

SO FRUSTRATING FOR O's

Orient 0, Fulham 0 By Vince Wright

ONLY bad luck and brilliant goalkeeping by Fulham's Ian Seymour prevented an inspired Orient side from marching hand-somely into the second round of the League Cup at Brisbane Road on Wednesday.

Orient now face a replay at Craven Cot-

tage on Monday but they can consider themselves unlucky to come off the field at the end of 90 minutes without the reward they richly deserved.

A goalless draw suggest that both defences thoroughly mastered their respective attacks but nothing could be farther from the truth. A score of 6-4 in Orient's favour would have been a much fairer reflection of the play.

Orient, displaying controlled precision football, exploited the huge gaps in Fulham's shaky rearguard but their shots were either inches wide of the mark or were inadvertently stopped by the Fulham defence.

The 8,000 crowd were treated to a super exhibition of goalkeeping. Seymour was undoubtedly Fulham's hero but Goddard, too, had a remarkably good match and was called upon to make two great saves.

Ex-Orient striker Vic Halom got very little change out of Terry Mancini and, although Johnny Haynes worked tire-

Keeper saves Fulham

lessly to get the Fulham attack moving, it was outside-right Jimmy Conway who posed the most danger. His incredible speed left Orient's left-back Dennis Rofe gasping more than once and he put in the night's best shot when his left-footed thunderbolt from 15 yards hit the top of the crossbar and the ball bounced over.

Orient players also showed their shooting ability. In the first half a Mick Jones cross was only partially cleared and a searing volley from Dave Harper whistled just wide.

Shortly after the interval Malcolm Slater followed Harper's example. His first effort flashed just over and then another right-footed crack was grabbed head high by the ever watchful Seymour.

A full-blooded drive by Harper sped beyond the far post, then Goddard showed fantastic reactions to save an adroit back-heel from the menacing Conway after a Callaghan hot shot had been deflected to the winger.

And so the series of near misses went on and on. Brabrook, who has yet to appear on a losing side for O's cleverly anticipated an inswinging cross from the impish Slater but his header was a shade too high.

Minutes later a sparkling move from Fulham almost led to them snatching an undeserved winner. Horne, Gilchrist, Conway and Haynes threaded their way through Orient's defence and laid on a perfect chance for Callaghan but the full-back's shot was tipped aside by Goddard, who was performing wonders against his old club.

Goddard brought off the save of the evening late in the first half when he flung himself to the left to push away a tremendous free-kick from Fred Callaghan. And the longer the game went on the more everyone realised that nothing at all was going to beat these two goalkeepers.

Orient: Goddard, Jones, Rofe, Taylor, Mancini, Harper, Slater, Bullock, Allen, Dyson, Brabrook.
Fulham: Seymour, Gilchrist, Callaghan, Horne, Roberts, Brown, Conway, Large, Halom, Haynes, Jones.

EIGHT UP

Woodford Town's new youth football team had a scintillating start to the season with an 8-0 win in a friendly match. The team is touring Denmark this week and plans to play another friendly in the near future.

Slick Orient

ROCHDALE 0, ORIENT 3

NEWLY PROMOTED Rochdale reeled off the Spotland pitch on Saturday wishing they had never heard the name Orient and wondering what life in the higher bracket has in store for them.

For the team that conceded only eleven league goals on their own manor last season had been torn to pieces by Orient's rapid raids and endured a fiery third division baptism.

Clutching at a slender thread of hope, home fans claimed that it could have all turned out differently if Rochdale had been awarded a first-half penalty, when Dennis Rofe palmed a goalbound shot off the line.

However, their frantic pleas for a spot-kick were ignored and Orient, already a goal ahead, increased the margin soon afterwards.

Playing tight at the back, Orient planned to contain Rochdale before striking out with lightning counter attacks. And the plan worked like a dream.

They went ahead after 18 minutes when Rofe broke out of defence, laid the ball inside to Brabrook and kept on running for a precision return pass to ram it home from the edge of the six yard box.

Orient produced another gem in the 32nd minute. Peter Allen who had a great game—picked up a pass in midfield and ran on, shaping to play the ball out to Slater.

The Rochdale defence instinctively moved over—then Allen slipped the ball square the other way for Barry DYSON to range a tremendous 25 yarder high into the net past startled 'keeper Chris Harker.

Ten minutes into the second-half Orient asserted their superiority with a fine third goal, with Allen again playing a leading role.

He whipped the ball out to the right before setting off on a decoy overlap run. He checked, allowing Dyson to take it up and as Barry's centre came across Mick BULLOCK was on the spot to apply the finishing touch.

Rochdale had their share of the play, hustling forward in a series of attacks.

But they were launched more with enthusiasm than method and the compact Orient defence had little trouble in dealing with them.

Only black note for O's was the booking of Dyson, who kicked the ball away in exasperation after a throw to Orient had been given the other way.

Orient: Goddard: Jones, Rofe; Taylor, Mancini, Harper; Slater, Bullock, Allen, Dyson, Brabrook.

Great start by Orient

Rochdale 0, Orient 3

By Vince Wright

WHAT a cracking start to the season by Os! It is a long time since they won an away match by three goals. Longer still since they played with such poise and conviction.

Rochdale, promoted to the Third Division last season, must have wished they were back in the Fourth by 4.40 p.m. Orient, creative in attack and sure in defence, made their Lancashire opponents look like novices. Micky Bullock gave a hint of things to come when he pivoted on to Harper's short pass to drive only inches wide from 15 yards.

But, before Rochdale had time to breathe a sigh of relief, Os were ahead. Tommy Taylor cleverly headed down an attempted clearance to Brabrook and the winger's slick pass inside the full-back was snapped up by Rofe who sent a left-foot shot into the far corner of the net as Harker advanced.

It was after this 18th minute goal that Rochdale played some of their best football. Inside-forward Jenkins thundered in a stinging shot from an acute angle but Goddard was equal to it. Then a Buck header was fisted off the goal-line by Rofe but the unsighted referee, Mr H. Davey of Mansfield, waved play on.

Orient increased their lead in the 32nd minute. Allen beat two defenders before sending a square pass to Dyson whose 30-yard shot was in the net before Harker moved. It was Dyson's 11th goal for Orient and easily his most memorable.

Rochdale were demoralised by this shock reverse and Orient proceeded to take charge.

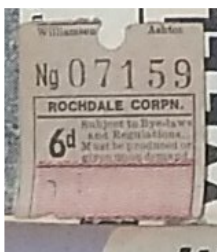
Although the home right-back Smith was unlucky to see his first-time effort strike the angle of bar and post, Os hit back immediately and were rewarded with a third goal not long after the interval. Dyson ran intelligently to collect a long ball from Slater and his accurate centre was casually side footed home by a joyful Micky Bullock.

With the game in the bag Orient relaxed their iron grip but Rochdale's feeble attacks were easily repelled by a reliable defence in which Mancini and Jones were prominent.

The home fans thought Orient had all the breaks that were going, especially when the referee again ignored a penalty claim from Rochdale as the ball hit Mick Jones' arm in the area towards the end of the game, but they played so well they deserved them.

Manager Jimmy Bloomfield's reaction was "I was delighted with our performance. We showed today that we are a very professional outfit, penetrating in attack and efficient in defence."

Rochdale: Harker, Smith, Ryder, Downes, Parry, Ashworth, Whitehead, Rudd, Buck, Jenkins, Butler. Sub: Cross.
Orient: Goddard, Jones, Rofe, Taylor, Mancini, Harper, Slater, Bullock, Allen, Dyson, Brabrook.



Fulham 'keeper Ian Seymour plunges bravely at the feet of Dennis Rofe as O's full-back looks set to score.

ORIENT WE'LL DO THEM IN REPLAY—HALOM

ORIENT 0, Fulham 0
FORMER ORIENT FAVOURITE Vic Halom emerged from the Fulham dressing room after Wednesday's highly entertaining League Cup clash to predict boldly: "We'll do 'em in the replay".

Added Vic: "I think we'll win by three or four goals. All we need is one to ease the tension, then watch us go."

Brave words indeed. But to turn them into reality when the battle is renewed at Craven Cottage on Monday Mr. Halom and his buddies will have to perform a whole lot better than they did on Wednesday.

Orient, playing the exciting, open football that manager Jimmy Bloomfield insists on, had the better of things and at times the Fulham defence soaked up more punishment than a punch-bag.

O's had the chance to go in at half-time with a two goal lead and after the break they threatened several times.

But standing between them and a comfortable winning margin was agile Fulham keeper Ian Seymour—whose development

forced Ray Goddard to seek soccer fame away from Craven Cottage.

Twice the brilliant Seymour got out and down quickly to beat down close range shots from Dennis Rofe and he plucked a dozen accurate crosses from Mal Slater out of the air, with Bullock and Dyson ready to pounce on any slip.

Only once was Seymour really beaten—when Peter Brabrook powered a header inches wide of an upright.

Fulham got little change from a tight Orient defence. Tommy Taylor played Halom out of it and twin striker Frank Large got most of his service through the air.

This proved a tactical blunder—for towering Terry Mancini picked most of them off with his usual skill.

The West Londoners staged

strong rallies at the end of each half, Goddard saving well from Large—following a slip by Allen—and twice in the closing minutes from Fred Callaghan.

Orient may yet live to regret those missed chances. Yet they remain confident of pulling it off in the replay and earning a home crack at mighty Leeds United in the second round.

Orient: Goddard 8, Jones 7, Rofe 7, TAYLOR 9, Mancini 8, Harper 8, Slater 4, Bullock 6, Allen 7, Dyson 6, Brabrook 7.

Fulham: Seymour, Gilchrist, Callaghan, Horne, Roberts, Brown, Conway, Large, Halom, Haynes, Jones.



Seymour goes up to collect a curling Slater. Giving Seymour support is Dave Roberts with Mick Bullock behind the Fulham centre-half