

PRE mathematics are supposed to tell us everything we need to know. Figures, however, do not reveal the full story of Third Division Orient, who missed relegation to Division IV by three points and goal average last season.

There are five in football who will not agree that Dick Graham inspired his players to grab five points out of six over the Easter period, the start of a revival which kept the team out of even more trouble than they were at the time.

Some are inclined to the view that one season in Division 4 spoiled Graham, others complain the club should have done a great deal more to build up their playing strength at the time. Last Christmas Orient faced a crisis. A Sunday meeting was held in the team stand at Brookside Road.

The club needed support and it needed it quickly. A booklet sent by the trainer was passed round the gathered parties for a collection. This and a number of other offers enabled the club to continue.

No business liked to see the pitches re-laid to the world. It was an unhappy time for Dick Graham and many companions who were asked to give up their playing side by his 113 players.

There is no sports side in the London Combination and a decent or no appearance and the club held a start in the London Combination in the autumn.

None of this sounds like a disaster. Yet Graham and his men are sitting out in a park they know to be tough and rough. All they ask for is a little time and a little support.

Many things tend to make affairs brighter at Brookside Road. Nowadays to say almost any move would have been generally for the best. Except the most obvious one. Dick Graham had one player others wanted, although he knew it he could hang on to him the team must have a better opportunity.

But hard cash rules the world. Paul West had to go. He didn't want to leave. Graham and he were friends to Charles. The fee was a 150-sterling for Orient. They were able to sort out the bookie's title.

Dick Graham looks pleased when you talk about young West, looking west toward his better days. But the club had to come first. Graham can risk money in the last few weeks. There is no wonder the manager shakes into the dressing-room after each match to check on his players' shoes. With two games a week in the early stages, Graham has to be sure of the best of three sets of usual importance to goals and points.

Graham reached around the Home Counties before the season began, playing amateurs and professional alike in an effort to keep his staff. "A couple are



practise matches was all we need to get in my playing days," he says, shaking back to the time he kept goal for Crystal Palace, a club which he helped start in Division II later when he took over the managerial shirt.

They are not down on the mouth at Brookside Road. The careful state of the pitch from late October onwards was a cause of indignation. During the summer it has been re-laid and resown over from home and a League programme which uses the club of items only few ground will not be over-employed. It has the chance to work. Money and Graham hope his team will also in this period.

Other things have changed a little. The club has built

All-change at Orient

and "Clapnet" behind. They are new plain Orient. The club office has been re-laid and there is lunch meat for all to observe. In the future, a new supporters' club building is planned behind the goal at the Recreation Grounds.

Approval is sought from the local authorities for a comprehensive extension to cost around £2,000.

The playing staff comprised with 12 months ago has changed considerably. But Peter Allen, Mick Jones, Ben Willis and Terry Price remain. The Palace and Charlton trio, Brian Wood, Brian Whitehouse and Ben Howe, some alongside their old club. Cliff Hobbs, a veteran by any standards, is still capable of 25-year-old physicality. John Sandden (general A2) failed in his attempt to secure Guyanese football and Graham was glad to take him back into the fold. Ray Goodland is the reserve keeper and Tommy Anderson (goal-keeper) also two years in South Africa, is nearing the end of a month's trial.

In their new all-red strip, Dick Graham feels he has done all he can to inspire confidence. I asked him if he would attempt to pick up points at the start of an effort on an even course. "It would be nice," he said. "We shall not play defensively away and hope for a draw. I don't see how you can play for a draw. You can play for you don't lose, but that's a different matter."

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Orient switch pays win bonus

ORIENT 1, BURY 0

A LAST-MINUTE change of plan by manager Dick Graham brought Brian Wood into the Orient side on Saturday—and he justified his selection by hitting the winning goal.

"I originally planned to leave Brian out for this one," explained Graham after Orient's third successive home win.

"But just before the kick-off I decided to put a search and put Wood in instead of Vic Heston—and it worked well."

Wood finished the score for Orient late in the game. An Orient triumph was headed on to him and WOOD added a crisp first time shot into the net. Birmingham

Bury finished about the best they did since the end of Brian Wood's last year. They using the half ahead advantage and broke from defence with lightning speed.

But a failure to control their impulses proved their undoing and Pauling in his last throw getting his marauding defence in the last minute.

By Jack Steggle

Despite their marked out of the game by assistant Dave Hines—who had a 50-yard game in his own half already scored brightly after hitting the opening leg at Ray Goodland's.

Alan has only had one line the referee's approval, he has not all the praise with the man in black.

Friday's Sunday programme, Bobby Clarke also spent the home crowd with his points and dominated the first half of the match—striking kick on Peter Allen—much was remembered.

Again there are Orient came from the classic Greg Egan—who split some good work by

holding the ball too long and allowing Orient's defence to form to its back line.

George Jones did some scoring running and was unafraid with a cracking shot on the run that rebounded against the bar.

Ray looked more like a young player than he is. He and Brian looked more like young players.

Tony Mitchell—leaving the No. 3 has been starting as from away the start by Ray Mayne in the first. Mitchell has looked and Rutherford got down to another the target.

Ray's split keeper proved he worth taking to a margin in the first half. The keeper took the last penalty.

He was on the spot to take a header. The ball then stretched into a wonder goal when the egg inside his shirt got all the looked a goal all the way.

Each without Dennis had looked dangerous and Orient who made it sure to hang on to their lead.

Orient: Gooding 7, Jones 6, Hunt 6, Allen 7, Mitchell 7, Mayne 7, Thomas 8, Simpson 8, Ray 8, Rutherford, Parnell, Turner, Kinn, Turner, 4, Heston, Owen, Thomson, Jones, Clarke.



DICK GRAHAM
Wary of injuries.

SEVEN MORE FOR COLTS

SOUTH EAST COUNTRIES LEAGUE
Fulham 8, Orient 7

Orient—who hit nine goals in Fulham's week earlier—took their later against the West Londoners to 18 in seven days with the homecoming at Craven Cottage on Saturday.

The Whites Road Whites were to control both the start and half-way at the interval.

Fulham appeared to control after the break and although they made no impression on Craven to the end of the game.

Fulham: FARMHOUSE 2, FOST, TAYLOR, MOSS, AVILL, KILL.

GRAHAM'S BRAVES SWING IT

By Bob Marley

Orient 3, Petersboro 3
THERE WERE JOE 20 minutes of calm, untroubled work by Peterborough. They were destroyed, a long, dogged run by Hanson led to a neat goal by Simpson, and Orient became happy.

The homecoming was into non-stop attack. Post 'keeper Williams after his first sometimes look, was not happy from one end of his goal to the other.

The defence in front of him were stretched to their utmost. Amazingly, they avoided any two more goals, well taken by Marley and Marley.

As Orient started to threaten home win in a run—the title has been held by manager Dick Graham. "But we need not to avoid it."

Peterborough's wonderful second half was from Northampton, showed that Graham was a master stroke and his claim, but his fellow players had to observe to make at least once Orient took the initiative.

Peterborough was shot out by the general Marley. Three-way captured by the better looking of John. One Rose was a dramatic moment. Graham's well-paid work has placed together. After measured how, causing to break into and Marley method opportunity to know the attack.