



BOUNCINGS

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23 Aug 08



Byki

3 : 0

Tanners

Over 30 Team - NSL Over 30 Division
Montrose & Cumberland - 16 August 2008

Byki get past struggles to net victory

The Byki Over 30 Team should have been happy to put a 3:0 pasting on the hapless Tanners last Saturday, but the match was a battle of frustration. The Byki worked out some of their problems in the second half, but must come away bewildered as to why they didn't play better against the bottom-feeders of the Over 30 Division.

Playing against the Tanners is never a fun proposition, given their tendency for whiny petulance and chippy play. On Saturday, the situation was even worse than normal. With only nine players dressed for the game, the referee fell into the trap of making sympathetic calls for a shorthanded team.

"It's a real head-scratcher," said coach George Gorecki. "We ran into a similar situation against Jahbat FC back in June. They started the game with eight players and we pounded them into submission, up 5:0 at halftime. Even when they had a full squad in the second half, we outscored them 3:2. And Jahbat are a much more talented team than the Tanners. We should have squashed these guys, but we just didn't display the killer instinct."

The referee also proved to be a thorn in the side of the Byki. After Paul Gibbs and a Tanner players fought early on to win a ball in the air, the two knocked heads, leaving the Tanners player bloodied. The other Tanners players complained bitterly to the referee and then pointed out that Gibbs was wearing a wedding band. The referee inexplicably cautioned Gibbs and then made him take the ring off.

"An incredible decision," groused Gorecki. "Illegal equipment doesn't necessarily mean the referee has to give a yellow card. The Laws of the Game say that he should leave the field to correct his equipment. The referee could have saved himself a lot of grief if he had noticed anyone wearing jewelry during the check-in and told them to take it off then. Of course, that would require a referee who knows how to do a check-in. All this guy did was take the passes and lineup sheet and not check anything." Gorecki noted two other technical mistakes made by the referee and filed a report

to the NSL so the League might take action against a referee of questionable competence.

All of this commotion could have been swept under the rug if the Byki had simply done their job at the outset. Besides Maciek Kekus hitting the post with a shot in the fifth minute, the Byki spent most of the first half giving the ball away with sloppy trapping and errant passes.

After the Tanners nearly caught the Byki sleeping on the counter in the 32nd minute, the Byki finally got their breakthrough a few minutes later. A poor clearance landed at Robert Dec's feet and the midfielder cranked a 35-yard blast that screamed into the upper corner of the goal.

The Byki nearly made it 2:0 just before halftime. The Byki engineered a counterattack on the right wing. Jakub Banbor crossed the ball over everyone's head, but Jon Silverstein made the supporting run to the far post. Silverstein was in good position to shoot, but sent the ball over the bar.

Gorecki shuffled some positions in the second half and things improved for the Byki. Their finishing could have been better, but it was encouraging to see intelligent play, a real contrast from the first half.

The Byki were seeking the second goal right away. Gibbs switched the play by swinging a pass to Kekus, who dribbled towards the Tanners goal. He sent a diagonal pass back to Jan Winter, whose shot was blocked. The rebound fell to Gibbs at the top of the area, but he shot wide.

The Byki finally got their goal in the 57th minute. Dec spotted Nick Elmkinssi open in the middle and crossed the ball in from the right wing. Elmkinssi used a deft flick to create some space and drilled a shot just underneath the bar.

The goal had a calming effect on the Byki, who sought more goals. In the 61st minute, Banbor sent the ball in from the left flank for Kekus, who found room behind the defense. With only the keeper to beat, Kekus had a heavy touch, allowing the goalkeeper to clear the ball away.

Five minutes later, the Byki came fast on the counter.

Stare Byki FC: Friends, Passion, Soccer



Banbor passed the ball into the middle for Winter, who dished to Kekus. It looked like a sure goal for Kekus, but the keeper somehow made the save with his legs.

In the 77th minute, Chris Cardenas, pressed into the sweeper position, dribbled out of the back and passed to Banbor at midfield. With the defense pulled forward, Banbor sprinted in alone and sent the ball to Elmkinssi, who shot over the goal.

The Byki completed the scoring a minute later. Elmkinssi made a terrific pass to Kekus, slipping it between defenders. Kekus made no mistake this time, faking the goalie out of the way and knocking the ball home for his sixth goal of the season.

It was a perfect opportunity for the Byki to prove to themselves that they are coming together as a team. They made the game harder than it needed to be, though their effort in the second half was a step in the right direction. The goal is consistency and the Byki are still searching for it.

BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

Dec 1; 36th; 1:0. Elmkinssi 2 (Dec); 57th; 2:0. Kekus 6 (Elmkinssi); 78th; 3:0.

BYKI LINEUP (4-4-2): Fukar – Cardenas, Pedlow, Tower, Gorecki – Gibbs, Dec, Winter, Jedrzejowski (c) – Banbor, Kekus. **Bench:** Cooper, Elmkinssi, Jacobs, Silverstein.

Stars

4 : 1

Byki

Blue Team - NSL 1st Division
Albanian Center - 17 August 2008

Albanians too tough for Byki

The Blue Team continue to look for ways to improve and introduced four new players into their squad for last Sunday's encounter against the Albanian Stars. The team held their own for the first half, dueling the promotion candidates to a 1:1 stalemate, but the tougher Albanians pulled away in the second half, scoring three unanswered goals. The result leaves the Byki at 2-0-9 as they enter the second phase of competition. Their mission for the next five weeks is clear: avoid relegation.

The Byki grabbed the lead after only six minutes. Jason Sphar threw the ball in from the left touchline for Tony Gallo, who had come into the midfield to help. Gallo fired a shot from long range and was delighted to see the ball deflect off of a defender and strand the goalkeeper, who had already committed himself.

If the Stars came into the match in a complacent mood because of where the Byki stood in the table, their attitude shifted quickly. In the 10th minute, a dangerous cross into the goal area had the Byki defense scrambling. New goalkeeper Craig Jacobson came out strong and punched the ball away.

Two minutes later, the Stars equalized after the Byki were caught sleeping after a throw-in. The Stars played a quick ball over the top and a Stars' striker floated a header over Jacobson.

In the 19th minute, the Byki defense survived another moment of indecision as an open header from a Stars' striker flew over the bar. Ten minutes later, the Stars launched a free kick from midfield that slipped through the Byki defense, leaving a player with an open shot from 10 yards. Jacobson read the play perfectly and came up with a tremendous save.

The Byki climbed back into the match in the 36th minute. A quick combination of passes sprang Richard Sodeinde on the left wing. Sodeinde played a square ball into the middle, where Dan Stanley drove a first-time shot just wide of the post.

The Byki nearly regained the lead three minutes before halftime. Matt Fleming tossed a quick throw-in from the right side to Jean-Paul Lozano. The young debutante immediately broke in towards goal and flicked a shot over the onrushing keeper. A desperate clearance by an Albanian defender was the only thing that prevented Lozano's ambitious effort from finding the back of the net. It was Lozano's last action in the match, however. A collision with the sliding keeper on the play left Lozano limping and unable to continue.

The first half was likely the most coherent performance of the season for the Blue Team. But they were unable to sustain their effort in the second half. The Stars, who competed in the NSL's Major Division in 2007 before being relegated, are no slouches. They are clearly on a mission to get back to the top flight and they increased their effort in the second half to pull away from the Byki.

The Stars received a gift penalty early in the second half. The referee ruled that a Byki player handled the ball in his own area, but it was a very tough call to make, given that the Byki player had been pushed in the back as he jumped for the ball and was unable to avoid contact with his hand.

Down by only 2:1 at that stage of the match, there should have been no need to worry, given the way the Byki had been playing. Rather than staying with the game plan, the weak penalty unnerved the Byki. Manager Tony Gallo has seen it more than once this season. "When things start slipping, we

have a tendency to move away from what was working and try to force things,” he said. “We lost our shape and patience.”

Things went downhill for the Byki once the score went to 3:1. Just as the Byki defense were beaten on the first Albanian goal, they reacted similarly in this case. The Stars sent a long cross to the far post and a player slid behind and somehow made contact with the ball to put it past Jacobson. The Stars put a wrap on things with a late goal that was scored while the Byki were pushing forward in an effort to catch up.

“We can play with any team for a half, but then as we

become less fresh we lose discipline,” said Gallo.

Tony Gallo and Enda McGrath contributed to this report.

BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

Gallo 1 (Sphar); 6th; 0:1.

BYKI LINEUP (4-4-2): Jacobson – Bai, Abubakar, Gallo (c), Fetz – Lane, Mancini, Sphar, Benavides –Lozano, Sodeinde. **Bench:** Fleming, Perez, Stanley.

WI Jets

Match to be replayed

Byki

Red Team - NSL 1st Division
Summit Park - 17 August 2008

Byki get ready for do-over

The Byki Red Team were expecting to conclude the round-robin phase of their schedule last Sunday when they met the West Indies Jets at Summit Park. The result on the field was a 1:1 draw, but referee Sergio Alvarez became the key player in the contest when he shortened the first half by five minutes. The Byki complained to the NSL about the time discrepancy, and after an investigation, the NSL’s Executive Board appears poised to nullify the result and order a replay.

Alvarez overstepped his authority when he decided to start his game clock before the actual kickoff. The Byki noticed the problem at halftime, when Byki President George Gorecki noted that the referee blew his whistle after only 40 minutes had been played. When Byki captain Conor Casey asked Alvarez about the discrepancy, Alvarez said that he started his game clock at the time of the scheduled kickoff because the teams were not ready to play at that time. When Casey argued in vain that to Alvarez that he had no authority to shorten the match, he simply brushed Casey aside.

As expected, the decision left Gorecki fuming. “We had no choice but to file a report on this referee’s behavior,” said an exasperated Gorecki. “Because the referee shortened the game this way, we asked the NSL to nullify the result and replay the game. If the game starts late, the referee’s job is to write a report and let the League handle any punishments.

His job is to make sure that the game is played according to the rules and he has no right to shorten the game.”

Gorecki submitted a report to the League on Monday and the matter was discussed publicly at the NSL’s monthly meeting on Wednesday. NSL President Gregory Vlamakis made it clear that Alvarez was out of line and that his actions will result in a new game being played.

“I am very happy and satisfied with the League’s decision,” said Gorecki. “It would have been easy for them to forget the whole thing because it was only five minutes. But the rules are the rules and it shows that even referees have to follow the rules.”

The outcome of the replayed match will have no bearing on the Red Team’s entry into the Championship Section for the final five games of the season. But the outcome could have an effect on both Byki teams. “Joe [Gambino] and I looked at all of the scenarios as we considered whether to ask for a new game,” said Gorecki. “If we lose the replay, then we blow the point we earned. But given our position in the table, it didn’t seem like much of a risk. If we win the replay, however, we get a boost by being only five points out of the last promotion spot. And the Blue Team benefit because they will have one fewer point to make up against the Jets as they chase them to avoid the second relegation spot.”

NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE STANDINGS

August 17, 2008
www.nslchicago.org

MAJOR DIVISION

Championship	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts	Classification	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Deportivo Meridienne	10	10	0	0	35	8	30	Jahbat FC	11	3	3	5	22	14	12
RWB Adria	10	7	2	1	34	14	23	KF Ulqin	11	3	1	7	14	23	10
B-H Lilies	11	7	2	2	26	15	23	Deportivo Colomex	11	1	6	4	18	26	9
Gazelle SC	11	5	3	3	20	11	18	HNNK Hrvat	10	2	2	6	15	27	8
Honduras SC	10	5	3	2	20	13	18	Royal Chicago FC	11	2	1	8	21	42	7
SAC Wisla	11	4	3	4	17	17	15	CKS Warta	11	2	0	9	15	47	6

FIRST DIVISION

Championship	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts	Classification	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
FC Steaua Chicago	11	9	1	1	37	16	28	NK Prijedor	11	5	1	5	20	20	16
Albanian Stars	11	8	1	2	31	10	25	CKS Warta B	11	4	2	5	17	26	14
Lemont FC	11	6	4	1	22	13	22	Khaboor FC	11	3	3	5	16	20	12
FK Republika Srpska	11	5	3	3	29	24	18	West Indies Jets	10	2	3	5	19	24	9
Stare Byki FC Red	10	5	2	3	24	13	17	Stare Byki FC Blue	11	2	0	9	22	34	6
Das Magic	11	5	2	4	22	26	17	FC Romania	11	0	0	11	0	33	0

SECOND DIVISION

Red Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts	Blue Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
GR-04	9	6	1	2	31	18	19	Juanacatlan	11	8	1	2	34	18	25
Lemont FC Reserves	9	5	3	1	29	15	18	Ultras FC	11	7	2	2	24	14	23
FK Podrinje	10	4	4	2	39	25	16	CD Taximaroa	11	7	1	3	27	13	22
West Bosnia SC	10	5	0	5	34	32	15	Real Independiente	11	5	2	4	26	18	17
Deportivo Colomex B	9	4	1	4	43	42	13	FC Kosova	10	4	1	5	34	27	13
Turkish FC	10	1	1	8	19	47	4	Chicago Dynasty FC	10	1	1	8	16	48	4
								Mythos FC	11	0	0	11	14	53	0

OVER 30 DIVISION

Red Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts	Blue Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
West Indies Jets	11	7	2	2	31	16	23	SAC Wisla	10	8	0	2	51	23	24
Arabian FC	11	7	1	3	38	19	22	Gato Verde	11	6	1	4	25	18	19
Lake Shore B	11	7	1	3	34	16	22	Hellenic United	10	4	1	5	20	23	13
Jahbat FC	11	5	1	5	19	28	16	Stare Byki FC	11	3	1	7	19	39	10
Lake Shore A	11	0	2	9	11	39	2	Tanners SC	11	2	0	9	12	39	6

Byki Stats

RED TEAM, NSL 1st DIVISION

Player	G	A	Pts
Haynes	6	2	8
Torossian	4	2	6
Taylor	4	0	4
Biggs	1	2	3
Arredondo	0	3	3
Ruiz	2	0	2
Bouzoukis	1	1	2
Daniel	1	1	2
Samp	0	2	2
Bridge	1	0	1
Dziekiewicz	1	0	1
Boghicev	0	1	1
Casey	0	1	1
Team goals	3	x	x

Goalie	Min	GA	GAA
Tice	180	0	0.00
Gambino	360	7	1.75
Talpes, N.	270	8	2.67

Current record: 5-2-3

BLUE TEAM, NSL 1st DIVISION

Player	G	A	Pts
Sodeinde	5	0	5
Benavides	4	1	5
Bai	1	1	2
Ciszewski	1	1	2
Fleming	1	1	2
Delaunay	1	0	1
McGrath	1	0	1
Sphar	1	1	2
Frischmann	0	1	1
Kanver	0	1	1
Gallo	1	0	1
Team goals	6	x	x

Goalie	Min	GA	GAA
Boone	180	5	2.50
Tice	90	3	3.00
Solis	180	6	3.00
Gambino	270	12	4.00
Gambino	90	4	4.00
Klimaszewski	90	4	4.00

Current record: 2-0-9

O-30 TEAM, NSL O-30 DIVISION

Player	G	A	Pts
Kekus	6	5	11
Dec	2	1	3
Elmkinssi	2	1	3
Winter	2	1	3
Cardenas	2	0	2
Banbor	1	1	2
Frischmann	1	1	2
Jacobs	1	1	2
Silverstein	1	1	2
Gibbs	0	1	1
Jedrzejewski	0	1	1
Team goals	1	x	x

Goalie	Min	GA	GAA
Klimaszewski	80	2	2.00
Zacarias	80	2	2.00
Fukar	240	9	3.00
Lopez	160	8	4.00
Blanco	240	13	4.33
Tsipris	80	5	5.00

Current record: 3-1-7