

Friday | **October 24, 2025** | 7:05 PM | The Blue Cross Arena | AHL Game 75 | AHLTV on FloHockey, 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](https://amerks.com/media) | [@AmerksPR](https://twitter.com/AmerksPR)



TONIGHT'S GAME OVERVIEW

The North Division's top two teams from a year ago clash tonight at Blue Cross Arena as the Rochester Americans (3-2-0-0) host the Laval Rocket (3-2-0-0) in a rematch of the North Division Finals. Game time is slated for a 7:05 p.m. start and will be carried live on The Sports Leader 95.7 FM/AM 950 The Fan Rochester as well as AHLTV on FloHockey.

SEASON SERIES SNAPSHOT

Despite posting its first losing record against the Rocket in 2024-25, Rochester is 29-16-3-0 all-time against Laval in the regular season, which included an 8-7-1-0 mark over the last two seasons. The Amerks have picked up at least one point in 16 of their first 25 road games in Laval, going 14-9-2-0 over that span. Conversely, since the start of the 2017-18 campaign, the Amerks have posted a 15-8-1-0 mark at The Blue Cross Arena versus Laval, earning points in all four meetings during the 2023-24 season.

The Amerks have outshot the Rocket nine times over the last 16 regular season games since the start of the 2023-24 campaign, which included the first five meetings last 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 goals in the his last four games.

Last season, 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 whereas the Rocket went 29-3-0-1.

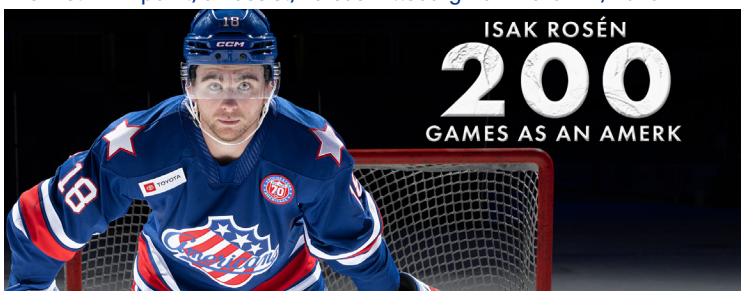
Lastly, both teams have posted double digits in wins (ROC-15) (LAV-10) in three-goal games. Both clubs enter tonight with perfect home records to start this season and are unbeaten when scoring the first goal of the game.

200 FOR WARREN, 200 FOR ROSÉN

On Wednesday against Syracuse, **Brendan Warren** appeared in his 200th game as an Amerk, becoming the 63rd forward in franchise history to reach said milestone. Tonight, **Isak Rosén** will become 64th to do so.

The fourth-year pro, who is in the final year of his entry-level contract in 2025-26, has recorded nine goals and seven assists for 15 points in 26 regular-season contests opposite the Rocket. The Solna, Sweden, native tallied four of his five postseason goals versus Laval last spring while also adding an assist in the best-of-five series.

Of his 199 AHL games, Rosén has notched 149 points (65+84) and 455 shots since making his AHL debut in 2022-23 campaign. The two-time AHL All-Star has also skated in 13 games with the Buffalo Sabres, which produced his first NHL point, an assist, versus Pittsburgh on March 27, 2025.



2025-26 AMERKS OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	PIM
Isak Rosén	5	3	4	7	-1	2
Noah Östlund*	4	1	4	5	0	2
Zac Jones	5	0	5	5	-4	0

*=Currently with Buffalo (NHL)

GOALTENDER	GP	REC	SVS	SV%	GAA
Alexandar Georgiev	1	0-1-0	31	.912	3.01
Topias Leinonen	1	0-1-0	17	.850	3.08
Devon Levi	2	2-0-0	50	.877	3.50

2025-26 ROCKET OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

SKATER	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	PIM
Laurent Dauphin	5	3	3	6	4	4
Joshua Roy*	4	3	1	4	1	2
Alex Belzile	5	1	3	4	4	4

*=Currently with Montreal (NHL)

GOALTENDER	GP	REC	SVS	SV%	GAA
Kaapo Kähkönen	2	2-0-0	43	.915	2.01
Jacob Fowler	3	1-2-0	64	.865	3.34

2025-26 HEAD-TO-HEAD BREAKDOWN

Laval Rocket vs Rochester Americans

3-2-0-0	Record	3-2-0-0
2-0-0-0	Home Record	2-0-0-0
1-2-0-0	Away Record	1-2-0-0
3-2-0-0	Last 10 Games	3-2-0-0
0-0	Overtime Record	0-0
0-0	Shootout Record	0-0
3-0-0-0	Record When Scoring First	2-0-0-0
23.5% (12th)	Power-Play	38.9% (2nd)
80.0% (T-19th)	Penalty Kill	82.4% (15th)

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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METSA MAKES NHL DEBUT

Just days after earning his first-ever NHL recall to the Buffalo Sabres last week, Amerks captain **Zach Metsa** made his highly anticipated NHL debut in Buffalo's 4-2 loss at Montreal Monday night.

Metsa, whose debut came a day after his 27th birthday, logged 9:02 of ice time while skating alongside Mattias Samuelsson and Bowen Byram.

The 65th captain in franchise history, Metsa is coming off a season where he topped all Amerks in assists (39) and finished third in points (46) in 69 games, earning him a two-year, two-way contract with the Sabres during the offseason.

A native of Delafield, Wisconsin, Metsa has totaled 70 points (14+56) in 125 regular season games with Rochester since joining the club in 2023. He originally signed with the Amerks prior to the 2023 Calder Cup Playoffs.

Metsa, who is the fifth-youngest captain over the last 30 years with the Amerks, is no stranger to being in a leadership role, having captained Quinnipiac University to its first-ever National Championship in 2023.

DID IT FOUR HISTORY

On Wednesday night, **Ukko-Pekka Luukkonen** made a conditioning stint appearance with the Amerks. In doing so, the Finnish netminder was the fourth different netminder this season to man the pipes, joining **Devon Levi**, **Topias Leinonen**, and **Alexandar Georgiev**. By using four goaltenders through the first five games of the campaign, it marked the first time it has happened in the 70-year history of the franchise.

Luukkonen, who has since completed his conditioning assignment and returned to Buffalo, made his first appearance with Rochester since Nov. 9, 2022, which also came against Syracuse. Luukkonen stopped 21 of the 23 shots he faced to earn the win and has now won each of his last four games and six of his last eight in the AHL dating back to Oct. 19, 2022.

Georgiev made his Amerks debut on Saturday against the Crunch after joining the club on reassignment from the Buffalo Sabres last week. The veteran netminder, who made his first AHL start since Jan. 26, 2019 as a member of the Hartford Wolf Pack, became the first Bulgarian-born goaltender to appear in a game with the franchise.

Leinonen made his Amerks debut in Rochester's 4-1 loss against the Toronto Marlies on Saturday, Oct. 11. The Finnish netminder stopped 17 of the 20 shots he faced but was dealt the defeat.

Levi is the only netminder to have appeared in multiple games this season for Rochester as he shows a 2-0-0 mark and 50 saves through his first two appearances.



PARTY OF FIVE

Following last week's reassignment of defenseman **Ryan Johnson** to the Amerks, Rochester's current roster features five different first-round picks, including highly touted defenseman **Radim Mrtka**, who the Buffalo Sabres took with their ninth overall pick this past summer.

Mrtka, who signed a three-year, entry-level with the Sabres in July, made his professional debut on Oct. 10 after playing the 2024-25 campaign with Seattle Thunderbirds of the WHL. He recorded his first pro point with the lone assist on **Brendan Warren's** eventual game-winning goal.

Mrtka had 35 points (3+32) in 43 games last season and a plus-10 rating with Seattle. The Havlickuv, Czechia, product tied for fifth amongst all WHL rookie defensemen in points.

The 6-foot-6, 218-pound blueliner logged four points (1+3) in five games to lead all Czechia defensemen at the 2025 IIHF U18 World Championship. Additionally, he earned a silver medal with his native country at the 2024 Hlinka Gretzky Cup, collecting a pair of helpers in five appearances.

Mrtka joins Johnson (31st overall, 2019), **Isak Rosén** (14th overall, 2021), **Noah Ostlund** (16th overall, 2022), and **Konsta Helenius** (14th overall, 2024) as the first-round selections comprising Rochester's 24-man roster.

SCOUTING THE ROCKET

Laval makes its first of four trips to the Flower City this season, showing a 3-2-0-0 mark through the first five contests. Tonight is also the first game between the two clubs since the Rocket eliminated the Amerks in Game 5 of the North Division Finals this past spring.

After dropping its first game of the 2025-26 season, Laval responded with three straight victories, which all came against Western Conference teams, then suffered a 6-2 defeat this past Wednesday night against Belleville.

The Rocket have used the goaltending duo of Kaapo Kähkönen and rookie Jacob Fowler. Kähkönen led the Charlotte Checkers to the Calder Cup Finals before signing a one-year NHL contract with Montreal this past summer. Fowler, meanwhile, turned pro at the end of the 2024-25 season, posting a 2-1-0 record in three regular season games for the Rocket.

After spending two years away from the organization, veteran forward Alex Belzile is back with the Rocket. The former Laval captain and three-time AHL All-Star has totaled 16 points in 23 career games against Rochester.



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