

ROCHESTER AMERICANS HOCKEY CLUB

SIX-TIME CALDER CUP CHAMPIONS 1965 | 1966 | 1968 | 1983 | 1987 | 1996

Saturday | **February 18, 2023** | 4:00 PM ET | Coca-Cola Coliseum | AHL Game 774 | AHL TV, The Fan Rochester



GAME NOTES



TODAY'S GAME OVERVIEW

Following a quick turnaround, the Rochester Americans (23-19-2-1) make their final trip of the season north of the border for a rematch with the Toronto Marlies (33-13-2-1) this afternoon. Opening face-off is slated for 4:00 p.m. at Coca-Cola Coliseum and will be carried live on The Sports Leader 95.7 FM/950 AM The Fan Rochester as well as AHLTV.

The Amerks have claimed three of the last four meetings and four of the six overall so far this season. Last night the Amerks twice overcame a pair of one-goal deficits before erupting for five straight unanswered goals, including three in the second period, on their way to a decisive 6-2.

HEAD-TO-HEAD SERIES SNAPSHOT AGAINST MARLIES

The Amerks come into today having recorded points in six of the last eight games between the two teams. The Amerks have earned wins in four of the last six affairs in Toronto dating back to last season.

Lukas Rousek (3+3) and **Michael Mersch** (1+5) are averaging at least a point per game in the season series against the Marlies with Mersch recording all five of his points in his last three games.

Rochester has used four different goaltenders in **Michael Houser**, **Ukko-Pekka Luukkonen**, **Malcolm Subban** and **Eric Comrie** with each earning a win.

LAST TIME OUT

Rochester was able to overcome a slow start, rallying back from 1-0 and 2-1 deficits before reeling off five straight goals and never looking back in what became a 6-2 blowout win over the North Division-leading Marlies.

Vinnie Hinostroza (1+1), **Jiri Kulich** (1+1), **Jeremy Davies** (0+2), and **Lukas Rousek** (0+2) all recorded multi-point efforts for the Amerks while **Sean Malone**, **Lawrence Pilut**, **Chase Priskie** and **Brett Murray** all scored one goal each. **Joseph Ceconi**, **Ethan Prow**, **Brandon Biro**, **Isak Rosen**, and **Michael Mersch** rounded out the scoring as they all collected one assist.

Goaltender **Michael Houser** (5-5-1) made his 12th appearance of the season and 100th of his AHL career. The netminder not only stopped 24 shots, but he also recorded his first assist in the AHL since Oct. 25, 2014.

SUBBAN SHOULDERING THE WORKLOAD

After suffering a defeat in his season-debut on Nov. 18, Subban has gone 11-8-1 since over his last 20 starts, including seven straight wins between Dec. 10 to Jan. 14. The seven-game win streak was the longest of his pro career and the third-longest streak among all AHL goaltenders behind Toronto's Joseph Woll and Calgary's Dustin Wolf.

He was the first Amerks goaltender to post seven straight wins since Jonas Johansson won nine consecutive contests during the 2019-20 campaign.

Subban had arguably his best performance of the season during a 75-save weekend in Rochester's two-game sweep over the Charlotte Checkers in mid-December. A night after stopping a regular-season career-high 45 saves, Subban was flawless in a 30-save shutout on Dec. 17, his first in the AHL since April 8, 2017, with the Providence Bruins.

Subban, who picked up his 100th career win in the 5-4 overtime victory over Utica on Dec. 28, has topped the 30-save mark six times in his last 16 starts.

2022-23 AMERKS OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	PIM
Lukas Rousek	45	10	21	31	-4	18
Brandon Biro	35	9	22	31	-2	10
Linus Weissbach	44	13	15	28	-12	41
Brett Murray	44	15	12	27	-8	31
Michael Mersch	34	9	18	27	2	14

GOALTENDER

GOALTENDER	GP	REC	SVS	SV%	GAA
Malcolm Subban	21	11-9-1	588	.907	2.86
Eric Comrie	3	1-2-0	79	.898	3.03
Ukko-Pekka Luukkonen*	9	6-3-0	238	.898	3.07
Michael Houser	12	5-5-0	289	.895	3.14

*=Currently on recall with Buffalo (NHL)

^ = Currently reassigned to Cincinnati (ECHL)

2022-23 MARLIES OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	PIM
Logan Shaw	49	17	38	55	-7	28
Alex Steeves	46	17	23	40	-2	24
Nick Abruzzese	49	15	20	35	-5	10
Noel Hoefenmayer	46	10	23	33	6	99
Semyon Der-Arguchintsev	40	20	14	34	4	47

GOALTENDER

GOALTENDER	GP	REC	SVS	SV%	GAA
Joseph Woll*	15	14-1-0	460	.931	2.32
Dylan Ferguson	5	2-2-0	103	.888	3.12
Keith Petruzzelli*	15	10-5-0	384	.895	3.19
Erik Källgren	16	6-5-2	359	.884	3.33

*=Currently on recall with Toronto (NHL)

HEAD-TO-HEAD BREAKDOWN

Toronto Marlies vs **Rochester Americans**

33-13-2-1.....	Overall Record	23-19-2-1
14-7-0-1.....	Home Record	12-10-1-0
19-6-2-0.....	Road Record	11-9-1-1
5-4-1-0.....	Last 10 Games	4-6-0-0
18-5-2-1.....	Record When Scoring First	14-7-1-1
3.42 (5th).....	Goals-For Per Game	3.08 (18th)
3.12 (17th).....	Goals-Against Per Game	3.31 (23rd)
26.6% (1st).....	Power-Play	20.0% (15th)
81.2% (16th).....	Penalty Kill	78.2% (T-25th)
6-2 L vs. ROC.....	Last Game	6-2 W vs. ROC
Feb. 20 vs. UTC.....	Next Game	Feb. 19 vs. SYR



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BIRO PILING UP THE POINTS

Despite missing six games due to injury, third-year forward **Brandon Biro** has blazed his way atop the team's scoring lead following a productive December in which he led the team with 16 points (6+10) in 10 games. He recorded multi-point efforts in seven of his 10 appearances, including six straight between Dec. 9 and Dec. 30 before closing out the month with an assist in the 3-2 win in Toronto.

Biro, who made his NHL debut with the Buffalo Sabres last season, currently shares the team lead in points (31) and ranks second in assists (22) through 35 games and his seven-game point streak to close out the 2022 calendar year was the longest of his career.

Dating back to last season, Biro has totaled 71 points on 21 goals and 51 assists over his last 83 games and hasn't gone more than seven games without a point since Nov. 27, 2021.

JOBST HAVING A CAREER YEAR

Mason Jobst has made the most of his second opportunity with the Amerks as the fourth-year pro is in the process of assembling a career-year.

Through 36 games this season, the Speedway, Indiana, native has already established career-highs in all offensive categories, including goals (7), assists (13) and points (20).

With an assist in the 5-4 overtime win in Belleville on Feb. 4, Jobst reached the 20-point mark for the first time in his pro career, becoming the ninth different Amerk to eclipse the mark.

Since the turn of the New Year, Jobst has amassed four goals and seven points over his previous 10 games, including his first career hat trick in the 7-5 loss to the first-place Toronto Marlies back on Jan. 14. Jobst single-handedly outscored Toronto in the second period with back-to-back goals before netting what was the go-ahead goal in the third period.

Jobst has totaled 33 points (11+12) over 62 career games with the Amerks dating back to last season.

PROWESS ON THE BLUELINE

Entering the Jan. 19 game against Laval, **Ethan Prow** was the only Amerks defenseman to appear in every game this season. Overall, he has skated in 114 of the 120 games dating back to the start of the 2021-22 campaign.

In 44 games this season, Prow is tied for 13th in scoring amongst all AHL defensemen with 27 points while his team-high 23 assists are tied for 11th in the league. This season marks the fourth straight in which the veteran defenseman has reached the 20-assist mark and the fifth consecutive year with 20 or more points, which includes an abbreviated campaign overseas in 2020-21.

The seventh-year veteran has posted 15 points (2+13) in his last 19 outings dating back to Dec. 28 and comes into today with eight assists over his last nine games.

He leads all Amerks defensemen with five multi-point outings, including a two-goal effort in the 4-3 win at Syracuse back on Jan. 7, and has never gone more than five games all season without a point.

AMERKS-MARLIES 2022-23 SEASON SERIES BREAKDOWN

ROCHESTER

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Lukas Rousek	6	3	3	6	0	2
Michael Mersch	6	1	5	6	0	3
Mason Jobst	5	3	2	5	2	-1

GOALTENDER

	GP	REC	GA	SV%	GAA
Eric Comrie	1	1-0-0	2	.944	2.00
Michael Houser	1	1-0-0	2	.923	2.02
Ukko-Pekka Luukkonen	2	1-1-0	4	.937	2.04
Malcolm Subban	2	1-1-0	9	.845	4.35

TORONTO

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Logan Shaw	6	2	6	8	2	-1
Alex Steeves	6	2	3	5	6	1
Noel Hoefenmayer	5	1	4	5	23	-1

GOALTENDER

	GP	REC	GA	SV%	GAA
Keith Petruzzelli	2	1-0-0	2	.947	1.45
Erik Källgren	4	0-2-1	13	.860	4.18
Dylan Ferguson	1	0-1-0	2	.714	4.03
Joseph Woll	1	1-0-0	5	.848	5.00

2022-23 GAME-BY-GAME BREAKDOWN

Date	Result	Score	SF-SA	PP	PK
Oct. 14	W	4-2	25-24	3-6	4-5
Oct. 15	L	3-1	26-40	0-3	2-4
Dec. 10	SOW	4-3	38-26	0-4	2-4
Dec. 31	W	3-2	13-36	0-2	3-3
Jan. 14	L	7-5	33-33	0-3	2-2
Feb. 17	W	6-2	37-26	2-3	5-6

SERIES NOTABLES

Of the 41 different players the Marlies have used this season, 32 have produced at least one point while 25 have scored. Toronto is the only team in the league to use five netminders, three of which are first-year players.

In 23 of the last 34 meetings between the two teams dating back to the 2016-17 season, the team that scored first has gone on to come away with the victory. Additionally, in 22 of the last 26 meetings, the winning team has scored at least four goals dating back to the 2017-18 season.

Over the last 23 games, Rochester has scored at least one goal in the first period 18 times, which includes a four-goal outing in the series-opener on Oct. 23, 2021. Toronto, on the other hand, has scored 16 times in the final 20 minutes of regulation, which includes a five-goal mark on Jan. 14, 2023.

Last night, **Michael Houser** became the fourth different netminder to play against Toronto this season, joining **Ukko-Pekka Luukkonen**, **Malcolm Subban** and **Eric Comrie**. It was also Houser's second career start against the Marlies and first since Jan. 2, 2015.



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