



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



Toronto Marlies vs. Rochester Americans

Friday, February 2, 2018 @ The Blue Cross Arena, AHL Regular Season Game #664

TONIGHT'S GAME

- The Rochester Americans (25-9-5-5) return home following the AHL All-Star break tonight as they host the league-leading Toronto Marlies (32-11-0-1) on Hometown Heroes Night at The Blue Cross Arena. The 7:05 p.m. matchup will be the fourth of eight scheduled meetings between the top two teams in the North Division this season and will be carried live on The Sports Leader 95.7 FM/950 AM ESPN Rochester.

LAST TIME OUT

- For the 19th time in 45 games this season, the Amerks played in a game that went beyond regulation. Last Saturday night's contest at Yardmen Arena against the Belleville Senators needed only 22 seconds of extra hockey before **Kyle Crisculo** sealed the Amerks' 4-3 come-from-behind victory with his second goal of the game to conclude a season-long five-game road swing going into the break.
- With the win, Rochester notched its 25th victory of the campaign while also improving to 14-3-5-3 in 25 games away from The Blue Cross Arena. The Amerks have earned points in 31 of their last 37 games dating back to Nov. 1.
- Crisculo bagged his seventh multi-point effort of the campaign as he scored a pair of goals and had a game-high eight shots for the Amerks while **Taylor Fedun** and **Eric Cornel** rounded out the scoring. **Adam Wilcox** made 21 saves to improve to 8-3-4 on the season and shows a 7-1-2 mark in his last 10 contests.

ROAD AHEAD FOR AMERKS

- The Amerks close out the first weekend of February as they travel to the southern tier to face the Binghamton Devils at Floyd L. Maines Veterans Memorial Arena on Saturday, Feb. 3. Rochester returns home again on Wednesday, Feb. 7 to host the Belleville Senators at 7:05 p.m. Both games can be heard live on The Sports Leader 95.7 FM/950 AM ESPN Rochester.

AN OLYMPIC TUNE-UP FOR GIO

- Brian Gionta** will make his highly anticipated Amerks debut tonight in what will be his final tune-up before departing next week for the 2018 Winter Olympic Games in Pyeongchang, South Korea. The Rochester native and Stanley Cup winner signed a one-game Professional Tryout with the Amerks earlier this week and has practiced with the team since October. Gionta, who will serve as captain of the U.S. national team, has appeared in 1,006 NHL games with the Buffalo Sabres, Montreal Canadiens and New Jersey Devils over a 16-year professional career in which he has recorded 588 points (289+299) and 375 penalty minutes. Gionta has also compiled 68 points (32+36) over 112 career playoff appearances.

2017-18 REGULAR SEASON



TOTAL GOALS
138-135



32-11-0-1 (65 points)

25-10-5-5 (60 points)

AMERKS OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
C.J. Smith	45	14	24	38	12	8
Zach Redmond	37	8	20	28	24	6
Kevin Porter	39	12	15	27	20	-7

GOALTENDER

GP	REC	MIN	SVS	SV%	GAA	
Linus Ullmark	31	17-7-6	1,792	885	.928	2.31
Adam Wilcox	17	8-3-4	951:05	410	.905	2.71

NEXT THREE GAMES

Date	Opponent	Time
Feb. 3	@ Binghamton	7:05 p.m.
Feb. 7	vs. Belleville	7:05 p.m.
Feb. 10	@ Lehigh Valley	7:05 p.m.

LAST THREE GAMES

Date	Opponent	Score	SF-SA	PP	PK
Jan. 20	Belleville	OTW 4-1	40-24	2-7	3-5
Jan. 26	Toronto	L 2-0	35-38	1-3	3-3
Jan. 21	Charlotte	OTL 5-4	30-28	1-4	0-3

YEARLY RECORD	GF	GA	POINTS	
HOME	11-7-0-2	63	54	24
AWAY	14-3-4-3	72	66	36
TOTALS	25-10-5-5	135	120	60

MARLIES OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Ben Smith	44	18	16	34	10	28
Andreas Johnsson	39	20	12	32	43	11
Chris Mueller	44	9	17	26	18	-4

GOALTENDER

GP	REC	MIN	SVS	SV%	GAA	
Garret Sparks	25	17-6-1	1,458	662	.944	1.60
Calvin Pickard	19	14-5-0	1,112	466	.928	1.94



TEAM & PLAYER NOTES

- Fresh off being named MVP of the 2018 AHL All-Star Challenge, rookie forward **C.J. Smith** continues to lead the Amerks in all offensive categories with 14 goals, 24 assists and 38 points while being one of just two skaters to appear in all 45 games thus far this season. His plus-seven on-ice rating is also tops among all active Rochester skaters. The Des Moines, Iowa, native currently ranks third in scoring among all AHL rookies and is 14th overall among the league's top point-getters. His 23 assists are third-most between all first-year skaters and are tied for 16th-most in the league.
- The Amerks are led by the goaltending duo of AHL All-Star **Linus Ullmark** and third-year netminder **Adam Wilcox**. Ullmark has carried the majority of the workload between the pipes, boasting a 17-7-6 record in 31 games this season. He currently ranks second in the AHL in both saves (885) and minutes played (1793) while being one win shy of tying for the league-lead in wins (17). The former Swedish Goaltender of the Year and reigning team MVP also ranks fifth and ninth amongst all AHL goaltenders with a .928 save percentage and a 2.31 goals-against average, respectively. Wilcox, meanwhile, is 7-1-2 mark in his last 10 contests, including three straight wins.
- The Amerks own three of the top point-producing defensemen in the AHL in **Zach Redmond**, **Stuart Percy** and rookie **Brendan Guhle**. Redmond, who leads all Amerks defensemen with 28 points (8+20) through 37 games, is tied for sixth in goals by a defenseman with eight, matching a career-high. Additionally, Redmond's 28 points tie him for fourth among all AHL defensemen in scoring. Guhle is tied for third in scoring among all AHL rookie blueliners with 21 points (7+14), while his seven goals are also third among first-year defensemen.

SCOUTING THE MARLIES

- Toronto comes into the matchup holding an 10-1-0-0 record in its last 11 outings dating back to Dec. 29 when the Amerks handed the Marlies a 2-0 loss at the Ricoh Coliseum.
- Toronto, which has a five-point lead over the Amerks for the top spot in the North Division standings, leads the AHL in wins (32) and points (65), while allowing the fewest goals-against (85) in the league through 44 games this season.
- Veteran forward Ben Smith paces the Marlies in both goals (18) and points (34) coming into tonight's matchup as well as a plus-28 on-ice rating that ranks second-best in the AHL. The eighth-year pro is also tied for 10th in the league in goals and is one of just four Toronto skaters to have appeared in all 44 games thus far this season.
- Toronto owns one of the top goaltending tandem in the AHL in Garret Sparks and Calvin Pickard. The duo are first and second in the AHL with a 1.60 and 1.94 goals-against average, respectively. After a four-game winless streak, Sparks, who recently was named CCM/AHL Goaltender of the Month, carries a 6-0-1 record in last seven games. Sparks ended January having shut out opponents over his last 154:01 of play and leads all AHL goalies with four shutouts on the season.

AMERKS-MARLIES 2017-18 SEASON SERIES BREAKDOWN

ROCHESTER

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Seth Griffith	3	1	3	4	0	-1
Alexander Nylander	2	1	1	2	0	1
Sahir Gill	3	1	0	1	0	0

GOALTENDER

GP	REC	MIN	GA	SV%	GAA	
Linus Ullmark	3	1-2-0	176:27	4	.952	1.36

TORONTO

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Ben Smith	3	1	3	4	2	4
Kerby Rychel	3	1	2	3	0	3
Frederik Gauthier	3	0	2	2	2	0

GOALTENDER

GP	REC	MIN	GA	SV%	GAA	
Garrett Sparks	2	1-1-0	116:33	2	.968	1.03
Calvin Pickard	1	1-0-0	60:00	2	.941	2.00

2017-18 SEASON SERIES GAME-BY-GAME BREAKDOWN

Date	Result	Score	SF-SA	PP	PK
Dec. 15	L	3-2	34-29	0-3	2-2
Dec. 29	W	2-0	32-22	1-3	5-5
Jan. 26	L	2-0	31-39	0-3	2-2
Feb. 2					
Feb. 23					
Feb. 24					
Mar. 3					
Apr. 7					

AMERKS ALL-TIME RECORD VS. TORONTO: 42-64-4

SERIES NOTABLES

- The Amerks look to continue their home success against the Marlies as they carry a 4-1-0-1 record in the head-to-head series at The Blue Cross Arena dating back to last season.
- In the three previous meetings, the team who has scored the first goal of the contest has gone on to come away with the victory in each of the games.
- The Amerks come into tonight's contest averaging 32.2 shots per game against the Marlies this season. Rochester averaged 14.6 shots in the second period while they have averaged 7.6 in the opening frame.
- The two teams have combined to go just 1-for-18 in three games while on the power-play in the head-to-head series this season.