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# GAMEDAY





The oldest rivalry in the American Hockey League will be renewed tonight as the Amerks open a four-game homestand against the two-time defending Calder Cup champion Hershey Bears for the only time this season at The Blue Cross Arena. The matchup will be the 467th all-time between the American Hockey League's two cornerstone franchises.

### \* STAR PLAYERS \*

#### ETHEN FRANK

Frank has showed no signs of slowing down. The AHL All-Star entered the week as Hershey's top point-getter with 15 points through his first 16 games and currently ranks second in the league behind only Calgary's Rory Kerins with 11 goals.

#### **GRAHAM SLAGGERT**

Slaggert is already within three goals of matching his previous career-high and is off to his best start since turning pro at the end of the 2021-22 campaign. He enters the weekend showing four points over his last seven games.

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# BRETT

JERSEY NUMBER: 81
POSITION: LEFT WING
AGE: 26
HOMETOWN:
BOLTON, ONTARIO

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SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
LET AM	'S G ERK	œ S	HOI		1 ()) 7:00	2 () 7:00
3	4	5	6 ()) 7:00	7	8 7:05	9 505 6:05
10	11	12	13 R 7:05	14	15	16 R 5:05
17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 1	18	19	20 R 7:00	21	22 ())) 7:05	23 ම 5:05
24	25	26	27 ()) 7:05	28	29 **** 7:05	30 🏠 5:00

### **SPECIAL EVENTS**

Nov. 13 - Sensory Night Nov. 16 - Hockey Fights Cancer (feat. specialty jerseys) Nov. 23 - Native American Heritage Night Nov. 27th + 29th - Thanksgiving Weekend with a special happy hour on Nov. 27th

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_	ALTENDERS (3)	HT													
27			WT	DOB	BIRTHPLACE	(	2023-24 CLUB			MINS			GAA		DRAFT STATUS
	Levi, Devon	6-0	192	12-27-01	Dollard-des-Ormeaux, Queb	ec L		NHL	23	1,295		10-8-2		.899	2020, 7 <sup>th</sup> Round
							Rochester	AHL	26	1,561		16-6-4		.927	
29	Houser, Michael^	6-1	195	9-13-92	Youngstown OH	L	and the second	AHL	7	319		3-1-1	3.39	.871	Undrafted
							Jacksonville	ECHL	23	1,290		)-10-2		.907	
32	Sandström, Felix	6-2	214	1-12-97	Gavle, Sweden	L	1 mourely and	NHL	5	263		1-2-0	3.87	.823	2015, 3 <sup>st</sup> Round
							Lehigh Valley	AHL	24	1,411		13-7-3	3.15	.884	
584	ATERS (22)	HT	WT	D08	BIRTHPLACE	5	2023-24 CLUB	LEAGUE	_	G P	G		\$ +/-	PIM	DRAFT STATUS
_						3									
	Poolman, Colton (D)	6-1	200	12-18-95	East Grand Forks, MN	L	Calgory	AHL		66	3	-	64	8	Undrafted
	Rathbone, Jack (D)	5-10	185	5-20-99	Boston, MA	L	W-B/Scranton	AHL		67	-	6 2		21	2017, 4 <sup>6</sup> Round
	Prow, Ethon^ (D)	5-11	182	11-17-92	Souk Ropids, MN	R	Rochester	AHL		56		5 1		6	Undrafted
11	Rousek, Lukas (RW)	5-11	202	4-20-99	Ostrov nad Ohri, Czechia	R	Buffolo	NHL		15	0		2 -1	0	2019, 6 <sup>th</sup> Round
							Rochester	AHL			0 3	31 4		16	
12	Fiddler-Schultz, Riley (C)	6-0	200	5-13-02	Fort Saskatchewan, AB	U	Rochester	AHL		6	1	-	1 -5	10	Undrafted
							Jocksonville	ECHL				20 4		26	
	Slaggert, Graham (C)	5-11	195	4-6-99	South Bend, IN	L.	Rochester	AHL		46	6	6 1	-	24	Undrafted
	Metsa, Zach (D)	5-9	195	10-19-98	Delafield, WI	R	Rochester	AHL		54		7 2			Undrafted
23	Johnson, Ryan (D)	6-1	195	7-24-01	Newport Beach, CA	R	Buffalo	NHL		41	0	-	73	12	2019, 1* Round
							Rochester	AHL		27	0		95	6	
	Jobst, Mason (C)	5-8	185	2-17-94	Speedway, IN	ι	Rochester	AHL				28 5		49	Undrafted
44	Kozak, Tyson (C)	5-11	185	12-29-02	Souris, MB	ι	Rochester	AHL		41	5	7 1	2 -5	14	2021, 7 <sup>th</sup> Round
	Warren, Brendan (RW)	6-0	194	5-7-97	Carleton, MI	ι	Rochester	AHL		3	5		6 1	27	Undrafted
	Kisakov, Aleksandr (LW	5-10	170	11-1-02	Solikamsk, Russia	L	Rochester	AHL		32	5	8 1		12	2021, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Round
55	Dunne, Josh (C)	6-4	211	12-8-98	O'Fellon, MO	L	Cleveland	AHL		25	2	5	75	24	Undrafted
56	Clague, Kale (D)	6-0	190	6-5-98	Regina, SASK	L/	Buffalo	NHL		3	0	1	1 0	2	2016, 2 <sup>rd</sup> Round
							Rochester	AHL		42	3	20 2	3 -8	52	
71	Tullio, Tyler (RW)	5-11	185	4-5-02	Detroit, MI	R	Bakersfield	AHL			9	2 2	1 -1	36	2020, 5 <sup>th</sup> Round
74	Novikov, Nikita (D)	6-4	205	7-25-03	Moscow, Russia	L	Rochester	AHL		65	3 2	20 2	3 20	42	2021, 6 <sup>th</sup> Round
79	Neuchev, Viktor (LW)	5-11	171	10-25-03	Chelyabinsk, Russia	ι	Rochester	AHL		57 1		7 2	8 10	8	2022, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Round
81	Murray, Brett (LW)	6-5	228	7-20-98	Bolton, ON	L	Buffalo	NHL		2	0	0	0 -1	2	2016, 4 <sup>th</sup> Round
							Rochester	AHL		54 1	7	5 3	2 -9	36	
83	Komarov, Vsevolod* (D)	6-4	208	1-11-04	Chelyabinsk, Russia	R	Quebec	QMJHL		22	3	6 1	93	51	2022, 5 <sup>th</sup> Round
							Drummondville	QMJHL		38 1	1 3	39 5	0 44	54	-
86	Östlund, Noah* (LW)	5-11	171	3-11-04	Stockholm, Sweden	ι	Rochester	AHL		2	0	1	1 1	2	2022, 1* Round
							Vēxjö HC	SHL			2	1 2	3 12	4	
91	Helenius, Konsta* (C)	5-11	189	5-11-06	Ylojarvi, Finland	R	Jukurit Mikkeli	SM-liiga				22 3		10	2024, 1* Round
	Wahlberg, Anton* (C)	6-4	198	7-4-05	Malmö, Sweden	ι	Rochester	AHL		9	1		4 1	6	2023, 2 <sup>rd</sup> Round
							Malmö	SHL		43	5	5 1		4	

\*rookie ^veteran





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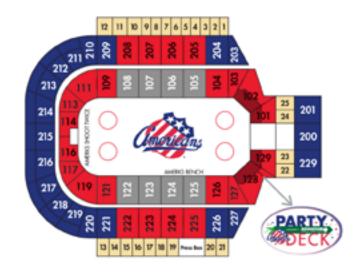
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*	MILITARY APPRECIATION	SATURDAY   MARCH 29
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### Scott Howson

PRESIDENT & CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER American Hockey League





### **A Message from The President**

Dear Fans,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the 2024-25 American Hockey League season, the latest chapter in a tradition of excellence that can be traced back to our league's founding nearly nine decades ago.

The AHL is as proud as ever of its role as the top development league for nearly all of the players, coaches, executives, trainers, broadcasters and officials who you see throughout the National Hockey League today. Generations of our great fans have cheered on future superstars, Stanley Cup champions and Hockey Hall of Famers as they have come through the AHL.

This season is sure to be another memorable one, from the excitement of opening night to the pageantry of the AHL All-Star Classic in Coachella Valley to the pure emotion of the Calder Cup Playoffs.

On behalf of all of our teams, thank you for your continuing support of the AHL.

Sincerely,

Scott Howson President & CEO | American Hockey League



# EXCELLENCE

### THE BEGINNINGS

Embarking on its **89th season** in 2024-25, the American Hockey League is continuing a tradition of excellence that began in 1936 when the Canadian-American Hockey League joined with the International Hockey League to form what is today known as the AHL. Eight teams hit the ice that first season, representing Buffalo, Cleveland, New Haven, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Providence, Springfield and Syracuse. Frank Calder, the National Hockey League's president at the time, was instrumental in the forming of this new league, and his name would be given to its championship trophy. The first Calder Cup was won by the Syracuse Stars in 1937; the Hershey Bears captured their leaguebest 13th championship last spring.

From those roots, the American Hockey League has grown into a 32-team, coastto-coast league that provides fans with exciting, high-level professional hockey while preparing thousands of players, coaches, officials, executives, trainers, broadcasters and more for careers in the NHL.

### **BY THE NUMBERS**

**87.0**%

Percentage of all NHL players in 2023-24 who were graduates of the AHL



Former AHL players who skated in the NHL last season



AHL players who also played in the NHL in 2023-24

251

Former 1st- and 2nd-round NHL draft picks who skated in the AHL in 2023-24

### THE PLAYERS

#### In today's National

#### Hockey League nearly 90 percent of the

#### players are AHL alumni,

including 2023-24 Vezina Trophy winner **Connor Hellebuyck**, Lady Byng Trophy recipient **Jaccob Slavin** and Bill Masterton Trophy winner **Connor Ingram**. The 2024 Stanley Cup champion Florida Panthers were stocked with AHL graduates including former league scoring champion **Carter Verhaeghe** and two-time AHL All-Star **Brandon Montour**.

During the 2023-24 season, a total of 890 AHL alumni played in the National Hockey League. There were 349 players who skated in both leagues last year alone, and 251 former first- and second-round NHL draft picks developed their skills in the AHL last season, including Shane Wright, David Jiricek, Jiri Kulich, Lukas Reichel, Marco Kasper, Brad Lambert, Yaroslav Askarov, Brandt Clarke and 2024 Calder Cup Playoffs MVP Hendrix Lapierre.

### THE LEGENDS

For nearly nine decades, the American Hockey League has been home to some of the greatest players in the history of our sport. In fact, there are 133 honored members of the Hockey Hall of Fame who have been affiliated with the AHL during their careers. All-time greats from Milt Schmidt and Gump Worsley to Roberto Luongo and Martin St. Louis came through the AHL ranks and now find themselves enshrined in Toronto, and the coveted Calder Cup is inscribed with the names of legendary AHL alumni like Johnny Bower, Larry Robinson, Gerry Cheevers, Andy Bathgate, Tim Horton, Al Arbour, Emile Francis, Patrick Roy, Doug Harvey and Billy Smith.

### • THE COACHES

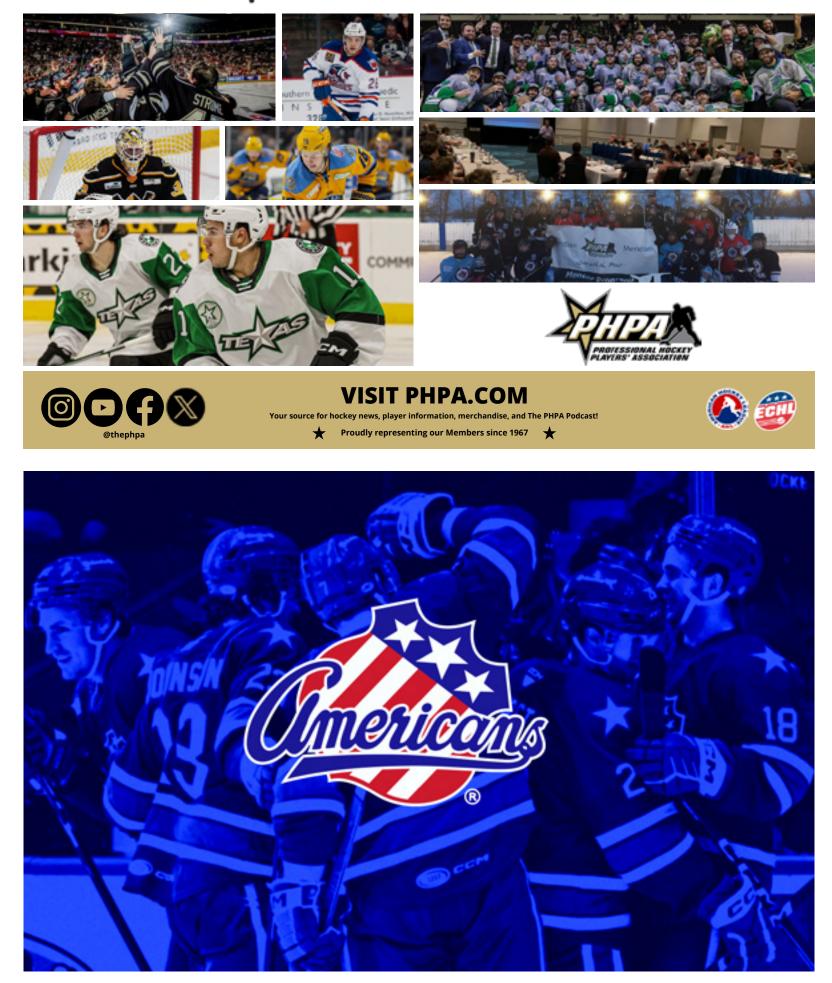
At the start of the 2024-25 season, the National Hockey League featured 22 head coaches who were former AHL bench bosses, including Paul Maurice of the 2024 Stanley Cup champion Florida Panthers and Kris Knoblauch of the Western Conference champion Edmonton Oilers.

Tampa Bay's **Jon Cooper**, New Jersey's **Sheldon Keefe**, San Jose's **Ryan Warsofsky**, Colorado's **Jared Bednar**, Washington's **Spencer Carbery** and Seattle's **Dan Bylsma** are also among the current NHL coaches who spent time in the American Hockey League before making the jump.

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