



//// LAVAL ROCKET ////
GAME NOTES
 //// ROCHESTER AMERICANS ////



Laval Rocket vs. Rochester Americans

Wednesday, December 27, 2017 @ The Blue Cross Arena, AHL Regular Season Game #448

TONIGHT'S GAME

- The Rochester Americans (19-6-3-3) return to action tonight following the Christmas break for their third straight contest against the Laval Rocket (11-14-5-2) after claiming the first two games last Friday and Saturday night at Place Bell. Tonight's 7:05 p.m. contest from The Blue Cross Arena will be the third of four meetings in eight days between the new North Division rivals and will be carried live on The Sports Leader 95.7 FM/950 AM ESPN Rochester.

LAST TIME OUT

- The Amerks completed their weekend sweep of the Rocket with a 3-1 victory Saturday at Place Bell in the final game before the Christmas break.
- Back-to-back wins over the Montreal Canadiens' affiliate have moved the Amerks into a tie with the Toronto Marlies for first place in both the American Hockey League's North Division standings and the Eastern Conference. Rochester has notched points in 20 of its last 22 games and 36 points overall since Nov. 1, while improving to 11-1-3-2 on the road this season. The Amerks remain the only AHL team with just one regulation loss away from The Blue Cross Arena this season.
- Rochester captain **Kevin Porter** recorded his fifth multi-point night of the season with a goal and an assist, while **Stuart Percy** and **Garret Ross** rounded out scoring with their fourth and fifth goals of the season, respectively. Amerks goaltender **Adam Wilcox** stopped 33 of 34 shots sent his way to pick up his third straight win and fourth in his last five starts for Rochester.

ROAD AHEAD FOR AMERKS

- The Amerks head to Ricoh Coliseum for a first-place showdown against the Toronto Marlies on Friday, Dec. 29. Following the 7:00 p.m. contest, Rochester concludes the 2017 portion of its schedule with another get-together against the Rocket on Saturday, Dec. 30 at 7:05 p.m. at The Blue Cross Arena. Both games can be heard live on The Sports Leader 95.7 FM/950 AM ESPN Rochester.

TEAM & PLAYER NOTES

- Tonight's contest marks the seventh of nine straight games against North Division opponents for Rochester to close out the 2017 calendar year.
- The Amerks enter the contest having won four straight and have collected at least one point in 25 of their first 31 games of the season. Rochester is tied with the Marlies for second overall in the American Hockey League while sharing the top spot in both the Eastern Conference and the North Division.
- Despite being held scoreless in three straight games for the first

2017-18 REGULAR SEASON



TOTAL GOALS
96-102



11-14-5-2 (29 points)

19-6-3-3 (44 points)

AMERKS OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
C.J. Smith	31	10	20	30	8	13
Sahir Gill	31	9	13	22	2	-6
Zach Redmond	23	7	14	21	16	11

GOALTENDER

GP	REC	MIN	SVS	SV%	GAA
Linus Ullmark	22	14-4-3	1,244	623	.924 2.46
Adam Wilcox	12	5-2-3	650:28	295	.905 2.86

NEXT THREE GAMES

Date	Opponent	Time
Dec. 29	@ Toronto	7:00 p.m.
Dec. 30	vs. Laval	7:05 p.m.
Jan. 5	vs. Bridgeport	7:05 p.m.

LAST THREE GAMES

Date	Opponent	Score	SF-SA	PP	PK
Dec. 23	Laval	W 3-1	29-34	0-1	3-3
Dec. 22	Laval	OTW 3-2	28-36	0-4	4-4
Dec. 20	Belleville	W 3-1	24-32	0-6	5-5

YEARLY RECORD	GF	GA	POINTS	
HOME	8-5-0-1	48	40	17
AWAY	11-1-3-2	54	45	27
TOTALS	19-6-3-3	102	85	44

ROCKET OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Chris Terry	29	16	17	33	21	-14
Matt Taormina	32	2	24	26	10	-13
<i>Daniel Carr</i>	20	11	8	19	14	-3

GOALTENDER

GP	REC	MIN	SVS	SV%	GAA
Charlie Lindgren	18	4-7-6	1,057	464	.896 3.07
Michael McNiven	9	3-5-1	520:00	229	.881 3.58



time all season, **C.J. Smith** remains tied for sixth in the AHL in scoring. 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 31 games thus far this season. His 81 shots and plus-13 on-ice rating are also tops on the team. The Des Moines, Iowa, native currently ranks second in scoring among all AHL rookies behind only Manitoba's Mason Appelton, while his 20 assists lead all first-year skaters and are sixth-most in the league.

- The Amerks own three of the top 13 point-producing defensemen in the AHL in **Zach Redmond**, **Stuart Percy** and rookie **Brendan Guhle**, with Redmond and Percy accounting for half of the team's top four point-getters. Redmond, who leads all Amerks defensemen with 21 points (7+14) through 23 games, is tied for fourth 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. The veteran blueliner is also tied for third in points coming into the week. Guhle, meanwhile, ranks third in scoring among all AHL rookie defensemen with 17 points (6+11) while his six goals are second among first-year blueliners in the league.

- Amerks goaltender **Linus Ullmark** was named the CCM/AHL Player of the Week for period ending Dec. 24, 2017. Ullmark stopped 65 of the 68 shots he faced in two starts for the Amerks last week, going 2-0-0 with a 1.46 goals-against average and a .956 save percentage over that span. Similar to last season, no other goaltender has played more games than Ullmark. He enters play tonight the AHL's leader in saves (623) and minutes played (1,243) and is tied for first in wins (14). He's also tied for seventh and 14th amongst all AHL goaltenders with a .924 save percentage and 2.46 goals-against average, respectively.

SCOUTING THE ROCKET

- With a 3-2 overtime loss last Friday night followed by a 3-1 setback Saturday, Laval shows a record of 2-6-2-0 in its last 10 games, which includes a pair of losses to the Amerks.
- The Rocket enters the contest third in the North Division with 96 total goals through 32 games this season. Despite having the third-best offense in the Division, Laval has allowed the second-most tallies in the AHL with 115 goals-against coming into tonight.
- Chris Terry leads the Rocket with 16 goals, eight of which have come while on the man-advantage, which is second-most in the AHL. Additionally, his 33 points lead the team and place him fourth in the AHL in overall scoring. The veteran forward is also fourth in the league in goals and shows 11 points (4+7) in his last six games.
- 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. In four games this season against the Amerks, Taormina has just one assist after registering 13 points (1+12) in 10 games versus Rochester last season as a member of the Syracuse Crunch.

AMERKS-ROCKET 2017-18 SEASON SERIES BREAKDOWN

ROCHESTER						
SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Nick Baptiste	4	4	4	8	0	8
Kyle Criscuolo	4	3	2	5	2	5
Sahir Gill	4	2	2	4	0	-1
GOALTENDER	GP	REC	MIN	GA	SV%	GAA
Linus Ullmark	3	3-0-0	185:07	7	.937	2.27
Adam Wilcox	1	1-0-0	60:00	1	.971	1.00
LAVAL						
SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Chris Terry	4	3	1	4	0	-4
Byron Froese	2	1	1	2	2	0
Stefan Leblanc	4	1	1	2	0	3
GOALTENDER	GP	REC	MIN	GA	SV%	GAA
Charlie Lingren	2	0-0-2	126:20	7	.908	3.32
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	OTW	3-2	28-36	0-4	4-4
Dec. 23	W	3-1	29-34	0-1	3-3
Dec. 27					
Dec. 30					
Mar. 4					
Apr. 4					

AMERKS ALL-TIME RECORD VS. LAVAL: 4-0-0

SERIES NOTABLES

- The Amerks go for their fifth straight win over the Rocket tonight and have outscored Laval 15-8 over the previous four matchups.
- Rochester enters tonight's contest with an 85.8% success rate while shorthanded, which is third-best in the Eastern Conference. Laval, meanwhile, holds the eighth-best power-play, scoring on 26 of 150 man-advantage situations for an 17.3% success rate.
- The Amerks enter tonight having successfully killed off 21 straight penalties, including six straight games without allowing a power-play goal.
- Rocket forward Daniel Audette is the son of former Amerks forward Donald Audette.