

MAGNIFICENT MASSEY STARS IN FIRST WIN

By Jack Steggle

ORIENT 2, WALSHALL 0

BARGAIN buy Roy Massey endeared himself to Orient's faithful, rain-soaked supporters at Brisbane Road on Monday night as he played a major role in O's first win of the season.

The gangling Massey, revelling in the greasy conditions, led the Walsall defence a merry dance and was always prowling ready to pounce on, and punish any defensive error.

He laid on Orient's first goal for Mick Jones, went near with a couple of snap shots and had the crowd chanting "Massey for England" every time he was on the ball.

In the second half, when Orient slipped from their earlier high standard, Massey found himself caught offside several times—because the ball was not played up to him quickly enough.

For the first time this season the breaks were with Orient. In the seventh minute Walsall inside-left Jim McMorran was sent off for kicking at Owen Simpson and late in the first half—with Ray Goddard beaten for the only time in the match—Bert Howe was on hand to head off the line.

NUGGED

McMorran has only himself to blame for making an early exit from the game. Simpson nudged him as they tussled for the ball near the touchline and referee John Osborne (Ipswich) awarded the Midlanders a free-kick. Then, without warning, McMorran turned on Simpson and kicked out angrily—leaving the man in black with no alternative

marking job on dangerous inside-forward Allan Baker, who got little chance to display his talents and wingers Alec Jackson and Colin Taylor were well contained.

In an Orient defence that covered remarkably well, Vic Halom and Brian Wood caught the eye. Wood was at his dominating best but blotted his copy-book by having his name taken midway through the first half for a foul on Jackson.

EXPOSED

Left exposed, Wood was forced to body check the Walsall winger to arrest his progress—more of a tactical foul than a vicious one.

After swarming round the Walsall goal and going near on several occasions, Orient finally took the lead in the 39th minute.

Evans cut off a low cross from the hard working Tommy

Anderson and Ball came out to take a pass back. But as Evans hesitated Massey nipped in to turn the ball back for Mick JONES to fire a low left footer into the net.

Five minutes later Orient struck again. Barry Fry despatched a glorious low pass across field to the lurking Brian WHITEHOUSE, who turned inside Gregg and let fly a left footer from 25 yards that skipped into the net off the head of skipper Terry Simpson.

Walsall played well in spasms, despite being a man short. But Orient were in no mood to surrender their two goal advantage and held on for a deserved victory.

Orient: Goddard 7, Howe 6, Wood 8, Simpson 6, Halom 8, Werge 7, Jones 6, Whitehouse 6, Anderson 7, MASSEY 9, Fry 7.

Walsall: Ball, Gregg, Evans, Simpson, Bennett, Atthey, Jackson, Baker, Murray, McMorran, Taylor.



Walsall defenders Gregg (No. 2) and Simpson (4) move to cover a shot from Orient's Mick Jones (far right).

FLARE-UP AS ORIENT GRAB FIRST VICTORY

Orient 2, Walsall 0

ORIENT won their first match of the season last night and Jimmy McMorran of Walsall became the twelfth man to be sent off this season.

He got his marching orders in only the fifth minute of this rain-lashed match at Brisbane Road. Orient's two fine first half goals then proved too much for Walsall's ten men to pull back, writes Nigel Clarke.

McMorran clashed violently with Orient's Bert Howe on the far touchline, appeared to kick out at him and was promptly ordered off by referee John Osborne of Ipswich.

Minutes after this, Walsall manager Ray Shaw and trainer Arthur Cox left their seats to stand on the touchline shouting and protesting as Orient vigorously got on with their hunt for two points.

Big Brian Wood was the next in trouble. The Orient man was booked after badly body-checking Walsall's Alec Jackson.

Then in the 38th minute, Orient went ahead.

Beaten

Fine work by Roy Massey took him into the Walsall box. He pulled the ball back for Mick Jones to hit a fine goal from twelve yards.

Both full backs, Frank Gregg and Mick Evans, were guarding the goal, but the pace beat them.

Six minutes later Orient got another, a lucky but vital goal.

There seemed no danger when Brian Whitehouse made progress through the middle. Then from thirty yards he hit a fierce drive that clipped Walsall's Terry Simpson and was diverted away from goalkeeper Keith Ball.



Walsall goalkeeper Keith Ball is beaten as a long shot from Brian Whitehouse flashes home for Orient's second goal in their 2-0 home win last night.