



Bridgeport Sound Tigers vs. Rochester Americans

Friday, March 8, 2019 @ The Blue Cross Arena | AHL Regular Season Game No. 905

TONIGHT'S GAME OVERVIEW

- The Rochester Americans (35-18-3-2) play their first of three straight games on the docket this weekend when they host the Bridgeport Sound Tigers (35-18-5-2) in a battle between two of the AHL's top four teams tonight at The Blue Cross Arena. The 7:05 p.m. matchup will be the fourth and final meeting between the two clubs this season and will be carried live on The Sports Leader AM 950/95.7 FM ESPN Rochester as well as AHLTV.

LAST TIME OUT

- After allowing a season-high three power-play goals during Sunday's contest against the Syracuse Crunch, the Amerks were unable to complete the home-and-home sweep over their North Division rival as they came out on the short end of a 4-1 decision.
- Despite the defeat, the Amerks have collected 29 out of a possible 42 points in their last 21 games and have notched 37 points in their last 28 dating back the day after Christmas.
- For the second time as in many games, **Alexander Nylander** got on the scoreboard as he notched his 10th goal of the campaign for the Amerks, who have earned at least one point in seven of the first nine meetings this season against Syracuse. Starting in the Rochester crease for the second straight night and sixth time in the last seven games, goaltender **Scott Wedgewood** (22-10-2) took the loss while stopping 23 of the 26 shots he faced. Over his last 18 games, the sixth-year goaltender shows a 13-4-1 record dating back Dec. 26.

ROAD AHEAD FOR AMERKS

- Rochester's weekend continues on Saturday, Mar. 9 with the first of back-to-back meetings against the intrastate rival Binghamton Devils at the Floyd L. Maines Veterans Memorial Arena. Following the 7:05 p.m. matchup, the same two teams are slated to meet again in Rochester as the home-and-home series shifts to The Blue Cross Arena for a 3:05 p.m. matinee. Both games will be carried live on The Sports Leader AM 950/95.7 FM ESPN Rochester as well as AHLTV.

RACE TO 20

- After failing to produce a 20-goal scorer last season for just the second time in franchise history, the Amerks could potentially have five or more by the season's end. **Zach Redmond** continued his record-setting season by becoming the first defenseman in team history to score 20 goals on Feb. 20 before **Victor Olofsson** eclipsed the mark for the second straight season two nights later. **C.J. Smith** also completed the feat this past Saturday in Syracuse. **Wayne Simpson** has scored a career-high 19 goals, **Danny O'Regan** has 18 coming into the weekend and **Taylor Leier** is approaching his first 20-goal season since the 2015-16 campaign. The last time Rochester had five different 20-goal scorers in the same season was in 2000-01.

2018-19 REGULAR SEASON



TOTAL GOALS
195-190



35-18-5-2 (77 points)

35-18-3-2 (75 points)

AMERKS OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Victor Olofsson	55	21	27	48	12	2
Zach Redmond	47	21	26	47	30	8
C.J. Smith	45	20	26	46	18	17

GOALTENDER	GP	REC	MIN	SVS	SV%	GAA
Scott Wedgewood	36	22-10-2	2,046	934	.911	2.67
Adam Wilcox	21	9-7-3	1,182	491	.896	2.89
Jonas Johansson	5	4-1-0	265:52	126	.926	2.26

NEXT THREE GAMES

Date	Opponent	Time
Mar. 9	@ Binghamton	7:05 p.m.
Mar. 10	vs. Binghamton	3:05 p.m.
Mar. 13	vs. Utica	7:05 p.m.

LAST THREE GAMES

Date	Opponent	Result	SF-SA	PP	PK
Mar. 3	Syracuse	L 4-1	37-27	0-5	5-8
Mar. 2	Syracuse	W 5-3	42-26	0-4	5-7
Feb. 27	Utica	W 3-1	32-31	1-3	3-4

YEARLY RECORD	GF	GA	POINTS	
HOME	17-12-0-1	97	88	35
AWAY	18-6-3-1	93	79	40
TOTALS	35-18-3-2	190	167	75

SOUND TIGERS OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Chris Bourque	58	13	33	46	38	5
Otto Koivula	55	17	23	40	26	16
Sebastian Aho	51	6	32	38	26	4

GOALTENDER	GP	REC	MIN	SVS	SV%	GAA
Jeremy Smith	33	17-9-3	1,829	794	.901	2.85
Christopher Gibson*	33	18-9-4	1,804	786	.900	2.89

*Currently on NHL recall with New York



OLOFSSON LEADING THE WAY

• Coming off his seventh game-winning goal to close out the month of February, which is tied for second-most in the league behind only teammate **Zach Redmond**, forward **Victor Olofsson** leads the club with 48 points (21+27) in 55 games this season and is one of just three Rochester skaters to surpass the 40-point mark. A year after pacing the SHL with 27 goals, Olofsson also leads the team with 27 assists and shares the team lead with 21 goals. Olofsson, who earned CCM/AHL Player of the Month honors for October, is also tied for 14th in the AHL in power-play assists (15) while ranking inside the league's top 20 top point-getters.

RED HOT 'REDS'

• With 17 points (5+12) over his last 10 games, which includes six multi-point efforts during that span, Redmond has scored a team and career-high 21 goals through 47 games, including 10 on the power-play, good enough for 10th in the league in that category. Redmond, who is currently averaging a point-per-game and had an AHL-best nine-game point streak to end the month of October, continues to lead all AHL defensemen with 47 points while his 21 goals and 167 shots are also the most by an AHL blueliner this season. In addition, his nine game-winning goals are tops in the AHL.

A WEDGE-WALL BETWEEN THE PIPES

• **Scott Wedgewood**, who won five straight prior to Sunday afternoon and 13 of his last 18 games, collected his 22nd win of the season last Saturday night as he made 23 saves. With his 22nd victory, Wedgewood established a new pro career-high in wins as he boasts a 22-10-2 record in 36 games for Rochester this season. The sixth-year netminder, who previously won a season-long five straight to close out the month of October, has allowed one goal-against in five of his last 10 starts, stopping 258 of 278 shots he faced. Over that span, he's posted a 5-3-1 record with a 1.99 goals-against average and a .928 save percentage. He comes into week tied for third among all AHL goaltenders in shutouts (3) while his career-high 22 wins are five off the league lead coming into this weekend's slate of games.

SMITH PILING UP THE POINTS

• Coming off his ninth multi-point effort of the season this past Saturday in Syracuse, which included his 20th goal of the season, **C.J. Smith** has been piling up the points on an absolute torrid pace. The second-year pro has amassed a whopping 29 points (14+15) over his last 24 games dating back to Dec. 5, having been held scoreless just five times over that span. He also posted a season-long nine-game point streak in that time. The Des Moines, Iowa, native is just one of three Amerks skaters to reach the 40-point plateau this season as he established career-highs in both goals (20) and points (45) in 12 fewer games (45) from his rookie campaign a year ago.

PUTTING THE WORK IN

• Tonight's game begins a stretch of six games in the next nine days.

AMERKS-SOUND TIGERS 2018-19 SEASON SERIES BREAKDOWN

ROCHESTER

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Victor Olofsson	3	2	3	5	0	1
Zach Redmond	3	1	3	4	2	0
Alexander Nylander	3	1	2	3	4	0

GOALTENDER

GP	REC	MIN	GA	SV%	GAA	
Adam Wilcox	1	1-0-0	61:08	2	.882	1.96
Scott Wedgewood	2	2-0-0	123:46	7	.857	3.39

BRIDGEPORT

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Tanner Fritz	3	1	2	3	2	1
Travis St. Denis	3	2	0	2	4	1
Steve Bernier	2	1	1	2	0	2

GOALTENDER

GP	REC	MIN	GA	SV%	GAA	
Jeremy Smith	2	0-0-2	126:46	7	.885	3.31
Christopher Gibson	1	0-1-0	58:18	4	.857	4.12

2018-19 SEASON SERIES GAME-BY-GAME BREAKDOWN

Date	Result	Score	SF-SA	PP	PK
Oct. 13	W	4-3	28-23	2-8	5-5
Oct. 14	OTW	3-2	32-17	1-2	1-2
Jan. 2	SOW	5-4	30-26	0-4	3-4
Mar. 8					

AMERKS ALL-TIME RECORD VS. BRIDGEPORT: 7-8-0

SERIES NOTABLES

- Tonight's contest is just the 16th all-time meeting between the two clubs. With three wins earlier this season, the Amerks have improved to 5-1-1-0 in their last seven meetings against the Sound Tigers after going just 1-3-0-0 in the four meetings during the 2016-17 season.
- **Victor Olofsson** leads all skaters with five points in the season series. After scoring the game-winning goal and adding an assist in a 4-3 win at Bridgeport on Oct. 13, Olofsson repeated the performance the very next day, delivering the game-winner 1:46 into overtime to cap another two-point effort. In the last meeting, Olofsson scored the only goal in the three-round shootout.
- Bridgeport's lineup features Chris and Ryan Bourque, both sons of Stanley Cup champion and Hockey Hall of Famer Ray Bourque, as well as Rochester native Stephen Gionta.