

Veteran midfielder sent off for first time in his career

Carroll hit by double ban

DAVE Carroll will miss the Easter Monday derby at Reading and the final home game of the season against Luton after being sent off for the first time in his career during Blues 2-1 win at Chesterfield.

The midfield playmaker was dismissed for foul and abusive language aimed at the linesman during the second half at Saltergate.

He received a straight red card and a mandatory two-match ban for the offence.

He is the eighth Wanderer to be sent off this season.

Midfield partner Michael Simpson will also miss Reading. His booking for dissent at Chesterfield took him over the disciplinary points barrier on a day when Paul McCarthy was also booked.

But despite Saturday's indiscretions, Wanderers are confident they will escape the £20,000 suspended fine from the FA which is a hand-me-down from the previous season's onfield misdemeanours.

Wycombe have had more red cards than anyone else in Division Two but have balanced that by having fewer bookings than all but three of their rivals.

Carroll and Simpson's suspension will open the door for people like Mo Harkin and youngsters like Martyn Lee to stake their claim.

Victory at Chesterfield saw Wycombe pass Sanchez's 51-point safety target by one point and the boss will use the last five games to blood the youngsters.

Sanchez said: "You don't know until you play people what they can offer. We'll give chances to people from now until the end of the season and if we lose a couple of games by playing the kids

then so be it.

"The squad have done well and become a decent team. Now we've got to become a very good team."

Meanwhile, Carroll was still struggling to come to terms with the first red card in 12 years at Wanderers.

He said: "I think it was harsh I used a bit of industrial language and that was it. It wasn't directed at the linesman personally it was more in frustration at his decision in the heat of the game. If people are going to be sent off for swearing, it will end up two aside every week.

"He'll be sending people off every match if he's going to go down that route. A red card was ridiculous for that when you've got people running round kicking and elbowing people.

He added: "My pride's hurt because it's a blemish. I feel as though I let the lads down. I suppose this will teach me to keep my mouth shut."

Wycombe went on to win without him, despite having two penalties awarded against them in the first half. David Reeves missed the first, producing a tremendous double save from Martin Taylor, scored the second spot kick before Wycombe came back in the second half.

Wanderers switched tactics and played with three up front. Emergency frontman Keith Ryan hit the equaliser before Sean Devine with his 22nd league goal of the season poached the winner to amplify the home fans chants for manager John Duncan to quit the club he took to an FA Cup semi-final three years ago.

The Chesterfield fans got their wish on Tuesday when Duncan was sacked.



If only I'd kept it shut: Dave Carroll covers his mouth which got him in trouble as he takes the long walk off at Chesterfield

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