

LOS ANGELES WOLVES BEAT THE WASHINGTON WHIPS



Accidental goal in sudden-death overtime wins the United Soccer Association championship.

REPORT

LA Wolves 6-5 Washington Whips

Wolves 6

(Knowles 3, Burnside 65, 67 & 82, Dougan 113, Shewan OG 122)

Whips 5

(Smith 21, Munro 64 PEN, 89 & 120 PEN, Storrie 66)

In front of 17,842 fans at Memorial Coliseum in LA, Dave Burnside of Los Angeles and Frank Munro of Washington scored three goals each during the prolonged contest.

The enthralling final went to a period of extra time with the winning goal coming inadvertently through Washington's Alley Shewan in sudden-death, as Bobby Thomson's cross bounced off the leg of the Whips' defender and into the net.

Wolves made a quick start to the game, with the first score made by Peter Knowles in just under three minutes as the nippy forward fired home, but Washington's Jim Smith tied it up at 1-1 midway through the first-half.

Half-time | Wolves 1-1 Whips

The second-half featured an incredible four goals in four minutes as the lead kept switching. Munro scored the first of his three goals just after the hour mark, to put Washington into the lead for the first time in the final as he fired in from the penalty spot.

However, Burnside struck back with his first of three to tie the game up a minute later as he found space inside the penalty area before turning the ball beyond Bobby Clark in the Washington goal.

Although Washington regained the lead once again through Jim Storrie in the 66th minute, Burnside made it 3-3 just 30 seconds later as the Wolves midfielder lopped his header from outside the box over the Whips players on the line, who could do nothing to keep it out.

After a flurry of goals, there was just a 15-minute barren spell in the contest before Burnside scored again to complete his hat-trick and make it 4-3 to Los Angeles with a neat finish, but Munro – who went on to sign for Wolves the following year – made it 4-4 to send the game into extra time with just a minute left on the clock.

Full-time | Wolves 4-4 Whips

The teams had played 90 minutes of regulation time and could not be separated, and although an additional 30 minutes were played, a winner could still not be found.

Derek Dougan put Los Angeles ahead in the 113th minute with a clever turn in the box before lashing an effort high beyond Clark and into the top of the net. However, with just 10 seconds left to play, Munro completed his hat-trick to tie the game at 5-5.

With the game entering a sudden-death period, Los Angeles stole the victory just two minutes later, when Thomson's cross deflected into his own net by Shewan, ending a thrilling contest and handing Wolves the inaugural United Soccer Association championship title.



After extra time | Wolves 6-5 Whips

Wolves | Parkes, Taylor, Thomson, Holsgrove, Woodfield, Burnside, Wharton, Hunt, Dougan, Knowles, Wagstaffe.

Whips | Clark, Whyte, Shewan, Munro, McMillan, Petersen, Storrie, Smith, Johnston, Melrose, Wilson.

Referee | Dick Giebner