



# RACONTEUR ROYALE



2013 ECHL Kelly Cup Champion

ECHL Affiliate of the Philadelphia Flyers

[royalshockey.com](http://royalshockey.com)

The Weekly Update for  
Reading Royals Hockey

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@RoyalsBroadcast

## Week Twenty-Two (March 13, 2017)

### LAST WEEK'S GAMES

Thursday	March 9, 2017	@ Brampton Beast	OTL	6-7
Friday	March 10, 2017	@ Brampton Beast	Win	6-2
Saturday	March 11, 2017	@ Elmira Jackals	Win	4-1

### TEAM RECORD

	GP	W	L	OTL	SOL	PTS	WIN %	GF	GA	STREAK	Place in Standings
Overall	61	36	21	2	2	76	.623	224	178	4-0-1-0	1st North Division
Home	30	18	12	0	0	36	.600	110	82	2-0-0-0	
Road	31	18	9	2	2	40	.645	114	96	3-0-1-0	

### THIS WEEK'S GAMES

~~TUESDAY, March 14, 2017~~

~~v Norfolk Admirals~~

~~Santander Arena – Reading, PA (7:00 pm)~~

~~\*\*POSTPONED UNTIL WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5\*\*~~

**FRIDAY, March 17, 2017**

**@ Norfolk Admirals**

The Scope Arena – Norfolk, VA (7:30 pm)

**SATURDAY, March 18, 2017**

**@ Norfolk Admirals**

The Scope Arena – Norfolk, VA (7:15 pm)



### Broadcast:

**Broadcast Begins 30 Minutes Prior to Opening Face-Off  
With Pre-Game Warm-Up Show**

Digital Stream on iHeartRadio Rumba 1340 – Reading

Deibler Dental In-Arena Broadcast – 99.3 fm Inside Santander Arena

**Road Games Only:** BCTV Telecast in Berks County, PA

(Comcast Reading Cable Channel 15, Service Electric Cable Channel 19,  
Comcast Southern Berks Channel 965)

Pay-Per-View Streaming Video at ECHL.TV

## Weekly Notes

- ❖ The Royals went on the road for three games in three days last week, traveling to Canada for the first (and last) time of the regular season, where the team fell in overtime to the Brampton Beast (6-7) on Thursday before closing out the two-game set against the Beast with a 6-2 win on Friday. Reading then traveled to Elmira, New York, for the final time in team history where the Royals beat the Jackals (who have announced their intention to cease operations at the conclusion of the 2016-17 regular season), 4-1, in the team's First Arena finale.
- ❖ The Royals are riding a five game unbeaten streak (4-0-1-0), which has pushed the team's record to a season best fifteen games over .500 (36-21-2-2=76) for the first time this year, which places the team in first place in the North Division.
  - Reading jumped into sole possession of first place in the North for the first time this season with the 6-2 win over the Beast last Friday. The Royals have been tied for first place twice during the season—after the second game of the season (2-0-0-0) and after the eighth game of the year (5-2-0-1), a 6-3 win over the Rapid City Rush in Rapid City, South Dakota.
  - The 76 points in the standings earned by the Royals places the team in second place in the Eastern Conference—five points behind the Florida Everblades—and in sixth place overall in the league.
- ❖ Friday's 6-2 win in Brampton was Reading's thirty-fifth win in the sixtieth game of the regular season. This season marks the seventh time in team history that the Royals have won thirty-five or more games in the first sixty played—and the fifth time it has occurred under the leadership of Head Coach Larry Courville.
  - Last season, Reading's record stood at 29-23-5-3 through sixty games.
  - The best record for the Royals through sixty played was established in the 2014-15 season when Reading went 39-16-3-2 through the first sixty.
- ❖ All three games last week for Reading were played on the road, and the Royals are currently riding a four game road unbeaten streak (3-0-1-0).
  - So far the Royals have compiled a record of 18-9-2-2 on the road with five more regular season games to be played away from Santander Arena in Reading, including the pair of games against the Norfolk Admirals to be played this weekend in Norfolk.
  - The one home game that the team expected to play this week (scheduled for Tuesday) has been postponed and rescheduled for Wednesday, April 5. Reading's next home game will be Wednesday, March 22, against the Manchester Monarchs.
    - The Royals have won the team's last two games played at home, most recently a 2-1 win over Norfolk on Sunday, March 5. Overall, Reading has compiled an 18-12-0-0 record on home ice.
- ❖ All three games played this past week were against North Division opponents. The Royals have compiled a record of 22-11-2-1 against teams from the North with five more games to be played within the Division (two against Adirondack, one against Manchester, one against Brampton, and one against Wheeling).
  - The Royals' twenty-two North Division wins leads the other teams within the Division.
- ❖ Last week's two game set against the Brampton Beast marked the first matchups of the season for the Royals and Beast, who will play one more time—at Santander Arena in Reading on Saturday, April 1.
  - Over the last three seasons, Reading has compiled a record of 5-1-5-0 in the eleven games that the team has played against the Beast; and has gone 4-0-3-0 in the seven games the team has played at Powerade Centre in Brampton, Ontario.
  - Including last Thursday's 7-6 overtime loss to Brampton, six of the eleven games played between the Royals and Beast have ended in overtime (with the Royals going 1-5 in those games) and four of the seven games played in Brampton (1-3) have been resolved in OT.
- ❖ The win in Elmira on Saturday pushed Reading's record to 9-1-0-0 in the ten game season series between the two teams. This year, the Royals compiled a record of 4-1-0-0 at First Arena in Elmira. Reading went 21-3-2-0 in the last twenty-six games played in Elmira dating back to March 10, 2013.



- Overall, in the final 53 games played between the Royals and Jackals, dating back to the 2013-14 season, Reading compiled a record of 39-10-3-1.
  - During the ten years in which the Jackals competed in the ECHL, Reading faced Elmira in 135 regular season games and compiled a record of 78-45-12 in those games. The two teams also played each other twice in the post-season, with the Royals winning the 2008 North Division Semi-Finals (4 games to 2); and the Jackals taking the 2012 Eastern Conference Quarterfinals (3 games to 2).
- ❖ Last Thursday's 7-6 overtime loss to the Beast marked the eighth time this year that the Royals have played in a game that has ended regulation time in a tie, which includes two of the last five played.
    - Overall, Reading is 4-4 in games that have gone beyond regulation time this season. The team has gone 2-0 on home ice; and 2-4 on the road in those "tie" games.
    - Five of the eight 'ties' this season for Reading have ended in overtime with the Royals compiling a record of 3-2 in OT games this season. (The team's other OTL was back on November 19 in Manchester, 4-3).
    - Historically, in the sixteen year history of the team, Reading has played 210 games (out of 1141 total regular season games) that have ended regulation in a tie (18.4%). Eighty-seven of those games have ended in OT, with the Royals going 41-46 historically in overtime (20-18 at home; and 21-28 on the road).
- ❖ Although technically not a "come-from-behind win," Thursday's 7-6 OTL marked the first time this year that Reading was able to come back from a three goal deficit (and it was actually two three goal deficits in that game at 3-0 and 4-1) to pick up at least a point in the standings.
- ❖ The Royals notched a total of sixteen goals in the three games played last week—racking up back-to-back six goal outbursts in the two games played against Brampton.
    - Reading has now scored six or more goals twelve times this season (10-1-1-0).
    - Overall, the Royals have scored a total of 224 goals through 61 games, which is an average of 3.67 goals per game—seventh best in the league.
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- ❖ The seven goals scored by the Beast in last Thursday's 7-6 overtime loss marked the third time the team has given up a (season high) seven goals against—with the last time dating back to a 7-6 regulation loss to the Atlanta Gladiators on November 13.
    - Reading's defense bounced back to hold the Beast to just two goals on Friday; and followed that up by holding the Jackals to just one goal on Saturday. The Royals have held the opposition to two goals or less thirty times this year (26-4-0-0)—and one goal or less twelve times (12-0-0-0).
    - Overall, the Royals have given up 178 total goals against, which translates into a 2.92 goals against average, which is tied (with Cincinnati) for fifth best in the league.
- ❖ The Royals have scored four short-handed goals in the last two games—three in last Friday's 6-2 win in Brampton and one in Saturday's 4-1 win in Elmira—and are currently second in the league with fourteen total SHGs scored. Eleven different Royals have scored a short-handed goal this season, including Justin Danforth who scored his first goal as a pro (in his second pro game) while the Royals were playing short-handed on Friday night.
    - Three Royals have scored two SHGs this year, including Steven Swavelly, Todd Perry, and Robbie Czarnik whose shortie on Friday proved to be the game winner in Brampton. Czarnik followed that up with an SHG on Saturday to give Reading a 4-1 lead mid-way into the second period.
- ❖ Reading gave up a short-handed goal 7:19 into the first period (to give Brampton a 2-0 lead) in Thursday's 7-6 overtime loss to the Beast. The Royals have given up five short-handed goals against this season, which is tied for the second fewest allowed this season in the ECHL.
- ❖ This past week, the Royals went 1 for 14 on the power play, scoring the lone power play goal of the week 17:03 into the first period to take a 2-0 lead in Friday's 6-2 win in Brampton.
    - In the past ten games, the Royals power play has gone 3 for 40 (7.5%) in the last ten games and 5 for 65 (7.7%) over the last sixteen.

- ❖ Robbie Czarnik snapped a ten game goal scoring drought with his first short-handed goal of the season 8:48 into the second period of Friday's 6-2 win in Brampton, which proved to be his team-leading fourth game winning goal of the year. That goal also made Czarnik the third Royal to reach the twenty-goal plateau this season (joining Olivier Labelle and Ryan Penny).
  - Czarnik also scored the Royals' fifth goal on Friday to record his fourth multi-goal game and team-leading fourteenth multi-point performance of the season.
  - Czarnik scored his second short-handed goal of the year on Saturday in Elmira. That was the team-leading fifty-first point of the year (22g-29a) for Czarnik, who also leads the Royals with 187 shots on goal.
- ❖ Matt Willows racked up three consecutive multi-point performances this past week (2g-6a), which began with his second multi-goal game of the year (2g-1a) in Thursday's 7-6 OTL in Brampton.
  - Willows, who has eleven assists and fourteen points in his last nine games (3g-11a=14pts), picked up three assists in Friday's 6-2 win over the Beast and two assists in Saturday's 4-1 over Elmira.
  - Willows has recorded thirty-nine points (15g-24a) and played plus eleven in thirty-six games with the Royals.
- ❖ Justin Crandall snapped a fourteen game goal scoring drought when he bagged the first goal of the game in Elmira on Saturday. That was the fifth first goal of the season for Crandall, who leads all forwards on the team in plus-minus at plus-23 (+23).
- ❖ Olivier Labelle racked up back-to-back two goal games in Brampton (4g-1a) to push his goal total to a team leading twenty-three through fifty-five games played. Labelle, who played to a plus-4 (+4) in Thursday's 7-6 OTL, scored his team-leading eighth power play goal of the year that night.
  - Labelle, who is the all-time goal scoring leader for the Royals with 124 goals (247 pts) in 283 games with the Royals, has registered over twenty-goals in each of his five seasons with the Royals.
- ❖ Ryan Penny stretched together a team-season-long eight game point streak (6g-4a=10pts) through Friday's win in Brampton. Penny, who has eight goals in his last thirteen games, registered his tenth multi-point game of the year (1g-1a) in Brampton on Thursday. In that game, Penny, who has played plus-6 (+6) in his last seven games, bagged the third period game-tying (at six) goal 5:18 into the final frame.
- ❖ Defenseman Florian Iberer snapped a string of twenty-four consecutive games without a goal when bagged Reading's third goal 15:34 into the first period of Saturday's 4-1 win over Elmira. Iberer is currently tenth amongst defensemen in the league in scoring with thirty-eight points in fifty-nine games with the team.
- ❖ Mike Pereira, who registered his seventh multi-point performance of the year on Friday in Brampton (0g-2a), has nine points (4g-5a) in his last seven games.
- ❖ Matt Wilkins registered his fourth multi-point game of the year (0g-2a) on Friday in Brampton.
- ❖ Johnny McInnis scored his twelfth goal of the year—seven of which have been scored in twenty-two games with Reading—with 5.6 seconds left in the second period to tie last Thursday's game at five.
- ❖ Evan Bloodoff, who was acquired by the Royals in a trade with the Florida Everblades last Thursday, joined the Royals on Saturday and promptly bagged a pair of assists in his first game as a Royal.
- ❖ Defenseman Nick Luukko currently leads the Royals in plus-minus, playing to plus-24 (+24) through fifty-nine games this season.
- ❖ Defenseman Derik Johnson bagged his first short-handed goal as a pro with 31.8 seconds left in regulation on Friday against the Beast.



- ❖ Defenseman Todd Perry, who snapped a fifteen game streak without a point when he registered the primary assist on Reading's first goal last Thursday, played in his 177th game as a Royal on Friday, passing Reagan Rome for sixth most in team history.
- ❖ Defenseman Maxim Lamarche, who picked up an assist on Reading's fifth goal in Thursday's OTL, has registered nine points (1g-9a) in his last twelve games with the Royals. Lamarche was recalled to the Lehigh Valley Phantoms on Monday.
- ❖ Justin Danforth, who was signed by the Royals last Tuesday after the completion of his senior season at Sacred Heart University, picked up an assist in his first game as a pro—on the Royals' first goal in Thursday's 7-6 OTL in Brampton.
  - On Friday, Danforth racked up his first multi-point game as a pro, registering the primary assist on the Royals' first goal that night (by Olivier Labelle) thirty-eight seconds into the game. Danforth bagged his first pro goal that night while the Royals were playing a man short 14:46 into the second period to give Reading a 4-1 lead.
  - On Monday, Danforth was loaned by the Royals to the Bridgeport Sound Tigers of the AHL.
- ❖ Matt Salhany, who was signed by the Royals last Wednesday after completing his senior season at the University of Alabama-Huntsville, scored his first goal as a pro in his second game with the Royals on Saturday in Elmira. That goal also proved to be the game winner that night. He is the twentieth different player to score a GWG for the Royals this season.
- ❖ Goaltender Mark Dekanich extended his personal unbeaten streak to six straight (5-0-1-0) when he made thirty-three saves in Thursday's 7-6 OTL. In thirty-two games with the Royals, Dekanich has compiled a record of 17-10-2-1 with a 3.03 goal against average (which is eighteenth best in the league), and a .909 save percentage with one shutout.
- ❖ Goaltender Marty Ouellette, who snapped his personal four game losing streak in Friday's 6-2 win in Brampton, made sixty saves on sixty-three shots in registering back-to-back wins on Friday and Saturday. In twenty-eight games with the Royals this season, Ouellette has compiled a record of 14-11-0-1, with a 2.69 goals against average (ninth best in the league) and a .911 save percentage..



### LAST WEEK'S TRANSACTIONS

#### 03/07/17

Add	Justin Danforth (f)	Signed to Amateur Tryout Agreement
Delete	Travis Jeke (d)	Released from Standard Players Contract

#### 03/09/17

Add	Steve Lebel (f)	Signed to Amateur Tryout Agreement
Add	Matt Salhany (f)	Signed to ECHL Standard Players Contract

#### 03/08/17

Acquired	Evan Bloodoff (f)	Acquired by Trade from Florida Everblades (Mike Marcou)
Acquired	Adam Brace (f)	Acquired by Trade from Florida Everblades (Mike Marcou)
Acquired	Chase Golightly (d)	Acquired by Trade from South Carolina Stingrays (Future Considerations)
Delete	Mike Marcou (d)	Traded to Florida Everblades

#### 03/11/17

Delete	Steve Lebel (f)	Released from Amateur Tryout Agreement
Delete	Maxim Lamarche (d)	Placed on ECHL Reserve List
Add	Evan Bloodoff (f)	Added to Active Roster
Add	Chase Golightly (d)	Added to Active Roster

#### 03/13/17

Delete	Maxim Lamarche (d)	Returned to Lehigh Valley (AHL)
Delete	Jesper Pettersson (d)	Recalled by Philadelphia (NHL) – Reassigned to Lehigh Valley (AHL)
Delete	Justin Danforth (f)	Loaned to Bridgeport Sound Tigers (AHL)