



//// UTICA COMETS ////  
**GAME NOTES**  
 //// ROCHESTER AMERICANS ////



## Rochester Americans @ Utica Comets

Wednesday, November 29, 2017 @ Adirondack Bank Center, AHL Regular Season Game #292

### TONIGHT'S GAME

- The Rochester Americans (11-5-2-1) bring the month of November to a close tonight when they take on the intrastate rival Utica Comets in a North Division showdown at Adirondack Bank Center. The 7:00 p.m. matchup will be the fifth of 10 scheduled meetings between the two teams this season and will be carried live on The Sports Leader 95.7 FM/950 AM ESPN Rochester.

### LAST TIME OUT

- The Amerks trailed the Binghamton Devils by a 3-1 score entering the third period, but two quick goals in a span of 4:04, including a highlight reel goal by rookie forward **C.J. Smith**, set the stages for **Casey Nelson's** overtime game-winner to cap a 4-3 come-from-behind win and complete a two-game sweep over the Devils Saturday at Floyd L. Maines Veterans Memorial Arena.
- With the win, the Amerks improved to 6-1-2-1 in their last 10 games while collecting 21 out of a possible 28 points dating back to Oct. 25. They also hold a record of 7-1-2-1 through 11 games in the month of November.
- Zach Redmond** opened the scoring 1:52 into the game for the Amerks and later added an assist to give him six points (2+4) over his last six games while team captain **Kevin Porter** chipped in a pair of assists to push his point streak to a season-long three games. Rookies **Brendan Guhle** and Smith tallied their fifth and sixth goals of the season, respectively, and **Adam Wilcox** earned his second victory of the slate, stopping 16 of 19 shots.

### ROAD AHEAD FOR AMERKS

- The Amerks usher in the month of December on Friday, Dec. 1 with their second matchup in as many weeks against the Hartford Wolf Pack at The Blue Cross Arena. Following Friday's contest, the Amerks will hit the road for the next four games beginning Saturday night when they make their only trip of the season to Mohegan Sun Arena at Casey Plaza to face the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Penguins. Both contests are slated for a 7:05 p.m. start and will be carried live on The Sports Leader 95.7 FM/950 AM ESPN Rochester.

### TEAM & PLAYER NOTES

- Rochester enters the week ranked fifth overall in the American Hockey League and sits just seven points back of the Toronto Marlies for first place in the North Division with an 11-5-2-1 overall record. Their 11 wins are tied for fourth-most in the league.
- The Amerks claimed five out of a possible six points last week and have collected at least one point in 10 of their last 11 games, including seven straight to open the month of November.
- The Amerks return to Utica for the third time this month led by

### 2017-18 REGULAR SEASON



**TOTAL GOALS**  
52-67



**8-9-0-1 (17 points)**

**11-5-2-1 (25 points)**

### AMERKS OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
C.J. Smith	19	6	13	19	6	4
Sahir Gill	19	6	9	15	2	-4
Kevin Porter	19	5	9	14	16	-3

  

GOALTENDER	GP	REC	MIN	SVS	SV%	GAA
Linus Ullmark	14	9-3-1	756:15	413	.918	2.94
Adam Wilcox	8	2-2-2	405:28	171	.881	3.40

### NEXT THREE GAMES

Date	Opponent	Time
Dec. 1	vs. Hartford	7:05 p.m.
Dec. 2	@ W-B/Scranton	7:05 p.m.
Dec. 8	@ Springfield	7:05 p.m.

### LAST THREE GAMES

Date	Opponent	Score	SF-SA	PP	PK
Nov. 25	Binghamton OTW	4-3	32-19	1-7	4-5
Nov. 24	Binghamton	W 10-3	29-32	3-4	3-5
Nov. 22	Syracuse	OTL 6-5	35-49	2-6	2-2

YEARLY RECORD	GF	GA	POINTS	
HOME	6-4-0-0	36	30	12
AWAY	5-1-2-1	31	31	13
TOTALS	11-5-2-1	67	61	25

### COMETS OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
<i>Nikolay Goldobin</i>	18	7	12	19	6	1
Reid Boucher	16	8	9	17	2	-5
Michael Chaput	17	6	7	13	14	-5

  

GOALTENDER	GP	REC	MIN	SVS	SV%	GAA
Thatcher Demko	12	6-5-1	722:49	345	.922	2.41
Richard Bachman	6	2-4-0	362:51	136	.861	3.64



Smith, who paces the Rochester offense with 13 assists and 19 points in 19 games this season. The first-year forward is also tied for the team lead with six goals. Smith, who is currently riding a three-game point streak and has goals in back-to-back games, ranks second among all AHL rookies in assists and is tied for 11<sup>th</sup> overall among the league's top point-getters. He's also tied for second among all first-year skaters with 10 power-play points, including a team-best three power-play tallies. Smith is currently one of just two AHL rookies, joining Tucson's Dylan Strome, who was named this week's CCM/AHL Player of the Week, to lead his respective team in scoring.

- 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 won a career-best five straight from Nov. 1 to Nov. 17 and eight of his last 10 starts dating back to Oct. 25, including a season-high 44-save effort at Utica on Nov. 1. He currently ranks second in the AHL in saves (413) and is tied third in wins (9) while his .918 save percentage is 15<sup>th</sup>-best among all netminders.

- **Brendan Guhle** remains Rochester's top-scoring blueliner and comes into the week tied for third in scoring among all AHL rookie defensemen with 12 points (5+7), all of which have come in his last 15 games. Guhle also leads all first-year blueliners with three power-play goals while his 44 shots on goal are second-most.

- While holding a share of the team-lead in goals (6), forward **Sahir Gill** enters play tonight coming off a career-high four assists in Rochester's 10-3 win over Binghamton on Friday. The 25-year-old pro is on pace to establish career-highs as he currently ranks second on the team with 15 points (6+9) through 19 games this season.

### SCOUTING THE COMETS

- Following a pair of 3-2 wins against Laval Friday and Saturday, Utica comes into the matchup with a 4-6-0-0 record in its last 10 contests, which includes a 7-1 victory over Belleville back on Nov. 17.

- Despite being recalled to the parent Vancouver Canucks on Sunday, Nikolay Goldobin leads all Comets skaters with 19 points (7+12) in 18 games. The Russian forward currently ranks second on the team with seven goals and holds the team-lead with 12 assists. He notched nine points (3+6) over his last 10 games leading up to his first recall of the season earlier this week.

- The goaltending tandem of Thatcher Demko and Richard Bachman return to Utica this season. As a rookie, Demko showed a record of 22-17-4 in 45 games played while eight-year netminder Bachman brings a career record of 116-81-11 along with 16 shutouts into tonight's contest.

- On the season, Demko has got the starting nod in five of the last six games while owning a 2-4-1 record in his last seven. The second-year netminder boasts a 6-5-1 record to go along with a 2.41 goals-against average in 12 games. Bachman enters tonight's tilt with a 2-4-0 record in six appearances during the campaign.

### 2017-18 SEASON SERIES SCORING LEADERS BREAKDOWN

#### ROCHESTER

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Brendan Guhle	4	1	3	4	0	1
C.J. Smith	4	1	3	4	6	1
Steve Moses	4	1	2	3	2	-1

#### GOALTENDER

GP	REC	MIN	GA	SV%	GAA	
Linus Ullmark	3	1-1-0	163:42	7	.931	2.57
Adam Wilcox	2	0-1-1	84:56	5	.884	3.53

#### UTICA

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Darren Archibald	3	2	3	5	4	2
Reid Boucher	4	2	3	5	2	0
Nikolay Goldobin	4	2	2	4	4	0

#### GOALTENDER

GP	REC	MIN	GA	SV%	GAA	
Thatcher Demko	3	2-0-1	184:50	4	.962	1.30
Richard Bachman	1	1-0-0	65:00	2	.917	1.85

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

Date	Result	Score	SF-SA	PP	PK
<b>Oct. 13</b>	L	2-0	33-30	0-4	6-6
<b>Oct. 21</b>	L	5-1	41-30	0-6	4-8
Nov. 1	SOW	4-3	33-48	2-6	5-6
Nov. 4	SOL	3-2	24-38	1-7	8-9
Nov. 29					
<b>Dec. 15</b>					
Dec. 17					
<b>Jan. 15</b>					
Jan. 17					
<b>Mar. 28</b>					

### AMERKS ALL-TIME RECORD VS. UTICA: 17-20-3

#### SERIES NOTABLES

- Rochester is 1-2-0-1 this season through the first four games of the head-to-head series with the Comets after going 5-3-0-0 last season.
- In the 11 games against Utica dating back to last season, Rochester's penalty kill unit has gone 60-for-72 (83.3%).
- Rookies Brendan Guhle and C.J. Smith are both averaging a point-per-game against the Comets this season with each showing a goal and three assists. Guhle notched two points (1+1) in the previous get-together between the two teams back on Nov. 4.