

ROCHESTER AMERICANS HOCKEY CLUB

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

Sunday | **January 19, 2025** | 5:00 PM | Giant Center | AHL Game 573 | 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 (23-10-3-1) put the finishing touches on their first three-in-three weekend of the season as they visit the two-time defending Calder Cup champion Hershey Bears (24-11-3-0) for a 5:00 p.m. contest. All the action from Giant Center be carried live on The Sports Leader 95.7 FM/950 AM The Fan Rochester as well as AHLTV on FloHockey.

The Amerks come into the matchup with the most road wins (16) across the AHL and are one point ahead Laval for first place in the AHL's North Division standings with 50 points.

Rochester has scored a division-leading 126 goals, which are third-most in the AHL. Additionally, the club has 33 points on the road this season and are one of three teams in the AHL with 50 or more points.

Tonight is the 468th regular-season meeting between the two teams.

HEAD-TO-HEAD RESULTS AGAINST HERSHEY

While Rochester is seeking its first regulation win against Hershey since Dec. 19, 2021, the club has earned at least one point in three of the last five games as they hold a 0-2-2-1 mark during that stretch.

The Amerks have collected at least one point in eight of their last 16 games against Hershey overall, going 5-8-3-0 over that span dating back to the start of the 2016-17 campaign.

The Amerks have posted an even record or better against Hershey in each of last six seasons dating back to the 2017-18 season and have not suffered back-to-back regulation losses during that span.

The league's two cornerstone franchises have combined for 156 AHL seasons, 19 Calder cups and over 5,600 regular-season wins.

Both teams have nearly identical records when leading after the second period: Rochester is a near-perfect with a 18-1-1-0 while Hershey is 14-0-1-0 in that regard.

LAST TIME OUT

Isak Rosén scored twice on the power-play, including the game-winner late in the third period, to help the Amerks secure a 3-2 win over the Lehigh Valley Phantoms in the second straight meeting between the two teams Saturday at PPL Center.

With the win, the Amerks have won 15 of their last 19 contests while earning at least one point in 26 of their last 33 games dating back to Oct. 23. The victory also gave Rochester its first win inside the PPL Center since Dec. 18, 2021, as the two teams split the home-and-home series with each winning on the road.

Along with Rosén netting a pair of goals, **Noah Östlund** (0+2) notched his first multi-point effort with the Amerks. **Anton Walhberg** logged his second goal since returning to the lineup following the conclusion of the 2025 IIHF World Junior Championship and sixth of the season overall.

Zachary Metsa, **Mason Jobst**, **Josh Dunne**, and **Konsta Helenius** all recorded an assist while **Noah Laaouan** made his season debut with the Amerks after being recalled from the Jacksonville Icemen of the ECHL.

Goaltender **Felix Sandström** (7-4-0) earned the win in his return to Lehigh Valley, making 25 saves to pick up his fourth straight win.

2024-25 AMERKS OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	PIM
Isak Rosén	34	16	14	30	2	4
Brett Murray	37	17	11	28	6	12
Lukas Rousek	37	6	20	26	10	32

GOALTENDER	GP	REC	SVS	SV%	GAA
Devon Levi*	16	12-3-2	418	.913	2.33
Felix Sandström	12	7-4-1	279	.897	2.88
Michael Houser	10	4-3-1	212	.898	2.68

*=Currently with Buffalo (NHL)

2024-25 HERSHEY OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	PIM
Mike Sgarbossa	28	7	22	29	2	14
Ethen Frank*	35	20	8	28	0	12
Alex Limoges	28	9	16	25	-3	4

GOALTENDER	GP	REC	SVS	SV%	GAA
Clay Stevenson	15	8-4-2	317	.893	2.64
Hunter Shepard	23	15-7-1	539	.898	2.68

*=Currently with Washington (NHL)

2024-25 HEAD-TO-HEAD BREAKDOWN

Hershey Bears	Rochester Americans
24-11-3-0	Record23-10-3-1
11-10-1-0	Home Record7-6-2-1
13-1-2-0	Road Record16-4-1-0
6-4-0-0	Last 10 Games8-1-0-1
6-3	Overtime Record2-3
3-0	Shootout Record3-1
14-3-1-0	Record When Scoring First13-5-1-0
17.5% (T-16th)	Power-Play16.6.3% (22th)
86.2.8% (T-4th)	Penalty Kill82.6% (T-17th)
Jan. 17 vs BEL (3-1 W)	Last Game Jan. 18 @ LV (3-2 W)
Todd Nelson (3rd)	Head Coach Michael Leone (1st)

2024-25 SERIES BREAKDOWN VS. HERSHEY

Date	Result	Score	SF-SA	PP	PK
Nov. 22	OTL	4-3	26-28	1-4	1-3



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LEVI BACK WITH BUFFALO

Devon Levi, who was recalled to Buffalo on Saturday, boasts a 12-3-2 record this season with a 2.33 goals-against-average that ranks eighth-best amongst all qualified AHL goaltenders. He's also tied for fifth 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 34 of his 43 games with Rochester, dating back to his debut with the team last December. He is 15-3-2 in 19 career road games with Rochester, which includes a near-perfect 7-1-0 mark this season.

Friday night's shootout loss was the just the fifth time Levi faced 30 or more shots this season. The Sabres' prospect has faced fewer than 30 shots in 12 of his last 17 starts this season, while seeing less than 30 pucks just seven times in 2023-24.

Levi, who along with **Isak Rosen** was named to the 2025 AHL All-Star roster, saw his six-game win streak snapped on Dec. 18, which matched a career-high. He hasn't allowed more than two goals in 10 of his last 14 games and has stopped 326 of the 355 shots he's faced over that span, good for a 2.13 goals-against average and a .921 save percentage.

Levi enters the weekend as one of only 14 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 career-best 25 points (2+23) while being the only defenseman to appear in all 37 games.

Metsa has points in 18 of his 37 contests, which included stringing together an assist in five straight games for the first time in his career. He's totaled nine points (1+8) since Dec. 22, punctuated by his second three-assist effort of the campaign in the win over Springfield back on Jan. 3.

The second-year blueliner's 25 points are tied for fourth-most in league scoring by a defenseman, just five back of Charlotte's Trevor Carrick.

Metsa, who captained Quinnipiac University to its first-ever NCAA National Championship in 2023, is also tied for third amongst all AHL defensemen with 23 assists.

Last season, the Delafield, Wisconsin, native logged seven goals and 24 points in 54 games

MURRAY SPECIAL AND MR. 300

Nine of **Brett Murray's** team-leading 17 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 second on the Amerks with 28 points (17+11) through 37 games. He comes into the weekend with points in 10 of his last 13 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 296 games as an Amerk, Murray is four 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 52 games away from tying Don McSween for 20th on the franchise's all-time games played list (348).

GETTING THE JOB DUNNE

Josh Dunne skates into Hershey riding a six-game point streak with one goal and five assists. The fifth-year pro made a nifty between-the-legs pass in front of the net Saturday, setting up Wahlberg's power-play goal.

Collectively, Dunne has posted six goals and 15 points in his time as an Amerk. He is one of six players that has dressed in every game for Rochester this season.

Before wearing the red, white, and blue, Dunne played parts of four seasons for Cleveland and faced Hershey in an Eastern Conference Finals' series that saw the Monsters overcome a 3-0 deficit to force a winner-take-all Game 7, before falling in overtime last season. Dunne dazzled in the series, leading his team with seven points (4+3) against the Bears, posting at least a point in the first five games of the series.



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