



BYKI BOUNCINGS

28 Dec 07



Byki

4 : 6

Lilies

Over 30 Team - NSL Over 30 Division
Odeum - 21 December 2007

Byki look like half a team

The learning curve for the Byki Over 30 Team has been a steep climb for a squad returning to NSL indoor action. The players are finding out that their mistakes often lead to easy scores for the opposition, that rapid ball movement is the key to breaking down defenses, and that the level of play in the Over 30 Division is very good. The team looked as though some of those lessons were finally getting through last Friday when they faced contenders B-H Lilies. After holding the Lilies scoreless in the first half, the Byki reverted to their old ways after the break and went down in a bitterly disappointing 16:4 decision.

Coach George Gorecki remains confused about his up-and-down side. "We played our best half of the season and kept everything tidy at the back," said Gorecki. "Then we give up three goals in the first five minutes of the second half and we're playing catch-up again."

Indeed, the Byki looked sharp and crisp in the first frame, keeping the Lilies and striker Omer Hadzic at bay. Hadzic is the second-leading scorer in the oldboys circuit and the close marking by the Byki left Hadzic displeased with the referees

for allowing what he considered overly physical play. It was the ideal blueprint and Byki netminder Ray Najera must have been absolutely giddy for not being in the firing line for the entire match.

The Byki created the first two good chances of the match midway through the first half. Midfielder Tony Gallo forced a kick save from the keeper with a hard shot from the left wing. Moments later, Russ Haynes blasted a rocket from just inside the halfway line and the goalie dove full stretch to keep the ball out.

Najera made a nifty save with 5:01 to go in the half, leading to a corner kick for the Lilies. Najera followed up that effort with a tremendous stop on an open shot in the middle of the box resulting from the corner. Najera was on his game with 1:34 left when he came off his line to poke the ball away from a Lilies player dribbling across the top of the area. The Lilies player shot quickly from the flank and Najera was in the right spot to catch the ball.

The Byki broke through with a flurry in the dying moments of the first half. Haynes restarted with a free kick at the top of the arc and tricked the defensive wall by slipping the ball to Marek Ciszewski, who had circled in from the right. The wide-open Ciszewski was stoned by a great save, but the keeper made an errant throw right to Haynes, who immediately played the ball back to Ciszewski. The striker made no mistake on the second try, slipping it past the keeper for a 1:0 lead.

At halftime, the Byki emphasized that they needed to do more of the same in the second half. But the game turned completely around, as the Lilies equalized after only 22 seconds and then took the lead for good with 1:50 gone. It didn't take long to deflate the Byki balloon. Steven Pedlow wondered aloud on the bench, "What happened to our team?"

Because things can turn quickly in the indoor game, there was nothing stopping the Byki from getting things right. The Lilies, however, showed their pedigree and extended their

Sponsor Corner

The indoor season's sponsor bar
for the Byki is

John's Pizzeria
100 E Lake St in Addison

Support Byki sponsors!

Check us out on the Internet at www.starebykifc.org



lead to a commanding 4:1 with 9:50 left in the contest.

The Byki had made some nice comebacks in previous matches and showed that hard work can get the job done. The team went into high-pressure mode to for the rest of the game to try to force turnovers. The tactic paid dividends with 6:14 left. The Lilies gave the ball away in their own zone and Wei Zhang made a diagonal pass from the left side to Nick Elmkinssi on the far wing. Elmkinssi looked to shoot right away, nailing a shot past the goalie, thanks to a deflection along the way by a Lilies defender.

The Lilies made it 5:2 with 4:50 to go when they converted on the power play, capitalizing on a Byki turnover. But the Byki weren't finished. Ciszewski notched his second strike of the night with 3:07 left. A weak clearance by a defender placed the ball right in Ciszewski's sweet spot and the keeper had no chance. "It was one of those goals where you know

the ball is in as soon as you shoot it," Ciszewski said afterwards.

The Byki closed to within 5:4 with 2:16 to go. Dan Jedrzejowski led a counterattack up the middle and dished off to Ciszewski on the right. His big blast found the upper corner and the Byki suddenly had legitimate visions of getting back into the contest. The Lilies put the game away in the final minute during a power play, catching the Byki off-balance on an ill-timed line change.

BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

Ciszewski 3 (Haynes); 18:44; 1:0. Elmkinssi 1 (Zhang); 31:46; 2:4. Ciszewski 4; 34:53; 3:5. Ciszewski 5 (Jedrzejowski); 35:44; 4:5.

BYKI LINEUP (2-2-1): Najera – Haynes, Zhang – Fleming, Gallo (c) – Elmkinssi. **Bench:** Ciszewski, Frischmann, Gambino, Jedrzejowski, Lane, Pedlow, Treter.

Byki

1 : 11

Podlasie

A Team - NSL 1st Division
Odeum - 21 December 2007

Podlasie flatten thinned-out Byki

The holiday period is usually a time when people can take a break from the normal routine and enjoy the extra free time available. For the Byki, that meant a decimated roster, as players scattered on the weekend before Christmas. The Byki were able to only send eight players against powerful newcomers Podlasie and endured an 11:1 pounding, leaving the Byki 1-0-5 for the season.

The National Soccer League demonstrates illogical priorities when they make their schedules. The League never schedules matches for the weekends connected with Memorial Day, Fourth of July or Labor Day. But winter holidays like Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Years apparently don't exist for the NSL, because matches are never scheduled around these traditional travel dates. The strange scheduling is not an excuse for a bad Byki performance, but any schedule that prevents teams from fielding their best squads is a bad one.

Podlasie scored only seconds after the opening kickoff and the Byki replied almost immediately. Abraham Ruiz pressured a weak backpass to the Podlasie goalie and Ruiz blocked the clearance directly into the Podlasie goal. With the score 1:1 in just 0:50, the match had the makings of a scoring bonanza.

There were ten more goals, but all of them came on the Podlasie side of the scoreboard. Podlasie displayed smart, efficient soccer and showed clearly that the score reflected the disparity between the sides. Once the Byki and their two

subs started tiring out, Podlasie kept pounding home the goals.

The Byki were 2:1 down when they went on the power play midway through the first half. Jeff Samp drilled an open shot from the left flank, but had the misfortune of Dan Stanley blocking what would have been a sure goal. Seconds later, shorthanded Podlasie burned the Byki on the counter to increase their margin to 3:1.

Fatigue got the better of the Byki in the latter stages of the first half and Podlasie engineered a three-goal blitz in the span of 3:59 to put the game away. The Byki gamely tried to get back into the contest in the second half and held off Podlasie until the final minutes, when weary legs could no longer keep up with the Podlasie intensity.

The Byki will look forward to getting their full squad back and get their season in order.

BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

Ruiz 1; 0:50; 1:1.

BYKI LINEUP (2-1-2): Eliasek – Dziekiewicz, Bouzoukis – Samp – Stanley, Ruiz. **Bench:** Rose, Sphar.

NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE STANDINGS

December 21, 2007

www.nslchicago.org

MAJOR DIVISION

Red Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts	Blue Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
RWB Adria A	6	4	1	1	24	7	13	SC BiH	6	5	1	0	27	12	16
HNNK Hrvat	6	3	2	1	19	9	11	FK Kozarac	6	5	1	0	26	12	16
NK Prijedor	6	3	1	2	16	16	10	RWB Adria B	6	3	0	3	22	16	9
B-H Lilies	6	3	0	3	16	19	9	Royal FC	6	2	0	4	10	26	6
Albanian Stars	6	2	1	3	19	22	7	SAC Wisla	6	1	1	4	7	16	4
KF Ulqin	6	0	1	5	11	31	1	CKS Warta	6	0	1	5	12	23	1

FIRST DIVISION

Red Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts	Blue Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Stal Mielec	6	5	1	0	24	10	16	Podlasie	6	6	0	0	39	9	18
FK Republica Srpska	6	4	1	1	24	9	13	Capitol Czarni Jaslo	6	4	1	1	31	9	13
Oak Park Tricycles	6	4	0	2	29	15	12	West Bosnia SC	6	4	0	2	23	16	12
CKS Warta B	6	4	0	2	22	19	12	Real Independiente	6	3	2	1	10	7	11
Deportivo Colomex	6	3	1	2	28	15	10	FK Bosanska Dubica	6	3	1	2	39	22	10
Chicago Thunder	6	3	1	2	19	10	10	HNNK Hrvat B	6	3	1	2	20	14	10
CKS Warta C	6	2	3	1	29	22	9	CD Taximaroa	6	3	1	2	17	14	10
Montenegro SC	6	2	1	3	16	21	7	Los Chasquis	6	3	0	3	20	36	9
Khaboor FC	6	1	2	3	23	24	5	FK Podrinje	6	2	0	4	12	29	6
Lake Shore SC	6	1	1	4	23	25	4	Lemont FC	6	1	0	5	13	19	3
Juanacatlan	6	1	1	4	15	31	4	Stare Byki FC	6	1	0	5	10	28	3
Chicago Inter R-B	6	0	0	6	3	54	0	Pitbulls SC	6	0	0	6	10	41	0

OVER 30 DIVISION

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
RWB Adria	6	6	0	0	45	17	18
B-H Lilies	6	5	0	1	31	19	15
Polonia SC	6	4	0	2	36	20	12
SAC Wisla	6	3	0	3	26	27	9
Arabian FC	6	3	0	3	26	28	9
HNNK Hrvat	6	2	0	4	19	27	6
NK Prijedor	6	1	0	5	17	36	3
Stare Byki FC	6	0	0	6	15	41	0