

# ROCHESTER AMERICANS HOCKEY CLUB

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

Sat. | **Jan. 11, 2025** | 7:00 PM | Upstate Medical University Arena | AHL Game 534 | 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



### TONIGHT'S GAME OVERVIEW

The Rochester Americans (22-9-3-0) put their seven-game win streak on the line tonight while also looking to make it nine straight on the road when they take on the Syracuse Crunch (15-11-5-3) in an intrastate showdown at Upstate Medical University Arena. The matchup will be carried live on 95.7 FM/950 AM The Fan Rochester as well as AHLTV on FloHockey.

The Amerks enter the weekend with the most road wins (15) across the AHL and are three points ahead of Cleveland and Laval for first place in the AHL's North Division standings. With the exception of the Monsters and Syracuse, every team in the division has at least a game in hand over Rochester, which has 31 points on the road this season and are one of three teams in the North Division with 20 or more wins.

Rochester has earned at least one point in 24 of its last 30 games dating back to Oct. 23 and has won 14 of its last 16 games overall.

### HEAD-TO-HEAD RESULTS AGAINST SYRACUSE

Rochester is ahead 3-1-0-0 in the season series after sweeping the Crunch in a home-and-home set between the two teams to close out the month of November before spitting a two-game set before Christmas.

Prior to the 5-2 defeat back on Dec. 18, the Amerks had won four straight meetings against the Crunch dating back to last season and blanked Syracuse twice over that span, including **Devon Levi's** first pro shutout in a 3-0 win back on Nov. 29.

Rochester owns a 3-28-5-2 record against the Crunch dating back to the start of 2016-17 regular season when they score two or fewer goals. On the other hand, when the Amerks score three or more goals over that same span, the club shows a 38-11-5-0 mark.

The season series has favored the visiting team as 11 of the last 16 meetings were won by the road team and eight of the 16 were one-goal games.

**Isak Rosén** (6+8) leads all Amerks dating back to last season against the Crunch as he and **Nikita Novikov** are the only two skaters to appear in all 16 contests. **Devon Levi** is 5-3-2 with 231 saves in nine contests against Syracuse.

### LAST TIME OUT

Despite yielding the game's first goal, the red-hot Amerks quickly returned to form on the strength of five straight unanswered goals in a decisive 5-1 win over the intrastate rival Utica Comets Friday night at Blue Cross Arena.

The victory extended Rochester's win streak to seven straight games, marking the team's longest since winning seven in a row from Jan. 17 to Feb. 1 of 2014. The Amerks have won 14 of their last 16 contests overall while earning at least one point in 24 of their last 30 games dating back to Oct. 23. Lastly, the Amerks improved to 7-1-0-0 in the season series versus Utica.

**Mason Jobst** notched his third multi-point outing, including his fifth goal in the last four games, while **Lukas Rousek** extended his point streak to five games. **Anton Wahlberg** and **Nikita Novikov** scored in the second period while **Isak Rosén** converted in the final frame. **Jack Rathbone**, **Josh Dunne**, **Kale Clague**, **Brett Murray**, and **Noah Östlund** rounded out the scoring as they each recorded an assist.

Goaltender **Devon Levi** (12-2-1) earned his fifth straight win and 11th of his last 12 outings with Rochester as he made 29 saves in his 15th appearance of the season.

### 2024-25 AMERKS OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	PIM
Isak Rosén	31	14	14	28	2	4
Brett Murray	34	16	10	26	5	12
Zachary Metsa	34	6	19	25	11	22

GOALTENDER	GP	REC	SVS	SV%	GAA
Devon Levi	15	12-2-1	359	.918	2.12
Felix Sandström	11	6-4-1	254	.894	2.96
Michael Houser*	10	4-3-1	212	.898	2.68

\*=Currently with Jacksonville (ECHL)

### 2024-25 SYRACUSE OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	PIM
Derrick Pouliot	34	5	20	25	11	20
Dylan Duke	33	11	9	20	6	28
Jesse Ylonen	34	7	12	19	7	16

GOALTENDER	GP	REC	SVS	SV%	GAA
Brandon Halverson	20	10-5-5	506	.932	1.83
Matt Tomkins	14	5-6-3	380	.900	2.97

### 2024-25 HEAD-TO-HEAD BREAKDOWN

#### Syracuse Crunch vs Rochester Americans

15-11-5-3	<b>Record</b>	22-9-3-0
6-4-3-3	<b>Home Record</b>	7-6-2-0
9-7-2-0	<b>Road Record</b>	15-3-1-0
6-3-1-0	<b>Last 10 Games</b>	9-1-0-0
3-2	<b>Overtime Record</b>	2-3
0-1	<b>Shootout Record</b>	3-0
10-1-2-2	<b>Record When Scoring First</b>	13-5-1-0
13.4% (31st)	<b>Power-Play</b>	15.7% (26th)
83.1% (16th)	<b>Penalty Kill</b>	84.2% (12th)
Jan. 10 vs TOR (3-2 L)	<b>Last Game</b>	Jan. 10 vs UTC (5-1 W)
Joel Bouchard (2nd)	<b>Head Coach</b>	Michael Leone (1st)

### 2024-25 SERIES BREAKDOWN VS. SYRACUSE

Date	Result	Score	SF-SA	PP	PK
Nov. 29	W	3-0	15-20	2-6	6-6
Nov. 30	SOW	3-2	47-15	1-7	5-6
Dec. 18	L	5-2	33-28	0-3	2-2
Dec. 20	W	3-1	26-23	0-5	5-5



## MEDIA RELATIONS DEPARTMENT

ROCHESTER AMERICANS | @AMERKSPR | @AMERKSHOCKEY | AMERKS.COM/MEDIA

Warren Kosel | Senior Director of Public & Media Relations

Ryan Harr | Manager of Community & Public Relations





# ROCHESTER AMERICANS HOCKEY CLUB

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

## LEANING ON THE ALL-STAR LEVI

**Devon Levi**, who has started 15 of the last 21 games, boasts a 12-2-1 record this season with a 2.12 goals-against-average that ranks eighth-best amongst all AHL goaltender. He's also tied for fourth in wins (12).

On the heels of his second shutout in eight days, the 23-year-old Levi has guided the Amerks to standings points in 33 of his 41 games with Rochester, dating back to his debut with the team last December. He is 15-2-2 in 19 career road games with Rochester, which includes a perfect 7-0-0 mark this season.

Last night's win over Utica was the just the third time Levi faced 30 or more shots this season. The Sabres' prospect has faced fewer than 30 shots in 12 of his last 15 starts this season, while seeing less than 30 pucks just seven times in 2023-24.

Levi, who was named to the 2025 AHL All-Star roster earlier this week, saw his six-game win streak snapped on Dec. 18, which matched a career-high. He hasn't allowed more than two goals in nine of his last 12 games and has stopped 267 of the 288 shots he's faced over that span, good for a 1.83 goals-against average and a .929 save percentage.

Levi enters the weekend as one of only 13 AHL goaltenders with multiple shutouts this season and one of just four netminders with multiple assists, trailing only former Buffalo Sabres draft pick and Lehigh Valley netminder Cal Petersen, who leads all AHL goaltenders with three points this season.



## NO METSA'IN AROUND

Defenseman **Zachary Metsa** enters the contest fourth on the team in scoring and first amongst all Rochester blueliners with 24 points (2+22) while being one of only two Amerks defensemen to appear in all 33 games.

Metsa has points in 17 of his 33 games, which included stringing together an assist in five straight games for the first time in his career. He's totaled eight points (1+7) since Dec. 22, punctuated by his second three-assist effort of the campaign in the win over Springfield last Friday.

The second-year blueliner's 24 points are tied for fourth-most in league scoring by a defenseman, just four back of Charlotte's Trevor Carrick.

Metsa, who captained Quinnipiac University to its first-ever NCAA National Championship in 2023, is also tied with Texas' Kyle Capobianco and Carrick for first amongst all AHL defensemen with 22 assists.

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.

## HELENIUS, WAHLBERG RETURN FROM WORLDS

Earlier this week, the Buffalo Sabres reassigned forwards **Konsta Helenius** (Finland) and **Anton Wahlberg** (Sweden) from their respective national junior teams following the conclusion of the 2025 IIHF World Junior Championship. The 10-day annual international event concluded with the gold medal game Sunday in Ottawa, Ontario.

The 2025 tournament was the second straight appearance and fifth international event overall for Helenius, who was Buffalo's first-round selection in last year's NHL Draft. He finished the 2024 event with a goal and an assist in seven games while leading Finland to a fourth-place finish.

He also notched one assist in four games while competing for Finland at the 2024 World Championship as the youngest player in the tournament. In 2017, he helped the Finns win a bronze medal at the U-17 Hockey Challenge after finishing with a team-high 11 points (2+9) in seven games.

Wahlberg, too, made his second straight appearance at the annual event and fourth overall with Sweden. Prior to the 2025 event, Wahlberg had medaled in every international event in which he's represented Sweden, including winning a silver medal at last year's tournament after recording three points (1+2) in seven games.

Wahlberg finished the tournament with four goals and four assists while Helenius had six points (0+6) in seven games, earning a silver medal.

## MURRAY SPECIAL AND MR. 300

Nine of **Brett Murray's** team-leading 16 goals this season have come on the power-play, including four which ended up being the game-winner.

The veteran forward currently leads the AHL in power-play goals and also ranks second on the Amerks with 26 points (16+10) through 34 games. He comes into the weekend with points in nine of his last 10 games, including multi-goal efforts in back-to-back outings and goals in three straight games for the first time in his professional career. Murray has reached the 20-point mark in all six seasons with the Amerks since joining Rochester ahead of the 2019-20 campaign.

Prior to scoring his first even strength goal of the season in December against Utica, Murray was the only AHL player with at least six goals this season to have scored all his goals on the power-play.

With the exception of his rookie season, the veteran forward has recorded at least six power-play goals in five of his first six professional seasons, which includes a new career-high (9) through the first 31 games of this season.

Coming into tonight having played 293 games as an Amerk, Murray is seven games away from becoming just the 24th forward in franchise history to appear in at least 300 games with the club and first since Phil Varone did so during the 2015-16 campaign. He's also 55 games away from tying Don McSween for 20th on the franchise's all-time games played list (348).



## MEDIA RELATIONS DEPARTMENT

ROCHESTER AMERICANS | @AMERKSPR | @AMERKSHOCKEY | AMERKS.COM/MEDIA

Warren Kosel | Senior Director of Public & Media Relations

Ryan Harr | Manager of Community & Public Relations

