



BELLEVILLE SENATORS

GAME NOTES

ROCHESTER AMERICANS



Belleville Senators vs. Rochester Americans

Wednesday, February 19, 2020 @ The Blue Cross Arena | AHL Regular Season Game No. 806

TONIGHT'S GAME OVERVIEW

- The Rochester Americans (29-17-2-4) continue their season-long six-game homestand tonight when they host the first-place Belleville Senators (33-15-4-1) at The Blue Cross Arena. The 7:05 p.m. contest will be the fourth of sixth scheduled meetings between the North Division rivals 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

- The Amerks jumped out to a 3-0 lead 1:48 into the second period and held off a second-half push from the Utica Comets for a 3-2 win Sunday afternoon at The Blue Cross Arena.
- Forwards **Remi Elie** and **Taylor Leier** notched their sixth and seventh goals of the campaign, respectively, while **Eric Cornel** established a new career-high with his 10th marker in the first period. **Ukko-Pekka Luukkonen** (3-3-1) made 27 saves in his second consecutive start while earning his third win of the season.
- With the win, Rochester has now collected at least one point in 18 of the last 24 games against Utica dating back to the start of the 2017-18 campaign, going 13-6-2-3 over that span. The win also kept the Amerks within seven points of North Division-leading Belleville ahead of tonight's contest with the Senators.

ROAD AHEAD FOR ROCHESTER

- Rochester's homestand continues into this weekend with games on back-to-back nights, beginning on Friday, Feb. 21 when they close out their season series against the Lehigh Valley Phantoms at The Blue Cross Arena.

TAYLOR CAN JOIN ELITE COMPANY THIS WEEK

- The Amerks need just one more win to reach the 30-win mark for the fourth consecutive season and third straight under head coach **Chris Taylor**. With the team's next win, Taylor will become the first Amerks head coach since **Randy Cunneynworth**, the all-time winningest coach in franchise history, to lead his team to 30 or more wins in each of his first three seasons behind the bench.

MITTELSTADT QUICKLY MAKING HIS MARK

- After producing just one point through his first five games with the Amerks following his midseason reassignment from the Sabres back in December, **Casey Mittelstadt** has quickly evolved into one of Rochester's most consistent point-getters. The second-year pro has piled up 18 points (7+11) in 26 games for Rochester, including 16 points (7+9) since the turn of the New Year. Mittelstadt has seven points (1+6) in his first eight games of February and has not gone more than two games without a point since opening the 2020 calendar year on a season-long four-game point streak (3+1).

2019-20 REGULAR SEASON



TOTAL GOALS
200-154



33-15-4-1 (71 points)

29-17-2-4 (64 points)

AMERKS OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	PIM
Jean-Sebastien Dea	47	14	19	33	5	28
Zach Redmond	49	5	24	29	-2	20
Sean Malone	48	10	16	26	14	18

GOALTENDER	GP	REC	MIN	SVS	SV%	GAA
Jonas Johansson	20	13-3-3	1,094	490	.925	2.19
Andrew Hammond	28	13-11-2	1,621	664	.905	2.59

NEXT THREE GAMES

Date	Opponent	Time
Feb. 21	vs. Lehigh Valley	7:05 p.m.
Feb. 22	vs. Cleveland	7:05 p.m.
Feb. 26	vs. Utica	7:05 p.m.

LAST THREE GAMES

Date	Opponent	Result	SF-SA	PP	PK
Feb. 16	UTI	W 3-2	25-29	0-4	2-2
Feb. 15	SYR	SOW 4-3	39-18	1-5	2-2
Feb. 12	CHA	L 5-2	44-32	1-3	2-2

YEARLY	RECORD	GF	GA	POINTS
HOME	14-5-1-4	78	61	33
AWAY	15-12-1-0	76	82	31
TOTALS	29-17-2-4	154	143	64

SENATORS OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	PIM
Josh Norris	50	28	27	55	11	14
Alex Formenton	51	23	23	46	18	56
Drake Batherson	37	14	32	46	17	24

GOALTENDER	GP	REC	MIN	SVS	SV%	GAA
Joey Daccord	20	13-4-2	1,160	556	.917	2.59
Filip Gustavsson	21	13-5-3	1,216	523	.885	3.36



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ROCHESTER AMERKS



TEAM AND LEAGUE LEADERS

- **Jean-Sebastien Dea**, who remains the only Amerk this season to reach the 30-point plateau, continues to pace the team in goals (14) and points (33) through 47 games. Coming into week, Dea, who is also second among all Amerks forwards with 92 shots on goal, has 12 points (4+8) in his last 17 games since the turn of the New Year, including goals in two of his last seven outings.

SHARING THE CREASE

- Anchored by the goaltending tandem of veteran **Andrew Hammond** and third-year pro **Jonas Johansson**, who is currently on recall with the parent Buffalo Sabres, the Amerks own one of the top defenses in AHL having allowed only 143 goals through the 52 games of the season, the seventh-fewest in the AHL coming into the week. The duo has also combined for six shutouts and rank among the AHL's leaders as they both have 13 wins on the season.

- Hammond, who is 13-11-2 on the season, is tied for third among all netminders in shutouts after notching his fourth of the year back on Dec. 14 in a 5-0 win over Laval, a new career-high. With four shutouts through 28 games this season, he remains on pace to tie the franchise record for most shutouts in a season (8) set by **Ryan Miller** during the 2004-05 campaign.

- Johansson, who made his NHL debut with the Sabres on Feb. 4 against Colorado and made his first career start two nights later against Detroit, owns a career-best 13-3-3 record with two shutouts this season. Despite being on recall, he has the sixth-best goal-against average in the league (2.19) and ranks fourth among all netminders with a .925 save percentage in 20 games. Dating back to Nov. 13, the 2020 AHL All-Star boasts an impressive 11-1-1 record with two shutouts, a 2.11 goals-against average and a .930 save percentage while allowing just two goals or less in eight starts over that span.

THE BEST OFFENSE IS A GOOD DEFENSE

- Rochester owns three of the AHL's top point-producing defensemen in **Zach Redmond**, **Casey Nelson** and **Lawrence Pilut**, all of whom have been mainstays on Rochester's blueline this season.

- The 2019-20 season is just a different chapter in the same story for the 31-year-old Redmond, who hasn't gone more than five games without a point all season. The two-time AHL All-Star and reigning Eddie Shore Award winner is presently 14th in scoring amongst all defensemen with 29 points and is tied for 12th with a team-high 24 assists, 10 of which have come on the power-play.

- Back from his fourth recall of the season, Pilut has 17 points (5+12) over his last 24 AHL games dating back to Nov. 15, including goals in four of his last 10 outings. Having already established a new AHL career-high in goals (6), the former SHL Defenseman of the Year is also on pace to set a new mark in points.

- Nelson is tied for ninth among all blueliners with a team-best plus-19 on-ice rating through 44 games this season.

AMERKS-SENATORS 2019-20 SEASON SERIES BREAKDOWN

ROCHESTER

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Jean-Sebastien Dea	3	1	2	3	6	0
Sean Malone	3	1	2	3	2	1
Lawrence Pilut	3	1	2	3	4	1

GOALTENDER

GP	REC	MIN	GA	SV%	GAA	
Andrew Hammond	1	0-0-0	21:34	1	.857	2.78
Jonas Johansson	3	2-1-0	156:04	9	.878	3.46

BELLEVILLE

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Alex Formenton	3	4	0	4	0	3
Josh Norris	3	1	2	3	0	0
Erik Brannstrom	2	0	3	3	4	1

GOALTENDER

GP	REC	MIN	GA	SV%	GAA	
Filip Gustavsson	2	1-1-0	119:25	5	.925	2.51
Joey Daccord	1	0-0-1	60:37	4	.895	3.96

2019-20 SEASON SERIES GAME-BY-GAME BREAKDOWN

Date	Result	Score	SF-SA	PP	PK
Dec. 27	W	4-3	31-36	2-5	3-4
Jan. 3	OTW	4-3	38-22	0-5	3-3
Jan. 10	L	5-1	36-24	1-5	5-5
Feb. 19					
Mar. 6					
Mar. 7					

SERIES NOTABLES

- Rookie defenseman **Jacob Bryson** is tied for 11th among all first-year defensemen with a plus-6 rating. Bryson is also eighth among all rookies with 18 assists in 51 games.
- The Amerks have claimed at least one point in 10 of the first 15 meetings with the Senators dating back to the 2017-18 season. Rochester holds a record of 6-0-2-0 in the all-time road portion of the head-to-head series.
- Belleville returns to Rochester fueled by first-year forward Josh Norris, who currently leads all rookies and ranks fourth overall in the AHL in scoring with 55 points in (28+27) in 50 games. Norris is also tied for second in the league with a team-high 28 goals.
- The Senators lineup features two former Amerk defensemen in Jack Dougherty and Stuart Percy.