



//// BINGHAMTON DEVILS ////
GAME NOTES
 //// ROCHESTER AMERICANS ////



Binghamton Devils vs. Rochester Americans

Friday, March 23, 2018 @ The Blue Cross Arena | AHL Regular Season Game No. 958

TONIGHT'S GAME

- The Rochester Americans (31-19-10-6) can clinch a playoff spot as early as tonight as they return to The Blue Cross Arena to host the North Division rival Binghamton Devils (21-33-7-3) in the first of a season-long four-game homestand. The 7:05 p.m. matchup will be the ninth of 10 meetings between the two teams this season and can be heard live on The Sports Leader 95.7 FM/950 AM ESPN Rochester.

LAST TIME OUT

- Rochester saw the Hartford Wolf Pack erase a pair of two-goal deficits and respond with three straight unanswered tallies during the second period as they handed the Amerks a 6-4 loss in the final game of the team's road swing through the Atlantic Division Sunday. The loss marked the third straight road game in which the Amerks were held without a point in regulation for the first time all season.
- After being held scoreless in his first two games back in the lineup, rookie forward **C.J. Smith** closed out the weekend by recording his first-career hat trick to regain the team-lead in both goals (17) and points (42) on the season while **Alexander Nylander** collected three assists for the Amerks, a career-high. **Arvin Atwal** tallied his second goal of the season while first-year goaltender **Jonas Johansson** made his first start of the campaign but was tagged with the loss.

ROAD AHEAD FOR AMERKS

- The Amerks bring the weekend to a close on Saturday, Mar. 24 as they welcome the Springfield Thunderbirds, the AHL affiliate of the Florida Panthers, back to The Blue Cross Arena for the only time this season. Game time is slated for a 7:05 p.m. start and will be carried live on The Sports Leader 95.7 FM/950 AM ESPN Rochester.

PLAYOFF PICTURE AT A GLANCE

- Rochester remains in the thick of what is shaping up to be a very tight race to the finish in the North Division standings, where only two playoff spots remain. The Amerks can officially punch their ticket to the postseason tonight with a win over Binghamton coupled with a Laval loss (reg/OTL/SOL) against Charlotte or by gaining at least one point against the Devils and a Laval regulation loss to Charlotte.
- Should the Amerks clinch a playoff spot tonight, they will become just the third team – and third from the North Division – to lock up a postseason berth, joining the second-place Syracuse Crunch and the league-leading Toronto Marlies, who have now advanced to the postseason in seven straight years and 10 of the last 13 since their inaugural season in 2005-06. The Amerks currently sit in third place, just nine points back of the Crunch, and hold a four-point lead over the fourth-place Utica Comets. The top four teams in the North Division are guaranteed a playoff spot.

2017-18 REGULAR SEASON



TOTAL GOALS
157-197



21-33-7-3 (52 points)

30-19-10-6 (76 points)

AMERKS OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
C.J. Smith	53	17	25	42	16	7
Zach Redmond	57	13	27	40	34	6
Kevin Porter	59	16	22	38	20	-11

GOALTENDER

GP	REC	MIN	SVS	SV%	GAA
Linus Ullmark	42	20-11-10	2,461	1,199	.923 2.44
Adam Wilcox	25	10-6-6	1,416	627	.905 2.80

NEXT THREE GAMES

Date	Opponent	Time
Mar. 24	vs. Springfield	7:05 p.m.
Mar. 28	vs. Utica	7:05 p.m.
Mar. 30	vs. Charlotte	7:05 p.m.

LAST THREE GAMES

Date	Opponent	Score	SF-SA	PP	PK
Mar. 18	Hartford	L 6-4	26-29	0-1	2-2
Mar. 16	Providence	L 5-3	31-49	0-3	3-5
Mar. 15	Bridgeport	L 6-4	36-27	1-7	4-6

YEARLY RECORD

	GF	GA	POINTS	
HOME	14-11-2-3	93	82	33
AWAY	16-8-8-3	104	105	43
TOTALS	30-19-10-6	197	187	76

DEVILS OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Jacob MacDonald	63	16	31	47	31	-22
Nick Lappin	53	25	17	42	33	-13
Bracken Kearns	63	14	28	42	30	-4

GOALTENDER

GP	REC	MIN	SVS	SV%	GAA
Ken Appleby	24	9-12-2	1,381	565	.898 2.78
Mackenzie Blackwood	31	7-17-5	1,745	742	.882 3.40



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TEAM AND PLAYER NOTES

- The Amerks, who have earned at least one point in 20 of their last 30 games since the New Year, have appeared in 13 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 26, showing a 7-10 mark in overtime while going 3-6 in shootouts.
- Rookie forward **C.J. Smith** returned to the lineup last weekend after missing 12 games due to injury. After being held without a point in the first two games of the New England trip, Smith made up for lost time in a big way, recording his first career hat trick to regain the team lead in both goals (17) and points (42) in 53 games this season. With his three-goal outing Sunday in Hartford, he became the first Amerks rookie to score a hat trick since Tim Schaller at Toronto on Apr. 5, 2014. The Des, Moines, Iowa native is currently tied for seventh in scoring among all AHL rookies while his 25 assists are tied for fifth-most between all first-year skaters.
- With an assist last Friday at Providence, **Zach Redmond** reached the 40-point mark for the first time in his professional career while also notching career-highs in goals (13) and assists (27) in 57 games this season. The veteran blueliner leads the club with 27 assists and ranks second on the team with 40 points, which is good enough for fourth among all AHL defensemen in overall scoring. In addition, he is tied for second in goals by a defenseman with 13, including seven that have come on the power-play. His seven power-play tallies lead the team and are tied for third among league rearguards.
- With seven points (3+5) over his last 10 games, forward **Kevin Porter** ranks third on the team in scoring with 38 points (16+22) in 59 contests this season. Rochester's team captain is also second on the team in goals with 16 and is on pace to record the first 20-goal season of his pro career after scoring 19 during the 2013-14 campaign in his previous stint with Rochester. He also needs just two more points to pick up his second straight 40-point campaign.
- **Alexander Nylander** has accounted for 15 points (4+11) over his last 15 games, a stretch which includes a season-long five-game point streak from Feb. 23 to Mar. 4. Most recently, the former first-round pick of the Buffalo Sabres amassed six points (1+5) over Rochester's three-game Atlantic Division road swing, which ended with Nylander recording a career-high three assists at Hartford on Mar. 18.

SCOUTING THE DEVILS

- The Devils make their final trip of the season to Rochester tonight with a 4-5-1-0 record over their last 10 contests. Binghamton also comes into the matchup having dropped four of its last five road matchups dating back to a 3-2 setback at Syracuse on Mar. 2.
- With seven points (1+6) over his last six contests, defenseman Jacob MacDonald has regained the team-lead in both assists (31) and points (47) while appearing in all but one game for Binghamton. The 2018 AHL All-Star currently leads all AHL defensemen in scoring and shots (162) while ranking third among league blueliners in assists.

AMERKS-DEVILS 2017-18 SEASON SERIES BREAKDOWN

ROCHESTER

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Sahir Gill	8	1	6	7	2	1
Kevin Porter	8	2	4	6	2	0
C.J. Smith	6	3	2	5	0	-1

GOALTENDER

GP	REC	MIN	GA	SV%	GAA
Linus Ullmark	3	2-0-1	184:56	4	.957 1.30
Adam Wilcox	5	2-1-2	303:45	15	.897 2.96

BINGHAMTON

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Jacob MacDonald	8	2	5	7	6	-2
Bracken Kearns	8	2	4	6	6	2
Viktor Loov	5	3	1	4	0	0

GOALTENDER

GP	REC	MIN	GA	SV%	GAA
Mackenzie Blackwood	5	2-1-1	261:55	13	.897 2.98
Ken Appleby	4	2-2-0	226:13	12	.870 3.18

2017-18 SEASON SERIES GAME-BY-GAME BREAKDOWN

Date	Result	Score	SF-SA	PP	PK
Nov. 15	W	3-0	36-31	2-5	1-1
Nov. 18	L	5-0	18-36	0-7	4-5
Nov. 24	W	10-3	29-32	3-4	3-5
Nov. 25	OTW	4-3	32-19	1-7	4-5
Jan. 12	W	5-2	32-20	1-4	2-2
Feb. 3	OTL	4-3	30-35	2-4	2-3
Feb. 17	OTL	1-0	19-35	0-1	4-4
Feb. 18	SOL	2-1	23-31	0-4	5-5
Mar. 23					
Mar. 31					

AMERKS ALL-TIME RECORD VS. BINGHAMTON: 15-18-1

(Includes totals carried over from when the franchise was located in Albany)

SERIES NOTABLES

- Binghamton has allowed 202 goals this season while scoring 157, which are fewest among all Eastern Conference teams. Of the 157 goals for the Devils, 56 have come in the opening period.
- The last four 10-plus goal games by the Amerks have all come on home ice, and three of the four have come against different Binghamton-based AHL franchises.
- Feb. 16, 2018 vs. Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Penguins
- Nov. 24, 2017 vs. Binghamton Devils
- Dec. 16, 2006 vs. Binghamton Senators
- Mar. 24, 1996 vs. Binghamton Rangers