



ROCHESTER AMERICANS

DAILY PRESS CLIPS

Wednesday, February 28, 2018

Tonight's Game: Bridgeport @ Rochester

Amerks reverse fortunes in Toronto with six-goal third period

Buffalo News

By: Staff Report

A day after giving up the game's last four goals in a 5-3 home loss to AHL-leading Toronto, the Rochester Americans scored six times in the third period and ended a 7-4 win at Ricoh Coliseum against the Marlies Saturday with five unanswered.

The six goals by the Amerks in the final 20 minutes were an AHL season-high for goals in a period.

Kevin Porter scored the game-winner with 2:18 left to help Rochester (27-15-8-6) snap a four-game winless streak. The captain also added two assists.

Stuart Percy and Colin Blackwell each had a goal and an assist. Justin Bailey scored the final two goals of the game, the first on an empty net.

Adam Wilcox made 24 saves in the win. Rochester held a 32-28 advantage in shots on goal.

Former Marlie Seth Griffith opened the scoring 4:47 into the second period. Toronto got on the board soon after and then added two more in the last four minutes to take a 3-1 lead into the final frame.

Rochester's Percy, another former Marlie, scored 5:11 into the third, but Toronto regained its two-goal lead 3:34 later.

With 5:58 left, a long wrist shot from the point by Blackwell found its way through traffic to make it 4-3, and Sean Malone tied it with 3:08 on the clock.

Porter scored the winner less than a minute later, and Bailey added the insurance markers with 1:19 and one second left.

The Amerks return home Wednesday to host the Bridgeport Sound Tigers at 7:05 p.m.

Amerks score six in third to defeat Marlies

Pickin' Splinters

By: Paul Gotham

The Rochester Americans 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.

It was the second time this season the Amerks put up six goals in a single period, matching the same mark they previously set in a 10-3 win over Binghamton back on Nov. 24.

Multi-point nights were had 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 against his former squad, 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.

Toronto's Miro Aaltonen notched his third multi-point night in the last five games, while Ben Smith, Chris Mueller and Mason Marchment all tallied goals for the Marlies, who saw their four-game win streak over Rochester snapped. Calvin Pickard made 25 saves in the loss.

As he did last night against his former squad, Griffith opened scoring after an offensive zone turnover by the Marlies. Calle Rosen's shot missed wide of the net and caromed up the boards to the neutral zone, where it was corralled by Blackwell at center ice. With the Amerks facing a two-on-one opportunity, Blackwell grabbed the loose puck and sent a cross-ice pass to Griffith, who outwaited Pickard before lifting a shot just under the crossbar to put Rochester ahead 1-0.

The goal came less than five minutes into the second period following a scoreless opening frame.

A few minutes later, the Amerks attempted to clear the puck but it was intercepted by Aaltonen, resulting in a scramble in front of Rochester's net. Rosen unloaded a quick shot from the left point that was redirected in by Smith for his 21st goal of the season.

The Marlies would gain their first lead of the game with just over three minutes remaining in the middle frame when Andreas Johnsson poked the puck backwards to Aaltonen and he flew down the ice for a breakaway to put the hosts up 2-1. The goal was Aaltonen's 15th point in the last 10 games.

The Marlies widened the gap with one minute left in the second when Andreas Borgman passed the puck to Kerby Rychel, who was stationed behind Wilcox's net. Rychel then wrapped the puck around to a waiting Mueller, who squeezed it into the back of the net, giving the Marlies the 3-1 lead heading into the final period of play.

The Amerks made it a one-goal game 5:11 into the third period when Percy skated inside the face-off circle and fired a shot past Pickard, only to have the Marlies respond with another goal from Marchment to reclaim their two-goal advantage at 8:45.

With six minutes remaining and down two goals, Kyle Criscuolo took a shot from the point, which was tipped by Blackwell and into the net, again trimming the Marlies lead to one and igniting a five-goal run for Rochester.

The Amerks tied the game with 3:08 to play thanks to a fortuitous bounce off Alexander Nylander's bid from the high slot. Nylander weaved his way through center ice and across the blueline before stepping into a shot at the top of the right circle that was knocked down by the Toronto defense. The rebound was immediately picked up by Sean Malone, however, and the rookie forward whipped it into the upper right corner to make it a 4-4 game.

Porter put the Amerks ahead for good just 50 seconds later after scooping up a Taylor Fedun rebound from just off the right post. Fedun's initial bid from the point pinballed through the crease until Porter was able to locate the puck amidst the ensuing goal-mouth scramble and chip it over Pickard for a 5-4 Rochester lead.

Bailey, coming off a two-point effort last night against the Marlies, sealed the win for Rochester with back-to-back goals in the final 1:19, the second of which came with one second to spare in the third-period clock.

The Amerks return home on Wednesday Feb. 28 as they conclude the month with a matchup against the Bridgeport Sound Tigers at The Blue Cross Arena. The 7:05 p.m. tilt will be broadcast live on The Sports Leader 95.7 FM/950 AM ESPN Rochester.

Amerks demanding more from Sabres prospect Alexander Nylander

Olean Times Herald

By: Bill Hoppe

Chris Taylor prefaced his comments with a reminder Sabres prospect Alexander Nylander is still a teenager, one of the AHL's youngest players, and coming off a lower-body injury that cost him all of training camp and six weeks of the season.

"We always forget how young he is and he went through a major injury this year, too," the Rochester Americans coach said prior to Wednesday's 2-1 loss to the Syracuse Crunch inside KeyBank Center. "He didn't skate, I think, for almost like three months, and it's tough to come back, get your timing and getting everything done. He worked hard this summer."

Right now, like a lot of Amerks, Nylander is struggling. Other than a two-goal, four-point effort in a recent 12-3 walloping of the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Penguins, the Swedish winger has mustered zero goals and three assists in his last 18 outings.

Nylander, the eighth overall pick in 2016, had compiled four goals and 13 points in 32 games this season entering Friday's home tilt against the Toronto Marlies.

So half of his goals and nearly one-third of his points came in one game.

The Sabres sent Nylander, who turns 20 years old on March 2, to Team Sweden for the World Junior Championship Buffalo hosted in December. The tournament, Taylor said, "was good for him."

"Especially when we were winning regularly, he came back in our lineup and added a different spark to it, and then he kind faltered a little bit," said Taylor, whose Amerks had won only two of their last 15 games entering Friday. "But he's young, he's learning, he's learning how to play hard every night, every shift."

Taylor said Nylander "can't take five seconds off."

"He's learning that," he said. "I'm demanding on him because I know he's got a lot more and I want more from him and I think that'll bring the best out of him, too. We can't lay off him. I think he's the type of guy, he can be a game-changer. That's what we want. We don't want him just to fit in on our team; we want him to be a game-changer on our team."

"That's what I look at for every guy, especially with a guy like that with his talent, he's getting better every day."

The Sabres' old regime, which drafted Nylander, promoted him for four late-season games a year ago. An appearance with the big club seems unlikely this year, however.

Big third period puts Amerks over Marlies

13 Wham

By: Staff Report

The Rochester Americans 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.

It was the second time this season the Amerks put up six goals in a single period, matching the same mark they previously set in a 10-3 win over Binghamton back on Nov. 24.

Multi-point nights were had 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 against his former squad, 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.

Toronto's Miro Aaltonen notched his third multi-point night in the last five games, while Ben Smith, Chris Mueller and Mason Marchment all tallied goals for the Marlies, who saw their four-game win streak over Rochester snapped. Calvin Pickard made 25 saves in the loss.

As he did last night against his former squad, Griffith opened scoring after an offensive zone turnover by the Marlies. Calle Rosen's shot missed wide of the net and caromed up the boards to the neutral zone, where it was corralled by Blackwell at center ice. With the Amerks facing a two-on-one opportunity, Blackwell grabbed the loose puck and sent a cross-ice pass to Griffith, who outwaited Pickard before lifting a shot just under the crossbar to put Rochester ahead 1-0.

The goal came less than five minutes into the second period following a scoreless opening frame.

A few minutes later, the Amerks attempted to clear the puck but it was intercepted by Aaltonen, resulting in a scramble in front of Rochester's net. Rosen unloaded a quick shot from the left point that was redirected in by Smith for his 21st goal of the season.

The Marlies would gain their first lead of the game with just over three minutes remaining in the middle frame when Andreas Johnsson poked the puck backwards to Aaltonen and he flew down the ice for a breakaway to put the hosts up 2-1. The goal was Aaltonen's 15th point in the last 10 games.

The Marlies widened the gap with one minute left in the second when Andreas Borgman passed the puck to Kerby Rychel, who was stationed behind Wilcox's net. Rychel then wrapped the puck around to a waiting Mueller, who squeezed it into the back of the net, giving the Marlies the 3-1 lead heading into the final period of play.

The Amerks made it a one-goal game 5:11 into the third period when Percy skated inside the face-off circle and fired a shot past Pickard, only to have the Marlies respond with another goal from Marchment to reclaim their two-goal advantage at 8:45.

With six minutes remaining and down two goals, Kyle Criscuolo took a shot from the point, which was tipped by Blackwell and into the net, again trimming the Marlies lead to one and igniting a five-goal run for Rochester.

The Amerks tied the game with 3:08 to play thanks to a fortuitous bounce off Alexander Nylander's bid from the high slot. Nylander weaved his way through center ice and across the blueline before stepping into a shot at the top of the right circle that was knocked down by the Toronto defense. The rebound was immediately picked up by Sean Malone, however, and the rookie forward whipped it into the upper right corner to make it a 4-4 game.

Porter put the Amerks ahead for good just 50 seconds later after scooping up a Taylor Fedun rebound from just off the right post. Fedun's initial bid from the point pinballed through the crease until Porter was able to locate the puck amidst the ensuing goal-mouth scramble and chip it over Pickard for a 5-4 Rochester lead.

Bailey, coming off a two-point effort last night against the Marlies, sealed the win for Rochester with back-to-back goals in the final 1:19, the second of which came with one second to spare in the third-period clock.

The Amerks return home on Wednesday Feb. 28 as they conclude the month with a matchup against the Bridgeport Sound Tigers at The Blue Cross Arena. The 7:05 p.m. tilt will be broadcast live on The Sports Leader 95.7 FM/950 AM ESPN Rochester.

Americans score six third-period goals to beat Marlies

TSN

By: Staff Report

Justin Bailey scored twice and Kevin Porter had a goal and two assists as the Rochester Americans downed the Toronto Marlies 7-4 on Saturday in American Hockey League play.

Former Marlies players Seth Griffith and Stuart Percy scored against their former team while Colin Blackwell and Sean Malone added the others for the Americans (27-15-14), who scored six times in the third period.

Ben Smith, Chris Mueller, Miro Aaltonen and Mason Marchment supplied the offence for the Marlies (39-15-1), who held a 3-1 lead after 40 minutes.

Adam Wilcox made 24 saves for the win as Calvin Pickard stopped 25-of-31 shots in a losing cause.

Rochester went 0 for 3 on the power play while Toronto failed to score on two chances with the man advantage.

Amerks avenge Friday's collapse vs the Marlies

C&C Worldwide

By: Staff Report

The Rochester Americans tied an AHL season-high by scoring 6 times in the third period, including 5 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.

It was the second time this season the Amerks put up 6 goals in a single period, matching the same mark they previously set in a 10-3 win over Binghamton back on Nov. 24.

Multi-point nights were had 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 3-point night (2+1) of the season.

For the second game in a row against his former squad, 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.

Toronto's Miro Aaltonen notched his third multi-point night in the last five games, while Ben Smith, Chris Mueller, and Mason Marchment all tallied goals for the Marlies, who saw their 4-game win streak over Rochester snapped. Calvin Pickard made 25 saves in the loss.

As he did last night against his former squad, Griffith opened scoring after an offensive zone turnover by the Marlies. Calle Rosen's shot missed wide of the net and caromed up the boards to the neutral zone, where it was corralled by Blackwell at center ice. With the Amerks facing a two-on-one opportunity, Blackwell grabbed the loose puck and sent a cross-ice pass to Griffith, who outwaited Pickard before lifting a shot just under the crossbar to put Rochester ahead 1-0.

The goal came less than five minutes into the second period following a scoreless opening frame.

A few minutes later, the Amerks attempted to clear the puck but it was intercepted by Aaltonen, resulting in a scramble in front of Rochester's net. Rosen unloaded a quick shot from the left point that was redirected in by Smith for his 21st goal of the season.

The Marlies would gain their first lead of the game with just over three minutes remaining in the middle frame when Andreas Johnsson poked the puck backwards to Aaltonen and he flew down the ice for a breakaway to put the hosts up 2-1. The goal was Aaltonen's 15th point in the last 10 games.

The Marlies widened the gap with one minute left in the second when Andreas Borgman passed the puck to Kerby Rychel, who was stationed behind Wilcox's net. Rychel then wrapped the puck around to a waiting Mueller, who squeezed it into the back of the net, giving the Marlies the 3-1 lead heading into the final period of play.

The Amerks made it a one-goal game 5:11 into the third period when Percy skated inside the face-off circle and fired a shot past Pickard, only to have the Marlies respond with another goal from Marchment to reclaim their two-goal advantage at 8:45.

With six minutes remaining and down two goals, Kyle Criscuolo took a shot from the point, which was tipped by Blackwell and into the net, again trimming the Marlies lead to one and igniting a five-goal run for Rochester.

The Amerks tied the game with 3:08 to play thanks to a fortuitous bounce off Alexander Nylander's bid from the high slot. Nylander weaved his way through center ice and across the blueline before stepping into a shot at the top of the right circle that was knocked down by the Toronto defense. The rebound was immediately picked up by Sean Malone, however, and the rookie forward whipped it into the upper right corner to make it a 4-4 game.

Porter put the Amerks ahead for good just 50 seconds later after scooping up a Taylor Fedun rebound from just off the right post. Fedun's initial bid from the point pinballed through the crease until Porter was able to locate the puck amidst the ensuing goal-mouth scramble and chip it over Pickard for a 5-4 Rochester lead.

Bailey, coming off a two-point effort last night against the Marlies, sealed the win for Rochester with back-to-back goals in the final 1:19, the second of which came with one second to spare in the third-period clock.

The Amerks return home on Wednesday Feb. 28 as they conclude the month with a matchup against the Bridgeport Sound Tigers at the Blue Cross Arena. The 7:05 pm tilt will be broadcast live on The Sports Leader 95.7 FM/950 AM ESPN Rochester.

Amerks celebrate Polar Bear Awareness Weekend at Seneca Park Zoo

Rochester First

By: Staff Report

The Rochester Amerks teamed up with the Seneca Park Zoo on Sunday to celebrate Polar Bear Awareness Weekend.

It was an opportunity for guests to learn more about the zoo's resident polar bear, Aurora. Zookeepers also showed families how a few every day changes could help save the bears lives.

"Although we live far away from them, there are many things we can do right here in our own homes," said Pamela Reed, "It's the way we shop, the way we purchase seafood...All of those things can make a difference. Keeping water clean here can actually impact the polar bears as well."

The Amerks spent an hour signing autographs and meeting fans who donated to Polar Bears International.