

Can Greer maintain points run?

Forward has 13 in just three games for Rush

BY NATHAN LIEWICKI, EDMONTON JOURNAL

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Zack Greer has played just three games for the Edmonton Rush this season and his points total has increased each time he's out on the National Lacrosse League carpet.

The Whitby, Ont., native recorded two points in his first game -an 18-10 loss to the Washington Stealth on March 5 -and had four points in a 19-14 loss to the Calgary Roughnecks on March 19.

But last Friday night against the Minnesota Swarm, his former team, Greer exploded for five goals and two assists, including the game-winner with 3.5 seconds left in the fourth quarter, to lift the Rush to a dramatic 14-13 home victory.

The six-foot-two forward scored just 10 points in four games with the Swarm before he was dealt to the Rush on March 2. He has 13 points in three games with Edmonton.

"I think he's been a different player with us and I think the big thing is because he's getting an opportunity (to play)," said Rush general manager and head coach Derek Keenan.

Greer will once again look to be a major offensive threat on Friday when the Rush (3-9) welcome the Western Division basement-dwelling Colorado Mammoth (2-8) to Rexall Place.

Colorado is coming off a huge 9-8 overtime win over the Boston Blazers last Saturday when the Mammoth erased an 8-5 deficit with four minutes remaining in the fourth quarter.

Despite their recent win, the Mammoth has struggled to put the ball in the net. They're last in the NLL in goals (89) and head coach Bob Hamley knows they need to score against an Edmonton team that has allowed 160 goals this season -the most in the league.

"Both teams have some momentum coming off huge wins, but yes we want to try to increase our goal production," Hamley said.

Friday's meeting is the first of three games between the two squads in a nine-day stretch that will likely decide who grabs the final playoff spot in the division.

Keenan, for one, is looking forward to what figures to have the feeling of a three-game playoff series.

"The scheduler couldn't have drawn it out any better," Keenan said.

"There is a lot on the line and both teams look to be hitting their stride."

nliewicki@edmontonjournal.com