



ARIZONA STATE SUN DEVIL HOCKEY MEDIA NOTES



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GAMES 21: #17 ARIZONA STATE VS MICHIGAN TECH

JANUARY 4, 2020

7:05PM (MST)

SUN DEVIL REWIND

The Sun Devils are coming off their first series loss since being swept by then-No. 3 Minnesota State on Oct. 11-12, losing game one before rallying from three goals down to tie No. 16 Harvard in game two in Irvine for the inaugural SoCal Clash.

Sophomore forward PJ MARROCCO and junior forward JOHNNY WALKER had quite the month of December, scoring five and six goals respectively. WALKER tied for first in the country in total points in December with nine, while MARROCCO tied for third in goals.

Junior forward JAMES SANCHEZ continues to pace the Sun Devils in points after a seven-point month of December (tied for fifth nationally) and now sits tied for 3rd in points in the country this season with 24.

Between the pipes, sophomore EVAN DEBROUWER came up big in relief against Harvard on Sunday, making 16 saves on 17 shots to preserve the tie.

ROLLING INTO 2020

Michigan Tech finished 2019 with a bang, capturing the Great Lakes Invitational championship for the first time since 2012 with 4-2 wins over in-state Big Ten programs Michigan State and Michigan.

The Huskies have been on a roll since being swept by Minnesota State in early November, winning nine of their last 12 with just two losses and a tie. In six of their last seven games, they've allowed two goals or less. This is heavily in part to senior netminder Matt Jurusik, who boasts a 1.99 goals against average and .926 save percentage in those 12 games.

Up front, sophomore forward Alec Broetzman has been on a tear the last five games with four goals and two assists. More recently, freshman forward Logan Pietila recorded three of his four goals on the season in the Great Lakes championship game. Senior forward Alex Smith is on a five-game point streak currently with two goals and three assists in that stretch.

TALE OF THE TAPE (2019-20)

Sun Devils (NCAA Rank)		Huskies (NCAA Rank)
3.05 (21st)	Goals Per Game	2.57 (38th)
2.80 (33rd)	Goals Against Average	2.05 (10th)
29.65 (28th)	Shots Per Game	26.52 (48th)
16.0% (43rd)	Power Play	18.2% (34th)
82.0% (28th)	Penalty Kill	80.9% (34th)
48.7% (43rd)	Faceoff %	49.5% (35th)

PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

BUNCIS: bun-sis
GRUBER: GROO-burr
GVIDO: guh-VEE-doh
JANSONS: YAWN-sons
SANDHU: san-DOO
KNIERIM: NEER-rum

KOUMONTZIS: co-mun-ZEEZ
LEMIEUX: luh-MEW
MANISCALCO: man-niss-cal-COH
PASICHNUK: PASH-nuck
PRAWDZIK: prawd-ZIK
SEMIK: seh-MICK



**AT
Oceanside
Ice Arena**

Tempe, AZ
7:05 p.m. (MST)



12-8-1

10-7-3

2019-20 VS. CONFERENCE

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

OVERALL RECORD VS. CONFERENCE

ECAC	Atlantic	NCHC	Hockey East	Big Ten	WCHA
9-14-4-1	10-4-1-0	6-9-4-0	8-11-0-0	4-11-1-1	12-8-1-1

2019-20 SUN DEVIL LEADERS

Player	G	A	Pts.	Goalie	Rec.	SV%	GAA
James Sanchez	6	18	24	Evan DeBrouwer	9-7-3	.919	2.53
Johnny Walker	12	10	22	Max Prawdzik	1-0-0	.818	4.51
Josh Maniscalco	7	9	16	Justin Robbins	0-0-0	.923	4.00
Brinson Pasichnuk	2	14	16				

2019-20 MICHIGAN TECH LEADERS

Player	G	A	Pts.	Goalie	Rec.	SV%	GAA
Alec Broetzman	9	6	15	Matt Jurusik	11-5-1	.926	2.00
Trenton Bliss	8	6	14	Robbie Beydoun	1-2-0	.915	2.16
Eric Gotz	4	10	14	Blake Pietila	0-1-0	.923	1.54
Brian Halonen	7	5	12				

BY THE NUMBERS

4

JOHNNY WALKER netted four goals in three meetings against Michigan Tech in 2017-18, and is coming off a red-hot December with six -- the second most in the country.

5

The Sun Devils are 5-1-1 at Oceanside Ice Arena this season with their only loss coming in the season opener to Mercyhurst.

3

Despite just a 1-2-1 record, the Sun Devils are averaging 3.50 goals per game in the last four games with 5, 4, 1 and 4 scored in that stretch.

2

The Sun Devils series loss to Harvard in California was just the second series they've lost this season and first since Oct. 11-12 against then-No. 3 Minnesota State.

SUN DEVIL TWEETABLES

1. This series is the fourth and fifth meeting between @mtuhky and @SunDevilHockey -- the first three coming during the 2017-18 season.
2. In the previous three meetings, @jwalks96 and @brindogboy have shined with 5 points (4g, 1a) and 4 points (3g, 1a), respectively.
3. In the month of December, @jwalks96 tied for the most points in the country with nine and second in goals with six.
4. Sophomore forward @peej_97 also had quite the month of December, tying for third in the country in goals scored with 5.
5. Junior forward @KingJames_38 is tied for 3rd in the country in points with 24 and 4th in assists with 18.

LAST TIME THEY MET...

- Jan. 6, 2018: At the inaugural Ice Vegas Invitational -- now named the Fortress Invitational -- the Sun Devils and Michigan Tech met for the first time in the tournament championship. ASU jumped out to a 3-0 lead through two periods, and while the Huskies managed to make it interesting late, the Sun Devils closed out with a 3-2 win and the inaugural championship. Defenseman BRINSON PASICHNUK netted two goals, while JOHNNY WALKER scored as well.
- Feb. 16, 2018: ASU made their first trip to the upper peninsula just a month later, and despite getting down 1-0 in the 1st period, clawed back to win the game 2-1 in overtime thanks to a goal by defenseman JACOB WILSON. WALKER also scored in that game to tie it in the 2nd period.
- Feb. 17, 2018: Despite holding a 1-0 lead through 20 minutes in the third meeting, and tying the game up 3-3 early in the 3rd period, Michigan Tech scored two goals in 14 seconds in the 3rd for a 5-3 win. WALKER netted two goals for a total of four in the three games against the Huskies, while BRINSON added another for his third in as many match-ups.

QUOTES OF THE WEEK

- “Both teams are big and like to lay the body, and forecheck predicated teams. It’s probably going to be a pretty physical series, and an exciting one.” -COACH POWERS on MTU
- “We’re focused on what we’re doing and we’re real close to taking the next step as a team and propelling ourselves into the second half. Sticking to what we do and playing hard, smart hockey.” -JOHNNY WALKER on this weekend’s series
- “It’s going to be a hard game. Two physical teams and playing in Oceanside with everyone packing the rink and on top of you, it’s going to be a great atmosphere.” -JACOB WILSON on the physical nature of this series

FAMILIAR FOES

- Last season, ASU’s JAMES SANCHEZ, WILLIE KNIERIM and JACOB SEMIK all played with Michigan Tech’s Logan Pietila and Chris Lipe with the Dubuque Fighting Saints (USHL). SEMIK and fellow d-man JOSH MANISCALCO also played with Pietila in 2017-18 with Dubuque. From 2014-16, KNIERIM also shared the ice with MTU’s Keegan Ford as a member of the Fighting Saints, while ASU assistant coach MIKE FIELD was a Dubuque assistant at the time.
- ASU d-man JARROD GOURLEY and Michigan Tech’s Logan Ganie and Parker Saretsky were teammates with the Spruce Grove Saints for two seasons in 2016-17 and 2017-18.
- Two Appleton, Wisconsin natives square off this weekend, as Sun Devil senior BRETT GRUBER and Husky Cooper Watson both grew up in the small town as 1996 birth years. Both played for Team Wisconsin in high school during the 2013-14 season.
- In 2016-17, ASU freshman JAX MURRAY and Michigan Tech’s Brian Halonen were teammates on Minnesota High School Team Northwest.
- Back in 2014-15, former ASU forward/defenseman JAKE CLIFFORD played with MTU’s Tyrell Buckley with the Merritt Centennials (BCHL) for a season.
- Sun Devil senior STEENN PASICHNUK and Michigan Tech’s Alex Smith played with the Bonnyville Pontiacs (AJHL) back in 2013-14.

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 223-111-26 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 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	Opponent	Time (MST)/Result
Aug 1-Aug 12	International Trip (China)	
Oct. 5	vs. Mercyhurst	L, 2-3
Oct. 6	vs. Mercyhurst	W, 6-4
Oct. 11	at #3 Minnesota State	L, 1-4
Oct. 12	at #3 Minnesota State	L, 0-5
Oct. 18	at Air Force	W, 3-0
Oct. 19	at Air Force	W, 5-2
Nov. 1	vs. #9 Quinnipiac	W, 5-3
Nov. 2	vs. #9 Quinnipiac	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	W, 4-1
Dec. 7	vs. #4 Denver	T, 2-2
Dec. 14	at #18 Michigan State	W, 4-3
Dec. 15	at #18 Michigan State	OTL, 0-1
Dec. 21	at Omaha	W, 5-4
Dec. 22	at Omaha	L, 4-8
Dec. 28	#17 Harvard	L, 1-4
Dec. 29	#17 Harvard	T, 4-4
Jan. 4	vs. Michigan Tech	7:05 pm
Jan. 5	vs. Michigan Tech	3:00 pm
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
Feb. 1	vs. Robert Morris	7:05 pm
Feb. 7	at Holy Cross	TBD
Feb. 8	at Bentley	TBD
Feb. 14	vs. Alaska Anchorage	7:05 pm
Feb. 15	vs. Alaska Anchorage	7:05 pm
Feb. 21	at Wisconsin	TBD
Feb. 22	at Wisconsin	TBD

ARIZONA STATE QUICK FACTS

Location.....	Tempe, Ariz.
Enrollment.....	103,000
Nickname.....	Sun Devils
Colors.....	Maroon & Gold
Conference.....	Independent (Pac-12 in other sports)
President.....	Dr. Michael Crow
Athletic Director.....	Ray Anderson
Arena.....	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.....	C.J. Clarizio (3rd season)
Powers' Career Record.....	223-111-26
Powers' NCAA Record.....	54-79-13