ROCHESTER AMERICANS HOCKEY CLUB
SIX-TIME CALDER CUP CHAMPIONS 1965 | 1966 | 1968 | 1983 | 1987 | 1996

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2026 | NBT BANK ARENA | AHL GAME No. 210 | WGR ROCHESTER, AHLTV ON FLOHOCKEY**

# 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

The Rochester Americans (7-4-0-1) hit the road Saturday, Nov. 7, for an intrastate showdown against the Utica Comets (7-2-0-0) at NBT Bank Arena. The 6:00 p.m. matchup will be broadcast live on The Sports Leader, WGR Rochester (95.7 FM/950 AM), and streamed on AHLTV on FloHockey.

Rochester begins the first weekend of November as one of six teams in the North Division with at least six wins and 14 or more points through the first month of the season. The Amerks have won all six of their Friday games this season, outscoring their opponents 27-10. At five-on-five, the club has allowed 16 goals while scoring 24. Rochester is 7-0-0-0 when leading after two periods, compared to an 0-3-0-1 record when trailing after 40 minutes of play.

After opening the season with three straight wins before dropping two of their next three games, Utica (7-2-0-0) is looking to earn its first four-game winning streak entering tonight's matchup. Since losing three straight games, the Comets have posted a 15-3-1-1 record in their last 20 regular-season games dating back to March 25. The club has not suffered back-to-back losses during that stretch. Utica, which has played the fewest games in the Eastern Conference this season, has faced seven North Division opponents while splitting a pair of contests with the Providence Bruins, who won the Macgregor Kilpatrick Trophy as the AHL's overall regular-season champions for the 2025-26 season.

## HEAD-TO-HEAD RESULTS AGAINST UTICA

The Amerks have dominated the Comets over the last four seasons, winning 30 of their previous 45 meetings during that span, including five of the first nine matchups last season. Rochester has outscored Utica 155-130 over that same stretch. In the second period alone, the Amerks have outscored the Comets 70-55.

Rochester, which is winless (0-4-0-0) in its last four games against Utica, has not dropped five straight to the Comets since the 2015-16 season, when the club went 0-4-0-1.

In 10 games against Utica last season, **RILEY FIDDLER-SCHULTZ**, who opened the scoring in the season opener against Toronto on Oct. 2 and has scored all four of his goals this season on home ice, led all Amerks with five goals and seven points. **CARSON MEYER**, **TREVOR KUNTAR**, and **BRENDAN WARREN** are the only three players currently on Rochester's roster to have recorded multiple goals against the Comets in 2025-26, with each scoring twice.

Prior to the series opener earlier this season between Utica and Rochester, no goaltender on the Amerks' active roster had faced Utica during his professional career, while the Comets' Jakub Málek had made five career appearances against Rochester, posting a 2-3-0 record and allowing 14 goals.

Utica has won both meetings against Rochester this season, on Oct. 10 and Oct. 21, including a 2-1 victory in the Oct. 10 matchup at NBT Bank Arena. Of the 11 total goals scored between the two clubs this season, 10 have come after the start of the second period. The two penalty-kill units have combined to successfully kill off 17 of 18 penalties, while the goaltenders have made 81 saves on 91 shots.

**MATTHEW PECA** (1+1) and **TREVOR KUNTAR** (0+2) have each recorded two points in the two games against Utica in 2026-27, while Marc McLaughlin (2+0), Gabe Klassen (1+1), and Ryan Schmelzer (1+1) have each recorded two points against Rochester.

PECA enters tonight tied for the league-lead in points (17) while also on a season-long seven game point streak that has seen him post 12 points (4+8), which includes three consecutive multi-point games. The veteran forward has registered a six-game point streak or longer in six straight seasons which also includes three straight multi-point games three times in his career.

Tonight marks the third of four meetings between Rochester and Utica before the end of the calendar year. The Amerks will host the Comets on Dec. 21 for their final meeting of 2026. Of Rochester's final 16 games of the 2026-27 schedule, three will be against Utica, including the season-series finale on April 7 in the Flower City.

## 2026-27 AMERKS OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

| SKATER | GP | G | A | PTS | +/- | PIM |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Matthew Peca | 12 | 6 | 11 | 17 | 4 | 6 |
| Jason Polin | 12 | 7 | 5 | 12 | -2 | 2 |
| Trevor Kuntar | 12 | 5 | 6 | 11 | 2 | 13 |

| GOALTENDER | GP | REC | SVS | SV% | GAA |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Matt Villalta | 10 | 6-3-1 | 223 | .918 | 2.00 |
| Talyn Boyko | 2 | 1-1-0 | 48 | .889 | 3.05 |

## 2026-27 COMETS OVERALL SCORING & GOALTENDING LEADERS

| SKATER | GP | G | A | PTS | +/- | PIM |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Lenni Hämeenaho | 9 | 5 | 3 | 8 | 5 | 0 |
| Gabe Klassen | 9 | 5 | 1 | 6 | -1 | 0 |
| Ben Steeves | 9 | 4 | 2 | 6 | 1 | 4 |

| GOALTENDER | GP | REC | SVS | SV% | GAA |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Jakub Málek | 3 | 2-1-0 | 46 | .885 | 1.97 |
| David Rittich | 6 | 5-1-0 | 131 | .897 | 2.52 |

## 2026-27 HEAD-TO-HEAD BREAKDOWN

| Utica Comets | | Rochester Americans |
|---|---|---|
| 7-2-0-0 | Overall Record | 7-4-0-1 |
| 4-1-0-0 | Home Record | 5-2-0-0 |
| 3-1-0-0 | Away Record | 2-2-0-1 |
| 0-0 | Overtime Record | 1-0 |
| 1-0 | Shootout Record | 0-1 |
| 5-1-0-0 | Record When Scoring First | 7-1-0-0 |
| 15.0 (T-24th) | Power-Play | 23.7% (7th) |
| 88.9% (2nd) | Penalty Kill | 85.7% (7th) |

## RESULTS FROM THE HOMESTAND

Rochester enters tonight's matchup following, its four-game homestand which saw them post back-to-back-to-back victories for the first time this season. Prior to Wednesday's win over Cleveland, the Amerks had posted an 0-6-0-1 record in home Wednesday games dating back to Jan. 28, 2026, and had been outscored 26-13.

The Amerks have held each of their last four opponents to fewer than 26 shots while successfully killing off 11 of its 12 penalties. Rochester has scored six of its 16 goals during the homestand in the opening period while allowing just two of the opposition's eight goals in the first frame. The Amerks have also scored six power-play goals on 17 opportunities.

**MATTHEW PECA** has recorded seven assists and nine points over his last four contests, while **JASON POLIN** (4+1) and **RILEY FIDDLER-SCHULTZ** (2+1) have each found the scoresheet in the last three games. Goaltender **MATT VILLALTA** has started three games during the homestand, posting a 2-1-0 record, a .897 save percentage, and a 2.35 goals-against average. The Godfrey, Ontario, native has made 27 of his 61 saves in the opening period. Fellow netminder **TALYN BOYKO** , who carried a shutout into the final eight minutes of regulation last night, stopped 24 of the 26 shots he faced to earn his first win with Rochester and first in the AHL since April 9, 2026.

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