



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



Rochester Americans @ Hershey Bears

Saturday, November 3, 2018 @ Giant Center | AHL Regular Season Game No. 158

TONIGHT'S GAME

- The Rochester Americans (7-3-1-0) and Hershey Bears (5-6-0-1) square off for the second time in as many nights tonight 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.

LAST TIME OUT

- Despite a pair of third-period goals, the Amerks could not complete the comeback as they fell 4-2 in the opening game of a home-and-home series with the Bears Friday night in what was the 457th all-time meeting between the AHL's two oldest franchises.
- With the 4-2 loss and a Cleveland Monsters win, the Amerks and Monsters are now tied atop the North Division standings with 15 points. Additionally, Rochester saw its eight-game point streak end as well as its four-game home winning streak halted.
- C.J. Smith** and **Victor Olofsson**, who on Thursday was named the CCM/AHL Player of the Month for October, recorded their fifth and sixth goals of the campaign, respectively, for the Amerks. Goaltender **Scott Wedgewood** saw his AHL career-best five-game winning streak end as he stopped six of the nine shots he faced in the first period before being replaced by **Adam Wilcox** in the second period. Wilcox made 14 saves on all 14 shots he faced in just over 37 minutes of relief work for Rochester.

ROAD AHEAD FOR AMERKS

- For the seventh straight year, the Amerks make the annual trek down the New York State Thruway to play in the home of the Buffalo Sabres on Wednesday, Nov. 7 as they host the Cleveland Monsters in a North Division showdown at the KeyBank Center in Buffalo. The 7:05 p.m. contest will be the first of eight scheduled meetings between the two teams this season 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 198. 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 11 games with the Amerks this season, Simpson has tallied four points on two goals and two assists.

ROC-STAR STATUS

- The Amerks enter tonight's rematch owning three of the AHL's top six point-getters in forward **Victor Olofsson** and defensemen **Zach Redmond** and **Lawrence Pilut**.

2018-19 REGULAR SEASON



TOTAL GOALS
29-41



5-6-0-1 (11 points)

7-3-1-0 (15 points)

AMERKS OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

| SKATER | GP | G | A | PTS | PIM | +/- |
|-----------------|----|---|----|-----|-----|-----|
| Victor Olofsson | 11 | 6 | 10 | 16 | 0 | -1 |
| Zach Redmond | 11 | 6 | 8 | 14 | 12 | 0 |
| Lawrence Pilut | 9 | 2 | 12 | 14 | 4 | 10 |

GOALTENDER

| GP | REC | MIN | GA | SV% | GAA |
|-----------------|-----|-------|--------|-----|-----------|
| Adam Wilcox | 4 | 2-0-1 | 218:47 | 10 | .894 2.74 |
| Scott Wedgewood | 8 | 5-3-0 | 439:44 | 23 | .900 3.14 |

NEXT THREE GAMES

| Date | Opponent | Time |
|---------|---------------|-----------|
| Nov. 7 | vs. Cleveland | 7:05 p.m. |
| Nov. 9 | vs. Syracuse | 7:05 p.m. |
| Nov. 16 | @ Springfield | 7:05 p.m. |

LAST THREE GAMES

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

| YEARLY RECORD | GF | GA | POINTS |
|----------------|----|----|--------|
| HOME 4-3-0-0 | 24 | 23 | 8 |
| AWAY 3-0-1-0 | 17 | 11 | 7 |
| TOTALS 7-3-1-0 | 41 | 34 | 15 |

BEARS OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

| SKATER | GP | G | A | PTS | PIM | +/- |
|----------------|----|---|---|-----|-----|-----|
| Liam O'Brien | 12 | 7 | 1 | 8 | 20 | -2 |
| Mike Sgarbossa | 12 | 5 | 3 | 8 | 14 | 0 |
| Riley Barber | 9 | 3 | 4 | 7 | 20 | 4 |

GOALTENDER

| GP | REC | MIN | SVS | SV% | GAA |
|---------------|-----|-------|--------|-----|-----------|
| Vitek Vanecek | 7 | 3-3-1 | 423:00 | 190 | .918 2.41 |
| Ilya Samsonov | 5 | 2-3-0 | 303:22 | 126 | .881 3.36 |



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- Olofsson, who Thursday was named the CCM/AHL Player of the Month for October, led the AHL in scoring in October and continues to do so with 16 points (6+10) despite seeing his seven-game point streak end last 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 11 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 11 games to share the league-lead in scoring amongst all defensemen with Pilut. Redmond 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. Additionally, the veteran blueliner, who saw his career-long and AHL-best nine-game point streak end last night, has three game-winning tallies.

- Pilut is off to a hot start in his North American debut as he shares the league-lead with Redmond in points by a defenseman with 14 points (2+12) in nine games. Pilut, last year's SHL Defenseman of the Year, has recorded all but five of his 14 points on the power-play this season, including his two goals, which are tied for fourth-most among all AHL blueliners. His 12 assists are tops in the league.

- **Scott Wedgewood** has got the nod between the pipes in five of the last six games. After dropping his first two games of the season, the sixth-year netminder won five straight to close out the month of October, matching the career-best mark he set while backstopping the Albany Devils during the 2015-16 campaign. Wedgewood is tied for third among all netminders in wins (5), ranks fourth in saves (206) and fifth in minutes played (440).

OFFENSIVE MINDED

- The Amerks have outscored the opposition 37-24 over their last nine games entering tonight and have scored the second-most goals in the AHL with 41, including 13 on the power-play. In addition, Rochester boasts the 12th-best offense in the AHL and has the sixth-best power-play in the league with a 26.5% conversion rate.

SCOUTING THE BEARS

- Hershey returns home with three victories in its last three games, holding the fifth-spot in the AHL's Atlantic Division with a record of 5-6-0-1 through 12 games.

- After posting a career-best 17 goals in 69 contests last season, forward Liam O'Brien leads the Bears in overall scoring with eight points. O'Brien, in his fifth season with the Bears, has notched a team-best seven goals through 12 games, including four in his last five appearances.

- 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 12th and 13th among all AHL goaltenders with a 2.41 goals-against average and a .918 save percentage, respectively.

AMERKS-BEARS 2018-19 SEASON SERIES BREAKDOWN

ROCHESTER

| SKATER | GP | G | A | PTS | PIM | +/- |
|-----------------|----|---|---|-----|-----|-----|
| Victor Olofsson | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| C.J. Smith | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Taylor Fedun | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 |

GOALTENDER

| GP | REC | MIN | GA | SV% | GAA | |
|-----------------|-----|-------|-------|-----|-------|------|
| Adam Wilcox | 1 | 0-0-0 | 37:25 | 0 | 1.000 | 0.00 |
| Scott Wedgewood | 1 | 0-1-0 | 20:00 | 3 | .667 | 9.00 |

HERSHEY

| SKATER | GP | G | A | PTS | PIM | +/- |
|----------------------|----|---|---|-----|-----|-----|
| Riley Barber | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 1 |
| Mike Sgarbossa | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 |
| Axel Jonsson-Fjallby | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |

GOALTENDER

| GP | REC | MIN | GA | SV% | GAA | |
|---------------|-----|-------|-------|-----|------|------|
| Ilya Samsonov | 1 | 1-0-0 | 59:59 | 2 | .944 | 2.00 |

2018-19 SEASON SERIES GAME-BY-GAME BREAKDOWN

| Date | Result | Score | SF-SA | PP | PK |
|--------|--------|-------|-------|-----|-----|
| Nov. 2 | L | 4-2 | 36-24 | 0-5 | 1-2 |
| Nov. 3 | | | | | |

AMERKS ALL-TIME RECORD VS. HERSHEY: 190-213-54

SERIES NOTABLES

- With eight power-play goals through its first four road games of the year, Rochester boasts the top ranked power-play unit away from home in the AHL with a 44.4% conversion rate.
- Tonight's matchup marks the 458th all-time meeting between the AHL's two senior-most franchises with Rochester holding a 190-213-54 lifetime record against Hershey.
- The Bears have claimed five of last six meetings dating back to the 2016-17 season while the Amerks have earned three out of a possible six points in the three games dating back 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.