

Friday | May 23, 2025 | 7:00 PM | Place Bell | North Division Finals, Game 4 | AHL TV, The Fan Rochester

ROCHESTER AMERICANS GAME NOTES

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



TONIGHT'S GAME OVERVIEW

Facing elimination for the first time of the 2025 Calder Cup Playoffs, the Rochester Americans look stay alive and force a Game 5 against the Laval Rocket in a must-win Game 4 of the North Division Finals tonight at Place Bell. Game time is slated for a 7:00 p.m. start and will be carried live on The Sports Leader 95.7 FM/950 AM The Fan Rochester as well as AHLTV. Rochester trails the best-of-five series 2-1 after coming up short in Game 3.

WIN OR GO HOME

The Amerks enter tonight with a 5-2 mark in their last seven games when facing elimination since the start of the 2023 Calder Cup Playoffs.

Rochester, which was held to just a single goal in the 4-1 loss in Game 3 on Wednesday after combining for nine through the first two games of the series, has won its last four road elimination games, picking up victories at Syracuse (in 2023 and 2024), at Hershey (2023) and at Utica (2022).

Last spring, Rochester faced a 3-0 deficit entering the third period of Game 4 versus the Crunch before scoring three times in regulation, which ultimately sent the game to overtime. **Brett Murray** finished the comeback as he scored at the 11:46 mark of the extra frame from **Nikita Novikov** and **Mason Jobst**.

Rochester is 33-43 all-time when facing elimination dating back to the 1957 Calder Cup Playoffs and went 4-1 during its last trip to the Eastern Conference Finals in 2023.

A win tonight would mark the the third time in the last six playoff series that went the distance for the Amerks dating back to the 2023 postseason.

AMERKS MEET ROCKET IN DIVISION FINALS

For the second time in four years, the Rochester Americans meet the Rocket in the North Division Finals of the 2025 Calder Cup Playoffs.

The Amerks dispatched the Syracuse Crunch with a 4-0 win in Game 3 of the North Division Semifinals on May 1 while the Rocket closed out their second-round series by way of a 4-1 win over the Cleveland Monsters five days later at Place Bell.

The Rocket, who won the Macgregor Kilpatrick Trophy as this year's AHL regular-season champions, defeated the Amerks three games to none in the 2022 North Division Finals in the only other postseason meeting between the two teams.

Rochester is 29-19-0 all-time against Laval in the regular season, which included an 8-7-1-0 mark over the last two season versus the Rocket. Rochester has picked up at least one point in 16 of its first 24 road games in Laval, going 14-8-2-0 over that span. Conversely, since the start of the 2017-18 campaign, the Amerks have posted a 15-8-2-0 mark at The Blue Cross Arena versus Laval, including all four meetings last season.

The Amerks outshot the Rocket eight times over the last 16 regular season games since the start of the 2023-24 campaign.

PLAYOFFS OVER THE YEARS

Rochester has advanced to the postseason in each of the last six seasons dating back to the 2017-18 campaign and 50 times in the 69-year history of the franchise.

Rochester has been a part of 92 playoff series over the years, in which it has compiled a 231-221 record in 452 games during that time.

2025 AMERKS PLAYOFF SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	PIM
Kale Clague	6	5	4	9	2	8
Jiří Kulich	6	2	6	8	7	2
Lukáš Rousek	5	2	4	6	2	0
Isak Rosén	6	4	1	5	5	2
Konsta Helenius	6	2	3	5	0	4

GOALTENDER	GP	REC	SVS	SV%	GAA
Devon Levi	6	4-2	151	.915	2.35

2025 ROCKET PLAYOFF SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	PIM
Laurent Dauphin	7	5	4	9	5	4
Alex Barré-Boulet	7	2	7	9	4	4
Sean Farrell	7	2	3	5	1	2
Logan Mailloux	7	2	3	5	1	10

GOALTENDER	GP	REC	SVS	SV%	GAA
Jacob Fowler	4	3-1	99	.929	1.75
Cayden Primeau	3	2-1	77	.906	2.73

SERIES SCHEDULE - NORTH DIVISION FINALS

Date	Result	Score	SF-SA	PP	PK
Game 1 - May 14	L	5-4	27-34	1-4	1-3
Game 2 - May 16	W	5-3	36-19	2-4	0-3
Game 3 - May 21	L	4-1	33-20	0-2	2-2
Game 4 - May 23					
Game 5 - May 25*					

*If necessary

AMERKS CALDER CUP CHAMPIONSHIPS

1995-96 vs. Portland

1986-87 vs. Sherbrooke

1982-83 vs. Maine

1967-68 vs. Quebec

1965-66 vs. Cleveland

1964-65 vs. Hershey



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HEAD-TO-HEAD SERIES SNAPSHOT

The Rocket finished nine points ahead of the second-place Amerks in the regular season, thanks largely to a 6-1-1-0 record in their eight head-to-head meetings. Laval won all four visits to Blue Cross Arena by a combined score of 16-7.

Prior to this season, Rochester has never had a losing season versus the Rocket and have gone 4-3-1-0 in back-to-back seasons. The Amerks posted a 6-2-0-0 mark in eight games during the 2023-24 campaign before going 2-5-1-0 through the eight games this season, with both wins coming in Place Bell back on Nov. 20 and Dec. 11.

The Amerks finished the season tied for the second-most road wins with 23, which would also be the second-most in franchise history in a single season. The Rocket, meanwhile, tied Abbotsford for the second-most home wins this season with 24, outscoring the opposition 112-81. Both teams also finished with nine regulation losses on the road and at home, respectively.

Throughout his career, Amerks captain **Mason Jobst** has amassed nine goals and 10 assists for 19 points through 25 career regular-season games against Laval. The Ohio State University product, who collected the first multi-goal outing of his postseason career during Rochester's 4-0 win in Game 3 at Syracuse, has recorded 18 points (6+12) in 25 Calder Cup Playoff appearances, all with Rochester. Jobst also tallied his second pro hat trick against Laval back on Oct. 27, 2023 while **Kale Clague** (0+3) and **Lukáš Rousek** (1+1) both notched multi-point efforts.

Forward **Jiří Kulich** has nearly produced a point-per-game in the regular season against the Rocket, which included his first career three-goal outing versus Laval on Oct. 18, 2023. The Czechia native has eight goals and seven assists in 15 contests opposite the Rocket since the start of the 2023-24 season

Goaltender and Quebec native **Devon Levi** has made seven career regular-season starts against Laval, earning a win in three appearances. In his first three contests versus the Rocket, Levi allowed just three combined goals and went 3-0-0 before allowing 14 tallies in the his last four games.

Both teams showed near-perfect records when leading after the first period: Rochester went 24-5-1-1 while Laval held 25-4-0-0 in that regard. Additionally, the Amerks were 31-4-2-1 when they held the lead entering the final period of regulation whereas the Rocket went 29-3-0-1. Lastly, they also have posted double digits in wins (ROC-15) (LAV-10) in three-goal games.

A SWEDE FIRST SEASON FOR ÖSTLUND

Noah Östlund was among Rochester's top point-producers in the month of February and March. The first-year forward finished his rookie season tallying 19 goals and 36 points on the season, with 27 of his points (16+11) coming since Feb. 1. He also found the back of the net in six of his last seven games, a streak that began with his first AHL hat trick on March 22 at Syracuse.

Östlund, who was named the Player of the Week for the period ending March 30, was also named the league's Rookie of the Month for March as he recorded nine goals and five assists for 14 points in 11 games for Rochester.

A first-round choice (16th overall) by Buffalo in the 2022 NHL Draft, Östlund totaled 19 goals and 17 assists for 36 points in 45 games with the Amerks this season. The 21-year-old native of Stockholm, Sweden, was second amongst all AHL rookies in plus/minus rating at plus-20, and his 15 goals since the All-Star break were fourth-most in the entire league.

Östlund's success earned the rookie forward his first-ever call-up to the Sabres. He made his NHL debut at home against Tampa Bay on April 5. He became the second Amerks forward this season to make his NHL debut with the Sabres, joining **Tyson Kozak**, who had five points in 21 appearances with the big club since making his debut Dec. 5. Östlund appeared in eight games with the Sabres, registering four shots while averaging 10:33 of ice time.

2024-25 AMERKS OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	PIM
Isak Rosén	61	28	27	55	4	10
Brett Murray	66	27	22	49	14	29
Zachary Metsa	69	7	39	46	17	16
GOALTENDER	GP	REC	SVS	SV%	GAA	
Devon Levi	42	25-13-4	1,037	.919	2.20	
Felix Sandström	19	12-5-2	461	.899	2.86	
Michael Houser	14	5-4-2	292	.893	2.83	

2024-25 ROCKET OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	PIM
Alex Barré-Boulet	64	22	41	63	18	42
Laurent Dauphin	63	26	30	56	25	54
Jared Davidson	69	24	21	45	25	48
Sean Farrell	67	20	24	44	8	10
GOALTENDER	GP	REC	SVS	SV%	GAA	
Cayden Primeau	24	19-2-2	573	.924	2.00	
Connor Hughes	29	15-12-2	682	.905	2.58	

2024-25 HEAD-TO-HEAD BREAKDOWN

Laval Rocket	Rochester Americans
48-19-3-2.....	Record42-22-5-3
24-9-2-1.....	Home Record19-13-3-1
24-10-1-1.....	Road Record23-9-2-2
6-3-0-1.....	Final 10 Games4-4-2-0
8-3.....	Overtime Record4-5
3-2.....	Shootout Record5-3
33-8-2-1.....	Record When Scoring First26-11-3-1
18.9% (T-12th).....	Power-Play18.4% (15th)
83.2% (11th).....	Penalty Kill85.2% (3rd)
3.18 (11th).....	Goals-For Per Game3.31 (7th)
2.47 (T-1st).....	Goals-Against Per Game2.65 (7th)
Pascal Vincent (1st).....	Head CoachMichael Leone (1st)

2024-25 SERIES BREAKDOWN VS. LAVAL

Date	Result	Score	SF-SA	PP	PK
Nov. 13	OTL	3-2	31-25	0-4	2-4
Nov. 16	L	4-1	26-18	0-3	2-2
Nov. 20	OTW	2-1	39-27	1-4	5-5
Dec. 11	W	3-1	29-26	1-4	2-2
Feb. 16	L	5-2	36-23	0-3	2-2
Mar. 7	L	4-3	25-32	1-2	4-4
Mar. 8	L	2-1	24-29	0-3	2-2
Apr. 11	L	4-2	42-19	0-3	1-2



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CENTURY MARK AND COUNTING

Brett Murray scored his 100th goal as an Amerk on April 16, becoming the 20th player in franchise history to reach triple-digit goal totals.

The Bolton, Ontario, native is one more goal away from matching former player and coach **Randy Cunneyworth** (101) on the franchise's all-time goals list, and needs two tallies to reach **Ken Priestley** (102) for 18th all-time in regular season goals for the Amerks.

Murray had a career season with a personal-best 27 goals, ranking second on the team behind only **Isak Rosén**. He was one of three Amerks named to this year's AHL All-Star Classic.

Murray also matched his career-best of 49 points (23+26) from 2022-23. The sixth-year pro logged nine points (4+5) over his last 10 games.

Murray was one point away from joining **Rosén** to reach the 50-point mark. Prior to this season, Rochester had at least two players finish with 50 or more points in each season since the 2017-18 campaign excluding the COVID-shortened 2020-21 season.

In 35 career regular-season games versus the Rocket, Murray has produced 16 points (7+9) along with 65 shots. The veteran forward also shows three points (2+1) in six postseason contests against Laval.

Buffalo's fourth-round selection (99th overall) in the 2016 NHL Draft, the veteran forward has spent his entire six-year pro career in the Buffalo Sabres organization. In 325 career games as an Amerk, Murray has amassed 206 points on 100 goals and 106 assists while also adding 17 points (8+9) in 32 postseason appearances.

GETTING THE JOB(ST) DUNNE

Josh Dunne returns to the Calder Cup Playoffs after leading all Cleveland Monsters with seven goals and tying for second in points (11) during the 2024 postseason, which ended in Game 7 of the Eastern Conference Finals.

In Cleveland's three-game sweep against the Crunch in the Division Finals last spring, Dunne, who established a career-high 19 assists in 68 games with Rochester this season, scored one goal and notched an assist.

Captain **Mason Jobst** finished the 2024-25 campaign by reaching the 30-point mark for the third straight year. The Speedway, Indiana, native ranked fourth amongst Amerks in goals (18), sixth in points (37) and tied for seventh in assists (19) in 70 games.

Jobst totaled seven assists during his last trip to North Division Finals in the spring of 2023 against the Toronto Marlies. It marked his first multi-assist outing of his postseason career. The sixth-year pro has recorded 18 points (6+12) in 25 career AHL postseason contests.

LEONE AMONG ELITE COMPANY

By way of Rochester clinching a playoff spot, **Michael Leone** became the third straight bench boss to lead his team to the postseason in his first year as head coach, joining **Seth Appert** and **Chris Taylor**.

At age 37, Leone is the second-youngest active head coach in the AHL behind Trent Vogelhuber of the Cleveland Monsters, who were eliminated in the Division Semifinals against the Rocket.

Named the 34th head coach in the 69-year history of the franchise prior to the start of 2024-25, Leone embarked on his AHL head coaching career following two seasons as head coach and general manager of the Green Bay Gamblers (USHL).

With the Amerks finishing the season with 42 wins, Leone became the first head coach to reach the 40-win mark in his first season since Hall of Famer **Randy Cunneyworth** in 2000-01. Cunneyworth later went on to become the all-time winningest coach in franchise history with 340 career wins over nine seasons with Rochester.

AMERKS-LAVAL 2024-25 SEASON SERIES BREAKDOWN

ROCHESTER

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Lukáš Rousek	8	1	3	4	2	-1
Graham Slaggett	7	3	0	3	4	2
Mason Jobst	8	2	1	3	4	-4
Brett Murray	7	2	1	3	7	2

GOALTENDER

	GP	REC	GA	SV%	GAA
Michael Houser	3	0-1-1	6	.887	2.45
Devon Levi	6	2-4-0	16	.889	2.87

LAVAL

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM	+/-
Alex Barré-Boulet	7	4	5	9	2	2
Laurent Dauphin	6	4	2	6	2	6
Sean Farrell	8	2	3	5	2	4
Joshua Roy	7	2	3	5	2	3

GOALTENDER

	GP	REC	GA	SV%	GAA
Cayden Primeau	2	2-0-0	3	.955	1.50
Jakub Dobeš	2	1-0-1	4	.943	1.86
Connor Hughes	4	3-1-0	9	.922	2.27

SCOUTING THE ROCKET

The Laval Rocket secured the Macgregor Kilpatrick Trophy as the AHL's overall regular-season champions for the 2024-25 season as they posted a 48-19-3-2 record.

Guided by head coach Pascal Vincent, a Laval native who in his first season with the club won the Louis A.R. Pieri Memorial Award as the AHL's Coach of the Year, the Rocket finished with an AHL-best 48 wins and 101 points while also claiming second North Division title.

The Rocket are the first primary affiliate of the Montreal Canadiens to finish first overall in the AHL since the 1991-92 Fredericton Canadiens. (The Hamilton Bulldogs, a shared affiliate of the Canadiens and the Edmonton Oilers, won the Macgregor Kilpatrick Trophy in 2002-03.)

Vincent guided his hometown Rocket to a 27-point improvement over last season's Laval club. Vincent's club allowed 2.47 goals per game, tied for the fewest in the league, and he has been instrumental in the development of many young Canadiens prospects, including nine players who have competed with Montreal this season. Vincent, who also won the Louis A.R. Pieri Award in 2017-18, is the sixth two-time recipient of the award, joining Al MacNeil, Bob McCammon, Bill Dineen, Robbie Ftorek and Mitch Love, and the first to earn the honor with two different organizations.

Goaltenders Cayden Primeau and Connor Hughes were the co-recipients of the Harry "Hap" Holmes Memorial Award for the 2024-25 season. The Rocket allowed a league-low 178 goals in 2024-25, an average of 2.47 per game. This is the first Holmes Award for Laval and the first by a Montreal Canadiens affiliate since 2009-10.

Primeau joined the Rocket just after Christmas and was the AHL's most dominant goaltender over the second half of 2024-25. He posted the best single-season record in AHL history at 21-2-2 (.880) in 26 appearances, including wins in each of his first 10 decisions and an 11-0-2 streak to close out the regular season. The nephew of former Amerk Wayne Primeau, he also finished second in the league with a 1.96 goals-against average and third with a .927 save percentage. Hughes, in his first season in North America after seven years in Switzerland, went 15-12-2 in 29 appearances for the Rocket, registering a 2.58 goals-against average and .905 save percentage.



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NORTH DIVISION FINALS 1 LAVAL ROCKET vs. 2 ROCHESTER AMERICANS

2024-25 REGULAR SEASON COMPARISON

48-19-3-2, 101 pts.	RECORD	42-22-5-3, 92 pts.
24-9-2-1	HOME	19-13-3-1
24-10-1-1	ROAD	23-9-2-2
229 (11th)	GOALS FOR	238 (7th)
178 (T-1st)	GOALS AGAINST	191 (7th)
18.9% (12th), 4 SHGA	POWER PLAY	18.4% (15th), 7 SHGA
83.2% (11th), 9 SHGF	PENALTY KILLING	85.2% (5th), 13 SHGF

2025 CALDER CUP PLAYOFFS COMPARISON

3-1	RECORD	3-0
def. CLE, 3-1	RESULTS	def. SYR, 3-0
1-1 • 2-0	HOME • ROAD	2-0 • 1-0
12 • 6	GOALS FOR • GOALS AGAINST	11 • 2
4/18 (22.2%), 1 SHGA	POWER PLAY	2/7 (28.6%)
10/12 (83.3%)	PENALTY KILLING	8/8 (100.0%)
0-0	OVERTIME	0-0

CALDER CUP PLAYOFF HISTORY

3rd	APPEARANCES	50th
12-9	RECORD (GAMES)	230-219
3-2	RECORD (SERIES)	49-43
3-3	OVERTIME	37-45
none	CALDER CUP TITLES	'65, '66, '68, '83, '87, '96
none	LOSING FINALIST	'57, '60, '67, '77, '84, '90, '91, '93, '99, '00
1-0	PREVIOUS MEETINGS	0-1

2022 DF (W, 3-0)

SERIES SCHEDULE		14	15	16	17
		Game 1 at ROC 7:05 ET		Game 2 at ROC 7:05 ET	
18	19	20	21	22	23
			Game 3 at LAV 7:00 ET		*Game 4 at LAV 7:00 ET
*Game 5 at LAV 4:30 ET	26	27	28	WATCH THE CALDER CUP PLAYOFFS AHLTV AHLHOCKEY	

2024-25 HEAD-TO-HEAD SERIES

6-1-1-0, 13 pts.	RECORD	2-5-1-0, 5 pts.
2-1-1-0	HOME	0-3-1-0
4-0-0-0	ROAD	2-2-0-0
24	GOALS	16
3/23 (13.0%)	POWER PLAY	3/26 (11.5%)
Barre-Boulet (7gp, 4-5-9) Dauphin (6gp, 4-2-6) Roy (7gp, 2-3-5) Farrell (8gp, 2-3-5)	LEADING SCORERS	Rousek (8gp, 1-3-4) Slaggert (7gp, 3-0-3) Rathbone (7gp, 2-1-3) Jobst (8gp, 2-1-3)
Primeau (2-0-0, 1.50, .955) Hughes (3-1-0, 2.27, .922)	LEADING GOALTENDERS	Levi (2-4-0, 2.87, .889) Houser (0-1-1, 2.45, .887)



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