

ROCHESTER AMERICANS HOCKEY CLUB

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

Wed. | **November 27, 2024** | 7:05 PM | Blue Cross Arena | AHL Game 263 | AHLTV on FloHockey, The Fan Rochester

ROCHESTER AMERICANS GAME NOTES

Blue Cross Arena at the Rochester War Memorial | 1 War Memorial Square | Rochester, NY, 14614 | Amerks.com/Media | @AmerksPR



VS



TONIGHT'S GAME OVERVIEW

The Rochester Americans (8-6-3-0) continues their four-game homestand tonight with a pre-Thanksgiving Day matchup against the red-hot Cleveland Monsters (12-4-0-1) at The Blue Cross Arena. Game time is slated for a 7:05 p.m. start and will be carried live on The Sports Leader 95.7 FM/950 AM The Fan Rochester as well as AHLTV on FloHockey.

Rochester, which has gone to overtime in three of its last four games, has won the first three meetings of the season series, outscoring the Monsters 15-7 over that span, including a 6-1 rout on home ice back on Oct. 23.

Following a 4-2 loss in the last meeting with Rochester on Nov. 3, the Monsters have responded by winning their last eight games, which is tied for the longest in franchise history, and 10 of their last 11 overall. Dating back to Oct. 26, Cleveland has earned 21 points of a possible 24 which features four overtime wins and a shootout victory.

HEAD-TO-HEAD RESULTS AGAINST CLEVELAND

Rochester boasts a 45-21-8-4 record against Cleveland over the last 11 years dating back to the start of the 2011-12 campaign and has earned at least one point in 36 of the last 52 games overall.

The Amerks have scored at least one power-play goal in 18 of the 33 games (23-for-114) against Cleveland since the 2020-21 season. Despite the club killing off 105-of-137 penalties during that same span, they have successfully cleared 19 of the last 21 shorthanded situations over the last five games.

Forward **Isak Rosén**, who returned following a recall with the Buffalo Sabres on Tuesday, has totaled 17 points (5+12) in 19 career games against Cleveland dating back to the start of the 2022-23 season. His best outing over that span came back on Nov. 18 of last season when he finished with four points (2+2) along with a plus-four rating in a 7-5 Amerks win.

Felix Sandström shows a 4-0-0 mark in five appearances against Cleveland, winning each of his last five games. **Michael Houser**, who made one appearance with Cleveland during the 2016-17 slate, is 2-2-0 in five appearances.

Josh Dunne spent his four years as a pro with Cleveland from 2020-24, tallying 65 points (36+29) in 134 career games.

LAST TIME OUT

The Amerks scored in the final seconds of regulation to avoid a shutout but were unable to generate much else offensively in a 5-1 loss to the intrastate rival Utica Comets Saturday at The Blue Cross Arena.

Despite the loss, Rochester has earned at least one point in 10 of its last 13 games dating back to Oct. 23. Additionally, the Amerks boast a 3-1-0-0 record through the first four games of the season-series with Utica and own a 13-10-1-0 mark at home against the Comets over the past five seasons.

Brendan Warren notched his second goal in his last four games for the Amerks while **Josh Dunne** and **Graham Slaggert** added assists on the late third-period tally. Dunne has earned a pair of assists in his last three games while Slaggert has produced four points (1+3) over his last five home contests.

Netminders **Felix Sandström** (3-3-0) and **Michael Houser** (4-3-1) made their seventh and 10th appearances of the campaign, respectively, as they split the goaltending duties. Sandström, who drew the start, suffered his first regulation defeat since Oct. 18.

2024-25 AMERKS OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	PIM
Isak Rosén*	14	4	9	13	-2	2
Brett Murray	17	5	6	11	-2	2
Zachary Metsa	17	1	10	11	1	6

GOALTENDER

	GP	REC	SVS	SV%	GAA
Devon Levi	2	1-0-1	50	.909	2.37
Michael Houser	10	4-3-1	212	.898	2.68
Felix Sandström	7	3-3-1	137	.890	2.78

*=Currently with Buffalo (NHL)

2024-25 MONSTERS OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	PIM
Roman Ahcan	8	7	1	8	3	6
Luca Del Bel Belluz	8	4	4	8	2	0
Trey Fix-Wolansky	8	3	5	8	1	6

GOALTENDER

	GP	REC	SVS	SV%	GAA
Zach Sawchenko	7	5-1-0	148	.881	2.98
Jet Greaves	10	6-3-1	298	.909	3.15

*=Currently with Columbus (NHL)

2024-25 HEAD-TO-HEAD BREAKDOWN

Cleveland Monsters vs **Rochester Americans**

12-4-0-1 **Record** 8-6-3-0

9-1-0-0 **Last 10 Games** 4-3-3-0

5-1-0-1 **Home Record** 2-4-1-0

7-3-0-0 **Road Record** 6-2-1-0

4-0 **Overtime Record** 1-3

1-1 **Shootout Record** 2-0

9-1-0-0 **Record When Scoring First** 5-4-1-0

22.1% (5th) **Power-Play** 15.3% (24th)

82.8% (17th) **Penalty Kill** 79.1% (24th)

Nov. 24 vs MIL (6-5 OTW). **Last Game** Nov. 23 vs UTC (5-1 L)

Trent Vogelhuber (3rd) **Head Coach** Michael Leone (1st)

2024-25 SERIES BREAKDOWN VS CLEVELAND

Date	Result	Score	SF-SA	PP	PK
Oct. 23	W	6-1	49-26	0-3	5-5
Oct. 26	SOW	5-4	45-42	1-3	2-3
Nov. 6	W	4-2	48-24	2-7	5-7



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LEVI IN ROCHESTER

Goaltender **Devon Levi** was reassigned by the Sabres last week after starting the season in Buffalo before making his Amerks debut Wednesday.

The 22-year old netminder split his first full rookie season between Buffalo and Rochester in 2023-24 by combining to post a 26-14-6 mark in 49 appearances. The Quebec native also showed a 2-3 record in five Calder Cup Playoffs with the Amerks.

In Game 3 of the North Division Semifinals against Syracuse, Levi turned aside 60 of 62 shots he faced in the double-overtime victory. Levi was the first Amerks goaltender to make 21 or more saves in a single period during a Calder Cup Playoff game since **Tyler Plante** stopped all 23 shots he faced on April 21, 2010 against Abbotsford.

Levi, who showed a 16-6-4 record in 26 appearances with the Amerks, held the opposition to three or fewer goals in each game over a six-game win streak between March and April 6. He totaled 188 saves on 201 shots while boasting an impressive 2.17 goals-against average and a .935 save percentage over that span.

Levi earned the start in 24 of the last 34 games with Rochester since being reassigned on Jan. 20, including five straight to open February. He won nine of his last 11 starts and 11 of 13 dating back to the start of March.

His career-high 52-save performance in the Amerks overtime win at Toronto on Feb. 19 were the most by an Amerks goaltender since **Ukko-Pekka Luukkonen** had 54 in a 2-1 win at Syracuse on Feb. 25, 2022.

Levi, who finished the season tied for fourth among all rookie netminders with a .927 save percentage, has held the opposition to three or fewer goals in all but four of his 27 appearances. He boasts a record 17-2-4 in those games.

Levi won the Mike Richter Award, given annually to the top goaltender in men's college hockey, for the second straight year following the 2022-23 season. Levi is the only two-time winner in the award's history.

He led the nation again with a .933 save percentage, one year after he set the second-best mark in NCAA history with a .952 save percentage. He tied for third in the nation in both shutouts (6) and saves (1,183). Levi's 16-career shutouts are a Northeastern University school record.

In his two seasons at Northeastern, Levi finished with a 38-22-6 record. His resume includes a Beanpot title, a Hockey East regular-season championship and an NCAA tournament appearance. Levi was also named Hockey East Player of the Year for the second consecutive season in 2022-23 and was one of 10 finalists for the Hobey Baker Award.



NO METSA'IN AROUND

Second-year defenseman **Zachary Metsa** enters the weekend tied second on the team in scoring and first amongst all Rochester's blueliners with 11 points (1+10) through his first 17 games.

Metsa has points in six of his last 13 games, which included stringing together consecutive multi-point games for the first time in his career, logging five assists in that span and punctuated by a three-assist effort in the win over Hartford on Nov. 8.

The second-year blueliner's 11 points tie him for ninth-most in league scoring by a defenseman.

Last season, the Delafield, Wisconsin, native logged seven goals and 24 points and was named the team's co-Rookie of the Year with Viktor Neuchev.

Metsa, who captained Quinnipiac University to its first-ever NCAA National Championship in 2023, is also tied for eighth amongst all AHL defensemen with 10 assists, five of which have come on the power-play.

A TALE OF TWO COACHES

Rochester's **Michael Leone** and Cleveland's **Trent Vogelhuber** are the AHL's two youngest active head coaches.

Leone, who turned 37 on Nov. 11, was a former teammate of Vogelhuber's when the two played together with the St. Louis Bandits of the North American Hockey League.

Together they won the 2006-07 NAHL championship under two-time Stanley Cup-winning head coach Jon Cooper, who five years later would lead the Norfolk Admirals to a Calder Cup championship in 2012.

Vogelhuber, who turned 36 in July, is in his third season as Cleveland's head coach and seventh overall after joining the Monsters coaching staff as an assistant following his retirement in 2017-18.

He spent most of his seven-year playing career in the AHL, totaling 73 points (28+45) in 267 career games with San Antonio, Lake Erie and Springfield.

Leone, meanwhile, played parts of three seasons in the ECHL with Kalamazoo and Toledo, recording 28 points (10+18) in 99 appearances.



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