

ROCHESTER AMERICANS HOCKEY CLUB

SIX-TIME CALDER CUP CHAMPIONS 1965 | 1966 | 1968 | 1983 | 1987 | 1996

Saturday | **February 4, 2023** | 7:00 PM ET | CAA Arena | AHL Game 696 | AHL TV, The Fan Rochester



GAME NOTES



TONIGHT'S GAME OVERVIEW

The Rochester Americans (20-17-2-1) look to snap their three-game skid with a 7:05 p.m. rematch against the Belleville Senators (17-22-3-1) tonight at CAA Arena. All the action will be carried live on The Sports Leader 95.7 FM/950 AM The Fan Rochester as well as AHLTV.

Tonight's get-together is the sixth of eight scheduled meetings this season and the second of a two-game set prior to the annual AHL All-Star break as Belleville took Thursday's matchup by a 5-3 score. The Amerks and Senators have split the season series thus far with the home team emerging victorious each time and Rochester showing a 2-2-0-1 mark.

HEAD-TO-HEAD SERIES SNAPSHOT AGAINST SENATORS

Despite boasting a 3-3-1-1 record in the eight-game series last season against Belleville, Rochester shows a 14-10-5-2 mark over the last five years between the two teams.

Rochester is 14-15-2 all-time against Belleville despite being outscored 113-104 through the first 31 meetings with the Senators. Five of the last 11 matchups have been decided beyond regulation, including both games in the play-in round of the 2022 Calder Cup Playoffs.

Both the Amerks and Senators have scored five goals each in the third period during the season-series. Additionally, each of the teams have produced five goals in each of their last wins.

LAST TIME OUT

The Amerks fell behind 3-0 and were never able to fully recover as they dropped the first of back-to-back meetings, 5-3, to the Senators Thursday at CAA Arena.

Amerks defenseman **Ethan Prow** assisted on Rochester's first two goals of the night while forwards **Jiri Kulich** and **Isak Rosen** both scored in the second period before **Anders Bjork** added a third-period marker. **Sean Malone**, **Brett Murray**, and **Lawrence Pilut** all recorded on assist each.

Goaltender **Malcolm Subban** (10-7-0) made his 18th appearance of the season but suffered the loss.

SUBBAN ENTERING IN FEBRUARY

After suffering a defeat in his season-debut on Nov. 18, Subban has gone 10-6-1 since over his last 17 starts, including seven straight wins between Dec. 10 to Jan. 14. The seven-game win streak was the longest of his pro career and the third-longest streak among all AHL goaltenders behind Toronto's Joseph Woll and Calgary's Dustin Wolf.

He was the first Amerks goaltender to post seven straight wins since Jonas Johansson won nine consecutive contests during the 2019-20 campaign.

Subban had arguably his best performance of the season during a 75-save weekend in Rochester's two-game sweep over the Charlotte Checkers in mid-December. A night after stopping a regular-season career-high 45 saves, Subban was flawless in a 30-save shutout on Dec. 17, his first in the AHL since April 8, 2017, with the Providence Bruins.

Subban, who picked up his 100th career win in the 5-4 overtime victory over Utica on Dec. 28, has topped the 40-save mark three times in his last 13 starts and is currently tied for 20th amongst all netminders with 10 wins.

2022-23 AMERKS OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	PIM
Brandon Biro	31	9	20	29	-3	10
Linus Weissbach	40	13	15	28	-9	37
Lukas Rousek	40	10	18	28	-3	6
Brett Murray	39	14	12	26	-9	29
Michael Mersch	29	7	16	23	1	14

GOALTENDER

GOALTENDER	GP	REC	SVS	SV%	GAA
Eric Comrie*	3	1-2-0	79	.898	3.03
Malcolm Subban	18	10-7-1	506	.902	3.05
Ukko-Pekka Luukkonen*	9	6-3-0	238	.898	3.07
Michael Houser	10	3-5-0	242	.896	3.17

*=Currently on recall with Buffalo (NHL)

^ = Currently reassigned to Cincinnati (ECHL)

2022-23 SENATORS OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	PIM
Egor Sokolov	43	12	27	39	-9	36
Jake Lucchini	32	9	18	27	-16	4
Scott Sabourin	41	14	10	24	1	165
Angus Crookshank	43	13	10	23	-24	17
Ridly Greig	28	12	11	23	-5	38

GOALTENDER

GOALTENDER	GP	REC	SVS	SV%	GAA
Mads Sogaard	20	6-9-1	488	.902	3.20
Antoine Bibeau	15	6-6-1	370	.898	3.37
Kevin Mandolese	12	4-6-2	310	.886	3.39

HEAD-TO-HEAD BREAKDOWN

Belleville Senators vs **Rochester Americans**

17-22-3-1.....	Overall Record	20-17-2-1
10-11-0-1.....	Home Record	11-9-1-0
7-11-3-0.....	Road Record	9-8-1-1
3-6-0-1.....	Last 10 Games	3-6-1-0
9-5-0-1.....	Record When Scoring First	12-7-1-1
3.21 (14th).....	Goals-For Per Game	3.10 (T-15th)
3.72 (29th).....	Goals-Against Per Game	3.43 (25th)
20.1% (14th).....	Power-Play	18.8% (T-19th)
76.5% (27th).....	Penalty Kill	77.0% (25th)
5-3 W vs. ROC.....	Last Game	5-3 L @ BEL
Feb. 10 @ CLE.....	Next Game	Feb. 10 vs. SPR



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BIRO PILING UP THE POINTS

Despite missing six games due to injury, third-year forward **Brandon Biro** has blazed his way atop the team's scoring lead following a productive December in which he led the team with 16 points (6+10) in 10 games. He recorded multi-point efforts in seven of his 10 appearances, including six straight between Dec. 9 and Dec. 30 before closing out the month with an assist in the 3-2 win in Toronto.

Biro, who made his NHL debut with the Buffalo Sabres last season, currently paces the Amerks in assists (20) and points (29) through 31 games and his recent seven-game point streak to close out the 2022 calendar year was the longest of his career.

Dating back to last season, Biro has totaled 70 points on 21 goals and 49 assists over his last 79 games and hasn't gone more than six games without a point since Nov. 27, 2021.

ROUSEK ALL-STAR BOUND

The American Hockey League announced last week the addition of Amerks forward **Lukas Rousek** to the North Division All-Star roster for the upcoming 2023 AHL All-Star Classic presented by Bell in collaboration with Manulife Bank. The annual event will take place Feb. 5-6 at Place Bell in Laval, Quebec, home of the Laval Rocket.

Rousek will replace fellow forward **Brandon Biro**, who was originally named the team's lone representative, but is unavailable to participate in the event due to injury.

Currently in his second season with the Amerks, Rousek ranks third on the team with 18 assists and tied for second in scoring with 28 points while being one of only two Rochester skaters to appear in all 40 games this season. He also ranks third on the team with 10 goals.

Rousek has been one of the team's most consistent point-getters since the start of December, having recorded 15 points (6+9) over his last 22 games. More impressively, Rousek totaled 12 points (6+6) over a 12-game stretch between Dec. 3 and Jan. 7, highlighted by a season-long six-game point streak, and never went more than one game without a point over that span.

A native of Ostrov nad Ohri, Czech Republic, the 5-foot-11, 191-pound forward was the Buffalo Sabres' sixth-round selection (160th overall) in the 2019 NHL Draft. He enters the weekend with three assists in his last four games, including a two-assist effort last Wednesday against W-B/Scranton.

PROWESS ON THE BLUELINE

Entering the Jan. 19 game against Laval, **Ethan Prow** was the only Amerks defenseman to appear in every game this season. Overall, he has skated in 109 of the 115 games dating back to the start of the 2021-22 campaign.

By being held without a point for just the third time since Christmas, Prow saw his four-game point streak (2+3) halted. The seventh-year veteran has posted 12 points (2+10) in his last 14 outings dating back to Dec. 28.

Through 39 games this season, Prow is tied for 22nd in scoring amongst all AHL defensemen while his 19 assists are tied for 16th in the league. He needs one more assist for his fourth consecutive season with 20 or more assists and by recording a point last Wednesday, he reached the 20-point mark for the fifth straight year dating back to the 2018-19 campaign.

AMERKS-SENATORS 2022-23 SEASON SERIES BREAKDOWN

ROCHESTER

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Ethan Prow	5	0	6	6	6	-4
Lukas Rousek	5	1	3	4	0	-3
Brandon Biro	3	2	1	3	2	-3
Anders Bjork	3	2	1	3	0	-2

GOALTENDER

	GP	REC	GA	SV%	GAA
Beck Warm	1	0-0-1	2	.941	1.85
Ukko-Pekka Luukkonen	1	1-0-0	3	.870	2.84
Malcolm Subban	2	1-1-0	7	.857	3.62
Eric Comrie	1	0-1-0	4	.857	4.08

BELLEVILLE

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Egor Sokolov	5	3	6	9	2	5
Ridly Greig	3	3	2	5	6	3
Viktor Lodin	3	1	3	4	0	3
Jonathan Aspirot	3	2	1	3	2	3

GOALTENDER

	GP	REC	GA	SV%	GAA
Antoine Bibeau	1	1-0-0	2	.926	1.85
Mad Sogaard	3	2-1-0	8	.915	2.69
Kevin Mandolese	1	0-0-1	4	.867	3.79

2022-23 GAME-BY-GAME BREAKDOWN

Date	Result	Score	SF-SA	PP	PK
Oct. 19	OTW	4-3	30-23	2-6	2-3
Nov. 12	SOL	3-2	27-35	0-2	0-0
Dec. 30	W	5-3	27-31	2-3	3-4
Jan. 4	L	5-1	30-29	1-5	4-5
Feb. 2	L	5-3	38-19	0-5	6-6

SERIES NOTABLES

Amerks goaltender **Malcolm Subban** played his junior career with the Belleville Bulls of the OHL, who play at the CAA Arena. Subban totaled a 64-42-6 record and eight shutouts in 118 career games. During his final season with the Bulls, he helped Belleville finish first in the East during the regular season by posting a career-best 29 wins in 46 appearances.

So far this season, both Rochester and Belleville have used five different goaltenders. It marks the third straight season that the Amerks have used at least five different goaltenders. The Amerks have used a different netminder in each of the five games versus the Senators. Mads Sogaard is the only goaltender to appear in multiple games so far between the two teams in the season-series.

Through the first 31 meetings between the Amerks and Senators, neither team has won three consecutive games against one another, a feat that Belleville is attempting to earn with a win tonight.



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