



BOUNCINGS

2 Jun 07



Kozarac

1 : 3

Byki

B Team - NSL 1st Division
Conkey Foest Preserve - 20 May 2007

B Team earn brilliant first victory

The B Team made a tremendous turnabout from their opening-day defeat at Deportivo Colomex when they thrashed powerful FK Kozarac 3:1 on May 20 at Conkey Forest Preserve in Crestwood. Jwo-Horng Lin led the Byki with a goal and an assist in a match that the Byki dominated from start to finish. The squad played a well-organized game in the back, as Kozarac rarely looked dangerous going forward.

Lessons learned from their first match certainly came into play versus Kozarac. The Byki made the ball do the work, as they ran their supposedly more skilled opponents into the ground. Kozarac, along with the West Indies Jets, were relegated from the Major Division after the 2006 season and were expected to be among the contenders for the 1st Division's two promotion slots. Even though they played the first 15 minutes with only ten players, a team of such lofty pedigree were made to look ordinary by the upstart Byki.

And the Byki wasted little time putting their stamp on the match, snatching the lead after only six minutes. Eamon Colwell made a run down the left wing and sent a booming cross to the far post, where an unmarked Ivan Torossian easily

headed the ball home.

That dream start made Kozarac sit up and take notice and they immediately went on a search for an equalizing tally. They kept possession of the ball for long stretches, but their possession came to nothing in the end. Many of their shots could not find the target and the ones that posed any kind of danger were easily handled by keeper Rich Drake.

Coach Joe Gambino was pleased to see that his defense could keep Kozarac at bay, but he certainly didn't want to have to rely on them to make a one-goal lead stand up for 84 minutes. He urged his defensive line to move upfield to narrow the gap between the defense and midfield, and thereby help the defenders maintain possession, rather than clear the ball back to Kozarac.

The Byki then made it 2:0 against the run of play in the 37th minute. Colwell initiated the play again, this time on the right flank. His accurate ball over the defense found Lin in open space, prompting the Kozarac defense to scream for offside. The referee ignored those pleas and the Byki made short work of a golden opportunity. Lin sent a square pass into the middle for Ahmad Harake. The burly striker had only the goalie to beat and made a nifty play to get him off-balance and then calmly rolled the ball into the net.

The Byki had a great chance for a third score five minutes before the break. Brett Frischmann, seeing the aggressive offside line being employed by Kozarac, made a terrific through pass to release Russ Haynes into space. A defender forced Haynes wide and he slid a pass to Conor Casey, who blasted a shot that missed the target by inches.

Gambino shuffled his backline at halftime, switching Doug Towsey from defensive midfield to his more accustomed sweeper position, and sliding Jason Bant from sweeper to stopper. Gambino wanted the Byki to stay aggressive and build momentum, rather than allow Kozarac a way back into the game.

The Byki started the second half as though things had

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been written in a script. It took just three minutes to get the crucial third goal and the Byki did it in impressive style. Tony Gallo had the ball in the center circle and spotted Lin open on the left. Gallo's perfectly weighted pass found Lin in full sprint. Lin raced past one defender and made an angled run into the box. With the keeper out to cut down the angle, Lin's shot kissed the inside of the far post, making Byki fortunes look ever brighter.

It would be too much to think that the Byki could keep a good team like Kozarac down for the whole match. But they were ready for everything that Kozarac threw at them. Kozarac created two dangerous chances from free kicks, and Drake was in position to snuff them out in both instances. They were able to notch a consolation goal in the 86th minute after a Kozarac player was tripped at the edge of the penalty

area. Kozarac converted the spot kick to ruin Drake's shutout, but the three points were well in hand by that time.

A Byki squad that looked hesitant in their opening match played with poise and confidence against a tough opponent. If anyone questioned whether the B Team belonged in the 1st Division, they got their answers in this game.

BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

Torossian 1 (Colwell); 6th; 0:1. Harake 1 (Lin); 37th; 0:2. Lin 1 (Gallo); 48th; 0:3.

BYKI LINEUP (4-4-2): Drake – Bant, Williams, Gallo, Casey (c) – Towsey, Colwell, Torossian, Haynes – Lin, Harake. **Bench:** Biggs, Frischmann, Wall.

Jets

0 : 0

Byki

Over 30 Team - NSL Over 30 Division
Washington Park - 19 May 2007

O-30s secure 1st point of season

Their scoreless string extended to two consecutive games, but the Byki old-timers were plenty satisfied in the wake of their 0:0 draw with the West Indies Jets on May 19. Played on the bumpy and debris-strewn garbage pit known as Washington Park, both teams had trouble maintaining ball possession for long stretches, as the field made even the simplest of passes an adventure. The Byki are now 0-1-2 for the season.

The lineup had five new players in uniform, as coaches Wei Zhang and Eric Tower called in Rick Bolesta, Jim Jacobs and Paul Mansur, Sr from the squad's standby list. With Zhang traveling for the weekend, Tower did well organizing the group to play as a unit.

Mansur and Jim Cook shared duty at the goalkeeper position, due to the absence of regular netminder Dan Blanco. Both acquitted themselves nicely, but there were few attacks by the Jets that troubled either goalie. Cook was making his return after a three-year hiatus, following a broken ankle suffered while playing for the B Team.

The Jets were missing a lot of the players that the Byki have faced in the past. Those players probably represented the team's talent, as the side that faced the Byki was decidedly older than previous editions of the Jets.

Success for the Byki was rooted in their defensive discipline. The back four, anchored by Dan Jdrzejowski at sweeper and Tower at stopper, held the Jets in check for most of the contest. The fullbacks got plenty of help from the midfield, as Brett Frischmann, Matt Treter and Jacobs worked hard to track back and give the Byki numerical superiority in their half of the field.

On offense, the Byki had their moments, but most of the moments were in the middle third of the pitch. They looked their best when making short, quick passes to feet. Too few of those types of passes were made in the final third, as Byki strikers all too often were seen chasing hopeful passes played into space.

The Jets had two legitimate scoring chances in the first half. The referee had a hand in nullifying their first threat, when a free kick from the wing sailed into the net at the far post over Mansur's outstretched hands. The referee detected a Jets player running toward that post in an offside position and blew for the infraction as soon as the ball was in air. The Jets protested vehemently, claiming that the player was not involved in the play and offside did not apply. "I was marking that guy as they lined up for the free kick," noted George Gorecki. "He was trying to sneak behind me, so I stepped up to make him offside and the referee saw the whole thing. He assumed that the ball was being played to the Jets guy and blew the whistle."

Late in the first half, a Jets free kick from 25 yards almost proved disastrous. The ball cleared the Byki defensive wall and was barely tipped away by Mansur. The ball ricocheted off of the crossbar and the Byki played the ball away to safety.

The Byki nearly broke into the scoring column early in the second half. A poor clearance by the Jets goalie landed right at the feet of Luis Arredondo, who immediately took the ball to goal. He sent a pass to striker Bo He, whose blistering shot sailed just wide of the target. Arredondo was the most lively midfielder for the Byki on the day, constantly probing for openings in the defense. Both Arredondo and

Frischmann contributed significantly to the Byki offense, but many of their good intentions were undone because so many Byki are just getting used to playing together.

The Jets offense ran out of steam after halftime and their only forays into Byki territory came on the break. The Byki were effective in shepherding most of the attacks to the wings and nullified any danger.

The Byki rallied furiously in the game's final moments, creating several anxious moments in front of the Jets goal, resulting from a series of well-placed crosses from corner

kicks. The final touch simply was lacking and the Byki had to be satisfied with their point.

BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

None.

BYKI LINEUP (4-4-2): Mansur, P Sr – Jedrzejowski, Gorecki, Tower, Pedlow – Frischmann, Treter, Jacobs, Elmkinssi (c) – He, Liu. **Bench:** Arredondo, Bolesta, Cook, Silverstein.

Byki Stats

A TEAM, NSL 1st DIVISION

Player	G	A	Pts
Dance	6	0	6
Stanley	2	0	2
Gwin	1	1	2
Bouzoukis	0	2	2
Goudeaux	1	0	1
Fleming	0	1	1
Mansur, P Jr	0	1	1
Mayer	0	1	1
Moore, C	0	1	1

Goalie	Min	GA	GAA
Eliasek	180	6	3.00

Current record: 1-0-1

B TEAM, NSL 1st DIVISION

Player	G	A	Pts
Lin	1	1	2
Harake	1	0	1
Torossian	1	0	1
Colwell	0	1	1
Gallo	0	1	1
Goalie	Min	GA	GAA
Drake	180	3	1.50

Current record: 1-0-1

O-30 TEAM, NSL O-30 DIVISION

Player	G	A	Pts
Regueiro	1	0	1
Garcia	0	1	1
Goalie	Min	GA	GAA
Cook	40	0	0.00
Mansur, P Sr	40	0	0.00
Blanco	160	8	4.00

Current record: 0-1-2

Byki look defenseless vs Thunder

The Byki created a host of problems for themselves when Chicago Thunder administered a clinical 6:2 thrashing at Lawler Park on May 20. The aggressive and speedy Thunder attackers ran counterattack after counterattack on the Byki, who appeared mostly powerless to stem the tide. Poor decisions on defense and atrocious marking led to the gaudy scoreline.

Matches between the Byki and Thunder have often been tight and tense, but this one was lopsided, thanks to poor defending by the Byki. The attack created quite a few quality scoring chances, but were thwarted by some timely goalkeeping from the Thunder netminder. "With a leaky defense, you just can't expect to score enough goals to make up the difference," lamented coach George Gorecki. "We never got things right on defense and Thunder really made us pay for that."

Thunder opened their account after only 17 minutes. They played a free kick over the top of the Byki defense. The Byki headed the ball away, but not far enough to blunt the danger. A Thunder forward won the ball at the top of the box, bulled past stopper Joe Gambino and drilled a shot past Ryan Eliasek for a 1:0 lead.

Two minutes later, the Byki nearly equalized when Matt Fleming's trickery caught the Thunder defense off guard. With a free kick near the goal line, everyone expected Fleming to cross the ball into the middle. Instead, he played a short pass to Jeff Samp, who cut into the box on a sharp angle and forced the keeper to make a tough save.

The Byki created more mayhem in the 26th minute. Todd Mayer made a forceful run down the left wing and crossed the ball into the mixer. Zach Dance headed the ball across the face of the goal to Ahmed Goudeaux, whose shot was blocked. Josh Taylor crashed in to get the rebound, only to see his shot blocked by a defender.

Two goals late in the first half put the Byki in peril. On both occasions, Thunder used their speed to beat the Byki on the counter and the Byki helped the situation by chasing the ball on defense, rather than holding their marks. Thunder smartly found the open man at the back door and suddenly had a commanding 3:0 lead at the break. "That kind of defending will lead to nothing but trouble," said Gorecki. "You can't leave openings in the box at this level."

The Byki came out aggressively in the second half. In the 52nd minute, Mayer laid the ball down the left flank for the overlapping Paul Mansur. The speedy defender dribbled past two Thunder players and took the ball to the by-line. The keeper tipped Mansur's sharp-angle shot off the crossbar and the Byki had two great chances to punch the ball in during the ensuing scramble.

The breakthrough came in the 59th minute for the Byki. Minos Bouzoukis and Mayer worked a clever 1-2 on the left side, freeing Mayer to waltz past two defenders. He dribbled along the goal line and cut inside, sending a cross to the far post, where Dan Stanley made no mistake with an accurate header.

The Byki were unable to sustain their surge in momentum and Thunder made it 4:1 in the 67th minute. A shot from 15 yards eluded the diving Eliasek, who got a hand on the ball, but it squirted underneath him.

With time running out and three goals to make up, the Byki started moving more players forward. In the 77th minute, Dance chased down a ball played into the box and collided hard with the onrushing goalkeeper. Both players were running at full speed and Dance crashed into the keeper's abdomen, forcing Thunder to call in their back-up. Moments later, the Byki took advantage of an unprepared goalie by attacking the box immediately. Bouzoukis crossed the ball from the left wing and Dance headed the ball into the back of the net.

That proved to be little consolation for the Byki. Thunder regained their three-goal lead in the 80th minute when they caught Eliasek too far off of his line on a shot taken from long distance. They made it 6:2 with a goal in stoppage time when the Byki once again failed to get back on defense and an unmarked striker tapped the ball in.

The Byki continued to battle and created a flurry of chances in the dying moments of stoppage time. In the end, it was never going to be enough to make up for the calamitous defending they displayed in a very forgettable performance.

BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

Stanley 2 (Mayer); 59th; 3:1. Dance 6 (Bouzoukis); 77th; 4:2.

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

NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE STANDINGS

May 20, 2007

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MAJOR DIVISION

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
B-H Llies	3	2	1	0	5	0	7
RWB Adria	2	2	0	0	5	1	6
FC Romania	2	1	1	0	6	5	4
CKS Warta	2	1	1	0	4	3	4
Gazelle SC	2	1	1	0	1	0	4
SAC Wisla	3	1	0	2	7	4	3
KF Ulqin	2	1	0	1	4	2	3
HNNK Hrvat	2	1	0	1	4	3	3
Honduras SC	2	0	1	1	3	6	1
Jahbat FC	2	0	1	1	3	7	1
Albanian Stars	3	0	1	2	2	7	1
NK Prijedor	3	0	1	2	3	9	1

FIRST DIVISION

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Lemont FC	4	2	2	0	8	4	8
Royal FC	3	2	1	0	12	6	7
Khaboor FC	3	2	1	0	6	3	7
FK Kozarac	3	2	0	1	9	6	6
FC Steaua Chicago	3	1	2	0	7	6	5
Chicago Thunder	3	1	0	2	7	5	3
Stare Byki A	2	1	0	1	10	6	3
Stare Byki B	2	1	0	1	3	3	3
Deportivo Colomex	2	1	0	1	3	4	3
West Indies Jets	3	1	0	2	5	9	3
West Bosnia SC	2	0	0	2	2	6	0
Turkish FC	4	0	0	4	3	17	0

SECOND DIVISION

Red Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts	Blue Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
FK Podrinje	3	2	0	1	8	2	6	CKS Warta B	3	2	1	0	6	3	7
Das Magic	2	1	1	0	7	4	4	Real Independiente	3	2	0	1	11	9	6
GR-04	3	1	0	2	7	9	3	FC Kosova	3	1	0	2	6	7	3
Los Chasquis	2	1	0	1	7	9	3	Juanacatlan	4	1	0	3	4	11	3
Pitbulls SC	1	0	0	1	0	2	0	FC Transilvania	2	0	2	0	4	4	2

OVER 30 DIVISION

Red Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts	Blue Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Lake Shore A	3	2	0	1	17	12	6	Arabian FC	3	3	0	0	12	3	9
Gato Verde	3	1	2	0	8	1	5	SAC Wisla	3	2	1	0	12	4	7
Tanners SC	3	1	1	1	7	13	4	Hellas SC	2	1	0	1	8	9	3
West Indies Jets	4	0	2	2	4	9	2	Stare Byki FC	3	0	1	2	1	8	1
Jahbat FC	2	0	1	1	10	14	1	Lake Shore B	2	0	0	2	2	8	0