



//// TORONTO MARLIES ////
GAME NOTES
 //// ROCHESTER AMERICANS ////



Toronto Marlies vs. Rochester Americans

Friday, December 15, 2017 @ The Blue Cross Arena, AHL Regular Season Game #381

TONIGHT'S GAME

- The top two teams in the Eastern Conference are set to go head-to-head tonight as the red-hot Rochester Americans (15-5-3-3) host the league-leading Toronto Marlies (20-5-0-0) for the first time this season at The Blue Cross Arena. The 7:05 p.m. matchup will be the first of eight scheduled meetings between the North Division rivals this season and will be carried live on The Sports Leader 95.7 FM/950 AM ESPN Rochester.

LAST TIME OUT

- Despite allowing the opening goal to the Utica Comets just 1:27 after the opening face-off, the Amerks responded with three straight unanswered goals to come away with a 3-1 win Wednesday night in their first game back on home ice following a four-game road swing. The win was also the first in regulation this season over the Comets, who carried a 4-0-0-1 record in their previous five matchups against the Amerks, including a 2-0-0-0 mark in Rochester.
- Rookie forward **C.J. Smith** notched his sixth multi-point (1+1) performance of the season as he scored his team-best ninth goal of the campaign and increased his point total to 27 on the year. **Steve Moses** and **Stuart Percy** completed the scoring for Rochester while goaltender **Linus Ullmark** improved to 12-3-3 on the season.
- The win extended Rochester's point streak to 10 straight games, marking the team's best stretch since the Amerks tied a franchise record with 11 straight wins from Oct. 12 to Nov. 10 during the 2009-10 season. The Amerks have also notched points in 16 of their last 17 games and have only lost twice in regulation dating back to Nov. 1.

ROAD AHEAD FOR AMERKS

- The Amerks hit the road on Saturday, Dec. 17 when they take on the Utica Comets for the second time in four days at the Adirondack Bank Center. 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.

TEAM & PLAYER NOTES

- Tonight's matchup marks the second of nine straight games against North Division opponents for Rochester to close out the 2017 calendar year. After this weekend, the Amerk are back home against the Belleville Senators next Wednesday night before heading into the holiday break with a two-game weekend set in Laval.
- Rochester enters the contest in the midst of a season-long 10-game point streak and have collected at least one point in 16 of its last 17 games dating back to Nov. 1. The Amerks are currently tied for third overall in the American Hockey League with just four points sitting between them and the top-ranked Marlies, who have a game in hand on Rochester.

2017-18 REGULAR SEASON



TOTAL GOALS
83-88



20-5-0-0 (40 points)

15-5-3-3 (36 points)

AMERKS OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
C.J. Smith	26	9	18	27	6	10
Sahir Gill	26	6	12	18	2	-7
Zach Redmond	18	6	10	16	12	7

GOALTENDER	GP	REC	MIN	SVS	SV%	GAA
Linus Ullmark	19	12-3-3	1,062	537	.923	2.54
Adam Wilcox	10	3-2-3	530:21	231	.892	3.17

NEXT THREE GAMES

Date	Opponent	Time
Dec. 16	@ Utica	7:00 p.m.
Dec. 20	vs. Belleville	7:05 p.m.
Dec. 22	@ Laval	7:30 p.m.

LAST THREE GAMES

Date	Opponent	Score	SF-SA	PP	PK
Dec. 13	Utica	W 3-1	34-30	1-1	1-1
Dec. 10	Bridgeport	W 4-1	33-37	2-3	5-6
Dec. 9	Hartford	SOL 3-2	30-27	0-3	4-5

YEARLY RECORD	GF	GA	POINTS	
HOME	7-4-0-1	43	36	15
AWAY	8-1-3-2	45	40	21
TOTALS	15-5-3-3	88	76	36

TORONTO OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Andreas Johnsson	22	10	9	19	27	7
Chris Mueller	25	5	14	19	12	-6
Ben Smith	25	10	8	18	4	13

GOALTENDER	GP	REC	MIN	SVS	SV%	GAA
Garret Sparks	15	11-3-0	856:28	389	.942	1.68
Calvin Pickard	10	8-2-0	577:01	244	.935	1.77



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- Despite seeing his four-game point streak halted on Sunday, rookie forward **C.J. Smith** remains a point-per-game player for the Amerks. He paces the team in all offensive categories with nine goals, 18 assists and 27 points while being one of just four skaters to appear in all 26 games thus far this season. His 76 shots and plus-10 on-ice rating are also tops on the team. The Des Moines, Iowa, native currently leads all AHL rookies in scoring and ranks fifth overall among the league's top point-getters. His 18 assists also tie him for fifth in the league and are most among all first-year skaters.

- Two of Rochester's top five scorers are defensemen as they each show 16 points entering the weekend. Playing at nearly a point-per-game pace, **Zach Redmond** (6+10) has three goals in his last three games for a season of total of six, placing him tied for third in the AHL in goals by a defenseman. The veteran blueliner also has six points over his last three games and needs just two more goals to match his career-high of eight.

- Stuart Percy** has recorded all 16 points (3+13) in his last 17 games dating back to Nov. 3, including a career-best three-point night on Nov. 15 against Binghamton. Nipping at their heels is **Brendan Guhle**, who ranks third in scoring among all AHL rookie defensemen with 15 points (5+10), all of which have come in his last 21 games. He leads all first-year blueliners with three power-play tallies and 62 shots.

- Linus Ullmark** boasts a 9-0-3 record over his last 12 games. The former Swedish Goaltender of the Year and reigning team MVP hasn't lost in regulation since Oct. 28 and has won 11 of his last 15 starts dating back to Oct. 25, including a career-best five straight to open the month of November. He currently leads the AHL in saves (537) and minutes played (1,062) and is tied for the league-lead with 12 wins. Additionally, he presently ranks 10th and 15th amongst all AHL goaltenders with a .923 save percentage and 2.54 goals-against average, respectively.

SCOUTING THE MARLIES

- Toronto comes into the matchup having won 10 of its last 11 contests while sitting atop the AHL with 20 wins and 40 points on the season. Through their first 14 games on the road, the Marlies show a record of 12-2-0-0, which is best in the league, and have outscored the opposition 49-24. Toronto carries a six-game road winning streak into tonight's game, which includes two-game sweeps of both Laval and Binghamton.

- Forwards Andreas Johnsson and Chris Mueller enter tonight's game with 19 points. Johnsson is tied with Ben Smith with a team-high 10 goals while Mueller shows 14 assists, which leads all Marlies.

- Toronto owns the top goaltending tandem in the AHL in Garret Sparks and Calvin Pickard. The duo is ranked first and second in the AHL with a 1.68 and 1.77 goals-against average, respectively, and are ranked in the top three in save percentage. After starting his first season with the Marlies 1-2-0, Pickard has gone 7-0-0 in his last seven starts while allowing one goal or less in six games during that span.

2016-17 SEASON SERIES SCORING LEADERS BREAKDOWN

ROCHESTER

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Cole Schneider	10	2	8	10	6	1
Nick Baptiste	9	5	4	9	8	4
Cal O'Reilly	6	1	7	7	0	3

GOALTENDER

	GP	REC	MIN	GA	SV%	GAA
Linus Ullmark	8	5-2-1	424:53	21	.912	2.97
John Muse	3	1-0-0	121:34	5	.915	2.47

TORONTO

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Kasperii Kapanen	7	5	3	8	2	-3
Kerby Rychel	9	2	5	7	6	-2
Seth Griffith	4	3	3	6	2	1

GOALTENDER

	GP	REC	MIN	GA	SV%	GAA
Garret Sparks	3	2-1-0	182:53	5	.922	1.64
Antoine Bibeau	3	0-2-1	178:30	11	.884	3.70

2017-18 SEASON SERIES GAME-BY-GAME BREAKDOWN

Date	Result	Score	SF-SA	PP	PK
Dec. 15					
Dec. 29					
Jan. 26					
Feb. 2					
Feb. 23					
Feb. 24					
Mar. 3					
Apr. 7					

AMERKS ALL-TIME RECORD VS. TORONTO: 41-62-4

SERIES NOTABLES

- The Amerks look to continue last season's success against Toronto after posting a 6-3-0-1 record in the head-to-head season series after going just 1-6-1-0 in 2015-16. Rochester was also 4-0-0-1 on home ice against the Marlies.
- Current Amerks and former Marlies **Seth Griffith** and **Stuart Percy** face-off against their former club.
- Amerk assistant coach **Gord Dineen** spent the last eight seasons on Toronto's coaching staff, helping the team to six 40-win seasons and four division titles.
- After being part of the Amerks the last two seasons, forward Jean Dupuy makes his first trip back to the Flower City tonight as a member of the Marlies.