



BRIDGEPORT SOUND TIGERS GAME NOTES ROCHESTER AMERICANS



Bridgeport Sound Tigers vs. Rochester Americans

Wednesday, February 28, 2018 @ The Blue Cross Arena | AHL Regular Season Game #818

TONIGHT'S GAME

• The Rochester Americans bring the month of February to a close tonight as they host the final visit from the Bridgeport Sound Tigers at The Blue Cross Arena. The 7:05 p.m. contest will be the final meeting of the season in Rochester between the two clubs and can be heard live on The Sports Leader 95.7 FM/950 AM ESPN Rochester.

LAST TIME OUT

• The Amerks tied an AHL season-high by scoring six times in the third period, including five straight unanswered goals in the final 5:58 of regulation, to come away with a 7-4 win over the league-leading Toronto Marlies to conclude their home-and-home series Saturday afternoon at Ricoh Coliseum.

• Multi-point nights were recorded by **Justin Bailey** (2+0), **Colin Blackwell** (1+1), **Sahir Gill** (0+2) and former Marlie **Stuart Percy** (1+1), while Amerks captain **Kevin Porter** tallied his second three-point night (2+1) of the season. For the second game in a row, former AHL All-Star **Seth Griffith** opened up scoring on the night, and **Adam Wilcox** stopped 24 of 28 shots he faced in his first appearance against Toronto this season to improve to 9-4-6.

ROAD AHEAD FOR AMERKS

• The Amerks usher in the month of March on Saturday, March 3 when they make their second trip in a week back to Ricoh Coliseum for a North Division showdown against the league-leading Toronto Marlies. The 4:00 p.m. matinee will be the final meeting north of the border as the two clubs will conclude their season-series on Saturday, April 7 in the Flower City. Saturday's matchup can be heard live on The Sports Leader 95.7 FM/950 AM ESPN Rochester.

TEAM & PLAYER NOTES

• A total of three points is all that separates the Amerks from their closest rivals in the North Division standings, including Syracuse, which thanks to a 7-2-0-1 run in its last 10 games has taken over sole possession of second place in the North Division. Utica has closed its gap, too, and coming off an AHL-best 16-game point streak, is now in a two-way tie for third place with Rochester coming into tonight. The Amerks, who have collected at least one point in 15 of their last 21 games since the turn of the New Year and 37 of the last 48 overall dating back to Nov. 1, have an 18-point lead on Laval. The top four teams in the North Division are guaranteed a playoff spot.

• The Amerks enter the final week of the month having appeared in 10 games that went beyond regulation since Jan. 1. Overall on the season, Rochester leads the AHL in games decided after the third period with 23, showing as 7-8 mark in overtime while going 2-6 in shootouts.

2017-18 REGULAR SEASON



TOTAL GOALS
145-169



25-22-5-3 (58 points)

27-15-8-6 (68 points)

AMERKS OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
C.J. Smith	50	14	25	39	14	6
Seth Griffith	36	13	21	34	18	3
Kyle Criscuolo	48	15	18	33	34	4

GOALTENDER

GP	REC	MIN	SVS	SV%	GAA
Linus Ullmark	38	18-11-8	2,211	1,093	.923 2.47
Adam Wilcox	21	9-4-6	1,192	523	.908 2.67

NEXT THREE GAMES

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

LAST THREE GAMES

Date	Opponent	Score	SF-SA	PP	PK
Feb. 24	Toronto	W 7-4	32-28	0-3	2-2
Feb. 23	Toronto	L 5-3	17-35	0-4	4-5
Feb. 21	Syracuse	L 2-1	20-37	0-5	4-4

YEARLY RECORD	GF	GA	POINTS	
HOME	12-11-0-3	82	72	27
AWAY	15-4-8-3	87	83	41
TOTALS	27-15-8-6	169	155	68

SOUND TIGERS OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Tanner Fritz	33	10	27	37	24	6
Travis St. Denis	53	13	14	27	47	-8
Casey Bailey	53	12	13	25	17	-2

GOALTENDER

GP	REC	MIN	SVS	SV%	GAA
Christopher Gibson	33	18-11-3	1,893	733	.909 2.31
Kristers Gudlevskis	24	7-10-5	1,328	524	.894 2.80



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- The Buffalo Sabres made only one move during Monday's NHL Trade Deadline, acquiring 2016-17 AHL Rookie of the Year **Daniel O'Regan** from the San Jose Sharks in exchange for forward Evander Kane. O'Regan won the Dudley (Red) Garrett Memorial Award as the AHL's outstanding rookie last season, when he recorded 58 points (23+35) in 63 games with the San Jose Barracuda. O'Regan also earned a spot on the AHL All-Rookie Team and represented the Barracuda at the 2017 AHL All-Star Classic.

- Despite missing his first six 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 while his 25 assists are fifth-most between all first-year skaters.

- With nine points (5+4) over his last eight games, including the opening goals in Friday and Saturday's matchups with the Marlies, Griffith has moved into the second on the team in scoring. The former AHL All-Star has maintained nearly a point-per-game pace all season as he shows 34 points (13+21) through 36 games, earning him a recall to the parent Buffalo Sabres on Tuesday.

- Kyle Criscuolo** remains the team-leader in goals as he has 15 through 48 games this season. Over his last eight games, Criscuolo has produced nine points (3+6), which includes a career-high four-point (2+2) effort against Wilkes-Barre/Scranton on Feb. 16.

- Two-time AHL All-Star **Linus Ullmark** continues to shoulder the majority of the workload between the pipes, boasting an 18-11-8 record with two shutouts in 38 games this season. He currently ranks second in the AHL in both saves (1,093) and in minutes played (2,211) while being six wins shy of tying for the league-lead in wins (18). The former Swedish Goaltender of the Year and reigning team MVP also ranks sixth and 15th amongst all AHL goaltenders with a .923 save percentage and a 2.47 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 33 points (10+23) through 48 games, ranking tied for third on the team and fifth 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 among rookies.

SCOUTING THE SOUND TIGERS

- Bridgeport, which opens a season-long four-game road trip tonight, are winless in its last six road games, going 0-4-1-1.

- With leading poing-getter Tanner Fritz on recall to the New York Islanders, the Sound Tigers return to Rochester fueled by second-year pro Travis St. Denis, who leads all active Bridgeport skaters with career-highs in assists (14) and points (27) in 53 games this season. St. Denis is three goals shy of the team-lead as rookie Scott Eansor holds that title with 16 through 51 games.

AMERKS-SOUND TIGERS 2017-18 SEASON SERIES BREAKDOWN

ROCHESTER

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Zach Redmond	2	2	1	3	2	1
Colin Blackwell	2	1	1	2	2	1
Sahir Gill	2	1	1	2	0	0

GOALTENDER

GP	REC	MIN	GA	SV%	GAA
Adam Wilcox	1	1-0-0	59:53	1	.973 1.00
Linus Ullmark	1	1-0-0	61:01	2	.933 1.97

BRIDGEPORT

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Anthony Beauvillier	1	2	0	2	0	2
Mitchell Vande Sompel	2	0	2	2	0	0
Casey Bailey	2	1	0	1	0	-2

GOALTENDER

GP	REC	MIN	GA	SV%	GAA
Kristers Gudlevskis	2	0-1-1	119:51	7	.885 3.50

2017-18 SEASON SERIES GAME-BY-GAME BREAKDOWN

Date	Result	Score	SF-SA	PP	PK
Dec. 10	W	4-1	33-37	2-3	5-6
Jan. 5	OTW	3-2	28-30	1-2	6-6
Feb. 28					
Mar. 15					

AMERKS ALL-TIME RECORD VS. BRIDGEPORT: 4-6-0

SERIES NOTABLES

- The Amerks enter play tonight with an 86.0% success rate on the penalty kill, which is second in AHL. Bridgeport is 85.8% while shorthanded, which is third-best in the league.
- Tonight's contest is just the 11th all-time meeting between the two clubs. With Rochester's 4-1 and 3-2 overtime wins earlier this season, it gives the Amerks a two-game win streak against the Sound Tigers for the first time in team history.
- In his second stint with the Sound Tigers, forward Stephen Gionta returns to his hometown of Rochester.
- The Sound Tigers have used the goaltending tandem of Christopher Gibson and Kristers Gudlevskis for most of this season. Gibson holds an 18-11-3 record in his 33 appearances this season, while Gudlevskis shows a record of 3-7-5 dating back to Nov. 25.