



Springfield Thunderbirds vs. Rochester Americans

Friday, February 8, 2019 @ The Blue Cross Arena | AHL Regular Season Game No. 732

TONIGHT'S GAME OVERVIEW

• The Rochester Americans (28-13-3-2) close out their brief two-game homestand tonight as they host the Springfield Thunderbirds (21-18-6-4) for the only time this season at The Blue Cross Arena. The club will induct **Doug Janik** and **Steve Langdon** into the Amerks Hall of Fame prior to the 7:05 p.m. matchup, in addition to wearing special throwback jerseys and matching socks. All the action will be carried live on The Sports Leader AM 950/95.7 FM ESPN Rochester and AHLTV. The game will also be featured as the AHL Game of the Week and available for free on FaceBook Watch.

LAST TIME OUT

- Despite the Amerks scoring the first goal of Wednesday night's contest and extending their point streak to tie a season-long nine straight games, the Syracuse Crunch stole the extra point as they came back for a 2-1 shootout win at The Blue Cross Arena.
- While the Amerks fell in the skills competition, they have collected 15 out of a possible 18 points during their current nine-game point streak, going 6-0-1-2 over that span, and maintain their first-place lead atop the AHL's North Division standings. The team has also notched 23 points in its last 16 games dating back to a 4-0 shutout win in Cleveland on Dec. 26.
- Forward **Taylor Leier** tallied his second goal with the Amerks and 12th overall of the season in the defeat while goaltender **Scott Wedgewood** (16-7-2), who missed the last four games due to injury, stopped 31 of 32 but was handed the shootout loss. Over his last 12 games, Wedgewood shows a record of 8-3-1 going back to the game the day after Christmas.

ROAD AHEAD FOR AMERKS

• To conclude the first full week of February, the Amerks visit the Utica Comets on Saturday, Feb. 9 for a North Division showdown at the Adirondack Bank Center. The 7:00 p.m contest can be heard live on The Sports Leader AM 950/95.7 FM ESPN Rochester as well as AHLTV.

RECORD BELONGS TO REDMOND

- Veteran defenseman **Zach Redmond** broke the 46-year-old single-season franchise record back on Jan. 23, scoring his team-leading 19th goal of the season in a 7-5 win over Binghamton at The Blue Cross Arena.
- The 30-year-old blueliner surpassed Amerks Hall of Famer **Rick Pagnutti**, who set the original mark with 18 goals during the 1972-73 campaign. He'll also become the first defenseman in the 63-year history of the franchise to reach the 20-goal mark on his next goal.
- He also remains on pace to tie the AHL single-season goal-scoring record of 30, set by John Slaney during the 1999-00 season.

2018-19 REGULAR SEASON



TOTAL GOALS
167-151



21-18-6-4 (52 points)

28-13-3-2 (61 points)

AMERKS OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
C.J. Smith*	41	18	23	41	12	13
Zach Redmond	41	19	20	39	26	5
Victor Olofsson	43	15	23	38	10	5

* Currently on NHL recall with Buffalo

GOALTENDER	GP	REC	MIN	SVS	SV%	GAA
Scott Wedgewood	27	16-7-2	1,511	707	.908	2.86
Adam Wilcox	18	8-5-3	999:49	411	.897	2.82
Jonas Johansson	5	4-1-0	265:52	126	.926	2.26

NEXT THREE GAMES

Date	Opponent	Time
Feb. 9	@ Utica	7:00 p.m.
Feb. 12	@ Cleveland	7:00 p.m.
Feb. 15	vs. Syracuse	7:05 p.m.

LAST THREE GAMES

Date	Opponent	Result	SF-SA	PP	PK
Feb. 6	Syracuse	SOL 2-1	18-33	0-1	5-5
Feb. 2	Hartford	W 4-1	28-35	0-3	2-2
Feb. 1	Binghamton	W 3-2	34-18	1-5	4-4

YEARLY RECORD	GF	GA	POINTS	
HOME	14-9-0-1	77	74	29
AWAY	14-4-3-1	74	60	32
TOTALS	28-13-3-2	151	134	61

THUNDERBIRDS OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Harry Zolnierczyk	49	9	31	40	32	-12
Paul Thompson	49	23	16	39	57	-5
Anthony Greco	48	18	17	35	17	-7

GOALTENDER	GP	REC	MIN	SVS	SV%	GAA
Sam Montembeault	33	13-11-7	1,827	854	.898	3.18
Chris Driedger	13	6-4-1	696:29	362	.921	2.67



C.J. HEADS BACK TO BUFFALO

- Despite seeing his career-long nine-game point streak end last Friday, second-year forward **C.J. Smith** responded with a pair of goals the following night, which included his career-high 18th goal of the season, along with an assist in a 4-1 against Hartford. With his three-point effort, Smith took over the team lead in points (41) and has also recorded 22 points (11+11) in his last 16 games dating back to Dec. 14. Earlier this week, the Des Moines, Iowa, native earned his second recall of the campaign to the Buffalo Sabres and later scored his second goal in as many games with the big club. Smith has 41 points in 41 games this season for Rochester, tying him for 14th among the league's top point-getters.

RED HOT 'REDS'

- Redmond has scored a team and career-high 19 goals, including nine on the power-play, good enough for sixth in the league in that category. Redmond, who had an AHL-best nine-game point streak to end the month of October, enters the week tied for 14th in the league in goals (19) and leading all AHL defenseman with 39 points, while his eight game-winning goals are tops in the AHL. His 19 goals and 138 shots are also the most by an AHL blueliner this season.

OLOFSSON OFF AND RUNNING...AGAIN

- With 14 points (5+9) in his last 15 games, **Victor Olofsson** is one of four Rochester skaters with 30 or more points on the season. A year after pacing the SHL with 27 goals, Olofsson has been nearly a point-per-game player for Rochester, sharing the team lead with 23 assists and ranking third with 38 points through his first 43 games. Olofsson, who earned CCM/AHL Player of the Month honors for October, is also 10th in the league with 13 power play assists.

BUSY BETWEEN THE PIPES

- Scott Wedgewood** (15-7-2) has gotten the nod in 12 of the last 19 games for the Amerks, going 8-3-1 over that span while winning seven of his last nine dating back to a 31-save shutout at Cleveland the day after Christmas. After dropping his first two games of the season, the sixth-year netminder won a season-long five straight to close out the month of October, matching the career-best mark he set while backstopping the Albany Devils during the 2015-16 season. He enters the weekend tied for third among all AHL goaltenders in shutouts (3) while his 16 wins are tied for sixth.

SPECIAL TEAMS ROLLING

- Since the turn of the New Year, Rochester's shorthanded unit has successfully killed 36 of 38 penalties in the last 13 games, which also includes nine games without allowing the opposition to record a power-play goal.
- In addition to the team's recent success on the penalty kill, the Amerks have the league's sixth-best power-play percentage (21.3%) while going 20-for-65 over the last 16 games. Rochester also owns AHL's second-best road power-play percentage (26.9%).

AMERKS-T-BIRDS 2018-19 SEASON SERIES BREAKDOWN

ROCHESTER

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Kevin Porter	1	1	2	3	0	1
C.J. Smith	1	1	1	2	4	0
Brendan Guhle	1	0	2	2	0	-4

GOALTENDER

GOALTENDER	GP	REC	MIN	GA	SV%	GAA
Adam Wilcox	1	0-1-0	36:59	5	.783	8.11
Scott Wedgewood	1	0-0-0	23:01	4	.667	10.43

SPRINGFIELD

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Dryden Hunt	1	3	1	4	2	5
Jacob MacDonald	1	2	1	3	0	2
Paul Thompson	1	2	1	3	0	2

GOALTENDER

GOALTENDER	GP	REC	MIN	GA	SV%	GAA
Sam Montembeault	1	1-0-0	60:00	4	.892	4.00

2018-19 SEASON SERIES GAME-BY-GAME BREAKDOWN

Date	Result	Score	SF-SA	PP	PK
Nov. 16	L	9-4	37-35	2-5	5-7
Feb. 8					

AMERKS ALL-TIME RECORD VS. SPRINGFIELD: 5-2-0

SERIES NOTABLES

- Tonight's game is the just the eighth all-time meeting between the two teams. Rochester swept the season series last year by a combined score of 6-3 and has won four of the last five get-togethers.
- Amerks goaltender **Adam Wilcox** appeared in 13 games during the 2016-17 season with the Thunderbirds, going 7-4-1 after a midseason trade from Tampa Bay. Wilcox, who holds the longest winning streak in Springfield history, recorded three shutouts with the Thunderbirds, including a 2-0 blanking against the Amerks on March 12, 2016. During his four-game win streak, Wilcox stopped 117 of 120 shots he faced while boasting a 0.75 goals-against average.
- Springfield assistant coach **Doug Janik** has ties to Rochester having spent time in the Flower City as a player. Janik, a Springfield native, appeared in 376 career games in Rochester, the third-most among any blueliner in franchise history, and his 91 points (18+73) still rank 30th among all-time defensemen.