

# Orient Sack Gore



**LES GORE**  
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**THE sacking of Les Gore this week was the latest and most significant episode in the blitz of shocks fired from the Leyton Orient headquarters in the last seven days.**

From the debris, manager Dick Graham emerges as a single-minded, iron-willed man determined that no one will be allowed to interfere with his bid to restore Orient to a solid, secure footing.

On top of transfer listing six of the Club's most experienced players, Graham has parted with groundman Jack Tonner, trainer Dave Clark and youth chief, Gore.

Tonner and Clark left the club after disagreements with the manager and Gore has been dispensed with after a conflict involving club policy.

Graham has stressed that parting with the players has become necessary to ease the wage bill. But trainer Dave Clark at least will have to be replaced.

For last Monday night's fixture at Colchester Graham had to borrow the services of a Charlton FC trainer.

## Shattered

The life of Les Gore has been tied up with the Club for 16 seasons. During that period he stepped into the breach six times as caretaker manager after team bosses had left the club.

Gore told *Sportscope* on Wednesday: "My loyalty to Leyton Orient has always been 100 per cent in the last 16 years. When Graham went into hospital for an operation he put Whitehouse and Helton in charge of the club. I have been under the assumption that I was assistant manager. This put me in a strange situation."

Gore, who is 52, said his dismissal was a "shock" but he hoped to find another place in football.

Gore may take over the management of Lincoln City. He has been offered the post — vacated by Bill Anderson — and is understood to be giving it serious consideration. He travelled to Lincoln on Wednesday to meet the club directors and watch the team play. Crew.

Dave Clark, the club's trainer, told *Sportscope* this week that his

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whole faith in football had been shattered.

"It seems incredible to me that a person can give of his best to a Club for five years and then be turned away," he said.

Clark, who is now 27, played for Orient at centre-half in three divisions of the English League before becoming Club trainer last year.

Looking at the warped and scarred leg he twice broke in club matches, he said: "Specialists say I will never play again. At the moment it looks as if my football career is over. I thought the world of Orient, and still do."

Clark said he left the Club after a "misunderstanding" with Graham. He admitted himself that he had refused to turn out for evening youth practices twice last week.

"I must point out that I had been working 60 hours a week for the Club," he said. "Trouble had been brewing for some time and last week I felt I could take no more. You could say there was a clash of personalities."

## Leyton schoolboy

Clark was a local football product. He went to Goodall-road School and played for Leyton Schoolboys and Leyton Youth team. He signed professional terms with the Orient in 1961 after a spell as amateur with Wolverhampton Wanderers and assisting Athenians Leyton in several games.

He said he had received two offers of jobs outside football. "I am seriously considering these," he added.



**DAVE CLARK**  
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There's plenty of experience in the present Folkestone team. Goalkeeper Albert Cochran has played for Leyton Orient and Plymouth. Right-back Alan Russell also played for Orient, while Bobby Bell, his partner, is the former Watford player.

Centre-half Bill Patrick played League football for Coventry and Gillingham, and wing-halves George Catleugh and Ron Peplow were with Watford and Brentford respectively.

Centre-forward Tony Biggs is the ex-Arsenal and Orient leader, right-winger Jeff Ireland played for Spurs and Shrewsbury, and left-winger Roland Legate was with Luton.