

Poised for the big kick-off. It's still five weeks away but this long line of Orient hopefuls wasted no time getting down to work when they reported for training on Monday.



Welcome to the new boys. Dave Sexton, second from right, greets new signings, left to right, Adrian Thorne, Peter Allen and Vic Rouse at the ground on Monday.

Snap-'em-up Dave keeps on looking

DAVE SEXTON—the manager with the bargain counter magic—hopes to sign at least two more players for Leyton Orient before the start of the season—a wing-half and an inside-forward.

Sexton snapped up goal-keeper **Vic Rouse** on a free transfer from Oxford on Monday to bring his total of new captures to seven.

Rouse joins goal-scoring forward **Adrian Thorne**, **Tony Nicholas**, **Gordon Ferry**, **Peter Allen**, **Paul Went** and **Colin Platt** on the Brisbane-road payroll.

Total cost—£1,000, the fee paid to Wisbech for Platt! Thorne, 27, signed for O.s on Friday on a "free" from Exe'er.

SOCCER ROUND-UP by TREVOR BOND

He was formerly with Brighton. Allen had a trial with O.s last season and satisfied Sexton. And the signing of Welsh international Rouse to contest the goal-keeping spot with man-in-possession, Reg Davies ends Sexton's interest in Barking boy John Dunn, currently priced highly on Chelsea's transfer list.

O.s professional list now stands at 22. Wing half cover is a need, especially with **Dennis Sorrell** suspended for the opening three games. Luton's free-rated **Dennis Pacey** is still a possibility.

Former Barking half back **John Leedham**, who turned pro with Millwall and skittered Walsall last season is on a month's trial. But the £20,000 tag Luton still hangs round the neck of scoring **Johnny O'Rourke** may price him out of Orient's reach.

Orient started training at their new centre, the Old Monovians sports ground in Roding-lane, on Monday. They face two weeks commando-style training before beginning a hectic three-week match build-up to the new season.

NEW BROOM

Dave's "we'll-play-anyone" programme already includes games against League clubs Brighton and Watford, schools teams—and a fruit market barrow boys—and a mental hospital!

Sexton's new broom is really sweeping through the Orient corridors. A new playing strip, natty striped training knickers and track suits that make the Orient boys look ten feet tall are all part of the new image.

A team for the opening game is already taking shape—and it will contain surprises. **Dave Forsyth**—

"He's a talented player and won't leave in the reserves," says Sexton—is booked for a right back berth with **Dave Webb** switching to the left and **Colin Worrall** filling Sorrell's spot.

The wingers? Probably **Harry Gregory** in a direct role and **Dave Metchick** in a roving commission. **Nicholas** and **Platt** look certain starters up front with **Colin Shaw**, **Thorne**, **Jimmy Scott** and new boy **Allen** all challenging.

Ron Heckman has been appointed manager of Bedford Town on a part-time basis.



DAVID METCHICK moved to Leyton Orient from First Division Fulham earlier this year.



MEL LUCAS Orient were forced to sell him.



JOHN SMITH Orient inside-left.

Dave set to sign Exeter goal star

LEYTON ORIENT manager Dave Sexton may this week sign Exeter's free-scoring winger **Adrian Thorne** on a free transfer from the Fourth Division club.

And if Thorne signs it could prove that patience is well rewarded for shrewd Dave.

When he originally asked Exeter about the talented Thorne they wanted £5,000 for him. Then his fee dropped to £3,000.

But now he is on the "free" list and has arranged to see Sexton this week to talk over a possible deal.

Dave is also contacting Chelsea chief **Tommy Docherty** this week and will talk over the transfer of teenager **John Dunn**.



HARRIS



Dave Sexton

Dave learns

Leyton Orient manager Dave Sexton said he found his week long coaching course under Milan chief **Helenio Herrera** "very useful."

"I've been attending these courses ever since I came into football and I always find something can be learned from them," said Dave.

Orient have two trials at Brisbane-road. The first is against Watford on August 14 and the next against Brighton on the 17th.

Dave Sexton has signed 18-year-old Brighton schoolboy star **Peter Allen** on professional terms.



PAUL WENT—Orient's 15-year-old discovery keeps his place at wing-half.

Hyde tells O's: I stay at Hendon

BRILLIANT Hendon amateur centre-forward **Dave Hyde** has told Leyton Orient: "I'm not turning professional."

And so manager Dave Sexton's long bid to sign the English international has ended.

Hyde, who lives in Woodford Bridge, broke his leg in



Hyde—declined

the second match of Hendon's Spanish tour.

It happened while playing against Scottish professionals Stirling Albion. But fortunately the damage wasn't serious. It was only a small bone broken at the back of his left shin.

This didn't alter his decision not to sign for O's.

Hyde said that through Hendon he had got a good job as a company representative and would be foolish to give it up.

But there may be some compensation for Orient. Hyde says he is going to approach Sexton and sign amateur forms.