



ARIZONA STATE SUN DEVIL HOCKEY MEDIA NOTES



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GAMES 27-28: #13 ARIZONA STATE AT #8 CLARKSON

JANUARY 24-25, 2020

7:30 PM (EST)

SUN DEVIL REWIND

The Sun Devils are riding a season-best, four-game winning streak into enemy territory after a home sweep of RIT this past weekend. The ASU offense, which ranks 6th in the country, produced a season-high 11 goals in the two games against the Tigers.

The third line of TYLER BUSCH, BRETT GRUBER and WILLIE KNIERIM carried a good chunk of the load, producing 13 of the Sun Devils' 32 points in the series. A total of nine different Sun Devils recorded goals with KNIERIM accounting for three of them.

Linemates JOHNNY WALKER and JAMES SANCHEZ continue to sit among the top-10 point producers in the country at 6th and 7th, respectively. WALKER's 15 goals has him tied for 8th (two out of the national lead) while Sanchez's 21 assists rank him 8th. SANCHEZ is riding a four-game point streak with two goals and two assists.

Senior forward TYLER BUSCH now has six assists in his last three games, with three coming in his most recent contest.

GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY

Two teams who nearly mirror each other in playing style enter this two-game series with much left to prove as they approach the final month of the regular season. Clarkson ranks as one of the stingiest defenses in the country, while ASU brings one of the highest-scoring offenses as of late.

After losing two big pieces in Mike Richter semifinalist Jake Kielly and leading scorer Nico Sturm, the Golden Knights haven't skipped a beat in 2019-20 nearly boasting the same record at this point in the season. A big catalyst for that has been Robert Morris transfer goaltender Frank Marotte, who is posting a .938 save percentage and 1.77 goals against average.

Offensively, senior forward Haralds Egle has picked up where he left off a season ago with 11 goals and 16 assists to pace the Knights offensively.

While the Knights finished 2019 on a six-game unbeaten streak, they've started 2020 4-2-0 with losses to Dartmouth and RPI.

TALE OF THE TAPE (2019-20)

Sun Devils (NCAA Rank)		Knights (NCAA Rank)
3.27 (12th)	Goals Per Game	3.00 (T19th)
2.69 (27th)	Goals Against Average	1.87 (3rd)
29.27 (30th)	Shots Per Game	31.22 (14th)
15.8% (44th)	Power Play	23.4% (12th)
83.6% (20th)	Penalty Kill	92.1% (1st)
49.8% (T32nd)	Faceoff %	51.2% (T24th)

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



16-5-2



15-8-3

AT
CHEEL ARENA
Potsdam, NY
7:30 p.m. (EST)

2019-20 VS. CONFERENCE

ECAC	Atlantic	NCHC	Hockey East	Big Ten	WCHA
4-1-1-0	5-1-0-0	2-1-1-0	1-0-1-0	1-0-0-1	2-4-0-0

OVERALL RECORD VS. CONFERENCE

ECAC	Atlantic	NCHC	Hockey East	Big Ten	WCHA
10-18-4-2	12-5-1-0	6-13-4-0	9-15-1-0	4-17-1-1	13-9-1-1

2019-20 SUN DEVIL LEADERS

Player	G	A	Pts.	Goalie	Rec.	SV%	GAA
Johnny Walker	15	15	30	Evan DeBrouwer	12-8-3	.915	2.59
James Sanchez	8	21	29	Max Prawdzik	2-0-0	.923	3.30
Josh Maniscalco	9	13	22	Justin Robbins	0-0-0	.871	4.00
Brinson Pasichnuk	4	18	22				

2019-20 CLARKSON LEADERS

Player	G	A	Pts.	Goalie	Rec.	SV%	GAA
Haralds Egle	11	16	27	Frank Marotte	16-5-2	.938	1.77
Devin Brosseau	7	18	25				
Josh Dunne	9	12	21				
Zach Tsekos	5	12	17				

BY THE NUMBERS

13

The Sun Devils' third line of TYLER BUSCH, BRETT GRUBER and WILLIE KNIERIM combined for 13 points and a +18 rating last weekend vs. RIT.

6

ASU's offense currently ranks 6th in the country in goals scored (85), assists (145) and total points (230).

11

The Sun Devils' 11 goals scored this past weekend were the most they've scored in a series this season and most since Oct. 26-27, 2018 vs. Omaha.

4

The Sun Devil offense is averaging four goals per game over their last seven contests, while allowing just 2.5 goals per game in that same span.

SUN DEVIL TWEETABLES

1. @SunDevilHockey's four-game winning streak matches a season long set from Oct. 18-Nov. 2, 2019, which ironically included a sweep of an Atlantic Hockey team before an ECAC program.
2. Junior forward @jwalks96 is 6th in the country in points (30) and tied for 8th in goals (15). He's two goals out of the national lead.
3. Sophomore d-man @jmani_18 is second in the country among defenseman goal scorers with nine and two out of the lead.
4. Defensive pairing @brindogboy and @jmani_18 are both tied for 6th among national d-men in scoring with 22 points.
5. ASU ranks 3rd nationally in total block shots with 362 (13.92/gm).

LAST TIME THEY MET...

- Dec. 28, 2018: In the opening round of the 2018 Desert Hockey Classic tournament in Glendale, the Sun Devils and Clarkson met for the first time -- both as ranked teams. The Sun Devils were also entering the game with a four-game winning streak, ironically, and the Golden Knights shutout ASU, 3-0. Special teams were the difference as Clarkson went 3-for-7 on the man advantage for the only goals of the game. ASU managed just 15 shots on goal and were 0-for-8 on the power play.

QUOTES OF THE WEEK

- “These games and every game we play from here on out have to be treated like playoff games. We’ve had this approach and mindset since Jan 1.” -Head Coach GREG POWERS on the importance of this series
- “His confidence is back and he is playing to his potential...Willie is a very effective player when he’s using all of his assets to his advantage.” -Head Coach GREG POWERS on forward WILLIE KNIERIM
- “Simple, hard hockey. Whoever beats the other team at their own game will win.” - Head Coach GREG POWERS on game planning for Clarkson
- “They’re a big, heavy team. They work really hard -- I know a few guys on their team and they fit the mold. I think we just have to focus on what we do and not stress about what they do. If we’re not going, we’re not going to beat teams. We have to work our hardest and execute what we do and we’ll be okay.” -Forward WILLIE KNIERIM on Clarkson
- “Buschy, Gruber and I just keep the puck down low. It’s not rocket science and nothing you can prescout. It’s just line versus line at that point. I thought Buschy and Gruber were amazing this weekend. Gruber was amking plays all over the ice and Buschy assisted on both game-winning goals. Those big time plays is what wins hockey games. They’re two seniors and they’re coming up big for us.” -Forward WILLIE KNIERIM on the balanced attack

FAMILIAR FOES

- Sophomore defenseman JOSH MANISCALCO, freshman d-man JACOB SEMIK and Clarkson sophomore forward Adam Tisdale played together with the Dubuque Fighting Saints in 2017-18.
- The Latvian connection is strong in this series, as ASU’s FILIPS BUNCIS and GVIDO JANSONS played with Clarkson’s Haralds Egle for a number of years growing up as part of Latvian national teams dating back to 2012.
- In 2018-19, ASU freshman d-man JACK JUDSON and Clarkson’s Mathieu Gosselin shared the ice briefly with Canada West U19 World Junior team for six games.
- Sun Devil blue liner JACOB WILSON and Golden Knight John Carter MacLean shared the same locker room with the Sioux City Musketeers (USHL) in 2016-17. MacLean also played with Sun Devil AUSTIN LEMIEUX in 2015-16 with the Omaha Lancers (USHL).
- Sun Devils DOM GARCIA and GVIDO JANSONS played with Clarkson’s Michael Underwood with the Aston Rebels (NAHL) from 2015-17. GARCIA also played with Golden Knight Jamie Collins at Culver Military Prep in 2014-15. Collins went on to also be teammates with ASU goalie EVAN DEBROUWER with the Nanaimo Clippers (NAHL) in 2016-17.
- ASU redshirt transfer CHRIS GRANDO and Golden Knight Josh Dunne were teammates with the Green Bay Gamblers in 2016-17, while Dunne also played with BRETT GRUBER in 2015-16 with the Gamblers.
- ASU goaltender JUSTIN ROBBINS and Clarkson defenseman Brian Hurley were teammates in 2017-18 with the Chicago Steel (USHL).
- Former goaltender JOEY DACCARD played with Clarkson forward Chris Klack in 2015-16 with the Muskegon Lumberjacks (USHL).

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 226-112-26 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.

SUN DEVIL SCENARIOS

During the 2019-20 regular season, the Sun Devils are:

- 12-1-1-0 when scoring four or more goals
- 8-0-2-1 when allowing two or fewer goals
- 11-2-2-0 when scoring first
- 9-2-1-0 when leading after one period
- 12-0-1-0 when leading after two periods
- 1-2-1-0 when trailing after one period
- 1-4-1-0 when trailing after two periods
- 5-4-1-0 when tied after one period
- 2-4-1-0 when tied after two periods
- 5-3-0-1 in one-goal games

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	W, 4-3
Jan. 5	vs. Michigan Tech	L, 2-3
Jan. 11	at Brown	W, 3-1
Jan. 12	at Brown	W, 4-3
Jan. 17	vs. RIT	W, 6-1
Jan. 18	vs. RIT	W, 5-3
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.....	226-112-26
Powers' NCAA Record.....	57-80-13