

the official matchday magazine of southend united f.c.

# the blues

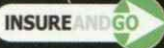
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# must win

Victory the only option as Blues  
battle for Championship survival

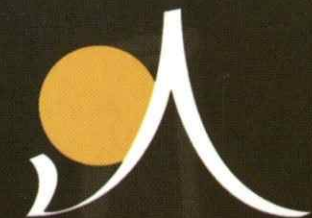


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**"...the biggest positive that I can take out of this season has been the outstanding support of you, the Club's fans, regardless of the results."**

## chairman's review

**For me – and I suspect many of you also – it seems only a few weeks ago the season was commencing and we were all full of hope and expectation following the 1-0 victory over Stoke City on the first day.**

Whilst the result of the first game is as we would have wished, in many respects we struggled to adjust to the Championship whilst our new signings found their feet – or not!

There is no doubt about it that on our day the team is capable of competing against the best in this division but which probably necessitates the majority of the squad being on top form.

Without this the season has been a struggle. Particularly so when coupled with injuries or suspensions, and one or two signings who did not perform to their anticipated level.

Nevertheless many people have said to me that it has been an enjoyable year and I am sure we would all agree there have been highs as well as lows.

### *Comfort*

Whilst I am disappointed at our League position I can draw comfort from the improved level of football to that which we played in League One. Whatever the outcome of the next two games, we will be well placed to strengthen the squad to continue the upward spiral we also desperately want.

However the biggest positive that I can take out of this season has been the outstanding support of you, the Club's fans, regardless of the results. I expect this is in recognition that we are all doing our very best to bring success to Southend United. After all this is a team effort on and off the pitch and your contribution has been overwhelming.

Whilst our fate this season is no longer in our own hands we must remain positive throughout today and at the forthcoming game against Southampton with the same spirit and endeavour that the Players and Management have displayed during the year.

I personally will take many memories away with me from this year and I hope that the highlights for you have brought a lot of pleasure too.

Mine and Steve Tilson's ambitions for your Club remain as committed as ever and we are already planning for the challenges of next season wherever we are.

Thank you once again and I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible when the new season starts.

Up the Blues!

Ron Martin  
Chairman



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# Betterview

**Wish the team every success  
for the season**

**Come on you Blues**

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### who's who:

**Chairman:** Ron Martin

**Chief Executive:** Geoffrey King

**Directors:** Michael Markscheffel, Raymond

Osborne, Paul Robinson, Frank Van Wessel,

Derek Wilshire

**Manager:** Steve Tilson

**Assistant Manager:** Paul Brush

**Goalkeeping Coach:** Lee Turner

**Physiotherapist:** John Stannard

**Assistant Physiotherapist:** Ben Clarkson

**Head of Youth:** Ricky Duncan

**Centre of Excellence Manager:** Luke Hobbs

**Development Coach:** Mark Bonner

**Kit Manager:** Daniel Chidgey

**Club and Company Secretary:** Helen Norbury

**Financial Controller:** Patrick van der Waag

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**Media Assistant:** Dean Simmons

**Marketing Executive:** Anthony Pearce

**Marketing Executive:** Nina Drew

**Study Support Centre Manager:** Simon Bell

**Senior Community Officer:** Frankie Banks

**Community Funding Officer:** Steve Goodsell

**Club Doctor:** Dr A. K. Sinha

**Club Doctor:** Dr V. Crowhurst

### honours:

Third Division Runners-up: 1990/91

Fourth Division Champions: 1980/81

Fourth Division Runners-up: 1971/72, 1977/78

Football League Trophy Runners-up: 2003/04, 2004/05

League Two Play-Off winners: 2004/05

League One Champions: 2005/06

Southern League Div. Two Champions: 1906/07, 1907-08

Elected to Football League: 1920-21

Division Four Promoted: 1986-87 & 1989-90

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### programme:

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# welcome

**Welcome to Roots Hall today for  
our final home match of the  
season, fingers crossed we can go  
out on a high.**

Whilst staying in this division will be a struggle now, football as they say is a funny old game and until it's impossible to do so we must all still believe. The Football Club would like to thank you all for your tremendous support from the management and players, to the directors and backroom staff.

Finally, as this is our last programme of the season I would like to thank Nick Hart, Robert Craven, Mark Wallis, Jamie Forsyth and Matt Walker for their help in putting another successful magazine together.

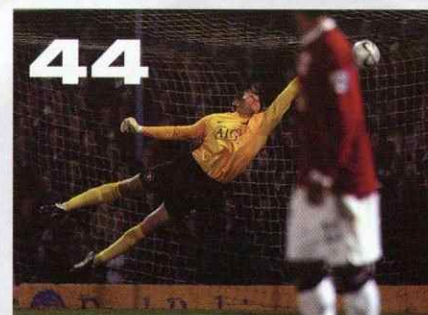
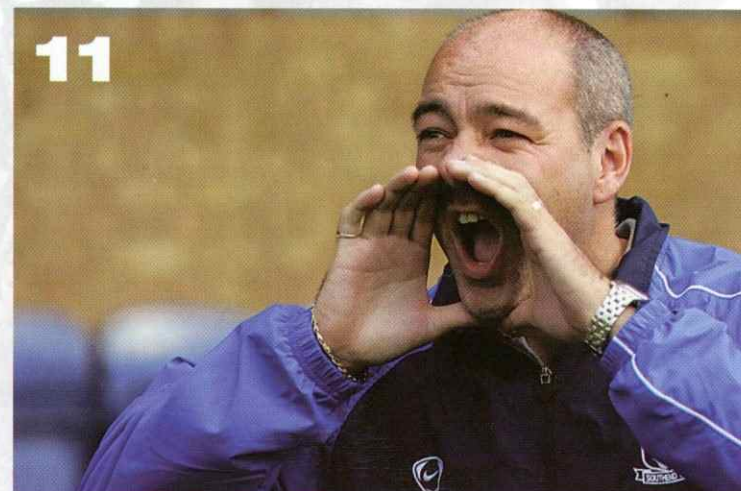
### inside...

**Pages 6-7** Manager Steve Tilson signs off with his final set of programme notes this season.

**Page 11** Head of Youth Ricky Duncan provides his thoughts on a successful season with the under 18's

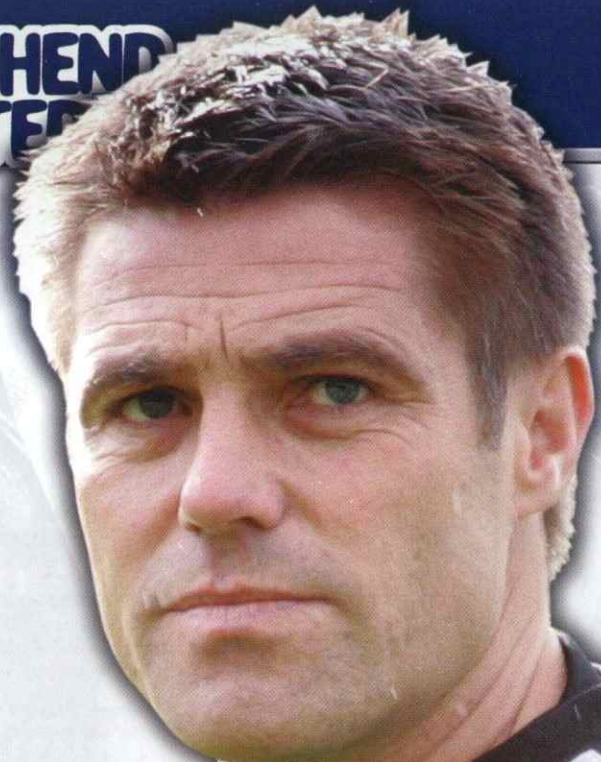
**Pages 44-52** We take a look back at the Club's highs and lows in the Coca-Cola Championship and Cup competitions with our Season Review.

**Pages 70-71** Young Blues prospect Charles Ademeno answers supporters questions in our final Question and Answer feature.



**www.southendunited.co.uk**





# steve tilson

**I felt we were good for at least a point at Plymouth Argyle last Saturday, but there have been too many occasions this season where we have failed to get the result we deserve.**

We had the chances against Plymouth and the only reason we conceded such a late goal was because we were continually pushing for the win.

We still have to remain confident that we can stay in this league and all our focus will be centred on making sure that we beat Luton Town.

Luton have had a difficult season themselves and because they are already relegated, will come to Roots Hall with no pressure and looking to impress their new manager.

Kevin Blackwell was always going to have a difficult job on his hands when he took

the job and I'm sure he will now be analysing his squad to look ahead to building for next season.

It makes it a very dangerous situation for us to underestimate them and I can assure you that is the last thing we will be doing.

## Effort

It is always deflating when you concede in the last minute of a match and while I could not fault the effort from the players, it has been the story of our season.

The Championship is a tough league and your first year in it is always going to be the hardest. If you can survive, then you give yourself a good platform to build upon.

We should have had more points on the board than we have accumulated so far, but we are still in the dogfight and will fight till the end.

Hopefully we can turn the corner and get the three points against Luton Town this afternoon and allow ourselves to go

into the final match of the season at Southampton knowing we still have a chance to stay up.

That is obviously the scenario we will be looking for and the players still have the belief that we can get a result against Luton, which is all we can do.

The support we had at Plymouth was fantastic and I can't thank you enough for your backing of the team.

It has been a real battle this season, but you have stuck by the team and your encouragement could not have been more appreciated.

You have been second to none all season and with a bit of luck we can end the campaign at Roots Hall on a high and go into our match at Southampton with everything still to play for.

Enjoy the game.

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B I B A

**"the  
championship  
is a tough  
league and  
your first year  
in it is always  
going to be  
the hardest."**







# kevin maher

**Nothing less than a win will do for us this afternoon and it is important we do our part, regardless of other results.**

It was a very disappointing result at Plymouth last weekend, but we owe it to ourselves and the fans to show that we are 100% committed to bouncing back against Luton Town.

Although I picked up my 10th booking at Plymouth and despite a few people telling me I was going to be suspended for the last two games of the season, I already knew that the cut-off date had passed.

Obviously a few people were confused about the situation, but it had already been explained to me, so I wasn't worried on that front.

We have given ourselves a huge task to

stay up this season, but we won't give up and we will be looking to make sure we do our part to get the three points we need against Luton.

Even though they have already been relegated, Luton will come to Roots Hall with nothing to fear and we will certainly be expecting a hard contest.

## Hope

Everyone knows that the table doesn't make good reading, but we need to keep battling on. All we can do is try and win our two remaining games and hope that Hull and Leeds drop points.

It might not be enough, but regardless, it's what we need to aim for and that is only where our focus can lie.

We don't need anyone to tell us how tough that will be, but we certainly won't

be giving up and all we can think about right now is that we have to beat Luton.

I must also thank the fans for their support throughout the season, you have been wonderful. With this being our last match of the season at home, we want to end our season at Roots Hall with a victory.

Another prime example was shown at Plymouth last Saturday where we had over 700 fans making the long trip and they didn't stop getting behind us from start to finish.

We need the fans to play a role and generate a real atmosphere in the stadium. We know what we must do when we take to the field, but to hear the fans right behind you is a big adrenaline rush.

Kevin Maher

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## blues just miss out

**Southend's under-18s did their part in the title race, as they overwhelmed Portsmouth 2-0, but in the end had to settle for second place in the Youth Alliance.**

With QPR beating Brighton in the last game of the season, it means the Blues finished just two points off top spot in a dramatic close to a productive season for the Club.

Southend were always in firm control during the first half at Boots & Laces, as James Lindie had a near post shot blocked to safety before he rose first inside the box to meet a cross, but could only head the ball on to the roof of the goal.

Lindie was becoming a heavily involved influence in attack, but it wasn't working in his favour, as Luke Thurlbourne's shot found its way to him from close range, only for a quick interception to block his route to goal.

The deadlock was finally broken in the 33rd minute when Johnny Herd's long throw-in was flicked on by Ronnie Jones and his fellow centre-back, Tom Hopkins was first to react with a deft touch that knocked the ball above the goalkeeper.

### Domination

The Blues' domination didn't stop there and Lindie's left wing cross was planted perfectly into the path of Richard Priest, but he could only side-foot the ball off target from a few yards out.

Portsmouth had been largely anonymous in attack, but they supplied a scare on the stroke of half-time when they were awarded a free kick on the edge of the box and rattled the post.

The visitors certainly took some encouragement from that chance and they were much more of a force after the interval, but their main downfall was that their main threats did not come until after Southend had doubled their advantage.

Portsmouth's goalkeeper was kept busy during the opening exchanges and you couldn't say they had not been warned as to what was to come.

The second goal was scored seven minutes past the hour mark when Hopkins again arrived on cue to meet a floated free kick and with a crisp finish, arrowed the ball into the far corner of the net.

Portsmouth upped their game and it required

Southend to keep their composure at the back, but the one time they were able to breach the defence, they should have scored.

Joe Welch was called into action to deal with a one-on-one runner and managed to get a vital touch to knock the ball around the goal.

The danger wasn't over though and from the

resulting corner, Portsmouth caused panic in the penalty box and hit the crossbar, as Welch struggled to claim the ball.

Over the course of the 90 minutes though the Blues were comfortable winners and should be commended for allowing the title race to enter what proved to be an exciting finale.



● Richard Priest — unlucky with first half chance

## another good year

**Firstly, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the staff that have helped the Centre of Excellence have a highly successful year on and off the pitch.**

Without the help of these highly valued members of staff, it would not be possible to conduct the training sessions required or take boys abroad on tour.

I would also like to thank the parents who happily drive their boys into training each week and follow them to away matches supporting them in all weathers.

Finally, I would like to thank the players themselves. Boys as young as eight give up their weekends and evenings to train and play and never grumble when things get tough. These boys have been a credit to the Centre of Excellence this season and I wish them all a great summer and look forward to seeing them all again next season.

### Successful

Like the Centre of Excellence, the U18's youth team has also enjoyed a successful season. This season saw the Club finish the highest it has done for the last couple of years in our division.

All of the youth team have worked extremely hard this season and it was disappointing to take second place when the top position seemed possible. However, we cannot take away the fact that QPR has also had a great season and we would like to congratulate them on winning the league.

Once again, none of this is possible without the help from all the staff behind the scenes and I would like to praise them for all their hard work.

Especially Bill Garner, who has been ever present at training sessions with the under 18s and given up a lot of his free time and Carmel Orford, who provides us lunch on a regular basis and believe me, feeding 18 under 18's is no easy task!

It is my first two years back at the Football Club and I feel we have now laid the foundations with the support of the chairman, all the directors and first team management, to take the youth development of Southend United further and produce even more future first team players over the next 5-10 years.

It is now nice to hear outside the Club that



Southend's Centre of Excellence and youth set-up is being spoken of in a very high regard and players now wish to come to Southend to further their football careers.

It has been a very enjoyable two years and as a youth coach, I feel very privileged to work with such good young talent.

I must also thank Safe and Secure along with Peter Kingston of Kingston Insurances, for their continued support for next season and also all the sponsors throughout the Centre of Excellence.

I would like to wish Franck Moussa and Charles Ademeno good luck in their future professional careers. Both players have shown fantastic attitude in the two years I have worked with them and are a good example for

any future young player who wishes to obtain the same status.

Also I would like to wish Lee Smyth, Jack Abson, Joe Welch, Carl Patten and Lauris Coggin all the best in their future careers and thank them for their commitment to Southend United.

I would like to welcome more of you at Boots and Laces next season, as the turn-out for our home games against Colchester United and Portsmouth really inspired the players and will also give you a great opportunity to see these players first hand.

I would like to wish you all an enjoyable summer and see you next season.

Ricky Duncan



## no win situation

**Lee Bradbury was on target for Southend's reserves, but his goal couldn't prove the difference, as they were held at home by Leyton Orient.**

The Blues took early control of the match at Roots Hall and created a high number of chances - twice hitting the woodwork - but in the end had to settle for a 1-1 draw.

Bradbury went close for Southend in the early exchanges, after turning his marker outside the box and arrowing a low shot wide of the post.

Franck Moussa tried his luck from long range with a 20 yard shot nestling into the arms of goalkeeper Glenn Morris.

Charles Ademeno looked to have made the vital breakthrough when he latched on to a threaded pass to get beyond the defence, but from just a few yards out, he saw Morris make an outstanding save low to his left.

Jason Demetriou supplied Orient's best response when he blazed over from just outside the penalty box, with Southend relatively comfortable in defence.

The opening goal duly arrived for the Blues after 31 minutes with James Lawson's attempted shot deflecting into the path of Bradbury, who couldn't miss from in front of goal, as he slotted the ball underneath the body of Morris.

Orient were still able to get back on level terms four minutes shy of half time, when Donny Barnard collected a loose ball from a corner and rifled the ball into the back of the net via a post and beyond a statuesque Steve Collis.

Southend did continue to pose problems after the interval with Lawson's shot bypassing Morris, but with Bradbury unable to stretch for the loose ball, it eventually rolled out to Ademeno, who could only sidefoot wide from an acute angle.

David Cowley brought the best out of Morris with a 25 yard free kick tipped over the bar before, from a similar position, the young winger saw a similarly positioned set piece cannon off the top of the crossbar.

Jack Page caused a late scare when he found space inside the box and fired wide of the post, as the match petered out to a stalemate.

**Southend United's reserves slipped to a disappointing 3-0 defeat against Norwich City this week at Roots Hall.**

Paul Brush's second string were 2-0 down at the break; but only after enjoying the majority of the early chances.

David Cowley went closest to opening the scoring for The Blues as early as the third minute when his effort from close range forced a reaction save from Canaries keeper Steven Arnold.

Blues then nearly found an opening through Franck Moussa but he screwed his shot wide of the far post inside the penalty box, before Matt Harrold headed over the bar from Cowley's left wing cross.

Former West Ham trainee Cowley was then back in the thick of the action midway through the first half when another shot nestled into the keepers arms.

However, Norwich struck back when Andrew Cave-Brown's shot hit the post and nestled into the far corner to put the Canaries 1-0 up after 30 minutes.

That was how it stayed until three minutes before half-time when the visitors doubled their advantage with a slick move inside the Blues penalty box.

Seb Muddel slipped past the Blues defence and his cross allowed Kris Renton to side foot past trialist Southend keeper Frankem Chamberlin.

United made a change at the break, Joel Ledgister back from a three month loan with Gravesend replacing Frenchman Ntolla Lucien, and should have pulled one back on the hour mark.

James Lawson found himself in a one-on-one with the City keeper but he was unable to beat the shot-stopper before Spencer Prior then headed over the crossbar from a Cowley corner.

However, the result was finally put beyond Southend when with four minutes remaining Robert Eagle's unleashed a confident strike from the edge of the box to beat Chamberlin in the bottom corner.

*Southend United:* Chamberlin, Lucien (Ledgister 46), Herd, Hunt, Prior, Sodje, Lawson, Kearns, Harrold, Moussa, Cowley.  
*Subs not used:* Welch, Noel

### pontin's holiday combination league

Date	KO	Opponent	Competition	V
Wed Aug 16	14:00	Colchester United	Combination	L0-1
Tue Sep 5	14:00	Northampton Town	Combination	W2-0
Tue Sep 26	14:00	Luton Town	Combination	W3-1
Mon Oct 9	19:00	Ipswich Town	Combination	L1-3
Wed Oct 18	19:00	Stevenage Borough	Combination	W2-0
Mon Nov 13	19:30	Norwich City	Combination	W4-2
Thu Nov 23	14:00	Oxford United	Combination	D2-2
Mon Dec 11	19:00	Oxford United	Combination	W4-1
Tue Jan 9	14:00	Colchester United	Combination	L1-2
Tue Feb 6	14:00	Ipswich Town	Combination	L1-3
Feb Feb 27	14:00	Leyton Orient	Combination	W2-1
Wed Mar 7	14:00	Stevenage Borough	Combination	W3-2
Wed Mar 21	14:00	Northampton Town	Combination	W2-0
Tue Mar 27	14:00	Luton Town	Combination	L0-2
Tue Apr 10	14:00	MK Dons	Combination	W1-0
Tue Apr 17	14:00	Leyton Orient	Combination	D1-1
Tue Apr 24	14:00	Norwich City	Combination	L0-3
Tue May 1	14:00	MK Dons	Combination	H

### football league youth alliance

Date	KO	Opponent	Competition	V
Sat Aug 12	11:00	Luton Town	Youth Alliance	W3-2
Sat Aug 19	11:00	Brentford	Youth Alliance	D1-1
Sat Sep 2	11:00	Colchester United	YA Cup 1	D2-2
Sat Sep 9	11:00	Swindon Town	YA Cup 2	L0-2
Sat Sep 23	11:00	Brighton & H.A.	Youth Alliance	D1-1
Sat Sep 30	11:00	Rushden & Diamonds	Youth Alliance	L0-1
Sat Oct 7	11:00	Gillingham	YA Cup 3	L0-3
Sat Oct 14	11:00	Bournemouth	YA Cup 4	D1-1
Sat Oct 21	11:00	Gillingham	Youth Alliance	W7-2
Sat Oct 28	11:00	Northampton Town	Youth Alliance	D2-2
Sat Nov 4	11:00	Colchester United	Youth Alliance	L0-4
Sat Nov 11	11:00	Oxford United	YA Cup 5	L1-3
Sat Nov 18	11:00	Brighton & H.A.	YA Cup 6	W1-0
Sat Nov 25	11:00	QPR	Youth Alliance	L0-1
Sat Dec 9	11:00	Wycombe Wanderers	Youth Alliance	D1-1
Sat Jan 6	11:00	Portsmouth	Youth Alliance	W4-1
Sat Jan 13	11:00	Luton Town	Youth Alliance	W4-1
Sat Jan 20	11:00	Brentford	Youth Alliance	W3-1
Sat Jan 27	11:00	Leyton Orient	Youth Alliance	W3-1
Sat Feb 3	11:00	Brighton & H.A.	Youth Alliance	W1-0
Sat Feb 10	11:00	Rushden & Diamonds	Youth Alliance	W3-1
Sat Feb 17	11:00	Gillingham	Youth Alliance	L0-3
Sat Mar 10	11:00	Northampton Town	Youth Alliance	W4-3
Sat Mar 17	11:00	QPR	Youth Alliance	D2-2
Sat Mar 24	11:00	Wycombe Wanderers	Youth Alliance	W1-0
Sat Mar 31	11:00	Leyton Orient	Youth Alliance	W3-1
Thu Apr 12	11:00	Colchester United	Youth Alliance	W1-0
Sat Apr 14	11:00	Portsmouth	Youth Alliance	W2-0

### pontin's holiday combination league latest table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Gd	Pts
Ipswich Town	18	13	2	3	45	18	27	41
Colchester United	18	8	8	2	21	10	11	32
<b>SOUTHEND UNITED</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>29</b>
Northampton Town	18	7	4	7	22	23	-1	25
Luton Town	16	7	3	6	28	22	6	24
Leyton Orient	17	5	8	4	26	20	6	23
Norwich City	16	5	6	5	25	25	0	21
Milton Keynes Dons	17	6	2	9	22	32	-10	20
Stevenage Borough	16	2	5	9	17	29	-12	11
Oxford United	17	1	4	12	11	43	-32	7



### football league youth alliance latest table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Gd	Pts
Queens Park Rangers	22	15	3	4	52	27	+25	48
<b>SOUTHEND UNITED</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>+19</b>	<b>46</b>
Gillingham	22	14	4	4	49	32	+17	46
Wycombe Wanderers	22	12	4	6	42	21	+21	40
Colchester United	22	8	7	7	38	36	+2	31
Brighton & Hove Albion	21	8	6	7	24	20	+4	30
Luton Town	21	9	2	10	35	39	-4	29
Rushden & Diamonds	22	7	4	11	24	40	-16	25
Brentford	22	6	6	10	22	27	-5	24
Leyton Orient	22	6	4	12	25	39	-14	22
Northampton Town	21	4	6	11	33	51	-18	18
Portsmouth	21	1	2	18	12	43	-31	5





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this afternoon's visitors to roots hall...

## luton town



**Luton will travel to Roots Hall knowing their stay in the Championship is soon to come to a close after the team suffered the fate of relegation**

The Hatters may be lacking the burning desire to accompany matches, but there is no doubt they will be looking to end the season with some sort of optimism.

It is the least expected by manager Kevin Blackwell, recently appointed to replace the controversial departure of Mike Newell.

Rooted to the foot of the table and in the knowledge that their staying power in the Championship will only be lasting for two more matches, Luton have nothing to lose this afternoon.

Blackwell certainly hasn't had the best of settling-in periods and is still to taste victory with his new team from five matches.

But to be fair, he was always on a hiding to nothing after taking the job with the team on an apparent downward spiral that was always going

to be a task of man-mountain proportions to halt.

Luton were relegated at Derby County the previous Friday night, but Blackwell still remained upbeat following the 1-0 reverse.

"The players put on a terrific performance," he admitted.

### Proud

"I'm so proud of them and this has definitely given me something to work with.

"We dominated large parts of the game, but we lacked that bit of knowledge.

"We've a dynamic new chairman and with some of the young players we have the club has a future."

The new chairman himself, David Pinkney has already predicted a bright future for the club.

Despite the sullen mood of relegation, he has grand designs in place to get the side back into the Championship as soon as possible.

He said: "I just want the best for the fans and the best for the Club, so let's move on and go onwards and upwards.

"We want to do an independent review, so we

### hatters' last 10 seasons

2005/06	.....Championship.....	10th
2004/05	.....League One.....	1st
2003/04	.....League One.....	10th
2002/03	.....League One.....	9th
2001/02	.....League Two.....	2nd
2000/01	.....League One.....	22nd
1999/00	.....League One.....	13th
1998/99	.....League One.....	12th
1997/98	.....League One.....	17th
1996/97	.....League One.....	3rd

### last time at roots hall

**BLUES 0 LUTON 3 - 12-11-2004**

Luton visited Roots Hall in the first round of the FA Cup live on Sky Sports. The Hatters were going for the League One title whilst United themselves had hopes of promotion. Luton ran riot though and three first half goals from Steve Howard (2) and Ahmet Brkovic sealed the win.

### last time at kenilworth road

**LUTON 0 BLUES 0 - 15-12-2006**

Another live Sky Sports match saw a closer encounter this time as Blues returned to Essex with a point. However, they could have won it as Freddy Eastwood firstly struck the bar and then hit the post in the closing seconds.

### hatters' last five results

31-03-2007	— Championship
Burnley 0-0 Luton Town	
07-04-2007	— Championship
Luton Town 0-2 Southampton	
09-04-2007	— Championship
QPR 3-2 Luton Town	
14-04-2007	— Championship
Luton Town 1-2 Plymouth Argyle	
20-04-2007	— Championship
Derby County 1-0 Luton Town	

can look realistically at everything that's on the table.

"If we can get into a new stadium with the right facilities and possibly five or six training pitches then we can build a future.

"We are all singing off the same hymn sheet and I believe that when you put a new suit on you feel proud.

"Our manager Kevin Blackwell is a great guy and I believe he's one of the best managers in the UK. He's a fighter, he does what he says and with that guy here we've got a big future."



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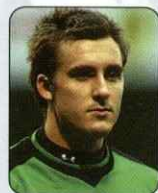


## the likely eleven

the hatters' probable team to face the blues this afternoon...

### dean brill

A product of the club's youth system, 21-year-old Brill has now made 23 appearances for the Hatters first team. His progress was helped by a short loan spell at League One Gillingham earlier on this season and he has kept two clean sheets for the Hatters during the current campaign.



### kevin foley

Another who rose through the ranks at Kenilworth Road, Foley has played more than 150 games for the Hatters. The 22-year-old, who was also born in Luton, made his debut back in 2002 and had enjoyed another consistent campaign this time around.



### chris coyne

Coyne is an Australian centre back who joined Luton for £50,000 back in September 2001. The 28-year-old has now played more than 200 times and is a favourite with the fans. Prior to arriving at Kenilworth Road, Coyne spent some time on loan with Brentford and Southend for whom he played one game towards the end of the 1998/99 seasons.



### leon barnett

A highly rated young centre-back, Barnett has earned rave reviews since breaking into the Luton side. The 21-year-old scored on the opening day of the season to help the Hatters beat Leicester



2-0 and he has since gone on to establish himself as a regular, despite being sent off at Brentford in the League Cup back in September.

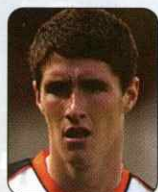
### lewis emanuel

Emanuel – who can play either left back or left midfield – joined Luton from his home-town club Bradford City last summer. The 23-year-old has made 40 appearances for the Hatters so far, scoring two goals against Sheffield Wednesday and Wolverhampton Wanderers.



### steven o'leary

A 22-year-old midfielder, O'Leary has played just eight games this season. The London born battler – who came up through Luton's youth system – scored in the recent defeat against Plymouth, but has not been able to stop his side suffering relegation. O'Leary also spent time on loan with Tranmere Rovers last season where he played alongside current Southend defender Simon Francis.



### matthew spring

Spring is currently enjoying his second spell with Luton. The midfielder originally played for the Hatters between 1997 and 2004, making almost 300 appearances. The 29-year-old then opted to join Leeds United, but after a spell with local rivals Watford he returned to Kenilworth Road in January for £200,000



### markus heikkinen

A Finnish international, Heikkinen joined from Aberdeen in July 2005 and has produced a series

of fine performances for the Hatters. The 29-year-old has played 75 times for Luton and is comfortable in either defence or midfield. Previously has also played at Fratton Park with Portsmouth.



### david bell

A talented midfielder, Bell first burst onto the scene while with Rushden and Diamonds. He made more than 100 appearances while at Nene Park, but opted to join Luton in January 2006. Since then he has continued to impress, but he has scored just three goals this season.



### calvin andrew

A 20-year striker, Andrew has figured in five games for Luton this season, but has yet to score. He did net against Plymouth Argyle last season though and has also spent time on loan with both Grimsby Town and Bristol City.



### drew talbot

A £250,000 signing from Sheffield Wednesday in January 2007, Talbot has scored three goals for Luton this season. One of those was the winner against his former side Sheffield Wednesday in February and he also netted against Hull and Norwich City. Talbot came through the youth system at Wednesday and also had a loan spell with Scunthorpe United.



## the rest of the squad...

No.	Name	Nationality	Position	DOB	Previous Clubs	LTFC Apps (Goals)
1	Marlon Beresford	English	Goalkeeper	02-09-1969	Sheff Weds, Bury (loan), Northampton (loan), Crewe (loan), Burnley, Middlesbrough, Wolves (loan), York, Bradford, Barnsley	132 (0)
3	Sol Davis	English	Defender	04-09-1979	Swindon Town	183 (2)
5	Russell Perrett	English	Defender	18-06-1973	Lymington, Portsmouth, Cardiff	108 (9)
6	Paul Underwood	English	Defender	16-08-1973	Enfield, Rushden	72 (5)
8	Steve Robinson	Northern Irish	Midfielder	10-12-1974	Tottenham, Leyton Orient (loan), Bournemouth, Preston, Bristol City (loan)	177 (11)
9	Bjorn Runstrom	Swedish	Forward	03-01-1984	Chievo, Hammarby, Fulham	8 (2)
11	Dean Morgan	English	Forward	03-10-1983	Colchester, Reading	80 (11)
17	Richard Langley	Jamaican	Midfielder	27-12-1979	QPR, Cardiff	30 (1)
18	Ahmet Brkovic	Croatian	Midfielder	23-09-1974	HNK Dubrovnik, Leyton Orient	218 (38)
19	Sam Parkin	English	Forward	14-03-1981	Chelsea, Millwall (loan), Wycombe (loan), Oldham (loan), Northampton (loan), Swindon, Ipswich	8 (1)
20	Adam Boyd	English	Forward	25-05-1982	Hartlepool, Boston (loan)	23 (2)
21	Keith Keane	Irish	Midfielder	20-11-1986	Trainee	70 (3)
22	Danny Stevens	English	Midfielder	26-11-1986	Trainee	1 (0)
23	Besian Idrizaj	Austrian	Forward	12-10-1987	Liverpool	5 (0)
32	Ed Asafu-Adjaye	English	Defender	22-12-1988	Trainee	0 (0)

### an opposing view...

## fan talk

### Although you're already relegated, how do you feel the team will approach today's encounter at Roots Hall?

Our manager has already stated that the players need to prove they are worth keeping at the club and hopefully, even though we're relegated, we can give a good enough performance to get our first win under Blackwell's reign. Southend need the three points to give yourselves a chance to stay up, but in many respects the pressure will be off us and it should give us the freedom to get forward.

### Were you happy with the appointment of Kevin Blackwell as manager?

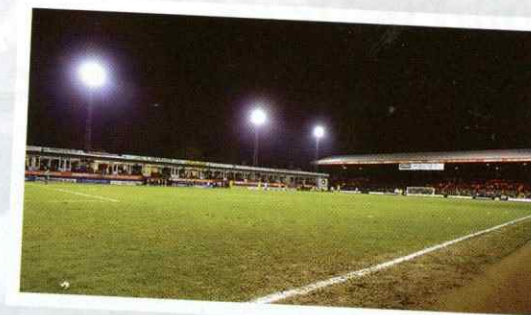
I believe he was a good replacement for Mike Newell. Although we haven't won in the five games he has overseen and have been relegated, I think any manager was going to find it a very difficult task. We now need to see out the season and get some big plans in place to get out of League One as quickly as possible, but I believe Blackwell is the man to help us do that.

### Having enjoyed a previously solid campaign in the Championship, what has gone wrong this time around?

It has been said many times this season, but the facts speak for themselves – we sold our best players for around £9 million and didn't spend any of that to replace them. Carlos Edwards has proved how good he is at Sunderland and in losing Steve Howard and Rowan Vine, you can easily imagine how many goals they would have scored together. The bottom line is, we lost far too big a chunk of our squad to cope and the quality hasn't been there to get us out of trouble.

### Would you say the future is still bright for Luton Town?

Of course it is. We have a new manager and a new chairman and so far they both seem



forward thinking people. It was a big setback to be relegated, but I believe we can rebuild to move back into the Championship as soon as possible and further down the line build a new stadium.

### What is your score prediction for the match?

You don't seem to be coping too well in your home games and hopefully that pressure will work in our favour. I reckon we can sneak a 2-1 win.

● Questions answered by Steve Johnson.



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## view from the other side...

**ever-eager to get an opposing view, we get the views of the hatters' boss Kevin Blackwell...**

**It may seem like Kevin Blackwell has only been in the Luton hot seat for five minutes, but he already has his work cut out building for the future.**

Blackwell has big plans for Luton Town and knows their relegation to League One will provide him with the chance to start from scratch to get the team moving forward.

Always looking for a positive angle, Blackwell insisted that their relegation to League One was not the end of the world and while ultimately disappointed, is upbeat about steering the club back up the football ladder.

He said: "I can only deal with the two games that we've got left and I want the team to go out and try to win them; that's for sure."

"But I think it's quite clear that I inherited a big problem when I came to this Club, and as much as I'd like to wave that magic wand and clear it, it won't happen overnight."

"It's a difficult job and I know how difficult it is for clubs to go down and then come straight back up again."

"I'll make no bones about it; it's going to be tough."

### Hurts

"Believe you me, it hurts to be relegated. I haven't come here to sit in the lower echelons of English football."

"It's the first time I've been down there for 12 years and I aim to get the Club back up there as quick as I can."

"The Chairman has high levels of expectation and demands. The players will have to accept that."

"What I've seen is that there is quality at this football club, although we will have to add some experience to help those players through."

The former Leeds' boss is clearly ambitious and even with two matches of the current season to play, he is looking for his players to fight for their right to remain at the club.

Blackwell clearly has the persona of not being swayed by reputations and even with such little time left, is looking for the players to demonstrate they can meet his viewpoint.

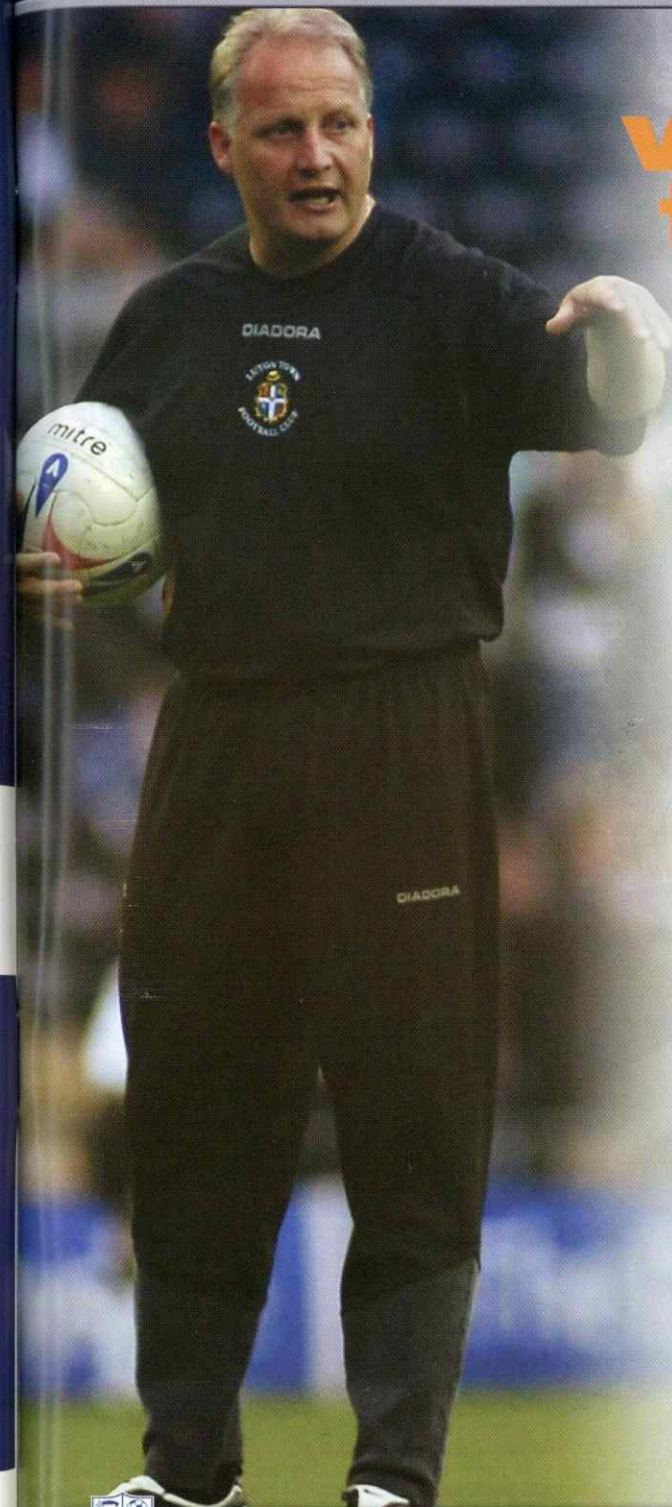
"Everybody is fighting for their position at this football club," he said.

"It's important that the players know exactly what I'm looking for and the standards that I'm trying to set."

"The club needs overhauling and we'll try to do the best we can in the summer."

"As far as I'm concerned, if they do their job then they've got a chance to stay here - if they don't they won't."

"It's as simple as that because length of contract means nothing to me."



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# THE FUTURE'S BRIGHT!

**IT HAS BEEN AN EXCITING AND FULFILLING SEASON FOR RICKY DUNCAN AND HE IS PREDICTING AN EVEN BRIGHTER FUTURE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF SOUTHEND'S NEXT BATCH OF YOUNG HOPEFULS...**

INTERVIEW: Dean Simmons PICTURES: Galvineyes





**The Head of Youth helped his Southend's under-18s run QPR a close second in the race for the Youth Alliance, with a marvellous spell of form keeping them firmly in the running till the very end.**

It was new territory from recent seasons for the youth team to reach such a lofty position, as Duncan allowed the youth team to excel upon the established groundwork built from the previous campaign.

With the raw potential of Franck Moussa and Charles Ademeno raising the biggest smile from Duncan, he is glowing about the prospect of seeing more players make the grade.

Having monitored the duo's expansion, Duncan will hope the professional contracts they earned will provide a stern platform that the other young players at the Club can themselves aim towards.

Although the end of the youth campaign has now arrived, in many aspects the hard work begins again with Duncan undoubtedly looking to set the stones in motion for further key developments at Southend and raise the bar even further.

*You must be pleased with the progress that has been made over the course of the season?*

The two players going through to the first team is the ultimate goal. As I said at the start, the job in hand for the youth department, all the way through from the centres, is to produce players for the first team. I look at the Centre of Excellence and what we've done there; things are going in the right direction.

*It has certainly been a solid league campaign in finishing runners-up?*

The players have put in such a lot of hard work along with the under-16s who have come in. I think we have used something like 56 appearances by the under-16s this year. In our last game of the season against Portsmouth we actually had an under-14, Julian Okai, make an eight minute appearance and it just shows the quality that we have got in the Centre of Excellence.

*Seeing Charles Ademeno and Franck Moussa earn professional contracts must inspire the other youngsters?*

The players know that seeing the likes of Charles and Franck step forward is a big encouragement for them because they can see there is a clear path. The players work hard, they come out and we do double

sessions. They want to learn and are desperate to progress and get into Steve Tilson's first team. As long as they have got that mentality, then you've got a chance. I am so pleased with how the season has gone and it's great to see Franck sitting on the bench for the first team.

*It must have been good for the players to see a big following attend their last match of the season at Boots & Laces?*

We hadn't had a successful youth set-up for quite a while and I think that is something that Ron Martin, Steve Tilson and Paul Brush highlighted once the Club started moving forward within the first team. It was an area that they felt they needed to strengthen and now the fans might come down a bit more on a Saturday morning if the first team is at home. It's great to have people on the sidelines and the first thing the players said to me after the game (against Portsmouth), was how good it was to have so many fans in attendance. It was great for them and I'd like to see a bit more of that next season.

*Purely on games, what would you pick out as your key moment this season?*

Purely on games it would be going up to Coventry in the FA Youth Cup. I thought that we played tremendous there and were unlucky to go out on penalties. That was a good highlight for us. And then the backend of this season, since Christmas, I think that we have turned a corner so well and the players set themselves targets in every game and they have overachieved by two points. That's a great highlight for me, that they've sat down and set their targets and, better yet, achieved them.

*Although the season has drawn to a close, how busy a time will the summer be for you?*

It's a massive time for us. We go on a lot of tours now and take the boys away, which is a big part of their development. The tour programme is vital to us to get the boys away for a week and take them to tournaments. We get them to play against different styles, different temperaments, different types of refereeing and also teach them to live away from home. The first few tours we had went really well and we have a nice building block with which to work on over the next couple of years. We then have to prepare for the new intake of the seven scholars that are coming in - it never ends. In one way the football bit shuts down, but now all the administration work kicks in again, so we will have a busy month to sort all that out.





# centre of excellence

## under 16's reach final in le portel

Following the success of last year's tournament, we found ourselves invited yet again to the prestigious tournament held in a small French coastal town, approximately 10 minutes from Bologne.

This year the tournament only invited eight teams of which Brondby, Copenhagen, Bologne, Calais, Brommapojkarna, Grande Synthe, Stade Portel and ourselves made up the eight-team tournament.

We were put in a group of four and knew that we had to win our group to qualify automatically for the final. Because of this, we arrived on Friday April 6th at midday and spent the day preparing and relaxing for the three days of football ahead of ourselves.

On Saturday April 7th at 2pm, we played Stade Portel (the host team) in the opening game of the tournament. We knew that potentially this would be tough, as the opposition would certainly have the crowd on their side.

However, a first half goal by Jamie Dennis and a second half finish from Kyle Asante gave us a 2-0 win going into day two.

The all important game in the group was 9:30am on Sunday morning. We had to beat Brondby to go top. Bearing in mind the opposition boasts the best youth policy in Denmark and their first team have played in the Champions League on several occasions, we were aware that the game would be a tough one.

Tactically myself and Ricky watched Brondby the day before the game and noticed that the Danish giants would not like being pressed when in possession. Because of this, this was a priority in our gameplan – and it worked.

We won the game 3-0. By not giving the opposition a second to breathe meant we could play our own game.

Goals came from Tashan Adeyinka on the stroke of half time, Julian Okai earlier in the second half and a late goal from Stuart O'Keefe more than sealed the victory.

This meant that we only had to beat Grande Synthe to qualify for the final. We won the game 6-0 with three goals from Kyle Asante, one goal from Tashan Adeyinka, one from Julian Okai and another from Justin Hazell.

We had qualified for the final scoring 11 goals in three games, conceding no goals and were certainly favourites against Copenhagen for the 4pm Monday kick-off.

Everybody from local French fans to opposing players fancied us to beat the Danish side. We spent the morning after our prep-session taking a walk into the Bologne town centre to make the boys feel nice and relaxed prior to the afternoon's game.

At 4pm after the national anthems had been played, with over 500 people watching, the final kicked off and within 15 minutes Jamie Dennis scored what was in my opinion the goal of the tournament with a 30 yard half volley.

However, late in the second half the Danes fought back and we conceded our first goal of the tournament via a wide set piece. On full

### centre of excellence staff 2006/07

*Head of Youth:* Ricky Duncan  
*Youth Development Officer:* Luke Hobbs  
*Recruitment Officer:* Mark Bonner  
*Head of Centre Physio:* Allan Macgregor  
*Centre Physio:* Jim Johnson  
*Goalkeeper Coach:* Terry Mason  
*Physical Conditioning Coach:* Matthew Clements  
*Matchday Co-Ordinator:* Ken Clarke  
*Floating Coach:* Ian Hart  
*Floating Coach:* Bill Garner  
*Under 18 Coach:* Ricky Duncan  
*Under 16 Coach:* Luke Hobbs  
*Under 14 Coach:* Simon Cox  
*Under 12 Coach:* Gregg Briggs  
*Under 11 Coach:* Ian Hart  
*Under 10 Coach:* Gareth Dace  
*Under 9 Coach:* Mark Bonner

time with the score being 1-1 it meant the game went straight into penalties.

Our first penalty taker was Stuart O'Keefe who scored. Nathan McDonald then saved a penalty which had to be taken again due to the referee believing that our goalkeeper moved prior to the kick. Copenhagen then scored.

Julian Okai put us 2-1 ahead, but Copenhagen made it 2-2. Tashan Adeyinka then missed, which meant Copenhagen only had to score to win the tournament, which they did.

During the presentation Ricky Byrne, the under-16 captain, stepped up to collect two awards – a finalist's trophy and a trophy for being the best attack in the tournament.

What is pleasing for me is that we were the best team in open play in the tournament and that as a Centre of Excellence in 2007 we have entered three top European tournaments and made the final of all three.

U10s January: Langenbochum Champions.  
Beating Slavia Prague 3-1 in the final.  
U12s March: Nantes finalists  
Losing to Boa Vista Porto 2-0.  
U16s March: Bologne finalists  
Losing on penalties 3-2 to Copenhagen.

We have an exciting summer ahead and will keep you informed at all times on our website.  
Regards,

Luke Hobbs

with Luke Hobbs

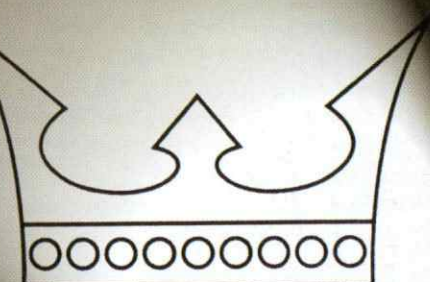


● Luke Hobbs

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The King Edmund School is pleased to be associated with Southend United Football Club, by providing our floodlit all-weather pitch for their School of Excellence training.

As a business and Enterprise Specialist school, and a member of the Government's High Performing Specialist School group, The King Edmund School are proud of our continuing success and our involvement with the local community.



Courage and Perseverance

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**Sam Davy:** Wayne Tel Decorators  
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#### Under 11's

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Percy Dalton Famous Peanut Company  
**Luke Webb:** Harralan Properties  
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**Daniel Neat:** Mumin Ali

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**Aaron Cooper:** Bridge Garage, Asda Shoeburyness, SPC  
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**Kane Ferdinand:** Pexhurst Services Ltd  
**Joseph Sheldon:** Fortis Bank  
**Reece Ottley:** Elite Hair Studios  
**Bradley Williams:** Wick Lane Stores Dover Court  
**Julian Okai:** Cheetah-UK  
**Keiron Harris:** MJF Properties

#### Under 15's

**Owen Longley:** Wakelands Farm, Woolpack Public House  
**Justin Hazell:** The Training Team  
**Liam Valentine:** Supreme Installations, York House, RJ Printers

● If you are interested in sponsoring one of our Centre of Excellence players then please call Luke Hobbs on 01702 30 41 23.



● Seven new scholars make the step from the Centre of Excellence to the Under 18's



## commercial corner ...with brian wheeler

**Another season has flown by and once again it's been a very interesting campaign and one that will live long in the memory.**

The highlight must be the Carling Cup victory against Manchester United which was an unbelievable night and could be the reason why United will not win all four major competitions this season.

Other highlights have included the wins at Birmingham, Ipswich and recently against Preston however the main one for me has been to see Roots Hall packed to the rafters with an average of over 10,000-an impossible dream three years ago when gates were sometimes as low as 1,800. The Blues fans have been tremendous and I have witnessed some incredible scenes around the country where we have out sung the majority of the home support.

With just one game remaining, at Southampton next Sunday, our fate is still undecided and it would be wonderful to go to St Mary's with a chance of remaining in the Championship. It's difficult to ask for much more from the Blues faithful however it would be only right to give it one final push this afternoon. Whatever happens please remain behind the barriers at the final whistle to enable Tilly and the boys to show their appreciation.

Finally we hope that you all have a good summer and we look forward to seeing you all again in July.

Make plenty of noise this afternoon and get behind the boys.

Come on you Blues!

### thanks

On behalf of everyone here at Southend United, I would like to thank the whole host of supporters for their support throughout the 2006/07 season.

The list is endless and includes all from the numerous packages available here at Roots Hall. The 2006/07 season has been a fantastic season from a commercial point of view with almost 100% of our packages having sold out for every game.

We are now taking bookings for the new season which begins on August the 11th and any interested parties should contact the commercial department on 01702 304 133 as soon as possible.

### matchday sponsors

For our final game of the season it gives me great pleasure to welcome this afternoon's Matchday Sponsors who were of course our Main Club Sponsors during our two promotion campaigns in 2004/05 and 2005/06, Betterview Window and Conservatories. Hosting their executive suite this afternoon are Chairman Barry Noad and Managing Director Ron Green. Hopefully their attendance will bring us the luck we need and we can end the season on a high. We hope that you all enjoy the afternoon and we thank you for continuing to stick with Club this year and hopefully for the future.

### main club sponsors

We would like to welcome Perry Wilson and his guests from our main club sponsors Insure and Go. 'score a great deal on your travel insurance with insureandgo.com, proud main sponsors of Southend United'.

### shirt back sponsors, short sponsors, matchball sponsors, youth team sponsors

Haart Estate Agents, Simpson Webb, Gary Lockett, Safe and Secure.

### executive suites

A big thank you to all of our Executive Suite annual members for your support throughout the 2006/07 campaign. We hope that you have all enjoyed the facilities and we look forward to welcoming you all back for the 2007/08 season in August.

As soon as the fixtures are published for the 2007/08 season we will be taking bookings. For full details contact the commercial department 01702 304 133.

### Annual Members

Countryside Estates, IPECO Holdings Limited, Strathmore Care Group, Investors in the Sun, Oxbourne Projects Limited, NEG, The Blues Consortium, Insure & Go, Albon Engineering, Essex Ford, EDP Group, The Vie Bar, Cannon Piling Limited, Forrester Hyde Independent Financial Advisors, Elmdale Welding & Engineering Limited, Courage Brewers, K & R Utilities and Brockwell & Sons Limited.

### Matchday Guests

The Royal Bank of Scotland, Mecca Bingo-Rob Aldwinkle and Guests, Betterview Windows and Conservatories.

### platinum suite hosted by david crown

The Platinum Suite has been sold out for every match this season and we would like to thank all of our annual members for their continued support.

### Annual Members

Benham Preservations, Broadway Estates, Club Kingswood, Cottis House, Greenacre Smallholdings Limited, Coldrooms UK Ltd, John Sime Partnership, Jubilee Property Services, Leigh Timber, Visual Mark, Michael Claxton, Bill Barker, PDT Insurance Ltd., Pub Poker, RP Martin, Mortgage S-O-S UK, HV & G Sorrell, Supreme Coaches, Ted Carrington, Toocan Developments Ltd, Town & Country Estates, Wyndham Plastics, AJN Mechanical, Alton Gardens, Cumberland Packaging, Gavin Markscheffel & Guests, The Canning Family, The Gilligan Family, The Hems Family, RJ Jeffreys & Sons, Simpson Reed, The Hub London, Timothy Quinlan, Ronald Brown, Mike Gray, The Crown House, Blues Legends Paul Sansome & Shane Westley.

### blues lounge hosted by david crown

The Blues Lounge has also been at full capacity throughout this season and we expect the same in 2007/08. We are now taking enquiries for the 2007/08 season and for further details please call the commercial department on 01702 304 133.

This afternoon we welcome the following guests

### Annual Members

Specialist Building Services, R & D Multiplan Ltd., The Ward Family, MJ Marine Trimmers, Formara Limited, Designer Curtains, Ken Field & Guest, Starfish Land & New Homes Ltd, Dedman Property Services, BTMK Solicitors, HSBC Bank, Rickard Keen Chartered Accountants.

### Matchday Guests

Simcha Ben-David & Guests, William Murphy & Guests, The Watts Family, Peter Mitchell & Guests, David Stacey-The Football Programme Directory, Music Sales Limited

### sponsors lounge

A very warm welcome to Bailey Taylor Limited and guests who are enjoying our Sponsors Lounge facilities this afternoon.

We hope you enjoy your day with us at Roots Hall.

### family bonanza day

This afternoon we introduce Ben Mills who will be performing before the match as part of our Family Bonanza Day, the third and final day of the season. Ben was a finalist on ITV's X-Factor in 2006 coming in third position and he has already released an album which has reached number 3 in the album charts. Supporting Ben this afternoon is Claire Wright who is a regular star here at Roots Hall having appeared at our previous Bonanza Days and prior to our Christmas match against Birmingham.

The early birds will have received a goody bag and once again our friends from 'the Land of Make Believe' who are based in Southchurch Road, will be offering free face painting. We hope that you all enjoy the pre-match entertainment which has won the Club many accolades throughout the Football League.

### player of the year

Also prior to kick off we will be announcing the Fans Player of the Year and the Youth Team Players Player of the Year will be announced at half time. We will also be recognising the Youth Team's fantastic achievement of coming runners-up in the Youth Alliance League having been pipped for the Championship on the final day by QPR.

### essex ford half time challenge

Today will be the final time that the Half Time Challenge will be taking place in its current format. Next season we will return to one of the ideas from previous seasons in the hope that someone will one day win a brand new Ford Fiesta sponsored by Essex Ford. This season we have given away almost £7,500 in prize money during our 50/50 draw and hopefully we will be giving away as much next season. Thanks for your support in purchasing the 50/50 tickets, the process of which go towards the Youth set up here at the Blues.

### matchday operation

To run a matchday here at Roots Hall is a major operation and takes a great deal of dedication from literally hundreds of people. Most of the hard work goes unnoticed however I would like to thank all those that have helped to make this season one of the most memorable in the Club's history, regardless of the final league table position.

Our thanks go to the catering and bar staff, stewards and security staff, programme sellers, mobile catering sellers, ticket office staff and anyone else I have forgotten.

From a personal point of view I would like to thank all those that have helped with the



## CENTENARY BALL

**Incorporating the 2006/07 Players' Player Awards**  
Saturday 12th May 2007 at 7:00pm. Dress: Black Tie/Formal

### PACKAGE DETAILS:

- Champagne VIP Reception
- Souvenir Photograph & Centenary Memento Gift
- Complimentary Souvenir Centenary Programme
- Exquisite Four-Course Silver Service Sit-Down Meal
- Music and Entertainment from the 'Rat Pack Man'
- Top-Class Comedian Compare
- 2006/07 Players' Player Awards
- Fantastic Centenary Memorabilia Auction
- Music to Dance the Night Away until 1am

Prices: £650 + vat for table of 10 (includes player/legend plus their partner) or £70 + vat per ticket

For further details, or to book a table, please contact Brian Wheeler on: 01702 304133, or email: [brianwheeler@southend-united.co.uk](mailto:brianwheeler@southend-united.co.uk)



matchday entertainment including the Blue Belles and Ben Duncan for his assistance with the matchday music. I would also like to thank my colleagues in the Commercial Department for all of their efforts-it is much appreciated.

### see you in july

Details of our pre-season friendlies will be available via the club website during the closed season as will the date of the Meet the Blues Day. The Coca Cola League commences on the 11th of August and the fixtures will be first published on the 14th of June. We hope to be announcing our opponents for our Centenary Match within the next few weeks and we are sure that all Blues fans will join us to end the year of celebrations. Details will be available as ever via the Club website on [www.southendunited.co.uk](http://www.southendunited.co.uk)

We hope that you all enjoy the summer and we will see you all again in July. Thanks for your support in 2006/07, it has been tremendous.



### THE ANNUAL SOUTHEND UNITED FOOTBALL MEMORABILIA & PROGRAMME FAIR

**SUNDAY 29TH APRIL 2007**  
**11am to 2pm**  
**The New Shrimpers Club**  
**Southend United F.C.**

Light Refreshments & Bar Facilities

Admission 50p  
Includes a free draw for a new F.P.D. member  
THE EVENT IS ORGANISED BY THE FOOTBALL PROGRAMME DIRECTORY IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE FOOTBALL CLUB AND THE NEW SHRIMPERS CLUB



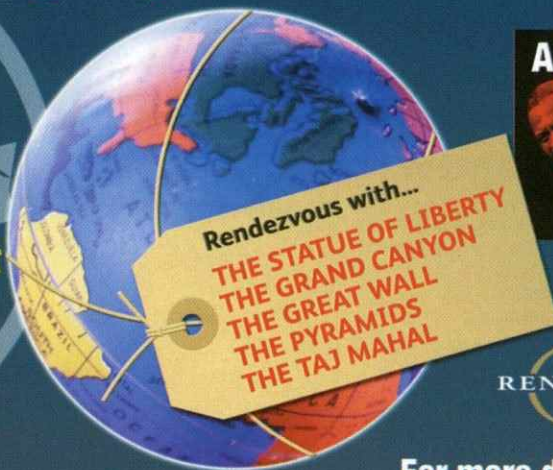


# Rendezvous Casino

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September



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## match action

### blues 1 barnsley 3

**Southend's inconsistent end to the season continued after they slipped to a 3-1 defeat at home to Barnsley.**

Roots Hall was in expectant mood after the midweek victory at Preston, but the Blues could never perform to those same heights and lost vital ground at the foot of the table.

Southend found themselves behind after only 15 minutes when Daniel Nardiello cut in from the right, picked out his spot and then curled the ball into the opposite corner of the net.

Mark Gower blazed a free kick narrowly over and a fierce strike from Jamal Campbell-Ryce was parried above the goal by Nick Colgan, but nothing clear cut was presented the Blues' way.

Instead Barnsley were able to double their lead in bizarre circumstances after 29 minutes when Kyel Reid's corner went directly into the goal, as it sailed over the head of Darryl Flahavan and dipped in at the far post.

Southend's response was limited, with clear frustration breaching into their play, as they found no way through the visiting defence.

Campbell-Ryce's cross deflected into the path of Gower, but he could only steer the ball straight at Colgan inside the box.

In fact, Nardiello could have increased the Tykes' lead on the stroke of half time when he ghosted into the box, but with the ball played in front of his feet from just a few yards out, he scooped it over a gaping goal.

The second half was much more intense, as Southend found greater range in their attack and piled everybody forward.

Of course, this was needed after Barnsley scored a third goal on 51 minutes when Nardiello nipped ahead of everyone from a corner and directed the ball above Flahavan at the far post.

More urgency came with Simon Francis' long range strike fumbled by Colgan, but no one could pick up the loose ball.

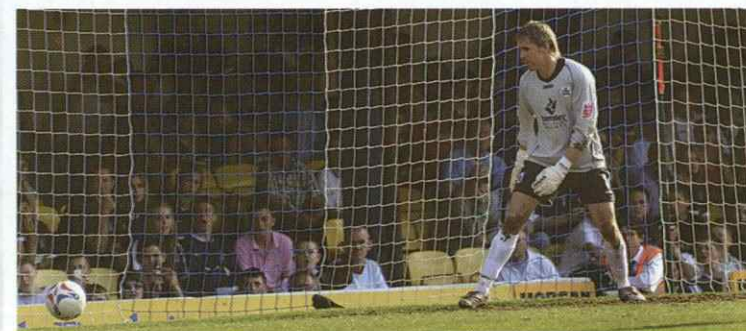
But Southend did finally hit the back of the net in the 68th minute after Lee Bradbury initially headed onto the crossbar and Adam Barrett had a goalbound shot blocked, but it was third time lucky with Mark Gower crashing the ball home via the post.

Bradbury rifled a shot goalwards that Colgan turned around the post, while Campbell-Ryce twisted his way outside the box before rifling the ball inches over the goal. Peter Clarke also miscued a free header wide of the target.

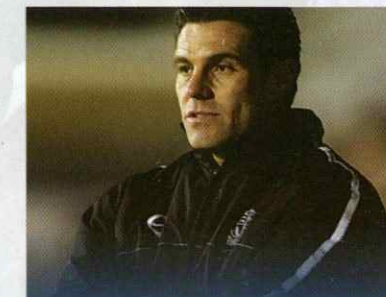
With Barnsley content to defend their lead, they resorted to counter attacks, but one such move nearly saw them add further woes to Southend when Grant McCann struck the woodwork from 20 yards.

A last throw of the dice saw Steven Hammell crack the post from a free kick in the dying minutes, but there was to be no dramatic comeback.

● Turn over for all the match action...



● Mark Gower's shot hits the post before crossing the line for The Blues' consolation goal.



**steve tilson said:**

"After beating Preston everyone - the fans and the players - felt that we could get a result and still be in with a good shout to stay up."

"But we seemed to tense up playing at home again and the pressure got to us."

"We have ended up losing 3-1 to a side that we are capable of beating."

"For the first 15 minutes we started well, but as soon as they scored, you could sense that added pressure."

### match facts

**Southend United:** Flahavan, Francis, Clarke, Barrett, Hammell, Campbell-Ryce, McCormack, Maher, Gower, Harrold, Foran (Bradbury 64)

**Subs not used:** Collis, Hunt, Sodje, Moussa.

**Yellow Cards:** Clarke.

**Red Cards:** None.

**Goals:** Gower 69.

**Barnsley:** Colgan, Kay, Nyatanga, Paul Reid, Heckingbottom, Devaney, Howard (McCann 56), Togwell, Kyel Reid, Ferenczi, Nardiello (Rajczi 67).

**Subs not used:** Lucas, Jones, Austin.

**Yellow Cards:** Heckingbottom, Howard, Nardiello.

**Red Cards:** None.

**Goals:** Nardiello 15, 51, Kyel Reid 29.

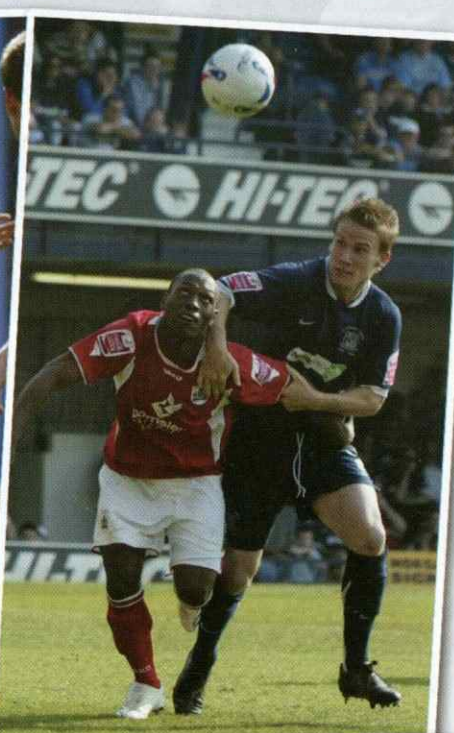
**Attendance:** 10,089

**Referee:** K. Stroud (Hampshire)



[www.southendunited.co.uk](http://www.southendunited.co.uk)





Clockwise from top left: Adam Barratt rises highest, ...as does Matt Harrold, Kevin Maher gets stuck in, Mark Gower scraps for possession, ...before pulling a goal back for The Blues,

The Skipper feels the pain, There was no getting past the ball-faced keeper this time!



## MANAGERIAL RECORDS

Steve Tilson	Kevin Blackwell
Played 162 Won 64 Drawn 46 Lost 52 For 215 Against 192 Av Pts/game 1.47 Biggest Win(s) Southend 5 QPR 0 (09/02/2007). Biggest Loss(es) Darlington 4 Southend 0 (02/10/2004).	Played 5 Won 0 Drawn 1 Lost 4 For 3 Against 8 Av Pts/game 0.20 Biggest Win(s) No wins found Biggest Loss(es) QPR 3 Luton 2 (09/04/2007).

## MANAGER HEAD TO HEAD RECORD

Played ..0	Steve Tilson.....0	Kevin Blackwell.....0
Draws ..0	Goals 0	Goals 0

### Player with the most...

**shots**  
Freddie  
Eastwood 125

### shots on target

Freddie  
Eastwood 60

### shots off target

Freddie  
Eastwood 65

### assists

Freddie  
Eastwood 6

### crosses

Mark  
Gower 152

### fouls

Freddie  
Eastwood 64

### free-kicks-won

Jamal  
Campbell-Ryce  
73



## GAMES SINCE

2	a win	11
3	a home win	6
1	an away win	19
0	a defeat	0
0	a home defeat	0
0	an away defeat	0
5	a score draw	13
22	a no score draw	4
0	conceding a goal	0
0	scoring a goal	1
0	conceding > 1	1
2	scoring > 1	2
6	keeping a clean sheet	4
3	falling to score	0
6	back to back wins	37
0	back to back defeats	0
2	gaining a point	4
0	losing a point	0
7	win by > one	23
1	loss by > one	3

### Player with the most...

**shots**  
Rowan  
Vine 70

### shots on target

Rowan  
Vine 35

### shots off target

Rowan  
Vine 35

### assists

David  
Bell 6

### crosses

Carlos  
Edwards 70

### fouls

Rowan  
Vine 55

### free-kicks-won

Dean  
Morgan 46

## SHARP SHOOTERS

Southend	CCFC Cup		Tot	Luton	CCFC Cup		Tot
Freddy Eastwood	11	5	16	Dean Morgan	4	1	5
Mark Gower	8	2	10	Ahmet Brkovic	3	0	3
Kevin Maher	5	1	6	David Bell	3	0	3

## TEAM HEAD TO HEAD RECORD

Played.....55	Southend wins.....17	Luton wins.....24
Draws.....14	Goals 73 (1.3 per game)	Goals 80 (1.5 per game)
0-0's.....3	Times failed to score 18	Times failed to score 13

Biggest League win at Southend for each team:

10/04/1965 & 19/01/1929 Southend 5-0 Luton

10/03/1923 Southend 1-3 Luton



## 2006/07 LEAGUE STATS

23	Position	24
44	Played	44
10	Won	9
12	Drawn	10
22	Lost	25
45	Goals For	50
73	Goals Against	75
42	Points	37

### Record Against Top Half of Table

W	D	L	RANK	W	D	L	RANK
7	5	11	8	4	6	13	23

### Record Against Bottom Half of Table

W	D	L	RANK	W	D	L	RANK
3	7	11	24	5	4	12	23

### Record When Scoring First

W	D	L	RANK	W	D	L	RANK
9	2	4	22	7	2	3	24

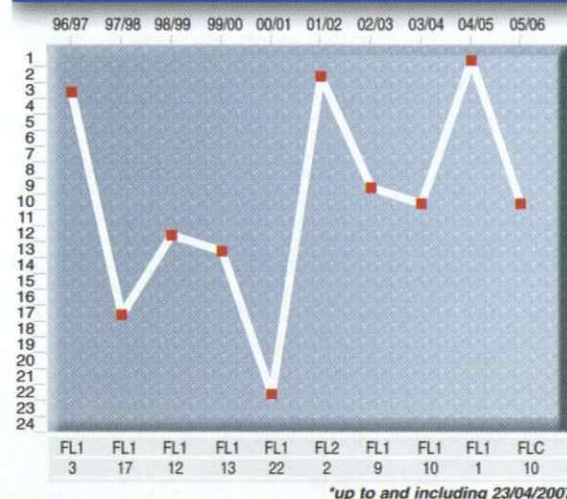
### Record When Conceding First

W	D	L	RANK	W	D	L	RANK
1	5	18	22	2	3	22	19

### Match Scores

Wins: 1-0[3], 2-0[1], 2-1[1], 3-1[3], 3-2[1], 5-0[1]. Losses: 0-1[4], 0-2[3], 0-3[4], 0-4[3], 1-2[1], 1-3[4], 2-3[3]. Draws: 0-0[5], 1-1[5], 2-2[1], 3-3[1].

## LUTON - TEN SEASON RECORD



\*up to and including 23/04/2007

# Roots Hall Noticeboard

## today's mascots...



Name: Tommy Davis  
Age: 10  
Hobbies: WWE  
Favourite Player: Richie Foran



Name: Sam Bjorck  
Age: 11  
Hobbies: Cross Country  
Favourite Player: Efe Sodje



Name: Luca Albon  
Age: Five  
Hobbies: Motorbikes  
Favourite Player: Jamal Campbell-Ryce



and from luton...  
Name: Adam Clark  
Age: 11  
Hobbies: Playstation  
Favourite Player: All the Team



## message from essex police and southend united football club

**PITCH ENCROACHMENT**  
It is an offence for a spectator to go onto the playing area or adjacent area where spectators are not generally admitted.

Any spectator who enters the playing area or adjacent area can expect to be arrested and prosecuted for this criminal offence. Upon conviction, Essex Police will apply to the court for a Football Banning Order; which can prevent attendance at future domestic and international fixtures as well as any other condition or restriction the court may feel will prevent football related violence or disorder.

**DO NOT ENCROACH UPON THE PLAYING AREA AT ANY TIME**

## season card reminder

Southend United Season Card Holders are reminded that they should keep hold of their Season Card's for next season.

The Blues won't be issuing new Season Cards to existing supporters who wish to renew once prices are announced.

Fans who decide to sign-up again for next season will automatically have their current card credited for the 2007/08 season.

## no smoking

Fans are reminded that Roots Hall is a no smoking stadium and any supporter found smoking risks being ejected.

From next season all Football grounds will be adopting a no smoking policy to fall in line with government guidelines

Page sponsored by Cllr James Cottis — Backing the Blues Future  
[www.jamescottis.co.uk](http://www.jamescottis.co.uk) james@jamescottis.co.uk





## study support centre

### end of season report

Just like the Blues we've had an exciting "season". We have reported a number of the main events to you in our programme notes. We thought we'd use the opportunity of the last match of the season to recall some of our more memorable moments.

One of the most exciting events for one of the schools that came along to us was to carry the "Kick Racism Out of Football" flag around the field when SUFC played Ipswich on Saturday 21st October.

The children came from Hinguar Primary and the crowds both home and away gave them huge rounds of applause as they carried the flag around. It was a truly memorable day for those children and the Centre staff who accompanied them.

We recently had player visits from Alan McCormack and Richie Foran. These were at the

end of session celebrations for St. Helens Primary School and St. Bernard's High School for Girls. The children thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to see first team players and have their photograph taken with them. Alan and Richie also presented awards at the end of the evening.

Throughout the year we have had the opportunity of showing the children from the many schools who come to our centre around Roots Hall. In feedback from the children this

has often been the most popular thing that we do in their course and shows the attraction of having our Centre based within the football ground.

Our Centre has some exciting new developments coming up and we are at the moment in the process of advertising for a teacher in our forthcoming "Double Club" that is being run on conjunction with Southend Borough Council and SUFC. A copy of the advertisement can be seen below. If anyone reading this is interested in the post then please contact Simon Bell, the Centre Manager on 01702 304102.

It has been another busy year for the our ever developing centre. We look forward to keeping you up to date on events next season. We would though like to take this opportunity to thank the Directors and Staff at SUFC for their continuing support of our centre and we look forward to working with them again next season.

### Extra Time @ SUFC Study Support Centre



### Double Club / PFS Centre Teacher Sept 07 (1 Year Fixed term in first instance) TFS

In partnership with the DfES and Southend United Football Club, the Extra Time @ SUFC Study Support Centre and Southend Borough Council are looking to recruit an outstanding classroom practitioner of years 6, 7 or 8 to lead our work as part of the DfES / Arsenal Phase 2 'Double Club' Pilot.

The scheme delivers literacy, numeracy ICT, and sport through thematic football-based resources in curriculum time in KS3 in a local Secondary School. An ability to lead related football coaching sessions would be beneficial but not essential.

The postholder will wear club clothing and will operate 3 days a week in a local Secondary School and 2 days at the PFS Centre at Southend United Football Club where they will receive support and 1 day dedicated to planning and preparation.

For further information, please contact Simon Bell, Centre Manager, at [simonbell@southend-united.co.uk](mailto:simonbell@southend-united.co.uk) or 01702 304102.

Closing date: Tuesday 8th May

**"...the crowds both home and away gave them huge rounds of applause as they carried the flag around. It was a truly memorable day for those children and the Centre staff who accompanied them."**

## seasons to remember classic campaigns

Football historian LEIGH EDWARDS selects ten Luton Town 'Classic Campaigns' from 60 post-war seasons.

### 1954/55

Gordon Turner scored 32 goals as Luton Town won promotion to the top-flight for the first time in 1954/55. Dally Duncan's side had a hugely impressive season, slamming four goals past Hull City, Rotherham, Liverpool and Port Vale. Tom Aherne and Shay Dunne were ever-present as Luton pipped Rotherham to the runners-up slot on goal average with a 3-0 win at Doncaster.

### 1958/59

Luton Town were FA Cup finalists for the first and only time in 1958/59. The Hatters were unbeaten in their opening ten First Division games, trouncing Manchester City 5-1 and scoring four goals past West Ham and Preston. They recovered from a lean spell to beat Arsenal 6-3 and Burnley 6-2, then top scorer Allan Brown netted four goals in a 5-1 demolition of Nottingham Forest but poor results over the closing weeks saw them finish below mid-table. Syd Owen's side lost 2-1 to Nottingham Forest in the F.A. Cup final.

### 1967/68

Bruce Rioch netted 24 goals as Luton Town won the Fourth Division title in 1967/68. New captain Terry Branton made his debut as the Hatters kicked off with a 1-1 draw at Wrexham and Ian Buxton arrived from Derby in September. Luton lost just two of their first 18 matches and beat Charlton in the League Cup first round, scoring 27 goals in a run of eight successive wins. Allan Brown's side went top of the table with a 2-0 win at Brentford in February and Keith Allen, Max Dougan, Fred Jardine, John Moore and Ray Whittaker also starred as they remained in pole position, clinching the title with a 4-0 victory over Crewe.

### 1969/70

Malcolm Macdonald scored 25 times as Luton Town won promotion in 1969/70. The Hatters had narrowly missed promotion the previous season and Bruce Rioch was sold to Aston Villa for a record fee, with Alec Stock signing Malcolm Macdonald, John Ryan and John Collins. Luton were early leaders after remaining unbeaten in their opening 13 matches, recruiting



Chris Nicholl from Halifax and Matt Tees from Charlton. Malcolm Macdonald grabbed hat-tricks in 5-0 wins over Bradford City and Reading, with Luton unbeaten in their last six matches and clinching promotion as Third Division runners-up with a 0-0 draw at Mansfield.

### 1973/74

Luton Town regained top-flight status after an absence of 14 years in 1973/74. The Hatters recovered from a 4-0 defeat at Nottingham Forest on the opening day to hammer Carlisle 6-1, embarking on an eight-match unbeaten run. Harry Haslam signed Alan West from Burnley and Jimmy Husband from Everton as Luton maintained their promotion challenge. Husband netted a hat-trick in a 3-1 victory over rivals Orient, then leading marksman Barry Butlin scored three in a 4-2 win over Preston. Alan Garner and Bobby Thomson were ever-present and other stars included Peter Anderson and John Ryan as Luton finished runners-up.

### 1981/82

David Pleat (pictured above) guided Luton Town to the Second Division title in 1981/82. The Hatters had narrowly missed promotion in the previous two years and Tony Grealish was swapped for Brighton's Brian Horton. They raced to the top by winning their first three games and hammered rivals Watford 4-1, then Steve White scored four times in a 6-0 demolition of Grimsby. Richard Money arrived from Liverpool and was an influential figure as Luton were unbeaten in their last 14 matches. Leading marksman Brian Stein, Mal Donaghy, Kirk Stephens and Steve White were all ever-present as Luton won the title with 88 points.

### 1987/88

Ray Harford plotted Luton Town's 1988 Littlewoods Cup final triumph. Danny Wilson replaced Peter Nicholas in midfield, while Micky Weir arrived from Hibernian and Mike Newell moved to Leicester. The Hatters won 5-2 at Oxford and Luton lost just twice in 12 matches including a 7-4 win in the return match against Oxford, finishing ninth in the top-flight. They defeated Wigan 5-2, Coventry 3-1, Ipswich 1-0, Bradford City 2-0 and Oxford 3-1 in the Littlewoods Cup before beating Arsenal 3-2 in the final. Luton were also FA Cup semi-finalists and Simod Cup finalists.

### 1988/89

Luton Town were Littlewoods Cup finalists for the second consecutive season in 1988/89. Luton's first home win was 1-0 against Liverpool and they beat Southampton 6-1 in January but First Division form was generally disappointing, with the Hatters narrowly avoiding relegation by winning three of their last four games. Luton defeated Burnley 2-1, Leeds 2-0, Manchester City 3-1, Southampton 2-1 and West Ham 5-0 in the Littlewoods Cup before losing 3-1 to Nottingham Forest in the final.

### 2001/02

Steve Howard scored 24 times as Luton Town won promotion in 2001/02. Joe Kinnear's side were early leaders after winning their opening two matches and newcomer Carl Griffiths netted a hat-trick in a 5-1 win over Torquay. The Hatters briefly regained pole position after beating Darlington 5-2 in October and a late run of 12 successive wins, slamming five goals past Halifax and Mansfield, took Luton back to the top with two games remaining but they finished runners-up to Plymouth.

### 2004/05

Mike Newell managed Luton Town to the League One title in 2004/05. The Hatters stormed to the top of the table, winning 10 of their first 12 games. They beat Bradford City 4-0 and Wrexham 5-1, then Steve Howard netted a hat-trick in a 4-1 win at MK Dons. The 1-0 victory over Port Vale in December heralded a 14 match unbeaten run and Luton bounced back from a 3-1 defeat in the return fixture to hammer Bristol City 5-0. Briefly displaced as leaders by Hull, they triumphed 4-1 at Torquay and secured promotion with four games remaining. Luton won the title with a record 98 points.



# Southend United's Blue Belles



We would like to Thank our Sponsors for all support through the Season



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improving facilities • creating opportunities • building communities



**It is a sad fact of life that all good things must come to an end.**

Regrettably, this is a truism which applies to the tenure of our place in the Championship for this season.

Do not misunderstand me. I am not advocating that we should give up. On the contrary, players and fans alike deserve a rousing send off for what has been in many ways a magnificent year at Roots Hall. We have seen some fabulous games here this season: the fight-back against Norwich City was one of the most pulsating matches I have seen in many a long year. Our demolition of West Bromwich Albion in January sparked off the belief that the great escape was possible. The manner in which we went toe-to-toe with Southampton and beat them was joyous and our 5-0 thrashing of QPR will live long in our memories.

And, of course, there was the cup tie against Manchester United. Whatever else has happened this season, that victory will go down as perhaps the greatest night in our history. We defeated the League Cup holders on our own patch with a display of verve, skill and bravery. We gained national and international recognition for that special evening - finally, our little club

had grabbed its moment in the limelight against the most famous football team in the world. We are the only club that has delivered a knock out blow to Sir Alex Ferguson's side this season and that is something of which we should be eternally proud.

#### Talented

So I do not enter the final throes of this season with a heavy heart. Although I believe we will be relegated on 6 May, we should not bemoan our fate. Instead, the players should throw off the shackles of our league predicament and go out there and enjoy themselves. This is a seriously talented group of players, the like of whom we have not seen for some time at Roots Hall and whom we may not see again for a while. Let us roar our appreciation for them to the rafters and thank them for some fantastic memories from this season.

After all, none of us knows what the future will hold. When I started writing for the programme at the beginning of the 2004-05 season, the club's long term future was still very much in the balance. I remember watching a diabolical 0-0 draw against Cambridge early on

in that campaign and thinking that I had seen at least one, if not both, of that season's relegation candidates.

Unusually for me, that belief turned out to be entirely correct as Cambridge departed the league that season.

It is remembering games like that which makes you realise just how far Tilly and Brush have taken us in such a short space of time. Whatever happens in the next two games - and sadly, I believe that Hull will get the win they need to seal our fate (so let's stop worrying about things and just go out and enjoy ourselves!) - we must remember that we have an amazing managerial duo who will take us to even greater heights in the future.

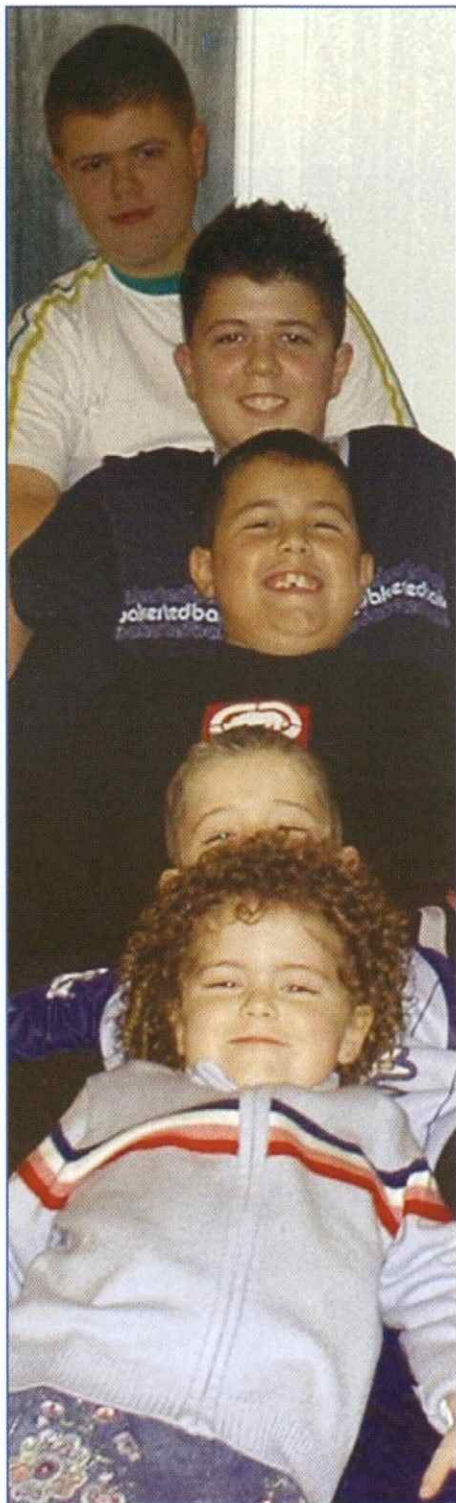
So perhaps I should qualify my opening statement. Whilst most good things - such as my articles for this august publication, of which this is my last - must come to an end, I sincerely hope that Steve Tilson will continue to be our manager for many, many years to come. Here's to next season, when I truly believe that we will continue to go up with Tilly & Brush!

Matt Walker  
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# **nick hart's a blue century...**

## **100 years ago...**

Having already secured the Southern League division two title at their first attempt the Blues ended their first ever season with another title. A 5-0 win over Tunbridge Wells in a South Eastern League division two encounter secured that title as well. The result meant that in their first ever competitive season Southend United had a record, over the two competitions they entered, of played 40 won 31 drawn 5 and lost 4 with 143 goals scored and just 29 conceded!

## **50 years ago...**

This week 50 years ago saw United draw 3-3 at champions elect Ipswich in a division three south encounter. 20,012 fans at Portman Road saw United behind 2-1 at half time but goals from John McGuigan, Kevin Baron and Roy Hollis gave the Blues a share of the points. A final day 1-0 home win over Millwall meant United finished a creditable 7th in the table.

## **20 years ago...**

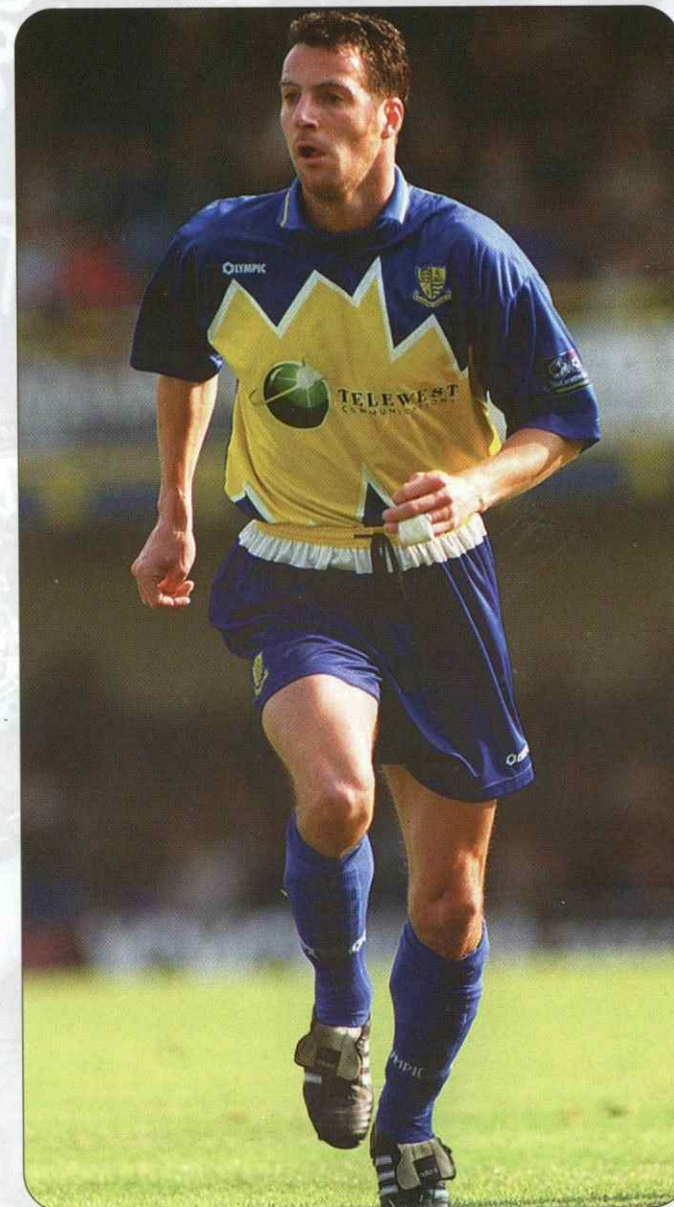
Twenty years ago this week and a rearranged Thursday night fixture at lowly Wrexham saw Paul Clark's promotion chasing side well beaten 4-0 in front of just 935 fans. Two days later and a 2-1 reverse at relegation threatened Burnley meant United had to win their remaining two fixtures, at home to Cambridge and away at Stockport, which they did pipping Wolves for third place. The two nil Friday night win over Stockport saw Richard Cadette score his 31st and last goal for the Blues as he was transferred to Sheffield United in the close season. Manager Clark was subsequently replaced by Dick Bate and became assistant manager.

## **10 years ago...**

Huddersfield Town visited Roots Hall and consigned Ronnie Whelan's side to relegation. Only 4,762 fans were inside Roots Hall to see a young Terriers side see off United 2-1 thanks to goals either side of half time from Andy Payton and David Beresford. Jeroen Boere (pictured right) did pull a goal back for United eight minutes from time but it was too little too late. United's disappointing season ended a week later with a 4-0 reverse at Grimsby meaning a bottom place finish and the end of a seven year tenure in the second flight of English football.

## **5 years ago...**

A meaningless mid table division three south against Macclesfield Town saw United's 2001-02 season come to an end. The only incentive for the Blues was a top half finish an all too forgettable season. 2,415 fans, including a large contingent from Essex, witnessed a 0-0 draw that meant United finished the season in 12th place and their hosts one place below. The only real excitement of the entire 90 minutes was when a bout of pushing involving Damon Searle in front of the two dug outs resulted in a 20 man brawl that saw Phil Whelan for the Blues booked and home defender Dave Ridler sent off.



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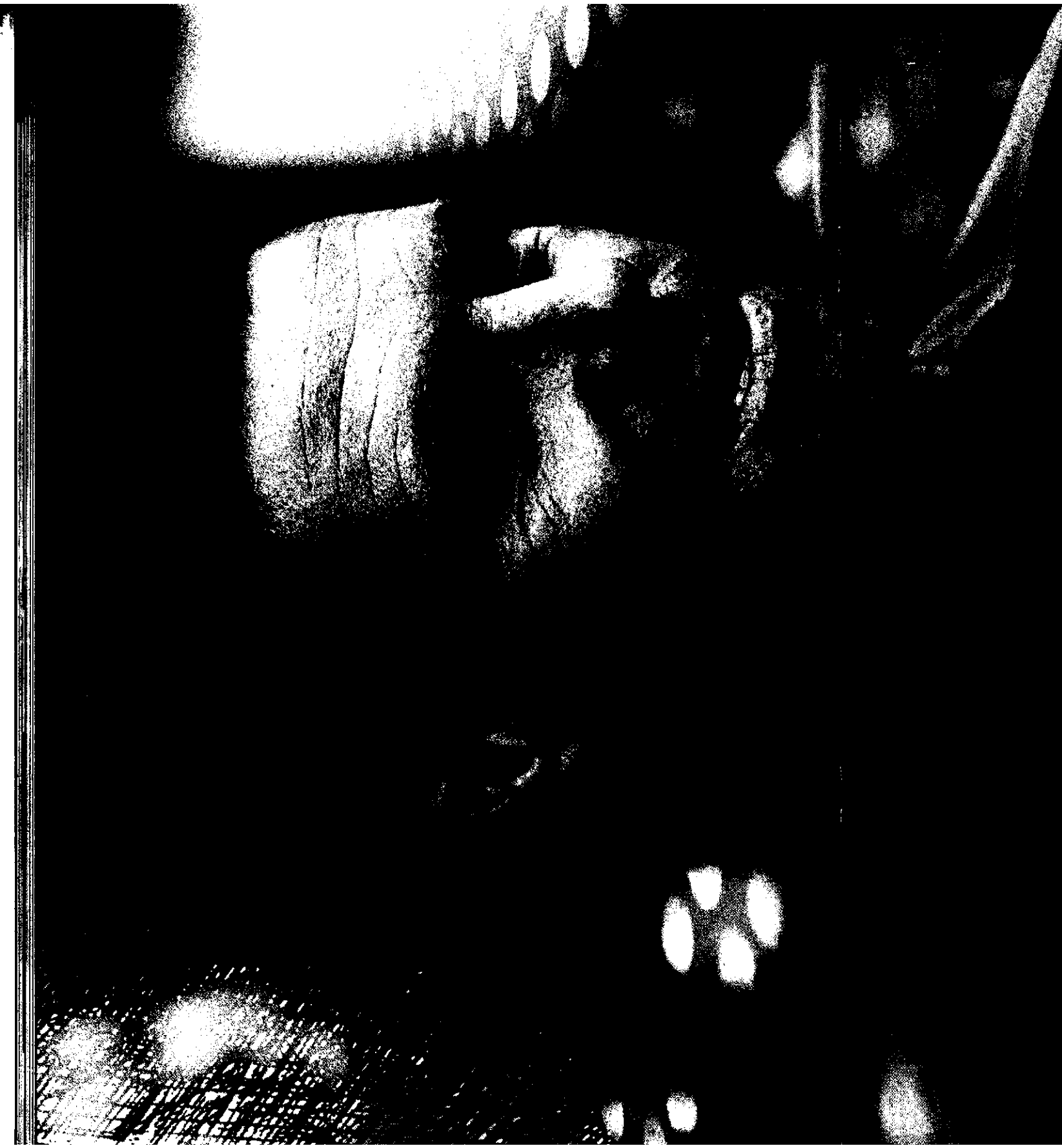
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Steve  
Tilson

ST





# 2006/07

...a season in review

The highs and the lows, the joy and the pain, we remember it all here as we take a look back at our League and Cup efforts...



## August

Southend opened their Championship account with a 1-0 win over Stoke City to help close out the perfect start to the new season, courtesy of a first half penalty from Freddy Eastwood.

But a madcap 10 minutes at Crystal Palace in the second half saw a dogged Southend performance leave Selhurst Park empty handed in a 3-1 defeat. The Blues were set-up strongly, controlling the opening 45 minutes and scored through Eastwood, only for a lack of concentration on corners to be their ultimate undoing, as the hosts scored three goals in quick succession.

Southend came unstuck on their travels again, as they endured a frustrating afternoon in a 2-0 defeat at QPR.

Rangers managed to gain a firm grip on the match from the start with two first-half goals and although the Blues were a much better outfit after the interval, for all their endeavour they failed to find the cutting edge they needed up front.

Southend went on to heap misery on Sunderland with an Adam Barrett double helping to seal a comprehensive 3-1 victory. The defender scored either side of the interval, while Lee Bradbury added a late strike to help secure the three points.

Southend put their name into the hat for the second round of the League Cup for the first time since 1998 after they enjoyed a 3-1 win at Bournemouth.

A thunderbolt shot from Mark Gower and two second half strikes from Freddy Eastwood helped the Blues knock out their League One opponents and progress.

The Blues crashed to defeat at Leicester, as they went in search of their first points on their travels this season with the winning goal coming just five minutes shy of half time and proving enough to settle the encounter.

## September

September began with Southend and Sheffield Wednesday playing out a goalless stalemate in a match that saw both teams in effect cancel the other out.

What followed though was a feverish event at Roots Hall and some of the most exhilarating game of football you are likely to see, as Southend came back from the brink in a six-goal thriller against Norwich City.

Mark Gower's last minute strike helped turn the screw on Norwich in front of a vigorous atmosphere and handed Southend a point from a 3-3 draw that looked like slipping away, after the Blues found themselves 3-1 behind at the start of the second half. It was a sensational end to a remarkable game.

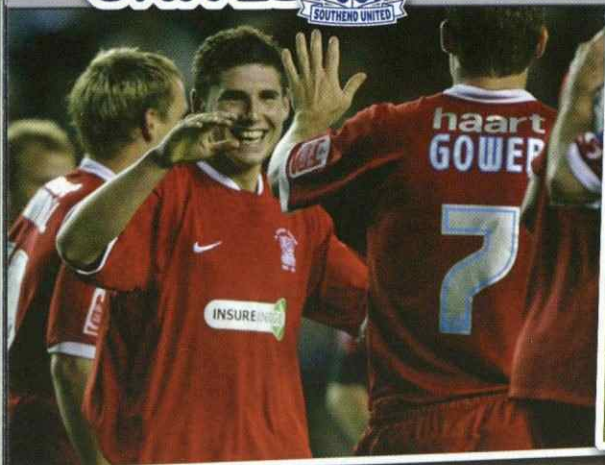
Matt Harrold chose the perfect occasion to score his first goal for Southend, and in the process help claim the Club's first away point of the season in a 1-1 draw at West Brom. The Blues grabbed a dramatic equaliser just eight minutes from time when Steve Hammell's right wing cross was headed in by the alert Harrold.

Southend went on to book their place in the third round of the Carling Cup for the first time since 1987 following a stunning conclusion to their 3-2 win over Brighton. Trailing 1-0 with just four minutes on the clock, the Blues turned the game on its head with goals from Billy Paynter, Lewis Hunt and Freddy Eastwood.

Yet Southend suffered stage fright in front of the cameras and allowed Cardiff to bask in the sunshine at Roots Hall on their way to a comprehensive 3-0 win in the presence of SKY.

Southend cut a further figure of frustration after suffering more toil on their travels in a 3-0 defeat at Derby. Further disappointment came from seeing the team drop into the bottom three of the Championship, as the Blues missed their usual rhythm and found goalscoring opportunities at a minimum.





# SOUTHEND UNITED



## October

The harsh realities of Championship football continued to descend over Southend on the back of their third straight loss against Coventry City. Roots Hall had turned into a solemn silence by the end, with Dele Adebola hitting the decisive goal in the closing stages, to hand the visitors a narrow 3-2 victory.

A performance of steely determination helped Southend claim a much needed point at high flying Burnley after a goalless end to proceedings. In one of the longest journeys of the season, the Blues travelled home with a real boost to morale against a Claret's side who were second in the Championship before kick-off.

Southend went on to blot their own copybook and endured a day they will quickly want to forget, after crashing to a 3-1 defeat at home to Ipswich, as the Club lost for the third successive time at Roots Hall.

Southend powered their way past Leeds United to record a 3-1 victory and in the process rewrote their history books to secure a place in the fourth round of the Carling Cup. This was new territory after a depleted team delivered an assured performance at Elland Road to make the last 16 of the competition for the first time.

It was another hard luck story for Southend in the Championship; the cruel twist of fate seeing them crash to a 2-0 defeat at Leeds United. The Club contested their second match at the Yorkshire outfit in the space of five days but, unlike the midweek Cup tie, there was to be no bliss and just pure frustration.

Halloween pulled out a trick for the Blues, after they crashed to the bottom of the Championship with a 3-2 defeat at home to Hull City. Yet again for the fourth match at Roots Hall, Southend conceded three goals and, even worse, to a Hull side who scored their winner whilst reduced to 10 men.

## November

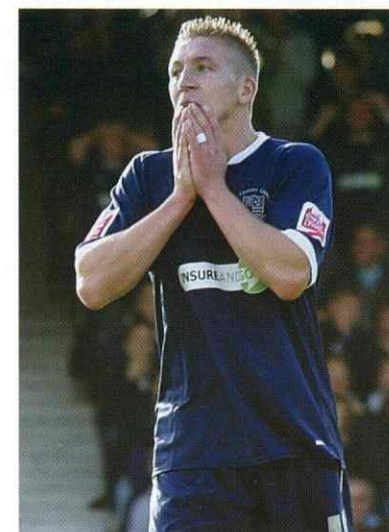
November was a highly significant month to remember even though the opening fixture gave no hint of what was to come.

Southend were caught off guard against Wolves, as three goals in the space of just 13 first half minutes sent them crashing to a 3-1 reverse at Molineux.

But there was bedlam in Southend, as the Club recorded the biggest giant killing in their history with a stunning victory over Manchester United in the Carling Cup.

Freddy Eastwood left Roots Hall rocking with a wonderful free kick to book the Blues' place in the quarter finals of the competition.

Not only are Manchester United the Premiership leaders and current holders of the competition, but they fielded a galaxy of stars in



the shape of Wayne Rooney and Cristiano Ronaldo.

Southend ended a run of four consecutive league defeats in a goalless draw at home to Preston, but failed to gain the win that perhaps their endeavour deserved. Roots Hall was expectant on the back of the Blues' triumph over Manchester United, but it was always going to be a tough ask against a North End side scaling a different end of the Championship.

A resurgent second half performance from Southend helped them come from behind to claim a point in a 1-1 draw at home to Plymouth. It took a while for the Blues to get going, not least when Alan McCormack - just a day after signing on loan from Preston - took to the field after the interval.

He was a bundle of energy in midfield and just two minutes after he entered the fray Roots Hall was up in arms, as Mark Gower was on target.

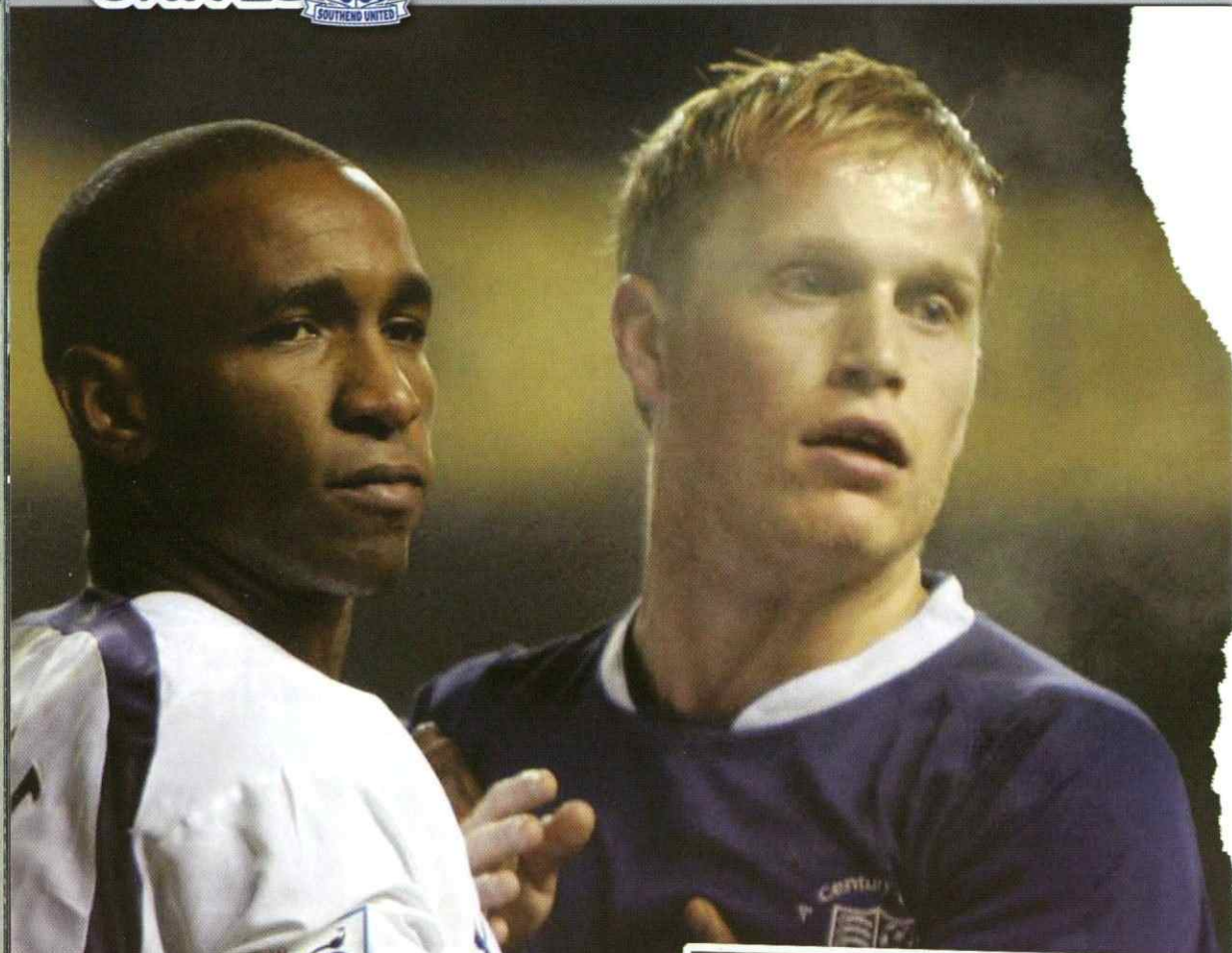
Colchester stole local bragging rights after a 3-0 win over Southend in a match overshadowed by a card happy referee.

It was the first time The U's had beaten their Essex counterparts since 1989, but the Blues were left dismantled by the second half dismissals of Kevin Maher and Mark Gower, while the game was still goalless.

And it was the controversial circumstances, which really left a sour taste to proceedings, as the numerical disadvantage eventually put paid to Southend's brave efforts to hold out.

Southend then endured more travel sickness, as they fell to a 2-0 reverse at Barnsley, suffering their fourth straight defeat on the road in the Championship.





## December

For the second time this season, Wolves took all three points off Southend. In a match that never really sparked into life with limited activity in either goalmouth, it was still the visitors who went on to claim a 1-0 win.

It had been a long time coming, but Southend stood tall to win an enthralling game of football against Southampton. Roots Hall was up in arms following two stunning strikes from Freddy Eastwood and Alan McCormack that helped pave the way for a 2-1 win - their first triumph for 18 games in the Championship.

Twice denied by the woodwork, Southend still left on their travels from Luton with a worthy point in the bag following a goalless draw. Neither side could break the deadlock, yet for the Blues it was a case of what could have been, especially when Eastwood hit the post in the closing stages.

There was plenty of positive attributes to Southend's performance at Tottenham, as they made a gallant exit from the Carling Cup. Jermain Defoe scored the only goal of the game in the closing stages of extra time to settle a nip and tuck contest at White Hart Lane.

With only five minutes left on the clock and penalties looking on the cards, Tottenham managed to find the decisive goal. Mido's left wing cross was bundled home by Defoe on the goalline and brought relief as much as joy to the home crowd.

That it did owed much to the dogged nature of Southend's non-stop resilience, which allowed them to come close - yet again - to causing another ripple of a cup shock.

Southend saw their mini-revival cut open at the seams by a ruthless Birmingham outfit.

This was hardly the ideal Christmas filler, but the Midlands outfit justified their standing at the top of the Championship with a 4-0 victory at Roots Hall.

Having found themselves down to 10 men when Efe Sodje was dismissed after the interval at Norwich City, a point was the least the Blues deserved to take from Carrow Road with a goalless draw.

Southend battled the elements and came away with a credible point against Coventry City. A cold afternoon played under torrential rain saw the Blues come from behind and make it a third straight draw on their travels in the Championship with Mark Gower on target.

## January

Southend began the New Year in style, as they gave West Brom a severe hangover at Roots Hall.

An exhilarating first half performance brought about three goals from unlikely sources, to put the seal on a 3-1 success and allow the Blues to

cut the gap to safety at the bottom to six points. Jamal Campbell-Ryce scored his first two goals for the Club, while Lewis Hunt ventured forward to head home a corner.

Southend left themselves with it all to do in the FA Cup after Barnsley stunned Roots Hall in the last minute with a goal that appeared to be suspiciously offside.

The Blues looked set to have safely negotiated their passage into the fourth round of the competition, having opened the scoring through Mark Gower in the second half and taken a firm grip on proceedings, before Barnsley were offered a last gasp chance.

It had been over 10 months coming, but Southend finally enjoyed league success on the road at Cardiff.

The Club made the long journey back south safe in the knowledge that only goal difference kept them from moving off the foot of the Championship, courtesy of a wonder strike from Lee Bradbury.

Any sense of injustice at the way Southend were forced to endure a replay at Barnsley in the FA Cup was noticeably pushed aside in spectacular fashion with a 2-0 win at Oakwell. By producing a performance that easily contrasted with the confidence and consistency with which the team were playing, a place in the fourth round of the FA Cup beckoned for the first time in 14 years.

Derby are a strong bet for promotion this season, but it still took an almighty effort for them to claim all three points against Southend at Roots Hall.

Steve Howard's first half header was the only difference between the two sides, but the resurgent performance the Blues showcased in the second half could easily have brought about a different scoreline.

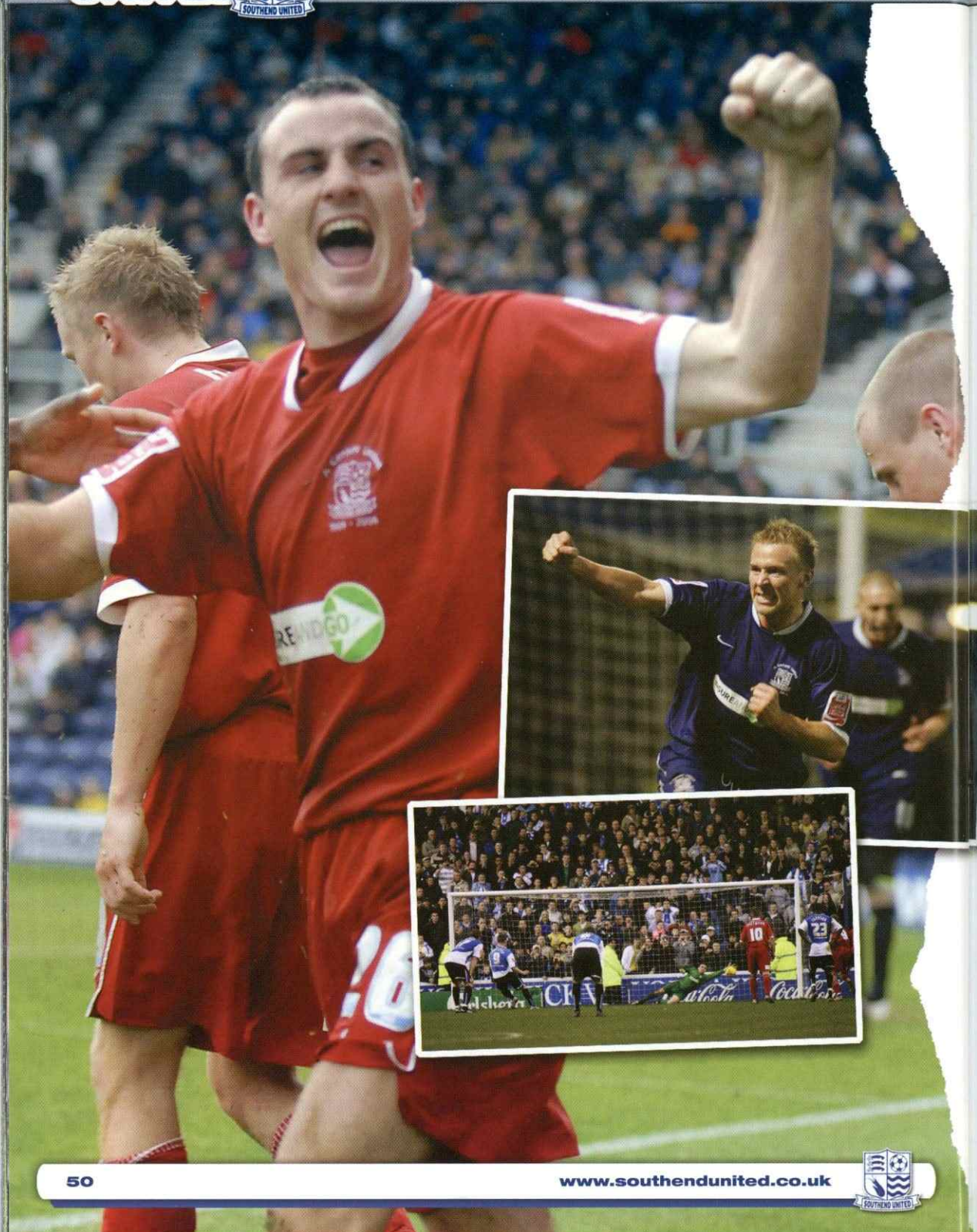
Southend left London on the back of a second defeat to Tottenham this season, but will again hold their heads up high at another lionheart display from the team in their FA Cup tie.

It was always going to be hard to top the midweek victory after the local Council's backed the Club's application to build the new stadium and training ground, but the Blues' endurance in this clash was never found wanting despite a 3-1 reverse.

Southend fashioned their best Championship result of the season at Birmingham and - most importantly - climbed themselves off the foot of the table.

Trail back just over a month ago and this was the same Birmingham outfit who strolled to a 4-0 win at Roots Hall, but on this showing the Club are now made of sterner stuff after achieving a 3-1 success at St Andrew's with goals from Kevin Maher, Freddy Eastwood and Mark Gower.





## February

Southend's impressive sequence of making progress on the road continued with a praiseworthy 1-1 draw at Stoke City. The result extended their unbeaten run as the visiting team to six matches following a late strike from Freddy Eastwood - his third goal in three games.

Southend supplied the perfect tonic in their bid for survival, as they stormed to a stunning 5-0 victory over QPR.

It was another team performance, although Captain Kevin Maher grabbed the headlines with two eye-catching strikes in injury time.

A sullen mood escalated over the Stadium of Light for Southend, as they experienced rare displeasure on their travels at Sunderland. Having built up a six-game unbeaten run on the road, the Blues had not tolerated a more troublesome afternoon of football this year than against a Sunderland side who firmly backed up their promotion credentials with a 4-0 victory.

A lack of finesse in front of goal put paid to Southend's chances of bringing the daylight ever closer in their battle for survival at home to Crystal Palace. The Blues had plenty of opportunities, but instead it was Palace who profited from a rare sight of goal with a swift second half attack to win 1-0.

It was then a case of rough justice for Southend after they suffered a sickening late blow at Hillsborough, when Sheffield Wednesday were awarded a penalty deep into injury time.

The Blues looked set to return south with another precious point in tow, but controversy surrounded the final moments when Lewis Hunt was adjudged to have handled the ball inside the box.

It was invariably a game of two halves, but having reawakened themselves after the interval, Southend left Wednesday hanging on for most of the second half with constant forays in attack and deserved better reward.

## March

Alan McCormack's timely contribution brought elated joy to the Roots Hall faithful after he came off the bench to score a last minute equaliser against Leicester City.

With five of their closest rivals at the foot of the Championship all losing, the Blues did their best to make up vital ground and close the gap to safety to three points, as they twice had to come from behind to force a 2-2 draw.

Southend left Portman Road with the bit between their teeth after a compelling 2-0 victory over Ipswich Town. Having come into the match with just a point on board from their last four encounters, the inclination for the Blues was to start proceedings with purposeful intent and first half goals from Mark Gower and Peter Clarke emphasised the point.

Richie Foran picked the perfect moment to

score his first goal for Southend, as his injury time strike secured a 1-0 success against Burnley and - more significantly - lifted the Club out of the bottom three of the Championship.

This encounter was lacking in drama until an opportune Foran was decisive enough to make the most out of Wade Elliot's mistake at the back, to lift Roots Hall into raptures with the Club's second win in the space of just four days.

The twists and turns at the foot of the Championship continued, with Southend dealt a late sucker punch at Roots Hall after Leeds snatched a 1-1 draw.

In the light of circumstances, the result will be seen as two points lost with the Blues dropping back into the bottom three after David Healy cancelled out Mark Gower's earlier strike with a goal just two minutes from time.

Southend crashed to their first defeat in five at relegation rivals Hull City, as they endured an afternoon to forget at the KC Stadium.

The performance was sorely lacking all the key ingredients the team had recently been producing, as they found themselves surprisingly forced on the backfoot for most of the match and allowed Hull to coast to a 4-0 win.

## April

Colchester did their best to curtail Southend's survival hopes with a resounding 3-0 victory at Roots Hall. The fact it took the Us just 36 seconds to sink the opening goal told the story in itself.

Yet Southend set a marker for how they would need to perform for the remainder of the season with a sensational 3-2 win at Preston North End. Captain Kevin Maher secured the vital three points with a brilliant winner in the third minute of injury time to bring a close to a truly extraordinary match.

Sadly that benchmark wasn't followed after Southend crashed to a 3-1 defeat against Barnsley at Roots Hall.

Southend never looked close to repeating the dizzy heights of their win over Preston and found themselves three goals behind just six minutes into the second half. Although Mark Gower went on to score his 10th goal of the campaign, it proved to be in vain.

Plymouth then left the Blues on the brink with an injury time winner aiding them to a 2-1 victory. Although Argyle took the lead inside seven minutes, Peter Clarke was on target to head home before the interval, but the second half proved to be a heavy mixture of frustration.

As the team pushed forward, Plymouth were able to steal a march at the other end of the field and Barry Hayles was on hand to score with the seconds ticking down to leave the Club four points from safety in the Championship.

With two matches left of the season, Southend are also left truly fighting for their lives.



# read all about it!

## A Century United – The Centenary History of Southend United

Peter Miles and Dave Goody have been writing books about Southend United together for eight years now, but they really wanted to do something special for the club's centenary.

Having written "Potted Shrimps" for Yore Publications, and "Images of Sport", "100 Greats" and "50 Classic Matches" for Tempus, Peter and Dave decided to really push the boat out this time and produce a completely new centenary history book that would chronicle the full 100 years, from the humble beginnings in the Blue Boar pub, right through to the League One Championship of 2006...and beyond. But rather than do it the easy way, by writing the book and handing it over to another publishing company, they decided to form their own and do the whole book themselves.

"We have had a very good relationship with Tempus Publishing, but we decided that to produce a book that really reflected the full 100 years of the club, we needed to be in complete control of every aspect, rather than putting it into the hands of someone else" said Dave. "So, we set about setting up a limited company, and then we set about learning all the skills that go into writing, typesetting and printing a book."

### Information

After forming Shrimper Publishing Limited last year, Peter and Dave then set out on the long journey of pulling together all the information required for a book of this complexity. "We spent days at Southend Library, poring over microfilms of old Southend Standards, trying to compile full results and line-ups for every season in the club's history" said Peter. "The pre-First World War seasons were the hardest to complete, as the reports were very long-winded, and often didn't actually contain the line-ups and scorers, so we had to get that information from other sources."

Once this task was completed, Peter started the task of writing the text, whilst Dave learnt the skills required to typeset the book, using the industry-standard software Adobe InDesign. "It seemed very daunting to start with, but once we got into the swing of things, it started going along quite smoothly" said Dave. "Peter emailed me the text, and I laid it out, adding photos and illustrations where I thought necessary."

The majority of the photos used came from Peter and Dave's own collections, but they also

got help from many other Southend United fans they know, who were only too willing to help. Because of this network, the book is now profusely illustrated with over 500 photographs, stretching from the very beginnings of the club in 1906, right through to the present day.

"We are especially indebted to the Evening Echo, who gave us the run of their photo library, and also Dave Scriven at Southend United, who allowed us to use his photos from the past four seasons" said Dave. "Without them, the book would have been harder to illustrate."

The task of producing the book wasn't helped by the fact that both Peter and Dave have full-time jobs outside of book publishing, meaning they had to find the time to do all the book work in evenings and at weekends. They are also season ticket holders at Southend United, so that gave them a great insight into just what the book should be like.

### Obstacles

There have been other obstacles along the way: Dave says "As well as receiving a lot of great help and support, from people such as Geoffrey King at Southend United, and also all the technical staff at printers HSW Print, who we have chosen to print the book, we have also met up with some people who have tried to make out that we wouldn't be able to do what we set out to do – to produce the best book on Southend United ever, due to our lack of knowledge of the print industry. We will be dedicating this book to them!"

With the book due to be available in August, Peter and Dave are now looking to encourage Advanced Subscribers, who can have their name and the name of their all-time favourite Southend United player printed in the book, thus becoming a part of the Southend United centenary celebrations. "The cost of being an Advanced Subscriber (£17.99) is the same as when

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All orders must be received by May 31st 2007  
\*Giving us your telephone number will allow us to confirm your expected delivery date. Expected delivery - August 2007

The book can also be bought by credit/debit card online at [www.shrimperpublishing.co.uk](http://www.shrimperpublishing.co.uk)

the book goes on sale in the shops, so we hope the fans will take their chance of showing their true colours; the colours of Southend United" said Dave.

The book will be nearly 300 pages and contains over 500 photographs. As well as a full history of every season from 1906, there are special chapters on the managers, grounds, programmes and also on Southend Invicta Rugby League club, who spent one incident-packed season at Roots Hall in the 1980s.

Due to the publication date of this book (August 2007), Peter and Dave have also managed to include details of the club's 101st season, with full coverage and photos of probably the most famous victory in the club's history, the 1-0 victory over Manchester United.

● All advanced orders must be received by May 31st 2007. Full details can be found at [www.shrimperpublishing.co.uk](http://www.shrimperpublishing.co.uk)

# a century united

## doubling up as champions

Unfortunately, it currently looks like Southend United's first season back in English football's second tier will end in relegation, however few of us will forget how we got here! We close our Centenary Review by looking back at last season's title-winning campaign.

Following promotion, at long last, out of League Two courtesy of a 2-0 play-off final victory over Lincoln City at the Millennium Stadium in May 2005, Steve Tilson's Southend side were immediately established as favourites to make a swift return to the basement division.

Indeed, following a 2-1 opening day home defeat to Port Vale, the predictions may have looked good, but Tilson had been particularly shrewd in snapping up Grays Athletic winger Mitchell Cole and, even more so, former Manchester City frontman Shaun Goater from Reading.

The Shrimpers quickly bounced back from their opening day reverse to clinch a 2-0 win at Bradford City before Goater came off the bench on his debut to grab a late leveller in a 2-2 draw at Walsall.

Hot-shot Freddy Eastwood got himself off the mark for the season with a simple tap-in against Huddersfield Town in a 1-1 Roots Hall draw, but Eastwood controversially saw red late in the first half, and following appeal had his ban extended from three to four games!

### Soared

Eastwood's suspension didn't deter Southend though, as a Goater-inspired 3-1 win over local rivals Colchester United set the Shrimpers up for a fantastic run of eight consecutive victories. Oldham Athletic (2-1), Swindon Town (2-1), Tranmere Rovers (3-1), Rotherham United (4-2), Yeovil Town (4-1), Gillingham (2-1) and Nottingham Forest (1-0) were all seen off as United soared to the top of the table.

The run ended with a 2-0 reverse at Doncaster Rovers, knocking Southend off the summit, but a 1-1 home draw with Barnsley saw Tilson's men return to the top, and that was following by an impressive 3-0 win at Bristol City, with Eastwood grabbing a hat-trick.

However, a seven-match winless streak had seen Southend slip to sixth before a morale boosting 2-1 win at Hartlepool on 28th December.



● Joy as the League One title was won last season

A home win over Bournemouth and a last-gasp 2-1 win at Blackpool saw Southend quickly return to top spot and apart from one week in January, following a goalless draw with Tranmere, the Shrimpers remained as leaders for the rest of the season.

United's home form was solid, but some fantastic performance on the road set them up for the title. Few supporters will forget the incredible 4-3 in at Chesterfield where Southend twice came from behind to win, with Eastwood grabbing another hat-trick.

A fantastic first 30 minutes saw Southend clinch a 3-0 win at fellow promotion chasers, and eventual runners-up Colchester United, and despite a late season blip that brought 1-0 home defeats against Gillingham and Doncaster Rovers, promotion was sealed following a 2-2 draw at Swansea City – clinching promotion in Wales for the second successive season – before substitute Wayne Gray's 87th minute winner a the 1-0 last day triumph over Bristol City brought the Shrimpers first title since lifting the Fourth Division in 1981.



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## jamie forsyth's championship review

**A topsy-turvy encounter at Molineux saw Birmingham climb back to the top at the expense of West Midlands rivals Wolves.**

Blues took the lead in the second half when Andrew Cole netted from close range. However, two headers in four minutes from Wolves' Michael McIndoe turned the game on its head, before Niclas Bendtner levelled with a header on 77 minutes. Cameron Jerome looked to have won it when he raced clear to score for Birmingham on 88, but the visitors were indebted to keeper Colin Doyle, who saved an injury time McIndoe penalty.

Today's visitors Luton were relegated at Pride Park on Friday night as Derby kept up the pressure on the top two with a narrow victory. The only goal of the game came through Lewin Nyatanga, who scrambled the ball over the line in the first half.

The big losers in the top three were Sunderland, who fell victim to Colchester's incredible home form. Defender Wayne Brown opened the scoring for Colchester on the stroke of half time, but Dwight Yorke levelled on 55 minutes. However, late goals from Richard Garcia and a penalty from Jamie Cureton sealed the win for the Essex outfit and condemned Roy Keane's side to their first defeat in 18 games.

### Danger

Preston and West Brom are in real danger of losing their playoff spots after dropping vital points at the weekend. Leicester inflicted a fourth defeat in five for Preston when Nils-Eric Johansson's late volley ensured they are all but safe from relegation.

Live on Sky TV, Albion threw away a lead to lose at rejuvenated Burnley. The visitors were 2-0 up within eight minutes thanks to goals from Jason Koumas and Nathan Ellington. However, Andy Gray pulled a goal back on 15 and levelled the match on 48 minutes after Paul McShane had been dismissed for Albion. With three minutes left, Chris McCann nodded home for the winner for Burnley.

A late winner for Southampton saw off battling Leeds at St Mary's. Bradley Wright-Phillips hit a rising shot into the roof of the net after 84 minutes after Leeds had done well to hold out since Alan Thompson was sent off on 32 minutes for grappling with John Viala.

Leeds' relegation rivals Hull benefited from a similarly late effort at Stoke, who would have

been heading into the playoffs had Liam Lawrence's deflected effort been enough. However, Nick Barnby netted in the last minute after a flick-on from former Stoke loanee Jon Parkin to level.

### Fantastic

Sheffield Wednesday are also in with a chance of a top six berth thanks to a 2-1 win over Coventry. Marcus Tudgay opened the scoring for the Owls but Maltese international Michael Mifsud equalised with a fantastic solo effort, running 60 yards before finishing past Ian Turner. However, Steve Maclean netted a close range effort on 70 minutes to give the Owls victory.

Cardiff and QPR will be looking to next season after Rangers ended Cardiff's chances of the playoffs. The only goal at Loftus Road was headed by Dexter Blackstock on 23 minutes.

Southend have a real battle on to stay in the division after a last minute Barry Hayles goal

cruelly denied them a draw at Plymouth. The hosts led when Peter Halmosi crossed for Sylvain Ebanks-Blake to stab the ball home on six minutes. However, Peter Clarke headed a leveller, but Southend couldn't hold on and Hayles slotted past Flahavan in the very last minute.

Unfortunately for Southend, Barnsley were putting themselves five points clear of the drop zone at home to Crystal Palace thanks to Daniel Nardiello. The Welshman scored a deflected drive in the first half and followed it up in the second when he had to retake a penalty after the first was saved by Julian Speroni.

There was only pride to play for in the East Anglian derby, and it was honours even at Carrow Road. Norwich led when Darren Huckerby crossed for Dickson Etuhu to head home. However, David Wright squeezed a shot in at the near post midway through the second half to ensure a draw for the Tractor Boys.



● Cameron Jerome puts Birmingham City 3-2 up against Wolves



# Support the Trust. Inspiring people to achieve their potential...

Southend United Community and Educational Trust (Southend Utd CET) conducts numerous activities aiming to cater for every social group, regardless of circumstance, throughout Southend on Sea and surrounding areas.

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Because Southend Utd CET is a registered charity and complies with Charity Commission ([www.charity-commission.gov.uk](http://www.charity-commission.gov.uk)) guidelines, you can rest assured that every penny of your donation is directly benefiting local communities.

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For more information on how you can help us achieve our aims please contact  
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## football in the community

**Today sees our last home game of the season let's hope it's not our last one in the Championship. This season has been on of highs and lows for the lads but nevertheless it's been exciting.**

For me it's my last season with the Blues, I'm leaving the Club after 16 years working in the Community and I'm going to miss it considerably. But as they say – nothing lasts forever.

As you may be aware we are holding a twenty20 cricket match here at Roots Hall on Monday 7th May – starting at 2:30pm. Half of the proceeds will be donated to the Community Trust and will help in sustaining one or two of the many projects we are delivering. My thanks go to the Football Club and EASST (Essex and Southend Sports Trust) for organising what should be a great afternoon. I hope you can come along and support us. I would also like to

thank Peter Butler and Joe Simms from EASST, who supported the Community Trust for some years now in sponsoring our Senior Shrimpers Club and our Shrimpers pre-school sessions. Your support is much appreciated.

### Free

We are running in conjunction with the Estuary House Association two 6-week 6-a-side competitions. The first six weeks are for children aged 9-12 years and for the following six weeks the ages are 13-16 years. This event is entirely free and you can just turn up on the night and join in, the venue for this event is in Southchurch Park by the main car park. Our coaches will be there to meet you and supervise the event.

We will be running a number of Soccer Schools throughout the Whitsun holidays. Shoeburyness High School is venue 1, and will run from Tuesday 29th May till Friday 1st June. Venue 2 is Darlington Primary School and again will run for the four days above. Venue 3 is

Kingston Junior School and will run for two days – Tuesday 29th May – Wednesday 30th May. For further details contact the Community Office on 01702 341351.

Our Saturday team today is Trinity FC, and I would like to welcome Janet Bushell and all their teams who are part of our Saturday Team Scheme. I hope you all enjoy your day and the match.

Take care and God bless.

Frankie Banks



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# head-to-head

how the two sides have fared in previous meetings...

**Already-relegated Luton Town arrive in South Essex for the 43rd time this afternoon, and the Hatters arrive looking for a victory to help them climb off bottom spot.**

Shrimpers striker Freddy Eastwood was guilty of a stoppage time miss, hitting the post with the goal gaping, as Luton and Southend played out a goalless draw in front of the Sky Television cameras at Kenilworth Road back in mid-December.

It was the first league encounters between the two sides since the Hatters completed the double over United in the basement division during 2001-02. A late Carl Griffiths goal earned Luton a single goal victory at Kenilworth Road in August after Kevin Maher had missed a first half penalty for the visitors who had also seen Mark Rawle sent-off.

Goals from Town's Dean Crowe and Matthew Taylor cancelled out Carl Hutchings goal for

Southend as 5,943 turned up to see the Hatters, heading for promotion, take the spoils four days after Christmas.

Roots Hall had also witnessed an FA Cup first round clash in December 2001, with Tes Bramble's bicycle kick earning the Shrimpers a dramatic 3-2 victory. More recently, Sky Sports were again on the scene as Luton ran out comfortable 3-0 victors in Essex at the same stage of the competition in November 2004.

### Victors

Southend and Luton last met at Roots hall in the second tier of football in November 1993, with United 2-1 victors thanks to strikes from Ricky Otto and Jonathan Hunt. Kerry Dixon grabbed a consolation for the visitors.

A memorable game took place on the final day of the 1992-93 season, with Stan Collymore bidding farewell to Roots Hall in a crucial 2-1 Division one victory that ensured Southend avoided relegation.

Collymore, although mobbed at the final whistle, didn't find himself on the scoresheet,

### blues' record v luton town

home
P42 W23 D7 L12 F81 A45
away
P43 W6 D13 L24 F48 A95
overall
P85 W29 D20 L36 F129 A140

though, with Andy Sussex and Brett Angell the Blues heroes. Earlier in the same season, second half strikes from Chris Powell and Kevin O'Callaghan saw Southend come from two goals behind to draw 2-2 in Bedfordshire.

The first meeting between the two sides took place as early as the 1907-08 campaign, but it was only the Hatters reserve side that competed in the South Eastern League. United managed a 2-1 away win, as well as a 1-1 draw at the old Roots Hall.

The following season saw both first teams clash for the first time, and Southend triumphed 2-0 at Roots Hall in the Southern League, although were defeated, 3-1, away from home.



● Freddy Eastwood hits the post with this late chance at Kenilworth Road back in December.



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# pressing matters

**Our final game of the season here at Roots Hall sees us speak to a different face from the Press Box**

This week we have been chatting to Nick Watts from local weekly paper the Southend Times as we get his views on the final few matches of the season, and where we head next season...

*This is Southend's final chance to stay up against Luton Town, are you confident we can get the three points we need?*

It's another one of those matches where you almost expect a victory on paper. Obviously the record in these kind of games has not been good though and it's a big reason why the club is struggling down the wrong end of the table. However, the management will have emphasised to the players just how important it is to go out on a high at home. Even if results go against Blues today, the Roots Hall crowd deserve to see their side put on the kind of performance we all know they're capable of - and of course a win might yet spark a Championship miracle.

*The team were written off long ago, so in a way would you say they have done well to still be in with a chance of survival with just two games remaining? By the start of December everyone had Southend as dead certs for the drop, but they've since proved they can compete at this level. At one point it really looked like they would escape thanks to their 2007 revival, which was an amazing feat bearing in mind they were so far adrift earlier in the campaign. Although it's great to have seen them make a real fight of matters, you can't help feeling they had safety within their grasp a month ago and probably should have taken it.*

*If the worst happens, how do you predict the team would fare in League One next season?*

If Steve Tilson can keep the bulk of the squad together, I would expect this side to make a real go of a quick return to

the Championship. There will inevitably be comings and goings, and I think another goalscorer could be top of the target list, but the current defence and midfield would make for a formidable line-up in League One. Sometimes teams struggle with the psychological side after relegation, but if Tilson and Brush can get the guys playing to even 80% of their ability, there won't be many opponents that can live with them in the lower tier.

*It has still been an exciting and eventful season in the Championship, hasn't it? There's no question it's been a season to remember for so many reasons. Beating the likes of Sunderland, Birmingham and Preston were highlights, but overall it's just been great to be back at this level. There is a definite feeling about the place that Southend United belongs here and hopefully we won't have to wait too long to experience it again! Away from the Championship, the League Cup win over Manchester United will go down in Blues folklore, and the - albeit delayed - steps towards a new stadium point to an exciting future.*

*Southend will be announcing the winner of the player of the season vote before kick-off, but who has impressed you most this season?*

Strangely enough, I actually think there are more candidates for the award this year than last, despite the struggles in the league. Skipper Kevin Maher looks the favourite and I expect him to pick up the award for his incredible consistency across the campaign. He sets the tempo for the team and leads by example, and has proved he can compete with the best the Championship can offer. For me, Darryl Flahavan has had another incredible season despite the team's defensive record. Rarely can the goals conceded be pinned on him and I can't even imagine how many points he must have earned Blues with his heroics at times. Alan McCormack (pictured) also stands out since he joined in November, not to mention Mark Gower, Jamal Campbell-Ryce and inevitably top scorer Freddy Eastwood.



# where are they now?

as southend united enter their centenary season, leigh edwards traces an a-z of past southend players concluding today with the letter w and y...

## frank walton

One of Southend United's most notable post-war figures, long-serving left-back Frank Walton later became the club's chairman. Locally born, he turned professional with Southend in December 1937 and made his League debut in the 3-1 victory at home to Cardiff a month later. He made 144 Third Division (South) appearances before displaced by Sandy Anderson and moved to Dartford in July 1951, then joined Crittall Athletic. Building a successful insurance business, he was a Southend United director and succeeded Bill Rubin as chairman from May 1978 until March 1983. He resided locally until his death in December 1986.

## peter watson

Tall centre-half Peter Watson was a popular member of Southend United's team in the early Sixties. He started with Nottingham Forest and helped regain top-flight status in 1956-57. Eddie

Perry paid £5,000 for him in July 1959 and he netted three goals in 249 League outings for Southend before injury ended his playing career in 1965. After coaching at Charlton Athletic and Cambridge United, he was a decorator in Southend, then returned to Nottingham, becoming a teacher at Basford Hall College and a supervisor for Derbyshire Probation Service. Now living in Ilkeston, his brother Dave was an England international.

## malcolm webster

Ex-England Youth goalkeeper Malcolm Webster featured prominently as Southend United reached the FA Cup fifth round in 1975-76. Signing professional for Arsenal in January 1968, he appeared in the top-flight and joined Fulham for £10,000 in December 1969. He starred in the 1970-71 promotion campaign and Arthur Rowley paid £12,000 for him in January 1974. Making 96 League appearances for Southend, he moved to

Cambridge United in September 1976 and was a key figure in two consecutive promotion campaigns. He has since been a goalkeeping coach, involved with Uhlspport National Goalkeeping School.

## shane westley

Central defender Shane Westley was a key figure in Southend United's 1986-87 promotion success. Signing professional for Charlton Athletic in June 1983, he moved to Southend in March 1985 and helped beat Derby County in the 1987-88 Littlewoods Cup second round, netting ten goals in 144 League outings before joining Wolves in June 1989. Sold to Brentford for £100,000 in October 1992, he helped them reach the Second Division play-offs in 1994-95. He rejoined Southend on loan in February 1995, then played for Cambridge United and Lincoln City, where he later had a brief spell as manager.

## phil whelan

Former England U-21 central defender Phil Whelan (left) was an Alan Little signing for Southend United. He turned professional with Ipswich Town in July 1990 and helped them clinch the Second Division title in 1991-92. Sold to Middlesbrough for £300,000 in April 1995, he gained further Premiership experience and joined Oxford United for £150,000 in July 1997 and was loaned to Rotherham before moving to Roots Hall in July 2000. He became Southend's captain and formed an effective partnership with Leo Roget, then Carl Hutchings in the heart of the defence, netting six goals in 100 League outings before retiring in June 2003.

## ronnie whelan

Republic of Ireland international midfielder Ronnie Whelan was Southend United's 'Player of the Year' in 1994-95. The son of a former Republic of Ireland international of the same name, he impressed with Home Farm before joining Liverpool in October 1979 and scored on his League debut in April 1981. He amassed a vast collection of domestic and European honours, becoming captain at Anfield, and his 53 caps included two World Cup tournaments. After a spell with Millwall reserves, he joined Southend in September 1994 and became player-manager in July 1995, scoring once in 34 League outings before leaving in July 1997.



## arthur williamson

Scottish right-back Arthur Williamson was an influential figure as Southend United beat Liverpool in the 1956-57 FA Cup third round. Harry Warren signed him from Scottish Cup winners Clyde in May 1955 and he was ever-present for Southend in four successive seasons, helping take Liverpool to an FA Cup third round replay in 1957-58. He formed a notable full-back partnership with record appearance holder Sandy Anderson and scored twice in 269 League games while at Roots Hall before joining Romford in September 1962. Later returning to Scotland, he became a butcher, then a greenkeeper, settling in Methven, Perth.

## che wilson

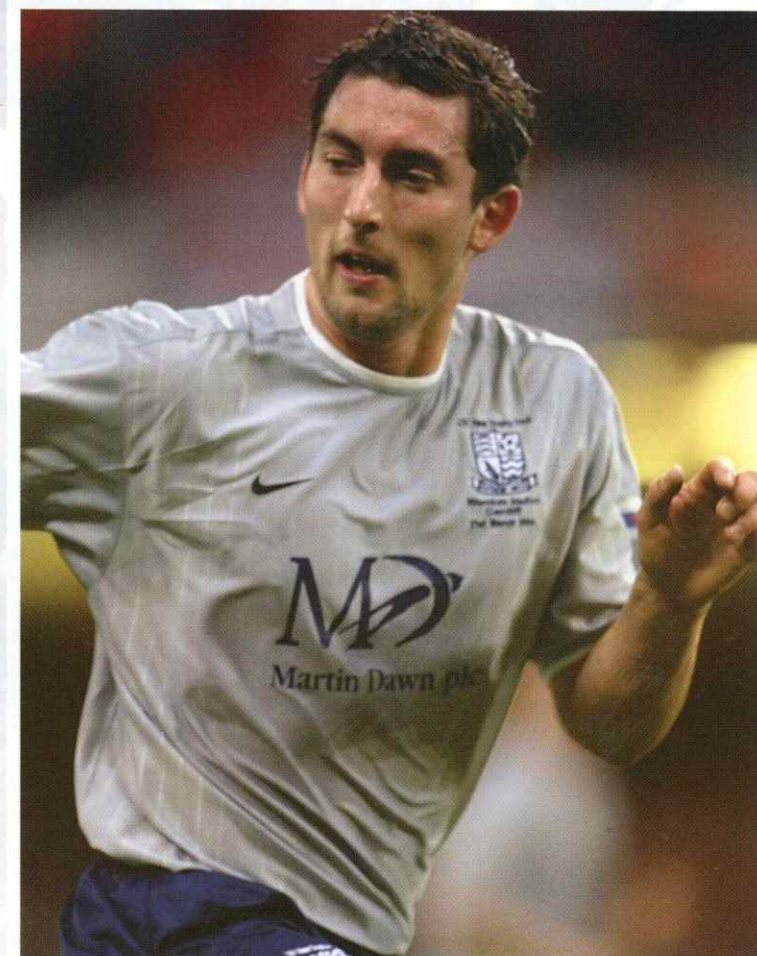
Versatile left-back Che Wilson (right) featured prominently in Southend United's 2004-05 League Two play-off final triumph. A former Norwich City trainee, he signed professional in July 1997 and made his League debut in their 1-1 draw at Swindon Town in December 1998. He joined Bristol Rovers in July 2000 and moved to Cambridge City in July 2002. Steve Wignall signed him in July 2003 and he played in two LDV Vans Trophy finals, then starred as Southend won the League One title in 2005-06. After scoring in the 4-1 win at home to Brentford in January 2006, he added another in the 3-0 victory at Colchester in March 2006.

## derek woodley

Former England Youth winger Derek Woodley had two spells at Southend United. Signing professional for West Ham in April 1959, he scored twice on his First Division debut six months later and followed Ted Fenton to Roots Hall with Mike Beesley in August 1962. Joining Charlton Athletic in June 1967, he rejoined Southend four months later and netted 23 goals in 170 League games overall before swapped for Gillingham's Howard Moore in January 1968. Later with Folkestone and Pegasus Athletic, he was an insurance agent, then worked for Ford and Access, residing locally until his death in January 2002.

## dave worthington

Experienced right-back Dave Worthington played alongside his younger brother Bob at Southend United. Initially with Halifax Town, he followed Don McEvoy to Barrow in August 1964. He moved to Grimsby Town in June 1966 and was ever-present in four successive seasons, skipping their 1971-72 Fourth Division title triumph. Arthur Rowley signed him in December 1973 and he helped Southend take QPR to an FA Cup third round replay in 1974-75, then reach the FA Cup fifth round in 1975-76. He made 95 League appearances before becoming Cambridge



City's player-boss, then ran a removals firm in Halifax.

## steve yates

Popular left-back Steve Yates featured in Southend United's 1977-78 and 1980-81 promotion successes. He turned professional with Leicester City in December 1971 and gained top-flight experience as Dennis Rofe's understudy before Dave Smith paid £15,000 for him in November 1977. Scoring eight times in 224 League games for Southend, he joined Doncaster Rovers in December 1983 and then helped regain Third Division status at the first attempt in 1983-84. He briefly joined Stockport County in August 1986, then reunited with Jeff Blockley at Shepshed Charterhouse and has since settled

back in his native Measham.

## david young

Versatile central defender David Young was an important figure in Southend United's 1977-78 promotion success. He signed professional for Newcastle United in September 1964 and appeared in the top-flight before joining Sunderland for £20,000 in January 1973. Non-playing substitute in their 1973 FA Cup final triumph, he joined Charlton Athletic for £25,000 in August 1974 and skipped their 1974-75 promotion success. Dave Smith signed him in September 1976 and he made 60 League appearances prior to becoming Dartford's player-coach in December 1979. He has since worked in sports centre management in Kent.



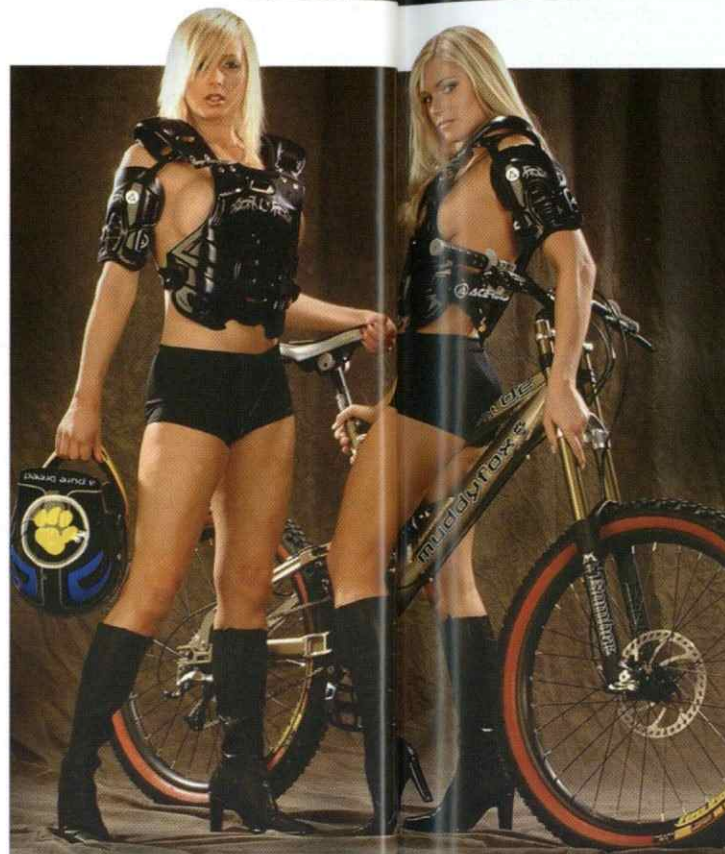
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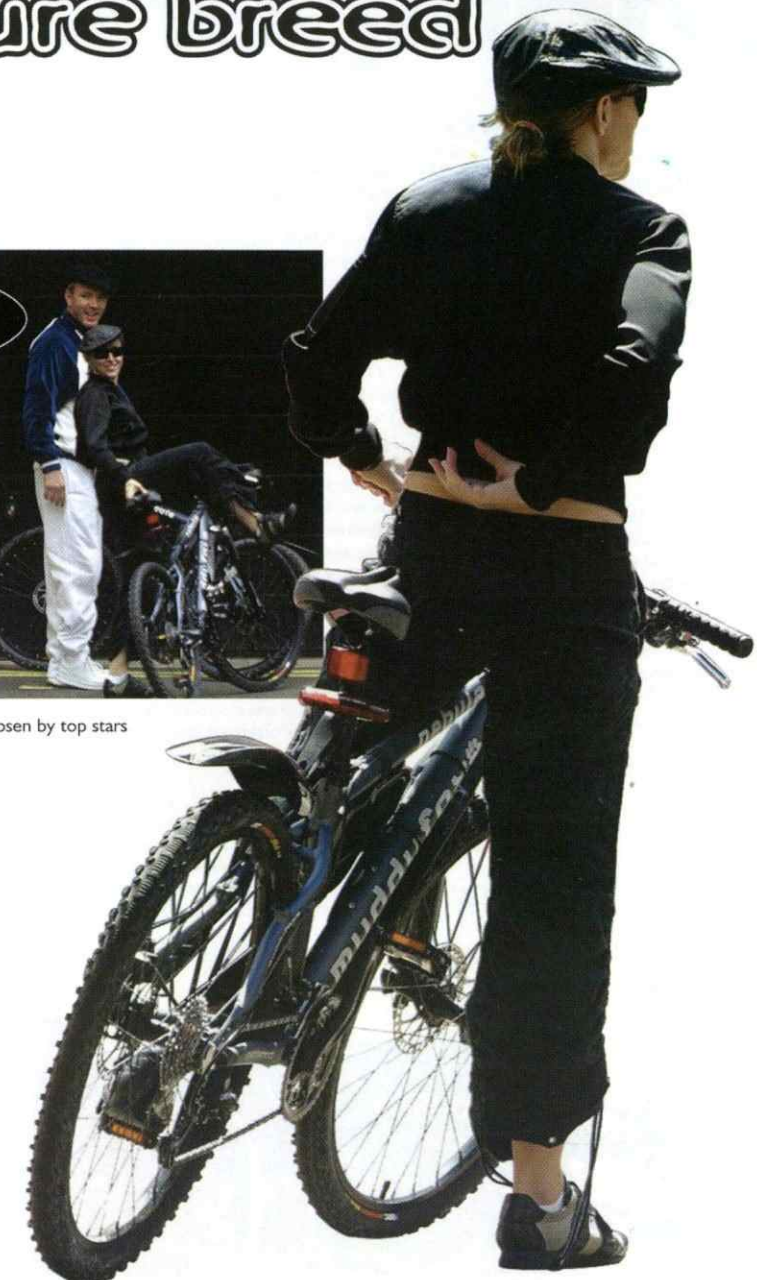


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# shrimpers trust

## Welcome to Roots Hall for what is Southend United's final home fixture of the 2006/07 campaign against already-relegated Luton Town.

Unfortunately, it does not appear that this season is going to conclude in the same joyous way that our previous two terms have finished, although victory today, of course, might just be enough to set up a last-day decider at Southampton.

At the time of going to press, the Shrimpers Trust had already booked eight coaches for the trip to the Friends Provident St. Mary's Stadium, so please get in touch with our travel supremo, Chris Berry, as soon as possible if you are wishing to travel with us on Sunday May 6th. The full details of pick-up times and prices can be found in the right-hand panel of this page.

Last weekend saw Southend United chairman Ron Martin subsidise free travel to Home Park for our penultimate away match of the season against Plymouth Argyle, and with his help, 376 supporters made the 600-mile round trip to Devon to support the Shrimpers.

The Trust would like to place its thanks to Mr Martin on record for the gesture, and also would like to applaud the volunteers that helped run coaches on the day.

However, there were some individuals that left the coaches in an untidy state. Rubbish bags were, as always, distributed on the arms of the seats, and it was unacceptable that this behaviour took place, especially when the trip had been provided for free.

Today will see our End of Season Draw take place at half-time. If you are reading this a couple of hours before kick-off, there may still be a chance to get tickets into the draw, but this opportunity will pass at around two o'clock. If you are in time, visit us in the Shrimpers Bar, and then look out on our website, [www.shrimperstrust.co.uk](http://www.shrimperstrust.co.uk), to discover if you have won.

### Fun

On Tuesday, The Maharajah on the London Road in Benfleet will host our latest Curry Night. The cost is just £10 per person, and we will also hold a fundraising raffle. On previous occasions, former players and club officials have attended, and although no names are confirmed to date, a fun evening of food and chat with fellow supporters is guaranteed! If you would like to come along, please contact Alan Perry on 01702 476458 or via email on [alanperry4@hotmail.com](mailto:alanperry4@hotmail.com) as soon as possible so that he can confirm numbers.

Wednesday May 9th will see our final event of the season in the Shrimpers Bar here at Roots Hall when our annual Player of the Year Awards evening takes place, incorporating our End of Season Review, organised, as ever, by Kevin Feasey.

There are still a number of vouchers available to Trust members to attend the event, costing £2.50, which can then be redeemed for a drink on the evening. Please see Paul Yeomanson in the Shrimpers Bar before the match this afternoon or use our website, [www.shrimperstrust.co.uk](http://www.shrimperstrust.co.uk), using the PayPal

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method, to obtain a voucher. Entry will not be permitted without this.

We welcome the supporters of Luton Town to Roots Hall for this afternoon's match, and hope that they are not too inconvenienced by the roadworks on the M25 and M1 on their way home. A safe journey back to all fans at the ground today, and enjoy the match! Lets just hope that the Shrimpers end the season with a bang!

Up the Shrimpers,

**Rob Craven**

*Shrimpers Trust committee*

## forthcoming events

1st May 2007

### Curry Night

THE MAHARAJA

London Road, Benfleet. For more details contact Alan Perry on 01702 476458 or send him an email at [alanperry4@hotmail.com](mailto:alanperry4@hotmail.com)

9th May 2007

### Player of the Year Awards

AND END OF SEASON REVIEW

To be held in the Shrimpers Bar. For more details contact Paul Yeomanson in the Shrimpers Bar today.

**Further details can be found at [www.shrimperstrust.co.uk](http://www.shrimperstrust.co.uk)**

## quid a goal

The aim of the scheme - like most of the Shrimpers Trust's activities is to raise money for Southend United Football Club and make sure that there is a club for us to be supporting in the foreseeable future. In particular, the money raised from the "Quid a Goal" scheme will be used to help fund Ricky Duncan's Youth Team set up. The current Quid a Goal total is £3,179.30

### First Team Goals

Alan Perry, Brian Cornell, G.F. Truman, Peter Moorhouse, Trevor Bashford, Steve Seaman, Michael Markshaffel, M. Mitchell, Richard Cunningham, Paul Richards, Derek Wiltshire, Geoffrey King, Peter Ticehurst, Ray Jeffery, Paul FitzGerald, Roy O'Sullivan, Kitty Butler, Peter & Berry Beach, Karl Butcher, P. Carter, Matthew Haig, Norman Sale, John Walton, K. Crooks, Ray Osborne, Mark Gilbert, John Otley, Derek Reeves, Daniel Dobisz, Simon Whybrow, Ron Martin, Phil Truscott

### First Team Clean Sheets

Francis Evans, Joanna Warren, Duncan Sheekey, Brian Cornell, Sheila White, Elliott Muncey, Brian Green, Mike Roles, Mick Rounce, David Mason, Mark Folwell, Ron Thompson, Steve Seaman, H. Embery, Michael Markshaffel, Jevon Stammers, Pete Smith, Nigel Holland, Ray Jeffery, Karl Butcher, Simon Woolmer, G. Hilder, John Walton, Denise Windett, Ray Osborne, Mark Gilbert, Dave Burgess, Terry Jeffreys

### Seasons Points Tally

Matthew Walker, Chris Perryman, Terry Hollands  
**Goals Scored by Kevin Maher**  
Mark Griffin, Mike Davies, Mark Folwell, Matt Donohue, Adam Duffill, Terry Craven, Barry Ardley  
**Goals Scored by Fredy Eastwood**  
H. Embery, Cathy Miles, Douglas Watson, Martin Rutter, Grace Ticehurst, Paul FitzGerald, Steven Day, Norman Sale, Amy & Matt Pryce, Ben Clarkson, Dave Burgess, Bob Mays, Tony Walkington, Andrew Perry, Lee Bird, Dan Garnham, Rob McKenzie, Gary Myers, Terry Cornell, Tim Bailey, Glynn Dalley, Doug Watson, Steve Raker, John Raker, Paul Seymour

### Goals Scored by Mark Gower

Graham Muncney, Sue Hanks, John Ticehurst, Dave Burgess, Danny Moss, Peter Woodfield, Edward Gunn, Andy Cameron, Adam Raker, James Cooper, Lara McSweeney

### Goals Scored by Efe Sodje

Duncan Sheekey, Samuel Johnson, Martin Rutter, Dan Bowden

### Goals Scored by Adam Barrett

Charles Barrett, Paul Stratford, Caroline Ticehurst, Steven Day, Maureen Palmer, Colin Clarkson, Bryan Woodford, Ann Mays, Alan Haywood, David Ford, John Hanks, Claire Kadesh, Gary Mayle, Jim Smith, Bryn Martin, Paul Smith

### Goals Scored by Luke Guttridge

Alice Ticehurst, Jonathon Humphrey, Karl Butcher, Graham Smith, Linda Strachan, Liam Sweeney, Ken Page, Peter Cowell, Ron Alexander, Rob McKenzie, Steve Dalley, Zoe Greene

### Goals Scored by Billy Paynter

Joanna Warren, Gary Townsend, Nigel Rickard, Dave Paul, Robert Folwell

### Goals Scored by Jamal Campbell-Ryce

Graham Reed, Nigel Rickard

### Goals Scored by Mitchell Cole

Tim Cole, Tom Bannon, S. Harrold, Alicia Davis

### Goals Scored by Steve Hammell

Ron MacKenzie, Adrian Greene, Brian Denton

### Goals Scored by Lee Bradbury

Keith Overall, Joanna Warren, Paul Montigue, David Matthews

### Goals Scored by Che Wilson

Allison Strachan

### Goals Scored by Matt Harrold

Bryn Martin, Dave Nicholls, Brian Cotgrove, Claire Kadesh

### Goals Scored by Gary Hooper

Sam Brown, Leslie Hickson, Gary Hooper Snr

### Goals Scored by Alan McCormack

Paul Smith

### Goals Scored by Simon Francis

Brian Denton

### Any League or Cup Win

Reg Burton, Kevin Davies

### Away Wins

Trevor Bashford, Reegan Howells, Peter Kadesh, Nick Green, James Drabble

### Home Wins

Claire Kadesh  
SUFC to stay in the Championship

Geoff and Mary Kerr

+ Goal Difference

Carl Barker

Wins over Colchester United

Matthew Walker

Reaching the Play Offs

Ron MacKenzie

All Away Goals

Andy Moorhouse, Nigel Holland, Daniel & Jenni

Ribbitts

Away Points

Cathy Miles

Any Hat-Trick by a Southend Player

Dave Burgess, Russell Howells

Four or more Goals Scored in a Game by SUFC

Darren Posnack, Nigel Rickard

Ireland International Caps for Kevin Maher

Adam Duffill

First Team Starts by Mitchell Cole

Sam Snell

Own Goals Scored by SUFC

Phil Smith

Penalties in Normal Time

Nigel Rickard

Kevin Maher Bookings

Chris Smith

SUFC Players Sent Off

Chris Smith

Reserve Team Goals

Brian Denton

### making a pledge

If you are interested in supporting our "Quid a Goal" scheme please complete the attached form and send to the address below; forms are also available from any committee member or the Shrimpers Trust Information Stand in the Shrimpers Bar.

If you would like more information do not hesitate to phone Alan.

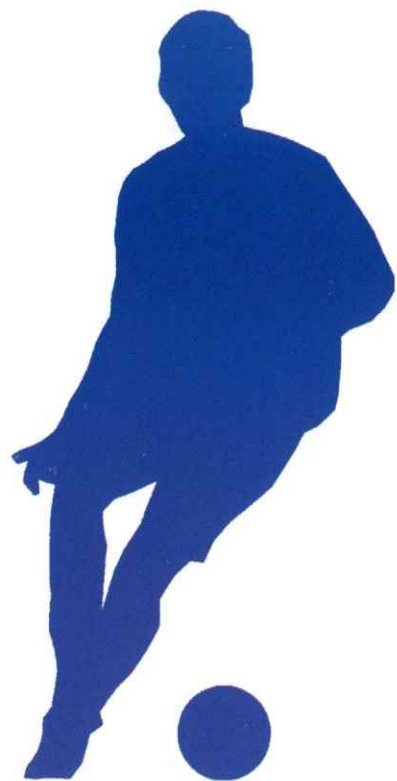
Alan Perry, 109 Blenheim Chase, Leigh on Sea, Essex, SS9 3BY.  
Tel No: 01702 476458  
email: [alanperry4@hotmail.com](mailto:alanperry4@hotmail.com)

name: .....  
address: ..... postcode: .....  
home tel no: ..... email: .....  
clean sheets: £ ..... team goals: £ ..... player goals (Please specify name and amount) : .....  
other pledge (Please specify type/name and amount) : .....  
I wish to pledge my support for the above amounts in the Shrimpers Trust "Quid a Goal" scheme. At the end of the season you will be contacted informing you of the amount your pledge has raised, and then Cheques should be made payable to the "Southend United Supporters Club Trust" for the total amount. If you do not wish your name to appear in Southend United Programmes please tick box ☐  
signature: .....



● Get warmed up for Tuesday's Curry Night!





# Echo

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## Southend United live

It's your love, it's our life

on the treatment table...

## the physio

Welcome back to Roots Hall for our final home game of the season against Luton Town. Hopefully the lads can put in a great performance and get a vital win and send you all home happy.

Freddy Eastwood suffered a back problem during the game at Preston. An MRI Scan revealed a minor Disc Profusion. Intensive treatment and core stability exercises have helped Freddy recover enough to start against Plymouth. He has continued to have treatment all week and is pushing hard for a start today.

### Problem

Mark Gower's old back problem flared up again on Saturday and he has joined Freddy in the treatment room. The injury has settled as the week has gone on and Mark is also hopeful of starting.

Kevin Maher had a couple of days rest with a bruised foot but will be available for the game.

As for myself, I picked up a badly sprained foot on my last training run for the Flora London Marathon and had to pull out late Saturday night.

To say I was devastated was an understatement. So all in all it was not the best weekend of my life! ...Oh well ...on to next years run.

Enjoy the game and lets get behind the Blues and make some noise!



Stanners

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## q&a

**The final Blues' player to answer your questions in our Question and Answer session is Charles Ademeno who recently signed a professional contract with the club.**

Thanks for all your contributions to this feature over the course of the season and we hope you've enjoyed being able to ask your Blues favourites exactly what you wanted to know.

*Who inspired you to play football when you were growing up?*

I used to play football with my friends regularly and that obviously got me involved in the sport.

But I used to love watching Ian Wright and he really inspired me, especially because he came from the same part of south London as me.

*You must be delighted with the progress you have made at Southend and very proud to have been handed a professional contract at the Club?*

It was a good moment for me because you work hard to earn a professional contract and to get two-year deal is a great achievement. I was really proud of that and so were my parents, but the hard work is just beginning.

At the start of my scholarship the idea was to always try and see if I could get a professional contract at the end of it, so I'm happy that all the miles on the pitch weren't in vein.

*How big a role did the loan spells you had earlier in the season play in your development?*

I believe that they played a very big part in my development. Youth football is not the best to develop certain aspects of your game like strength, so playing for Cambridge in the Conference against people who are older and more experienced than you really helped me in my education in football to improve my own game.

*What are your personal targets for next season?*

My personal target will be to try and get into the first team and to try and play as many games in Southend's first team. I will be aiming to try and be a regular in the team and will be working hard to achieve that. I was very happy when Franck Moussa got his professional contract because we are really close and now that I have got mine, I can't wait to start the season with him. Both of us will be doing our best to get in the first team and I'm sure it's going to be a good season ahead for both of us.

*How did your move to Southend come about?*

I had been at West Ham for a year beforehand, but it didn't work out for me. I then went on trials around the country at different clubs to Leyton Orient, Crystal Palace, Leicester City and Aston Villa. But I then went to Cambridge for two weeks with Ricky Duncan (Southend's Head of Youth) and when Ricky then went to Southend he invited me back there. I had a month's trial at the Club and played in a reserve game and scored, which was in front of the gaffer. From there everything kicked off for me and I ended up at Southend, which I'm very happy about.

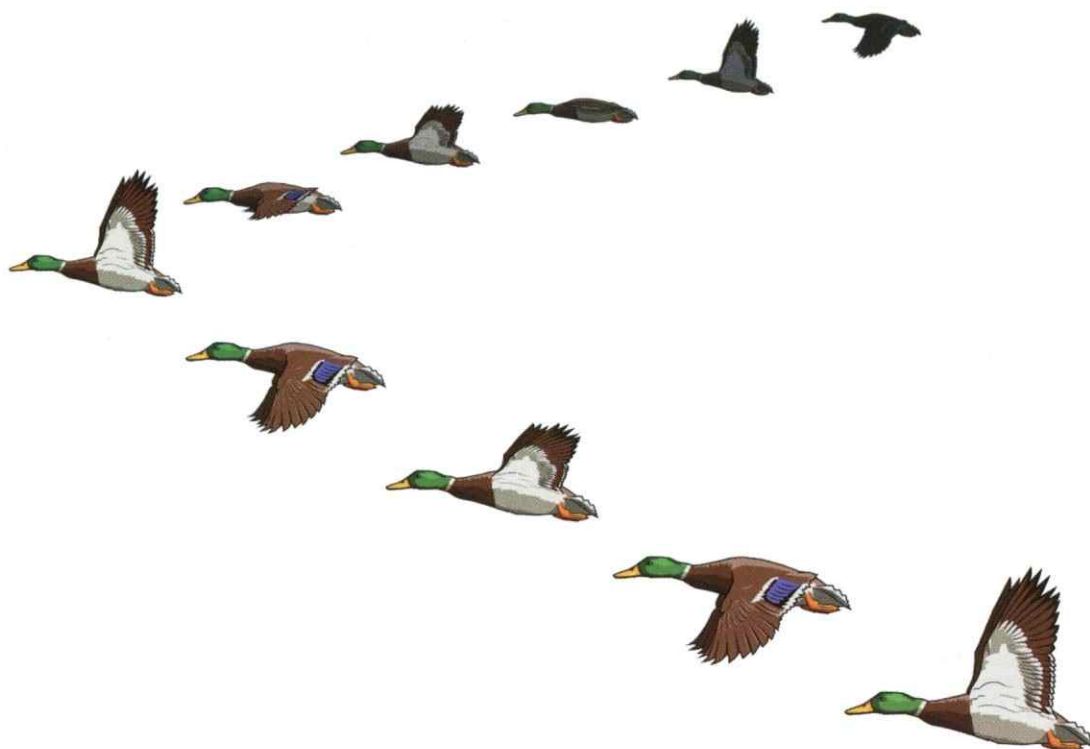
*Who did you support as a kid?*

I supported Arsenal, but liked to watch Manchester United as well. I liked watching Andy Cole scoring all those goals and he inspired me in the same way that Ian Wright did to try and become a footballer. I never really got the chance to go and watch those teams live, but I saw them on TV and wished that one day I would have the chance to play in those sort of stadiums.

*How did you end up playing as a striker?*

I like taking the glory for scoring goals. Whenever I used to have kick-about with my friends and scored, all my friends would celebrate with me. I realised that I liked the spotlight of playing as a striker and knew that was the position I wanted to play in.





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*As part of our referencing procedures, criminal record checks may be required.*



Make it happen



# tickets please...

## southend united v essex eagles

Monday 7th May - kick-off 2.30pm  
 Tickets are on sale for an altogether different match here at Roots Hall stadium this May Bank Holiday.

At the end of the season manager Steve Tilson and his first team squad will sign-off for the year with a 20/20 cricket match against Essex County Cricket Club on the Roots Hall pitch.

Tilly and his troops will take on a side managed by Essex Captain Ronnie Irani on Bank Holiday Monday, May 7th.

Ticket prices for this special event are £10 adult and £5 for concessions purchased before the day of the game and £12 adult £6 concession on the day.

There is also a family ticket for one adult and one child priced at £12. Tickets are on sale from the SUFC Ticket Office and from the Ford County Ground in Chelmsford.

All proceeds from the event will go to local charities chosen by SUFC and ECCC.

Meanwhile, United also have Executive Suites for sale priced at £350 + VAT for a suite for 10 persons including car parking, a matchday programme and hot pre-match food. A pay bar facility is available within the suite.

Individual corporate packages are also available with seats in the Directors Box, car parking, matchday programme and hot pre-match food priced at £35 + VAT per person.

To book call the commercial department here at Roots Hall on 01702 304133.

## ticketing information

### BOX OFFICE OPENING TIMES

Day	Open	Close
Monday	9.30am	5.00pm
Tuesday	9.30am	5.00pm
Wednesday	9.30am	5.00pm
Thursday	9.30am	5.00pm
Friday	9.30am	5.00pm
Saturday*	10.00am	3.00pm
Sunday	Closed	Closed

\* The Box Office is open all day when Southend United are playing a home fixture.

### TICKETING PRICES AND CATEGORIES

East Stand	Match Day	Advanced
Adult	£22.00	£20.00
Concessions	£14.00	£12.00
Students	£14.00	£12.00
Juniors	£11.00	£10.00

South Upper	Match Day	Advanced
Adult	£22.00	£20.00
Concessions	£14.00	£12.00
Students	£14.00	£12.00
Juniors	£11.00	£10.00

West Stand	Match Day	Advanced
Adult	£22.00	£20.00
Concessions	£14.00	£12.00
Students	£14.00	£12.00
Juniors	£11.00	£10.00

Family Enclosure	Match Day	Advanced
Family Ticket**	£22.00	£20.00
Additional Child	£5.00	£4.00
Additional Adult	£17.00	£16.00

### HOW TO BUY

In person by visiting Roots Hall  
 Blues Box Office: 08444 77 00 77 (local rate)  
 Online: [www.southendunited.co.uk](http://www.southendunited.co.uk)

## england ladies international england ladies v iceland ladies

Thursday, 17th May - kick-off 7.45pm

Southend United can confirm that the England Women's team will continue their 2007 FIFA Women's World Cup preparations with an international friendly at Roots Hall, next month.

Iceland Ladies will be the opponents on Thursday 17 May. Kick-off 7.45pm. Iceland last came to England in March 2006 when a record crowd for a women's international friendly of 9,616 saw Karen Carney score a late header to win the game 1-0 at Carrow Road.

Up front, young striker Margaret Vidarsdottir proved to be a handful and they will give Hope Powell's side another strong test as they look ahead to September. Iceland are currently ranked 21st in the world, with England 12th.

Southend United Chief Executive Geoffrey King said: "We are looking forward to working with The FA in hosting this prestigious event on their behalf.

"We are a family orientated Football Club and encourage support from across the community. Hopefully we will have a big crowd here for the game as fans come from across the county, and the Women's team can win the game as they continue their preparation for the World Cup."

England will compete in only their second ever FIFA Women's World Cup in China and on 22 April, they will find out their group opponents, as well as their base for the group stages, when the draw takes place in Wuhan.

The World Cup will be played in Shanghai, Hangzhou, Tianjin, Chengdu and Wuhan, between 10-30 September, the latter hosting the World Cup draw on 22 April.

Tickets for the game are on sale now priced £5 for adults and £2.50 for concessions.

Tickets can also be purchased from the Southend United ticket office, or by calling the ticket hotline on 08444 77 00 77. Special group discounts are available for groups of over 15, with tickets costing just £1 per person.



[www.southendunited.co.uk](http://www.southendunited.co.uk)



# PLAY-OFFS

## WITHOUT THE HEARTACHE



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## match action

### plymouth argyle 2 blues 1

**Southend were left fearing the worst after suffering last minute agony in a 2-1 defeat at Plymouth Argyle.**

Barry Hayles picked up on a threaded pass and after shaking off his marker, he was able to send the ball the wrong side of Darryl Flahavan to supply a cruel twist of fate to an otherwise gutsy Blues' display.

With just two matches left to play, Southend are four points from safety and know that they will need a small miracle if they are to hold on to their Championship status.

Southend gave themselves a mountain to climb when they fell behind with just seven minutes on the clock, as Plymouth drew first blood in registering the first shot at goal.

knock the ball into the bottom corner of the net.

Simon Francis advanced forward from defence and his clever technique to try and catch McCormick off his line resulted in the ball agonisingly drifting the wrong side of the left-hand post.

Ebanks-Blake was proving to be a real livewire for the hosts and he caused a scare at the other end when he cut inside the defence and from an acute angle, drilled the ball on to the outside of the post.

The spotlight fell on Flahavan and he showed his quality in quick succession to make two first-rate saves.

He initially dived at full-length to push Akos Buzsaky's long range shot around the post before, moments later, Barry Hayles was put

through on goal, only for Flahavan to stand up tall and make another imperative stop.

Buzsaky skimmed the top of the woodwork when he rifled a 20 yard free kick at goal and although the Blues had more than held their own, the half time whistle perhaps came at the optimum moment.

Southend came out after the interval with the bit between their tail with Paul Connolly heading over a dangerous Jamal Campbell-Ryce cross in front of goal, which resulted in Clarke winning another header from a set piece, but directing the ball a few yards wide of the post.

Buzsaky went close again with another set piece sailing just wide of the right-hand post and Marcel Seip forced Flahavan to tip his darting header around the opposite side of the goal.

As we reached the halfway point of the second half, the match was on a knife edge for Southend and Connolly certainly provided some panic when he smashed the ball into the side netting, with half the crowd believing he had scored.

Ebanks-Blake ballooned the ball over from just two yards out, as he slid in to meet Halmosi's centred cross before, with time ticking over, Hayles was able to finalise a 2-1 win for Plymouth in the 90th minute.

● Turn over for all the match action...



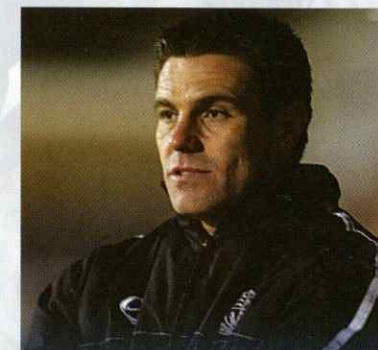
● Peter Clarke is congratulated after scoring the equaliser

Peter Clarke was robbed in possession on the byline by Peter Halmosi and his cross in front of goal was buried by Sylvan Ebanks-Blake past the despairing dive of Darryl Flahavan.

The Blues did respond gamely when Lee Bradbury was a whisker away with a header from a corner, before Freddy Eastwood charged forward and forced Luke McCormick to push his angled drive around the post.

Matters were made worse when Mark Gower limped off after 13 minutes to be replaced by Richie Foran, but Clarke was soon to make amends for his error when he equalised on 26 minutes.

The defender was first to react to Steven Hammell's free kick and from a position virtually on the goalline, he supplied a deft touch to



**steve tilson said:**  
"I felt that we deserved to get something out of the game."

"We tried to push for the win, lost possession outside their box and they have hit us on the break."

"We went one behind, but we stuck at it and created a few chances."

"I can't fault the lads for effort because they kept going."

#### match facts

**Plymouth Argyle:** McCormick, Connolly, Doumbe, Seip, Sawyer, Buzsaky (Gosling 82), Norris, Nalis, Halmosi (Timar 89), Ebanks-Blake (Gallen 86), Hayles.

**Subs not used:** Larrieu, Fallon.

**Yellow Cards:** Buzsaky, Sawyer.

**Red Cards:** None.

**Goals:** Ebanks-Blake 6, Hayles 90.

**Southend United:** Flahavan, Francis, Clarke, Barrett, Hammell, Campbell-Ryce, McCormack, Maher, Gower (Foran 13), Eastwood (Harrold 75), Bradbury.

**Subs not used:** Collis, Hunt, Moussa.

**Yellow Cards:** Bradbury, Hammell, Maher.

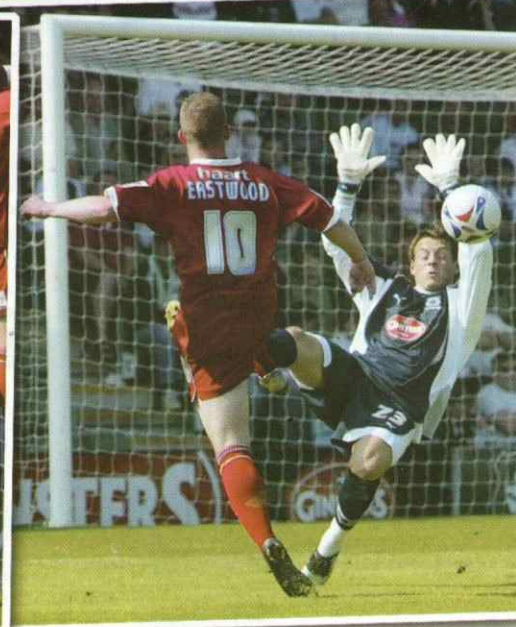
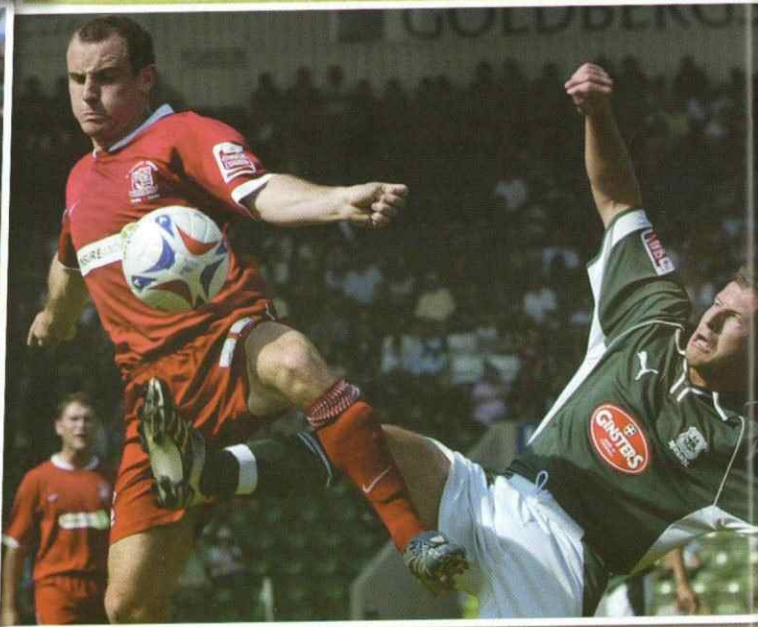
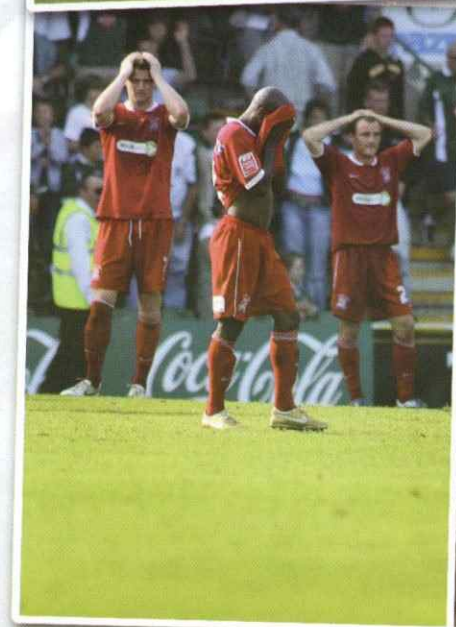
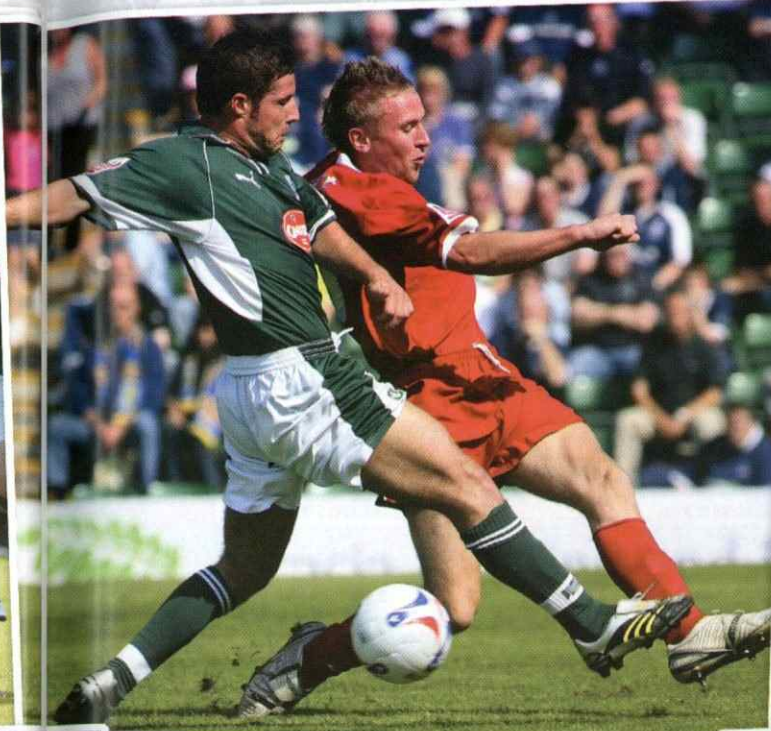
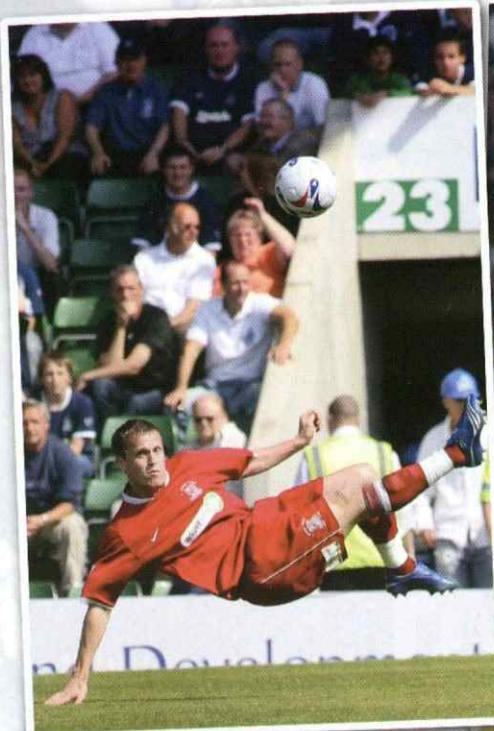
**Red Cards:** None.

**Goals:** Clarke 25.

**Attendance:** 11,097.

**Referee:** P. Armstrong (Berkshire)


































Clockwise from top left: Steven Hammell tries the acrobatic, Jamal Campbell-Ryce is halted in his tracks, Richie Foran tussles for the ball, Adam Barrett rises highest, Freddie Eastwood is den

this time, Peter Clarke heads Southend level, Alan McCormack feels the force of this tackle!, Depair for the Blues after Argyle's last-gasp winner.



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next up...

# southampton

**It will be a hindrance to Southend to know that there will be no danger of Southampton losing their focus at the close of the season, not with the play-offs very much in sight.**

The Saints stand just a point outside the top six and will believe maximum points from their last two encounters of the season should be good enough to achieve that very finish.

If any team's recent form has been topsy turvy though then it is Southampton's. As we reach the climax to the season, their form has been shamelessly inconsistent.

Six points from their last four matches has been a strange culmination for a side who on their day are capable of beating any side in the division.

A recent 6-0 defeat of Wolves on the road was a prime example of George Burnley's side at their very best.

To their own demise, the team have struggled to build on the platforms that they set themselves, as only once in the past five months have they been able to string two wins in a row.

## Chance

Last Saturday though Southampton took full advantage of defeats for Wolves and Preston, to give themselves a fighting chance of promotion when they beat Leeds United courtesy of a Bradley Wright-Phillips goal at St Mary's just six minutes before the close.

Burley admitted: "If we didn't win, our chances of finishing in the top six would be virtually over."

"We knew Leeds would be fighting for their lives and all credit to them, they made it difficult for us to break them down."

"But we kept at them, we put Bradley on the wing to give us some more finishing power and it paid off. I think we deserved it."

The team won't be aided by the loss through injury of Gareth Bale and Marek Saganowski, but it would appear that their squad is packed with enough resources to cope with such circumstances.

The last time Southend played Southampton back in December they managed to register their first win for 18 matches in the league with a 2-1 victory.

Depending on the outcome of today's match, it may well be that Southend need an even more significant triumph in the very last game of the season next Saturday.



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# on the pitch

## The Officials

### referee:

Mr P. Walton

### assistant referee:

Mr M. Scholes

### assistant referee:

Mr M. Yerby

### fourth official:

Mr R. Lee

## Next Here...

### southend united xi v essex c.c. xi

Twenty20 Cricket Challenge

**MONDAY MAY 7TH**

Ticket prices are £10 adult and £5 for concessions purchased before the day of the game and £12 adult £6 concession on the day. There is also a family ticket for one adult and one child priced at £12.

All proceeds will go to local charities chosen by SUFC and ECCCL

## Next Away...

### v southampton

Coca-Cola Championship

**SUNDAY MAY 6TH**

Kick-Off 1.00pm

matchday music supplied by



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## southend united

Manager: Steve Tilson

Colours: Blue & White



Pld Goal

1	Darryl <b>FLAHAVAN</b>	.....	.....
2	Simon <b>FRANCIS</b>	.....	.....
3	Che <b>WILSON</b>	.....	.....
4	Lewis <b>HUNT</b>	.....	.....
5	Spencer <b>PRIOR</b>	.....	.....
6	Adam <b>BARRETT</b>	.....	.....
7	Mark <b>GOWER</b>	.....	.....
8	Kevin <b>MAHER</b>	.....	.....
9	Richie <b>FORAN</b>	.....	.....
10	Freddy <b>EASTWOOD</b>	.....	.....
12	Lee <b>BRADBURY</b>	.....	.....
13	Steve <b>COLLIS</b>	.....	.....
15	Peter <b>CLARKE</b>	.....	.....
16	Efetobore <b>SODJE</b>	.....	.....
17	Jamal <b>CAMPBELL-RYCE</b>	.....	.....
18	Steven <b>HAMMELL</b>	.....	.....
19	Billy <b>PAYNTER</b>	.....	.....
20	James <b>LAWSON</b>	.....	.....
21	Gary <b>HOOPER</b>	.....	.....
24	Matt <b>HARROLD</b>	.....	.....
25	Franck <b>MOUSSA</b>	.....	.....
26	Alan <b>McCORMACK</b>	.....	.....

## luton town

Manager: Kevin Blackwell

Colours: White & Black



Pld Goal

1	Marlon <b>BERESFORD</b>	.....	.....
2	Kevin <b>FOLEY</b>	.....	.....
3	Sol <b>DAVIS</b>	.....	.....
4	Chris <b>COYNE</b>	.....	.....
5	Russell <b>PERRETT</b>	.....	.....
6	Paul <b>UNDERWOOD</b>	.....	.....
7	Matthew <b>SPRING</b>	.....	.....
8	Steve <b>ROBINSON</b>	.....	.....
9	Bjorn <b>RUNSTROM</b>	.....	.....
11	Dean <b>MORGAN</b>	.....	.....
15	Stephen <b>O'LEARY</b>	.....	.....
16	Lewis <b>EMANUEL</b>	.....	.....
17	Richard <b>LANGLEY</b>	.....	.....
18	Ahmet <b>BRKOVIC</b>	.....	.....
19	Sam <b>PARKIN</b>	.....	.....
20	Adam <b>BOYD</b>	.....	.....
21	Keith <b>KEANE</b>	.....	.....
22	Danny <b>STEVENS</b>	.....	.....
23	Besian <b>IDRIZAJ</b>	.....	.....
24	Shaun <b>ROSS</b>	.....	.....
25	Leon <b>BARNETT</b>	.....	.....
26	Markus <b>HEIKKINEN</b>	.....	.....
28	David <b>BELL</b>	.....	.....
29	Calvin <b>ANDREW</b>	.....	.....
30	Drew <b>TALBOT</b>	.....	.....
32	Ed <b>ASAFU-ADJAYE</b>	.....	.....
33	Dean <b>BRILL</b>	.....	.....
34	Zac <b>BARRETT</b>	.....	.....



a century united 1906 - 2006

