

# MEDIA NOTES



@SunDevilHockey



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GAME 13: #20 ARIZONA STATE VS #4 DENVER

DECEMBER 6. 2019

7:05 PM (MST)

## **SUN DEVIL REWIND**

Coming into the weekend, the Sun Devils have won six of their last eight games with just one loss and a tie most recently to Vermont on Saturday. Two of those six came in a home sweep of then-No. 9 Quinnipiac, earning ASU the program's first sweep of a top-10 team. A key part to that stretch of success has been a combination of sophomore goaltender EVAN DEBROUWER and junior forward JAMES SANCHEZ.

Over his last eight games, DEBROUWER boasts a 6-1-1 record with a 1.62 goals against average, .940 save percentage and two shutouts. He ranks among the top-10 goalies in the country in all of those categories during that stretch. SANCHEZ was riding a seven-game point streak into Saturday's contest with three goals and nine assists before being held off the scoresheet. In the four games prior to Saturday, he had two-points per game with two goals and six assists. He's had two points in six of the Sun Devils 12 games, and only held pointless in two.

## PIONEERS IN NEW TERRITORY

After earning the No. 2 ranking in the preseason polls and eventually moving to No. 1 for several weeks, the Pioneers were rolling out of the gates with an 8-0-0 start to the season. Since that first weekend of November, Denver has gone 1-3-2 in their first three weeks of NCHC play. The No. 4 Pios earned that lone victory most recently two Saturday's ago behind a 6-1 victory over Western Michigan. Prior to the six-goal explosion, Denver's offense was sputtering with an average of 1.6 goals per game during their 0-3-2 stretch and just a goal in three of them.

Coming off their second bye week of the season, Denver is led offensively by junior d-man and Chicago Blackhawks' prospect Ian Mitchell (3g, 9a) and sophomore forward and Calgary Flames' draftee Emilio Pettersen (2g, 10a). Philadelphia Flyers' recent second-round draft pick Bobby Brink is on a heater as of late with two goals and two assists in the last two games, including a three-point night in their recent win against Western Michigan. The Pioneers feature debatably the best goaltending tandem in college hockey with freshman Magnus Chrona and junior Devin Cooley. Chrona got Denver started this season with a 7-3-2 record, .920 save percentage and 2.15 goals against average, while Cooley recorded the most recent victory in his first start back from injury allowing just one goal.

## TALE OF THE TAPE (2019-20)

Sun Devils (NCAA Rank)	)	Pioneers (NCAA Rank)
3.08 (19th)	<b>Goals Per Game</b>	3.36 (12th)
2.42 (T20th)	<b>Goals Against Average</b>	2.07 (11th)
28.92 (T32nd)	<b>Shots Per Game</b>	34.57 (4th)
18.2% (33rd)	<b>Power Play</b>	19.4% (T26th)
80.6% (33rd)	Penalty Kill	90.7% (6th)
47.2% (48th)	Faceoff %	49.6% (33rd)

### PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

BUNCIS: bun-sis KOUMONTZIS: co-mun-ZEEZ
GRUBER: GROO-burr LEMIEUX: luh-MEW
GVIDO: guh-VEE-doh MANISCALCO: man-niss-cal-COH
JANSONS: YAWN-sons PASICHNUK: PASH-nuck
SANDHU: san-DOO PRAWDZIK: prawd-ZIK
KNIERIM: NEER-rum SEMIK: seh-MICK



#### AT Oceanside Ice Arena Tempe, Arizona

7:05 p.m. (MST)



9-3-2 7-4-1

#### 2019-20 VS. CONFERENCE

ECAC Atlantic NCHC Hockey East Big Ten WCHA 2-0-0-0 3-1-0-0 0-0-0-0 1-0-1-0 0-0-0-0 1-3-0-0

#### OVERALL RECORD VS. CONFERENCE

ECAC Atlantic NCHC Hockey East Big Ten WCHA 9-13-3-1 10-4-1-0 4-8-3-0 8-11-0-0 3-11-1-0 12-8-1-1

#### 2019-20 SUN DEVIL LEADERS

Player	G	Α	Pts.	Goalie	Rec.	SV%	GAA
James Sanchez	4	13	17	Evan DeBrouwer	6-4-1	.921	2.23
Johnny Walker	6	7	13	Max Prawdzik	1-0-0	.810	4.01
Josh Maniscalco	5	8	13	Justin Robbins	0-0-0	.923	4.00
Brinson Pasichnuk	2	9	11				

### *2019-20 DENVER LEADERS*

Player	G	Α	Pts.	Goalie	Rec.	SV%	GAA
Ian Mitchell	3	9	12	Magnus Chrona	7-3-2	.920	2.15
Emilio Pettersen	2	10	12	Devin Cooley	1-0-0	.960	1.00
Bobby Brink	6	5	11	Michael Corson	1-0-0	1.00	0.00
Liam Finlay	3	8	11				

#### BY THE NUMBERS

12

Saturday's game at Gila River will be the 12th time that the Sun Devils have played on the big ice in Glendale.



Arizona State and Denver are tied for 13th in the country with a +10 plus-minus as a team.



Junior forward JAMES SANCHEZ has 12 points in his last 8 games including three goals and nine assists.



In his last eight games, goaltender EVAN DEBROUWER is 6-1-1 with a 1.62 goals against average, a .940 save percentage, and two shutouts.

#### SUN DEVIL TWEETABLES

- 1. The last time @SunDevilHockey played @DU\_Hockey in 2016-17, the Pioneers were ranked No. 3.
- Junior @KingJames\_38 has recorded two-point games in four of his last five games. Saturday vs. Vermont was the first game he hasn't recorded a point since Oct. 12.
- 3. This is the second-ever meeting between @SunDevilHockey and @ DU\_Hockey with the Pioneers holding a 2-0 advantage.
- 4. This is the first time in program history the Sun Devils will host a ranked team as a ranked team in a two-game series. (ASU hosted a ranked Clarkson & Minnesota State team in the 2018 Desert Hockey Classic).

## **OUOTES OF THE WEEK**

- •"Going into this weekend, I definitely think we need to ramp it up a little more. Vermont is a good team and their record might not show it, but they played a lot better than their record." -JAMES SANCHEZ
- •"It's always cool to play in those places (Gila River). A couple years ago we played [ASU] at that rink too. It'll be cool, it'll be different than Oceanside, a little bigger, but other than that it will be exciting." -JAMES SANCHEZ
- •"I think it gives ASU the opportunity that we can go against anybody and I think if we can grab a couple wins this weekend, it will set us apart and show that ASU isn't messing around as a program and that everyone will want to be a part of it. We want to show that we can play anybody and beat anybody, it doesn't matter who." -JAMES SANCHEZ
- •"They're a blue blood in every way. They have won a ton of National Championships, they've been to some Frozen Fours recently, they are a great team. But it's exciting to host such a great program and I think it's exciting for our fans here to be able to go watch us play such a program and hopefully people come out in abundance and enjoy it." -GREG POWERS
- •"Everything needs to be a little faster and a little stronger. Denver is just a really good team and today we were talking about watching turnovers because Denver is good at capitalizing on chances that they get and that makes them a good team, so we just need to buckle down on turnovers and make sure we get pucks in." -JAMES SANCHEZ
- "We have now built our program to the point where not every weekend we are considered the underdog
  anymore, so I think our guys get excited and maybe when our perception is we are the underdog,
  just like we were against Quinnipiac and like we are this weekend, there will be an extra kick for us."
   -GREG POWERS
- "We were hesitant to go play at Gila River before last season, but then we figured out that hockey is
  hockey and it's the same everywhere we go so hopefully we get a good crowd and get 4 to 5,000 people
  out there on Saturday and there's a good environment." -GREG POWERS
- "They're deep and balanced and we think we are too, so it's going to be a challenge. We are excited to take on the challenge." -GREG POWERS

## **FAMILIAR FOES**

- ASU captain TYLER BUSCH and Denver's captain Ian Mitchell were both teammates with the Spruce Grove Saints in 2015-16, while Mitchell and ASU's JARROD GOURLEY were Saints in 2016-17. Also in 2015-16, GOURLEY played on the Canada White U17 World Hockey Classic team with Mitchell and Griffin Mendel.
- Sun Devil sophomore d-men JOSH MANISCALCO and JACOB SEMIK played together with Denver's Cole
  Guttman with the Dubuque Fighting Saints (USHL) in 2017-18, and MANISCALCO and Guttman wore
  'C's for the Saints. SEMIK and Guttman also were part of the team in 2016-17.
- Way back in 2014-15, ASU assistant coach MIKE FIELD coached Sun Devil forward WILLIE KNIERIM and Denver's Michael Davies with Dubuque (USHL).
- In 2017-18, JORDAN SANDHU and JACK JUDSON shared the ice with Pioneer forward Brett Stapley as members of the Vernon Vipers (BCHL).
- For a brief stint in 2015-16, ASU's JACOB WILSON and Pioneer forward Jake Durflinger played together with the Sioux City Musketeers (USHL).
- Back in 2015-16, Denver goaltender Devin Cooley played behind former Sun Devil netminder and current Belleville Senators (AHL) goalie JOEY DACCORD in Muskegon (USHL).
- In 2017-18, JAX MURRAY of ASU and Kyle Mayhew of Denver played with the Fairbanks Ice Dogs (NAHL).
- ASU redshirt freshman PETER ZHONG and Denver's Erich Fear played together with Chicago Mission U18 in 2014-15.

## **POWERING UP**

Coach Powers enters his fifth season as the head coach of the Division I program in 2019-20, and his 12th overall at the helm at ASU. The 2018-19 was one for the record books, as the Spencer Penrose National Coach of the Year finalist led the program to its first NCAA Tournament appearance. Under Powers, ASU became the fastest start-up collegiate hockey program to qualify for the postseason. At 21-13-1 and No. 10 in the Pairwise rankings, the Sun Devils made the largest jump in all of NCAA Division I year-to-year up from No. 53 at the end of 2017-18. During the 2013-14 season, Coach Powers helped guide the Sun Devils to their first-ever ACHA Division I National Championship. He holds a 220-109-25 career record at ASU.

Himself a Sun Devil, Powers graduated from the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism in 1999 and was inducted into the ASU Hockey Player Hall of Fame in in 2009. Collegiately, Greg was a three-time ACHA Division I All-American Goaltender while playing for the Sun Devils under the tutelage of Hall of Fame Head Coach Gene Hammett. The Sun Devils qualified for three national championships during Powers' four-season collegiate career, and he was named Team MVP for the 1996-1997 and 1997-1998 seasons.

#### 2019-2020 SCHEDULE Date Time (MST)/Result Opponent Aug 1-Aug 12 International Trip (China) Oct. 5 vs. Mercyhurst L2-3 Oct. 6 vs. Mercyhurst W.6-4 Oct. 11 at #3 Minnesota State L<sub>1-4</sub> Oct. 12 at#3 Minnesota State L,0-5 Nr<del>d.</del> 18 at Air Force W, 3-0 Oct. 19 at Air Force W,5-2 vs.#9 Quinnipiac W,5-3 Nov. 1 Nov. 2 vs.#9 Ouinnipiac W, 4-1 Nov. 8 at Alaska Fairbanks L,3-4 Nov. 9 at Alaska Fairbanks W.4-0 Nov. 29 vs. Vermont W, 2-1 Nov. 30 vs. Vermont T, 2-2 Dec. 6 vs.#4 Denver 7:05 pm Dec. 7 vs. #4 Nenver 4:30 pm Dec. 14 at Michigan State 5:00 pm Dec. 15 at Michigan State 3:00 pm at Nebraska Omaha Dec. 21 6:07 pm **Dec. 22** at Nehraska Omaha 3:07 pm Dec. 28 Harvard TBD Dec. 29 Harvard TBD 7:05 pm Jan. 4 vs. Mochigan Tech Jan.5 TBD vs. Michigan Tech Jan. 11 at Brown 5:00 pm Jan. 12 at Brown 2:00 pm Jan. 17 vs. RIT 7:05 pm Jan. 18 vs. RIT 7:05 pm Jan. 24 at Clarkson TBD Jan. 25 at Clarkson TBD Jan. 31 vs. Robert Morris 7:05 pm vs. Robert Morris Feb. 1 7:05 pm Feb. 7 at Holy Cross TBD Feb. 8 at Bentley TRN Feb. 14 7:05 pm vs. Alaska Anchorage Feb. 15 vs. Alaska Anchorage 7:05 pm Feb. 21 at Wisconsin TRN Feb. 22 at Wisconsin TRN

### ARIZONA STATE QUICK FACTS

Location	Tempe, Ariz.
Enrollment	103,000
Nickname	Sun Devils
Colors	Maroon & Gold
Conference	Independent (Pac-12 in other sports)
	Dr. Michael Crow
Athletic Director	Ray Anderson
	Oceanside Ice Arena/Gila River Arena
Head Coach	Greg Powers (12th season)
Assistant Coach	Alex Hicks (6th season)
Assistant Coach	Mike Field (5th season)
Director of Operations	Andrew Matheson (1st season)
Strength & Conditioning Coach	Liane Blyn (2nd season)
Volunteer Assistant	Eddie Lack (1st season)
Equipment Manager	Jon Laughner (3rd season)
Athletic Trainer	CJ Clarizio (3rd season)
Powers' Career Record	220-109-25
Powers' NCAA Record	51-77-12