

Mr Clean in tantrum ban

Flare-up with referee leaves Carroll out

WANDERERS midfielder Dave Carroll has been hit with a £50 fine and banned for one game after throwing a tantrum at a referee.

Carroll was charged with misconduct after remarks he made to referee Robert Styles coming off the pitch following the Blues 4-2 defeat at Plymouth last November.

Wanderers are appealing against the ban, which rules Carroll out of the match at Carlisle on the last day of the month. They are desperate to get it overturned because Carroll's midfield partner Steve Brown is also suspended for that game.

Carroll is the third Wycombe man to be hit with an FA misconduct charge this season. Manager John Gregory was fined £500 for remarks made to referee Steve Bennett after the Preston game, and assistant boss Richard Hill was slapped with a £50 penalty after the same game.

Carroll lost his rag at Home Park after Styles, who sent off three Wanderers against Preston the year before, allowed an offside-looking Plymouth goal to stand and gave the home-sters a debatable first half penalty.

As Carroll swore at the referee at the end of the match, strong-arm stewards moved in and man-handled other players away as the incident escalated and became heated.

Argyle confirmed on Wednesday that one of their stewards has since been moved to another part of their ground, away from the tunnel area, for his part in the ugly scene.

Carroll, who was not

REPORT

By Dave Peters

booked in the incident, did not put his case to the FA and thought the matter had been dismissed, until last Saturday morning when a letter arrived from the FA informing him of the ban.

Carroll, who has an excellent disciplinary record told the BFP: "I regret what I did now. I had a go at the referee and linesman in the heat of the moment. I said a few words and was reported for it.

"I didn't expect to get banned. I know I shouldn't have sworn at him but a lot worse things like elbowing goes on in matches which the refs don't clamp down on.

"I regret it now because I'm going to miss a game. I've learned from it and I won't be doing it again."

Manager John Gregory is hoping Carroll's previous good record will get him off the ban. He has only been booked once this season.

Gregory said: "I think David was wrong to approach the ref the way he did. Sometimes you have to shut your mouth but Dave only said what the rest of us were thinking. We've had a lot of trouble with Mr Styles."

Wycombe are appealing on the grounds that the punishment imposed hits the team, rather than the individual. They would prefer the FA's three-man committee to impose a larger fine instead.

Meanwhile, Wanderers are applying to get one of Mark Stallard's three bookings erased now that he has gone five games without a yellow card.