



SYRACUSE CRUNCH  
**GAME NOTES**  
ROCHESTER AMERICANS



## Syracuse Crunch vs. Rochester Americans

Friday, April 5, 2019 @ The Blue Cross Arena | AHL Regular Season Game No. 1077

### TONIGHT'S GAME OVERVIEW

• The Rochester Americans (43-21-4-2) usher in the month of April tonight in the first half of a home-and-home series with the intrastate rival Syracuse Crunch (44-20-4-3) at The Blue Cross Arena. The 7:05 p.m. North Division matchup will be carried live on The Sports Leader AM 950/95.7 FM ESPN Rochester as well as AHLTV.

### LAST TIME OUT

• After falling behind 3-1 late in the first period of Saturday's mathup against the Binghamton Devils at Floyd L. Maines Veterans Memorial Arena, the Amerks countered with five of the last six goals, including four in the final 20 minutes of play, to come away with a 6-4 victory.

• With the win, the Amerks officially punched their ticket to the 2019 Calder Cup Playoffs and remain three points behind the Crunch for the AHL's North Division lead coming into this weekend's back-to-back set with Syracuse. Rochester, which earned its second trip to the postseason in as many seasons and sixth in the last 10 years, has collected 46 out of a possible 66 points in its last 33 games heading into the final two weeks of the 2018-19 regular season.

• **C.J. Smith** scored twice to grab a share of the team-lead with his 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> goals of the season while veteran defenseman **Nathan Paetsch** scored his first goal of the slate to go with an assist. **Eric Cornel** (1+1), **Kevin Porter** (0+2) and rookie **Casey Fitzgerald** (0+2), who made his professional debut, all contributed with a two-point effort. **Remi Elie** completed the scoring as he added his eighth of the season. Netminder **Scott Wedgewood** (27-12-2) made 16 saves on the night to earn his 27<sup>th</sup> win on the season against his former team.

### ROAD AHEAD FOR ROCHESTER

• Following tonight's matchup, the Amerks and Crunch will wrap up the weekend set on Saturday, April 6 as the series shifts to the War Memorial Arena for a 7:00 p.m. showdown in Syracuse. The North Division contest will be carried live on The Sports Leader AM 950/95.7 FM ESPN Rochester as well as AHLTV.

### SHARING THE WEALTH

• After failing to produce a 20-goal scorer last season for just the second time in franchise history, the Amerks could potentially have six or more by the season's end. Defenseman **Zach Redmond** along with forwards **Victor Olofsson**, **C.J. Smith**, **Taylor Leier** and **Danny O'Regan** all have reached the mark while **Wayne Simpson** remains on the brink having scored a career-high 19 goals this season. The last time Rochester had six different 20-goal scorers in the same season was during the 1996-97 campaign when the team had seven.

• Rochester and Syracuse are the only two teams in the league this season as they both have five different 20-goal scorers.

### 2018-19 REGULAR SEASON



**TOTAL GOALS**  
244-236



44-20-4-3 (95 points)

43-21-4-2 (92 points)

### AMERKS OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Victor Olofsson*	64	27	33	60	12	10
C.J. Smith	57	27	29	56	24	28
Zach Redmond	53	21	28	49	34	13

\*Currently on NHL recall with Buffalo

GOALTENDER	GP	REC	MIN	SVS	SV%	GAA
Scott Wedgewood	45	27-12-2	2,532	1,112	.909	2.63
Adam Wilcox	26	12-8-4	1,407	580	.898	2.82
Jonas Johansson	5	4-1-0	265:52	126	.926	2.26

### NEXT THREE GAMES

Date	Opponent	Time
Apr. 6	@ Syracuse	7:00 p.m.
Apr. 8	@ Cleveland	7:00 p.m.
Apr. 12	vs. Binghamton	7:05 p.m.

### LAST THREE GAMES

Date	Opponent	Result	SF-SA	PP	PK
Mar. 30	BNG	W 6-4	47-20	0-4	1-3
Mar. 29	LAV	W 4-2	35-19	1-3	2-3
Mar. 27	LV	OTL 4-3	43-31	1-3	0-0

YEARLY RECORD	GF	GA	POINTS
<b>HOME</b> 21-13-1-1	120	100	44
<b>AWAY</b> 22-8-3-1	116	99	48
<b>TOTALS</b> 43-21-4-2	236	199	92

### CRUNCH OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Carter Verhaeghe	71	30	45	75	34	22
Cory Conacher	66	22	39	61	87	12
Alex Barre-Boulet	69	32	28	60	16	11

\*Currently on NHL recall with Tampa Bay

GOALTENDER	GP	REC	MIN	SVS	SV%	GAA
Connor Ingram	22	14-7-0	1,303	577	.922	2.26
Eddie Pasquale*	43	25-12-6	2,530	1094	.916	2.37



//// SYRACUSE CRUNCH ////  
**GAME NOTES**  
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### OLOFSSON LEADING THE WAY

- Currently on recall with the parent Buffalo Sabres, **Victor Olofsson** continues to lead the Amerks in both assists (33) and points (60) while sharing the top spot in goals (27) along with **C.J. Smith** through 64 games this season. Olofsson, who earned CCM/AHL Player of the Month honors for October, is currently tied for 11<sup>th</sup> in the AHL in points while also sharing the 12<sup>th</sup> spot among the league's top goal-scorers. Additionally, he ranks among the league leaders with 15 power-play assists while his nine game-winning goals, three of which have come in his last 12 games, are also tied with teammate **Zach Redmond** for most in the AHL.

### A WEDGE-WALL BETWEEN THE PIPES

- **Scott Wedgewood**, who has won nine of his last 14 games, boasts a career-best 27-12-2 record in 45 appearances this season. In addition to his 27 wins, which are six off the league lead coming into the weekend, the sixth-netminder has posted a career-best five shutouts, which are second-most in the AHL. Wedgewood, who previously won a season-long five straight to close out the month of October, also ranks sixth among all goaltenders in saves (1,112) while his 2.63 goals-against average and .909 save percentage are 16<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> in the AHL, respectively. He's also on pace to become the first Amerks netminder to reach 30 wins in a season since former two-time MVP **David Leggio** posted 38 victories during the 2012-13 campaign.

### SMITH PILING UP THE POINTS

- **C.J. Smith** has been piling up the points on an absolute torrid pace. With his 10<sup>th</sup> multi-point game of the slate, the second-year pro has amassed a whopping 39 points (21+18) over his last 36 games dating back to Dec. 5, having been held scoreless just nine times over that span. He also posted a season-long nine-game point streak in that time. Smith is eyeing the 60-point plateau for the first time in his career and has already established career-highs in goals (27), assists (29) and points (56). He also holds the team lead with a plus-28 on-ice rating, which is tied for seventh-best in the league, in 57 games while playing at nearly a point-per-game pace for the better part of the last three months for Rochester.

### AMERKS ARE PLAYOFF BOUND; EYEING TO CLAIM THE NORTH

- The Amerks have officially punched their ticket into the 2019 Calder Cup Playoffs, marking the 46<sup>th</sup> time in the 63-year history of the franchise that the Amerks have advanced to the postseason. It's also the sixth time in 10 years Rochester has qualified for the playoffs, clinching on the road by way of a 6-4 win over the Binghamton Devils on March 30.
- Of the remaining five games for the Amerks after tonight, four are outside the Flower City while two will be played over the final weekend of the regular season with three games in three nights. All five contests will be against North Division opponents, including two more against Syracuse.

### AMERKS-CRUNCH 2018-19 SEASON SERIES BREAKDOWN

#### ROCHESTER

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Zach Redmond	5	3	4	7	4	2
C.J. Smith	6	2	5	7	4	7
Alexander Nylander	6	2	4	6	2	3

#### GOALTENDER

GP	REC	MIN	GA	SV%	GAA	
Scott Wedgewood	4	1-2-1	241:03	8	.931	1.99
Adam Wilcox	5	4-0-1	307:37	14	.910	2.73

#### SYRACUSE

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Carter Verhaeghe	9	3	7	10	2	2
Alexander Volkov	6	4	2	6	2	2
Mitchell Stephens	9	2	3	5	0	-1

#### GOALTENDER

GP	REC	MIN	GA	SV%	GAA	
Martin Ouellette	1	1-0-0	60:00	1	.973	1.00
Connor Ingram	4	3-1-0	240:22	8	.926	2.00
Eddie Pasquale	4	0-2-2	244:11	16	.885	3.93

### 2018-19 SEASON SERIES GAME-BY-GAME BREAKDOWN

Date	Result	Score	SF-SA	PP	PK
Oct. 10	W	6-3	33-33	3-4	7-8
Nov. 9	OTW	3-2	25-32	0-4	4-4
Dec. 8	W	4-3	33-28	1-3	3-4
Jan. 26	OTL	4-3	25-31	1-4	3-3
Feb. 6	SOL	2-1	18-33	0-1	5-5
Feb. 15	L	1-0	32-32	0-3	2-2
Feb. 16	SOW	3-2	40-31	0-3	3-4
Mar. 2	W	5-3	42-26	0-4	5-7
Mar. 3	L	4-1	37-27	0-5	5-8
Apr. 5					
Apr. 6					
Apr. 13					

### SERIES NOTABLES

- The Amerks have scored a power-play goal in 12 of the last 17 games against Syracuse, going 16-for-80 (20.0%) with the man-advantage over that span.
- While claiming the first three games of the season-series with the Crunch, the Amerks have earned at least one point in seven of the first nine games.
- 10 of Carter Verhaeghe's league-leading 75 points (30+45) have come in the nine games with the Amerks. He leads all scorers in the season-series as he has posted seven assists along with three goals.