

Backchat

with Steve Cohen

Send me your
funnies and any
contributions to
Backchat to
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Hot-shot Wanderers are the quickest on the draw

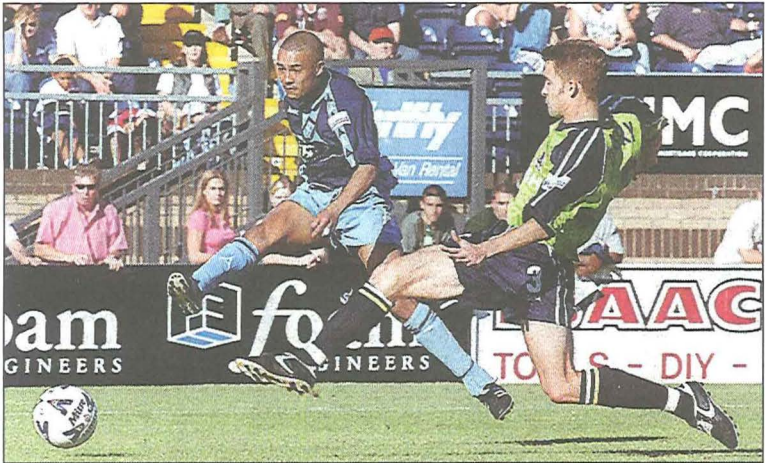
THE date was September 23, 2000 when Wycombe Wanderers created a Football League record which still stands today – by scoring the fastest two successive goals.

Jamie Bates and Jermaine McSparran were the scorers and Peterborough were the opposition.

The gap was just nine seconds – a fact which amazed me when I was taken on a tour of Adams Park earlier this month.

So thanks to all the readers who took part in my contest last week to tell us how Wanderers achieved this incredible feat. Several of you were quick off the mark with your answer, but you would have had to get up very early to beat Dave Brooker who emailed me at 8.36am on Tuesday, barely minutes after I'd gotten out of bed for the day.

Dave rightly told me Blues scored immediately before half time and then straight after. Apparently, Peterborough didn't touch the ball in between Bates and Big Mac slotting



RECORD BREAKER: Jermaine McSparran scores the record busting goal just nine seconds after Jamie Bates' goal Picture by Paul Dennis WWFC.com

it into the onion bag.

So Dave wins my customary use-less *Backchat* prize which is slightly less rubbish than usual. I am sending him a floating football radio which for

by utter coincidence, the same fellow who apparently unearthed the record all those years ago.

Stand up Dave Peters, *Bucks Free Press Sports Editor*, who tells me he researched the fact at the time. And he recalls, probably wrongly, it was me – yes me – who asked him to look into it.

I have no memory of that whatsoever, but if it's true it's meant I have been stunned and surprised by my own genius 11 years after I helped cement a bit of soccer history into the record books.

I probably had nothing to do with it whatsoever, but it's nice to believe that my work somehow led to this being in the football hall of fame.

If it is true, it will be the only decent thing I have ever contributed to the world of football, apart from my support of Tottenham of course.

Email me at scohen@london.newsquest.co.uk

Let's think outside the box

I CAUSED a mass cringe session on our sub editing desk on Friday when I asked Dave Peters if I could 'pick his brains' on the accompanying article about Wycombe Wanderers. Dave replied smartly that I was welcome, but there wasn't much to pick.

However, everyone else agreed this was surely one of the most awful glib catchphrases of all time. Then we compiled a *Backchat* top ten of horrible corporate sayings, and found it wasn't.

TOP TEN TERRIBLE BUSINESS CATCHPHRASES:

- 10: I want to pick your brains
- 9: No change is not an option
- 8: Can I borrow you for a few minutes?
- 7: We have to hit the ground running
- 6: You need to step up to the plate
- 5: Well done, you are a star
- 4: Read this and give me a sense check
- 3: We need some blue sky thinking
- 2: Throw it against the wall and see what sticks
- 1: Let's think outside of the box