



//// SYRACUSE CRUNCH ////
GAME NOTES
 //// ROCHESTER AMERICANS ////



Syracuse Crunch vs. Rochester Americans

Saturday, October 28, 2017 @ The Blue Cross Arena, AHL Regular Season Game #118

TONIGHT'S GAME

- The Rochester Americans (4-3-0-0) take aim at their third straight win tonight as they host the intrastate rival Syracuse Crunch (2-5-1-0) in the third meeting of the season between the two teams at The Blue Cross Arena. Game time is slated for a 7:05 p.m. start and can be heard live on The Sports Leader 95.7 FM/950 AM ESPN Rochester.

LAST TIME OUT

- Trailing 3-0 entering the final period, the Amerks responded with four straight unanswered goals, including two in the final 1:35 of regulation, to stun the Laval Rocket with a 4-3 win in overtime Friday night at The Blue Cross Arena. The win sealed the two-game sweep for the Amerks, who defeated the Rocket in Laval on Wednesday.
- Amerks forward **Nick Baptiste** notched his second straight multi-point (2+0) game to help Rochester to its second consecutive victory against Laval while rookie defenseman **Brendan Guhle** also collected an assist to extend his point streak to three games. **Kyle Criscuolo** capped off the scoring for the Amerks with his second tally of the season and a team-high nine shots while **Sahir Gill** sparked the third-period rally with his second goal in as many games. **Linus Ullmark** stopped 33 of 36 for his second straight victory in the crease and third overall on the season.
- The Amerks registered a season-high 48 shots against Laval, including 29 during the third period.

ROAD AHEAD FOR AMERKS

- The Amerks open a busy month of November with four of their next five games on the road, beginning Wednesday, Nov. 1 as they travel to the Adirondack Bank Center for a North Division showdown with the Utica Comets. The 7:00 p.m. contest will be the first of two meetings against the Comets in a span of four days and will be carried live on The Sports Leader 95.7 FM/950 AM ESPN Rochester.

AMERKS TEAM & PLAYER NOTES

- Rochester enters the contest just four points back of the Toronto Marlies for the top spot in the AHL's North Division standings following the two-game sweep of Laval. In both games against the Rocket, the Amerks allowed the opening goal but countered with four unanswered to earn the victory. With last night's wild come-from-behind win, the Amerks became just the eighth AHL team this season to come away with the win after facing a deficit coming into the third period. They're also just the fifth team to do it on home ice.
- After being held off the scoresheet for the first five games to begin the campaign, it only was a matter of time until the Amerks' leading goal-scorer from a season ago would soon rediscover his scoring touch. Baptiste has totaled five points (3+2) in Rochester's

2017-18 REGULAR SEASON



TOTAL GOALS
18-18



2-5-1-0 (5 points)

4-3-0-0 (8 points)

AMERKS OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Nick Baptiste	7	3	2	5	2	1
Kyle Criscuolo	7	2	3	5	6	2
C.J. Smith	7	2	3	5	2	1

GOALTENDER	GP	REC	MIN	SVS	SV%	GAA
Linus Ullmark	6	3-2-0	315:41	160	.920	2.66
Adam Wilcox	3	1-1-0	105:13	42	.875	3.42

NEXT THREE GAMES

Date	Opponent	Time
Nov. 1	@ Utica	7:00 p.m.
Nov. 3	vs. Hershey	7:05 p.m.
Nov. 4	@ Utica	7:00 p.m.

LAST THREE GAMES

Date	Opponent	Score	SF-SA	PP	PK
Oct. 27	Laval	OTW 4-3	48-36	1-6	4-4
Oct. 25	Laval	W 5-2	27-39	0-5	5-6
Oct. 21	Utica	L 5-1	41-27	0-6	4-8

YEARLY RECORD	GF	GA	POINTS
HOME 2-3-0-0	10	16	4
AWAY 2-0-0-0	8	4	4
TOTALS 4-3-0-0	18	20	8

CRUNCH OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Cory Conacher	8	3	2	5	24	-6
Mitchell Stephens	8	2	3	5	4	4
Anthony Cirelli	8	1	4	5	0	1

GOALTENDER	GP	REC	MIN	SVS	SV%	GAA
Michael Leighton	5	1-3-0	225:59	75	.872	2.92
Connor Ingram	5	1-2-1	244:47	84	.866	3.19



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last two wins, including scoring twice in a span of 1:13, the second of which came with 22 seconds left in regulation, in last night's win. Currently, Baptiste, who scored a career-high 25 goals during the 2016-17 slate, leads the club with three markers while also tying for the team lead with five points (3+2) overall.

- In addition to Baptiste recording his first markers of the campaign, Gill enters the weekend riding a two-game goal-scoring streak after notching his first two as a member of the Amerks. In Wednesday's 5-2 win against Laval, Gill recorded his first multi-point (1+1) outing before opening the scoring last night. Gill is tied for fourth on the Amerks with four points (2+2) in seven games.

- After the Amerks lost their top two defensemen, **Taylor Fedun** and **Zach Redmond**, to recall to the Buffalo Sabres last weekend, Guhle has stepped up big in their absence, notching three assists over the last three games. The 20-year-old pushed his point streak to three games last night, helping set up the game-tying goal in the final minute of regulation as the Amerks rallied back from a 3-0 deficit. Buffalo's second-round selection in the 2015 NHL Entry Draft, Guhle is currently tied for sixth on team in scoring and 12th in the AHL among all first year blueliners.

SCOUTING THE CRUNCH

- Syracuse comes into the matchup sitting at the bottom of the North Division following a 4-2 loss last night against the Toronto Marlies, dropping its record to 1-4-0-0 in their last five games. The team has been outscored 17-11 and are just 1-for-30 on the power-play over that stretch.

- Overall on the season, Syracuse is just 2-for-51 (3.9%) while on the man-advantage. The Crunch, however, have scored a pair of goals while shorthanded while only surrendering six goals in 42 chances (85.7%).

- Syracuse returns only a handful of players from its 2016-17 squad, including top point-getter Cory Conacher, who paced all Crunch skaters a year ago with 60 points in just 56 games. The 27-year-old forward notched a career-high 43 assists while scoring 17 goals. He also added four points (1+3) in 11 games for the Tampa Bay Lightning. Conacher is currently tied for the team lead with five points and has scored a team-best three goals through eight games.

- First-year forward Anthony Cirelli leads all Crunch skaters and is tied for ninth among all AHL rookies with four assists this season. After beginning the season with four points (1+3) in his first four games, Cirelli has been held to just one assist over his last four outings.

- Former Amerk and five-time AHL All-Star Michael Leighton has split the goaltending duties with rookie Connor Ingram. Each of the netminders have appeared in five contests for the Crunch with Leighton boasting a 2.92 goals-against average. Ingram holds a 1-2-1 record while Leighton owns a 1-3-1 in his first season in Syracuse.

AMERKS-CRUNCH 2017-18 SEASON LEADERS BREAKDOWN

ROCHESTER

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

GOALTENDER

GP	REC.	MIN	GA	SV%	GAA
Linus Ullmark	1	1-0-0	60:00	1	.966 1.00
Adam Wilcox	1	1-0-0	60:10	2	.923 1.99

SYRACUSE

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Mitchell Stephens	2	1	1	2	0	2
Ben Thomas	2	0	2	2	6	0
Cory Conacher	2	1	0	1	4	-1

GOALTENDER

GP	REC.	MIN	GA	SV%	GAA
Connor Ingram	1	0-0-1	60:39	3	.833 2.97
Michael Leighton	1	0-1-0	55:42	3	.850 3.23

2017-18 SERIES GAME-BY GAME VS SYRACUSE

Date	Result	Score	SF-SA	PP	PK
Oct. 6	W	3-1	20-29	1-5	6-6
Oct. 6	OTW	3-2	18-26	1-6	4-4
Oct. 28					
Nov. 22					
Jan. 13					
Feb. 21					
Mar. 10					
Mar. 11					
Apr. 11					
Apr. 14					

AMERKS ALL-TIME RECORD VS. CRUNCH: 128-105-17

SERIES NOTABLES

- Dating back to last season, Rochester's penalty kill enters tonight's game having successfully killed off 44 of the last 50 penalties (88.0%) in its last 11 games.
- Three of **C.J. Smith's** five points this season have come against the Crunch. The rookie forward posted his first multi-point game – including his first pro goal – in a 3-2 win at Syracuse on Oct. 7.
- Syracuse Crunch head coach Benoit Groulx spent two seasons behind the bench in Rochester from 2008-10.