

# HOLTON GOAL AND ORIENT HOLD OUT

Leyton Orient 1, Swansea 0.

By Bernard Callaghan

**NO** bouquets came from the meagre crowd of 3,950 for this win which took Orient a precious step nearer the more comfortable heights of the Division III table.

Disgruntled spectators streamed from the Brisbane-road ground feeling shabbily rewarded for the effort of turning out on a cold, wet, miserable afternoon.

The "Talk" in the match programme said that terrace fans were privileged to express either disgust or delight at entertainment they had paid for. There were more jeers for the way in which Orient played.

The game was as uninspiring to fans as the waterlogged pitch must have been to the players.

There was little to delight anyone with this display. Neither was there any evidence of a new look Orient. The dash and boldness which had been features of the last three games was sadly absent.

But it was also true that the team had taken part in two tough matches during the preceding week and players were showing traces of weariness.

The crowd was perhaps a little unfair to condemn Orient for failing to dish up "picture" football, in a desperate, foot-of-the-table battle in conditions which can only be described as atrocious.

The only real moments which provided anything to enthuse over were some excellent defence-splitting runs by winger Terry Price, patches of good constructive football from John Smith, and, of course, Cliff Holton's 30th minute goal.

## Opportunism

Holton, leading the attack in the first half, looked uncomfortable against the first-time tackling of Swansea's defenders. But, when his goal did come, it was executed in a flash of sparkling opportunism.

Terry Price sent in a long ball from the right and it bounced awkwardly in front of Holton, whose back was to the goal—eight yards away. Unable to manoeuvre for a shot in time to escape oncoming defenders, Holton hooked the ball over his head to send it past an unsuspecting Heyes in the Swansea goal.

With the exception of a couple of good efforts by Price, the Swansea goal area was never again really threatened.

In the second half Holton dropped back to help stem a succession of Swansea attacks, leaving lone forward, O'Brien, to plod about unhappily in the mud.

The old master Allchurch was effectively marked for most of the game by Dennis Sorrell. He was still able to create men-

acing situations for Orient, ambling always into an intelligent position as if daring his guard to leave him free for an odd spell.

When he did slip the leash his long, floated, accurate passes were a lesson that not only his colleagues but Orient, too, would have done well to copy.

As it was, the Orient players never really gave themselves room to work in. They remained bunched together and their poor close-range passing more often than not enabled the opposition to burst forward.

Criticism, however, cannot replace the fact that Orient won two points, which on balance of play they deserved. Perhaps better football will come when the players find they are in a safer league position.

**Leyton Orient:** Willis, Sorrell, Forsyth, Went, Whitehouse, Bradbury, Price, O'Brien, Holton, Metchick, Smith, sub: Goodgame.

**Swansea:** Heyes, Goversall, Evans, Jones, Purcell, Hughes, Humphries, Williams, Todd, Allchurch, Evans.

## Youth has its fling

Aldershot Reserves 4.

Orient Reserves 0.

**WHILE** Leyton Orient were qualifying for the second round of the London Challenge Cup at Brisbane-road with a shock win over West Ham, the O's also had a reserve team on duty.

The Orient's playing strength was so depleted that seven apprentices—ages ranging from 15 to 17—were included in Monday's Mid-week League fixture at Aldershot.

Aldershot won by four clear goals but the game provided valuable experience for Orient's youngsters and fitted snugly into manager Dick Graham's youth policy.

**Orient Reserves:** Bowell, Jones, Fry, Ackerman, Ferry, Brisley, Farmer, Common, Vancoeverden, Woodward, Wigg.



Orient's inside forward George O'Brien loses this duel in the air with Swansea centre-half Brian Purcell.

## Cup shock for Hammers

Leyton Orient 1, West Ham United 0.

**UNPREDICTABLE** Orient left their league worries in the dressing room to produce one of the biggest shocks of the London Challenge Cup first round on Monday night.

They outpaced — and for long spells outclassed — a West Ham side which included nine men with first team experience. (writes Bernard Callaghan.)

Dick Le Flem on the left wing showed his team mates how the drilled, but open West Ham defence could be penetrated by swift cut-and-thrust attacks.

## Thrills

His fellow forwards, Price, Sorrell and Billy Carter copied his terrier tactics and Jack Burkett and Eddie Pressland—the Hammers' full backs were kept at full stretch.

There were more thrills in the game than have been seen at Brisbane-road this season. When West Ham did emerge on the offensive they did so beautifully, swinging the ball accu-

rately to the far reaches of the ground from player to player.

But the stirring stuff came from Orient and in the opening stages of the second half they began an onslaught which just had to end in a goal.

In the space of five minutes, Mackleworth, the West Ham keeper, dealt brilliantly with a barrage of shots peppered at him by Bradbury, Went, Smith and Sorrell.

In the 62nd minute a powerful 30-yard Sorrell drive struck the crossbar and spun into the goalmouth. Price was immediately on the spot to bundle the ball in the net.

Orient's win was well deserved but a costly one. Paul Went was carried off the field in the 80th minute with a leg injury.

**Orient:** Rouse, Jones, Smith, Went, Bradbury, Goodgame, Price, Sorrell, Forsyth, Carter, LeFlem. Sub.: Whitehouse.

**West Ham:** Mackleworth, Pressland, Burkett, Bovington, Bickles, Dawkins, Redknapp, Bennett, Hartley, Sealey, Howe.



Swansea goalkeeper George Heyes—until recently understudy to Banks at Leicester City—leaps far too late to stop Holton's unexpected overhead kick from scoring the game's only goal.

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**Cliff Holton... Derek Dooley...**

48 in 1959-60

46 in 1951-52