



# ROCHESTER AMERICANS HOCKEY CLUB

Wednesday | **April 7, 2021** | 7:05 PM ET | The Blue Cross Arena | Broadcast: ESPN Rochester, AHLTV



SYRACUSE CRUNCH

## GAME NOTES

ROCHESTER AMERICANS



### YOUTH MOVEMENT

Rochester's roster features 13 incoming rookies ready to make a splash in their first season in the American Hockey League, most of whom are products of the NCAA in forwards **Brandon Biro** (Penn State), **Dawson DiPietro** (Western Michigan), **Dominic Franco** (Army West Point) and **Patrick Polino** (R.P.I.); defensemen **Ryan Jones** (Nebraska-Omaha), **Nick Welsh** (St. Mary's) **Griffin Luce** (Michigan) and **Mattias Samuelsson** (Western Michigan) and goaltender **Stefanos Lekkas** (U. of Vermont).

**Jack Quinn**, Buffalo's eighth overall pick in the 2020 NHL Draft, rounds out Rochester's rookie class this season. The highly touted 19-year-old is coming off an explosive 52-goal season for the Ottawa 67's in 2019-20, during which he became just the eighth player since 2000-01 to reach the 50-goal mark in his NHL Draft Year. He finished the season second in the Ontario Hockey League in goals and tied for fifth with 15 power-play tallies while also adding 37 assists.

Quinn made his professional debut with Rochester back on Feb. 18 against Utica, recording an assist on the game-tying third-period goal before scoring the shootout-clinching goal on a dazzling effort in the second round. During the most recent matchup with the Comets on Mar. 10, Quinn scored his first pro goal, a power-play marker, to open the scoring for Rochester. Quinn is the third eighth overall pick of the Sabres in the last five years to spend time in Rochester, joining **Alexander Nylander** (2016) and **Casey Mittelstadt** (2017), and the second to make his pro debut with the Amerks following Nylander, who spent parts of three seasons in Rochester.

### STAND AND DEAF-LIVER

After leading the Amerks in points (39) and holding a share of the team-lead in goals (15) during the 2019-20 season, his first in Rochester, forward **Jean-Sebastien Dea** is again among the team's top point-getters this season. By posting a season-high three points on a goal and two assists on March 6 against Syracuse, he became the first Amerks skater this season to reach double digits in points with 12 (4+8) through nine games.

Back from a recall with the Sabres, Dea, who has notched at least one point in seven of his first nine games this season, has already recorded four multi-point games after posting six in 57 contests last season. He also paces all Rochester skaters with an on-ice rating of plus-six.

### THE BEST OFFENSE IS A GOOD DEFENSE

Rochester comes into the week owning three of the AHL's top scoring rookie defensemen in **Oskari Laaksonen**, **Mattias Samuelsson** and **Ryan Jones**, all of whom have combined for 22 points (3+19) while appearing in all 14 games so far this season.

Laaksonen and Samuelsson are tied for third and seventh in the league in assists and ninth and 12th in points among all first-year defensemen, respectively. Samuelsson has five assists in his last seven games, while Laaksonen has four points over his last four, including his first AHL goal.

### SCOUTING THE CRUNCH

Having seen its five-game win streak halted Saturday night at the hands of the Amerks, Syracuse returns to Rochester winners in seven of its last nine contests. The Crunch have also won five straight on the road dating back to March 3, outscoring the opposition 23-11, including 11-1 in the first period over that span.

### AMERKS-CRUNCH 2020-21 SEASON SERIES BREAKDOWN

#### ROCHESTER

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Brett Murray	6	5	3	8	0	1
Arttu Ruotsalainen	6	3	5	8	2	0
J-S Dea	4	1	6	7	0	4

#### GOALTENDER

	GP	REC	GA	SV%	GAA
Dustin Tokarski	1	1-0-0	2	.949	2.00
Ukko-Pekka Luukkonen	5	3-2-0	17	.872	3.48
Stefanos Lekkas	1	0-0-1	4	.862	3.84

#### SYRACUSE

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Boris Katchouk	7	4	5	9	8	8
Grigori Denisenko	5	3	2	5	2	3
Taylor Raddysh	6	2	3	5	2	1

#### GOALTENDER

	GP	REC	GA	SV%	GAA
Samuel Montembeault	3	2-0-1	9	.885	2.93
Spencer Martin	4	1-3-0	15	.875	3.82

### 2020-21 SEASON SERIES GAME-BY-GAME BREAKDOWN

Date	Result	Score	SF-SA	PP	PK
Feb. 10	OTW	4-3	26-23	2-3	1-1
Feb. 20	W	3-2	32-39	0-3	3-4
Mar. 1	L	4-3	34-25	2-6	2-2
Mar. 6	W	4-2	27-29	2-5	6-8
Mar. 26	OTL	4-3	25-29	1-3	2-2
Apr. 2	L	6-2	27-29	1-4	3-5
Apr. 3	W	5-3	27-30	3-4	1-
Apr. 7					
Apr. 21					
Apr. 24					
May 1					
May 15					

### SERIES NOTABLES

The Amerks have scored a power-play goal in 11 of their last 15 games against Syracuse dating back to last season, going 18-for-59 (30.5%) with the man-advantage over that span.

Amerks defenseman **Dylan Blujus** spent time with the Crunch after being drafted by the Tampa Bay Lightning in 2012. He played his first three seasons with the Syracuse from 2014-2017, recording 49 points (11+38) in 151 games.

The Amerks are 16-9-2-1 in their last 28 contests against Syracuse.

Syracuse head coach Benoit Groulx spent two seasons behind the Amerks bench from 2008-10, leading the team to a postseason berth in 2010.



ROCHESTER AMERICANS | MEDIA RELATIONS DEPARTMENT

@AmerksPR | @AmerksHockey

Warren Kosel | Senior Director of Public and Media Relations | 585-286-9928

Ryan Harr | Public and Media Relations Coordinator | 585-286-9940