

BOUNCINGS 16 Sept 06



Byki

0:1

Real

B Team - NSL 2nd Division Winnebago - 10 September 2006

Byki stub their toe in tough loss

Real Independiente showed that they like playing at Winnebago better than the Byki do after handing the B Team a 1:0 defeat there last Sunday. The teams had met at Winnebago in June, when the Byki clawed back from a 2:0 deficit to forge a 2:2 draw. The sides will meet one more time this Sunday, as the Byki seek to nail down the top spot in the 2nd Division's Blue Section.

The Blue Section race got a little tighter on Sunday when FK Podrinje topped Lake Shore 5:3. The Bosnians now trail the Byki by four points. Even though the teams are scheduled to meet one more time on September 24, the result of that match may not matter, as the Byki have complete control of their destiny. The Byki received a boost during the week when the NSL announced that Tilza FC would be suspended for the rest of the season, due to their inability to pay their debts. As a result, the B Team's final regular-season match will be a 1:0 forfeit victory.

With 30 points effectively in their account, the Byki saw their magic number for promotion shrink to three points. For Podrinje to have any chance of catching the Byki, they need

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to win out and then hope that the Byki lose to Real again.

The Byki suffered from yet another slow start against Real. Even though they got back on their game in the latter stages of the first half, they had a tough time cracking the Real defense to create dangerous scoring chances.

Coach Joe Gambino emphasized the need to get into a rhythm right from the outset. "Teams see that we're in first place and they play harder against us," said Gambino. "For them, this is like their playoff game." Gambino's words were evidenced by looking at Real's confounding 3:2 defeat at the hands of CKS Warta B two days earlier. Warta are one of the 2nd Division's weaklings and the result took Real out of contention for first place in the group. Thanks to the ineptitude of Tilza FC and Lake Shore, Real are almost a lock to make the playoffs, but catching Podrinje for second place is unlikely.

Real broke the ice in the 16th minute, thanks to some very lax marking by the Byki. A Real player squeezed out of a tight spot near the Byki goal line and dropped the ball back to the top of the box to an open teammate. With no Byki around, the Real player turned, picked his spot and fired a solid shot into the upper corner at Ryan Eliasek's far post. Allowing a player to trap and turn with no pressure is almost always going to lead to disaster, even with the scattershot shooters of the 2nd Division.

The goal appeared to awaken the Byki, who began to turn the screws defensively. Better defense forced Real to change their game from quick passing and dribbling to launching long bombs downfield. It's not easy to beat the Byki this way and the numerous turnovers led to several fruitful Byki counterattacks.

Real were robbed of a second goal in the 37th minute during a goalmouth scramble. They sent a menacing cross into the mixer from a corner kick, which led to a wild scramble in the Byki goal area. As the ball crashed around, Eliasek plucked it out of the air to safety. The referee ignored Real's claims that the ball had crossed the line, but fullback



Chris Lewkowicz confirmed that the ball had gone in and the Byki had caught a huge break.

Real kept on top of the Byki after the interval. They caught the Byki defense completely unhinged in the 48th minute. Eliasek, however, saved the day, making two spectacular stops to keep the score at 1:0.

Real ignited a breakaway in the 64th minute that looked like another certain goal when a through pass got behind the Byki backline. The play looked to be offside, but the referee waved play to go on. Sweeper Chad Daniel sprinted back to clear the ball out of danger. It was Daniel's first game in the back for the B Team and he responded with a commanding display on both sides of the ball.

Real were at it again two minutes later, finding another opening. Eliasek charged hard off of his line and smothered the point-blank attempt at goal.

Gambino shifted gears and switched to a 3-4-3 formation to create more offensive chances. The move paid almost immediate dividends, as the Byki came forward in waves. Tony Gallo dribbled up the middle in the 70th minute and found William Majak making a run on the right. Majak dribbled to the byline and knocked the ball back to Gallo.

The midfielder did not hit the ball squarely and it rolled wide of the target.

Seven minutes later, the Byki had Real in extreme jeopardy. The defense were desperate to get the ball out of their area, but the Byki kept bringing the ball back in. Majak topped off the sequence with a shot from the right side that glanced off of the crossbar.

With the Byki pushed forward, Real could only rely on the counter when they attacked. They utilized the extra space wisely, but Eliasek was equal to the task. He repelled two excellent chances to keep his side in contention. Real's defense ultimately hung on for the win.

The B Team face a crucial pair of games to end the season. The squad have shown a certain sense of resilience this year, and this is the perfect opportunity to get back on track.

BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

None.

BYKI LINEUP (4-4-2): Eliasek – Daniel, Lewkowicz, Gallo, Elliott – McGrath (c), Pirrilis, Stanley, Lane – Ruiz, Arredondo. **Bench:** Haynes, S. Majak, W. Majak, Zwickl.

Byki

1:0

SC BiH

A Team - NSL 1st Division Winnebago - 10 September 2006

Byki make playoffs second year in a row

The Byki earned the three points the easy way last Sunday when they beat SC BiH on forfeit. The stumbling Bosnians were put out of their misery by the NSL's Executive Board, who suspended the club, due to an accumulation of debt to the League and an excessive number of forfeited matches. The Byki improve to 8-3-2, good enough to clinch a place in the post-season for the second time in as many years. The achievement is a high-water mark for the club, who will have two teams in the playoffs in the same season for the first time in their history. The B Team secured their playoff berth on August 27.

The A Team are in the middle of a very nice roll at the moment. They have lost just once in their last seven games and their magic number to clinch second place in the Red Section is one point. Any combination of points earned by

the Byki and lost by Deportivo Colomex totaling one ensures the runner-up slot for the Byki.

FC Romania have all but wrapped up the top spot in the group after handily dispatching Winged Bull B 5:1 on Sunday. That result ensures that the Assyrians cannot finish ahead of the Byki in the final standings. Colomex have four points from their last two matches and have slipped past Winged Bull B for third place.

The Byki will have their hands full in their final three matches of the regular season. On Sunday, they will play HNNK Hrvat, who are still battling for a playoff spot in their first year in the 1st Division. The Byki will wrap up the season against the two Sectional leaders, Albanian Stars and FC Romania. There is no better way to prepare for the tough road of the playoffs than to play the league's elite teams.

Taxi drop punchless Byki

The Byki arrived at Winnebago last Saturday with hope and confidence that a good performance versus CD Taximaroa would represent another step toward respectability. Instead, the quick passes and darting runs of CD Taxi completely bamboozled the Byki and the visitors made easy work of things as they cruised to a 5:0 victory.

The win brought the Mexicans to 5-1-5, quite a departure for a squad that is accustomed to making the playoffs every year. The Byki thought that catching CD Taxi on this downswing would be the ideal opportunity to snatch a result against a team they have never beaten on the field. CD Taxi, however, looked as sharp as ever, slicing and piercing their way through the Byki defense like a hot knife slides through butter.

The match started an hour late, due to a massive traffic jam on the way to Winnebago. A severe accident brought traffic to a standstill. Although most of the Byki were at the field in plenty of time, all of the CD Taxi players but one and the referee arrived late.

Once things got going, the Byki had good reason to be buoyant. Fernando Regueiro returned to the lineup after missing several games due to a hamstring injury. With Russ Haynes and Andy Lane out of action, Regueiro was desperately needed to hold the Byki midfield together. The Byki looked rather spry in the early going, as a smart pass put Carlos Soriano into the open. Soriano shot hard from an angle, but the keeper knocked the ball over the bar for a corner kick.

The Byki established a solid passing rhythm in the first 15 minutes. Winger Ken Hunter made deep forays on the right on several occasions and Soriano rewarded him with passes onto the flank. Things fell apart, however, when Regueiro's pesky hamstring began giving him trouble. Regueiro left the field for treatment, but by halftime, it was clear that he could not continue. Once Regueiro was out, the Byki offense was in a shambles and the players could not snap themselves back

into shape.

CD Taxi drew first blood in the 13th minute when they deftly cracked a Byki offside trap. The CD Taxi striker came in alone on Dan Blanco and scored easily. The CD Taxi forwards gave the Byki backline fits all day long. Their speed and the intelligent timing of their runs left the Byki a step behind. Only Blanco's goalkeeping in the face of withering pressure kept the score close.

But that scoreline was deceptive. By the end of the first half, it was one-way traffic toward the Byki goal. The Byki tried shuffling positions around, as three different players tried their hand at the sweeper position. The situation was made worse by the Byki being unable and unwilling to return to the possession game that had worked so well at the outset. Aimless long balls left Soriano and fellow striker Ruben Parra out to sea, as the CD Taxi defenders thwarted them with ease.

CD Taxi made it 2:0 in the 31st minute and then put the result beyond any doubt with a blitz to open the second half. The aggressive CD Taxi attackers took advantage of extremely lax marking by the Byki and upped their advantage to 4:0 by the 44th minute. By the time they made it 5:0 on 64 minutes, the Byki were without any hope of coming back.

BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

None.

BYKI LINEUP (4-4-2): Blanco – Ibeagha, Gorecki, Tower, Pedlow – Elmkinssi (c), Hunter, Jacobs, Regueiro – Parra, Soriano. **Bench:** Bolesta, Kleine, Tsipris.

Byki Stats

A TEAM.	NSL	1st	DI/	/ISION
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B TEAM, NSL 2nd DIVISION

OVER 30 TEAM, NSL

Current record: 4-1-8

A I LAW, NO	, L 13t 1	51410		D I LAW, IV	JE 2114	D1410	31011	OVEIL	OVER OUT EAM		
Player	G	Α	Pts	Player	G	Α	Pts	Player	G	Α	Pts
Dance	9	4	13	Ruiz	7	2	9	Haynes	8	7	15
Goudeaux	6	1	7	Daniel	3	4	7	Garcia	5	2	7
Fleming	2	5	7	Haynes	5	1	6	Soriano	5	2	7
Samp	2	2	4	Stanley	3	3	6	Elmkinssi	2	3	5
Ciszewski	2	1	3	Pirrilis	2	3	5	Ibeagha	3	1	4
Delaunay	1	2	3	Arredondo	3	1	4	Parra	3	1	4
Nash	1	1	2	McGrath	3	0	3	Jacobs	1	1	2
Wolfe	1	1	2	Walker	3	0	3	Pedlow	1	1	2
Taylor	0	2	2	Lane	0	3	3	Tsipris	0	2	2
Bouzoukis	1	0	1	Gallo	1	1	2	Wager	1	0	1
Gambino	1	0	1	Cardenas	0	2	2	Gorecki	0	1	1
Zwickl	1	0	1	Lewkowicz	1	0	1	Lane	0	1	1
Daniel	0	1	1	Anane	0	1	1	Regueiro	0	1	1
Dziekiewicz, G	0	1	1	Mansur, P Jr	0	1	1	Tower	0	1	1
Team goals	2	Х	Х	Team goals	1	Х	х	Zhang	0	1	1
								Team goals	1	Х	Х
Goalie	Min	GA	GAA	Goalie	Min	GA	GAA				
de la Cruz	990	19	1.73	Orris	335	0	0.00	Goalie	Min	GA	GAA
Gambino	90	2	2.00	Zwickl	135	1	0.67	Blanco	960	31	2.58
Current i	record:	8-3-2		Eliasek	700	11	1.41	Hardin	80	5	5.00

Current record: 8-3-2

NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE STANDINGS

September 10, 2006 www.nslchicago.org

MAJOR DIVISION

Red Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts	Blue Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Winged Bull	11	9	1	1	35	11	28	KF Ulqin	13	9	3	1	30	12	30
Honduras SC	11	8	0	3	34	17	24	RWB Adria	10	9	0	1	32	10	27
Jahbat FC	12	5	3	4	26	22	18	SAC Wisla	13	7	2	4	28	14	23
CKS Warta	12	3	3	6	24	26	12	Gazelle SC	11	4	4	3	23	16	16
BH Lilies	12	2	3	7	21	39	9	NK Prijedor	12	3	1	8	18	36	10
West Indies Jets	10	0	2	8	4	26	2	FK Kozarac	13	0	0	13	10	56	0

FIRST DIVISION

Red Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts	Blue Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
FC Romania	12	11	1	0	66	17	34	Albanian Stars	12	10	0	2	33	17	30
Stare Byki FC	13	8	3	2	29	21	27	Royal FC	14	8	2	4	41	22	26
Deportivo Colomex	13	5	4	4	36	23	19	Chicago Thunder	13	7	2	4	38	32	23
Winged Bull B	13	5	3	5	36	36	18	HNNK Hrvat	11	5	1	5	31	34	16
Transilvanya Vampires	13	1	3	9	23	45	6	West Bosnia	13	4	2	7	22	28	14
SC BiH	13	0	0	13	10	47	0	Turkish FC	14	2	1	11	23	66	7

SECOND DIVISION

Red Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts	Blue Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Lemont FC	11	9	1	1	27	13	28	Stare Byki B	13	8	3	2	32	12	27
Melrose Park SC	12	8	1	3	39	28	25	FK Podrinje	13	6	5	2	35	19	23
CKS Warta B	12	4	0	8	25	29	12	Real Independiente	13	4	4	5	22	28	16
GR-04	8	2	1	5	20	33	7	Tilza FC	12	1	3	8	12	25	6
								Lake Shore SC	12	2	0	10	13	38	6

OVER 30 DIVISION

Red Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts	Blue Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Arabian FC	13	9	3	1	49	25	30	SAC Wisla	14	11	1	2	58	17	34
Winged Bull	12	10	0	2	51	15	30	Hellas SC	14	8	2	4	44	31	26
Gato Verde	14	8	0	6	24	26	24	Lake Shore A	12	8	2	2	36	18	26
Stare Byki FC	13	4	1	8	30	36	13	West Indies Jets	14	6	2	6	22	31	20
Lake Shore B	14	1	0	13	8	41	3	CD Taximaroa	11	5	1	5	26	16	16
Melrose Park SC	12	1	0	11	7	52	3	Tanners SC	13	1	0	12	17	64	3