

Thursday 4th
May 2023

PRESS HIGHLIGHTS

All the news from Roundwood ahead of the final game of the season at Wigan Athletic



Matt Taylor

Taylor on the win over Middlesbrough encapsulating the Millers' season...

"The first half was just us this season. Two injuries, a clearance off the line, a save from Viktor and then a moment of luck finally went our way with the sending off.

"We got the goal early on in the second half and it was enough to get the job done.

"I watched it back and it wasn't pretty but it didn't have to be pretty.

"We had to understand what was expected against 10 men.

"To keep a clean sheet against the league's leading goalscorers left me so pleased for Viktor because he's played such a big part in what we've done this season - as everyone else has.

"On a sunny day on a Bank Holiday Monday that was a nice script."



Matt Taylor

Taylor on whether he and the lads have had chance to celebrate their achievements...

"The players went out and rightly so because it was their moment.

"I don't care about the details but I presume that they had a fantastic night and some staff were probably there with them.

"I went home and had a meal with parents, my wife and the little man which was great because they were on the pitch and were a part of it. Very rarely do I get emotional but seeing my family so pleased and relieved makes you

understand what they've been through as much as how difficult it has been for ourselves.

"Seeing Viktor Johansson bawling his eyes out almost set me off down an emotional moment because it really showed how much people cared.

"I just loved the day. I loved the outcome but I loved the day.

"To see other people have their time and their moment in the spotlight meant that I was so pleased for everyone involved."



Last Meeting
Rotherham 0-2 Wigan Athletic

Saturday 1st October 2022

Will Keane netted before the break with Tom Naylor added a second following the restart to secure the Latics all three points.

Last Five Results
Wigan Athletic

LLWWD

Hughes in the News

Academy product Charlie Hughes made his debut against Reading recently and netted in the 1-1 draw to kick off what is a promising senior career.

Matt Taylor

Taylor on whether he has time to reflect on the achievement of keeping the club in the division...

"It wasn't me. It was never me. It's me when it goes wrong because it is always the manager's responsibility but it is a collective.

"It's the Chairman, it's the Board, it's the players and it's the staff. It is people who make the club what it is.

"At times we haven't been good enough this season, I've not been good enough. I've had unwavering support from the Chairman especially in relation to doing what is needed when it is needed.

"The backing he gave us in January gave us a real boost and a chance of staying in the league and we've achieved it.

"I will take full responsibility when things don't go right but when we have some success, then people have to understand the role that they have played in it because I want to build this football club and I want to keep on building it with people who really care passionately about it."



Taylor on team news ahead of Wigan...

"He [Chieo] has a tear in his hamstring. It's a 2C whatever that means for the medical geniuses out there.

"It's a significant tear so he is obviously unavailable.

"It's the same for Shane, who has done some damage to that groin bit of an issue. We'll give him every chance we possibly can.

"Ollie Rathbone and Ben Wiles won't make the trip to Wigan. For them to go through that pain barrier [versus Boro] was testament for both of them.

"We didn't expect Ben Wiles to play that amount of minutes in such an important game.

"We'll make a decision on Cam Humphreys.

"We're a little bit light but that's the way it is. There will be a couple of young players on the bench who will get a bit of a taste of it, but we should still be competitive."

because match action seems to aggravate the injury."

Matt Taylor on...

Taylor on what looks to be headed for a sold-out away end, a carnival atmosphere but being respectful of Wigan's situation...

"We're hearing about this max exodus of people from Rotherham on Monday in terms of fans going to Wigan.

"They're going there to celebrate but I want them to celebrate another performance and another positive result.

"I don't want to be stood there clapping them at the end of the game having played poorly.

"We also have to be understanding of Wigan's situation. We know how that feels better than anyone and they've really been through the mill as a club.

"We go there in good voice and good spirit."

Taylor on how his last few days have looked since that win over Boro...

"You've seen a little bit of it today, it's the busiest time.

"You are digesting, reflecting and planning. Naturally in football people go here, there and everywhere at the end of the season.

"The recruitment process has already started and it is well underway.

"Things are moving in terms of the pitches and refurbishing the changing rooms. It is just a constant.

"Getting your ducks in a row going towards the end of the season is important and it is just non-stop meetings with the players first and foremost, and then staff."