

Parmenter on target

BOURNEMOUTH 0, ORIENT 2

IN THIS EXCITING season Orient's brand of skill and character have installed them among the third division's leading sides. Now they are proving they have the reserve strength so necessary to maintain a promotion challenge.

LEEDS-LIKE O's MARCH ON

STOCKPORT COUNTY 0, ORIENT 2

"THE Leeds of the third division" was how a Stockport official described Orient, after watching them destroy his team with ruthless efficiency at Edgeley Park on Monday night.

Even though Stockport had most of the play, Orient's method, planning and application drew praise from the club who now have one foot in the fourth division.

Despite their lowly league spot Stockport were never overawed by the reputation of their visitors. No doubt Stockport's last two home results against O's—resounding 4-2 and 5-2 victories—put them in good spirits.

But Orient—with these old scores to settle and the leadership of the section to regain—were in no mood to be charitable.

As at Bournemouth 48 hours earlier, their great defence soaked up all the home squad could throw at them before striking out quickly to plunder the goals that took their points tally to 12 from the last seven games.

Stockport fans were quick to point out that both goals resulted from defensive errors. But it is the teams that don't make these errors who enjoy life at the top.

Orient certainly made no such slips, and Stockport—for all their pressure—seldom looked like scoring.

Stockport relied heavily on an offside plan, often leaving Fairbrother and Bullock stranded just a yard inside the home half.

Mick Jones beat the trap with an overlap down the right, and a fierce cross that Bullock fired over, and Stockport averted more trouble until the 42nd minute.

Then the commanding Taylor broke up a move on the half line and his clearance was played on by the busy Plume.

Gordon Low was content to let the ball run to 'keeper Ogley—

but FAIRBROTHER nipped in to loft the ball over his head and into the net.

Stockport switched their wingers and intensified their attacks in a bid to get back into the game.

Orient once more took it all and stunned Stockport with the killer second goal, nine minutes from time.

Brabrook drilled a pass between Low and the 'keeper, and FAIRBROTHER outpaced the centre-half and dribbled round the 'keeper before doing the honours.

Orient: Goddard 8; Jones 7, Rufe 9; Allen 7, Taylor 9, Plume 8; Brabrook 7, Bullock 8, FAIRBROTHER 9, Dyson 8, Parmenter 6.

Mancini back in training

IT'S GOOD NEWS WEEK AT BUBBLING BRISBANE ROAD, WITH TWO SUCCESSIVE AWAY WINS AND INJURED WARRIORS TERRY MANCINI AND DAVE HARPER BACK IN TRAINING.

Mancini had the plaster removed from his broken ankle at 9 a.m. on Monday and was working at the club's Wanstead training ground an hour later.

He will step up his training each day until full fitness is recovered. In view of O's recent achievements there will be no question of rushing Mancini back before he is ready.

Harper also began light training after seeing a specialist about his troublesome groin injury. He went well early in the week and manager Jimmy Bloomfield's biggest problem is trying to prevent Harper doing too much.

Roy Goddard went straight from Euston Station on Tuesday morning to have treatment on a groin injury sustained at Stockport and should be fit for Saturday's home game against Shrewsbury.

Mark Lazarus—forced to miss the last two games through a back injury—is also responding to treatment and should be fit for the weekend.

With Mancini and Harper already out of action Orient suffered another blow when Mark Lazarus suffered a back injury that ruled him out of Saturday's visit to Dean Court.

Terry Parmenter stepped up to prove a more than adequate replacement—capping a satisfactory game with a great goal.

The late change called for a switch in tactics by Orient—but it in no way affected their rhythm and a win for O's was inevitable long before the end.

Bournemouth fans were given a ray of hope when the South Coast squad launched a brisk opening that almost brought a goal inside three minutes.

These hopes were shattered when O's scored in their first trip to the other end of the park and as the game wore on, with Bournemouth having most of the play, but never looking like finding a way through—the fans grudging praise turned to open admiration of a superbly disciplined display by Jimmy Bloomfield's lively lads.

Orient kept calm in the face of heavy Bournemouth pressure in the first half, repelling all attacks with authoritative assurance despite facing a head-on wind.

They had one or two anxious moments, when Stocks swept in to clip a close range shot into the side netting as defenders waited for the ball to run out of play, when Rufe came to the rescue with a strong tackle after Taylor was robbed in the box and when Goddard—after the only time in the match—failed to hold an awkward cross from Gulliver. This time Jones hooked to safety.

Taylor again made few mistakes and played Ted MacDougall, the division's leading scorer, with 21 goals—right out of it. Allen did an equally effective job alongside him and little was seen of Bournemouth's other strikers John Sainy and Keith East.

Particularly outstanding, with his non-stop efforts and willingness to come back and help out in defence was tireless Barrie Fairbrother—who got through a tremendous amount of work.

Always one to get his priorities right, Fairbrother was in the right place at precisely the right time to help Orient into a shock 11th minute lead.

Orient had scarcely got out of their own half and 'keeper Alec Bugg, on loan from Ipswich, had not touched the ball until forced to pick it out of the back of the net.

Bullock cleverly controlled a clearance from Goddard before pushing a pass out to Brabrook. Peter released a brilliant first-time ball that destroyed the Bournemouth defence and sent FAIRBROTHER in to beat the advancing Bugg. His shot rebounded from an upright but he recovered to screw home a left foot shot from a narrow angle.

Bugg saw no more action until the 36th minute—when again he got some back exercise. Plume's long clip into the goalmouth was headed sideways by Fairbrother and PARMENTER right footed a cracking shot high into the roof of the net.

The second half was a formality—with O's doing no more than they had to to contain a Bournemouth side that had run out of ideas. It was nattered only by the booking of Brabrook—for protesting too forcibly after Port Talbot referee Gerrard Lewis had turned a fine eye to two successive fouls on Parmenter.

Bournemouth: Bugg, Gulliver, White, Miller, Stocks, Powell, Meredith.

Orient: Goddard 8, Jones 7, Rufe 9, Allen 8, Taylor 8, Plume 7, Brabrook 7, Bullock 7, FAIRBROTHER 8, Dyson 6, Parmenter 7.



★ Over his head it goes and it's a great start for Orient as Barrie Fairbrother beats Stockport 'keeper Alan Ogley for his first goal.

BARRIE BLASTS ORIENT TO TOP

By JOHN BEAN

Stockport ... 0 Orient ... 2

TWO goals from Barrie Fairbrother sent Orient roaring back to the top of the Third Division.

It was a great performance by the youngster who missed a hat-trick because of... sheer astonishment.

With only two minutes of this four game remaining, 18-year-old Fairbrother had a gift chance.

He was left clear on the edge of the six-yard box, thanks to a County defence standing like statues ex-

pecting the whistle for off-side.

But it never came, and the shock must have been too much for Fairbrother. With all the time in the world to pick his spot, Fairbrother pulled his shot incredibly wide of the far post.

But he'd done enough to put Orient, above Brighton and Reading with two games in hand on each.

Orient were given a hard night's work by relegation haunted County, and relied a lot on lightning breaks.

Fairbrother who formed a sharp double-spearhead with top scorer Peter Bullock, showed why he managed to net an incredible 120 goals in two seasons for Orient's youth teams, with a waspish display.

Orient's steel-hard defence had already survived many nasty moments when Fairbrother first struck three minutes before the interval.

Snapping on to a pass from Dick Plume, which

caught County's puzzled defence as square as a box, the centre-forward had the ball in the back of the net in an instant.

Orient goalkeeper Ray Goddard was kept in spectacular action throughout.

the second half. Yet, eight minutes from the end, Fairbrother again showed how quickly Orient can snap up half chances.

Another defensive mix-up gave the leader his opportunity and again the ball rattled the back netting.

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