



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



Toronto Marlies vs. Rochester Americans

Friday, February 23, 2018 @ The Blue Cross Arena | AHL Regular Season Game #787

TONIGHT'S GAME

- The Rochester Americans (26-14-8-6) are back at The Blue Cross Arena tonight for the front-end of a home-and-home set with the league-leading Toronto Marlies (38-14-0-1). The 7:05 p.m. contest will be the first of three meetings over the next eight days between the North Division rivals and can be heard live on The Sports Leader 95.7 FM/950 AM ESPN Rochester.

LAST TIME OUT

- The Amerks saw their three-game win streak at KeyBank Center come to an end as they made their annual trek down the New York State Thruway to play in the home of the Buffalo Sabres. Wednesday night's 2-1 loss to the intrastate rival Syracuse Crunch dropped the Amerks to fourth place in the American Hockey League's North Division standings.
- Rookie **Sean Malone** tallied his first-career shorthanded goal and sixth of season for the Amerks in the opening frame while goaltender **Linus Ullmark** stopped 29 of 31 shots he faced in the contest but took the loss. The Swedish netminder shows a record of 18-10-8 in 37 appearances on the campaign.

ROAD AHEAD FOR AMERKS

- The same two teams are back in action again on Saturday, Feb. 24 as the home-and-home series shifts north of the border for a 4:00 p.m. rematch at Ricoh Coliseum. The contest will be broadcast live on The Sports Leader 95.7 FM/950 AM ESPN Rochester.

TEAM & PLAYER NOTES

- A total of two points is all that separates the Amerks from their closest rivals in the North Division standings, including Utica, which coming off an AHL-best 16-game point streak, has moved into sole possession of second place. Rochester, which has collected at least one point in 14 of its last 19 games since the turn of the New Year and 36 of its last 45 overall dating back to Nov. 1, has fallen into fourth. Syracuse has closed its gap, too, and on the heels of its 2-1 win over the Amerks on Wednesday, now sits just a point ahead of Rochester entering play tonight.
- Last Sunday's 2-1 shootout loss to Binghamton marked the 10th time since Jan. 1 that Rochester was forced to play beyond regulation. Coming into tonight, the Amerks lead the AHL in games decided after regulation with 23, showing a 7-8 mark in overtime while going 2-6 in shootouts.
- Rochester's 12-3 rout of Wilkes-Barre/Scranton last Friday marked the second time this season the Amerks put up 10 or more goals in a single game, a feat the team last achieved during the 1974-75 season. The Amerks also became the first AHL team to record two

2017-18 REGULAR SEASON



TOTAL GOALS
172-159



38-14-0-1 (77 points)

26-14-8-6 (66 points)

AMERKS OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
C.J. Smith	50	14	25	39	14	6
Seth Griffith	34	11	21	32	18	4
Zach Redmond	46	10	22	32	30	4

GOALTENDER

GP	REC	MIN	SVS	SV%	GAA
Linus Ullmark	37	18-10-8	2,154	1,062	.924 2.42
Adam Wilcox	20	8-4-6	1,132	499	.911 2.60

NEXT THREE GAMES

Date	Opponent	Time
Feb. 24	@ Toronto	4:00 p.m.
Feb. 28	vs. Bridgeport	7:05 p.m.
Mar. 3	@ Toronto	4:00 p.m.

LAST THREE GAMES

Date	Opponent	Score	SF-SA	PP	PK
Feb. 21	Syracuse	L 2-1	20-37	0-5	4-4
Feb. 18	Binghamton	SOL 3-2	23-31	0-4	5-5
Feb. 17	Binghamton	OTL 1-0	19-35	0-1	4-4

YEARLY RECORD	GF	GA	POINTS
HOME 12-10-0-3	79	67	27
AWAY 14-4-8-3	80	79	39
TOTALS 26-14-8-6	159	146	66

MARLIES OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Andreas Johnsson	47	23	23	46	45	20
Ben Smith	53	20	18	38	10	25
Miro Aaltonen	49	13	20	33	18	24

GOALTENDER

GP	REC	MIN	SVS	SV%	GAA
Garret Sparks	30	20-8-1	1,765	782	.938 1.78
Calvin Pickard	23	17-6-0	1,350	567	.931 1.87



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10-plus goals in the same season since the Fredericton Canadiens and P.E.I. Senators each did it twice during the 1995-96 campaign.

- Despite missing his first four games of the season due to injury, rookie forward **C.J. Smith** continues to pace the team with 25 assists and 39 points in 50 games thus far this season. The Des, Moines, Iowa native currently ranks fourth in scoring among all AHL rookies. His 25 assists are also tied for fourth-most between all first-year skaters.

- Seth Griffith** has made a recent surge to move into second on the team in scoring with seven points (3+4) over his last six games. The former AHL All-Star has maintained nearly a point-per-game pace all season as he shows 32 points (11+21) through 34 games and hasn't gone more than three games without a point all season. Along with Griffith, second-year forward **Kyle Criscuolo** took over the team-lead in goals as he netted his 15th of the season last Sunday. Over his last 11 games, Criscuolo shows 10 points (5+5), which includes a career-high four-point (2+2) effort last Friday against Wilkes-Barre/Scranton. He also shares the team-lead with four game-winning goals while his 31 points (15+16) rank third among all Rochester forwards.

- Two-time AHL All-Star **Linus Ullmark** continues to shoulder the majority of the workload between the pipes, boasting an 18-10-8 record with two shutouts in 37 games this season. He currently ranks second in the AHL in both saves (1,062) and in minutes played (2,154) while being five wins shy of tying for the league-lead in wins (18). The former Swedish Goaltender of the Year and reigning team MVP also ranks seventh and 10th amongst all AHL goaltenders with a .924 save percentage and a 2.42 goals-against average, respectively.

- The Amerks own three of the top point-producing defensemen in the AHL in **Zach Redmond**, **Stuart Percy** and rookie **Brendan Guhle**. Redmond leads all Amerks defensemen with 32 points (10+22) through 46 games, ranking tied for second on the team and sixth among all AHL defensemen in scoring. The veteran blueliner is also tied for fourth in goals by a defenseman with 10, which is a new career-high. Guhle is fourth in scoring among all AHL rookie blueliners with 24 points (8+16), while his eight goals are third-most.

SCOUTING THE MARLIES

- Despite losing three of its last four games, Toronto leads the AHL in wins (38) and points (77), while allowing the fewest goals-against (108) in the league through 53 games this season.
- The Marlies return to Rochester fueled by second-year pro **Andreas Johnsson**, who paces Toronto in all offensive categories with 23 goals and 23 assists while ranking fifth overall in the league with 46 points. His 23 goals are also tied for second-most in the AHL. He's coming off a season-long eight-game point streak during which he compiled 17 points (6+11) and five multi-point outings.
- Toronto owns one of the top goaltending tandems in the AHL in **Garret Sparks** and **Calvin Pickard**. The duo are first and second in the AHL with a 1.78 and 1.87 goals-against average, respectively. Sparks, the reigning Goaltender of the Month, is 9-2-1 in his last 12 games.

AMERKS-MARLIES 2017-18 SEASON SERIES BREAKDOWN

ROCHESTER						
SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Seth Griffith	4	1	3	4	0	-2
Alexander Nylander	3	1	2	3	2	2
Stuart Percy	4	0	2	2	2	-2
GOALTENDER	GP	REC.	MIN	GA	SV%	GAA
Linus Ullmark	4	1-3-0	234:47	8	.930	2.04
TORONTO						
SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Ben Smith	4	1	3	4	2	3
Miro Aaltonen	4	2	1	3	2	4
Andreas Johnsson	3	1	2	3	2	1
GOALTENDER	GP	REC.	MIN	GA	SV%	GAA
Garret Sparks	3	2-1-0	176:33	4	.956	1.36
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	L	4-2	28-31	0-3	2-2
Feb. 23					
Feb. 24					
Mar. 3					
Apr. 7					

AMERKS ALL-TIME RECORD VS. TORONTO: 42-65-4

SERIES NOTABLES

- In seven of the last eight meetings dating back to last season, the team that scored first has gone on to come away with the victory.
- The Amerks come into tonight's contest averaging 38.3 shots per game against the Marlies this season. Rochester has averaged 14.5 shots in the second period while managing just eight shots during the opening frame.
- The two teams have combined to go just 1-for-23 in the previous four games while on the power-play in the head-to-head series. Conversely, the Amerks' penalty kill has successfully killed off all 11 penalties against the Marlies this season.