

Don't judge us all by these vermin

AS A Carlisle United supporter who spends some time in High Wycombe, I have read the reporting off the two games and the crowd troubles with interest, particularly having been to both games myself.

The reporting of the Sunday game in Carlisle justifiably highlighted the moronic and yobbish behaviour of elements of the Carlisle crowd. However it should be made clear that these few 'vermin', to use Carlisle United director Michael Knighton's words, are a disgrace to the people of Carlisle and you can be sure that the thousands and thousands of true Carlisle United supporters are disgusted and ashamed that the 'vermin' were allowed to bring down the good name of the club and the team.

Unfortunately, the likes of myself are left in a position where they can only offer apologies to any Wycombe supporters who had their day spoilt on the Sunday.

For what it's worth, I have, and no doubt among others have, written to Carlisle United to ask that action is taken to stop anything similar happening again.

However, I should add that I have never seen such bad and needless scenes from Carlisle people in the past and there have been many equally tense occasions, believe me.

Regarding the Wednesday night game in Wycombe I feel that I should take a slightly more positive stance in favour of the true Carlisle United supporters. (Not the two or three who did cause trouble, of course):-

Firstly, I found the emphasis on 'pitch invasion' reporting to be somewhat over the top. After all it was only two individuals and the reason that their 'roam-around' lasted so long was due to the policy of the police.

Secondly I found the titles used in the reports and the attitude of your reporters to be rather distasteful in their general degrading approach toward all Carlisle United supporters.

Unfortunately, your reporters failed to take an opportunity to stand firm behind true football supporters: Your reports could have highlighted the fact that the reason that the handling of the 'roam-around' by the two individuals on the pitch was successful was largely due to the reaction of the remainder of the 1,500 or more true Carlisle United supporters who booed and derided the two individuals, hereby significantly helping to make the two look very daft. The few hooligans are outcasts within their own (supposed) group and this should be made clear to all.

A third point extends to your report's failure to include any reference to the poor behaviour of the Wycombe player - Simon Garner - whose 'waving' to the Carlisle crowd after Carroll's goal could easily have resulted in much more serious trouble if the Carlisle crowd had not been so well behaved.

The two yobs (and the third less conspicuous one) who went onto the pitch, went on because they were pure trouble makers, with no interest in Carlisle United or football, nor do I think they were influenced by Garner. I am not making any excuse for them.

I shall close by offering my congratulations to Wycombe Wanderers for winning the Carlisle fixtures. Carlisle can have no complaints - Wycombe's tactics achieved victory, with Carlisle falling to four 'sucker' punches.

In a way I am sad to have to say that Wycombe will be remembered by the Carlisle United support as a very professional outfit. The spoil and break tactics adopted were very well carried out, although I hope for football's sake that Wycombe won't regularly go to the extremes of time wasting and 'acting' that went on in the Sunday fixture.

Nevertheless I wish Wycombe all the best for the Wembley final and hope that an enjoyable day out is had by all - May the best team win. (Wycombe I hope).

Name and address supplied