

27th October
2023

PRESS HIGHLIGHTS

All the news from Roundwood ahead of the weekend's visit to Sheffield Wednesday



Matt Taylor

On Team News...

"We've got a few niggles and illnesses in the camp, but this is Rotherham United in the Championship.

"It's a quick turnaround of games, I wish I could give more details of where the group will be at, but I'll get a better picture on Saturday.

"If the game wasn't on Sunday we may have struggled a little bit in terms of getting some of the players out there, but the extra day will give us a chance.

"In terms of Lee Peltier, we're hoping it was just cramp. He's a warrior and a stalwart, we want him out there on Saturday.

"Grant Hall is out on the grass but not closer in a playing capacity. There's a strain in there but he seems to be moving okay.

"I'm not sure about QPR or Ipswich, but we'll need to keep assessing him on a daily basis.

"Jamie Lindsay hates not playing football and the injury has been so frustrating for him, to see him smiling is good because it means he's out there and pain free.

"I've said that he's been a big one that we've missed, he's such a big player that gives us that warrior aspect in the middle of the park."



Matt Taylor

Sheffield Wednesday...

"It's the one that the fans talk about more than any, understandably so. I was involved with the Sheffield United game and this will be another big event.

"The players will feel it more than anybody and the fans will play a big part in that, I assume they'll travel in big numbers and the last time we were in Sheffield was that night at Bramall Lane - we all know what happened there.

"Hopefully they go in good voice with a positive mindset and a little more belief in what we're trying to do.

"I think we have to understand what this game means - even more so with the league position - but we want to keep this little run going and it is only a little run.

"It's so important to keep picking points up when we can, it's something that we've been crying out for and will take us to where we want to be.

"We won't underplay the occasion and the importance of it."



Last Meeting

Sheffield Wednesday 0-2 Rotherham
13th February 2022

The Millers secured their second successive victory at Hillsborough thanks to second half goals from Freddie Ladapo and Michael Smith.

Last Season's position

Sheffield Wednesday

3rd
(League One)

Rohl With It

Sunday marks new manager Danny Rohl's first home fixture in charge of the Owls, having faced Watford and Plymouth Argyle on the road in his first two matches.

Matt Taylor

On a big midweek win over Coventry...

“It was an important win and a good one, too. It was a pleasing performance, especially in the second half where I thought we were excellent.

“In the first half we were good enough in certain areas without that ‘killer moment’ or quality to make the difference.

“It took a good set-piece goal for us to get ahead and then we had a number of chances, as did the opposition and we have to hold our hands up and say that.

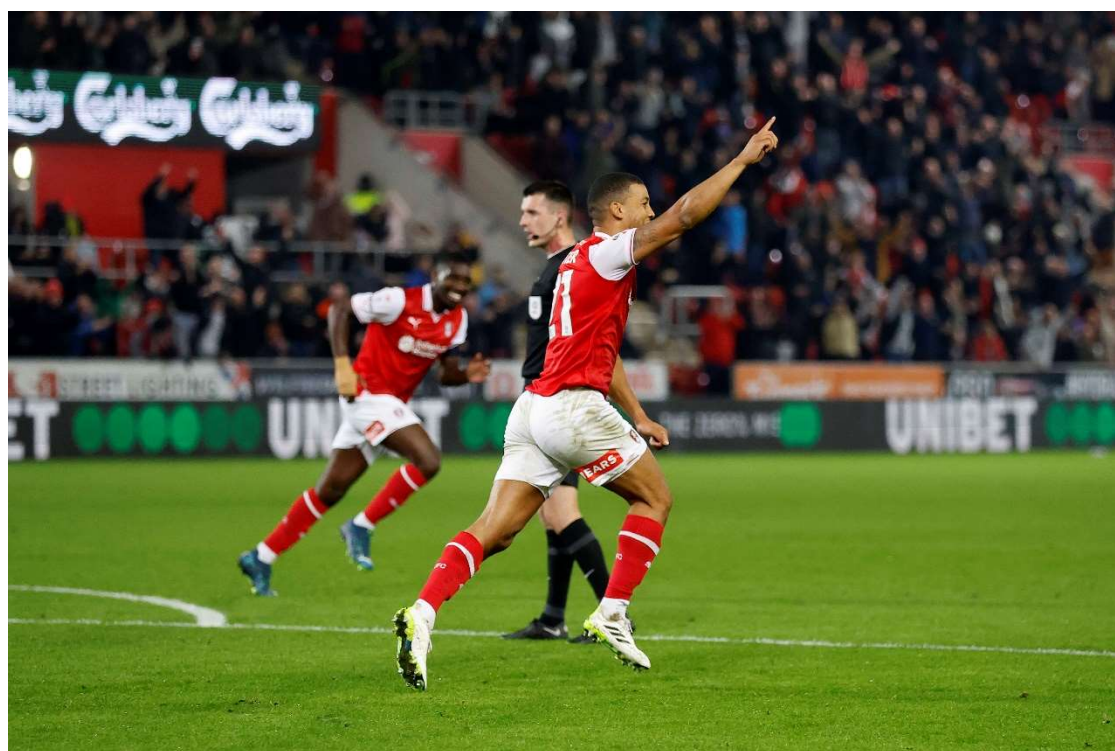
“We’ve got a good goalkeeper and a good group of lads who wanted to put their bodies on the line and keep a clean sheet.



“We created a lot of chances in the second half and there were no surprises that we were ahead in the game, that is why that set-piece moment – with the game in the balance – was so important.

“It gets you ahead and then the opposition have to change, meaning more space. It is what comes first, from a manager’s point of view there were a lot of pleasing part of the performance up until that point.

“Goals do change the feeling of the game, on the pitch, in the stands and in terms of what the opposition have to do as well.”



Matt Taylor on...

A set-piece goal for Lee Peltier...

“Wayne Carlisle does our attacking set-pieces, we’d started the season really strongly with them but hadn’t scored as many as we’d have liked in the last couple of games.

“Having Cafu back on the pitch certainly helps in terms of his delivery and with Arvin and Sam Clucas, we have some good options there.

“We also defended 16 of them on Tuesday night and a lot at Southampton, too. So it is big to be good at them in both boxes.

“We were able to sustain attack in the opposition box through set-pieces and we need to carry that on this weekend.”

“I’ve said before about Lee for what he brings to the team both on and off the pitch. He sets a great example for us. As much as his goal was important, there were two big blocks, where he just didn’t want to be beaten.

“He makes the games personal and I think the best defenders do that. He’s got a great partnership with Sean as well. It was a pleasing moment for Lee and his family were there as well which will have made it extra special for him to score.”

Matt Taylor on

A clean sheet for Sean Morrison...

“It was an important moment for Sean on Wednesday, with the way he started the season and with his body not quite being where it needed to be.

“I thought he looked more free in his movement and more aggressive in his game. He’s someone who has benefitted from a number of weeks training.

“He’s got what is needed to put in a performance like that and we need it from him. He’s a leader in so many ways and he can only do that on the pitch.

“He’s had a long period of time out and keeping him on the pitch is really important for us because when he is out there he’s a serious player for us.”

