



BOUNCINGS

30 Jun 07



Thunder

1 : 1

Byki

B Team - NSL 1st Division
Lawler Park - 24 June 2007

Thunder manage tie, Byki still may win

A stoppage-time equalizer by Chicago Thunder allowed them to escape with a 1:1 draw when they faced the B Team last Sunday at Lawler Park in Skokie. But the Byki are contemplating filing a protest with the NSL. After examining the lineup sheet, the Thunder coach appears to have listed 19 players, one more than the maximum allowed by NSL rules. As it stands, the Byki are now 2-1-3, sitting right in the middle of the 1st Division table.

A protest of this nature is usually a slam dunk, but the Byki copy of the Thunder lineup sheet does not clearly show the presence of 19 names. Aptly named, Thunder coach Tony Nimrod submitted a very slipshod lineup sheet, with several names scratched out. One name was even listed below the roster area. Byki President George Gorecki has taken up the investigation. "One of the names might have been crossed out, but it also just might be a smudge because we only have a copy," he said. "I will seek to get information from the original lineup sheet, which is what the NSL Executive Board will refer to when they rule on any protest we may decide to submit."

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The Byki gave Thunder all they could handle in an ill-tempered match. The referee had his hands full, handing out a bevy of yellow cards. Coach Joe Gambino, who was mortified by the arbiter's decision to add nine minutes of stoppage time to the second half, had to endure the referee's wrath as well. "He told me that our team should have gotten three red cards," Gambino said. "If that's true, how many reds would he have given to Thunder?"

The Byki shocked the home side when they snatched the lead after just two minutes. The Byki worked the ball out of the back through Justin Williams and Conor Casey. They sent the ball to Ivan Torossian, who engineered a nifty give-and-go with Russ Haynes, which sprang Haynes into open space in the Thunder penalty area. Haynes sent a terrific pass to the back post for Jwo-Horng Lin, who finished the play with a simple tap-in.

After handling some pressure from Thunder in the ensuing minutes, the Byki had a great opportunity to increase their margin. Casey made a strong overlapping run down the right side and struck a fine ball from 18 yards that clanged off of the upper corner of the framework.

Five minutes later, the Byki forwards put pressure on the Thunder goalie, who was trying to play the ball out of his area. The Byki made him cough up the ball, giving Haynes an open look at the goal. The striker whizzed his shot through the goal box, just wide of the target.

Thunder's one good chance to score in the first half was a free kick at the half-hour mark that clipped the crossbar, although keeper Jorge de la Cruz appeared to have the spot covered.

The Byki continued their solid defensive play and were effective in shutting down the speedy and aggressive Thunder attackers. Gambino had expected that Thunder, dressing a mob of players, would try to wear the Byki out. But most of Thunder's bench players stayed on the bench, however, negating that built-in advantage.

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Inches separated the Byki from a possible 2:0 lead in the 71st minute. Torossian pushed the ball to Haynes, with the keeper out of position. Haynes' shot from the top of the box was destined for the top corner, but a Thunder defender stretched to get his head to the ball, skimming it off the crossbar.

Thunder carved out their equalizer in the first minute of stoppage time. They bent a corner kick into the mixer and the ball went through a tangle of legs into the back of the net. The jubilant Thunder team celebrated as if they had just won the championship and they found new energy to keep pushing for a winning goal through the improbably long stoppage-time period. By the sixth added minute, Gambino was screaming at the referee, who further infuriated the coach by holding up three fingers, indicating that the game still had three more minutes to go. "This particular referee has

problems keeping time," noted Gorecki. "He worked an Over 30 game last year and he transformed a 40-minute half into 50 minutes." The Byki survived the final onslaught and can be happy that they have at least a point in their back pocket. If things fall the right way, they may well grab all three points from this match.

Joe Gambino and Russ Haynes contributed to this report.

BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

Lin 2; (Haynes); 2nd; 0:1.

BYKI LINEUP (4-4-2): de La Cruz – Towsey, Williams, Gallo, Casey (c) – McGrath, Zwickl, Torossian, Harake – Lin, Haynes. **Bench:** Colwell, Freeman, Frischmann.

Khaboor

5 : 3

Byki

A Team - NSL 1st Division
Conkey Forest Preserve - 24 June 2007

Byki collapse in second half

The A Team appeared to have shaken off their recent spotty form when they went out to a 3:1 lead over Khaboor FC last Sunday. But then the bottom fell out, as Khaboor pumped in four goals in the last 35 minutes to cruise to a 5:3 victory. The stunned Byki were at a loss to explain their 1-1-4 record.

The Byki were once again faced with having to deal with a thin bench. Even the B Team were unable to help, as they were fielding a similar number of players. "It was a rough situation that we had to play through," said George Gorecki. "I will be working with Joe [Gambino] to bring some B Team players into our squad."

The Byki had a dream start to the game when top scorer Zach Dance found the back of the net after only 38 seconds. Dan Stanley's pass attempt resulted in a shanked ball to Dance on the right side of the penalty area. Dance made a nice trap and floated the ball into the top corner of the goal.

Sloppiness from the Byki allowed Khaboor to recover barely a minute later. As the Byki defense tried to work the ball methodically out of the back, a silly pass into the middle led to a turnover. Khaboor's striker sprinted straight to goal and no defender could slow him down. His hard shot eluded the diving Ryan Eliasek.

The goal energized Khaboor, who created two great chances in succession. In the seventh minute, a through pass that beat the Byki defense led to a breakaway. The Khaboor forward appeared to be offside by a generous margin, but Eliasek made a tremendous 1 v 1 save. A minute later, Eliasek

was called upon to tip a hard shot from the left side over the crossbar.

The Byki survived that onslaught by playing quick passes in the midfield. They did a nice job using the wings, and suddenly, it was the Khaboor defense that was backpedaling. The Byki regained the lead in the 23rd minute by using the flanks. Marek Ciszewski dribbled into the open space on the left wing and lofted a cross in to the far post. Dance headed the ball across the face of goal, where Ahmed Goudeaux was waiting on the doorstep to knock a soft header into the empty net.

At halftime, the Byki resolved to try to get more shots on goal. They had caught Khaboor's goalie wandering a bit on the two goals, so they wanted to make the keeper work. Matt Fleming took that advice to heart at the start of the second half and fired a free kick over the Khaboor wall, forcing the keeper to make a diving save.

Three minutes later, the Byki took a 3:1 lead. Pierre Delaunay timed his through pass with precision, sending Dance into the clear. Khaboor's defenders shouted for offside, but Dance adroitly pointed out the defender who kept him onside as he received Delaunay's pass while running at full speed. The referee agreed with Dance, who quickly shifted his focus on scoring. He drew the keeper out and easily slotted his shot underneath him.

That goal should have put Khaboor away, especially considering all of the internal bickering among their players. But Khaboor simply went back to work. They came on the

counter in the 53rd minute and caught Eliasek out with a shot from the left side. The hustling Delaunay cleared the ball before it could cross the goal line.

Two minutes later, Khaboor closed to within 3:2. A shot from 35 yards found the net, as the ball went over Eliasek's head. An equalizer eluded Khaboor by inches only a minute later, as a header glanced off of the goalpost.

The Byki had a great chance to regain their two-goal cushion in the 57th minute. Todd Mayer made a strong run down the left wing and then danced past a defender along the byline. He cut inside and played a diagonal ball into the middle for Paul Mansur. The midfielder struck the ball first-time, but the keeper made the save. Players from both sides fought for the loose ball, and Khaboor managed to clear.

Khaboor took charge of the match midway through the second half when they scored twice in a span of six minutes. They tied the match when they countered down the right wing. Eliasek parried the initial shot, and a Khaboor player slammed

home the rebound from short range. Khaboor then took the lead after the Byki were sloppy with the ball in their own end. A well-taken shot swerved its way into the goal at the far post.

Khaboor put the game out of reach in the 84th minute. They sent a free kick into the box, where their striker smacked an impressive volley past Eliasek.

The Byki have lacked their usual level of sharpness and opponents have made them pay dearly. They need to eliminate sloppy mistakes and get back to playing precision football.

BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

Dance 8 (Stanley); 1st; 0:1. Goudeaux 3 (Dance); 23rd; 1:2. Dance 9 (Delaunay); 49th; 1:3.

BYKI LINEUP (4-5-1): Eliasek – Daniel, Delaunay, Rose, Moore, C – Mayer, Mansur, P Jr, Goudeaux, Stanley, Fleming – Dance (c). **Bench:** Ciszewski.

Byki Stats

A TEAM, NSL 1st DIVISION

Player	G	A	Pts
Dance	9	2	11
Stanley	3	2	5
Goudeaux	3	0	3
Bouzoukis	1	2	3
Gwin	1	1	2
Fleming	0	2	2
Mansur, P Jr	0	1	1
Mayer	0	1	1
Moore, C	0	1	1
Rose	0	1	1
Goalie	Min	GA	GAA
Eliasek	540	18	3.00

Current record: 1-1-4

B TEAM, NSL 1st DIVISION

Player	G	A	Pts
Torossian	3	0	3
Haynes	2	1	3
Lin	2	1	3
Frsichamann	0	3	3
Harake	1	0	1
McGrath	1	0	1
Colwell	0	1	1
Gallo	0	1	1
Goalie	Min	GA	GAA
Drake	180	3	1.50
de la Cruz	360	8	2.00

Current record: 2-1-3

O-30 TEAM, NSL O-30 DIVISION

Player	G	A	Pts
Garcia	2	1	3
Elmkinssi	1	0	1
Jedrzejowski	1	0	1
Moore, P.	1	0	1
Regueiro	1	0	1
Arredondo	0	1	1
Frsichmann	0	1	1
He	0	1	1
Goalie	Min	GA	GAA
Mansur, P Sr	40	0	0.00
Cook	170	6	2.82
Blanco	350	14	3.20

Current record: 0-2-5

Byki shoot blanks vs Hellas

The struggling Byki attack saw its troubles continue last Saturday at Winnebago, as Hellas came away with a 2:0 victory. The Byki did a good job keeping their shape and put their limits on the Hellas forwards. At the end of the day, however, the Byki needed a perfect day on defense in order to come away with a result from this match. The Byki oldboys are now 0-2-4 for the season.

It was the third time the Byki have been shut out in 2007. The attack needs more bite and that will only come when everyone adheres to the offensive philosophy. Coaches Wei Zhang and Eric Tower have been preaching about ball possession and frequent plays to the wings, but the Byki so far have only occasionally bought into their coaches' wisdom. The result is a disjointed offense that frequently gives the ball back to the opponent.

The Byki started the contest brightly enough, putting pressure on the Hellas defense. None of the pressure really troubled the Hellas goalkeeper, but it was a very positive sign for the Byki to keep possession for long stretches. The match was delayed after about ten minutes when Bo He collided with the Hellas goalie as both players came in hard for a loose ball. The collision left the goalie dazed and with a cut on his head, which forced Hellas to switch a field player into that position. It was the fourth different goalie used by Hellas this season, the previous three having been felled by injury.

Hellas scored against the run of play after 14 minutes. They played a simple cross from the right wing to the left side of the Byki penalty area. An unbalanced defense left a Hellas player unmarked and he easily scored past Dan Blanco. It was an unfortunate turnabout for the Byki, who had brought such an energetic attitude to the start of the match.

After the goal, Hellas began to see more of the ball. They gradually began to control the tempo and the Byki found

themselves on the back foot by halftime. The Byki were confident that they could find a way to regroup after the break.

The Byki defense did a good job of keeping Hellas at bay in the second half. On offense, the Byki sputtered, as their moves forward generally lacked coherence. Some players held the ball too long, while others were not aware of the space they were supposed to cover. This disjointed effort kept the ball at the feet of the Hellas players for most of the second half.

Hellas took full control of the match in the 58th minute when they were awarded a free kick just outside the Byki area. A Hellas player fired a spectacular shot over the wall and into the upper corner of the goal. "That's the kind of goal that makes it onto Sportscenter," said George Gorecki.

The Byki had a brief flurry in the dying minutes of the game. Luis Arredondo, who put in a tireless effort in the match, played the ball to Matt Treter on the wing. Treter crossed the ball to Yang Song, whose shot was blocked. Moments later, Arredondo was looking to get on the highlight reel as well. He struck a well-placed free kick, only to be denied by a diving save from the goalkeeper.

Steven Pedlow contributed to this report.

BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

None.

BYKI LINEUP (4-5-1): Blanco – Zhang, Moore, P, Pedlow (c), Gorecki – Arredondo, Song, Frischmann, Treter, He – Garcia. **Bench:** Bolesta, Chang, Cook, Hunter, Jacobs, Liu, Tower.

NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE STANDINGS

June 24, 2007

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MAJOR DIVISION

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
CKS Warta	7	5	2	0	22	14	17
RWB Adria	5	4	1	0	14	6	13
Honduras SC	8	4	1	3	18	14	13
HNNK Hrvat	7	4	1	2	19	13	13
SAC Wisla	7	3	2	2	18	9	11
FC Romania	7	3	2	2	23	21	11
B-H Lllies	8	3	1	4	13	16	10
Gazelle SC	6	2	3	1	10	9	9
Jahbat FC	8	2	1	5	16	22	7
KF Ulqin	6	2	0	4	12	15	6
NK Prijedor	8	1	2	5	8	19	5
Albanian Stars	7	0	2	5	8	23	2

FIRST DIVISION

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Deportivo Colomex	7	6	0	1	20	10	18
Lemont FC	8	5	2	1	20	11	17
Royal FC	6	5	1	0	24	8	16
Khaboor FC	7	5	1	1	22	12	16
FC Steaua Chicago	7	4	2	1	19	12	14
Chicago Thunder	7	4	1	2	21	9	13
Stare Byki B	6	2	1	3	9	11	7
West Indies Jets	7	2	1	4	12	16	7
FK Kozarac	7	2	0	5	12	24	6
Stare Byki A	6	1	1	4	17	18	4
West Bosnia SC	6	0	0	6	5	20	0
Turkish FC	8	0	0	8	8	38	0

SECOND DIVISION

Red Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts	Blue Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Das Magic	7	5	2	0	31	15	17	Real Independiente	7	5	0	2	25	20	15
FK Podrinje	7	3	2	2	17	12	11	CKS Warta B	7	4	1	2	15	12	13
GR-04	6	2	1	3	24	17	7	FC Kosova	7	4	0	3	21	13	12
Los Chasquis	7	2	0	5	19	38	6	Juanacatlan	8	3	0	5	13	19	9
Pitbulls SC	5	0	2	3	9	21	2	FC Transilvania	7	1	2	4	15	22	5

OVER 30 DIVISION

Red Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts	Blue Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Lake Shore A	7	4	1	2	27	18	13	Arabian FC	8	6	1	1	34	16	19
Tanners SC	7	3	3	1	20	22	12	SAC Wisla	6	4	2	0	25	10	14
Gato Verde	8	2	4	2	22	13	10	Hellas SC	6	4	1	1	18	15	13
Jahbat FC	6	1	2	3	17	29	5	Stare Byki FC	7	0	2	5	6	20	2
West Indies Jets	6	0	3	3	10	20	3	Lake Shore B	7	0	1	6	8	24	1