



SYRACUSE CRUNCH

# GAME NOTES

ROCHESTER AMERICANS



## Syracuse Crunch vs. Rochester Americans

Friday, February 7, 2020 @ The Blue Cross Arena | AHL Regular Season Game No. 728

### TONIGHT'S GAME OVERVIEW

- The Rochester Americans (27-13-2-4) look to push their win streak to a season-long seven straight games tonight as they return home to The Blue Cross Arena for a North Division showdown against the Syracuse Crunch (21-21-3-3). The 7:05 p.m. matchup will be the second between the two clubs in a week 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 continued their winning ways Wednesday at Rocket Mortgage FieldHouse, where Rochester doubled up the Cleveland Monsters in goals and nearly did the same in shots to extend its win streak to a season-long six straight games. The 4-2 victory was also Amerks' fourth straight on the road dating back to their 3-2 overtime win at Cleveland on Jan. 22.

- Eric Cornel** had his hand in three of the four goals for the Amerks, scoring once and adding two assists, including one on the game-winner. The fourth-year forward has now tied his career-high in goals from each of the last two seasons, while hitting the mark this season in 31 fewer games. **Pascal Aquin** (2+0) logged his first multi-goal game of the season for Rochester, including the game-winner. Veteran defenseman **Nathan Paetsch** scored his first goal of the season for his 100<sup>th</sup> career point as an Amerk and **Sean Malone** picked up his second straight multi-point effort with a pair of assists. **Andrew Hammond** (13-9-2) won his third straight contest, making 23 saves on the 25 shots he faced in net.

### ROAD AHEAD FOR ROCHESTER

- The Amerks conclude the weekend north of the border on Saturday, Feb. 8 with a 4:00 p.m. matchup against the Toronto Marlies at Coca-Cola Coliseum. The contest will be carried live on The Sports Leader AM 950/95.7 FM ESPN Rochester as well as AHLTV.

### A FULL FEBRUARY

- The month of February is by far the busiest for the Amerks, who in all, will play a total of 14 games. The highlight of the month is a season-long six-game homestand over a 13-day span that follows a four-game road swing. Of Rochester's 14 games this month, 11 will be played against North Division opponents with the only exceptions being a two-game road set in Charlotte against the defending Calder Cup champion Checkers and one final meeting against Lehigh Valley.

### AMERKS STREAKING INTO FEBRUARY

- Beginning with their 3-2 overtime win against Cleveland back on Jan. 22, the Amerks are currently riding a season-long six-game win streak, their longest since winning six straight from Jan. 17 to Feb. 1, 2014. In each of the six contests, the Amerks have held the opponent to two goals while outscoring them by a combined score of 22-12.

### 2019-20 REGULAR SEASON



TOTAL GOALS  
159-141



21-21-3-3 (48 points)

27-13-2-4 (60 points)

### AMERKS OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

| SKATER             | GP | G  | A  | PTS | +/- | PIM |
|--------------------|----|----|----|-----|-----|-----|
| Jean-Sebastien Dea | 41 | 13 | 17 | 30  | 10  | 28  |
| Zach Redmond       | 43 | 5  | 22 | 27  | 2   | 20  |
| Andrew Oglevie     | 39 | 13 | 11 | 24  | 7   | 14  |

  

| GOALTENDER      | GP | REC    | MIN   | SVS | SV%  | GAA  |
|-----------------|----|--------|-------|-----|------|------|
| Jonas Johansson | 20 | 13-3-3 | 1,094 | 490 | .925 | 2.19 |
| Andrew Hammond  | 26 | 13-9-2 | 1,504 | 611 | .904 | 2.59 |

### NEXT THREE GAMES

| Date    | Opponent    | Time      |
|---------|-------------|-----------|
| Feb. 8  | @ Toronto   | 4:00 p.m. |
| Feb. 11 | @ Charlotte | 7:00 p.m. |
| Feb. 12 | @ Charlotte | 7:00 p.m. |

### LAST THREE GAMES

| Date    | Opponent | Result | SF-SA | PP  | PK  |
|---------|----------|--------|-------|-----|-----|
| Feb. 5  | CLE      | W 4-2  | 48-25 | 0-4 | 1-1 |
| Feb. 1  | BNG      | W 3-2  | 27-32 | 1-5 | 2-2 |
| Jan. 31 | SYR      | W 4-2  | 27-33 | 1-5 | 4-5 |

| YEARLY | RECORD    | GF  | GA  | POINTS |
|--------|-----------|-----|-----|--------|
| HOME   | 13-4-1-4  | 73  | 54  | 31     |
| AWAY   | 14-9-1-0  | 68  | 66  | 29     |
| TOTALS | 27-13-2-4 | 141 | 120 | 60     |

### CRUNCH OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

| SKATER            | GP | G  | A  | PTS | +/- | PIM |
|-------------------|----|----|----|-----|-----|-----|
| Alex Barre-Boulet | 46 | 18 | 23 | 41  | -7  | 14  |
| Cory Conacher     | 43 | 14 | 23 | 37  | 0   | 39  |
| Gemel Smith       | 40 | 17 | 15 | 32  | -3  | 34  |

  

| GOALTENDER      | GP | REC    | MIN    | SVS | SV%  | GAA  |
|-----------------|----|--------|--------|-----|------|------|
| Scott Wedgewood | 19 | 9-6-1  | 998:08 | 410 | .889 | 3.07 |
| Spencer Martin  | 26 | 7-11-3 | 1,317  | 567 | .886 | 3.33 |



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## TEAM AND LEAGUE LEADERS

- Back in Rochester following his second recall of the season with the Buffalo Sabres earlier this week, **Jean-Sebastien Dea** is the only Amerk to reach the 30-point plateau in 41 games and is tied with **Andrew Oglevie** for the team lead in goals (13). Coming into weekend, Dea, who is also second among all Amerks forwards with 84 shots on goal, has 12 points (3+9) in his last 16 games dating back to Dec. 20.

## SHARING THE CREASE

- Anchored by the goaltending tandem of veteran **Andrew Hammond** and third-year pro **Jonas Johansson**, who's currently on recall with the parent Buffalo Sabres, the Amerks own one of the top defenses in AHL having allowed only 120 goals through the first 46 games of the season, the third-fewest in the AHL coming into this week. The duo has also combined for six shutouts and rank among the AHL's goaltending leaders as they both have 13 wins on the season.

- Hammond, who is 13-9-2 on the season, continues to rank second among all netminders after notching his fourth shutout of the year back on Dec. 14 in a 5-0 win over Laval, a new career-high. With four shutouts through 26 games this season, he's 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 last night against Detroit, owns a career-best 13-3-3 record with two shutouts this season. Despite being on recall, he has the third-best goal-against average in the league (2.19) and ranks third among all netminders with a .925 save percentage in 20 games. Dating back to Nov. 13, the 2020 AHL All-Star selection 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 13<sup>th</sup> in scoring amongst all defensemen with 27 points and ranks 11<sup>th</sup> with a team-high 22 assists, nine of which have come on the power-play.

- Pilut, who has also rejoined the Sabres following the annual All-Star break, has 17 points (5+12) over his last 22 AHL games dating back to Nov. 15, including goals in four of his last eight 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 sixth among all blueliners with a team-best plus-20 on-ice rating through 42 games this season.

## AMERKS-CRUCH 2019-20 SEASON SERIES BREAKDOWN

### ROCHESTER

| SKATER             | GP | G | A | PTS | PIM | +/- |
|--------------------|----|---|---|-----|-----|-----|
| Jean-Sebastien Dea | 5  | 5 | 2 | 7   | 2   | 3   |
| Scott Wilson       | 5  | 2 | 4 | 6   | 0   | 4   |
| C.J. Smith         | 5  | 1 | 5 | 6   | 2   | 1   |

| GOALTENDER           | GP | REC   | MIN    | GA | SV%  | GAA  |
|----------------------|----|-------|--------|----|------|------|
| Ukko-Pekka Luukkonen | 1  | 1-0-0 | 60:00  | 2  | .939 | 2.00 |
| Jonas Johansson      | 2  | 2-0-0 | 75:37  | 3  | .912 | 2.38 |
| Andrew Hammond       | 4  | 2-1-0 | 229:45 | 15 | .875 | 3.92 |

### SYRACUSE

| SKATER         | GP | G | A | PTS | PIM | +/- |
|----------------|----|---|---|-----|-----|-----|
| Taylor Raddysh | 6  | 2 | 3 | 5   | 4   | 0   |
| Ross Colton    | 6  | 1 | 4 | 5   | 4   | 1   |
| Cory Conacher  | 6  | 2 | 2 | 4   | 6   | -3  |

| GOALTENDER      | GP | REC   | MIN    | GA | SV%  | GAA  |
|-----------------|----|-------|--------|----|------|------|
| Spencer Martin  | 2  | 1-1-0 | 116:25 | 7  | .889 | 3.61 |
| Scott Wedgewood | 3  | 0-2-1 | 177:50 | 15 | .830 | 5.06 |

## 2019-20 SEASON SERIES GAME-BY-GAME BREAKDOWN

| Date    | Result | Score | SF-SA | PP  | PK  |
|---------|--------|-------|-------|-----|-----|
| Oct. 4  | OTW    | 3-2   | 33-29 | 0-5 | 3-5 |
| Oct. 26 | OTW    | 7-6   | 28-24 | 2-5 | 1-3 |
| Nov. 13 | W      | 4-3   | 33-31 | 1-2 | 3-3 |
| Jan. 11 | L      | 5-4   | 24-33 | 0-4 | 4-4 |
| Jan. 25 | W      | 3-2   | 39-37 | 0-2 | 3-4 |
| Jan. 31 | W      | 4-2   | 27-33 | 1-5 | 4-5 |

Feb. 7

Feb. 15

Feb. 29

Mar. 13

Apr. 3

## SERIES NOTABLES

- Rookie **Jacob Bryson** is tied for 10<sup>th</sup> among all first-year players with a plus-10 on-ice rating while being tied for 16<sup>th</sup> with 15 assists in 45 games.
- The Amerks have scored a power-play goal in 14 of the last 28 games against Syracuse, going 19-for-116 (16.4%) with the man-advantage.
- After going 4-5-1-0 against the Crunch during the 2017-18 campaign, the Amerks are 11-5-1-1 in their last 18 contests against Syracuse.
- Crunch G Scott Wedgewood played last season in Rochester, finishing second in in the AHL in wins.