



CHARLOTTE CHECKERS

GAME NOTES

ROCHESTER AMERICANS



Rochester Americans @ Charlotte Checkers

Tuesday, February 11, 2020 @ Bojangles' Coliseum | AHL Regular Season Game No. 751

TONIGHT'S GAME OVERVIEW

- The Rochester Americans (27-15-2-4) continue their four-game road swing tonight with the first of back-to-back meetings against the defending Calder Cup champion Charlotte Checkers (27-17-3-0) at Bojangles' Coliseum. The 7:00 p.m. matchup is the third of four this season between the two clubs with each earning a win during the two-game set back on Dec. 6-7 in Rochester. All of this evening's action will be carried live on The Sports Leader AM 950/95.7 FM ESPN Rochester as well as AHLTV.

LAST TIME OUT

- Despite nearly 40 shots, including 17 in the first period alone, the Amerks were unable to solve Toronto Marlies goaltender Joseph Woll as the Amerks concluded the weekend with a 4-0 loss north of the border Saturday afternoon at Coca-Cola Coliseum.
- The defeat was Rochester's first road loss after winning the previous four games outside the Flower City dating back to a 3-2 overtime victory at Cleveland on Jan. 22. The Amerks remain in second place in the AHL's North Division standings behind only the Belleville Senators.
- Playing in his 400th career game in the American Hockey League, Amerks veteran defenseman and assistant captain **Andrew MacWilliam** shared the team lead with **Rasmus Asplund** as they both registered four shots each. Eyeing his fourth straight win in the crease, goaltender **Andrew Hammond** (13-10-2) earned the start but took the defeat despite making 21 saves on 23 shots he faced.

ROAD AHEAD FOR ROCHESTER

- The Amerks close out their season series with the Checkers on Wednesday, Feb. 12 in the second half of the two-game set at Bojangles' Coliseum. Following Wednesday's matchup, Rochester closes out its four-game road trip on Saturday, Feb. 15 at Upstate Medical University Arena against the Syracuse Crunch. Both 7:00 p.m. games 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 continues to be the busiest for the Amerks, who in all, will play a total of 10 games over a 19-day stretch beginning with their two-game road set against the Checkers Tuesday and Wednesday. The busiest stretch of the month comes later this week when the team embarks on a season-long six-game homestand over a 13-day span. Of Rochester's 10 remaining games this month, eight will be played against North Division opponents with the only exceptions being the two in Charlotte and the final meeting of the season against the Lehigh Valley Phantoms scheduled for Friday, Feb. 21 at The Blue Cross Arena in Rochester.

2019-20 REGULAR SEASON



TOTAL GOALS
158-143



27-17-3-0 (57 points)

27-15-2-4 (60 points)

AMERKS OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	PIM
Jean-Sebastien Dea	43	14	17	31	8	28
Zach Redmond	45	5	22	27	-3	20
Andrew Oglevie	41	13	11	24	4	14

GOALTENDER	GP	REC	MIN	SVS	SV%	GAA
Jonas Johansson	20	13-3-3	1,094	490	.925	2.19
Andrew Hammond	27	13-10-2	1,561	632	.904	2.57

NEXT THREE GAMES

Date	Opponent	Time
Feb. 12	@ Charlotte	7:00 p.m.
Feb. 15	@ Syracuse	7:00 p.m.
Feb. 16	vs. Utica	3:05 p.m.

LAST THREE GAMES

Date	Opponent	Result	SF-SA	PP	PK
Feb. 8	TOR	L 4-0	38-25	0-3	3-4
Feb. 7	SYR	L 5-2	24-30	2-3	2-3
Feb. 5	CLE	W 4-2	48-25	0-4	1-1

YEARLY	RECORD	GF	GA	POINTS
HOME	13-5-1-4	75	59	31
AWAY	14-10-1-0	68	70	29
TOTALS	27-15-2-4	143	129	60

CHECKERS OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	PIM
Janne Kuokkanen	46	11	28	39	7	16
Morgan Geekie	44	17	17	34	-11	38
Jake Bean	45	7	27	34	-16	24

GOALTENDER	GP	REC	MIN	SVS	SV%	GAA
Alex Nedeljkovic	25	14-9-1	1,420	557	.904	2.49
Anton Forsberg	24	13-8-2	1,391	628	.901	2.98



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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 (31) through 43 games. Coming into week, Dea, who is also second among all Amerks forwards with 85 shots on goal, has 10 points (4+6) in his last 13 games since the turn of the New Year, including goals in two of his last three outings.

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 129 goals through the 48 games of the season, the fourth-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, is tied for second 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 27 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 fourth-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 17th in scoring amongst all defensemen with 27 points and is tied for 13th with a team-high 22 assists, nine of which have come on the power-play.

- Back with Buffalo for his fourth recall of the season, Pilut has 17 points (5+12) over his last 22 AHL games dating back to Nov. 15, including goals in four of his last nine 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 43 games this season.

AMERKS-CHECKERS 2019-20 SEASON SERIES BREAKDOWN

ROCHESTER

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Zach Redmond	2	0	2	2	0	3
Dalton Smith	2	0	2	2	2	2
Eric Cornel	2	1	0	1	0	1

GOALTENDER

GP	REC	MIN	GA	SV%	GAA	
Jonas Johansson	1	1-0-0	60:00	0	1.000	0.00
Andrew Hammond	1	0-1-0	57:40	2	.931	2.08

CHARLOTTE

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Julien Gauthier	2	1	0	1	0	-1
Morgan Geekie	2	1	0	1	4	-2
Max McCormick	2	1	0	1	2	0

GOALTENDER

GP	REC	MIN	GA	SV%	GAA	
Anton Forsberg	1	1-0-0	60:00	1	.970	1.00
Alex Nedeljkovic	1	0-1-0	59:45	4	.871	4.02

2019-20 SEASON SERIES GAME-BY-GAME BREAKDOWN

Date	Result	Score	SF-SA	PP	PK
Dec. 6	W	4-0	31-26	0-2	3-3
Dec. 7	L	3-1	33-30	1-5	3-5
Feb. 11					
Feb. 12					

AMERKS ALL-TIME RECORD VS. CHARLOTTE: 3-7-0

SERIES NOTABLES

- Rookie **Jacob Bryson** is tied for 14th among all first-year players with a plus-9 on-ice rating while being tied for 13th with 17 assists in 47 games.
- Tonight is just the 11th all-time meeting between the Amerks and Checkers. The Amerks have earned at least one point in four of the last 10 contests between the two teams.
- Rochester claimed the first get-together of the season with a 4-0 win back on Dec. 6, snapping a four-game skid against the Checkers dating back to last season and giving the Amerks their first win in regulation over Charlotte at The Blue Cross Arena.
- Rochester comes into tonight having allowed 129 goals in 48 games while Charlotte has given up 131 in 47. The clubs rank fifth and seventh, respectively, in the AHL for fewest goals allowed.
- Checkers forward Janne Kuokkanen paces Charlotte in assists (28) and points (39) through 46 games.