



# BOUNCINGS



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22 June 14



FC Kosova	<b>0</b>	National Soccer League 1st Division
Stare Byki	<b>1</b>	Hawthorne 15 June 2014

## One goal is good enough

The Byki have quietly amassed a four-game unbeaten streak, the latest victory coming last Sunday, a 1:0 shutout of FC Kosova at Hawthorne. Tony Sabo's header in the early moments of the contest proved to be enough, as the Byki moved into third place, with 10 points from their six matches.

In their last three matches, the Byki have conceded just one goal. This new emphasis on defensive excellence has been a welcome turnabout for a Byki side that was outscored 13:2 in the first two games of the campaign. "We've been able to put the same back four out there for the past few games and they have grown comfortable with one another," said coach George Gorecki. The Byki defense showed a high level of resolve, as Kosova barely bothered Byki netminder Justin Salazar.

All the Byki need now is better productivity at the offensive end. They've scored just four goals in the last three games and that creates a razor-thin margin for error.

On Sunday, the evenly matched tug of war was settled by timely finishing for the Byki. They easily could have added to their final tally, but the Kosova goalkeeper proved to be his team's best player, snuffing out two glorious opportunities.

Kosova made a bid for the early lead when a forward slipped free in the Byki penalty area. Salazar read the play immediately and gave the shooter no angle.

The Byki won a corner in the 17th minute. Mike Stamatinos crossed the ball towards the near post and Sabo

executed a diving header in a crowd of defenders. The ball found a path to the back of the net past the scrambling Kosova players.

Five minutes later, the Byki were poised to double the lead. Striker Cyril Zachariah won a 50/50 ball in midfield and sprang Jordan Stopka for a breakaway with a brilliant pass into the open space. Stopka dribbled in alone and picked his spot, but the keeper had come out early and displayed tremendous reflexes to reject Stopka's shot.

Stopka was on the loose again in the 36th minute. The telling pass sent Stopka to the left side of the area, where he and the keeper clashed to win possession of the ball. Stopka appealed for a penalty as the ball rolled harmlessly over the goal line.

Two minutes later, the Byki pushed forward on the break along the left flank. Bryan de Rama crossed the ball into the middle for Ryan Kaeseberg, who slid a pass to Chase Castle at the top of the box. Castle fired first-time and the keeper was well positioned to make the grab.

Just before halftime, the hustling Martin Herholdt thought he had set up de Rama for an empty-net opportunity, but the referee inexplicably ruled that de Rama was in an offside position, despite de Rama being a good five yards behind Herholdt, who had passed the ball back from a deep position on the left side of the box.

The stifling conditions took their toll on both teams and the pace of the game slowed considerably after the break. Kosova enjoyed a greater fraction of the ball possession, but their attacks bogged down in the final third of the field. The Byki anticipated passes well, cutting off any Kosova attacks before they became dangerous.

The Byki conjured two good chances in the final quarter hour. Stopka drilled a free kick from 30 yards that just barely went over the bar in the 77th minute.

In the 86th minute, center back Gil Calleros won the ball in front of the Byki penalty area and still had enough gas in the tank to sprint forward to ignite a 2 v 2 counterattack. He centered for Zachariah, whose diving header was snared by a leaping goalie.

**BYKI LINEUP (4-2-3-1):** J. Salazar – V. Salazar, J. Rodriguez, Calleros, Gronke – Herholdt, Sabo – Stamatinos (c), Kaeseberg, De Rama – Zachariah. **Bench:** Castle, Stopka.

**BYKI SCORING SUMMARY**  
0:1 – Sabo 1 (Stamatinos); 17th.

**Byki Man of the Match:** Gil Calleros

**Byki Golf Outing**  
**SATURDAY, AUG 9**  
**White Pines Country Club**  
**Bensenville, IL**  
**Register early, \$450 per foursome**  
**\$125 per person**  
**Includes: golf, drink ticket, cart,**  
**post-golf dinner**

**WE ARE THE BYKI - Friends - Passion - Soccer**

Pampas	3	Premier Soccer League Over 40 Blue Division  Windemere Park 15 June 2014
Byki O-40	4	

## Byki beat the odds

Here's what the Over 40 Team faced at halftime of last Sunday's match versus Chicago Pampas. A 2:0 deficit. Playing down a man for the rest of the game because of a red card. A listless first-half performance. So what did the Byki do in the second half? They scored four goals in the span of 15 minutes and left their opponents dispirited in an unlikely 4:3 victory.

It was a gratifying turnabout and a tribute to the importance of hard work. At a certain point, Pampas, despite having the man advantage, appeared to shut down once the Byki had made their comeback. The feeling of satisfaction was palpable among the Byki at the final whistle.

The Byki had their moments in the early portion of the contest, but it was Pampas who capitalized on their opportunities. In the second minute, Steven Pedlow controlled the ball along the left wing and delivered a booming cross to Dan Nelson, who made a run to the far post. Nelson fired a shot across the face of goal, narrowly missing the left post.

Just moments later, Pampas quickly got behind the Byki defense and a Pampas striker had plenty of time to size up the Byki goal from his position on the right side of the box. A carefully measured shot ticked off the far post and into the back of the net for a 1:0 lead.

Pedlow was in the middle of things in the 13th minute. A hustling Charlie Cohen sent a cross from the right corner for Pedlow, who hit a brilliant half volley. The Pampas keeper was equal to the task, palming the ball to safety.

But the Byki defense was getting its spacing all wrong and the Pampas midfield took full advantage. In the 27th minute, they beat a poorly conceived Byki offside trap to create a 3 v 2 situation in the penalty area. Goalie James Vlahakis forced the issue when he came out to challenge for the ball. A skirmish for possession ensued and a Pampas player shot at the unguarded goal. Sweeper Doug Towsey came to the rescue and cleared the ball just in front of the goal line.

Before the Byki had a chance to right the ship, Pampas were all over them again and played a ball over the top. The gap left by the Byki defense was too big for them to cover and a Pampas striker handily converted the breakaway to make it 2:0.

Things got ugly a few minutes before halftime when Nelson was sent off, following a skirmish with a Pampas player. After cautioning Nelson, the referee lost his patience with the situation, sending Nelson to an early shower. Byki players on the sideline had tried to get a substitute on the field to remove Nelson from any further trouble, but the referee was too quick with his trigger.

Once the Byki sorted out positions in their modified 4-4-1

formation in the second half, the teamwork improved and intelligent use of a six-man bench gave the team the best chance of getting back into the game.

After only five minutes of the second half, Pedlow was marauding on the wing. He concluded a long run down the flank with a low cross into the middle that was deflected back to Andy Lane, who lined up a shot from 20 yards. The keeper made the save, spilling a rebound that Pedlow nearly poked home.

In the 54th minute, Pedlow took Cohen's pass out of the back and carried the play along the right wing. He placed a perfect pass onto the forehead of Mitch Posada, who calmly nodded the ball home to make it 2:1.

Pampas were still trying to beat the Byki over the top and nearly succeeded in the 56th minute. Vlahakis came out strong and broke up the Pampas breakaway attempt.

The Byki leveled the score just before the hour. Sven Dahlquist, making his first appearance of the season, played a give-and-go with Ade Ekundayo in midfield. Ekundayo slalomed through the Pampas defense for his fourth goal of the season.

Just when the Byki thought it was "game on" again, Pampas regained the lead. A Pampas striker dribbled into open space and fired a shot past Vlahakis for a 3:2 lead.

The Byki hardly blinked and kept the ball moving quickly through the midfield. Ekundayo led the attack through the center of the Pampas defense and laid off a pass for Pedlow on the left side. Pedlow picked his spot and easily beat the goalkeeper to make it 3:3 with 23 minutes left.

Pedlow delivered the crushing blow to Pampas two minutes later. Fullback Jim Kuch won possession along the right flank and floated a tantalizing cross for Pedlow, who outjumped his marker and headed past the goalie for his team-high fifth strike of the campaign.

Pampas shockingly folded their tents at that point, seemingly losing any motivation to mount a comeback. The Byki kept pushing and were inches away from increasing their lead in the 82nd minute. Brian Huck latched on to Cohen's cross at the top of the box, beat his man off the dribble, and was incredibly denied by the goalpost.

It would have been easy for the Byki to write off this one off as a loss after going down by two goals. It was a spectacular fighting spirit that turned things completely around.

**BYKI LINEUP (4-2-3-1):** Vlahakis – Towsey, Kuch, Fink, Cohen – Lane, Tower, Nelson, Ekundayo, Pedlow – Posada. **Bench:** Dahlquist, Fukar, Gorecki (c), Huck, G. Rodriguez, Safford.

### BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

2:1 – Posada 3 (Pedlow); 54th.  
2:2 – Ekundayo 4 (Dahlquist); 58th.  
3:3 – Pedlow 4 (Ekundayo); 67th.  
3:4 – Pedlow 5 (Kuch); 69th.

**Byki Man of the Match:** Steven Pedlow

Rangers	0	Premier Soccer League Over 30 White Division
Byki O-30	2	Burden Field 15 June 2014

## Byki back on winning track

The Over 30 Team solidified their hold on second place last Sunday, bouncing back from their debacle against Levski with a dominant 2:0 win over Chicago Rangers FC at Burden Field in Elk Grove. The Byki improved their record to 3-1-1 for the season.

The scoreline did not indicate the degree to which the Byki controlled the match. The chances were there, but the finishing was lacking. The Rangers went down somewhat meekly and their offense only showed glimmers of hope towards the end, when fatigue was taking its effect on a Byki lineup that had just one substitute on the bench.

The Byki jumped into the lead after only 15 minutes. Maciek Kekus received the ball in midfield, about 40 yards out and looked patiently at a few options. He saw Chris Hurley making a hard run up the middle past a flat center back. Kekus played an absolutely perfect ball over the defender and into Hurley's stride, resulting in a 1 v 1 with the keeper. Hurley took one touch towards goal and slipped the ball into the back of the net for his first tally of the season.

An injury to Matt Fleming midway through the first half forced the Byki to make adjustments in their formation, and they shifted Hurley from midfield into the backline alongside Dan Jedrzejowski. Fleming's injury ruled him out of any further participation in the match, leaving the Byki without any substitutes.

But the Byki hardly flinched. Five minutes before the break, they upped their lead to 2:0. Midfielder Paul Gibbs

sent a hard, inswinging corner kick towards the near post. The Rangers keeper got a hand on it, but couldn't control it and the ball fell in the box on the doorstep of the goal. Sergio Benavides reacted more quickly than anyone and poked the ball into the empty net.

The Byki had several opportunities to make their lead more comfortable in the second half. Kekus and Roman Kramarz failed to convert some good chances, and Benavides came closest, with one header nicking off the crossbar and another snatched by the Rangers goalie. These are the types of situations, that, when transformed into goals, relieve the stress of a narrow lead.

Alan Stevens did his part in maintaining the clean sheet. Although he was not tested often, he was up to the challenge each time and ensured that the two-goal margin would not be breached. "It would have become a totally different game at 2:1," noted Hurley. "He was also strong on set pieces, coming out to get the ball when needed."

Tired legs came into play late in the contest for the Byki. This was the best period of the match for the Rangers, who finally were able to apply some pressure on the Byki goal. They squandered several promising situations, however, with players caught in offside positions.

*Chris Hurley, Dan Jedrzejowski and Alan Stevens contributed to this report.*

**BYKI LINEUP (4-2-3-1):** Stevens – King, Jedrzejowski, Fleming, Marquez – Hurley, Gibbs, Kramarz, Banbor, Benavides – Kekus (c). **Bench:** Champagne.

### BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

0:1 – Hurley 1 (Kekus); 15th.  
0:2 – Benavides 4 (Gibbs); 40th.

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

# Byki Stats

FIRST TEAM, NSL 1st DIVISION				O-30 TEAM, PSLC O-30 DIVISION				O-40 TEAM, PSLC O-40 DIVISION			
Player	G	A	Pts	Player	G	A	Pts	Player	G	A	Pts
Ciszewski	1	2	3	Hurley	1	4	5	Ekundayo	4	4	8
Zachariah	2	0	2	Benavides	4	0	4	Pedlow	5	2	7
Banbor	1	1	2	Kekus	3	1	4	Posada	3	0	3
Gronke	1	1	2	Siervo	3	1	4	Rodriguez, G	2	1	3
Sabo	1	1	2	Kramarz	1	1	2	Jacobs	1	2	3
De Rama	1	0	1	Boeckeler	0	2	2	Huck	1	1	2
Herholdt	1	0	1	Gibbs	0	2	2	Nelson	1	1	2
Zielinski	1	0	1	Banbor	1	0	1	Dahlquist	0	1	1
Stamatinos	0	1	1	Russ	1	0	1	Fink	0	1	1
Stopka	0	1	1	Vullo	1	0	1	Kuch	0	1	1
Goalie	Min	GA	GAA	Goalie	Min	GA	GAA	Goalie	Min	GA	GAA
Avalos	18	0	0.00	Stevens	450	12	2.40	Vlahakis	450	10	2.00
Salazar	450	11	2.20	Current record: 3-1-1			Current record: 2-2-1				
Khankari	75	6	7.20	Current record: 3-1-2							

**NSL FIRST DIVISION****June 15, 2014****www.nslchicago.org**

	<b>GP</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>GF</b>	<b>GA</b>	<b>Pts</b>
FC Moldova	6	6	0	0	26	6	18
Lancer SC	6	5	0	1	32	12	15
<b>Stare Byki FC</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>10</b>
Das Magic	5	2	1	2	16	16	7
FC Macedonia	6	2	0	4	21	18	6
Chicago Dynasty FC	5	2	0	3	11	16	6
FC Kosova	5	2	0	3	12	14	6
West Indies Jets	5	2	0	3	12	21	6
CKS Warta B	6	2	0	4	16	26	6
Assyrian B	4	0	0	4	8	17	0

**PSLC OVER 30 WHITE DIVISION****June 15, 2014****www.pslchicagoland.com**

	<b>GP</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>GF</b>	<b>GA</b>	<b>Pts</b>
Levski Chicago 2014	4	4	0	0	29	1	12
<b>Stare Byki FC</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>10</b>
FC DePaul	4	3	0	1	24	9	9
Chicago Rangers FC	5	2	1	2	8	5	7
Olympiacos Chicago	3	2	0	1	8	9	6
AEK FC Chicago	5	2	0	3	11	25	6
St Charles Celtics White	4	1	1	2	11	13	4
Shogun	2	0	1	1	3	5	1
Itasca	6	0	0	6	6	36	0

**PSLC OVER 40 BLUE DIVISION****June 15, 2014****www.pslchicagoland.com**

	<b>GP</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>GF</b>	<b>GA</b>	<b>Pts</b>
Villains SC	6	4	1	1	12	10	13
St Charles Celtics Green	5	4	0	1	14	5	12
MOFG	5	3	0	2	9	8	9
<b>Stare Byki FC</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>8</b>
Real FC	4	2	1	1	17	7	7
Pampas OT	6	2	1	3	16	15	7
MANA Futbol Club	5	2	1	2	10	13	7
Sporting Cristal	4	2	0	2	10	10	6
Naperville Strikers FC	5	2	0	3	11	12	6
Windy City United	4	1	0	3	5	6	3
St Charles Celtics Orange	5	0	0	5	3	28	0