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FAN APPRECIATION NIGHT

APRIL 18, 2025



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GAMEDAY









The Amerks meet the Toronto Marlies in the front-end of a home-and-home series in tonight's regular season home finale at The Blue Cross Arena. While Rochester has already locked up second place in the North Division entering the final weekend, Toronto currently occupies the fifth and final playoff spot with an opportunity to move past Cleveland into fourth.

STAR PLAYERS

Alex Steeves has led the way offensively for the Marlies all season, scoring a career-high 35 goals and 59 points in 58 games. The veteran forward ranks second in the league in goals and is ninth in points while his 13 power-play tallies are tied for most in the AHL. Zachary Metsa has been among the AHL's top scoring defensemen all season. He comes into the final weekend with seven points in his last 11 games and his 44 points overall are tied for eighth-most amongst all blueliners heading into the final weekend of the regular season.



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The Rochester Americans are proud to announce that defenseman Zachary Metsa has been named the team's winner of the IOA/American Specialty AHL Man of the Year award for his outstanding commitment and contributions to the Rochester community during the 2024-25 season.

Metsa, who wins the award for the second straight year, continued to spearhead several of the team's community outreach efforts this season while deepening the organization's footprint across the Greater Rochester Area.

Metsa's primary area of focus this season was promoting literacy and education both in schools and at local libraries through the ever-popular Reading Power Play Program, which celebrated its remarkable 19th season in 2024-25. Through the Amerks Reading Power Play program, presented exclusively by Wendy's, kids are able to learn about the game of hockey and the importance of reading. Through the support of Metsa and his teammates, the four-month program enjoyed its most successful season since its inception with more than 700 participants reading more than 2,000 books.

As the holidays approached, Metsa was among a full-team outing as all 25 Amerks players, in addition to head coach Michael Leone and assistant coach Nathan Paetsch, visited two Rochester-area hospitals in the same day to deliver gifts, visit with patients and help spread holiday cheer.

The Amerks once again partnered with New York's 529 College Savings Plan for another season of the Amerks Jr. Reporter Program and Metsa helped provide once-in-a-lifetime opportunities to local kids that won the chance to interview him and get a tour of the Amerks locker room afterwards as well as watch an Amerks practice.

Following the new year, Metsa, who captained Quinnipiac University to a NCAA National Championship in 2023, led a contingent of Amerks players back to Holy Childhood for the continuation of the annual ball hockey game. For nearly 80 years, Holy Childhood, a non-denominational, non-profit agency, has enriched the lives of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Dedicated to serving students and adults in an atmosphere of dignity and compassion, the school's mission is to prepare children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities for maximum independence and integration in the community through individualized programs and services, in keeping with the philosophy and vision of the school's founders.

To begin the month of March, Metsa worked with the Professional Hockey Players' Association to bring their Grow with the Pros! Mentor Program to Rochester. The second-year defenseman served as the lead instructor alongside teammates Josh Dunne and Riley Fiddler-Schultz for the event, which included a one-hour on-ice skill development session followed by an interactive off-ice panel style discussion. In addition to emphasizing on-ice development, the program also fosters the importance of teamwork, character, sportsmanship while maintaining a positive attitude and love of the game.

In the days leading up to Rochester's annual Hometown Heroes game on March 28, Metsa was among several players who delivered coffee and lunch through the generosity of some of the team's closest community partners to first responders and frontline workers. The week-long initiative included players visiting local firehouses and law enforcement agencies before returning to the hospitals to provide meals for Rochester's medical professionals.

In addition to being a true Amerks ambassador both on and off the ice, these are just a few of the many outstanding things Metsa has done consistently to make a difference in the Greater Rochester Community.

Metsa is now one of 32 finalists for the AHL's 2024-25 Yanick Dupré Memorial Award, honoring the overall IOA/American Specialty AHL Man of the Year. The league award is named after the former Hershey Bears forward and AHL All-Star who died in 1997 following a 16-month battle with leukemia. The winner of the Yanick Dupré Memorial Award will be announced by the American Hockey League in the coming weeks.



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APRIL 2025

⊢⊔	MON HOME AWAY	TUE 1	2 2 7:05	3	FRI 4 1 7:00	5
6	7	8	9 13 7:05	10	7:05	12
13	14	15	16 (**) 7:05	17	18 *** 7:05	19 19 4:00
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

SPECIAL EVENTS

FRIDAY, APRIL 11: HALL OF FAME NIGHT FRIDAY, APRIL 18: FAN APPRECIATION

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TEAM ROSTER

							Roster as of March 18, 202							
GOALTENDERS (3)	HT	WT	DOB	BIRTHPLACE	(2023-24 CLUB	LEAGUE	GP	MINS	W-L-	0T	GAA	SV%	DRAFT STATUS
27 Levi, Devon	6-0	192	12-27-01	Dollard-des-Ormeaux, Queb	ec L	Buffalo	NHL	23	1,295	10-8	8-2	3.10	.899	2020, 7th Round
						Rochester	AHL	26	1,561	16-6		2.42	.927	
29 Houser, Michael^	6-1	195	9-13-92	Youngstown OH	L		AHL	7	319			3.39	.871	Undrafted
						Jacksonville	ECHL	23	1,290	10-10		2.56	.907	
32 Sandström, Felix	6-2	214	1-12-97	Gavle, Sweden	L	Philadelphia	NHL	5	263			3.87	.823	2015, 3 rd Round
						Lehigh Valley	AHL	24	1,411	13-7	7-3	3.15	.884	
SKATERS (21)	нт	WT	DOB	BIRTHPLACE	S	2023-24 CLUB	LEAGUE		GP G		DTC	+/-	PIM	DRAFT STATUS
					,									
5 Rathbone, Jack (D)	5-10	185	5-20-99	Boston, MA	L	W-B/Scranton	AHL		67 8		24	12	21	2017, 4 th Round
7 Prow, Ethan^ (D)	5-11	182	11-17-92	Sauk Rapids, MN	R	Rochester	AHL		56 4		19	-7	6	Undrafted
8 Joshua, Jagger (LW)	6-3	210	3-29-99	Dearborn, MI	L	W-B/Scranton	AHL		63 10		25	14	93	Undrafted
11 Rousek, Lukáš (RW)	5-11	202	4-20-99	Ostrov nad Ohri, Czechia	R	Buffalo	NHL		15 (2	-1	0	2019, 6th Round
						Rochester	AHL		51 10		41	-5	16	
12 Fiddler-Schultz, Riley (C	6-0	200	5-13-02	Fort Saskatchewan, AB	ı,	Rochester	AHL		6 1	0	- 1	-5	10	Undrafted
					4	Jacksonville	ECHL		51 23		43	12	26	
18 Rosén, Isak (RW)	6-0	180	3-15-03	Stockholm, Sweden	L	Buffalo	NHL		7 (0	-3	0	2021, 1st Round
						Rochester	AHL		67 20		50	4	12	
19 Slaggert, Graham (C)	5-11	195	4-6-99	South Bend, IN	r	Rochester	AHL		46 6		12	-1	24	Undrafted
22 Metsa, Zach (D)	5-9	195	10-19-98	Delafield, WI	R	Rochester	AHL		54 7		24	15	16	Undrafted
23 Johnson, Ryan (D)	6-1	195	7-24-01	Newport Beach, CA	R	Buffalo	NHL		41 (7	3	12	2019, 1st Round
	·	1				Rochester	AHL		27 (9	- 5	6	
26 Jobst, Mason (C)	5-8	185	2-17-94	Speedway, IN	L	Rochester	AHL		64 22		50	-9	49	Undrafted
28 Brännström, Erik (D)^	5-10	185	9-2-99	Eksjö, Sweden	L	Ottawa	NHL		7 3		20	5	36	2017, 1# Round
45 Warren, Brendan (RW)	6-0	194	5-7-97	Carleton, MI	L	Rochester	AHL		3 5		6		27	Undrafted
52 Kisakov, Aleksandr (LW		170	11-1-02	Solikamsk, Russia	L	Rochester	AHL			8	13	4	12	2021, 2 rd Round
55 Dunne, Josh (C)	6-4	211	12-8-98	O'Follon, MO	L.	Cleveland	AHL		25 2		7	5	24	Undrafted
56 Clague, Kale (D)	6-0	190	6-5-98	Regina, SASK	V	Buffalo	NHL		3 (N	0	2	2016, 2 rd Round
						Rochester	AHL		42 -3		23	-8	52	.A. A
74 Novikov, Nikita (D)	6-4	205	7-25-03	Moscow, Russia	L	Rochester	AHL		65 3		23	20	42	2021, 6th Round
79 Neuchev, Viktor (LW)	5-11	171	10-25-03	Chelyabinsk, Russia	L	Rochester	AHL		57 11		28	10	8	2022, 3rd Round
83 Komarov, Vsevolod* (D	6-4	208	1-11-04	Chelyabinsk, Russia	R	Quebec	QMJHL		22 3		19	3	51	2022, 5 th Round
						Drummondville	QMJHL		38 11		50	44	54	
86 Östlund, Noah* (LW)	5-11	171	3-11-04	Stockholm, Sweden	L	Rochester	AHL		2 (- 1	- 1	2	2022, 1# Round
						Văxio HC	SHL		38 12		23	12	4	
91 Helenius, Konsta* (C)	5-11	189	5-11-06	Ylojarvi, Finland	R	Jukurit Mikkeli	SM-liiga		51 14		36	-3	10	2024, 1st Round
92 Wahlberg, Anton* (C)	6-4	198	7-4-05	Malmö, Sweden	L	Rochester	AHL		9 1	3	4	- 1	6	2023, 2 nd Round
						Malmö	SHL		43 5	5	10	2	4	

*rookie | ^veteran



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New York's 529 College Savings Program currently includes two separate 529 plans. The *Direct Plan* is sold directly by the Program. You may also participate in the *Advisor-Guided Plan*, which is sold exclusively through financial professionals and has different investment options and higher fees and expenses as well as financial professional compensation.

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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



A TRADITION OF LEVE

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 league-

best 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

890

Former AHL players who skated in the NHL last season

349

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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