

ROCHESTER AMERICANS HOCKEY CLUB

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

Fri. | **Jan. 10, 2025** | 7:05 PM | The Blue Cross Arena | AHL Game 519 | AHLTV on FloHockey, The Fan Rochester, CW Rochester

ROCHESTER AMERICANS GAME NOTES

Blue Cross Arena at the Rochester War Memorial | 1 War Memorial Square | Rochester, NY, 14614 | Amerks.com/Media | @AmerksPR



vs



TONIGHT'S GAME OVERVIEW

The Rochester Americans (21-9-3-0) look for their seventh straight win as they host the Utica Comets (8-17-2-2) tonight at The Blue Cross Arena. The North Division matchup will be carried live on The Sports Leader 95.7 FM/950 AM The Fan Rochester as well as AHLTV on FloHockey. Additionally, the game will be televised live locally on CW Rochester.

The Amerks enter the weekend with the most road wins (15) across the AHL and are one point ahead of Cleveland for first place in the AHL's North Division standings. With the exception of the Monsters and Syracuse, every team in the division has at least a game in hand over Rochester, which has 31 points on the road this season and are one of three teams in the North Division with 20 or more wins.

Rochester has earned at least one point in 23 of its last 29 games dating back to Oct. 23 and has won 13 of its last 15 games overall.

HEAD-TO-HEAD RESULTS AGAINST UTICA

Rochester is 6-1-0-0 on the season and has outscored the Comets 28-16 through the first seven games of the season series, four of which came prior to the start of December.

The Amerks have won 14 of the last 15 games on the road against the Comets, the only exception being a 6-0 loss back on Nov. 11, 2023. The Amerks posted an 8-3-1-0 record through the 12-game season series during the 2023-24 campaign.

The Amerks show a 16-8-1-1 record in Utica over the past five seasons while showing a 16-9-1-0 mark in the Flower City.

Isak Rosén (3+4), **Brett Murray** (3+3), **Mason Jobst** (3+2), **Riley Fiddler-Schultz** (3+1), and **Konsta Helenius** (3+1) all have scored three goals against Utica this season while **Viktor Neuchev** (2+4), **Anton Wahlberg** (2+1), **Kale Clague** (2+4) and **Brendan Warren** (2+0) all have scored twice.

Goaltenders **Michael Houser**, **Felix Sandström**, and **Devon Levi** have combined to allow 16 goals versus the Comets, each earning at least one victory. Houser shows a 1.61 goals-against-average while Levi and Sandström have a mark of 2.51 and 2.69, respectively.

LAST TIME OUT

Multi-point performances from **Mason Jobst** (2+0), **Aleksandr Kisakov** (1+1), and **Lukas Rousek** (1+1) helped the Amerks top the Bridgeport Islanders by a 6-3 final last Saturday at Total Mortgage Arena.

The win extended Rochester's overall win streak to six games, while the team has won each of its last eight away contests. Over their current road win streak, the Amerks have outscored their opposition, 38-16. The Amerks have won 13 of its last 15 games and Rochester earned points in 14 of its last 15 meetings with Bridgeport.

Graham Slaggert scored his league-leading fifth shorthanded goal, while **Kisakov** recorded a goal and an assist in his first game since Nov. 23. For a second straight night, **Rousek** scored an empty-net goal, which was followed by **Brett Murray** also firing one through the vacant cage to up his goal total to 16 through 33 games this season.

Goaltender **Felix Sandström** recorded his third straight win, improving to 6-4-1 on the season. Additionally, the veteran goaltender, who is 2-2-1 lifetime against Bridgeport, logged his first AHL assist since May 5, 2021. Last Saturday's start was the 99th AHL appearance for Sandstrom.

2024-25 AMERKS OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

| SKATER | GP | G | A | PTS | +/- | PIM |
|---------------|----|----|----|-----|-----|-----|
| Isak Rosén | 30 | 13 | 14 | 27 | 1 | 4 |
| Brett Murray | 33 | 16 | 9 | 25 | 3 | 12 |
| Zachary Metsa | 33 | 2 | 22 | 24 | 11 | 10 |

| GOALTENDER | GP | REC | SVS | SV% | GAA |
|-----------------|----|--------|-----|------|------|
| Devon Levi | 14 | 11-2-1 | 330 | .914 | 2.19 |
| Felix Sandström | 11 | 6-4-1 | 254 | .894 | 2.96 |
| Michael Houser* | 10 | 4-3-1 | 212 | .898 | 2.68 |

*=Currently with Jacksonville (ECHL)

2024-25 UTICA OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

| SKATER | GP | G | A | PTS | +/- | PIM |
|---------------|----|----|----|-----|-----|-----|
| Brian Halonen | 29 | 12 | 7 | 19 | -1 | 24 |
| Adam Beckman | 23 | 7 | 12 | 19 | -6 | 8 |
| Nolan Foote | 25 | 6 | 10 | 16 | -9 | 17 |

| GOALTENDER | GP | REC | SVS | SV% | GAA |
|---------------|----|--------|-----|------|------|
| Isaac Poulter | 15 | 5-6-3 | 332 | .885 | 3.17 |
| Nico Daws | 16 | 3-11-1 | 406 | .892 | 3.30 |

2024-25 HEAD-TO-HEAD BREAKDOWN

Utica Comets vs Rochester Americans

| | | |
|--------------------------------|--|----------------------|
| 8-17-2-2..... | Record | 21-9-3-0 |
| 2-9-1-2..... | Home Record | 6-6-2-0 |
| 6-8-1-0..... | Road Record | 15-3-1-0 |
| 3-6-1-0..... | Last 10 Games | 9-1-0-0 |
| 1-2..... | Overtime Record | 2-3 |
| 0-2..... | Shootout Record | 3-0 |
| 5-4-2-0..... | Record When Scoring First | 13-5-1-0 |
| 20.5% (6th)..... | Power-Play | 15.2% (26th) |
| 77.2% (28th)..... | Penalty Kill | 83.6% (12th) |
| Jan. 8 vs SYR (5-1 W)..... | Last Game | Jan. 4 @ BRI (6-3 W) |
| Ryan Parent (1st, Interim).... | Head Coach | Michael Leone (1st) |

2024-25 SERIES BREAKDOWN VS. UTICA

| Date | Result | Score | SF-SA | PP | PK |
|---------|--------|-------|-------|-----|-----|
| Oct. 12 | W | 4-1 | 40-20 | 0-5 | 2-2 |
| Nov. 1 | W | 8-1 | 26-19 | 4-9 | 4-5 |
| Nov. 2 | W | 3-2 | 27-30 | 0-1 | 4-5 |
| Nov. 23 | L | 5-1 | 36-28 | 0-1 | 2-4 |
| Dec. 4 | W | 3-2 | 23-23 | 0-2 | 2-2 |
| Dec. 27 | W | 6-3 | 37-26 | 0-2 | 4-4 |
| Dec. 28 | W | 3-2 | 36-25 | 0-0 | 0-0 |



MEDIA RELATIONS DEPARTMENT

ROCHESTER AMERICANS | @AMERKSPR | @AMERKSHOCKEY | AMERKS.COM/MEDIA

Warren Kosel | Senior Director of Public & Media Relations

Ryan Harr | Manager of Community & Public Relations



ROCHESTER AMERICANS HOCKEY CLUB

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

LEANING ON THE ALL-STAR LEVI

Devon Levi, who has started 14 of the last 20 games, boasts an 11-2-1 record this season with a 2.19 goals-against-average that ranks ninth-best amongst all AHL goaltender. He's also tied for fourth in wins (11).

On the heels of his second shutout in eight days, the 23-year-old Levi has guided the Amerks to standings points in 32 of his 40 games with Rochester, dating back to his debut with the team last December. He is 15-2-2 in 19 career road games with Rochester, which includes a perfect 7-0-0 mark this season.

Last Friday's win over Springfield was the just the second time Levi faced 30 or more shots this season. The Sabres' prospect faced fewer than 30 shots in 12 of his last 14 starts this season, while seeing less than 30 pucks just seven times in 2023-24.

Levi, who was named to the 2025 AHL All-Star roster earlier this week, saw his six-game win streak snapped on Dec. 18, which matched a career-high. He hasn't allowed more than two goals in eight of his last 11 games and has stopped 238 of the 258 shots he's faced over that span, good for a 1.90 goals-against average and a .925 save percentage.

Levi enters the weekend as one of only 13 AHL goaltenders with multiple shutouts this season and one of just four netminders with multiple assists, trailing only former Buffalo Sabres draft pick and Lehigh Valley netminder Cal Petersen, who leads all AHL goaltenders with three points this season.



NO METSA'IN AROUND

Defenseman **Zachary Metsa** enters the contest third on the team in scoring and first amongst all Rochester blueliners with 24 points (2+22) while being one of only two Amerks defensemen to appear in all 32 games.

Metsa has points in 17 of his 32 games, which included stringing together an assist in five straight games for the first time in his career. He's totaled eight points (1+7) since Dec. 22, punctuated by his second three-assist effort of the campaign in the win over Springfield last Friday.

The second-year blueliner's 24 points are tied for fourth-most in league scoring by a defenseman, just three back of Charlotte's Trevor Carrick.

Metsa, who captained Quinnipiac University to its first-ever NCAA National Championship in 2023, is also tied with Texas' Kyle Capobianco for first amongst all AHL defensemen with 22 assists,

Last season, the Delafield, Wisconsin, native logged seven goals and 24 points and was named the team's co-Rookie of the Year with Viktor Neuchev.

HELENIUS, WAHLBERG RETURN FROM WORLDS

Earlier this week, the Buffalo Sabres reassigned forwards **Konsta Helenius** (Finland) and **Anton Wahlberg** (Sweden) from their respective national junior teams following the conclusion of the 2025 IIHF World Junior Championship. The 10-day annual international event concluded with the gold medal game Sunday in Ottawa, Ontario.

The 2025 tournament was the second straight appearance and fifth international event overall for Helenius, who was Buffalo's first-round selection in last year's NHL Draft. He finished the 2024 event with a goal and an assist in seven games while leading Finland to a fourth-place finish.

He also notched one assist in four games while competing for Finland at the 2024 World Championship as the youngest player in the tournament. In 2017, he helped the Finns win a bronze medal at the U-17 Hockey Challenge after finishing with a team-high 11 points (2+9) in seven games.

Wahlberg, too, made his second straight appearance at the annual event and fourth overall with Sweden. Prior to the 2025 event, Wahlberg had medaled in every international event in which he's represented Sweden, including winning a silver medal at last year's tournament after recording three points (1+2) in seven games.

Wahlberg finished the tournament with four goals and four assists while Helenius had six points (0+6) in seven games, earning a silver medal.

MURRAY SPECIAL AND MR. 300

Nine of **Brett Murray's** team-leading 16 goals this season have come on the power-play, including four which ended up being the game-winner.

The veteran forward currently leads the AHL in power-play goals and also ranks second on the Amerks with 25 points (16+9) through 33 games. He comes into the weekend with points in eight of his last nine games, including multi-goal efforts in back-to-back outings and goals in three straight games for the first time in his professional career. Murray has reached the 20-point mark in all six seasons with the Amerks since joining Rochester ahead of the 2019-20 campaign.

Prior to scoring his first even strength goal of the season in December against Utica, Murray was the only AHL player with at least six goals this season to have scored all his goals on the power-play.

With the exception of his rookie season, the veteran forward has recorded at least six power-play goals in five of his first six professional seasons, which includes a new career-high (9) through the first 31 games of this season.

Coming into tonight having played 292 games as an Amerk, Murray is eight games away from becoming just the 24th forward in franchise history to appear in at least 300 games with the club and first since Phil Varone did so during the 2015-16 campaign. He's also 56 games away from tying Don McSween for 20th on the franchise's all-time games played list (348).



MEDIA RELATIONS DEPARTMENT

ROCHESTER AMERICANS | @AMERKSPR | @AMERKSHOCKEY | AMERKS.COM/MEDIA

Warren Kosel | Senior Director of Public & Media Relations

Ryan Harr | Manager of Community & Public Relations

