



By George Stavroulakis

**Bonnyrigg White Eagles have stunned league leaders Sydney Olympic with a shock 1-0 upset at Bonnyrigg Sports Ground on Saturday.**

## Bonnyrigg White Eagles - Sydney Olympic 1-0

**A 77th** minute strike by Bonnyrigg fan favourite Tynan Diaz in his first game back after a two month injury layoff helped snatch the surprise win and inflict Olympic's first defeat in 10 weeks.

**Olympic struggled** to get into gear on a difficult Bonnyrigg pitch and the home side took full advantage.

**Both sides** had their fair share of chances but it was the fast finishing White Eagles who had too much momentum to stop.

**The result** opens the door for APIA Leichhardt Tigers to cut Olympic's three point lead at the top of the standings while it has also brought Bonnyrigg back into finals contention.

**Dean Bereveskos** had the first chance of the game for Bonnyrigg, stinging the palms of Henderson with a powerful effort.

**The home** side went forward again, this time Ray Miller crossing for James McKenzie who should've hit the target with his header.

**On 12** minutes James Chronopolous was called into action, saving well from a George Timotheu free kick.

**A minute** later and Olympic should've hit the front.

**Riley Woodcock** crossed early for Alejandro Sanchez whose header went inches wide of the White Eagles' goal.

**It was** the end of the night for Olympic's star man Sanchez as he went off with an injury on the half hour mark.

**The tense** game was almost broken in the 63rd minute by Nick Tsattalios and despite hitting the back of the net, his effort was chalked off for an off side.

**Only a** minute later and the home side should've had the lead.

**After a** long lay off, Diaz was back in Bonnyrigg colours, crossing in a free kick to the far post.

**Four Bonnyrigg** players rushed at the ball with David Vrankovic not able to connect with what would've been a certain goal.

**Tsattalios had** another chance getting up at the far post



but he couldn't head the ball on target.

**White Eagles'** captain Ray Miller played a fantastic ball through for Diaz who tried to beat his defender before shooting wide of Henderson's goal.

**Diaz was** in the mood and went close again in the 76th minute after a head down by Jae Wook Woo, only for his left footed strike to go wide.

**The White** Eagles winger was rewarded for his efforts in the 77th minute with a well-placed header.

**Korean import** Woo rose well again as Diaz ran onto the ball and headed beyond Henderson to send the home fans into hysterics.

**Olympic pushed** everyone forward for the final kick of the game from the corner but to no avail as the White Eagles celebrated a vital win.

**Brian Brown** couldn't be happier with his team's victory. **"It was** a must-do, playing the team on the top of the table wasn't going to be easy but I think we just battled and worked hard," Brown said.

**"In the** second half we had a couple other chances that would've made it easier but I'm just happy with the win."

**The White** Eagles move just outside the finals places but

Brown is focused on the next job at hand.

**"I just** want to have a nice glass of red wine tonight, think about Wednesday's FFA Cup clash and then get ready for next week's game," he said.

**Abbas Saad** was disappointed with the surface at Bonnyrigg Sports Ground.

**"What else** can you do on this pitch but battle, you can't play football," Saad said.

**"I'm proud** of my boys, they fought hard and tried to play football.

**"The surface** was unplayable."

**He also** praised the opposition on their performance.

**"Credit to** Bonnyrigg, their will power. They're desperate and they gave everything," he said.

### Match Stats

**Bonnyrigg White** Eagles 1 (Diaz 77')

**Sydney Olympic** 0

**Bonnyrigg Sports Ground**, Bonnyrigg

**Saturday, May 26, 2018**

**Referee:** T. Danaskos

**Assistant referees:** A. Giev, N. Wotton

**Fourth Official:** J. Mcfarlane

**Bonnyrigg White** Eagles: 1. Chronopolous, 10. Adeli (3. Vrankovic 57'), 12. Bereveskos, 13. McKenzie, 14. Smith, 15. Miller (2. Avery 83'), 16. Gallaway, 17. O'Rourke, 18. Gil, 20. Tosi (7. Diaz 58'), Woo.

**Substitutes not** used: 21. Bradasevic, 11. Kadric.

**Yellow card:** McKenzie, Gallaway, O'Rourke

**Sydney Olympic:** 1. Henderson, 2. Whiteside, 4. Timotheu, 6. Kuleski, 7. Angel, 8. Madonis, 9. Pavicevic (19. D. Burgess 53'), 10. M. Burgess, 11. An, 14. Sanchez (33. Tsattalios 31'), 23. Woodcock.

**Substitutes not** used: 20. Consoni, 18. Hooper, 21. Athanastis.

**Yellow cards:** Angel, Whiteside

## Jedinak.. back to A-League?

**Mile Jedinak** won't be playing in the Premier League next season with Aston Villa after his side went down 1-0 to Fulham in the Championship playoff final at Wembley.

**Villa were** seeking a return back to the top flight after suffering relegation in 2016. **But it** wasn't to be with the Cottagers securing the final promotion place and ending their four-year exile from the Premier League.

**A first** half goal from Thomas Cairney was enough to get them back up.

**Jedinak started** in midfield for Villa.

**Fulham took** the lead on 22 minutes when

Cairney struck after a delightful pass from Ryan Sessegnon. The London club dominated the first half with 61% possession and seven shots to Villa's two.

**But the** Villans improved in the second half and created a number of chances through Jack Grealish.

**In the** 69th minute Fulham's Denis Odoi was sent off, after receiving a second yellow card for kicking Grealish.

**With 13** minutes left Jedinak was replaced by Josh Onomah.

**However, Fulham** withstood the barrage and with 10 men held on to clinch promotion.

