



//// LAVAL ROCKET ////
GAME NOTES
 //// ROCHESTER AMERKANS ////



Rochester Americans @ Laval Rocket

Friday, December 22, 2017 @ Place Bell, AHL Regular Season Game #423

TONIGHT'S GAME

- The Rochester Americans (17-6-3-3) return to Place Bell for the first of a back-to-back set with Laval Rocket (11-13-4-2) tonight as the new North Division rivals meet for the third and fourth times this season. Tonight's 7:30 p.m. contest will be the first of four meetings between the two teams over the next eight days to close out the calendar year. All of the action will be broadcast live on The Sports Leader 95.7 FM/950 AM ESPN Rochester.

LAST TIME OUT

- Sahir Gill** scored a pair of goals to break a scoreless game less than five minutes into Wednesday night's third period with the Belleville Senators (11-15-0-3) to lead the Amerks to a 3-1 win at The Blue Cross Arena.
- With the victory, Rochester has notched points in 18 of its last 20 games and 32 points since Nov. 1 while improving to 6-1-1-2 in the last 10 games. Additionally, the win moved the Amerks to within two of the first-place Toronto Marlies.
- Gill scored his eighth and ninth goals of the season while defenseman **Zach Redmond** bagged his third multi-point effort of the campaign as he tallied his seventh marker of the season along with an assist. The veteran blueliner is one goal shy of tying his career-high of eight and his currently tied for third in the AHL for goals by a defenseman. Goaltender **Linus Ullmark** made 31 saves to record his league-best 13th win of the season. The Swedish netminder shows a record of 10-1-3 his last 14 starts.

ROAD AHEAD FOR AMERKS

- The Amerks close out their pre-Christmas schedule in a rematch against the Laval Rocket tomorrow night for the fourth meeting of season between the two clubs. Game time is slated for a 7:00 p.m. start and can be heard live on The Sports Leader 95.7 FM/950 AM ESPN Rochester.

TEAM & PLAYER NOTES

- Tonight's contest marks the fifth of nine straight games against North Division opponents for Rochester to close out the 2017 calendar year.
- The Amerks have collected at least one point in 18 of their last 20 games and 32 points dating back to Nov. 1. Rochester ranks fourth overall in the American Hockey League with just two points sitting between them and the top-ranked Toronto Marlies.
- The Amerks hold a record of 9-1-3-2 in 15 games away from The Blue Cross Arena on the season while being the only AHL team on the campaign with one regulation loss on the road this season.
- With five points (2+3) in his last four games, including another

2017-18 REGULAR SEASON



TOTAL GOALS
78-96



11-13-4-2 (28 points)

17-6-3-3 (40 points)

AMERKS OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
C.J. Smith	29	10	20	30	8	11
Sahir Gill	29	9	12	21	2	-5
Zach Redmond	21	7	11	18	14	9

GOALTENDER

GP	REC	MIN	SVS	SV%	GAA
Linus Ullmark	21	13-4-3	1,180	589	.923 2.49
Adam Wilcox	11	4-2-3	590:28	262	.897 3.05

NEXT THREE GAMES

Date	Opponent	Time
Dec. 23	@ Laval	7:00 p.m.
Dec. 27	vs. Laval	7:05 p.m.
Dec. 29	@ Toronto	7:00 p.m.

LAST THREE GAMES

Date	Opponent	Score	SF-SA	PP	PK
Dec. 20	Belleville	W 3-1	24-32	0-6	5-5
Dec. 16	Utica	OTW 3-2	30-33	1-6	3-3
Dec. 15	Toronto	L 3-2	34-24	0-3	2-2

YEARLY RECORD	GF	GA	POINTS	
HOME	8-5-0-1	48	40	17
AWAY	9-1-3-2	48	42	23
TOTALS	17-6-3-3	96	82	40

ROCKET OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Chris Terry	27	14	17	31	21	-13
Matt Taormina	30	2	24	26	10	-10
<i>Daniel Carr</i>	20	11	8	19	14	-3

GOALTENDER

GP	REC	MIN	SVS	SV%	GAA
Charlie Lindgren	17	4-7-5	992:39	439	.896 3.08
Michael McNiven	8	3-4-1	356:06	203	.879 3.64



three-point outing last Saturday in Utica, rookie forward **C.J. Smith** is tied for fifth overall in scoring in the AHL. He paces the team in all offensive categories with 10 goals, 20 assists and 30 points while being one of just four skaters to appear in all 29 games thus far this season. His 81 shots and plus-11 on-ice rating are also tops on the team. The Des Moines, Iowa, native currently leads all AHL rookies in scoring, while his 20 assists also lead all first-year skaters and are tied for sixth-most in the league.

- Three of Rochester's top five scorers are defensemen led by **Zach Remond's** 18 points (7+11) through 21 games while both **Brendan Guhle** (6+11) and **Stuart Percy** (3+14) each have tallied 17 on the slate. The veteran blueliner is currently third in goals by a defenseman with seven, one shy of matching his career-high of eight he set twice as a member of the St. John's IceCaps. Guhle ranks third in scoring among all AHL rookie defensemen while his six goals are second among first-year blueliners in the league. Guhle also leads all first-year blueliners with three power-play tallies and 75 shots. Percy, meanwhile, has recorded all 17 points in his last 20 games dating back to Nov. 3, including a career-best three-point night on Nov. 15 against Binghamton. On Tuesday, the former first-round pick, who joined the Amerks on a Professional Tryout, was rewarded with an AHL contract that will keep him in Rochester for the remainder of the 2017-18 season.

- Goaltender **Linus Ullmark** boasts a 10-1-3 record over his last 14 games. Last Friday's loss to Toronto was the first in regulation since Oct. 28 for the former Swedish Goaltender of the Year and reigning team MVP. Ullmark, however, has won 12 of his last 17 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 (589) and minutes played (1,179) and is tied for the league-lead with 13 wins. He also ranks tied for eighth and 13th amongst all AHL goaltenders with a .923 save percentage and 2.49 goals-against average, respectively.

SCOUTING THE ROCKET

- With a 5-2 victory over the Syracuse Crunch Wednesday night, Laval snapped a five-game losing skid and improved to 2-5-2-1 in the last 10 games.
- The Rocket, the new primary affiliate of the Montreal Canadiens, enters the contest second in the North Division with 93 total goals through their 30 games of the season. Despite having the second-best offense in the Division, Laval has allowed the most tallies in the AHL with 109 goals-against coming into the weekend.
- Chris Terry leads the Rocket with 14 goals, including a league-best eight power-play tallies, and 31 points through 27 games. The veteran forward is currently fourth in the AHL in overall scoring.
- Three-time AHL All-Star and last year's Eddie Shore Award winner Matt Taormina paces the club with 24 assists on the season and is the AHL's top scoring defenseman with 26 points overall.

AMERKS-ROCKET 2017-18 SEASON SERIES BREAKDOWN

ROCHESTER						
SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Colin Blackwell	2	3	2	5	0	4
Nick Baptiste	2	2	1	3	0	2
Sahir Gill	2	2	1	3	0	0
GOALTENDER						
GP	REC	MIN	GA	SV%	GAA	
Linus Ullmark	2	2-0-0	121:24	5	.933	2.47
LAVAL						
SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Byron Froese	2	1	1	2	2	0
Peter Holland	2	1	1	2	2	-6
Stefan Leblanc	2	1	1	2	0	2
GOALTENDER						
GP	REC	MIN	GA	SV%	GAA	
Charlie Lingren	1	0-0-1	62:29	4	.917	3.84
Zachary Fucale	1	0-1-0	60:00	5	.815	5.00

2017-18 SEASON SERIES GAME-BY-GAME BREAKDOWN

Date	Result	Score	SF-SA	PP	PK
Oct. 25	W	5-2	27-39	0-5	5-6
Oct. 27	OTW	4-3	48-36	1-6	4-4
Dec. 22					
Dec. 23					
Dec. 27					
Dec. 30					
Mar. 4					
Apr. 4					

AMERKS ALL-TIME RECORD VS. LAVAL: 2-0-0

SERIES NOTABLES

- Rochester looks for its third straight win over the Rocket after taking both ends of a home-and-home series against Laval earlier this season.
- Tonight is the first of four meetings over the next eight days between the Amerks and Rocket with each team hosting a pair of games.
- Rochester enters tonight's matchup with an 85.0% success rate while shorthanded, which is second-best in the Eastern Conference. Laval, meanwhile, holds the fifth-best power-play, scoring on 26 of 143 man-advantage situations for an 18.2% success rate.
- Rocket forward Nick Deslauriers appeared in five games with the Amerks during the 2013-14 season.