



# UTICA COMETS

# GAME NOTES

# ROCHESTER AMERICANS



## Utica Comets vs. Rochester Americans

Saturday, October 21, 2017 @ The Blue Cross Arena, AHL Regular Season Game #75

### TONIGHT'S GAME

- The Rochester Americans look to snap a two-game losing streak tonight as they renew their rivalry with the Utica Comets at The Blue Cross Arena for the second time in the last eight days. Tonight's 7:05 p.m. faceoff will be the second of 10 meetings this season between the cross-state foes and also will be carried live on The Sports Leader 95.7 FM/950 AM ESPN Rochester.

### LAST TIME OUT

- After jumping out to a 2-0 first-period lead last night, the Amerks allowed five straight unanswered goals before falling 5-2 to the first-place Charlotte Checkers at The Blue Cross Arena. The matchup was the first-ever meeting between the two clubs.
- The Amerks were paced by forward **Adam Krause**, who appeared in his 100<sup>th</sup> professional game, and defenseman **Zach Redmond** as each scored their first goals of the 2017-18 season. Goaltender **Linus Ullmark** finished the night with 12 saves before being replaced by **Adam Wilcox** late in the second period.

### ROAD AHEAD FOR AMERKS

- The Amerks return to action on Wednesday, Oct. 25 when they make their first-ever trip to Place Bell to face the Laval Rocket for the front-end of a home-and-home series. Following the 7:30 p.m. clash with the Rocket, the Amerks close out the two-game set with Laval Friday night back at The Blue Cross Arena at 7:05 p.m. All the action will be carried live on The Sports Leader 95.7 FM/950 AM ESPN Rochester.

### TEAM & PLAYER NOTES

- The Amerks remain the lone club in the AHL to not allow a power-play goal against. Rochester has successfully killed off all 20 penalties through its first four games to begin the season.
- The Amerks will be without the services of Redmond tonight after the veteran blueliner was recalled to the parent Buffalo Sabres this morning. He becomes the third different Amerk to earn a call-up to the big club this week, joining leading goal-scorer **Justin Bailey** and fellow defenseman **Taylor Fedun**. Acquired just before the start of the season, Redmond leads all Rochester defensemen and is tied for the team lead with three points (1+2) in four games after scoring his first goal of the season – and first as an Amerk – on the power-play in last night's 5-2 loss to Charlotte. His three points tie him for 15<sup>th</sup> amongst all defensemen in the AHL. He also shows seven points (3+4) in his last nine games dating back to last season as a member of the St. John's IceCaps.
- Newcomer **C.J. Smith** enters the matchup tied for 18<sup>th</sup> in scoring among AHL rookies with three points (1+2) through his first four

### 2017-18 REGULAR SEASON



**TOTAL GOALS**  
9-8



**2-2-0-0 (4 points)**

**2-2-0-0 (4 points)**

### AMERKS OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Zach Redmond	4	1	2	3	2	2
C.J Smith	4	1	2	3	0	-1
Justin Bailey	3	2	0	2	2	2

GOALTENDER	GP	REC	MIN	SVS	SV%	GAA
Linus Ullmark	3	1-2-0	153:32	68	.907	2.74
Adam Wilcox	2	1-0-0	85:17	39	.929	2.11

### NEXT THREE GAMES

Date	Opponent	Time
Oct. 25	@ Laval	7:30 p.m.
Oct. 27	vs. Laval	7:05 p.m.
Oct. 28	vs. Syracuse	7:05 p.m.

### LAST THREE GAMES

Date	Opponent	Score	SF-SA	PP	PK
Oct. 20	Syracuse	L 5-2	22-32	1-8	4-4
Oct. 13	Utica	L 2-0	33-30	0-4	6-6
Oct. 7 @	Syracuse	OTW 3-2	18-26	1-6	4-4

YEARLY RECORD	GF	GA	POINTS	
HOME	1-2-0-0	5	8	2
AWAY	1-0-0-0	3	2	2
TOTALS	2-2-0-0	8	10	4

### COMETS OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Reid Boucher	4	0	6	6	0	0
Nikolay Goldobin	4	3	2	5	0	1
Carter Bancks	4	1	3	4	2	2

GOALTENDER	GP	REC	MIN	SVS	SV%	GAA
Thatcher Demko	3	2-1-0	178:39	81	.953	1.34
Richard Bachman	1	0-1-0	59:27	30	.882	4.04



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 against the Crunch.

- Dating back to last season, Krause, who was playing in just his second game of the season last night, has recorded three goals and two assists in his previous six games.

- In addition to Krause making his Amerks debut on home ice, defenseman **Conor Allen** and rookie forward **Sean Malone** each appeared in their first game of the season. Allen recorded a pair of shots last night while Malone, who made his NHL debut at the end of the last season with the Buffalo Sabres, logged 10:28 of ice time.

### SCOUTING THE COMETS

- Utica (2-2-0-0) comes into the matchup in the middle of a season-long seven-game road trip to begin the 2017-18 campaign. The Comets then return home to the Adirondack Bank Center for seven of the next eight games to close out the month of November.

- In each of their first four games, the Comets opened the scoring less than eight minutes into the game. In addition to scoring first, Utica has drawn at least four penalties while taking a minimum of four infractions as well.

- In his first season with the Comets, fifth-year pro Reid Boucher paces all Utica skaters with six assists on the campaign. The 24-year-old has totaled 37 points (17+20) over 112 career NHL games, including 39 combined games last season split between the New Jersey Devils, Nashville Predators and Vancouver Canucks.

- While Boucher leads all Comets in points, Nikolay Goldobin has a team-high three goals to go with his two assists in four games in his second season with Utica. A former first-round pick of the San Jose Sharks in 2014, Goldobin was acquired by Vancouver on Feb. 28 after beginning the 2016-17 campaign with 41 points (15+26) in 46 games for the San Jose Barracuda.

- The Comets return their top point-getter from a season ago in five-year pro Darren Archibald. Despite failing to record a point in three games this season, Archibald, who appeared in all 76 games with Utica during the 2016-17 campaign, established career-highs in goals (23), assists (24), points and shots (184) last season.

- The elite goaltending duo of Thatcher Demko and Richard Bachman also return to the Utica roster for the 2017-18 slate. During his rookie season, Demko showed a record of 22-17-4 in 45 games played while eight-year netminder Bachman brings a career record of 114-78-11 along with 16 shutouts into tonight's contest.

- Demko has got the starting nod in three of the first four games to begin the season and has won his last two starts, allowing just two goals. He turned aside all 33 shots he faced in the previous meeting with the Amerks on Oct. 13 to earn his third shutout of his career. He currently ranks sixth among all netminders with a 1.34 goals-against average and a .953 save percentage, respectively.

### AMERKS-COMETS 2017-18 SEASON SERIES BREAKDOWN

#### ROCHESTER

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Colin Blackwell	1	0	0	0	5	0
Andrew MacWilliam	1	0	0	0	5	0
Kyle Criscuolo	1	0	0	0	2	-1

#### GOALTENDER

GP	REC	MIN	GA	SV%	GAA
Linus Ullmark	1	0-1-0	58:44	2	.933 2.04

#### UTICA

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Reid Boucher	1	0	2	2	0	2
Nikolay Goldobin	1	1	0	1	0	1
Patrick Wiercioch	1	1	0	1	0	1

#### GOALTENDER

GP	REC	MIN	GA	SV%	GAA
Thatcher Demko	1	1-0-0	59:57	0	1.000 0.00

### 2017-18 SERIES GAME-BY-GAME

Date	Result	Score	SF-SA	PP	PK
Oct. 13	L	2-0	33-30	0-4	6-6
Oct. 21					
Nov. 1					
Nov. 4					
Nov. 29					
Dec. 15					
Dec. 17					
Jan. 15					
Jan. 17					
Mar. 28					

### AMERKS ALL-TIME RECORD VS. UTICA: 16-19-2

### SERIES NOTABLES

- Rochester enters tonight's contest having won four of its last six games against the Comets dating back to last season.
- In the nine games dating back to last season in the head-to-head series, Rochester's penalty kill unit has gone 43-for-49 (87.7%), which includes 26 straight kills in the last five games versus Utica.
- Tonight is the second get-together in the last eight days between the two teams. Following tonight's matchup, the North Division rivals will square off three more times in the month of November, including twice in a four-day span to open the month.