



Tuesday 18th August 2009
Wycombe Wanderers 1-1 Southend United

Blues XI: Steve Mildenhall, Simon Francis, Matt Heath, Adam Barrett, John White, Franck Moussa, Alan McCormack, Jean-Francois Christophe, Anthony Grant, Lee Barnard and Dougie Freedman.

- Journey: 7 out of 10:** Got there in good time but would have been better if we didn't have traffic congestion on the way.
- Stadium: 7 out of 10:** Quality small League One stadium, 2 tiered main stand, old fashioned terrace at one end, with the other two making it modern.
- Programme: 7 out of 10:** Good in-depth match reports, interviews and decent coverage of the Blues.
- Food Quality/Service: 5 out of 10:** Lucky I got there before the crowds did because I have to say food service was terrible! Drinks were fine, but you had to wait for food to be cooked rather than them cooking it already. To top it off burger was dry, roll was hard and the cheese was stone cold.
- Performance: 8 out of 10:** Another great passing display and how we did not win this match is beyond me.

Southend United should have been sitting in the top 3 with 9 points out of 9 in the early standings of the 2009/2010 season but instead they are 15th, 2 points off the play-offs! Yes, I know it's early days but on the performances so far we look like a team that can be challenging at the top end of this table, but unfortunately it's points not performances that get you there in the end.

Christophe had an early chance when he headed a free kick into the side netting and McCormack fired in a low drive. The Shrimpers had so much space in the first 25 minutes and I don't think they could believe their luck against a side that pushed Charlton all the way at The Valley and likewise Leeds at the weekend.

Matt Heath was next in on the act when he dragged a feeble left footed shot wide before Wycombe took the lead. A corner was whipped in and Matty Harrold, who got a mixed reception from the Blues fans, headed home into the far corner. Unbelievable.

It was then Blues' turn to pressurise. Freedman poked a through ball past the defender for Matt Heath, whose cutback was blocked for a corner.

Blues then did get a goal back. A great cross from Francis was met by Christophe, who powered home a header. I ran straight down the front to see if I could sneak another cameo performance in the highlights!

It was more of the same in the second half and we could have won it when Barney missed a near open goal that you would have thought he would have buried. Dougie then saw a difficult header go just over and then he thought he had won a penalty when Duberry chopped him down, but it wasn't given. Alex Revell then smashed a shot into the side netting but Blues couldn't find a winner.

The chants of YELLOWS! Bellowed throughout the game, and Blues fans were getting wound up with Tilly to make a change, but honestly, who could he have brought off? All players were playing well but you could see that a fresh pair of legs could have made the difference.