

UNITED SOCCER ASSOCIATION 1967 CHAMPIONSHIP GAME

WASHINGTON WHIPS

(Aberdeen of Scotland)

vs.

LOS ANGELES WOLVES

(Wolverhampton
Wanderers of England)

...

**Los Angeles
Coliseum
Friday
July 14, 1967**



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22  DON WELLS	23 	24 	25  HIGHLIGHTS	26 A	27  FRED HESSLER	28  RACING PREVIEWS	
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TITLE GAME

CLIMAX TO AN EXCITING FIRST USA SEASON

By Dick Walsh

Commissioner, United Soccer Association



Tonight's championship playoff climaxes the United Soccer Association's first year of operation.

It has been a most exciting season and a truly gratifying experience. As a new professional sports organization, we recognized that we had a big job ahead of us. Although soccer ranks as the No. 1 sport in nearly every other country in the world, our owners realized that the American public had little acquaintanceship with the game and that it would take considerable time and effort to establish the sport on a truly professional level in this country.

Nevertheless, the response of the fans has been heartening. The enthusiasm that was evident at games during the last part of the season has convinced us that soccer has begun to catch on with the public. We feel confident this spirit will be contagious and that next year will find our attendance showing a sizable increase.

For six pre-season exhibition games and 73 regular-season games this year, the league attracted 673,432 persons. This was an average of 8,512, which we believe represents a healthy start.

While tonight's match marks the end of the season, it really is only the beginning as far as we are concerned. Now our teams embark on a new phase — lining up their

own squads of players for next year. Seven already have signed their coaches for 1968 and several have acquired some players. Starting next week, all 12 teams will devote their full attention to the task of obtaining talent from throughout the world so we can present major league soccer again next season.

Each team will carry at least three native or naturalized Americans on its 16-player squad next year. This is in line with league policy of developing native athletes with whom our fans can closely identify — and with a view to being able to field a representative team eventually in World Cup competition.

We expect to see an increase in each succeeding year in the number of American players on each team. In this connection, the league will be working in conjunction with the United States Soccer Football Association and the colleges and high schools in a program to develop the sport at the grass-roots level.

Soccer is a sport where special physical attributes such as height and weight play no importance. Everyone can play and enjoy the game, and it ties in perfectly with President Lyndon B. Johnson's physical fitness program. It is with this in mind that we hope to encourage the youth of America to play soccer.

UNITED SOCCER ASSOCIATION FINAL STANDINGS 1967

WESTERN DIVISION

	W	L	T	Pts.	GF	GA
L.A. WOLVES	5	2	5	15	21	14
San Francisco	5	4	3	13	25	19
Chicago	3	2	7	13	20	14
Houston	4	4	4	12	19	18
Vancouver	3	4	5	11	20	28
Dallas	3	6	3	9	14	23

EASTERN DIVISION

	W	L	T	Pts.	GF	GA
Washington	5	2	5	15	19	11
Cleveland	5	3	4	14	19	13
Toronto	4	3	5	13	23	17
Detroit	3	3	6	12	11	18
New York	2	4	6	10	15	17
Boston	2	7	3	7	12	26

THE WASHINGTON WHIPS

The hard-tackling aggressive Aberdeen eleven from Scotland won the hearts of Capitol fans with their offensive-minded play as they won the Eastern title.

When the Washington Whips trot out against the Los Angeles Wolves tonight, it will be England versus Scotland all over again. And that means action.

The Whips are really the excellent Aberdeen team of Scotland, a team that finished in fourth place last season behind the fabulous Glasgow Celtic championship ensemble, the equally renowned Glasgow Rangers and Clyde. Here, in America, they demonstrated their class. After losing their opening game, they went 10 without defeat before being upset by Boston's Shamrock Rovers, 2-1, right in Washington. They rebounded from that jolting loss by handing the Wolves their only decisive defeat of their tenure here in the United States, winning 3-0 in the replay last Monday of the June 20th 1-1 tie.

The Dons, as the Aberdeen club is generally known, have had a remarkable record in Scottish soccer. They have never been out of the major first division since becoming a member in 1903. They have been Scottish Cup finalists five times, including last season, but have won the trophy only once, in 1947. They were league champions in 1955 and runners-up on several occasions. They were Scottish League Cup winners in 1946 and 1956.

What style do they play?

"We're a dynamic team," their manager Eddie Turnbull says. "Our style of play is attacking, aggressive and open. We play offensive soccer — the kind fans love to see."



EDDIE TURNBULL, Manager of Aberdeen

Youth is the keynote of the Aberdeen team. Four under 23 internationals and a youth international are among their leading players.

Goalkeeper Robert Clark, Right Back Jim Whyte and Center Half Tommy McMillan, all under-23 internationals, are the kingpins of a stout defense. At inside right they have another under 23 representative player, Jimmy Smith, and left half Martin Buchan is a youth international.

The captain of the side, Harry Melrose, holds the all-time Scottish record for goals scored by a winger in one match — before joining Aberdeen he rammed seven goals into the net for Dunfermline Athletic in a 10-0 win over Partick Thistle.

Asked for a rundown on the Aberdeen players, Manager Turnbull gave the following descriptions:

1. Goalie — Robert Clark. Formerly with Queens Park Rangers, in line for international status. He's six feet tall, young, aggressive, and a tremendous goalkeeper.

2. Right Fullback — Jim Whyte — good tackling fullback (Note: the term "tackle" refers to a defenseman taking the ball away from his opponent).

3. Left Fullback — Ally Shewan — 26 years old. Attacking fullback — powerfully built — good two-way player — excellent tackler — very good in the air.

4. Right Halfback — 19-year-old Francis Munro — 6 feet — 182 pounds. Nimble as a ballerina — brilliant ballplayer — excellent constructive player. He has played professional soccer since 16 years old. Never stops running. Tremendous shot. Purchased by Aberdeen from Leeds United, for \$45,000.

5. Center Half Tommy McMillan — 6 feet — 175 pounds — very good in the air — excellent tackler — very confident player — distribution is outstanding (passing to other team-mates).

6. Left Halfback — Jens Petersen — 6 feet — Danish player. Wonderful soccer player — tremendous knowledge of the game — plays a defensive role — can attack — cool under pressure — distribution is excellent — very confident.

7. Outside Right — Jim Storie — bought for \$60,000 from Leeds United — very talented ballplayer — 26 years old — has lots of European competition. Played with Leeds United in the European Cup, also played in the English Cup final. Good two-footed player.

8. Inside Right — Jimmy Smith — 19 years old. This is his first season as a pro. He is the type of player you find once in a decade. He has a deceptive body swerve, tremendous control, wonderful proposition. One of the most natural ballplayers I've seen in 20 years.



JIMMY SMITH, Aberdeen's bright young star

9. Center Forward — Dave Johnston — 23 years old — excellent positional player — two-footed player — good speed — tremendous shot with either foot.

10. Inside Left — Harry Melrose — 31 — the most experienced player on the team. Purchased for \$30,000 year and a half ago. Plays deep. He is my Field General. Very astute, uses all his experience. When things get tight or tense, he calms the rest of the team down.

11. Outside Left — Jimmy Wilson — 24 years — purchased for \$37,500 two years ago. Very elusive player — never stands still. Always ready to help a colleague — always in to score — always on the go. Leading goal scorer with 21 goals. For a Wingman this is excellent. Always a threat to score.

12. Fullback/Halfback — Jim Hermiston — Captain of the Second Team — played on First Team several times — very good player — will be a big star shortly.

13. Fullback/Halfback — Martin Buchan — Played on the First Team a number of times — excellent on defense — top player.

14. Forward — Pat Wilson — Member of the starting lineup many times — very fast and direct — always where the action is — excellent player.

15. Forward — Ian Taylor — Very fast — scores a lot of goals — shoots hard and true — good scorer.

16. Forward — Willie Watt — Plays midfield — creates and sets up plays — packs a tremendous shot — cracks them into the net with either foot.

BRIEF HISTORY OF SOCCER

While the origin of soccer is difficult to trace, many historians believe the ancient Greeks started it about 40 A.D., when they developed a game called "Harpaston", or to "hurl forward". The object of this game was to hurl, or hit, or kick, or push the ball over a line, usually located at opposite ends of a town and defended by the opposing team. The game was so rough it was adopted and made a military sport for the training of warriors.

When the Romans came in contact with the Greeks, they immediately adopted the game, improving upon it by introducing the first known inflated ball — an inflated bladder of a freshly killed animal, protected by a light leather cover over it.

The Romans later invaded England and took the game with them — and this, historians claim, was the beginning of soccer.

England eagerly adopted the game and soccer soon became a rough and vigorous free-for-all. Goals placed 2 miles apart; games played in streets from one end of town to another; balls lodged in gutters and rooftops; several hundreds of people taking part — the game lasting all day and into the night.

Soccer was first known in England as "futballe", because it was a game played with the foot, as a method of advancing the ball and also because it was played on

foot and not on horseback.

Historians claim American-style football is English in origin. During a football (soccer) game at Rugby College in England, one of the players decided to pick up the ball and run with it. From that moment on Rugby Football came into being.

Rugby eventually came to the U.S. and soon became known as football. In England the ball must be passed backwards — in the U.S., as you well know, it can be thrown forward.

In 1863 the London Football Association was formed, and it played soccer as a purely kicking game, which was given the name "association football". Later the name was abbreviated to "soccer football", and later still, shortened to just "soccer". (The shorter name "soccer", appears to have originated from the players wearing stockings pulled down below their knees—therefore, "socks").

Soccer was the first kind of football played in the U.S., having started in the American colleges as early as 1830, and is the only kind played in countries other than U.S. and Great Britain.

Regardless of its origin, soccer is the one truly international sport.

It is perhaps the simplest sport for participant and spectator alike to understand and enjoy.

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Soccer Topics



By
ED FITKIN

It's hard to believe that our brief but enjoyable association with the Wolverhampton Wanderers, our own Los Angeles Wolves, terminates tonight. We've got so accustomed to being around them that we fervently wish they could stay on and continue to represent Los Angeles in professional soccer. Unfortunately, they can't. They must return home after tonight's championship game to rest up for a bit, undergo a couple of weeks of training and then take on the cream of England's major league teams in their return to top-flight soccer in their homeland.

★ ★ ★

The Wolves have been a delight to know and to watch in action. We couldn't have had more capable representation. To a man, they were personable, friendly, fun to be with, and crowd-pleasers both on and off the field. Even though they had just completed almost nine months of gruelling competition in England in their spirited and successful bid to return to the First Division, the Wolves seldom let us down. They played to win and they went unbeaten through their first eight games, despite incessant injuries. Their first loss came by a 1-0 score in San Francisco in a game that was completely out of control of the referee and was a rough and ready affair from start to finish. Yet the Wolves proved their mettle in the return game in Los Angeles two nights later, defeating San Francisco's ADO club from Holland, 2-0, to regain sole possession of first place. They clinched the Western Division championship with a 2-all draw in Dallas despite having to play a greater part of the game with only 10 men in 100 degree heat and humidity.

★ ★ ★

To their chagrin, the Wolves had to go from Dallas to Washington to replay a June 20th 1-1 tie with Aberdeen as a result of a protest by the Whips over the illegal use of a third substitute. It was a "nothing" game for the Wolves, but a game Washington had to win to take the Eastern Division title. The Whips (or the Dons, if you prefer) triumphed, 3-0. That result gave the Wolves and Washington a final official tally of 5 wins, 2 losses and 5 ties. It also set the stage for tonight's championship game with the same Aberdeen eleven.

★ ★ ★

Win or lose, the Wolves have given professional soccer a real shot in the arm in Los Angeles. It's regrettable, as I stated earlier, that their stay here has been so brief. Their exciting brand of soccer was starting to bring the fans out in pleasing numbers. Still, they can go back home with the satisfaction that as pioneers of the true major league type of soccer they were excellent in all respects. And I'm sure that all fans who have watched them in action this summer will be following closely their fortunes in the English League from late August to next May.

★ ★ ★

In meeting Aberdeen, the Washington representatives, the Wolves know they are up against a formidable foe in the championship game tonight. "As a matter of fact," Ronnie Allen told us, "they're the best side we've met all season."

Yet, strangely enough, he's pleased that it's Aberdeen the Wolves will be playing. "The game will be far more interesting to the fans than if we had played Stoke City (the Cleveland club) in the final," Ronnie went on. "That's because they play much the same kind of game that we do . . . more offensive, hard-tackling, aggressive."

It should be quite a joust. Whenever the English and Scots get together you can count on an argument or a battle. Maybe both. At least, action. Especially when it's winner-take all tonight.

★ ★ ★

Wolves will be without their captain, Mike Bailey, who was injured in Washington and flew home Wednesday. Young Paddy Buckley also returned home last Saturday. And tomorrow all but Les Wilson will take off on their TWA jet at 11 o'clock in the morning for England. Wilson is going to visit his parents in Vancouver. Eddie Turnbull and his Aberdeen team will fly back to Scotland on Sunday.

They'll take with them a lot of great memories of their first soccer season in the United States and Canada. And they'll leave behind a lot of pleasant memories for all of us who have watched what has been a tremendously interesting experiment in major league soccer. The future looks bright.

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LOS ANGELES WOLVES

(WOLVERHAMPTON OF ENGLAND)

Champions of the U.S.A. Western Division

NO.	PLAYER	POSITION	AGE	HT.	WT.
1	PHIL PARKES	Goal	19	6'3"	190
2	GERRY TAYLOR	Right Back	20	5'10"	166
3	BOBBY THOMSON	Left Back	23	6'	158
4	JOHN HOLSGROVE	Right Half	21	6'2"	175
5	DAVE WOODFIELD	Center Half	23	5'11"	170
6	DAVE BURNSIDE	Left Half	26	5'9"	152
7	TERRY WHARTON	Outside Right	25	5'8"	160
8	ERNIE HUNT	Inside Right	22	5'7"	168
9	DEREK DOUGAN	Center Forward	28	6'3"	175
10	PETER KNOWLES	Inside Left	21	5'11"	160
11	DAVE WAGSTAFFE	Outside Left	23	5'8"	148

RESERVES

	FRED DAVIES	Goal	26	6'	172
14	LES WILSON	Forward	21	5'9"	158
15	ALUN EVANS	Forward	17	5'9"	158

Manager — RONNIE ALLEN

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VEN STARS)

WASHINGTON WHIPS

(ABERDEEN OF SCOTLAND)

Champions of the U.S.A. Eastern Division

NO.	PLAYER	POSITION	AGE	HT.	WT.
1	ROBERT CLARK	Goalkeeper	20	6'1"	170
2	JIM WHYTE	Full Back	21	5'11"	174
3	ALLY SHEWAN	Full Back	26	5'10"	170
4	FRANCIS MUNRO	Half Back	19	6'	176
5	TOMMY McMILLAN	Half Back	21	6'	168
6	JENS PETERSEN	Half Back	24	6'	156
7	JIM STORRIE	Forward	27	5'8½"	156
8	JIMMY SMITH	Forward	19	6'	154
9	DAVE JOHNSTON	Forward	24	5'8"	160
10	HARRY MELROSE	Forward	31	5'7"	150
11	JIMMY WILSON	Forward	24	5'1"	140
12	JIM HERMISTON	Full Back	19	6'	160
13	MARTIN BUCHAN	Forward	18½	5'10"	150
14	PAT WILSON	Forward	20	5'3"	150
15	IAN TAYLOR	Forward	18½	5'2"	146
16	WILLIE WATT	Forward	20	5'9"	152

Manager — EDDIE TURNBULL

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THE LOS ANGELES WOLVES

There was gloom thicker than the proverbial English fog in Wolverhampton three seasons back. The famed Wolves (their actual nickname is Wanderers) had suffered the ignominy of relegation from England's major soccer league, the First Division, to the Second Division.

For the benefit of those unfamiliar with the system used in English soccer, two teams are demoted from the First Division each season and two are promoted from the Second Division as their replacements. For the Wolves, one of the oldest and proudest clubs in England, it was a shocker.

Ernie Hunt, inside right and one of the Wolves leading scorers.

No one knew how long it would take them to fight their way back into the ranks of the elite. The directors were determined to achieve this objective as quickly as possible. The time schedule was set at from three to five years. It took just two.

The advent of Ronnie Allen as manager and coach, and the solid support of Chairman John Ireland, the rest of the directors and the shareholders made this seeming miracle possible. Allen rebuilt the Wolves into a young, hard-tackling aggressive eleven that radiated team spirit. Some sagacious purchases, such as the \$150,000 spent to acquire Derek Dougan, and the introduction of other new blood helped to produce a Wolves' team that quickly proved dynamic.

In the 1966-67, which concluded in early May, the Wolves led the Second Division practically until the final game of the season. Then, crippled by injuries, they went down to defeat and finished one point back of Coventry City. It was a disappointment, but at least they had realized their great ambition: The return to the First Division. And, as everybody agreed at the time, the Wolves are back where they belong.

When Jack Kent Cooke invited them to represent Los Angeles in the United Soccer Association, the Wolverhampton management jumped at the opportunity. "Not only will it be a wonderful reward for the lads for gaining promotion," Manager Allen commented, "but all that wonderful California sunshine will do them good."



The Wolves opened their USA season in Houston's magnificent Astrodome, a place that completely awed them, before almost 35,000 fans. Despite completely dominating play against Bangu of Brazil, it took a goal by Dave Woodfield with one minute and 30 seconds left in the game to enable the Wolves to gain a 1-1 draw.

In their "home" opener in L.A., the Wolves scored a 2-1 victory over the Cerro club of Montevideo, Uruguay, representing New York. Then it was off to Cleveland and Toronto, a week-long trip that featured hot and humid weather and rain. It poured two hours before the game in Cleveland but slackened off and stopped in time for the field to dry and the game to go on. It wound up with Wolves holding English First Division side, Stoke City, to a scoreless tie.

A deluge caused postponement of the scheduled Saturday night game in Toronto until Sunday afternoon. Because of injuries, Manager Allen and reserve goalie Fred Davies were the only subs Wolves could muster and both had to go into the game before it terminated in a 2-1 victory for the L.A. reps.

Glad to be back in California's beautiful weather, the Wolves celebrated with two sparkling performances. They trounced Vancouver (Sunderland of the English First Division) by a 5-1 score and routed Detroit's Irish team from Glentoran 4-1. The next game was in Washington, against Aberdeen of Scotland. It wound up in a 1-1 tie but Washington protested the illegal use of three playing subs (instead of a goalie and two subs) by Manager Allen. The game was later ordered replayed if it had a bearing on first place in either division.

Wolves had trouble at home with the tailend Shamrock Rovers of Eire, Boston's color bearers, managing only 2-2 tie. Their eight-game unbeaten string was snapped in San Francisco when the rugged ADO team of Holland came out on top, 1-0. But injuries to Dave Wagstaffe and Paddy Buckley and persistent fouling in a game that got completely out of control of the referee made it a battle more than a game. The Wolves finished with nine men, ADO with 10.

The largest crowd to see the Wolves play at home, 11,572, turned out for the return game with San Francisco two night later. Wolves proved superior, winning 2-0, to regain sole possession of first place. They clinched the Western Division honors and a place in tonight's championship game by holding Dallas (Dundee United) to a 2-2 tie in 100-degree weather in Dallas and after playing the last 50 minutes with only 10 men. Spectacular goalkeeping by Phil Parkes saved the Wolves.



TERRY WHARTON
Outside Right

PETER KNOWLES
Inside Left

DEREK DOUGAN
Center Forward

Ronnie Allen,
*manager and coach
of the Wolves,
scored 365 goals
during his career
with Port Vale,
West Bromwich
and Crystal Palace.
He took over
the Wolves in
1966-67.*



Because Washington still could win the Eastern Division, the protested June 20th game was ordered replayed last Monday. It was a "nothing" game for the Wolves but they battled stubbornly against the "hopped-up" Scots before going down to a 3-0 defeat.

Tonight, against the same team, Wolves will try to bring Los Angeles the first USA championship. They'll be without team captain, Mike Bailey, and diminutive Paddy Buckley, both of whom have returned to England because of injuries. Another who helped greatly in the early games, Harry Hawkins, went home to get married. But all the rest are rarin' to go and here are the Wolves who will be in action tonight:

Phil Parkes: Six-foot-three, 19-year-old West Bromwich boy. Took over as the Wolves' regular goalkeeper last Christmas and played integral role in their successful bid for promotion to the English League First Division. Known as "Lofty" to his mates, Phil is regarded as one of the future great goalies of British soccer.

Gerry Taylor: Right Fullback, 20, 5-feet-10. Hard tackling player who graduated to the Wolves from their youth, junior and Central League teams. He won a regular job last Christmas and is considered one of the team's most promising young players. Is a native of Hull.

Bobby Thomson: Left Fullback, 23, six feet tall. One of the fastest-moving backs in England, Bobby won six full England "caps" (international honors) before he was 21. Was a member of the Wolves first team while still playing for the F.A. Youth Cup side. Made his debut in 1962 and has since played more than 200 games for the club. Was a regular England under-23 international and captain of the team.

John Holsgrove: Right Half, 21, six-feet-two. He was the Wolves' first big signing when they started rebuilding their team after demotion from the First Division in the 1964-65 season. Acquired from Crystal Palace, he has developed into one of the most reliable halfbacks in the game. Outstanding "shadow" man and authoritative "sweeper" on defense.

continued on next page

THE WOLVES continued

Dave Woodfield: Center Half, 23, 5-feet-11. Won a first-team berth with Wolves in 1962 and has played regularly ever since, mostly at center half, occasionally at center forward. One of Wolves most consistent players. "Dougie", as his mates call him, prevented every center forward from scoring in a league game at the club's home grounds, Molineux Park, last season.

Terry Wharton: Outside Right, 25, 5-feet-8. Son of Jackie Wharton, former Manchester City winger, Terry has earned a reputation as one of the hardest shots in English soccer and has a lot of goals to show for it in the five years since he got his chance to play with the first team. A native of Bolton, Terry has been with the Wolves since he was 16.

Dave Wagstaffe: Outside Left, 23, 5-feet-8. "Waggy" is the potential super-star of the Wolves, a flashy, swift and skillful winger who can lift a crowd whenever he fastens onto the ball and starts one of his brilliant goalward bursts. His control of the ball at high speed is amazing and his centering passes are invariably on target. Wolves acquired him from Manchester City in 1964 and he is now rated as one of the finest left wingers in the game.



PHIL PARKES
Goal



ERNIE HUNT
Inside Right



DAVE WAGSTAFFE
Outside Left

Peter Knowles: Inside Left, 21, 5-feet-11. One of the teen-age favorites in Wolverhampton (and Los Angeles), Peter has all the requisites to become a top star in British soccer. Made his debut at 18 with the Wolves in 1963, packs a hard shot, a natural flair for showmanship and considerable talent. His elder brother, Cyril, is a fullback with Tottenham Hotspur.

Dave Burnside: Left Half, 26, 5-feet-9. An experienced all-round performer, amazingly dexterous with the ball. Can play forward or on the halfline with equal skill. Joined Wolves last October and became a regular first team player. Formerly was with West Bromwich, Southampton and Crystal Palace.



GERRY TAYLOR
Right Back



BOBBY THOMSON
Left Back



JOHN HOLSGROVE
Right Half



DAVE WOODFIELD
Halfback



DAVE BURNSIDE
Halfback

Ernie Hunt: Inside Right, 22, 5-feet-7. One of the key players of the club, Ernie was acquired from Swindon in September, 1965, and has been one of the club's top goal scorers. A former England under-23 International, the stocky, busy Hunt is equally proficient offensively and defensively.

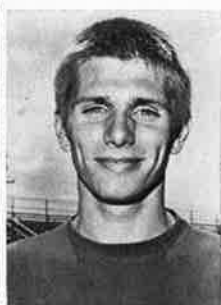
Alun Evans: Forward, 17, 5-feet-9. The "baby" of the Wolves, Evans was born in Kiddersminster, near Wolverhampton, of Welsh parents. Joined Wolves as an apprentice at 15, turned pro last season. Starred in the Central League and for England's under-18 international team in Turkey before making the trip to Los Angeles.



FRED DAVIES
Goal



LES WILSON
Halfback



ALUN EVANS
Forward

Fred Davies: Goalkeeper, 26, 6 feet. Wolves' regular keeper in more than 150 games since replacing Malcolm Finlayson five years ago, the veteran Liverpool-born Davies finally lost his job to young Phil Parkes last Christmas. But he is still a top notch performer whenever called upon, even as a forward. Has ambitions to become a coach like Ronnie Allen.

Les Wilson: Halfback, 21, 5-feet-nine. Born in England, Les was just a tot when his parents moved to Vancouver. He was such a standout in Canadian soccer that he went to Wolverhampton for a trial when he was 17 and was signed. A standout player with the Wolves' Central League team, Les is a fast-moving, versatile player.

Derek Dougan: Center Forward, 28, six-feet-three. "The Doog" cost Wolves \$150,000 last March when they acquired him from Leicester City but it was money well spent. In his Wolverhampton debut, Dougan scored 3 goals and his subsequent scoring sprees played a potent part in the promotion of the team. A rebel Irishman from Belfast, Derek has played for Portsmouth, Aston Villa, Blackburn, Peterborough, Leicester and now the Wolves in his 10 years in soccer.

The Basic Rules of SOCCER

Soccer is not really a difficult game to understand. There are no hidden maneuvers as in football; the ball is always visible to the spectator. The object of the game is to score goals, in other words to propel the ball into the goal cage, which is 24 feet wide and 8 feet high, either by kicking it or "heading" it. The ball cannot be thrown, carried or propelled by the hands or arms of an attacking player across the goal line. And the whole of the ball must be over the line to count as a goal. When a team scores a goal, that's what it is called: a goal. It counts as one goal, just as a run in baseball means one run.



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In league competition throughout world-sanctioned soccer, the winning team gets two points. If a game ends in a tie, the teams each get one point. There are no "bonus points" awarded for each goal a team scores, not under FIFA rules.

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FIFA (soccer people call it FEEFA) is short for Federation de Internationale Football Association and it is the world governing body of soccer. The name "soccer" was derived from the habit of English papers using the abbreviation "Assoc. Football" for Association Football. The game is known as football everywhere but in the United States and Canada where it is called soccer to distinguish it from American and Canadian football.

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There are 11 players on each team. The goalkeeper is the only player who may legally handle the ball. He wears a different colored sweater so that, in the confusion of goalmouth action, he is easily distinguishable as the man entitled to handle the ball. But he can only handle the ball in the area designated as the penalty area — a rectangular boxed area 44 yards by 18 yards. There are two fullbacks protecting him — a right back and a left back. There are three halfbacks, right half, center half and left half. Generally the center half operates as a third fullback. He is one of the key players in the game, both defensively and offensively. His two halfback partners are similarly versatile but are more conspicuous in a game as "feeders". They try to devise the strategy of their team and set up the plays for their forwards.



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Substitution of players has never been permitted in world competition, even for players too injured to continue. It took almost 100 years in England, where the game was developed to its present world status, before the Football Association agreed to permit a substitution for an injured goalkeeper and one other player substitution (during the first half only) of a game. In league play in countries where the heat is excessive, FIFA permits local leagues to use whatever substitution system is deemed necessary.

There are five forwards; outside right (or right wing); inside right, center forward, inside left and outside left (left wing). Their object is to score goals. There are variations of the way the 10 players in front of the goalkeeper are deployed, depending on the type of game a team features. Most teams today use what is known as the 4-2-4 formation: Four forwards, two "feeders" or link-men and four defenders.

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Each game consists of two 45-minute periods called halves with usually a 10 or 15 minute intermission. There are no time-outs. If play is halted because of an injury or other incident, the referee, who is the sole judge of time, is entitled to "add on" extra time if, in his opinion, it is necessary. The referee has complete authority on the field. He is assisted by two linesmen, one on each side of the field. They signal each time the ball goes out of play along the sidelines and indicate which team is entitled to "throw in" the ball. They also signal for offsidess, whether a ball going over the end line (without entering the goal) should be a corner kick for the attackers or a goal kick for the defenders. But, in all cases, the referee has the final decision and on occasion overrules his linesmen.

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To explain some of the terms mentioned:

THROW-IN: When the whole of the ball goes over one of the side lines (called touchlines) it is called "out of touch". To put it back into play, the ball is "thrown in" by a member of the team opposite that which last played the ball over the line. The thrower must face the field of play, have both feet on the ground when releasing the ball, must use both hands and throw the ball from behind and over his head. He cannot play the ball until one of his own or an opposing player has played it. A goal cannot be scored on a direct throw-in. A second contact must be made before the ball enters the goal. If a throw-in is incorrectly taken, the other team is entitled to take the throw-in.



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GOAL KICK: When the whole of the ball goes over the end line (without entering the net) and is last played by a member of the attacking team, the referee awards a goal kick to the defending team. The ball must be placed at either the left or right corner of the goal area, depending on which side the ball went out of play, and it can be kicked by either the goalkeeper or a fullback. Many times a goalkeeper will tap the ball to a player outside the penalty area and he, in turn, will tap it back to the goalkeeper who then picks it up and either punts it downfield or throws it to one of his players upfield.

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CORNER KICK: When the whole of the ball goes over the end line (without entering the net) and was last touched by a defending player, the referee awards a corner kick to the attacking side. The ball is placed in the one-yard arc (marked by a flag) in the corner of the field nearest to where the ball was last played. One of the attacking players takes the kick and a goal may be scored on a direct corner kick without any other player playing it.

continued on next page

The Basic Rules of SOCCER

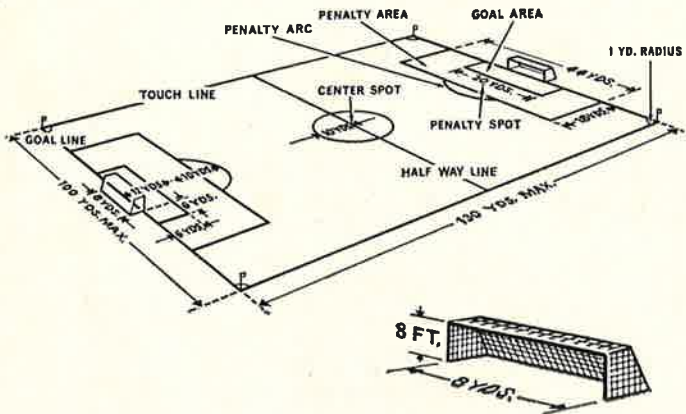
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PENALTY KICK: When an attacking player is fouled in the rectangular penalty area (which is marked by white lines and is 44 yards x 18 yards and is called the 18-yard area) the referee may award what is called a penalty kick. This is a direct shot by one of the attacking players from a spot 12 yards from the goal. All other players must stand outside the penalty area and be 10 yards from the ball. This is the sole reason for the arc at the front edge of the penalty area. It measures 10 yards from the penalty spot but is not part of the penalty area. On a penalty kick, the goalkeeper cannot move until the ball is kicked.



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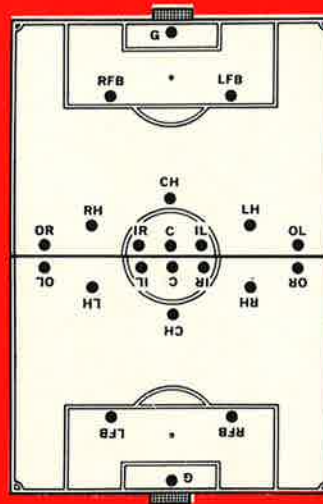
FREE KICKS: There are two types — direct and indirect — which the referee awards as a result of intentional or technical fouls. A **direct free kick** is awarded for such intentional fouls as tripping, kicking, holding, striking or attempting to strike an opponent, pushing, jumping at an opponent, handling the ball, charging violently or charging from behind.



A goal can be scored on a direct free kick. An **indirect free kick** is awarded for technical offenses and a goal cannot be scored unless it has been played by another player. Some of the fouls in this category are called when a goalkeeper carries the ball more than four steps without bouncing it on the ground, when a player intentionally obstructs an opponent without trying to play the ball, for offsidess called by the referee, ungentlemanly conduct such as using abusive language to officials or other players, for persistently infringing the rules or disputing the referee's decisions. Usually a referee signals an indirect free kick by raising his arm over his head.

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OFFSIDE: This is easily the most controversial rule in soccer. It is best explained by saying that an attacker is offside unless there are two defending players between himself and the goal at the time the ball is played to him. He is not offside if he is behind the ball when it is played to him, if the ball last touched an opponent, or if he is in his own half of the field. It is important to remember that it is the position of the receiving player when the ball was kicked to him and not the position where he receives the ball that decides whether or not the receiver is offside. There is no offside on corner kicks, throw-ins, or goal kicks.



The Players

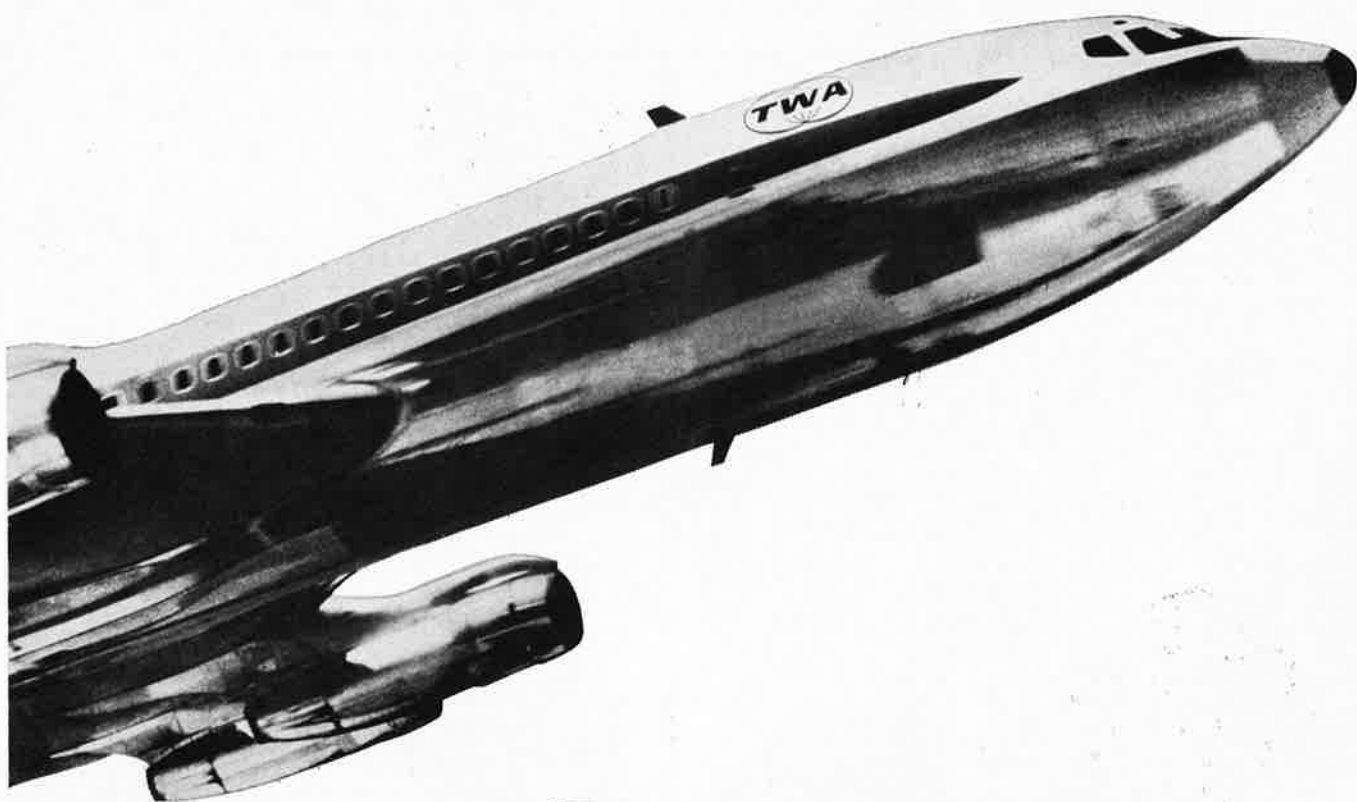
- G GOALIE
- RFB RIGHT FULL BACK
- LFB LEFT FULL BACK
- CH CENTER HALF
- RH RIGHT HALF BACK
- LH LEFT HALF BACK
- OR OUTSIDE RIGHT
- IR INSIDE RIGHT
- C CENTER FORWARD
- IL INSIDE LEFT
- OL OUTSIDE LEFT

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