



# BOUNCINGS



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RED

Byki 3 : 2 Stal Mielec

NSL 1st Division - The Odeum - 23 December 2011

## Late winner keeps Byki undefeated

The Red Team started off their Christmas celebration with an electrifying 3:2 win over Stal Mielec last Friday. It was the second consecutive victory for the Byki, who leapfrogged Mielec for second place in the Red Section standings. Martin Herholdt scored two of the goals and assisted on the third to lead the Byki.

"We really got better as the game went on," said coach Joe Gambino. "In the second half, we probably played our best soccer of the season." The Byki will need to continue to maintain that high standard, as more tough matches are on the schedule for the next two weeks.

Despite the fact that Mielec are a squad with many older and experienced players, the game started at a torrid pace. The Byki defense, however, was very organized from the opening whistle and Mielec found few openings. A couple of errors became dangerous turnovers, but goalkeeper Ray Najera cleaned up the minor messes and also snuffed out a breakaway opportunity to keep Mielec off of the scoreboard.

The Byki snatched control of the contest with a flurry late in the first half. With 7:00 left, Alex Guzman worked an artful series of passes with Herholdt, leaving Guzman to put the finishing touches on a 1:0 lead.

Just a minute later, the hardworking Herholdt created an opportunity when he pressured a Mielec player in the defensive third. Herholdt stuck his foot in the right place and the ball deflected to Jordan Stopka, who returned the ball to Herholdt. The midfielder buried his shot, giving the Byki a 2:0 advantage at the break.

Mielec came out with a heightened sense of resolve to start the second half and their sustained pressure allowed them to pull one back. The Byki defense failed to clear the ball away and Mielec capitalized to make it 2:1.

But the Byki shrugged off that isolated sequence and began playing the kind of possession soccer everyone has been

waiting for. Once the older Mielec players lost their desire to chase, the Byki assumed the dominant position in the match. The Byki had a tremendous chance to regain their two-goal lead midway through the second half. Mike Stamatinos lined up a volley from long range and blasted a howitzer that the keeper was fortunate to save.

That goal could have provided the Byki with a very necessary cushion. As the clock counted down, the Byki became far too conservative and laid back to absorb pressure. That was a sticky tactic, trying to protect a one-goal lead on an opponent hungry to carve out an equalizer. Mielec eventually found their second goal with three minutes left in the contest.

The tying goal snapped the Byki back into the proper frame of mind. They went back to playing the solid possession style of soccer that had put them in the lead in the first place. They found the winning goal with 1:30 left. After patiently stringing together a long series of passes, Paul Mansur flashed to the top of the arc to receive the ball. His deft touch left the ball for Herholdt, who made no mistake for his second goal of the season.

There would be no panic in the endgame by the Byki. The negotiated the remaining time on the clock like veterans, giving Mielec no hope of a miracle comeback. The Byki put the three points in their back pocket and they got their reward for a comprehensive performance.

*Joe Gambino contributed to this story.*

**BYKI LINEUP (3-2):** Najera – Guzman, Styx, Stevens – Herholdt, Kekus.  
**Bench:** Banbor, Bouzoukis, Ciszewski, Khankari, Mansur, Stamatinos (c), Stopka.

### BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

1:0 – Guzman 1 (Herholdt); 12:00.  
2:0 – Herholdt 1 (Stopka); 13:00.  
3:2 – Herholdt 2 (Mansur); 37:30.

**Byki Man of the Match:** Martin Herholdt



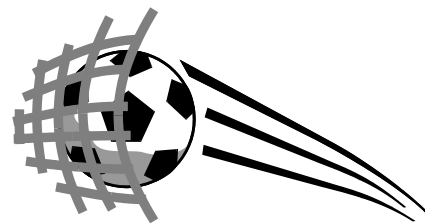
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# BYKI

# bits & pieces



It was an active Christmas season for the Byki in 2011. Red Team captain **Mike Stamatinos** got things rolling a couple of weeks before Christmas when he asked his teammates to help him with a holiday toy drive. "Over the last three years I've participated in an annual toy drive for the Dreams for Kids Foundation," said Mike. "Did you know that one out of every four kids in Chica-



go lives in poverty? I heard that statistic and it made me physically ill."

Mike decided to take action and encouraged the Byki to get involved. Even though the notice was short, once the word began filtering through e-mail boxes, the Byki stepped up to the plate admirably. Within a week, quite a few Byki brought in toys and Mike did the rest by taking the gifts to the foundation for distribution.

Just before Christmas, Mike reported the results of the toy collection. "We were able to collect over 150 toys," Mike noted. "This means that many children will have something to smile about this holiday season! This

could not have been accomplished without the help of the Byki.

The accompanying photo shows that Mike was not exaggerating about the volume of toys collected. "I am delighted that so many Byki responded to Mike's call for help," said **George Gorecki**. "I hope that we can get the word out earlier next year and bring in even more toys for such a worthy cause."

**Christmastime means it's** time for gifts. Many people undoubtedly received all kinds of mundane, forgettable things, like gift cards, or socks. Some Byki, however, got some very interesting stuff.

Over 40 player-coach **Eric Muehlbauer** visited China recently. "I visited the Beijing Confucius Temple and Imperial College," said Eric. "I was curious to read his philosophy, but oddly, they did not have a bookstore. So my daughter got me a book for Christmas called the Teachings of Confucius.

"His real name was Kong fu tze; the name Confucius comes from Jesuit monks who westernized his name. I will look for lessons to apply on the field."



**Byki alumni were** in the holiday news also. **Wei Zhang** and **Russ Haynes** were in town and made it a point to knock back a few pints with their teammates. Russ, who was no stranger to controversy both on and off the field in his Byki days, generated some interesting discussions when it was discov-

ered that his head and face were covered with glitter. It wasn't much of a controversy to Russ, who must think that it's OK for an old man to maintain the fashion standards normally reserved for 12-year-old girls. Russ said that he and Wei had spent part of the afternoon shopping for hats for New Year's Eve, and that his hat had quite a bit of glitter on it. Russ went on to point out that Wei's hat,



which looked like a lampshade that had been stolen from a redneck whorehouse, was meant to emphasize his Chinese heri-

to

# Byki Stats

SENIOR TEAM, NSL 1st DIVISION				O-40 TEAM, CHAMPIONS O-40 LEAGUE			
Player	G	A	Pts	Player	G	A	Pts
Herholdt	2	3	5	Huck	4	0	4
Ciszewski	1	2	3	Gorski	2	1	3
Koenig	1	2	3	Dec	1	2	3
Mansur	1	2	3	Pedlow	0	2	2
Banbor	2	0	2	Dahlquist	1	0	1
Mehreioskouei	2	0	2	Muehlbauer	1	0	1
Stopka	0	2	2	Passi	1	0	1
Bouzoukis	1	0	1				
Guzman	1	0	1	<b>Goalie</b>	<b>Min</b>	<b>GA</b>	<b>GAA</b>
Stevens	1	0	1	Barnas	89	16	8.99
Trowbridge	1	0	1	Muehlbauer	34	8	11.76
Uriza	1	0	1	Dec	16	5	15.63
				Lowczyk	11	4	18.18
<b>Goalie</b>	<b>Min</b>	<b>GA</b>	<b>GAA</b>	Elmkinssi	41	16	19.51
Najera	152	8	2.00	Zadlo	9	5	27.78
Khankari	38	3	3.00				
				Current record: 0-0-4			
				Current record: 3-2-0			

ge. If Wei actually believes this line of thinking, then he may have downed one too many pints that afternoon.

In any case, the evidence is there for all to see in the photo below. In the event that Russ and Wei (hopefully) lose their funky headgear by New Year's Eve, they at least will have their Byki scarves to flaunt with pride all over town.

# NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE STANDINGS

December 23, 2011

[www.nslchicago.org](http://www.nslchicago.org)

## MAJOR DIVISION

Red Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts	Blue Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
FK Kozarac	5	4	1	0	26	10	13	RWB Adria A	5	5	0	0	42	9	15
B-H Lilies Royal	5	3	1	1	21	15	10	Albanian Stars	5	4	0	1	32	12	12
Tricycles SC A	5	2	1	2	15	19	7	Hellenic United Blue	5	3	1	1	20	16	10
SAC Wisla	5	1	1	3	25	26	4	CKS Warta A	5	3	0	2	22	21	9
KF Tirana	5	0	1	4	17	28	1	FK Republika Srpska A	5	1	1	3	18	31	4
B-H Lilies	5	0	1	4	14	39	1	Chicago Pride	5	0	0	5	6	32	0

## FIRST DIVISION

Red Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts	Blue Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Assyrian FC	5	4	1	0	17	10	13	Zaglebie SC	5	4	0	1	19	6	12
Stare Byki FC	5	3	2	0	15	11	11	RWB Adria B	5	3	1	1	22	6	10
Stal Mielec	5	3	0	2	25	12	9	Hellenic United White	5	3	1	1	18	7	10
CKS Warta B	5	2	0	3	11	15	6	West Bosnia SC	5	1	1	3	7	28	4
Gremio FC B	5	1	1	3	17	19	4	Winged Bull A	5	1	0	4	10	19	3
Shlama FC	5	0	2	3	8	19	2	FK Republika Srpska B	5	0	1	4	4	21	1

## SECOND DIVISION

Red Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts	Blue Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Chicago Inter Yellow	5	4	1	0	27	15	13	NK Prijedor	5	5	0	0	24	6	15
HNK Primorac	5	3	1	1	19	11	10	FC Kosova	5	2	2	1	23	11	8
Gremio FC A	5	3	0	2	14	7	9	Tricycles SC B	5	2	1	2	13	14	7
Naperville Strikers	5	3	0	2	20	11	9	Chicago Dynasty FC	5	2	1	2	15	12	7
Chicago Inter Blue	5	1	0	4	13	26	3	Pitbulls SC	5	2	0	3	18	20	6
Winged Bull B	5	0	0	5	9	40	0	Chicago Inter White	5	0	0	5	8	30	0