

Soldier beaten at home after false rape claim

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A TERRITORIAL Army soldier now risking his life in Iraq was beaten up in his own home by a gang of four teenage thugs after a false rape allegation.

Kevin Watts, a welder, of Hazeldene Avenue, Brackla, Bridgend, was set upon by the mob which burst into his property.

The teenagers threw crockery at Mr Watts' head, punched him and stole his wallet, mobile phone and car keys before leaving him bleeding and needing hospital treatment.

Cardiff Crown Court was told Nathan Weaver, 19, of Tairfelin, Wildmill, Bridgend, and Christopher Cutter, 18, of Glendower Close, Brackla, Bridgend, were jointly involved with a 16 and 15-year-old who can't be named for legal reasons. They all pleaded guilty to affray and violent disorder.

Prosecutor Eugene Egan said Mr Watts' ex-girlfriend Rebecca Randall began a relationship with Christopher Cutter and misled him into believing she had been raped. Mr Egan said: "The incident took place on December 4 last year.

"Mr Watts received a phone call from Christopher Cutter saying he was going to smash his head in.

"At 11.30pm that night, Rebecca Randall called at Mr Watts' address and asked if she could use the toilet and he allowed her to. The four defendants then appeared outside and burst in through the door.

"They terrorised Mr Watts in his own home."

During the assault, cups were thrown at the victim with one leaving him with a gash just above his left eye which needed eight stitches.

When the thugs left, Mr Watts dialled 999 and the four were later arrested.

In mitigation, the court heard Christopher Cutter, one of eight children, was told by Rebecca Randall she had been raped but when he learned this was false after the assault, he informed police immediately. Weaver appeared before court already serving a sentence for a mugging only two weeks before the assault.

Judge John Curran ordered Cutter and Weaver to serve nine months in a young offender institution.

The 16-year-old was given a two-year supervision order and a three-month curfew order not to go out between 9pm and 6am while the 15-year-old received a referral order.

Judge Curran said: "The victim was a young man now serving as a territorial soldier in Iraq.

"He must've been terrified."

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