



# ROCHESTER AMERICANS

DAILY PRESS CLIPS

*Sunday, February 17, 2019*

*TODAY'S GAME: Binghamton vs. Rochester*

Amerks back in first on shootout goal by Leier

*Buffalo News*

By: *Staff Report*

Taylor Leier, who assisted on the game's first goal, scored the only goal in the shootout to give the Rochester Americans a 3-2 win over the Crunch Saturday night before 6,179 at the Onondaga War Memorial Arena in Syracuse.

The win put the Amerks back in front of the Crunch in first place with 65 points in the North Division standings of the American Hockey League. Syracuse is one point behind Rochester and the Utica Comets are three points back with 62 points.

Rochester led twice in the game, each time by a goal but couldn't hold the lead.

Remi Elie scored his second of the season for the Amerks with Leier and Kevin Porter getting the assists on the power play at 4:20 of the first period.

Mitchell Stephens tied it for the Crunch at 7:17 of the second but defenseman William Borgen's second of the season put the Amerks back in front at 9:39.

Syracuse tied it again when Ross Colton scored his ninth at 1:53 of the third.

Leier was the last of six Rochester shooters in the shootout, beating goalie Eddie Pasquale.

Rochester goalie Adam Wilcox stopped all six Syracuse shooters he faced in the tie-breaker round and had 29 saves. Pasquale had 37 saves for Syracuse.

It will be a quick turnaround for the Amerks, who will play their third game in three days against the Binghamton Devils at Blue Cross Arena at 3:05 p.m. on Sunday.

Andrew Oglevie set to return for Amerks, Alex Nylander remains sidelined

*Buffalo News*

By: *Bill Hoppe*

Rochester Americans winger Andrew Oglevie will return for Friday's home game against Syracuse, the rookie's first game since Nov. 30, according to coach Chris Taylor.

Oglevie, 23, has missed the last 29 contests after suffering two concussions over the first two months of his pro career.

Meanwhile, Taylor said defenseman Casey Nelson will play again Friday, his fourth appearance during an American Hockey League conditioning assignment.

Nelson, 26, hasn't played with the Sabres since suffering an upper-body injury Dec. 4.

In other injury news, winger Alexander Nylander, out since suffering a lower-body injury in practice Feb. 5, skated with his teammates as a spare Thursday but wasn't on the ice Friday morning, according to [letsgoamerks.com](http://letsgoamerks.com). Nylander, 20, has missed the last four games.

Taylor also said defenseman Zach Redmond, out since suffering a lower-body injury Jan. 23, will start skating with his teammates again this weekend. Redmond, 30, has missed the last eight games. The AHL MVP candidate scored 19 goals and 39 points in the first 41 outings.

In other injury news, center Kyle Criscuolo will miss his third straight game Friday. Taylor said Criscuolo, 26, has been skating on his own and should rejoin practice next week.

The Amerks play Saturday in Syracuse before closing out a three-in-three set Sunday afternoon at home against the Binghamton Devils.

Amerks end skid, reclaim North Division lead

*Pickin' Splinters*

By: *Staff Report/Amerks.com*

In the second game in as many days of the home-and-home series between the Rochester Americans (30-16-3-2) and the Syracuse Crunch (30-15-2-2), newcomer Taylor Leier netted the only goal in a six-round shootout to lift the Amerks past the Crunch, 3-2, Saturday at the War Memorial Arena. The win snaps Rochester's three-game slide and moves the Amerks back atop the AHL's North Division standings heading into Sunday's weekend finale against Binghamton.

With the victory, the Amerks have collected 19 out of a possible 28 points in their last 14 games and have reached the 30-win mark for the second straight season under head coach Chris Taylor. Taylor becomes the first Amerks head coach to lead his team to 30 or more wins in each of his first two seasons behind the bench since Hall of Famer Randy Cunneyworth, the all-time winningest coach in franchise history. Rochester has also notched 27 points in its last 21 games dating back to a 4-0 shutout win in Cleveland on Dec. 26.

While Leier scored his second shootout-clinching goal of the season for the Amerks, Remi Elie and Will Borgen both tallied their second goals of the slate. Former Syracuse netminder Adam Wilcox (9-6-3) stopped 29 shots in the game plus six more in the skills competition to improve to 4-0-1 this season versus his former club.

Forwards Mitchell Stephens and Ross Colton both scored for the Crunch, who have a 1-2-0-1 record in their last four games following an eight-game winning streak, while netminder Eddie Pasquale made 37 saves but suffered the shootout loss.

With the game tied at 2-2 following regulation, the two clubs needed extra time to decide the outcome for the fourth time in the last six games, and it would be fifth time in the head-to-head series the final score would be a one-goal game.

Neither team could capitalize on a pair of prime scoring chances in the overtime period, including breakaway opportunities for each side, thus shootout was required. Syracuse elected to shoot first in each round and was denied on all six chances by Wilcox, while Pasquale nearly matched him as he stopped the first five Rochester shooters before Leier converted on his attempt to secure the Amerks the extra point.

The Amerks have now earned a point in six of the seven games this season with the Crunch and show a 4-1-1-1 record in the 12-game series.

Less than five minutes into the contest, the Amerks drew the game's first penalty and quickly capitalized on the man-advantage as Elie jammed in his second goal of the season. On the ensuing face-off inside the Crunch zone after a boarding infraction, Kevin Porter fired a shot from along the left half-wall. Leier spotted the rebound and pushed it towards the top of the crease and Elie shoveled it overtop the netminder to give the Amerks a 1-0 lead 4:20 into the first period.

With the power-play marker, the Amerks, who own the AHL's second-best road power-play percentage (26.2%), have scored a goal on the man-advantage in 13 of the last 15 games against the Crunch while going 17-for-71 during that span.

The Amerks took a 1-0 lead into the intermission break, and just 2:22 after seeing the Crunch even the score at 1-1 midway through the second stanza, Rochester reclaimed its one-goal lead. Sneaking into the center of the Crunch zone, Borgen fired a shot inside the right post for his second goal of the season at the 9:39 mark of the middle period.

The marker ended a 32-game scoreless drought for the first-year defenseman as Yannick Veilleux and Dalton Smith were given the assists on the goal.

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Your Big Ditch Brewing Amerks Six Pack from Friday night  
*Pickin' Splinters*  
By: *Kevin Oklobzija*

For the first time in 43 days, the Rochester Americans are no longer officially in first place in the American Hockey League's North Division.

The Amerks lost 1-0 on home ice to the Syracuse Crunch on Friday and now sit percentage points behind their Thruway rivals, with a rematch at the Onondaga County War Memorial on Saturday night.

The Amerks (29-16-3-2) and Crunch (30-15-2-1) both have 63 points, but Syracuse has played one fewer games and thus has a better points-earned percentage (.656 to .630).

Of great importance should teams finished tied in points at the end of the regular season: The Crunch own the ROW tiebreaker (regulation and overtime wins), 27-25.

Here's your Big Ditch Brewing Amerks Six Pack from Friday:

### 1. The lone goal

It came fairly early, at 13:34 of the first period, when the Amerks forwards lost coverage and Andy Andreyoff ended up two-on-one with Alexander Volkov and scored on a shot from the left circle.

The Crunch also hit the cross bar twice (Carter Verhaeghe at 4:41, Ross Colton's seconds later off the ensuing faceoff).

The Amerks only chance came 95 seconds into the period but Eric Cornel clanked his shot off the post with a mostly open net.

Afterward the Amerks lamented their slow start, something they've said far too often after home games this season.

### 2. Missed opportunities

The Amerks had a vast territorial edge over the final two periods and had plenty of scoring chances.

They ended up shut out for the second time this season because either Crunch goalie Connor Ingram made clutch saves or shots missed the net.

Danny O'Regan, Matt Tennyson, Scott Wilson and Will Borgen all were in prime scoring position but missed the net.

"When we have those opportunities, we have to hit the net," coach Chris Taylor said.

### 3. Apparently he likes this place

The Amerks hadn't been shut out at home since ... Ingram turned the trick on April 11, 2018.

He made 38 saves that night. On Friday he stopped 32 shots.

His best save came 4:26 into the second period, when Victor Olofsson unleashed a one-timer from the right circle that Ingram snared with the glove.

#### 4. Old-time hockey

There was plenty of hitting, which can't always be said. But Amerks forwards Dalton Smith and Yannick Veilleux were intent on setting a tone.

"I thought they played havoc on their 'D,'" Taylor said.

Amerks defenseman Andrew MacWilliam was also front-and-center when it came to physicality.

"He's one of those guys I love putting out there," Taylor said.

Said MacWilliam: "It's no secret over the last couple years it's been a big rivalry."

His heavy, high check in open ice on Volkov eight seconds into the second period prompted Andreyoff, a guy who took on NHL heavyweights as a member of the Los Angeles Kings the past few seasons, to instigate a fight.

Late in the game, Gabriel Dumont, who is no stranger to on-the-edge play and intensity, chased the puck toward the corner with MacWilliam.

MacWilliam tumbled to the ice and went into the boards skates-first. He was shaken up — and angry — but did return.

"Initially I didn't like it," he said, "but it's a hockey play. Things like that happen."

Taylor said he didn't have an issue with any of the hits in the game.

#### 5. Critical rematch?

If the Crunch win again on Saturday in regulation, the Amerks will find themselves two points out of first, with Syracuse still having played one fewer game.

"It's definitely a big game but I don't know if it's must win," captain Kevin Porter said.

#### 6. The 'Reds' zone

This was the type of game where the Amerks definitely missed Zach Redmond, who had scored a club-record 18 goals when he suffered a lower body injury on Jan. 23.

He has piled up the 18 goals because his shot is hard and accurate.

Taylor said Redmond may very well be ready to play next week, but not Saturday or in Sunday's 3 p.m. home game against Binghamton.

Redmond already has missed nine games.

Amerks top the Syracuse in a shootout  
*C&C Worldwide*  
By: *Staff Report/Amerks.com*

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*C&C Worldwide*  
By: *Staff Report/Amerks.com*

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With the regulation defeat, the Amerks have collected 17 out of a possible 26 points in their last 13 games and now share the top spot in the AHL's North Division standings heading into tomorrow night's rematch with the Crunch. Rochester has also notched 25 points in its last 20 games dating back to a 4-0 shutout win in Cleveland on Dec. 26.

Of Rochester's 18 skaters, 16 recorded at least one shot on net, including a team-high five shots from defenseman Brendan Guhle, while goaltender Scott Wedgewood (17-9-2) was tagged with the loss as he made 31 saves. Dating back to the day after Christmas, Wedgewood shows a 9-5-1 record during that span and has won 8 of his last 12 games.

Syracuse improved to 9-2-0-0 in its last 11 games as winger Andy Andreoff tallied his 18th goal of the season during the opening period and netminder Connor Ingram recorded his league-leading sixth shutout victory of the season while stopping 32 shots.

In a playoff-type atmosphere full of physicality and little scoring chances, Syracuse, which outshot Rochester 12-5 during the opening frame, scored the only goal of the period and eventually the game at the 13:34 mark.

Midway through the first frame, former Amerk Cory Conacher tapped a breakout pass to Alexander Volkov, who evaded a hit in the neutral zone before he and Andreoff skated in on a 2-on-1 rush entering the offensive zone. Volkov left the puck in the high-slot for Andreoff and the winger used a Rochester defender as a screen to fire the puck over the glove of Wedgewood with 6:26 left in the frame.

The second stanza started with a heavy hit by Andrew MacWilliam just 8 seconds into the frame, but the Amerks pressed for the game-tying goal as they drew 3 power-plays during the period. Rochester, however, was unable to solve Ingram despite firing 17 shots.

"After a slow start, I thought we had a good second and third periods," said Amerks team captain Kevin Porter, who appeared in his 200th game as an Amerk. "We need to have a better start, especially at home. It's not acceptable."

"We need to get more shots and guys in front of their goaltender," added Porter.

As the two clubs entered the final period of regulation and the Crunch clinging to a one-goal lead, they traded chances as they finished with a combined 21 shots. During the final two minutes of the contest, Rochester pulled Wedgewood for the extra attacker, but much like the previous 58 minutes, Ingram stonewalled the Amerks as he held on for the 1-0 victory.

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Amerks end skid and reclaim North division lead

*Rochester First*

By: *Dan Fetes/Amerks.com*

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Amerks snap skid, move back into first place with 3-2 shootout win  
*13WHAM*

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Amerks lose third straight, 1-0 to Crunch

*13WHAM*

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Syracuse Crunch suffer shootout loss to rival Rochester Amerks Saturday night

*CNY Central*

By: *Matt Hauswirth*

The Syracuse Crunch battled until the very end Saturday night, eventually falling in a shootout to the Rochester Amerks, 3-2.

The Crunch fell behind after the first period, but then tied the game on a Mitchel Stephens goal in the second period.

After falling behind to begin the third, Syracuse stormed back to tie it up at 2-2, forcing overtime in the process.

Neither team was able to score in the OT session, which resulted in a Taylor Leier goal to give the Amerks the win.

The Crunch fall to a point behind the Amerks for first place in the AHL North Division.

Syracuse Crunch end 5-game road trip with victory over I-90 rival Rochester Amerks

*CNY Central*

By: *Matt Hauswirth*

The Syracuse Crunch came back from back-to-back losses to finish a five-game road trip with a win in Rochester, 1-0.

Syracuse's Andy Andreoff capitalized on the first period goal due to assists from Alexander Volkov and Cory Conacher.

After that, Connor Ingram took over with his league-leading sixth shutout win, recording 32 saves on the night.

The win marks the 30th of the season for the Crunch, who return home to the War Memorial to host Rochester on Saturday night at 7 p.m.

Syracuse Crunch loses shootout decision to Rochester

*Syracuse.com*

By: *Staff Report/SyracuseCrunch.com*

After coming back to tie the game twice, the Syracuse Crunch eventually fell to the Rochester Americans, 3-2, in a six-round shootout tonight at the War Memorial Arena.

Mitchell Stephens got the Crunch on the board in the second period before Ross Colton forced overtime with an early third period goal. The loss moves the team to 30-15-2-2 on the season and 3-2-1-1 in the 12-game series against the Amerks.

Netminder Eddie Pasquale stopped 37-of-39 shots and 5-of-6 shootout attempts between the pipes for the Crunch, while Adam Wilcox recorded the win with 29 saves and all six stops in the shootout. Syracuse was unable to capitalize on three power play opportunities, but went 2-for-3 on the penalty kill.

The Amerks opened scoring on the power play 4:20 into the first period. Pasquale stopped the first two shots from Kevin Porter and Taylor Leier, but Remi Elie finally poked a rebound past him in the crease.

Syracuse evened the score 7:17 into the second period with a goal from Stephens. Gabriel Dumont wrapped around the cage and backhanded a centering feed for Stephens to chip in from the post. Carter Verhaeghe recorded a point on the equalizer.

Rochester regained the lead just two minutes later when William Borgen fired a wrister from the slot with the help of Yannick Veilleux and Dalton Smith.

The Crunch knotted the game for the second time just 1:53 into the third period to require an extra frame. Cal Foote fed the puck to Colton, who sped down the right wing and picked the near corner from the faceoff dot. Brady Brassart earned the secondary assist.

After a scoreless overtime period, the game went to shootout where Leier scored the only goal in the sixth round.

The Crunch travels to face the Toronto Marlies at 3 p.m. Monday.

Connor Ingram posts another shutout for Syracuse Crunch

*Syracuse.com*

By: *Staff Report/SyracuseCrunch.com*

Goaltender Connor Ingram earned his league-leading sixth shutout of the season as the Syracuse Crunch blanked the Rochester Americans, 1-0, Friday at Blue Cross Arena.

Andy Andreoff recorded the game's lone goal to snap a two-game skid and move the Crunch to 30-15-2-1 on the season. Syracuse is now 3-2-1-0 in the 12-game series with Rochester.

Ingram made all 32 saves to record the win in net for the Crunch, while Scott Wedgewood turned aside 31-of-32 between the pipes for the Amerks. Syracuse went 0-for-2 on the power play, but a perfect 3-for-3 on the penalty kill.

The Crunch opened scoring for the first time in the season series 13:34 into the game. Alex Volkov gained control in the neutral zone and skated the puck across the blueline before dropping a pass back for Andreoff to finish off from the left circle. Cory Conacher tallied the secondary helper.

The Crunch return home to rematch the Amerks for the second half of the weekend's home-and-home series at 7 p.m. Saturday.

Connor Ingram posts another shutout for Syracuse Crunch

*Local SYR*

By: *Staff Report/SyracuseCrunch.com*

Goaltender Connor Ingram earned his league-leading sixth shutout of the season as the Syracuse Crunch blanked the Rochester Americans, 1-0, tonight at Blue Cross Arena.

Andy Andreoff recorded the game's lone goal to snap a two-game skid and move the Crunch to 30-15-2-1 on the season. Syracuse is now 3-2-1-0 in the 12-game series with Rochester.

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The Crunch return home to rematch the Amerks for the second half of the weekend's home-and-home series tomorrow at 7 p.m.