

Core Activity Sheet 4.2

Information Sheet for 'Hooligans' Bark Proves Worse than their Bite'

These statements are taken from the article you have just read.
Read them through and decide whether they are:

- A Giving a positive view of football
- B Giving a negative view of football
- C Neutral

Put A, B, or C at the side of each statement.

Anyone listening to the radio or watching local television news on Saturday night might have been mistaken for thinking south-east London had been transformed into a war zone.

On the opening day of the season, ... genuine supporters were injured in clashes inside and outside Ninian Park.

There were 25 arrests at the ground and in central London.

But the most expensive security steps ever implemented in the Nationwide League appeared to pay off.

Spectators were able to watch an entertaining match in safety.

Policemen in full riot gear accompanied the fans to the ground – there were more luminous yellow jackets than replica shirts – while two helicopters hovered above.

Eight of the arrests were for possession of drugs.

Victoria underground station was closed for a while and five shop fronts were damaged.

Ken Chapman, Millwall's chief safety officer, said 'We had hardly any trouble inside the ground'.

There was no rioting.

'There were about 90 seats damaged by Cardiff fans after the match in the North Stand and they trashed the toilets ... that will cost up to £15,000 and the revenue coming in from Cardiff fans won't cover that.'

There was an awkward stand-off between police and Millwall fans while the away supporters were accompanied into and out of the stadium.

'There were some decent away fans and I'm sure they were as appalled at the damage as we were.'

If people want to fight they will fight – a Cardiff coach was allegedly attacked at Slough by Birmingham fans en route to their game at Fulham – and the threat this fixture posed was clear.

For the majority, all that mattered was the football.