

Blues' million pound kid hits the comeback trail

WYCOMBE'S first "Million Pound Man" has set himself a four-year target to prove Wanderers and Tottenham wrong.

Blues sold Michael Malcolm to Spurs when he was just 14 years old in a move which would have earned Wanderers £1 million if he went on to play in Tottenham's first team and represent England and was then sold to another club for £5 million.

But the dream move did not work out and despite playing for Spurs reserves and representing England at U15 and U19 level he was released in the summer and offered back to Wycombe on a free transfer.

He trained with John Gorman's outfit for a week and was devastated when they also said no.

He told the Free Press: "I was gutted but I took it on the chin, walked the other way and pushed myself.

"I never lost confidence in my ability. It was disappointing that things didn't work out at Tottenham and I was very disappointed when Wycombe didn't want me because they said I was too similar to Nathan Tyson but the setbacks have made me stronger."

Malcolm picked himself up and signed a two-year deal with Wanderers' League Two rivals Stockport County instead.

He made his debut and scored in their 3-3 draw against Wycombe on September 10 and made it two goals in two games when he scored in the Hatters following game at Rushden and Diamonds.

He said: "I think things are beginning to work out for me again. I have always believed in my ability

Wanderers by Dave Peters

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and I believe that in the next four years I will be playing in the Premiership – hopefully I can do it in less than that.

"When I was at Spurs I always used to do extra shooting practice with Jermaine Defoe. He still texts me to see how I am getting on and some day I want to be playing at the same level as him.

"I just want to keep scoring in this division and get noticed."

But Malcom revealed that he didn't celebrate his first league goal – against Blues – because he didn't realise he'd headed the equaliser.

He said: "I didn't realise it was the equaliser. I thought we were 2-0 down at the time and not 1-0 down."

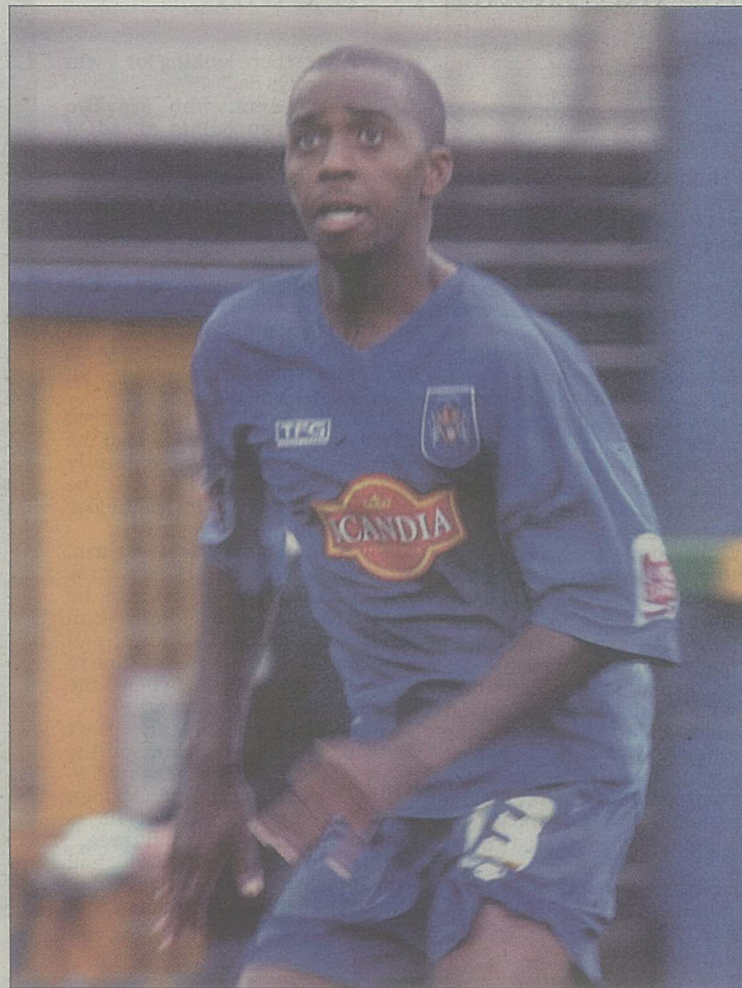
But Malcolm wouldn't have gone mad even if he realised he had headed in the equaliser.

Despite being turned down by Blues in the summer and not wanting to be sold to Tottenham in the first place he still loves the club.

He said: "If I'm playing Championship Manager on the computer I want to manage Wycombe. I'll always love Wycombe."

But Malcolm revealed that he had not wanted to go to Tottenham in the first place. His preferred choice was Arsenal but Wycombe chose Spurs because it was the best deal for the club.

In the end though Wycombe earned only £50,000 from the transfer.



Former Chairboy: Michael Malcolm in action for Stockport