great save from the goalie.

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The Turks had their lone good scoring chance in the 29th minute when the Byki had difficulties with a corner kick. A deflected shot left keeper Ryan Eliasek off-balance, but Mansur saved the day by clearing the follow-up shot off the line.

After a strong run on the left flank in the 35th minute, Samp served up a cross for Todd Mayer, whose shot smacked off of the goalpost. Goudeaux headed the rebound on frame into the waiting keeper's arms.

The Byki applied high pressure to the Turkish goal in the 40th minute. Dance controlled the ball in the area and dropped a pass for Minos Bouzoukis at the arc. The wild mis-hit from Bouzoukis became a nifty pass to Dance, who drilled the ball home from 15 yards to complete his hat trick.

With a strong start under their belts, the Byki wanted more of the same in the second half, and were especially keen to preserve Eliasek's clean sheet. They succeeded on both counts.

Dance scored his fourth in the 52nd minute after a slick one-on-one move in the box to make it 5:0. The score swelled to 6:0 nine minutes later. Fleming was denied by the goalpost when he was unmarked in the area and Dance won the ensuing scrum for the loose ball to poke it home.

Dance decided to let his teammates score some goals to

put the finishing touches on the blowout win. Gwin dribbled through three defenders in the box in the 72nd minute and had the keeper at his mercy. Gwin's shot was miraculously saved and the deflection landed at Dan Stanley's feet. Stanley made no mistake to raise the lead to 7:0.

Mayer's dangerous corner kick in the 83rd minute was controlled by a defender, but Gwin pounced opportunistically to win the ball back. He espied the far post and fired past the goalkeeper to wrap things up.

It's always encouraging to start things off on the right foot. The 1st Division will provide the Byki with a lot of tough games, and they can have the confidence that they are up to the task.

BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

Goudeaux 1 (Fleming); 10th; 0:1. Dance 1 (Mansur); 13th; 0:2. Dance 2 (Moore); 18th; 0:3. Dance 3 (Bouzoukis); 40th; 0:4. Dance 4; 52nd; 0:5. Dance 5; 61st; 0:6. Stanley 1 (Gwin); 72nd; 0:7. Gwin 1; 83rd; 0:8.

BYKI LINEUP (4-4-2): Eliasek – Daniel, Moore, C, Rose, Mansur, P Jr – Bouzoukis, Delaunay, Stanley, Fleming – Dance (c), Goudeaux.
Bench: Battles, Dziekiewicz, Gwin, Mayer, Samp, Taylor.

Colomex	2 : 0	Byki	B Team - NSL 1st Division Rogers Park - 6 May 2007
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Byki just short in hard-fought battle

The B Team got a taste of life in the NSL's 1st Division last Sunday when they came away on the wrong end of a 2:0 score versus Deportivo Colomex. The Byki showed plenty of fight, enthusiasm and commitment in their opening match. In the end, however, Colomex took their chances well and the Byki were unable to convert their opportunities.

Coaches Joe Gambino and Russ Haynes have assembled a 22-strong squad that shows promise, as no fewer than six newcomers contributed to last week's effort. Finding the best combination of players that can compete at this level remains the biggest challenge for the coaches, who continue the never-ending search for new talent.

The match was a scrappy affair that saw most of the play between the penalty areas. Scoring opportunities were scarce for both sides. The Byki defense, led by the stellar play of stopper Tony Gallo, stayed organized and compact for most of the match. Colomex enjoyed the possession advantage, especially in the first half, but did little to seriously threaten the Byki goal.

The Byki attack was largely thwarted by their inability to keep the ball for long stretches. Unforced turnovers and speculative long balls made life easy for the Colomex defense.

The Colomex goalkeeper was probably their best player, denying the Byki in key situations in the second half.

Colomex placed the Byki on notice right away. After only three minutes, things were nervous in the Byki area as a series of quick passes unhinged the defense. With goalie Rich Drake off his line to block a short-range shot, sweeper Justin Williams was in perfect position to clear the ball to safety.

The Byki then replied in the seventh minute. With a throw-in in the deep corner on the left wing, Ivan Torossian played a short throw to Enda McGrath. The midfielder immediately slid the ball back to Torossian, who unleashed an audacious volley toward the goal. The looping ball had the goalkeeper twisted up, but it glanced off of the top of the crossbar.

Colomex snatched the lead a minute later when they came on the counter down the right flank. A sneaky 1-2 combo left a striker alone on Drake and the Colomex player slotted home for a 1:0 advantage. Drake argued that the second pass in the sequence put the striker offside, but the referee wasn't interested.

Haynes made liberal use of his seven-man bench throughout the first half, searching for the right arrangement

that could conjure an equalizer. With so many players unfamiliar with one another, it took the Byki a while to find their rhythm. By the latter stages of the first half, they were playing a composed style and things looked pretty even between the sides.

The Byki came out with a renewed vigor after the interval. In the 52nd minute, Ahmad Harake sent an inch-perfect through pass from the center circle to the sprinting Haynes, who immediately dished the ball to Torossian on the right. The winger took a quick touch to the inside and barely missed the near post with a stinging shot.

Two minutes later, the stage seemed set for the tying goal. Gallo crossed the ball into middle from the right side. The Colomex defense cleared the ball right to McGrath, who was standing at the top of the box. McGrath crushed the ball with a hard shot, but a defender blocked it. Jwo-Horng Lin controlled the rebound and drilled a shot, only to be denied by an acrobatic save from the keeper.

The Byki attack was looking better all the time, as Colomex seemed content to absorb pressure. Their patience proved to be fortuitous, as they caught the Byki unaware on the break in the 75th minute. A Colomex midfielder danced his way

past three Byki at midfield and then accelerated into open space 35 yards from goal. Drake came out of his area to intervene, but the Colomex player easily side-stepped him and slid the ball into the unguarded goal to give Colomex the comfort of a 2:0 lead.

The Byki threw everything they had into attack for the final minutes of the contest. Their best chance came four minutes from time, when Harake drove a slick pass that found Torossian alone at the 18. Torossian shot immediately, but the keeper had perfect position to make the save.

The B Team have a lot of hard work ahead of them, but this result shows that they have every reason to believe that they belong at this level.

BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

None.

BYKI LINEUP (4-4-2): Drake – Williams, Colwell, Gallo, Casey (c) – McGrath, Torossian, Zwickl, Haynes – Lin, Harake. **Bench:** Bant, Biggs, Freeman, Lane, Peng, Perez-Griffo, Ruiz.

Byki Stats

A TEAM, NSL 1st DIVISION

Player	G	A	Pts
Dance	5	0	5
Gwin	1	1	2
Goudeaux	1	0	1
Stanley	1	0	1
Bouzoukis	0	1	1
Fleming	0	1	1
Mansur, P Jr	0	1	1
Moore, C	0	1	1

Goalie	Min	GA	GAA
Eliasek	90	0	0.00

Current record: 1-0-0

B TEAM, NSL 1st DIVISION

Player	G	A	Pts
No goals yet!			

Goalie	Min	GA	GAA
Drake	90	2	2.00

Current record: 0-0-1

O-30 TEAM, NSL O-30 DIVISION

Player	G	A	Pts
Regueiro	1	0	1
Garcia	0	1	1

Goalie	Min	GA	GAA
Blanco	80	3	3.00

Current record: 0-0-1

Oldboys search for teamwork

The Byki started the new season with an auspicious debut, as they overcame a poor ability to maintain possession early in the match and then staged a dramatic comeback in the final minutes as they fell 3:1 to Arabian FC at Wierzba Park in Bridgeview last Saturday. The Over 30s are definitely a work in progress, and some progress was in evidence as this first game reached its conclusion.

Coaches Wei Zhang and Eric Tower have a sizeable player pool at their disposal and arguably the best talent level to start an outdoor season in many years. How they get all of these players to coordinate their efforts is at the top of their priority list. Based on the way things kicked off last Saturday, it might have been a good idea to have given the players name tags.

When the home team moved the match from the truly wretched Ridgeland Park to Wierzba, they did the Byki a favor because the conditions at the new field favored the possession style that Zhang and Tower would like to implement. The wide, grassy pitch was well suited to playing the ball to the wings, but the Byki got bogged down by ignoring the ample space on the flanks and playing far too many direct balls over the top. That failed tactic only led to a bevy of unforced turnovers.

The Arabians wasted little time breaking out on top. It took only seven minutes for them to breach the Byki goal. They played a long pass down the left wing and the Arabian player quickly cut inside to the near post. He made a hard centering pass that deflected off of Tower and past the helpless Dan Blanco. "Not the way I wanted to get my first goal of the season," quipped Tower afterwards.

Arabian FC increased the lead to 2:0 in the 37th minute when they beat the Byki on the counter. The play started along the left touchline and a deft pass into the middle of the box unhinged the Byki defense, leaving the Arabian striker to finish an easy shot from short range.

The Byki had one decent chance in the first frame, coming at the 16-minute mark. Fullback Steven Pedlow received a long pass at the top of the area and quickly moved the ball to Peng Liu. The winger's accurate shot was saved by the keeper.

The offensive struggles were a source of frustration as the squad regrouped during the halftime break. Judging by the considerable firepower of the Arabians' attackers, the Byki were in decent shape to be only two goals behind. Zhang, manning the sweeper slot, did a nice job marshaling the defense and Blanco was in good position to cancel out several good scoring chances.

The Byki did well to turn the tide in the second half. After spending most of the first half back on their heels, the Byki

did a better job of passing the ball, which resulted in the game evening out. Neither side had a breakthrough until the final six minutes of the contest, at which point the game became an end-to-end, attacking bonanza.

The Arabians went up 3:0 in the 74th minute when a succession of effortless passes down the left side left the Byki scrambling to mark their men. After the Arabians passed the ball into the middle, a sweet flick beat Blanco at the far post.

At that late stage, it would have been a convenient time for the Byki to pack their bags and lick the wounds resulting from another encounter with Arabian FC. But the Byki came alive in the final five minutes and showed that there was still plenty to play for.

A pass over the top of the Arabian defense found debutante Yang Song streaking into the clear. With only the goalie to beat, Song's shot deflected off of the crossbar. Two minutes later, the Byki got on the board, thanks to hard work and hustle. Matt Treter chased down a long ball into the left corner and dribbled along the byline before sending a diagonal pass back into the box for Ernesto Garcia. The striker was in a forest of defenders, so he laid the ball back for Fernando Regueiro, who blasted a shot just underneath the bar to give the Byki new life.

And the Byki weren't fooling around. In the 78th minute, Liu released Garcia behind the now-shaky Arabian defense on another breakaway. Garcia timed a lob over the onrushing goalie, but he also was denied by the crossbar.

The Byki kept up the pressure with two tremendous opportunities in the final minute. Dan Jedrzejowski sent a pass down the right wing to Liu, who took the ball deep and then sent a cross into the middle. Regueiro, feeling hot, had a great look, but narrowly missed the far post with a sizzling shot. Moments later, Regueiro was open in the box and shot barely over the bar.

BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

Regueiro 1 (Garcia); 77th; 3:1.

BYKI LINEUP (4-4-2): Blanco – Zhang, Geng, Tower, Pedlow – Arredondo, Elmkinssi (c), Jedrzejowski, Song – He, Garcia. **Bench:** Gorecki, Hunter, Liu, Moore, P, Regueiro, Treter.

NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE STANDINGS

May 6, 2007

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MAJOR DIVISION

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
B-H Lilies	2	2	0	0	5	0	6
RWB Adria	2	2	0	0	5	1	6
SAC Wisla	2	1	0	1	5	1	3
Gazelle SC	1	1	0	0	1	0	3
FC Romania	1	0	1	0	3	3	1
Honduras SC	1	0	1	0	2	2	1
CKS Warta	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
Albanian Stars	2	0	1	1	2	4	1
Jahbat FC	2	0	1	1	3	7	1
NK Prijedor	2	0	1	1	1	6	1
KF Ulqin	1	0	0	1	0	1	0
HNNK Hrvat	1	0	0	1	1	3	0

FIRST DIVISION

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Lemont FC	2	1	1	0	2	1	4
Stare Byki A	1	1	0	0	8	0	3
FK Kozarac	1	1	0	0	5	2	3
Deportivo Colomex	1	1	0	0	2	0	3
West Indies Jets	1	1	0	0	2	0	3
FC Steaua Chicago	1	0	1	0	3	3	1
Royal FC	1	0	1	0	3	3	1
Khaboor FC	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
Chicago Thunder	1	0	0	1	0	1	0
Stare Byki B	1	0	0	1	0	2	0
West Bosnia SC	1	0	0	1	2	5	0
Turkish FC	2	0	0	2	0	10	0

SECOND DIVISION

Red Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts	Blue Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Los Chasquis	1	1	0	0	7	3	3	FC Kosova	1	1	0	0	3	0	3
FK Podrinje	1	1	0	0	2	1	3	CKS Warta B	1	1	0	0	3	1	3
Das Magic	1	0	1	0	2	2	1	FC Transilvania	1	0	1	0	2	2	1
Pitbulls SC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Real Independiente	1	0	0	1	3	7	0
GR-04	1	0	0	1	1	2	0	Juanacatlan	2	0	0	2	1	6	0

OVER 30 DIVISION

Red Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts	Blue Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Tanners SC	2	1	1	0	7	6	4	Arabian FC	2	2	0	0	8	3	6
Lake Shore A	2	1	0	1	11	10	3	Hellas SC	1	1	0	0	4	2	3
Gato Verde	2	0	2	0	1	1	2	SAC Wisla	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
West Indies Jets	2	0	1	1	2	3	1	Lake Shore B	1	0	0	1	2	4	0
Jahbat FC	2	0	1	1	10	14	1	Stare Byki FC	1	0	0	1	1	3	0