

GAME



VS.



Wednesday, Nov. 17, 2021 * Van Andel Arena * 11 a.m.
 Griffins Game #12 * Home Game #7 * AHL Game #185
Referees: Tim Mayer (19), Conor O'Donnell (41)
Linesmen: Justin Cornell (14), Cameron Dykstra (63)

SEASON SERIES (0-2-0-0)

Oct. 27 - Chicago 3 at Grand Rapids 0 L
 Oct. 31 - Chicago 6 at Grand Rapids 3 L
 Nov. 17 - Chicago at Grand Rapids - 11 a.m.
 Nov. 26 - Chicago at Grand Rapids - 7 p.m.
 Nov. 28 - Grand Rapids at Chicago - 4 p.m. EST
 Jan. 2 - Grand Rapids at Chicago - 4 p.m. EST
 Jan. 12 - Grand Rapids at Chicago - 8 p.m. EST
 Jan. 28 - Grand Rapids at Chicago - 8 p.m. EST
 March 9 - Chicago at Grand Rapids - 7 p.m.
 March 13 - Grand Rapids at Chicago - 4 p.m. EDT
 April 22 - Chicago at Grand Rapids - 7 p.m.
 April 24 - Grand Rapids at Chicago - 4 p.m. EDT



THE TEAMS

Chicago Wolves (7-3-1-0, 15 pts., 0.682/1st Central)
 Primary Affiliate of the Carolina Hurricanes

Grand Rapids Griffins (5-5-0-1, 11 pts., 0.500/4th Central)
 Primary Affiliate of the Detroit Red Wings

#	PLAYER	POS	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	PIM
2	Eric Gelinas	D	8	2	0	2	-1	6
3	Stephen Harper	C	3	0	0	0	-2	0
4	Joey Keane	D	11	1	5	6	1	6
5	Jalen Chatfield	D	11	4	1	5	5	11
6	Ryan Suzuki	C	5	1	2	3	4	2
7	David Cotton	C	10	1	2	3	3	2
8	Max Lajoie	D	11	1	5	6	1	2
9	C.J. Smith	LW	11	4	9	13	2	2
10	Josh Leivo	LW	3	0	3	3	-3	2
12	Stelio Mattheos	RW	11	1	1	2	-3	8
15	Jack Drury	C	11	2	3	5	-3	10
17	Maxim Letunov	C	11	3	2	5	2	2
18	Spencer Smallman	RW	11	1	3	4	4	4
20	Cavan Fitzgerald	D	6	1	1	2	4	0
22	Andrew Poturalski	RW	11	6	9	15	3	6
23	Stefan Noesen	RW	11	3	6	9	2	16
24	Artyom Serikov	D	3	1	1	2	4	0
26	Jamieson Rees	C	2	0	1	1	0	0
27	David Gust	RW	10	3	4	7	6	0
28	Josh Jacobs	D	8	0	2	2	1	6
29	Dominik Bokk	LW	6	0	1	1	-2	0
32	Jesper Sellgren	D	10	0	1	1	3	6
36	Kyle Marino	F	3	0	0	0	-1	15
37	Sam Miletic	LW	11	1	2	3	3	2

#	GOALTENDER	GP	W	L	OT	SO	GAA	SV%
34	Alex Lyon	3	2	1	0	0	2.35	0.891
35	Eetu Makiniemi	7	5	1	1	1	1.99	0.929

General Manager: Wendell Young
Asst. General Manager: Bill Bentley
Dir. of Hockey Operations: Gene Ubriaco
Head Coach: Ryan Warsofsky
Assistant Coach: Patrick Dwyer
Assistant Coach: Bob Nardella
Goaltending Coach: Stan Dubicki
Video Coach: Cody Ward
Athletic Trainer: Kevin Kacer
Asst. Athletic Trainer: Austin Kasper
Equipment Manager: Ryan Shoufer
Asst. Equipment Manager: Lester Tiu
Strength and Conditioning Coach: Christoph Wyss

NEXT GAME

Chicago at Rockford
 Fri., Nov. 19
 7 p.m. CST

#	PLAYER	POS	GP	G	A	PTS	+/-	PIM
3	Jared McIsaac	D	11	0	3	3	-6	4
6	Ryan Murphy	D	11	2	5	7	3	2
9	Patrick Curry	LW	2	0	0	0	-2	0
11	Riley Barber	RW	11	5	6	11	-2	6
15	Turner Elson	LW	11	4	3	7	3	6
17	Taro Hirose	LW	11	2	11	13	-2	0
18	Brian Lashoff	D	11	0	0	0	2	4
20	Dan Renouf	D	8	0	1	1	0	8
21	Dennis Yan	LW	5	2	1	3	3	2
22	Chase Pearson	C	11	3	6	9	-4	4
23	Max Humitz	LW	2	0	1	1	1	0
25	Brett McKenzie	C	0	0	0	0	0	0
28	Luke Witkowski	D/RW	9	0	0	0	-3	30
32	Tyler Spezia	C	10	2	3	5	1	4
37	Donovan Sebrango	D	11	0	1	1	4	0
38	Hayden Verbeek	C	9	2	1	3	3	4
40	Wyatt Newpower	D	11	0	0	0	-5	28
48	Jonatan Berggren	RW	11	3	5	8	0	0
51	Kyle Crisculo	C	7	2	1	3	0	0
65	Dominik Shine	RW	11	0	4	4	1	22
71	Jon Martin	RW	6	0	0	0	2	6
79	Kirill Tyutyayev	LW	9	0	3	3	1	4

#	GOALTENDER	GP	W	L	OT	SO	GAA	SV%
31	Calvin Pickard	8	5	2	0	1	1.82	0.941
36	Kaden Fulcher	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.000

General Manager: Pat Verbeek

NEXT GAME

Head Coach: Ben Simon
Assistant Coach: Matt Macdonald
Assistant Coach: Todd Krygier
Assistant Coach: Mike Knuble
Goaltending Development Coach: Brian Mahoney-Wilson
Video Coach: Justin DeMartino
Athletic Trainer: Josh Chapman
Asst. Athletic Trainer: Anthony Polazzo
Equipment Manager: Brad Thompson
Asst. Equipment Manager: Charlie Kaser
Strength and Conditioning Coordinator: Marcus Kinney

Leaders vs. Grand Rapids

#	PLAYER	GP	G	A	PTS	
22	Andrew Poturalski	2	3	4	7	
9	C.J. Smith	2	1	5	6	
23	Stefan Noesen	2	0	3	3	
#	GOALTENDER	GP	Record	SO	GAA	SV%
35	Eetu Makiniemi	2	2-0-0	1	1.51	0.942

Leaders vs. Chicago

#	PLAYER	GP	G	A	PTS	
11	Riley Barber	2	2	0	2	
17	Taro Hirose	2	0	2	2	
48	Jonatan Berggren	2	1	0	1	
#	GOALTENDER	GP	Record	SO	GAA	SV%
31	Calvin Pickard	1	0-1-0	0	3.00	0.906



WEDNESDAY, NOV. 17, 2021 – VAN ANDEL ARENA



at



CHICAGO WOLVES (7-3-1-0) at GRAND RAPIDS GRIFFINS (5-5-0-1)
Griffins Game #12 * Home Game #7 * AHL Game #185

RECORDS

Season Series: 0-2-0-0 **Home Series:** 0-2-0-0 **Road Series:** 0-0-0-0
All-Time Series: 90-73-2-6-3 **All-Time Home Series:** 44-34-2-4-2 **All-Time Road Series:** 46-39-0-2-1

Griffins vs. Wolves

Third of 12 meetings overall, third of six at Van Andel Arena...Grand Rapids has faced Chicago 174 times in the regular season dating back to their IHL days, the second-most of any Griffins opponent (Milwaukee, 196)...The Griffins went 3-7-0-0 against the Wolves a season ago and possess a 19-24-0-1 record against Chicago over the last five years...In the past four seasons, the Griffins are 5-12-0-0 against the Wolves at Van Andel Arena...The last time Grand Rapids held a winning record against the Wolves in West Michigan was in 2016-17 when it went 4-1-0-0...Grand Rapids and Chicago have played in 17 consecutive games at Van Andel Arena that have been decided in regulation, dating back to March 17, 2017 when the Wolves were upended 5-4 in overtime...Grand Rapids is winless in the past three games against Chicago and are being outscored 16-3...Both Grand Rapids' (73.2%, 29th) and Chicago's (77.5%, 24th) penalty kill percentage rank in the bottom half of the AHL... Chicago (21-9-1-2, 45 pts, 0.682) won the Central Division in 2020-21 during the shortened, no-playoffs season...**Riley Barber** paces the Griffins against Chicago with two goals in two games while **Taro Hirose** has bagged two helpers against the Wolves...As part of his 11-year pro career, Griffins coach **Ben Simon** registered 87 points (37-50—87) in 196 games with the Wolves from 2001-03 and 2004-05 and was a part of their first Calder Cup title in 2002.

Last Week's Results

The Griffins won their third straight contest on Nov. 12 when they came away with a 2-0 victory against Manitoba behind **Calvin Pickard's** 34-save shutout. Pickard's fourth shutout of his Griffins career moved him into a tie for 10th place in franchise history with Jani Hurme, Martin Prusek and Eddie Pasquale. Pickard now has won three consecutive games and allowed one goal or less in five of his seven starts. **Riley Barber** (4-4—8), **Jonatan Berggren** (3-3—6) and **Taro Hirose** (2-6—8) all extended their point streak to five games. On Saturday, Manitoba got its revenge with a 6-2 win over Grand Rapids, which snapped the Griffins' winning streak. Despite the loss, Barber (4-5—9), Berggren (3-4—7) and Hirose all pushed their point streaks to six contests. **Turner Elson** bagged a goal for the second straight game and **D.J. King** registered his first AHL point on an assist.

Roster Shake Up

The Griffins on Tuesday signed left wing **Max Humitz** and center **Brett McKenzie** to professional tryouts. In addition, Grand Rapids released defenseman **D.J. King** from his PTO. Humitz returns to Grand Rapids after appearing in two games from Nov. 5-6, logging one assist. The second-year pro totaled five points (3-2—5) and two penalty minutes in eight games with the Griffins in 2020-21. McKenzie has six AHL games to his name with Providence and Chicago. The fourth-year pro made his AHL debut with the Bruins on Feb. 17, 2019 and last played in the AHL on Oct. 11, 2019 with the Wolves. Through 10 games this season with Toledo, the center has 10 points (5-5—10), including a three-point (2-1—3) night on Nov. 3 at Indy. Also on Tuesday, the Red Wings reassigned goaltender **Victor Brattstrom** to the ECHL's Toledo Walleye and reassigned netminder **Kaden Fulcher** to the Griffins. Fulcher has appeared in six games this season with Toledo and has posted a 3-2-0 record with a 1.77 goals against average and a 0.924 save percentage. His goals against average ranks sixth in the ECHL while his save percentage places seventh.

Fit for a King

Former Rockford IceHogs coach Derek King was named interim head coach of the Chicago Blackhawks on Saturday, joining 11 other former Griffins players or coaches currently behind an NHL bench. He is one of four Griffins alumni serving as a head coach in the NHL.

Team	Coach	Role	Griffins Season(s)
Anaheim	Mike Stothers	Assistant Coach	2007-08 Head Coach
Boston	Bruce Cassidy	Head Coach	2000-02 Head Coach
Boston	Chris Kelly	Assistant Coach	2001-02
Buffalo	Matt Ellis	Assistant Coach	2003-07
Calgary	Cail MacLean	Assistant Coach	2000-01
Chicago	Derek King	Interim Head Coach	1999-01 / 2002-04 Player / Assis-
Colorado	Jared Bednar	Head Coach	1998-99
Columbus	Manny Legace	Goaltending Coach	2005-06
Dallas	Todd Nelson	Assistant Coach	1996-98; 99-00; 01-2 / 2002-03 Assistant Coach / 2015-18 Head Coach
Detroit	Jeff Blashill	Head Coach	2012-15 Head Coach
Detroit	Jeff Salajko	Goaltending Coach	2013-16 Goaltending Coach
NY Islanders	John Gruden	Assistant Coach	1999-02

Not Your Average Joe

Center **Joe Veleno** was recalled by Detroit on Nov. 15 for the second time this season. The Kirkland, Quebec, native skated in four games for the Red Wings from Oct. 30-Nov. 6, totaling two points (1-1—2), four penalty minutes and a plus-two rating. The former first-round draft choice has suited up for 11 games in the NHL and has amassed three points (2-1—3) and eight penalty minutes. The third-year pro has appeared in seven contests with Grand Rapids this season and registered three goals, including two on the power play which is tied for 21th in the AHL. The center logged a season-high two goals on Oct. 16 at Milwaukee in a 7-3 defeat.

This Date in Griffins History

2001: Petr Schastlivy (pictured) becomes the first Griffin to record a hat trick in a single period, accomplishing the feat during the second period of a 4-0 shutout of Milwaukee. Kip Miller picks up assists on all three tallies, tying the franchise record for assists in a period for the second time in 12 games.

Powerful Play

Following a 2019-20 campaign in which they finished sixth in the AHL's power play rankings at 20.9%, the Griffins exceeded that mark in 2020-21 with a power play conversion rate of 21.5%, the fifth best on the circuit. This season has been no different through 11 games as the power play is converting on 21.1% of its opportunities, which is 12th in the AHL.

Calvin's University

Goaltender **Calvin Pickard** is off to a fast start, as he has allowed one goal or less in five of his seven starts and has won four straight games. Pickard recorded his first shutout of the season and fourth as a Griffin on Nov. 12 against Manitoba, moving him into a tie for 10th place in franchise history with Jani Hurme, Martin Prusek, and Eddie Pasquale. The 10-year pro currently ranks sixth in the AHL with a 1.82 goals against average while his 0.941 save percentage places third. Twelve goals allowed through his first seven starts is Pickard's best start since the 2017-18 season when he let in 14 tallies. Pickard played in just nine games in North America a season ago due to being assigned to Detroit's taxi squad for much of the year. The Moncton, New Brunswick, native also spent some time with Vienna in the ICEHL last season, logging six games and a 1.96 goals against average.

High-Flying Hirose

After leading the Griffins in assists a year ago with 23, **Taro Hirose** has picked off right where he left off as he has bagged 11 helpers in just as many games, which is a team high and tied for second in the league. Seven assists have come on the power play, which is good for third in the AHL. Hirose is currently enjoying a six-game point streak (2-7—9) dating back to Oct. 30. Hirose's 13 points (2-11—13) this season pace the Griffins and are tied for ninth in the league.

Jonny On The Spot

Rookie **Jonatan Berggren** is currently enjoying a six-game point streak (3-4—7), dating back to Oct. 30. The Uppsala, Sweden, native bagged his first AHL goal and two-point (1-1—2) night on Oct. 30, which began a three-game goal scoring streak for the right winger. The former second-round draft choice is tied for 15th among league rookies with three goals while his seven points (3-5—8) are tied for 12th among first-year players.

Return of Riley

Although it was a slow start to this year, **Riley Barber** is now in the midst of a six-game point streak (4-5—9). His 11 points (5-6—11) this season are second on the roster while his four power play goals are tied for first in the AHL. Barber led the Griffins in goals (20), points (34) and points per game (1.06) a season ago. His scoring pace equaled a 48-goal, 81-point clip in a regular 76-game AHL season. Barber also ranked second in the league for goals, just one shy of Cooper Marody (who played seven more games), and was named a Central Division AHL All-Star. Six game-winning goals tied a career best while his four-game goal streak from Feb. 26 through March 11 also matched a career high. The forward added seven multi-point outings out of 32, including a career-high four points (2-2—4) on May 7 against Chicago. Barber posted a nine-game point streak (8-5—13) from Feb. 5-March 11 that was the longest ever to start a player's Griffins career as well as the longest from the start of a Griffins season. Although it was a slow start to this year, Barber is now in the midst of a six-game point streak (4-5—9). His 11 points (5-6—11) this season are second on the roster while his four power play goals are tied for first in the AHL.

Rarified Air

Brian Lashoff's 524 games played for the Griffins ranks first among active AHL players who have spent their entire AHL career with the same club and seventh in league history among one-team players. Of the players ahead of him on that list, the most recent – and, coincidentally, the record-holder – last played during the 1970-71 season (Bill Needham of the Cleveland Barons, 981 games played). Lashoff overtook Pete Kapusta (Providence Reds 1946-55) for the No. 7 spot on Oct. 27 against Chicago and is now seven games behind No. 6 Roger DeJordy (Hershey Bears 1962-70). Lashoff is still 131 games away from breaking the Griffins' all-time games played record, held by Travis Richards with 655 games (1995-2006).

AHL Leaderboard Tracker

Calvin Pickard—1.82 goals against average ranks sixth, 0.941 save percentage is good for third

Ryan Murphy—Seven points (2-5—7) are tied for 13th among defensemen, two goals are tied for 14th among blueliners

Riley Barber—Four power play goals are tied for first

Taro Hirose—13 points (2-11—13) are tied for ninth, 11 assists are tied for second, seven power play assists are third

Jonatan Berggren—Three goals are tied for 15th among league rookies, seven points (3-5—8) are tied for 12th among first-year players

Milestones

Defenseman **Luke Witkowski** appeared in his 400th game as a professional on Nov. 12 against Manitoba. Rookie **Jonatan Berggren** bagged an assist on the game-winning goal against the Moose on Nov. 12, which was his 50th helper as a pro. Other upcoming milestones include:

Riley Barber—Five points from 50 as a Griffin

Turner Elson—Six assists from 100 in the AHL

Brian Lashoff—Three assists from 100 as a pro

Jon Martin—Two assists from 50 as a pro

Tyler Spezia—Two assists from 50 as a pro

Luke Witkowski—Three points from 50 in the AHL, one assist from 50 as a pro