

BOUNCINGS 28 Oct 06



Lemont

2:1

Byki

B Team - NSL 2nd Division Hawthorne Sports Complex - 22 October 2006

Last gasp shatters Byki dreams

A confident Byki squad took the field last Sunday in search of the club's second championship trophy since joining the NSL in 1996. The Byki B Team, winners of the 2nd Division's Blue Section, took on Red Section winners Lemont FC in match that contained excitement, tension, drama, a dash of controversy and no shortage of technical skill. Lemont took the honors when they knocked in a goal from short range in the penultimate minute of extra time to snatch a 2:1 victory.

Revenge had to taste sweet for Lemont, whose only defeat in the 2006 campaign came at the hands of the Byki back in May. Both teams marched assertively to the tops of their respective groups to clinch promotion to the 1st Division for 2007, and their meeting in the final was both fitting and

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It was a match worthy of a final, as both teams displayed impressive technique and a will to win. "Clearly, the two best teams in the 2nd Division were battling for the title," said Byki President George Gorecki. "Melrose and Podrinje were decent teams, but the rest of the Division were a playing at a level far below Lemont and us." Gorecki was joined by a group of about 25 supporters, who were a mixture of Byki players and fans.

The squad put together by Joe Gambino and Russ Haynes contained 17 players, all highly motivated to add another honor to the Byki trophy case. With temperatures struggling to reach the 40-degree mark and the wind swirling, the Byki had to fight the elements as well as Lemont.

The Byki had the first good scoring chance of the day after 16 minutes. Josh Zwickl and Russ Haynes worked a delightful exchange of passes between Zwickl on the flank and Haynes in the middle. Zwickl's final pass found Haynes alone in the middle of the box, but the striker was denied by a reflex save from the Lemont goalkeeper.

Nine minutes later, Luis Arredondo floated a terrific pass over the defense from midfield. An unmarked Haynes trapped the ball at the top of the 18 and turned to shoot immediately. Haynes' attempt went wide of the target.

The teams went to the interval goalless. There was an uneasy feeling that the match was shaping up to be the type of game that could turn decisively at any



time. With scoring opportunities hard to come by, the Byki had to be prepared to take their chances better than they did in the first half.

They executed to perfection in the 62nd minute when the referee awarded an indirect kick for the Byki inside the Lemont penalty area. The referee's decision was unusual, as the infraction against Lemont was not obvious. With the ball placed near the edge of the area to the goalie's left, Haynes did the simple thing after the referee moved the Lemont wall back. He sent a square pass across the box along the ground to Arredondo, who made no mistake with a blistering, first-time shot from ten yards. The diving keeper dove toward the post, but Arrendondo's aim was too good.

The goal breathed life in the Lemont attack. They played a dangerous ball over the Byki defense in the 67th minute. An alert Ryan Eliasek scrambled off his line to punch the ball to safety with a diving lunge near the top of the Byki penalty area.

Five minutes later, Lemont came forward on a quick counterattack. A shot from distance appeared to be looping wide, but the ball caught the goalpost, making a few Byki hearts skip a beat. Lemont kept up the pressure and narrowly missed equalizing a minute later, as the Byki defense looked uncertain. Lemont's shot from inside the box whizzed over the crossbar.

Lemont drew level ten minutes from time, thanks to a controversial refereeing decision. Lemont probed for space behind the Byki backline on the left wing. When a Lemont midfielder scooted into the open space to chase the ball down, Eliasek charged hard and slid to clear the ball. Eliasek appeared to win the ball cleanly and the force of the collision sent the Lemont player sprawling. The referee judged the play to be a foul on Eliasek and pointed to the spot. An incensed Byki squad could not believe it. Lemont converted the spot kick, changing the game irreversibly.

"From where I was standing, Ryan's challenge was a fair one," said Gorecki. "It's not as though the Lemont player got the ball behind him and Ryan did something desperate to bring him down. But any slide tackle in a close game can go either way, depending on the referee's position on the field."

With extra time looming, the Byki sought a game-winner in the dying minutes. In the 85th minute, Ivan Torossian sent the ball to a streaking Dan Stanley on the right wing. Stanley took a dribble and quickly

cut inside. He shot hard to the near post, but the keeper was well-positioned to make the save.

Things got nervous for Lemont in the 89th minute when striker Kevin Biggs received a pass in the box. He turned to shoot and a Lemont defender blocked his attempt. The rebound went back to Haynes at the 18, who shot immediately. The keeper made the save, sending the match to the extra session.

Neither side created any clear opportunities during the additional time and the match looked fated for penalty kicks to decide the outcome. History, unfortunately, reared its ugly head in the 119th minute when Lemont took advantage when the Byki defense were unable to clear the ball out of their end. The ball wound up on the foot of a Lemont player in the box. He dribbled in on Eliasek and beat him with a close-range shot that nicked off of the near post before settling into the back of the net. In 2005, the A Team had suffered a similar fate on this same field in their quarterfinal match versus Deportivo Colomex, who broke a 3:3 deadlock with a goal scored on practically the last touch of normal time.

It was a cruel ending to a hard-fought match. "We didn't make any mistakes on defense for the whole game," lamented a somber Gambino afterward. "It hurt to lose it that way." Sweeper Doug Towsey, who was on the field in 1998 when the Byki last played in a title match, was in disbelief. "I thought we were headed for penalties," he said.

The final outcome hardly detracts from a highly successful season. The B Team had their first winning record since 1999 and the 2nd Division's biggest prize, promotion to the 1st Division. The B Team also became the first Byki squad to win a playoff game in the NSL since 1998. Everyone in the club should take their hats off to the players, who accomplished great things, and to Gambino and Haynes, who guided the team to the top of the table.

BYKI SCORING SUMMARY

Arredondo 4 (Haynes); 62nd; 1:0.

BYKI LINEUP (4-4-2): Eliasek – Towsey, Elliott, Gallo, Casey (c) – Haynes, Torossian, Stanley, Lane – Biggs, Daniel. **Bench:** Arredondo, Mayer, McGrath, Pirrilis, Ruiz, Zwickl.

BYKI Scarf Pictures

These pages are usually reserved for football, a game where one must use his feet to play with the ball. This is opposed to American football, where 300-lb behemoths pile on one another for a few seconds and then stand around waiting for a TV commercial to end before they can resume play. But when it comes to Byki scarf pictures, everything is fair game. A Byki scarf was found at a college game last week in Evanston, when Northwestern hosted Michigan State. Eric Tower and Russ Haynes attended the game, and here, Eric takes up the story.

"Russ and I started off in 'Wildcat Alley,' where I showed Russ how to finagle free Goose Island beer. We had a few, but then Russ was complaining that his stomach was too full to drink more. He says that lousy American beer doesn't agree with his delicate constitution or something. Once we took our seats, Russ proceeded to jabber incoherently to everyone

around US. Somehow, Russ (a student at NU) couldn't figure out which team to cheer for, so whenever the crowd started cheering, he'd jump to his feet bling inanely. I had to explain to



and begin bab- Good old Rusty, sawing logs at the bling inanely. | NU record choke job.

a few people that he was from England, had never seen American football, and he was jetlagged from a long flight.

"I went to get a drink with NU up 38-3, and when I got back, Russ was slumbering soundly, much to the mixed relief and amusement of the people around us in the bleachers. Undoubtedly, he wanted to make sure that he was well rested for the championship game the next day, because we know that he wouldn't pass out at

1:00 in the afternoon after drinking only four beers, right? Believe it or not, Russ slept through almost the entire NCAA-record comeback, even though the guy next to us was bellow-

ing like an injured cow as he cheered for MSU. I woke up Russ for the last couple of touchdowns, but he just sat there with a dazed look on his face. I give it a 30% chance he still doesn't know who won the game.

"Russ attributes his passing out to of all the grease he ate: two hotdogs, two funnel cakes (Pennsylvania Dutch - because **Cousin Nathan** would have wanted him to have them), and some popcorn or other such crud. Russ says he fell asleep because he was drowning in a sea of grease and because American football bores him. My take is that, like a drunken bear, he was hibernating in order to store energy for the winter (and for his game the next day)."

Byki scarves also made it out to the Pacific Northwest in September. **Steven Pedlow**



visited Seattle and made the rounds in the area. Here he snapped an impressive photo with Mt. Rainier in the background.

George Gorecki struck this pose with a polar bear in Vancouver. The ceramic bears are all

over the downtown area, and this one is dressed up like a player from the BC Lions CFL team.



NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE STANDINGS

FINAL STANDINGS - 2006 SEASON 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	16	10	2	4	42	21	32	RWB Adria	16	13	1	2	43	16	40
Honduras SC	16	10	1	5	39	24	31	KF Ulqin	16	10	4	2	34	17	34
Jahbat FC	16	8	3	5	33	24	27	SAC Wisla	16	9	2	5	30	15	29
CKS Warta	16	6	3	7	30	31	21	Gazelle SC	16	8	5	3	33	18	29
BH Lilies	16	4	3	9	28	44	15	NK Prijedor	16	3	1	12	19	47	10
West Indies Jets	16	1	3	12	7	32	6	FK Kozarac	16	0	0	16	10	59	0

FIRST DIVISION

Red Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts	Blue Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
FC Romania	16	14	2	0	83	24	44	Albanians FC	16	11	1	4	40	31	34
Stare Byki FC	16	9	4	3	37	29	31	Royal FC	16	9	3	4	51	25	30
Deportivo Colomex	16	8	4	4	47	27	28	Chicago Thunder	16	9	2	5	40	37	29
Winged Bull B	16	6	3	7	39	45	21	West Bosnia	16	7	2	7	25	28	23
Transilvanya Vampires	16	3	3	10	25	46	12	HNNK Hrvat	16	5	1	10	32	42	16
SC BiH	16	0	0	16	10	50	0	Turkish FC	16	2	1	13	23	68	7

SECOND DIVISION

Red Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts	Blue Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Lemont FC	14	11	2	1	36	15	35	Stare Byki B	16	10	4	2	34	12	34
Melrose Park SC	14	9	2	3	45	33	29	FK Podrinje	16	7	7	2	46	26	28
GR-04	14	5	3	6	41	53	18	Real Independiente	16	6	4	6	24	29	22
CKS Warta B	14	4	1	9	29	34	13	Tilza FC	16	1	3	12	12	29	6
								Lake Shore SC	16	2	0	14	27	63	6

OVER 30 DIVISION

Red Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts	Blue Section	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Winged Bull	16	13	0	3	58	20	39	SAC Wisla	16	13	1	2	63	19	40
Arabian FC	16	12	3	1	56	25	39	Lake Shore A	15	11	2	2	49	23	35
Gato Verde	16	9	0	7	28	30	27	Hellas SC	16	10	2	4	54	35	32
Stare Byki FC	16	4	1	11	32	48	13	West Indies Jets	16	7	2	7	26	39	23
Melrose Park SC	15	2	0	13	8	55	6	CD Taximaroa	16	5	1	10	26	21	16
Lake Shore B	16	1	0	15	8	43	3	Tanners SC	16	2	0	14	21	71	6

SCHAUMBURG REC LEAGUE

October 26, 2006 www.parkfun.com

	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Belmont St Elite	3	3	0	0	31	6	6
Inter Puma	3	2	1	0	15	6	5
Galaxy	3	2	0	1	18	16	4
Stare Byki FC	2	1	0	1	8	6	2
Chi Town FC	2	0	2	0	9	9	2
Medicare FC	2	1	0	1	8	11	2
Stingers	3	1	0	2	13	29	2
Hellfish	3	0	1	2	10	17	1
United	3	0	0	3	16	28	0

Byki Stats

A TEAM, NSL 1st DIVISION				B TEAM, N	SL 2nd	DIVIS	OVER 30 TEAM, NSL					
Player	G	Α	Pts	Player	G	Α	Pts	Player	G	Α	Pts	
Dance	14	6	20	Ruiz	8	2	10	Haynes	9	7	16	
Fleming	2	7	9	Haynes	5	2	7	Soriano	6	2	8	
Goudeaux	6	1	7	Daniel	3	4	7	Garcia	5	2	7	
Delaunay	2	3	5	Pirrilis	3	3	6	Elmkinssi	2	3	5	
Ciszewski	3	1	4	Stanley	3	3	6	Ibeagha	3	1	4	
Samp	2	2	4	Arredondo	4	1	5	Parra	3	1	4	
Nash	1	2	3	Lane	0	4	4	Jacobs	1	1	2	
Dziekiewicz, G	1	1	2	McGrath	3	0	3	Pedlow	1	1	2	
Wolfe	1	1	2	Walker	3	0	3	Lane	0	2	2	
Taylor	0	2	2	Gallo	1	1	2	Tsipris	0	2	2	
Bouzoukis	1	0	1	Cardenas	0	2	2	Wager	1	0	1	
Gambino	1	0	1	Biggs	1	0	1	Gorecki	0	1	1	
Zwickl	1	0	1	Lewkowicz	1	0	1	Regueiro	0	1	1	
Daniel	0	1	1	Anane	0	1	1	Tower	0	1	1	
Dennis	0	1	1	Mansur, P Jr	0	1	1	Zhang	0	1	1	
Majak, W	0	1	1	Zwickl	0	1	1	Team goals	1	Х	Х	
Team goals	3	Х	Х	Team goals	2	Х	Х					
								Goalie	Min	GA	GAA	
Goalie	Min	GA	GAA	Goalie	Min	GA	GAA	Blanco	1120	38	2.71	
de la Cruz	1375	28	1.83	Orris	335	0	0.00	Ibeagha	40	2	4.00	
Gambino	95	2	1.89	Zwickl	135	1	0.67	Hardin	80	5	5.00	
Final re	ecord: 9-	5-3		Eliasek	1090	14	1.16	LaForrest	40	3	6.00	