



//// HERSHEY BEARS ////
GAME NOTES
 //// ROCHESTER AMERICANS ////



Hershey Bears vs. Rochester Americans

Friday, November 2, 2018 @ The Blue Cross Arena | AHL Regular Season Game No. 148

TONIGHT'S GAME

- The oldest rivalry in the American Hockey League will be renewed tonight as the Rochester Americans (7-2-1-0) welcome the Hershey Bears (4-6-0-1) to The Blue Cross Arena for the only time this season. The 7:05 p.m. matchup will be the first of a home-and-home series as well as the 457th all-time meeting between the league's two cornerstone franchises. The contest can be heard live on The Sports Leader AM 950/95.7 FM ESPN Rochester and viewed on AHLTV.

LAST TIME OUT

- After 40 minutes of a penalty-filled North Division showdown between the Amerks and Laval Rocket last Saturday night, the Amerks entered the third period trailing 1-0. When the final horn sounded at The Blue Cross Arena, it was the Amerks who extended their point streak to eight straight games as they came away with 3-2 come-from-behind win on the strength of three third-period goals.
- With the victory, the Amerks have collected 15 out of a possible 16 points over their last eight games overall to maintain their lead atop the AHL's North Division standings. Rochester also improved to 7-2-0 all-time against the Rocket while winning three straight over Laval dating back to last season.
- Zach Redmond** scored his team-leading sixth goal of the season while pushing his career-long point streak to nine straight games. The veteran blueliner shows 14 points (6+8) through his last nine contests, as well as holding the longest active point streak in the league. **C.J. Smith** tallied his fourth marker of the season while former Rocket forward **Yannick Veilleux** recorded his first goal as an Amerk and the game-winner to complete the scoring. Goaltender **Scott Wedgewood**, who earned his ninth career shutout and first as an Amerk last Friday against Utica, drew the nod between pipes for the fourth time in the last five games. The 26-year-old stopped 37 of 39 while picking up his fifth straight victory.

ROAD AHEAD FOR AMERKS

- The Amerks and Bears get right back at it on Saturday, Nov. 3 as the home-and-home series shifts south for a 7:00 p.m. rematch at Giant Center. The matchup will be the final game of the season between the longtime rivals and can be heard live on The Sports Leader AM 950/ 95.7 FM ESPN Rochester as well as AHLTV.

IRON MAN SIMPSON

- Rochester forward and former Bear **Wayne Simpson** is the AHL's current leader in consecutive games played with 197. Prior to joining the Amerks, the Boxborough, Mass., native appeared in all 76 regular-season games with the Hershey Bears and Providence Bruins over each of the last two seasons. Through 10 games with the Amerks this season, Simpson has tallied four points on two goals and two assists.

2018-19 REGULAR SEASON



TOTAL GOALS
25-39



4-6-0-1 (9 points)

7-2-1-0 (15 points)

AMERKS OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Victor Olofsson	10	5	10	15	0	-1
Zach Redmond	10	6	8	14	10	2
Lawrence Pilut	8	2	11	13	4	11

GOALTENDER

GP	REC	MIN	GA	SV%	GAA
Scott Wedgewood	7	5-2-0	419:44	20	.909 2.86
Adam Wilcox	3	2-0-1	181:22	10	.875 3.31

NEXT THREE GAMES

Date	Opponent	Time
Nov. 3	@ Hershey	7:00 p.m.
Nov. 7	vs. Cleveland	7:05 p.m.
Nov. 9	vs. Syracuse	7:05 p.m.

LAST THREE GAMES

Date	Opponent	Score	SF-SA	PP	PK
Oct. 27	Laval	W 3-2	25-39	0-6	10-12
Oct. 26	Utica	W 4-0	24-20	1-5	5-5
Oct. 20	Belleville	OTL 5-4	36-30	1-3	2-6

YEARLY RECORD	GF	GA	POINTS
HOME 4-2-0-0	22	19	8
AWAY 3-0-1-0	17	11	7
TOTALS 7-2-1-0	39	30	15

BEARS OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Liam O'Brien	11	6	1	7	15	-2
Mike Sgarbossa	11	4	2	6	12	-1
Connor Hobbs	11	1	5	6	11	-2

GOALTENDER

GP	REC	MIN	SVS	SV%	GAA
Vitek Vanecek	7	3-3-1	423:00	190	.918 2.41
Ilya Samsonov	4	1-3-0	243:23	92	.860 3.70



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ROC-STAR STATUS

- The Amerks usher in November owning three of the AHL's top four point-getters in forward **Victor Olofsson** and defensemen **Zach Redmond** and **Lawrence Pilut**.
- Olofsson, who yesterday was named the CCM/AHL Player of the Month for October, led the AHL in scoring in October and continues to do so with 15 points (5+10) despite seeing his seven-game point streak end Saturday night that included four multi-point efforts. The 23-year-old forward recorded 14 points (5+9) during his streak and has been held scoreless just twice through his first 10 games of the campaign. Olofsson, who was also named Player of the Week for period ending Oct. 14, is also one off the league lead in assists.
- Redmond shows 14 points (6+8) through his first 10 games to lead the league in scoring amongst all defensemen while he also currently sits atop the AHL in power-play scoring with nine points (5+4) as five of his six goals this season have come on the man-advantage, the most in the AHL that category. The veteran blueliner has 14 points in nine straight games, a career-long, and he owns the longest active point streak in the league coming into tonight.
- Pilut is off to a hot start in his North American debut as he ranks second behind only Redmond in points by a defenseman with 13 points (2+11) in eight games. Pilut, last year's SHL Defenseman of the Year, has recorded all but five of his 13 points on the power-play this season, including his two goals, which are tied for fourth-most among all AHL blueliners.

- **Scott Wedgewood** has got the nod between the pipes in four of the last five games. After dropping his first two games of the season, the sixth-year netminder has won five straight since to match a career-long, tying him for second among goaltenders in wins.

OFFENSIVE MINDED

- The Amerks have outscored the opposition 35-20 over their last eight games entering November and rank second in the AHL in goals scored with 39, including a league-best 13 on the power-play. In addition, Rochester boasts the eighth-best offense in the AHL and has the second-best power-play in the league (29.5%) entering tonight.

SCOUTING THE BEARS

- Hershey, which enters November with two victories in its final two games of the month, remains in a three-way tie for fifth in the AHL's Atlantic Division with a record of 4-5-0-1 through 11 games.
- After posting a career-best 17 goals in 69 contests last season, forward Liam O'Brien leads the Bears in overall scoring with seven points. O'Brien, in his fifth season with the Bears, has notched a team-best six goals through 11 games, including three in the last four.
- In his third full season with Hershey, goaltender Vitek Vanecek, who was named the CCM/AHL Player of the Week for period ending Oct. 21, carries a record of 3-3-1 in seven games this season. Vanecek currently ranks 10th and 12th among all AHL goaltenders with a 2.41 goals-against average and a .918 save percentage, respectively.

AMERKS-BEARS 2017-18 SEASON SERIES BREAKDOWN

ROCHESTER

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Kyle Criscuolo	2	1	2	3	0	0
Kevin Porter	2	1	2	3	2	-1
Eric Cornel	2	2	0	1	0	0

GOALTENDER

GP	REC	MIN	GA	SV%	GAA	
Linus Ullmark	2	1-0-1	126:18	9	.866	4.28

HERSHEY

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Riley Barber	2	2	3	5	0	-1
Chris Bourque	1	1	4	5	2	2
Joe Whitney	3	1	3	4	0	0

GOALTENDER

GP	REC	MIN	GA	SV%	GAA	
Vitek Vanecek	1	1-0-0	60:15	2	.917	1.99
Pheonix Copley	1	0-0-1	64:56	6	.833	5.54

2017-18 SEASON SERIES GAME-BY-GAME BREAKDOWN

Date	Result	Score	SF-SA	PP	PK
Nov. 3	SOW	7-6	35-27	1-5	3-3
Feb. 11	OTL	3-2	24-33	0-3	4-5

AMERKS ALL-TIME RECORD VS. HERSHEY: 190-212-54

SERIES NOTABLES

- With an AHL-best 13 power-play goals through its first 10 games, Rochester boasts the top ranked power-play unit in the Eastern Conference with a 29.5% conversion rate.
- Tonight's matchup marks the 457th all-time meeting between the AHL's two senior-most franchises with Rochester holding a 190-212-54 lifetime record against Hershey.
- The Bears have claimed four of last five meetings dating back to the 2016-17 season while the Amerks earned three out of a possible four points in the two games last season.
- Both meetings between the two clubs last season were one-goal games as the Amerks earned a 7-6 shootout win in the first meeting before dropping a 3-2 overtime loss to close out the season series.
- In Rochester's 7-6 win against Hershey on Nov. 3 last season, 24 different skaters registered at least one point on the night, including a season-high five-point effort from Chris Bourque, while the two teams combined for 13 goals.