



||| CHARLOTTE CHECKERS |||
GAME NOTES
 ||| ROCHESTER AMERICANS |||



Charlotte Checkers vs. Rochester Americans

Friday, October 20, 2017 @ The Blue Cross Arena, AHL Regular Season Game #59

TONIGHT'S GAME

- The Rochester Americans continue their three-game homestand tonight when they host the interconference rival Charlotte Checkers in the first-ever meeting between the two teams 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 ESPN Rochester.

LAST TIME OUT

- Rochester suffered its first loss of the 2017-18 season last Friday night on home ice, dropping a 2-0 decision to the Utica Comets.
- Third-year forward **Nick Baptiste** and **Brendan Guhle** combined for 13 of the team's 33 shots on goal while third-year netminder and reigning team MVP **Linus Ullmark** stopped 28 of 30 to take his first loss of the young season.

WELCOME ABOARD

- The Amerks added depth to their blueline on Thursday with the signing of defenseman **Stuart Percy** to a Professional Tryout (PTO). The 24-year-old appeared in 37 games with Wilkes-Barre/Scranton (AHL) last season, scoring one goal and adding seven assists.
- A former first-round pick of the Toronto Maple Leafs in 2011, the Oakville, Ontario, native also amassed 64 points (10+54) over parts of five seasons with the Toronto Marlies (AHL) and has notched three assists in 12 career NHL appearances for the Maple Leafs.
- Percy skated last season for Amerks head coach **Chris Taylor** in Wilkes-Barre/Scranton and played under current assistant coach **Gord Dineen** during all five of his seasons with the Marlies.

ROAD AHEAD FOR AMERKS

- The Amerks return to action at 7:05 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 21 when they welcome back the Utica Comets to The Blue Cross Arena for the second time in eight days to bring the weekend to a close. All the action will be carried live on The Sports Leader 95.7 FM/950 AM ESPN Rochester.

AMERKS TEAM & PLAYER NOTES

- The Amerks enter tonight's contest with the Checkers as the lone club in the AHL to not allow a power-play goal against having successfully killed off all 16 penalties through their first three games to begin the season.
- Justin Bailey** earned the team's first call-up of the season as the third-year pro was recalled to the Buffalo Sabres last weekend. He currently leads the Amerks with two goals and has a plus-two rating through three games into the season. The Williamsville native scored on his first shift in his season debut with the Sabres as Buffalo would go on to win its first contest of the season against the Anaheim Ducks this past Sunday during the team's four-game western road trip.

2017-18 REGULAR SEASON



TOTAL GOALS
16-6



3-1-0-0 (6 points)

2-1-0-0 (4 points)

AMERKS OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
C.J Smith	3	1	2	2	0	0
Justin Bailey	3	2	0	2	2	2
Kyle Criscuolo	3	1	1	2	2	-1

GOALTENDER

GOALTENDER	GP	REC	MIN	SVS	SV%	GAA
Linus Ullmark	2	1-1-0	118:44	56	.949	1.52
Adam Wilcox	1	1-0-0	60:00	24	.923	1.99

NEXT THREE GAMES

Date	Opponent	Time
Oct. 21	vs. Utica	7:05 p.m.
Oct. 25	@ Laval	7:30 p.m.
Oct. 27	vs. Laval	7:05 p.m.

LAST THREE GAMES

Date	Opponent	Score	SF-SA	PP	PK
Oct. 13	Utica	L 3-2	33-30	0-4	6-6
Oct. 7 @	Syracuse	OTW 3-2	18-26	1-6	4-4
Oct. 6	Syracuse	W 3-1	20-29	1-5	6-6

YEARLY RECORD	GF	GA	POINTS	
HOME	1-1-0-0	3	3	2
AWAY	1-0-0-0	3	2	2
TOTALS	2-1-0-0	6	5	4

CHECKERS OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Lucas Wallmark	4	2	6	8	2	2
Andrew Miller	4	1	4	5	0	1
Warren Foegele	4	4	0	4	2	2

GOALTENDER

GOALTENDER	GP	REC	MIN	SVS	SV%	GAA
Jeremy Smith	3	1-1-0	120:16	56	.903	2.99
Alex Nedeljkovic	2	2-0-0	117:16	51	.895	3.07



- Newcomer **C.J. Smith** is tied for 13th in scoring among AHL rookies with three points (1+2) through his first three games with the Amerks. After notching an assist in Rochester's season-opening win over Syracuse, Smith added two more points by scoring his first pro goal to go along with an assist for his first multi-point effort the following night in a rematch against the Crunch.
- Acquired just before the start of the season, **Zack Redmond** remains tied for seventh amongst all defensemen with two assists through his first three games of the season. The veteran blueliner shows six points (2+4) in his last eight games dating back to last season as a member of the St. John's IceCaps.

SCOUTING THE CHECKERS

- Charlotte (3-1-0-0) comes into tonight's matchup sitting atop the Atlantic Division after beginning the 2017-18 slate with a pair of road victories followed by splitting a two-game series with the the Bridgeport Sound Tigers last weekend at Bojangles Coliseum.
- In each of their first four games, the Checkers have found the back of the net while on the power-play, going 5-for-22 during that time. Charlotte currently ranks fifth in the Eastern Conference with a 23.8% success rate.
- Through their first four games into the campaign, the Checkers have scored 16 goals (4.0 goals per contest), which is second in the Eastern Conference. Of those 16 tallies, 13 have been scored either in second or third periods.
- The Checkers embark on their first three-game weekend of the season tonight. Following tonight's matchup, Charlotte will travel to Canada for a pair of tilts with the Toronto Marlies.
- Second-year forward Lucas Wallmark paces the Checkers offensively as he enters tonight's contest with eight points and a team-high six assists through four games. During last Saturday's 3-2 win over the Sound Tigers, Wallmark recorded an assist on each of the three goals for the first three-assist game of his career.
- Rookie forward Warren Foegele comes into the inaugural matchup with the Amerks with a team-best four goals through four games. The 21-year-old first-year pro was named CCM/AHL Player of the Week after turning in a pair of two-goal performances to open the season, the second of which was highlighted by a pair of shorthanded tallies in a 5-2 victory over Wilkes-Barre/Scranton.
- Back for his second season with the Checkers, goaltender Alex Nedeljkovic enters the weekend riding a two-game win streak to begin the year after going 8-14-1 in a team-high 25 games appearances during the 2016-17 campaign.
- Sharing the goaltending duties with Nedeljkovic is nine-year veteran Jeremy Smith. The 6-foot-1 netminder holds a 1-1-0 record through two games this season and boasts a career record of 133-99-10 in 268 games played in the AHL. Last season, Smith appeared in 10 games with the Colorado Avalanche, which included his NHL debut on Feb. 14.

AMERKS-CHECKERS 2016-17 SEASON LEADERS BREAKDOWN

ROCHESTER

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Cole Schneider	71	24	39	63	45	9
Cal O'Reilly	47	9	33	42	6	1
Nick Baptiste	59	25	16	41	34	3

GOALTENDER

	GP	REC	MIN	GA	SV%	GAA
Linus Ullmark	55	26-27-2	3,201	153	.909	2.87
John Muse	14	3-8-0	740:40	38	.907	3.08

CHARLOTTE

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Jake Chelios	74	19	33	52	34	1
Lucas Wallmark	67	24	22	46	28	13
Andrew Miller	55	11	30	41	10	12

GOALTENDER

	GP	REC	MIN	GA	SV%	GAA
Alex Nedeljkovic	25	8-14-1	1286	73	.881	3.40
Michael Leighton	23	11-7-3	1325	48	.921	2.17

2017-18 SEASON SERIES GAME-BY GAME BREAKDOWN

Date	Opponent	Score	SF-SA	PP	PK
Oct. 20					
Jan. 20					
Jan. 21					
Mar. 30					

AMERKS ALL-TIME RECORD VS. CHARLOTTE: 0-0-0

SERIES NOTABLES

- Dating back to last season, Rochester's penalty kill enters tonight having successfully killed off 27 of the last 28 penalties in its last seven games.
- The Checkers have scored at least one power-play goal in each of their last six games, going eight-for-32 (25.0%) dating back to the 2016-17 season.
- The Checkers are one of nine teams that the Amerks have yet to face in franchise history.
- **Conor Allen, Kyle Criscuolo, Sahir Gill, Andrew, MacWilliam, Nathan Paestch, Kevin Porter and Garret Ross** are the only members of the Amerks that have faced the Checkers in their careers.
- Following tonight's matchup, the teams are idle until the Amerks make their inaugural trip to Charlotte for a two-game set with the Checkers from Jan. 20-21.