



BOUNCINGS



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24 Aug 13



PSLC

Byki 0-40 **6 : 0** Naperville

08-18-13

Byki adjust, pound Strikers

A shift in personnel at halftime propelled the Over 40 Team to an easy 6:0 victory over the Naperville Strikers last Sunday at Oak Brook. A disjointed Byki side that managed just one goal in the first half exploded for five after the interval, led by striker Mitch Posada, who notched three goals and an assist. In all, seven Byki found their way onto the scoresheet. With four wins in their last five matches, the Byki have climbed into the middle of the Over 40 Blue Division table.

Player-coach Eric Tower tried to inject some speed into the middle of his defense, shifting fullback Jim Kuch to sweeper, in place of the absent Doug Towsey. Steven Pedlow, who has found his best success playing wide or at striker, was shifted into the second holding midfielder slot, playing next to Tower. Although the Byki bench started off with a healthy four substitutes, they were reduced by two when Nick Elmkinssi and George Gorecki had to leave the field after short stints, due to nagging injuries.

Posada gave notice early to the sloth-like Strikers playing in defense when he intercepted a pass in the Naperville back third. The play left Posada with only the goalkeeper to beat. The netminder made a nice play to shepherd Posada wide, but only a well-placed defender on the goal line denied Posada's sharp-angle shot.

The Byki grabbed the lead after 14 minutes. Posada and Dan Nelson worked a slick series of passes along the left flank. Nelson dribbled the ball along the byline to get past the defender and then slid a near-post shot past the keeper for his fifth goal of the campaign.

That early marker should have set the Byki on the right path. Instead, they muddled around in midfield trying to sort out possession and the errors created unwarranted openings for the Strikers. Although their inept finishing would be their downfall, the Strikers only needed a good bounce to get right back into the match.

The Strikers had their best moments late in the first half.

In the 38th minute, a Striker intercepted a weak back pass to goalie Dean Fukar. The Striker faked his way past Fukar, who tried to impede his progress. The off-balance Striker shot at the empty net, but could only find the goalpost. With the rebound loose, another Striker tried to back-heel the ball into the net and shot wide. Four minutes later, a long, high shot from a Strikers midfielder glanced off the top of the crossbar.

The Byki regrouped at halftime, shifting Tower to pair with Dave Fink in the middle of defense, and sending Kuch back to his normal spot at fullback. Gabriel Rodriguez slid into Tower's spot, playing alongside Pedlow. The changes were precisely what the Byki needed, and two goals in the first 11 minutes of the second frame put the game out of reach.

In the 49th minute, Ade Ekundayo held the ball in the middle of the field and then rumbled up the middle. When a Strikers defender finally caught up to him at the top of the box, Ekundayo deftly slipped a pass to an unmarked Posada, who slotted past the advancing keeper.

The score went to 3:0 seven minutes later when Kuch served a long pass over the top of the defense for Nelson, who sprinted in on a breakaway. The keeper came out to cut off the angle and saved well on Nelson's hard shot, but the rebound fell to Posada, who made no mistake with a gaping goal in front of him.

Moments later, Charlie Cohen collected a long pass along the left flank and came in alone on the keeper. Out at the top of his penalty area, the keeper snuffed out Cohen's shot.

Just after the hour mark, Ekundayo led the counter along the right wing and dropped a pass for Pedlow in the middle, who was denied by a magnificent save by the goalie.

In the 70th minute, a poor turnover by the Byki became a gift opportunity for the Strikers, whose forward sent a sitter off the bar. Fukar alertly grabbed the carom to kill any chance for a rebound.

The Strikers tried to get back into the match by sending more players forward. That decision proved to be fatal for their chances, because the Byki carved up the defense with all of the newly created open space.

In the 73rd minute, Tower launched a pass for Jim Jacobs on the left wing. Jacobs sprinted in solo, taking the ball deep into the penalty area. As Jacobs held the ball to wait for support, the Naperville goalie expected a pass to the right side. He wound up leaving his near post exposed and Jacobs calmly deposited the ball into the back of the net.

The score swelled to 5:0 two minutes later. Cohen carried

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the ball into the left-side channel and sent in an inswinging cross to the right post. Jacobs saved the ball from going out, crossed into the middle for Rodriguez, who headed into the goal from six yards away.

Posada earned his hat trick three minutes before the end. Fullback Dave Safford headed the ball along to Pedlow on the left wing, who took off past the fatigued Strikers. He found himself in a 2 v 1 situation, and waited until just the right moment to slip the ball to Posada, who knocked the ball home from close range.

Fukar was upbeat about his team's chance for the balance of the season. "If we can play this way every week, we can beat anyone in the Division," he said. "We did the same thing when we won the Cup in 2009."

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

BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

1:0 – Nelson 5 (Posada); 14th.
2:0 – Posada 7 (Ekundayo); 49th.
3:0 – Posada 8; 56th.
4:0 – Jacobs 1 (Tower); 73rd.
5:0 – G. Rodriguez 3 (Jacobs); 75th.
6:0 – Posada 9 (Pedlow); 87th.

Byki Man of the Match: Mitch Posada

who outran the Gazelle backline. Herholdt tried to flick the ball over the goalkeeper, who contorted himself and made an acrobatic tip save to deny Herholdt.

Gazelle doubled their lead in the 19th minute converting a corner kick situation. With the ball free in the goal area, a Gazelle player reached it first and poked it home from close range.

In the 40th minute, Bryan de Rama heaved a throw-in from the left side into the area, where Mickael N'Guettia trapped the ball with his chest, and then turned to fire a shot that whizzed just wide of the target.

Gazelle went 3:0 up two minutes before the break. Byki marking was far too loose as Gazelle came on the counterattack. A shot from distance gave Najera no chance.

The Byki stabilized things in the second half with a few positional adjustments. They broke into the scoring column in the 56th minute following hustling defensive pressure by Nanmin Kone. He intercepted a lazy outlet pass by the Gazelle goalie. The ball deflected to the byline and Kone won the race, sending in a cross to the far side for N'Guettia, who tapped the ball home to make it 3:1. At the times when Kone and N'Guettia were able to apply pressure to the Gazelle backline, the Byki created several nervous moments for the home side. The thinned-out lineup, however, prevented the Byki from keeping up that pressure for long stretches.

Gazelle replied with their fourth goal just after the hour mark. A hard-working attacker saved a loose ball from going out near the goal line to Najera's right and unselfishly knocked the ball back into the middle. A Gazelle striker finished things off with a hard shot from 10 yards.

The Byki kept after Gazelle and conjured two excellent opportunities moments apart. In the 64th minute, Kone latched onto a loose ball in front the Gazelle penalty area. The keeper was well positioned and saved from point-blank range. He then recovered to block Kone's rebound attempt.

Two minutes later, the Gazelle keeper tried to punch Mike Stamatinos' corner kick to safety, but the ball landed at the feet of Patrick Bollinger. The lanky striker drilled a shot destined for the corner of the net and was denied by a defender who blocked the ball off the line.

The Byki would get no closer. Their engines finally ran out of steam and the game was transformed into a possession battle between the 18s.

BYKI LINEUP (3-5-2): Najera – Suhayda, Stamatinos (c), Herholdt– De Rama, Oritz, Bollinger, Alfaro, Szymkowiak – N'Guettia, Kone.

BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

3:1 – N'Guettia 4 (Kone); 56th.

Byki Man of the Match: Mickael N'Guettia

NSL
Gazelle **4 : 1** Byki
08-17-13

Gazelle too much for Byki

With the mid-season break finally over, the Byki returned to NSL action on Sunday and were thumped by a speedy Gazelle SC side 4:1 at Jackson Park. With no substitutes on the bench, the squad were limited in finding ways to challenge Gazelle. Three first-half goals were enough to propel the home team to victory.

The effective strategy for the Byki necessitated close marking and making sure everyone got behind the ball quickly. The Byki fell short all too often, giving Gazelle's midfield far too much time and space.

Gazelle got on the board after just nine minutes. Loose marking allowed a player on the right side of the box to line up a shot on goalkeeper Ray Najera. A full-stretch dive was not enough by Najera, who got a slight touch to the ball before it smacked off of the left post and into the back of the net. Five minutes later, a promising Byki counterattack put the Gazelle keeper in peril. Stopper Martin Herholdt won the ball in the back and slid a pass to Rigo Ortiz. The midfielder launched a long pass downfield for the sprinting Herholdt,

NSL MAJOR DIVISION**August 18, 2013****www.nslchicago.org**

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Gazelle SC	9	8	1	0	19	4	25
RWB Adria	7	7	0	0	31	8	21
FC Uta Chicago	9	5	2	2	23	13	17
Assyrian FC	10	5	1	4	24	24	16
Jamstar FC	11	3	2	6	24	22	11
SAC Wisla	8	3	2	3	25	14	11
CKS Warta	8	3	2	3	19	18	11
Stare Byki FC	10	2	1	7	16	35	7
Brusfa FC	9	2	1	6	14	31	7
Khaboor FC	9	1	0	8	5	31	3

PSLC OVER 30 RED DIVISION**August 17, 2013****www.pslchicagoland.com**

Group A	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
FC Tarnovia	13	10	2	1	46	24	32
St Charles Celtics Red	11	6	2	3	39	25	20
Balkan	11	6	1	4	42	18	19
Romania SC	10	5	2	3	26	23	17
Chicago Celtic	13	3	1	9	23	36	10
SAC Wisla	13	2	2	9	27	54	8
Group B	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Bulgaria FC	11	10	0	1	61	21	30
La Granate	12	8	4	0	35	19	28
Jahbat FC	12	5	2	5	34	37	17
Chicago United	16	4	1	11	23	51	13
Igloopol	13	3	2	8	32	43	11
Stare Byki FC	12	1	1	10	15	55	4

PSLC OVER 40 BLUE DIVISION**August 18, 2013****www.pslchicagoland.com**

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
MOFG	14	9	3	2	26	17	30
Villains SC	12	8	0	4	35	21	24
Real FC 40+	11	7	0	4	25	14	21
St Charles Celtics Green	10	7	1	2	32	15	19
Windy City United	12	5	3	4	33	26	18
Stare Byki FC	13	5	2	6	37	27	17
Sporting Cristal	13	5	2	6	33	31	17
Naperville Strikers FC	11	5	1	5	25	22	16
Pampas OT	13	3	2	8	24	36	11
St Charles Celtics Orange	13	0	0	13	4	64	0