



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



## Rochester Americans @ Syracuse Crunch

Wednesday, November 22, 2017 @ War Memorial Arena, AHL Regular Season Game #250

### TONIGHT'S GAME

- The Rochester Americans begin a busy holiday week tonight as they make their way east for a pre-Thanksgiving Day matchup with the Syracuse Crunch at the War Memorial Arena. Game time between the longtime North Division rivals is slated for a 7:00 p.m. start and will be carried live on The Sports Leader 95.7 FM/950 AM ESPN Rochester.

### LAST TIME OUT

- After shutting out the Binghamton Devils by a 3-0 score last Wednesday night on home ice, the Devils were quick to return the favor in Saturday's rematch in the southern tier as the Amerks were held off the scoreboard in a 5-0 setback at Floyd L. Maines Veterans Memorial Arena. It was the second time this season Rochester was blanked by a North Division opponent.
- The loss, which was the first for the Amerks in regulation on the road this season after starting 4-0-1-1 away from The Blue Cross Arena, also snapped Rochester's string of seven straight games with a point, the team's longest stretch since an eight-game run to open the month of April during the 2013-14 campaign.
- Defenseman **Stuart Percy**, who entered the contest riding a four-game point streak of two goals and five assists, led all Amerks skaters with five shots while goaltender **Adam Wilcox** suffered the defeat in net despite making 31 saves on the night.

### ROAD AHEAD FOR AMERKS

- The Amerks conclude the holiday week with a home-and-home set with the Binghamton Devils beginning on Friday, Nov. 24 at The Blue Cross Arena. The action then shifts back to Binghamton the following night for the fourth meeting in 11 days between the two teams. Both contests are scheduled for 7:05 p.m. and can be heard live on The Sports Leader 95.7 FM/950 AM ESPN Rochester.

### TEAM & PLAYER NOTES

- Rochester, which plays seven of its next nine on the road, enters the week in a second-place tie in the AHL's North Division standings with the Laval Rocket and trail the Toronto Marlies by just six points. The Amerks, however, have two games in hand on the Rocket and one on first-place Toronto.
- The Amerks have collected 16 out of a possible 22 points dating back to Oct. 25 and have points in seven of their last eight games.
- Coming off his four-point effort in Friday's 4-2 win over Hartford, rookie forward **C.J. Smith** leads the Amerks with 15 points (4+11) through his first 16 games of the season. Smith, who had a season-long five-game point streak snapped last month, ranks fourth among all AHL rookies in points and is currently tied for third with 11 assists.

### 2017-18 REGULAR SEASON



**TOTAL GOALS**  
40-48



4-9-1-2 (11 points)

9-5-1-1 (20 points)

### AMERKS OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
C.J. Smith	16	4	11	15	6	4
Kyle Criscuolo	14	5	6	11	10	4
Sahir Gill	16	6	4	10	0	-5

  

GOALTENDER	GP	REC	MIN	SVS	SV%	GAA
Linus Ullmark	12	8-3-0	634:32	341	.924	2.65
Adam Wilcox	7	1-2-2	343:26	155	.886	3.49

### NEXT THREE GAMES

Date	Opponent	Time
Nov. 24	vs. Binghamton	7:05 p.m.
Nov. 25	@ Binghamton	7:05 p.m.
Nov. 29	@ Utica	7:00 p.m.

### LAST THREE GAMES

Date	Opponent	Score	SF-SA	PP	PK
Nov. 18	Binghamton L	5-0	18-36	0-7	4-5
Nov. 17	Hartford W	4-2	31-38	1-5	4-5
Nov. 15	Binghamton W	3-0	36-31	2-5	1-1

YEARLY RECORD	GF	GA	POINTS	
HOME	5-4-0-0	26	27	10
AWAY	4-1-1-1	22	22	10
TOTALS	9-5-1-1	48	49	20

### CRUNCH OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Cory Conacher	16	6	6	12	34	-8
Anthony Cirelli	16	3	7	10	2	-6
Ben Thomas	16	2	6	8	10	-7

  

GOALTENDER	GP	REC	MIN	SVS	SV%	GAA
Micheal Leighton	9	3-3-2	475:34	158	.868	3.03
Connor Ingram	7	1-4-1	361:40	126	.863	3.32



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He's also tied for second among all first-year skaters with eight power-play points.

- **Sahir Gill** has moved atop the team's goal-scoring leaders with six on the season, matching the career-high he set last year in Wilkes-Barre/Scranton. The former Boston University standout reached the six-goal mark in 31 fewer games and has already recorded more than half his total offensive output from the 2016-17 campaign through just 16 appearances this season for Rochester. He also shares the team lead with two power-play tallies.

- **Brendan Guhle** remains Rochester's top-scoring blueliner and enters the week tied for first in points among all rookie defensemen with 10 points (3+7), all of which have come in his last 12 games.

- A year after leading the AHL in saves, games and minutes played, **Linus Ullmark** has picked up right where he left off from last season. The former Swedish Goaltender of the Year and reigning team MVP has won a career-best five straight and seven of his last eight starts dating back to Oct. 25, including a season-high 44-save effort at Utica on Nov. 1. He's currently tied for the AHL lead in wins (8) and ranks first in saves (341) while his .924 save percentage is ninth-best among all netminders with at least 300 minutes played.

#### SCOUTING THE CRUNCH

- Syracuse comes into the matchup having lost three straight, which includes a pair of setbacks against the Toronto Marlies, who lead the North Division.

- A year after winning the Eastern Conference championship for the second time in five years, the Crunch have fallen to the bottom of the Conference standings with an AHL-worst four wins and just 11 points through their first 16 games of the season. Three of Syracuse's four wins, however, have come on home ice.

- Syracuse is just 12-for-94 (12.8%) while on the man-advantage, which ranks last in the AHL. Conversely, the Crunch have scored three goals while shorthanded, which are tied for second-most in the Eastern Conference.

- 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. Conacher currently leads the Syracuse offense with six goals and 12 assists, in addition to a team-high 34 penalty minutes.

- First-year forward Anthony Cirelli is tied for 12<sup>th</sup> among all AHL rookies with 10 points (3+7) this season. After beginning the year with four points (1+3) in his first four games, Cirelli has been held to just six points (2+4) over his last 12 outings.

- The Crunch began the season with the goaltending duo of five-time AHL All-Star Michael Leighton and Connor Ingram. Leighton, however, was dealt to the Arizona Coyotes on Nov. 14 in exchange for fellow goaltender Louis Domingue. Ingram boasts a 1-4-1 record in seven games in his rookie season while Domingue is winless in his first two appearances with the Crunch, going 0-2-0 in two starts.

#### 2017-18 SEASON SERIES SCORING LEADERS BREAKDOWN

##### ROCHESTER

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

##### GOALTENDER

GOALTENDER	GP	REC.	MIN	GA	SV%	GAA
Linus Ullmark	2	1-1-0	69:55	2	.941	1.72
Adam Wilcox	2	1-0-0	109:20	4	.900	2.20

##### SYRACUSE

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Kevin Lynch	3	2	1	3	0	2
Ben Thomas	3	0	3	3	6	0
Michael Bournival	1	1	1	2	2	1

##### GOALTENDER

GOALTENDER	GP	REC.	MIN	GA	SV%	GAA
Michael Leighton	2	1-1-0	115:42	5	.894	2.59
Connor Ingram	1	0-0-1	60:39	3	.833	2.97

#### 2017-18 SEASON SERIES GAME-BY-GAME BREAKDOWN

Date	Result	Score	SF-SA	PP	PK
<b>Oct. 6</b>	W	3-1	20-29	1-5	6-6
Oct. 7	OTW	3-2	18-26	1-6	4-4
<b>Oct. 28</b>	L	3-2	27-19	1-4	4-5
Nov. 22					
Jan. 13					
<b>Feb. 21</b>					
Mar. 10					
<b>Mar. 11</b>					
<b>Apr. 11</b>					
Apr. 14					

**AMERKS ALL-TIME RECORD VS. CRUNCH: 128-106-17**

#### SERIES NOTABLES

- The Amerks are 2-1-0-0 in the three games this season with the Crunch after going 2-8-0-0 during the 2016-17 campaign in the head-to-head series.
- Five of the last seven games between the Amerks and Crunch dating back to last season have been one-goal games, including the last two.
- Amerks goaltender **Adam Wilcox**, a sixth-round pick of the Tampa Bay Lightning, picked up his first win of the season against his former team back on Oct. 7.
- Syracuse Crunch head coach Benoit Groulx spent two seasons behind the bench in Rochester from 2008-10.