



# BOUNCINGS

11 Jul 07



Byki

3 : 3

FC Steaua

A Team - NSL 1st Division  
Winnebago - 1 July 2007

## Byki comeback nets a point

The Byki survived a wild stretch of first-half stoppage time where they incredibly conceded two goals, and then eventually clawed their way back into the game, bagging an 87th-minute equalizer. When the dust had finally settled, the A Team had netted a 3:3 draw with FC Steaua Chicago on July 1 to improve their record to 1-2-4 for the season.

Bolstered by B Team call-ups Tony Gallo and Josh Zwickl, the Byki roster finally had enough depth to compete effectively. The difference was clear from the start and the team played a good game, save for the horrid defending at the end of the first half.

Newcomers Steaua have found a firm place in the 1st Division's top six, so the game would certainly be a challenge for the Byki. Coach George Gorecki wasn't concerned about the Byki opponent. "I told the guys to go out and play the game according to our style," said Gorecki. "The result would take care of itself."

Steaua broke into the early lead after nine minutes. A forward dribbled across the middle and fired a shot from outside the area. The shot deflected off the head of a Byki

player before finding the upper corner of the goal.

The Byki were quick to reply. In the 14th minute, Matt Fleming curled a free kick over the wall of defenders, hoping to find the upper 90. The keeper alertly tracked the flight of the ball and made the save. Two minutes later, the Byki struck for an equalizer. Chris Rose quickly put the ball in play on a throw-in and sent Zach Dance on a jaunt through the Steaua defense. Dance had one thing on his mind as soon as he got the ball and skillfully placed his shot inside the far post. It was Dance's tenth goal of the season, marking the third consecutive season that Dance has scored in double figures.

The final minutes of the first half were a frenzied period. The Byki thought they scored the go-ahead goal in the 38th minute. Jeff Samp sent a cross into the area, resulting in a botched clearance by the Steaua defense. The ball landed at Dan Stanley's feet and Stanley fired home from short range. The referee, however, took the goal off the board when he ruled that Stanley was offside.

Things went crazy a minute later. The Byki played a long ball out of the back into the Steaua half of the field. Marek Ciszewski had given chase, but it appeared that the Steaua keeper, 30 yards from his goal, was going to reach the ball first. But the ball took a funny bounce and caught the keeper on the in-between hop. As Ciszewski sprinted after the ball, the keeper reached up and swatted it away with his hand. By denying a clear scoring opportunity, the keeper was shown the red card, forcing Steaua to play shorthanded the rest of the way and to stick an emergency goalie between the pipes.

Oddly enough, the dramatic turnabout wound up having a very positive effect on Steaua. They made it 2:1 in the second minute of stoppage time on a corner kick that the Byki failed to clear. Two minutes later, the Byki got caught on the counter and Steaua were inconceivably 3:1 up at the break.

Once Gorecki allowed his angry players to vent at halftime, he made a clear and simple plan to get back into

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the game. “We were going to press them all over the field for 45 minutes,” Gorecki said. “I told the guys to be ready to make subs every five minutes if necessary, so we could wear them down.”

The plan paid immediate dividends as the Byki closed to within 3:2 in the 49th minute. Dance won a 50-50 ball near the left touchline and went on a long run before dishing a pass off to Chad Daniel, who was supporting him from behind. Daniel cut inside with the ball and made a tough shot look easy, sliding the ball in at the far post. Daniel played in the midfield for the first time this season and provided a welcome spark.

After that quick strike, Steaua were taking no chances and packed players into defense, only venturing forward on counterattacks. It was a sound strategy and they nearly caught the Byki a step behind when their quick players moved forward.

The Byki eventually wore down Steaua and the equalizer was inevitable. Fleming started the sequence at midfield and played the ball to Minos Bouzoukis along the wing. The midfielder found Stanley unmarked in the box and Stanley tapped the ball home from short range to make it 3:3.

Second-half stoppage time was no less tumultuous than the first half. Both teams had great chances to score the winning goal, but desperate defensive plays kept the scoreline level.

#### BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

Dance 10 (Rose); 16th; 1:1. Daniel 1 (Dance); 49th; 2:3. Stanley 4 (Bouzoukis); 87th; 3:3.

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

Byki	3 : 0 (Forfeit)	Turkish FC	B Team - NSL 1st Division Winnebago - 1 July 2007
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## Free win for B Team

The Byki won their third game of the campaign on July 1 when they claimed a 3:0 forfeit victory over Turkish FC. The Turks failed to show up with enough players to start the match and were forced to concede the points. The win gives the Byki 10 points from their seven matches.

The Turkish manager pleaded for more time to allow his players to arrive, but coach Joe Gambino stuck to the club’s policy of “take the points and ask questions later.” The Turkish manager claimed that his players were lost and would arrive in two minutes. In fact, only one other player made it and that was after another 30 minutes. The Byki loaned several players to the Turkish team and the group played a 60-minute scrimmage game.

In other news, the Byki chose not to file a protest in the

aftermath of the B Team’s 1:1 draw versus Chicago Thunder. The Byki suspected that the Thunder manager listed 19 names on the lineup sheet, exceeding the maximum of 18 names. Because the Byki had a second copy of the lineup sheet with a lot of scribbling on it, it was not entirely clear how many names were present.

Byki President George Gorecki asked for the NSL’s Executive Board to examine the original lineup sheet. “When the NSL President looked at the lineup sheet, he counted 18 names,” said Gorecki. “I asked him specifically about two names that may or may not have been scratched out. Those names were among the 18, but a third name was scratched out that had looked OK on our copy. Based on that examination, we really didn’t have a basis for a protest.”

