

Saturday | **November 12, 2022** | 7:00 PM ET | CAA Arena | AHL Game 174 | AHL TV, The Fan Rochester



GAME NOTES



TONIGHT'S GAME OVERVIEW

The Rochester Americans (7-4-1-0) close out their busy three-game week tonight as they travel to CAA Arena to face the Belleville Senators (4-6-1-0) for the first time this season tonight at 7 p.m. All the action will be carried live on 95.7 FM/950 AM The Fan Rochester as well as AHLTV.

Tonight's contest is the second of eight meetings this season and the first between the two teams in Belleville since the Amerks eliminated the Senators in the play-in round of the 2022 Calder Cup Playoffs. Rochester swept Belleville courtesy of back-to-back overtime victories to embark on its first extended playoff run in 18 years.

HEAD-TO-HEAD SERIES SNAPSHOT AGAINST BELLEVILLE

Both teams have near-perfect records this season when leading after the second period. Belleville is 2-0-1-0 while Rochester is 4-1-1-0. The Amerks also boast a perfect 3-0-0-0 record when outshooting the opponent, whereas the Senators are 2-4-1-0 in that regard.

Despite boasting a 3-3-1-1 record in the eight-game series last season against Belleville, Rochester shows a 13-8-5-1 mark over the last five years between the two teams. The Amerks earned four points in the four meetings in Rochester last season, and over the last five years show a 4-6-2-1 mark compared to a 8-2-3-0 record north of the border.

Rochester is 13-13-1 all-time against Belleville despite being outscored 97-93 through the first 27 meetings with the Senators. Four of the last seven matchups between the two clubs have been decided beyond regulation, and including the two postseason games, Rochester has won three consecutive contests in overtime by way of a 4-3 score.

LAST TIME OUT

Four different skaters recorded multi-point efforts, including **Filip Cederqvist** (2+1) and **Aleksandr Kisakov** (1+1), but the Amerks couldn't hold off a late push by the Cleveland Monsters, who scored in the final minute of regulation before prevailing in overtime to escape with a 6-5 win Friday at The Blue Cross Arena.

Despite the Amerks suffering their first loss on home ice this season, the club extended its point streak to six games, going 5-0-1-0 over that span. Overall, Rochester is 7-4-1-0 through the first 12 games of the season and have points in five of its last six games to remain in second place in the AHL's North Division standings with 15 points.

Along with Cederqvist and Kisakov notching their first multi-point outings, **Isak Rosen** (0+2) and **Mitch Eliot** (1+1) both earned two points each. **Chase Priskie**, who returned to the lineup Friday following a seven-game absence due to injury, opened the scoring in the first period while **Jeremy Davies**, **Linus Weissbach**, **Riley Sheahan**, and **Matt Bartkowski** all recorded an assist.

POWER-PLAY PROFICIENCY

Coming into tonight, 11 of the Amerks' 42 goals this season have come on the power-play, which are tied for seventh-most among any team in the AHL. By going 11-for-45 while on the man-advantage, Rochester is ranked sixth in the league with a 24.4% conversion rate.

The Amerks' 10 power-play goals at home are tied for most in the league this season, going for 10-for-28 through their first six home matchups.

2022-23 AMERKS OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	PIM
Brandon Biro	12	3	9	12	-2	2
Linus Weissbach	12	6	5	11	-4	20
Lukas Rousek	12	4	7	11	-1	4
Isak Rosen	12	2	7	9	-2	0
Mason Jobst	11	2	6	8	4	4

GOALTENDER	GP	REC	SVS	SV%	GAA
Michael Houser	4	1-1-0	84	.913	2.79
Ukko-Pekka Luukkonen	9	6-3-0	238	.898	3.07
Beck Warm	1	0-0-1	5	.625	8.90

2022-23 SENATORS OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	+/-
Jake Lucchini	11	5	8	13	-8	2
Egor Sokolov	11	1	8	9	-5	16
Cole Reinhardt	11	2	6	8	2	18
Rourke Chartier	11	6	1	7	-7	0
Angus Crookshank	11	3	4	7	-7	11

GOALTENDER	GP	REC	SVS	SV%	GAA
Kevin Mandolese	5	2-2-1	108	.864	3.54
Mads Sogaard	6	1-2-0	124	.899	4.01
Antoine Bibeau	3	1-2-0	79	.878	4.08

HEAD-TO-HEAD BREAKDOWN

Belleville Senators	Rochester Americans
4-6-1-0	Record 7-4-1-0
2-3-0-0	Home Record 5-0-1-0
2-3-1-0	Road Record 2-4-0-0
3-6-1-0	Last 10 Games 6-3-1-0
2-1-0-0	Record When Scoring First 4-1-1-0
3.67 (6th)	Goals-For Per Game 3.50 (9th)
4.09 (31st)	Goals-Against Per Game 3.33 (20th)
22.4% (10th)	Power-Play 24.4% (6th)
79.7% (15th)	Penalty Kill 72.5% (28th)
4-2 L @ SYR	Last Game 6-5 OTL vs. CLE
Nov. 16 vs. CLE	Next Game Nov. 18 vs. UTC



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YOUTH MOVEMENT LEADING ROCHESTER

Third-year forward **Brandon Biro** has emerged as the team's early-season leader, picking up where he left off last season with a team-high nine assists and 12 points through his first 12 games. Dating back to last season, the Sherwood Park, Alberta native has totaled 14 points (5+9) over his last 15 games and hasn't gone more than one game without a point over that span. He enters the weekend tied for 17th in the AHL in overall scoring.

Second-year forwards **Lukas Rousek** and **Linus Weissbach** remain at a close second with 11 points each, including a team-high six goals from Weissbach. He comes into tonight with a goal in three of his last six appearances as well as points in four of his last six. His six goals tie him for 12th in the AHL and are currently three off the league-lead. Like Biro, Rousek hasn't gone more than two games all season without a point.

Rookie forwards **Isak Rosen** (2+7) and **Jiri Kulich** (2+6) pace the team's rookies with nine and eight points, respectively, while being tied for 11th and 13th in the AHL scoring race amongst all first-year skaters.

Rosen, the Sabres' first-round selection in 2021 (14th overall), spent the 2021-22 season with Leksands in Sweden, where he made his debut in the Swedish Hockey League. He led all 17-year-olds with the Leksands U20 as he posted 35 points (21+14) in 38 games.

At age 18, Kulich, Buffalo's first-round selection (28th overall) in 2022, is among the youngest players in the AHL. Kulich shows six assists in his first 12 games of the young season, tying him for 11th in the league among all first-year players in that category. The Kadan, Czech Republic, native also leads all Rochester skaters with 34 shots on goal.

HOME-COOKING FOR THE AMERKS

The Amerks have earned at least one point in all six home games so far this season, boasting a 5-0-1-0 mark within the friendly confines of The Blue Cross Arena. It's the team's best start at home since 2006-07, when the club posted a 10-0-1-0 start, including winning their first nine straight. The team's win streak was snapped in last night's 6-5 overtime loss to Cleveland.

Four of the five victories this season on home ice have come when the team trailed entering the final 20 minutes of regulation while all five wins have come by way of four or more goals. Rochester has outscored its opposition 13-5 after the start of the third period and has outshot the visitors 49-45.

Linus Weissbach has helped sparked the third-period scoring as he has tallied three goals and four assists in six games while **Ukko-Pekka Luukkonen** has made 34 saves.

SCOUTING THE SENATORS

The Senators, who begin a four-game North Division homestand, come into tonight with a 4-6-1-0 record through their first 11 games this season.

In addition to dropping three of its last four contests, Belleville has struggled at home as of late, showing only two wins over its five games in CAA Arena.

After topping all Belleville skaters with a career-high 20 goals and 31 assists for in 72 games in 2021-22, forward Jake Lucchini currently paces the Senators offense with 13 points through the first 11 contests this season.

Belleville has used three different goaltenders this season with Kevin Mandlese, Mads Sogaard and Antoine Bibeau.

AMERKS-SENATORS 2022-23 SEASON SERIES BREAKDOWN

ROCHESTER

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Sean Malone	1	1	1	2	2	2
Lukas Rousek	1	1	1	2	0	0
Brandon Biro	1	1	0	1	0	-1
Anders Bjork	1	1	0	1	0	1

GOALTENDER

	GP	REC	GA	SV%	GAA
Ukko-Pekka Luukkonen	1	1-0-0	3	.870	2.84

BELLEVILLE

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Rourke Chartier	1	1	0	1	0	0
Angus Crookshank	1	1	0	1	2	1
Philippe Daoust	1	1	0	1	0	-1
Tyler Hinam	1	0	1	1	0	1

GOALTENDER

	GP	REC	GA	SV%	GAA
Kevin Mandlese	1	0-0-1	4	.867	3.79

2022-23 GAME-BY-GAME BREAKDOWN

Date	Result	Score	SF-SA	PP	PK
Oct. 19	OTW	4-3	30-23	2-6	2-3

SERIES NOTABLES

So far this season, the Amerks have used 12 different defensemen, which is tied for most in the AHL with Toronto. Seven of the 12 have recorded at least one point while four have scored. **Ethan Prow** is the only defenseman to appear in all 12 games this season and has skated in 82 of the 88 games dating back to the start of the 2021-22 campaign.

Amerks goaltender **Ukko-Pekka Luukkonen** has stopped 98 of the 108 shots he faced this season after the second period, which includes 49 of 52 in his last four outings. The Finnish netminder is tied for the league-lead with six wins, while ranking second in minutes (527) and saves (238).

Luukkonen made his professional debut against Belleville on April 14, 2019 as he stopped 32 of 34 shots while earning his first-career AHL victory. After allowing one goal in each of the first two periods, he made 20 saves to help preserve the win.

Amerks goaltender **Malcolm Subban** played his junior career with the Belleville Bulls of the OHL, who play at the CAA Arena. Subban totaled a 64-42-6 record and eight shutouts in 118 career games. During his final season with the Bulls, he helped Belleville finish first in the East during the regular season by posting a career-best 29 wins in 46 appearances.



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