



//// SPRINGFIELD THUNDERBIRDS ////
GAME NOTES
 //// ROCHESTER AMERKS ////



Rochester Americans @ Springfield Thunderbirds

Friday, November 16, 2018 @ MassMutual Center | AHL Regular Season Game No. 230

TONIGHT'S GAME

- The first-place Rochester Americans (10-3-1-0) embark on their first three-in-three of the season tonight as they visit the Springfield Thunderbirds (7-4-0-2) at MassMutual Center to begin a three-game trek through the Atlantic Division. Game time is slated for a 7:05 p.m. start. All of the action can be heard live on The Sports Leader AM 950/ 95.7 FM ESPN Rochester and can be viewed on AHLTV.

LAST TIME OUT

- Despite seeing the Syracuse Crunch tie the game at 2-2 in the final second of last Friday's matchup at The Blue Cross Arena, **Zach Redmond** scored the game-winning goal 2:37 into the extra session, his fifth game-deciding tally of the season, to give the first-place Amerks their 10th win of the campaign.
- The 3-2 overtime victory widened Rochester's hold atop the American Hockey League's North Division standings to four points over the Cleveland Monsters while also moving the Amerks to within two points of Charlotte for first overall in the AHL with 21 points.
- Alexander Nylander** registered a pair of assists for the Amerks, who have collected 21 out of a possible 24 points in their last 12 contests and have won five of their last six contests. Along with Redmond, **Justin Bailey** and **Andrew Oglevie** each found the back of the net, with Oglevie notching the first goal of his pro career, while goaltender **Adam Wilcox** finished the night with 30 saves to pick up his 50th career victory. Wilcox now boasts a 6-0-2 record in his last eight appearances dating back to last year, including a 4-0-1 mark this season. He remains the only goalie without a regulation loss.

ROAD AHEAD FOR AMERKS

- Rochester continues its three-game swing through the Atlantic Division with a Saturday night matchup against the Providence Bruins at 7:05 p.m. before closing out the trip on Sunday at 3:00 p.m. in Hartford against the Wolf Pack. All of the action from both of the weekend's games will be carried live on The Sports Leader AM 950/ 95.7 FM ESPN Rochester and can be viewed on AHLTV.

IRON MAN SIMPSON

- Rochester forward **Wayne Simpson** is the AHL's current leader in consecutive games played with 201. 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, in addition to 35 straight appearances for the Portland Pirates dating back to the 2015-16 campaign. Simpson, who registered his first two-goal outing since Mar. 20, 2016 in last Wednesday's 5-2 win over Cleveland, has tallied seven points on four goals and three assists through 13 games with the Amerks this season.

2018-19 REGULAR SEASON



TOTAL GOALS
48-53



7-4-0-2 (16 points)

10-3-1-0 (21 points)

AMERKS OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Zach Redmond	14	10	8	18	12	4
Lawrence Pilut	12	2	15	17	8	14
Victor Olofsson	13	6	10	16	0	1

GOALTENDER

GP	REC	MIN	SVS	SV%	GAA	
Adam Wilcox	6	4-0-1	341:15	140	.915	2.29
Scott Wedgewood	9	6-3-0	499:44	230	.902	3.00

NEXT THREE GAMES

Date	Opponent	Time
Nov. 17	@ Providence	7:05 p.m.
Nov. 18	@ Hartford	3:00 p.m.
Nov. 23	vs. Utica	7:05 p.m.

LAST THREE GAMES

Date	Opponent	Score	SF-SA	PP	PK
Nov. 9	Syracuse	OTW 3-2	25-32	0-4	4-4
Nov. 7	Cleveland	W 5-2	39-26	0-1	2-2
Nov. 3	Hershey	W 4-1	34-27	0-4	4-4

YEARLY RECORD

	GF	GA	POINTS	
HOME	6-3-0-0	32	27	12
AWAY	4-0-1-0	21	12	9
TOTALS	10-3-1-0	53	39	21

THUNDERBIRDS OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Harry Zolniercyk	13	4	11	15	12	7
Joel Lowry	13	4	9	13	24	4
Paul Thompson	13	7	5	12	21	-1

GOALTENDER

GP	REC	MIN	SVS	SV%	GAA	
Sam Montembeault	7	5-1-0	377:43	180	.918	2.54
Chris Driedger	4	2-1-1	244:09	125	.906	3.19



ROC-STAR STATUS

- Redmond shows 18 points (10+8) through his first 14 games to lead the league in scoring amongst defensemen. Redmond is also tied for second in the league in power-play scoring with nine points (5+4) as five of his 10 goals this season have come on the man-advantage. Redmond, who had an AHL-best nine-game point streak to end the month of October, became the first Amerks defenseman to score 10 goals in the fewest amount of games to begin the season since Amerks Hall of Famer **Don McSween** reached the mark in his first 21 games during the 1989-90 campaign. Additionally, Redmond is also on pace to surpass his own career-mark of 15 he scored last season, having already scored more than half in 2018-19.

- **Lawrence Pilut** is off to a hot start in his North American debut, ranking second behind only Redmond in points by a defenseman with 17 points (2+15) in 12 games. Pilut, last year's SHL Defenseman of the Year, has recorded half of his 17 points on the power-play this season, including his two goals, which are tied for fourth-most among all AHL blueliners. He enters the week with points in nine of his last 10 games and has been held scoreless just twice all season. He currently leads the AHL with 15 assists while his team-best plus-14 on-ice rating is tied for fourth in the league in that category.

- Named the CCM/AHL Player of the Month for October after leading the AHL in scoring through the first month of the season, forward **Victor Olofsson** is currently tied for 10th among the league's top point-getters with 16 points (6+10) in 13 games. Olofsson has recorded points in eight of his last 11 games, including a seven-game point streak (5+9) to close out the month of October, and has been held scoreless in back-to-back games for the first time all season. Olofsson, who was also named the AHL's Player of the Week for period ending Oct. 14, is tied for 15th among league leaders with 10 assists, including an AHL-best eight on the power-play.

- **Scott Wedgewood** has got the nod between the pipes in seven of the last nine 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 season. He enters tonight tied for second among goalies in wins (6) and shutouts (1).

SCOUTING THE THUNDERBIRDS

- After opening the season with a nine-game point streak and a franchise-long six-game winning streak, the Thunderbirds have dropped their last four contests. Over the last four games, Springfield has scored two or fewer goals in each contest while also being outscored 21-7 over that span.

- After posting a 13-23-3 record last season for Springfield, Samuel Montembeault returned to carry the goaltending duties in the blue paint. The 22-year-old Quebec City native enters the weekend with a 5-1-0 record in seven appearances for the T-birds while his .918 save percentage ranks ninth-best among the league's netminders.

AMERKS-T-BIRDS 2017-18 SEASON SERIES BREAKDOWN

ROCHESTER

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Seth Griffith	2	2	2	4	0	5
Colin Blackwell	2	2	0	2	0	1
Zach Redmond	2	0	2	2	0	2

GOALTENDER

	GP	REC	MIN	GA	SV%	GAA
Linus Ullmark	1	1-0-0	60:00	1	.947	1.00
Adam Wilcox	1	1-0-0	59:54	2	.909	2.00

SPRINGFIELD

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Curtis Valk	2	0	2	2	2	0
Maxime Fortunus	2	1	0	1	0	0
Dryden Hunt	2	1	0	1	0	1

GOALTENDER

	GP	REC	MIN	GA	SV%	GAA
Sam Montembeault	2	0-1-1	118:04	6	.917	3.05

2017-18 SEASON SERIES GAME-BY-GAME BREAKDOWN

Date	Result	Score	SF-SA	PP	PK
Jan. 12	W	2-1	37-19	0-3	3-3
Mar. 24	W	4-2	35-22	1-6	6-6

AMERKS ALL-TIME RECORD VS. SPRINGFIELD: 5-1-0

SERIES NOTABLES

- Tonight's game is the just the seventh all-time meeting between the two teams. Rochester swept the season series last year by a combined score of 6-3 and has won each of the last four get-togethers.
- Amerks goaltender **Adam Wilcox** appeared in 13 games during the 2016-17 season with the Thunderbirds, going 7-4-1 after a midseason trade from Tampa Bay. Wilcox, who holds the longest winning streak in Springfield history, recorded three shutouts with the Thunderbirds, including a 2-0 blanking against the Amerks on March 12, 2016. During his four-game win streak, Wilcox stopped 117 of 120 shots he faced while boasting a 0.75 goals-against average.
- Springfield assistant coach **Doug Janik** has ties to Rochester having spent time in the Flower City as a player. Janik, a Springfield native, appeared in 376 career games in Rochester, the third-most among any blueliner in franchise history, and his 91 points (18+73) still rank 30th among all-time defensemen.