



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



Rochester Americans @ Toronto Marlies

Saturday, March 3, 2018 @ Ricoh Coliseum | AHL Regular Season Game #845

TODAY'S GAME

- The Rochester Americans (27-15-9-6) usher in the month of March this afternoon as they make their second trip in seven days north of the border for a North Division showdown with the league-leading Toronto Marlies (39-15-1-1) at Ricoh Coliseum. The 4:00 p.m. matinee will be the final meeting of the season in southern Ontario and can be heard live on The Sports Leader 95.7 FM/950 AM ESPN Rochester.

LAST TIME OUT

- The Amerks closed out the month of February with a 2-1 overtime loss to the Bridgeport Sound Tigers Wednesday at The Blue Cross Arena. The contest was the 24th that has been decided after regulation for the Amerks this season.
- Rookie **Sean Malone** netted his eighth goal of the season to push his point streak (3+1) to a career-long four games while **Alexander Nylander**, who appeared in his 100th AHL game, extended his point streak to three games with the primary assist. **Linus Ullmark** stopped 25 of 27 but took the overtime loss. The Swedish netminder carries a record of 18-11-9 in 39 appearances on the season.

ROAD AHEAD FOR AMERKS

- The Amerks will celebrate Youth Hockey Day in Rochester and bring the weekend to a close on Sunday, Mar. 4 when they welcome the Laval Rocket back to The Blue Cross Arena. The 3:05 p.m. contest will be the sixth of eight scheduled meetings between the two teams this season and will be carried live on The Sports Leader 95.7 FM/950 AM ESPN Rochester.

TEAM & PLAYER NOTES

- A total of seven points is all that separates the Amerks from their closest rivals in the North Division standings, including Syracuse, which thanks to a 9-1-0-0 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 just a point behind Rochester coming into today. The Amerks, who have collected at least one point in 16 of their last 22 games since the turn of the New Year and 38 of the last 49 overall dating back to Nov. 1, have fallen to third, but maintain a 19-point lead on Laval. The top four teams in the North Division are guaranteed a playoff spot.
- The Amerks enter the month having appeared in 11 games that have gone beyond regulation since Jan. 1. Overall on the season, Rochester leads the AHL in games decided after the third period with 24, showing a 7-9 mark in overtime while going 2-6 in shootouts. Wednesday's overtime loss was Rochester's first at home this season.

2017-18 REGULAR SEASON



TOTAL GOALS
184-170



39-15-1-1 (80 points)

27-15-9-6 (69 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	49	15	18	33	34	3

GOALTENDER	GP	REC	MIN	SVS	SV%	GAA
Linus Ullmark	39	18-11-9	2,272	1,118	.923	2.46
Adam Wilcox	21	9-4-6	1,192	523	.908	2.67

NEXT THREE GAMES

Date	Opponent	Time
Mar. 4	vs. Laval	3:05 p.m.
Mar. 9	vs. Providence	7:05 p.m.
Mar. 10	@ Syracuse	7:00 p.m.

LAST THREE GAMES

Date	Opponent	Score	SF-SA	PP	PK
Feb. 28	Bridgeport	OTL 2-1	26-27	0-2	5-5
Feb. 24	Toronto	W 7-4	32-28	0-3	2-2
Feb. 23	Toronto	L 5-3	17-35	0-4	4-5

YEARLY RECORD	GF	GA	POINTS
HOME 12-11-1-3	83	74	28
AWAY 15-4-8-3	87	83	41
TOTALS 27-15-9-6	170	157	69

MARLIES OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Andreas Johnsson	50	23	28	51	49	19
Ben Smith	56	22	21	43	10	27
Chris Mueller	56	14	23	37	26	-2

GOALTENDER	GP	REC	MIN	SVS	SV%	GAA
Garret Sparks	32	21-8-2	1,876	831	.934	1.89
Calvin Pickard	24	17-7-0	1,409	592	.925	2.04



- The Amerks tied a season-high last Saturday in Toronto by scoring six times during the third period, including five unanswered goals over the final 5:58 of regulation. It was the second time this season the Amerks put up six goals in a single period, matching the same mark they previously set when they scored six during the second period of their 7-6 shootout win over Hershey back on Nov. 3.

- With nine points (5+4) over his last eight games, including the opening goals in Friday and Saturday's matchups with the Marlies, **Seth 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 earlier this week.

- Along with Griffith, second-year forward **Kyle Criscuolo** remains the team-leader in goals as he has 15 through 49 games this season. Over his last nine games, Criscuolo shows nine points (3+6), which includes a career-high four-point (2+2) effort against Wilkes-Barre/Scranton on Feb. 16. His 33 points (15+18) 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 18-11-9 record with two shutouts in 39 games this season. He currently ranks second in the AHL in both saves (1,118) and in minutes played (2,272) 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 12th amongst all AHL goaltenders with a .923 save percentage and a 2.46 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 49 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 first-year defensemen. With his two-point (1+1) performance last Saturday, Percy has established career-highs in goals (5), assists (22), and points (27) in 50 games.

SCOUTING THE MARLIES

- Despite losing four of its last five games, Toronto continues to lead the AHL in wins (39) and points (80), while allowing the fewest goals-against (122) in the league through 56 games this season.

- The Marlies come into the matchup fueled by second-year pro Andreas Johnsson, who paces Toronto in all offensive categories with 23 goals and 28 assists while ranking tied for second overall in the league with 51 points. His 23 goals are also tied for fourth-most in the AHL. Over his last 12 games, Johnsson has compiled 22 points (6+16), which includes six multi-point outings. The second-year pro was recently named the CCM/AHL Player of the Month for February.

AMERKS-MARLIES 2017-18 SEASON SERIES BREAKDOWN

ROCHESTER

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Seth Griffith	6	3	3	6	0	-3
Alexander Nylander	5	2	3	5	4	4
Kevin Porter	6	1	4	5	0	4

GOALTENDER

GP	REC.	MIN	GA	SV%	GAA
Linus Ullmark	5	1-4-0	292:21	12	.920 2.46
Adam Wilcox	1	1-0-0	60:00	4	.857 4.00

TORONTO

SKATER

GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Miro Aaltonen	6	4	2	6	2 4
Ben Smith	6	2	4	6	2 5
Andreas Johnsson	5	1	5	6	4 0

GOALTENDER

GP	REC.	MIN	GA	SV%	GAA
Garret Sparks	4	3-1-0	236:33	7	.935 1.78
Calvin Pickard	2	1-1-0	119:16	8	.877 4.02

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	L	5-2	17-35	0-4	4-5
Feb. 23	W	7-4	32-28	0-3	2-2
Mar. 3					
Apr. 7					

AMERKS ALL-TIME RECORD VS. TORONTO: 43-66-4

SERIES NOTABLES

- In seven of the last 10 meetings dating back to last season, the team that scored first has gone on to come away with the victory.
- The two teams have combined to go just 2-for-37 in the previous six games while on the power-play in the head-to-head series. Conversely, the Amerks' penalty kill has successfully killed off 17 of the 18 penalties against the Marlies this season.
- Toronto owns one of the top goaltending tandems in the AHL in Garret Sparks and Calvin Pickard. The duo are first and fourth in the AHL with a 1.89 and 2.04 goals-against average, respectively. Sparks, the Goaltender of the Month for January, is 10-2-2 in his last 14 games.