

MINNESOTA TWINS (44-43) vs. KANSAS CITY ROYALS (25-61)

WEDNESDAY, JULY 5, 2023 - 6:40 PM (CT) - TV: BALLY SPORTS NORTH / RADIO: TIBN, WCCO, THE WOLF

RHP Pablo López (4-5, 4.24) vs. RHP Alec Marsh (0-1, 11.25)

GAME 88

HOME GAME 45

UPCOMING PROBABLE PITCHERS & BROADCAST SCHEDULE

Table with columns: Date, Opponent, Probable Pitchers, Time, Television, Radio / Spanish Radio. Rows for 7/6 (OFF DAY), 7/7, 7/8, 7/9.

SEASON AT A GLANCE

Table listing season statistics: Under Baldelli (since '19), Home Record, Road Record, Record in series, Record in home series, Record in road series, Series Openers, Series Finals, Rubber Games, Sweeps/Swept, March/April, May, June, July, August, September/October, Day Games, Night Games, vs. American League East, vs. American League Central, vs. American League West, vs. National League, Games vs. LH Starter, Games vs. RH Starter, Twins score first, Opponent scores first, Come-from-behind wins, Leading after 7/8 inn., Trailing after 7/8 inn., Tied after 7/8 inn., Extra-innings, 1-run games, Twins out-hit opp., Opp. out-hit Twins, Twins/Opp. have = hits, Run Differential, Twins get Quality Start, Twins starter goes 6+ IP, Most games over .500, Most games under .500, Longest win-streak, Longest losing-streak, When Twins score 4+, When Twins score 3-, Twins get 10+ hits, Days in First Place, Days in Second Place, Days in Third Place, Days in Fourth Place, Days in Fifth Place, Walk-Off WL, Shutouts WL, Complete Games (Twins), Average Time of Game (Twins), Attendance High, Attendance Total, Attendance Average, Target Field Sellouts - 2023/All-Time.

THE TWINS: After completing their nine-game, 10-day roadtrip with a record of 4-5 (2-1 in Detroit, 0-3 in Atlanta and 2-1 in Baltimore), the Twins began their six-game, seven-day homestand with consecutive wins over the Royals...tonight, the Twins and Royals will play the three-game series finale...Minnesota will enjoy an off-day tomorrow then wrap the pre-ASG portion of their schedule with a three-game series vs. Baltimore over the weekend...the Twins have gone 25-19 at home and 19-24 on the road.

KING KENTA, ROYALTY: The Twins beat the Royals yesterday afternoon at Target Field by a score of 9-3, securing the series win, their 13th of the season (13-12-3)...Kenta Maeda (2-5) was the starter and winner, allowing two runs (1 earned) on three hits in a season-high 7.0 innings pitched, his most since July 22, 2021 vs. Los Angeles-AL (also 7.0)...he also walked just one and tied a season-high with nine strikeouts...the offense recorded 10 hits, three from both Donovan Solano and Byron Buxton...Buxton tied Joey Gallo for team-lead in home runs with his 15th, while Kepler hit his 12th and drove in four runs on the day.

SANDS TIME: The Twins have returned right-handed pitcher Cole Sands from his rehab assignment and reinstated him from the 15-day Injured List...Sands, who missed the last 31 games with right shoulder impingement, appeared in two games on rehab assignment with Triple-A St. Paul, pitching 3.0 scoreless innings with one hit allowed, one walk and six strikeouts...prior to being placed on the Injured List on June 4, Sands appeared in seven games for the Twins, posting a 0.73 ERA (12.1 IP, 1 ER) with seven walks and 13 strikeouts...to make room for Sands on the 26-man roster, the Twins have optioned right-handed pitcher Josh Winder to St. Paul...Winder made one appearance during his most recent stint with Minnesota, pitching 1.0 scoreless inning with one walk and one strikeout on June 26 at Atlanta.

TWINS-ROYALS: The Twins and Royals are playing the 10th of 13 scheduled meetings in 2023...through nine games, the Twins have gone 8-1 and outscored the Royals 53-25...the next meeting between these two will be a three-game series at Kauffman Stadium from July 28-30. The Twins have scored 5.9 runs-per-game this season vs. the Royals and 7.0 in their last seven. The Twins are 20-6 in their last 26 against KC since April 21, 2022, including a record of 13-3 at Target Field in that span...in fact, the Twins' 20 wins vs. KC since the start of 2022 is their most wins vs. any opponent in that span. Since the start of last season, Twins starters have gone 14-4, 2.47 ERA (149.2 IP, 41 ER) with 35 walks, 144 strikeouts and a .199 opponent batting average vs. KC. Twins have a +54 run differential vs. KC since the start of 2022, outscoring them 138-84. Carlos Correa is hitting .338 (49-for-145) with seven doubles, seven home runs, 18 RBI, 21 walks, a .422 on-base percentage and a .953 OPS in 38 games against the Royals since '19. Byron Buxton is hitting .340 (35-for-103) with 10 doubles, seven home runs, 16 RBI, 27 runs scored and a 1.043 OPS in his last 25 games against the Royals...in nine games this season, he is 14-for-35 and slashing .400/.425/.886.

FIVE STARS: The Twins have won four of their last five games...below are the hitting and pitching numbers over the last five since the Baltimore series started on June 30:

Table with columns: AVG, R, H, 2B, 3B, HR, BB, K, OBP, SLG, OPS. Rows for BATTING and PITCHING.

ADDITIONALLY: The Twins are hitting .378 (14-for-37) with runners in scoring position in their last five after finishing the series in Atlanta 0-for-23 from June 26-28.

THIRD TIME'S THE CHARM: The Twins are seeking their third sweep of the season today...their previous two sweeps were March 30-April 2 at Kansas City (3 games) and June 13-14 vs. Milwaukee (2 games)...last season, they swept opponents eight times, all in three games. Minnesota attempted the sweep of Baltimore last weekend, but lost game three...they are 2-4 in series finales when there's an opportunity to sweep. Since 2017, the Twins have swept the Royals nine times in 25 chances, their most sweeps of one opponent in that span.

MAX EFFORT: Max Kepler is hitting .341 (14-for-41) with five home runs, 12 RBI, seven runs scored, four walks, a .400 on-base percentage, a .707 slugging percentage and a 1.107 OPS in his last 14 games...yesterday's home run was the 141st of his career, tying Michael Cuddyer for 13th on the Twins all-time list (since 1961):

Table with columns: TWIN, HR, TWIN, HR, TWIN, HR. Lists players and their home run counts.

I AM NUMBER ONE: Carlos Correa went 1-for-5 yesterday, singling in the third inning for his 1,000th career hit, becoming the 57th active player to reach that mark...Correa is leading off tonight for the sixth-consecutive game...he has led off each of the last five games, hitting safely in all five, going 9-for-22 (.409) with two doubles, a .435 on-base percentage and a .935 OPS.

DONNIE BARRELS: Since June 1, Donovan Solano has posted a .404 on-base percentage in 29 games, reaching 40 times in 99 plate appearances (23 hits, 15 walks, 2 HBP)...in 37 home games this season, he is hitting .324 (33-for-102) with 15 walks, a .420 on-base percentage and an .871 OPS...his home OBP ranks third in the AL (minimum 100 plate appearances) and his batting average ranks ninth.

IT'S JORGE DAY!: Jorge Polanco is celebrating his 30th birthday today...Polanco is currently on the 10-day Injured List, missing the last 24 games with a left hamstring strain...he shares a birthday with former Twin Jesse Crain (42) and LAA's Shohei Ohtani (29).

UPCOMING MILESTONES

Table with columns: PLAYER, CURRENT NO., MILESTONE WITHIN REACH. Lists players and their upcoming milestones.

STREAKS

Table listing streaks: Current Streak (2 wins), Last 5 games (4-1), Last 10 games (5-5), Last 15 games (8-7), Last 20 games (10-10).

TWINS VS. ROYALS

Table listing series records: 2023 Record (8-1), Current Streak (3 wins), 2023 at Home (5-1), 2023 at Kansas City (3-0), Under Baldelli (since '19) (48-28), All-Time Record (452-414), All-Time at Home (243-188), All-Time at Kansas City (209-226).

2023 Game Logs:

Table with columns: Date, Site, Score, Winner/Loser/Save. Lists game logs for 3/30, 4/1, 4/2, 4/27, 4/28, 4/29, 4/30, 7/3, 7/4, 7/5, 7/7, 7/28, 7/29, 7/30.

CURRENT HOMESTAND (2-0)

Table listing current homestand stats: Batting average (.353), Runs Per Game (8.50), Home Runs (4), RISP (.500), Errors (1).

Table listing team ERA and starters/reliervers ERA: Team ERA (3.00), Starters W-L (1-0), Starters ERA (2.08), Relievers W-L-S (1-0-0), Relievers ERA (5.40), Saves/Opps (0/1).

AL STRIKEOUT LEADERS

Table listing AL strikeout leaders: Kevin Gausman, TOR (146), Shohei Ohtani, LAA (132), Pablo López, MIN (126).

AL PITCHING WAR LEADERS

Table listing AL pitching war leaders: Kevin Gausman, TOR (3.9), Framber Valdez, HOU (3.3), Nathan Eovaldi, TEX (3.2), Sonny Gray, MIN (2.9), Joe Ryan, MIN (2.5), Zach Efflin, TB (2.5), Gerrit Cole, NYY (2.5), Pablo López, MIN (2.4).

TEAM HR VS. KC SINCE 2021

Table listing team HR vs. KC since 2021: Minnesota (60), Cleveland (44), Chicago-AL (41), Detroit (34), Los Angeles-AL (29).

RECENT TRANSACTIONS

Table listing recent transactions: 7/5 RHP Sands returned from rehab assignment, reinstated from 15-day IL. RHP Winder optioned to AAA. 7/4 RHP López reinstated from 15-day IL. LHP Headrick optioned to AAA. 7/2 IF Lewis placed on 10-day IL. IF Miranda recalled from AAA. 6/27 RHP Stewart placed on 15-day IL. RHP Ortega recalled from AAA. 6/25 RHP De León placed on 15-day IL. RHP Winder recalled from AAA. 6/24 OF Garlick cleared waivers, accepted assignment to AAA. 6/23 RHP Maeda returned from rehab assignment, reinstated from 15-day IL. RHP Ortega optioned to AAA. 6/20 RHP Ortega contract selected from AAA. RHP Varland optioned to AAA. OF Garlick designated for release or assignment.

TWINS PRESSBOX.COM

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PABLO LÓPEZ

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Height: 6-4 Weight: 214 B/T: L/R Age: 27 (3/7/1996 in Cabimas, VZ)

2023: 4-5, 4.24 ERA CAREER: 32-36, 3.99 ERA

- Making his 18th start and appearance and ninth home start of 2023...also his 112th career appearance (all starts) in his sixth major league season (Miami - 2018-22). Facing Kansas City for the third time this season and fourth time in his career; is 2-1, 4.08 ERA (17.2 IP, 8 ER) with four walks and 21 strikeouts in three career starts vs. the Royals. Acquired by the Twins from Miami on January 20, 2023, along with infielder Jose Salas and outfielder Byron Chourio, in exchange for infielder/outfielder Luis Arraez.

2023 MAJOR LEAGUE DAY-BY-DAY

Table with columns: Date, Opp, Dec, IP, H, R, ER, HR, BB, SO, Left/Final, Notes, Pitches/K. Includes rows for 3/30, 4/5, 4/11, 4/16, 4/22, 4/28, MAR/APR TOTALS, MAY TOTALS, JUNE TOTALS, 2023 TOTALS, and CAREER TOTALS.

LAST TIME OUT: Earned his first win in his last six starts in the Twins' 8-1 victory over the Baltimore Orioles on June 30 at Oriole Park at Camden Yards...recorded his 10th quality start of the season, pitching 6.0 innings and allowing one run on three hits (1 HR), with three walks and six strikeouts...

- Posted a scoreless first inning; has held his opponent scoreless in the first inning in six-straight starts and nine of his last 11 starts after doing so only twice in his first six starts of 2023. Received eight runs of support, his most in a road start this year and tied with his start on April 28 vs. Kansas City for the most run support he has received in any start in 2023. Through 17 starts this season, López is among the American League leaders in several statistical categories, including strikeouts (126 - 3rd), FIP (3.38 - 9th), innings pitched (102.0 - 10th) and opponent OPS (.662 - 15th).

TWO STARTS AGO: Recorded his ninth quality start of the season but took the loss on June 24 against the Detroit Tigers in a 3-2 Twins' defeat at Comerica Park...went 6.0 innings and allowed three runs on seven hits (all singles), with one walk and a season-high-tying 10 strikeouts...allowed all three runs in the bottom of the second inning on four singles and one walk, with catcher Eric Haase and rightfielder Zach McKinstry each recording RBI hits...

- Recorded a season-high-tying 10 strikeouts, also doing so on April 11 vs. Chicago-AL...was one short of his career high of 11, done twice previously (May 13, 2022 vs. Milwaukee, July 26, 2022 at Cincinnati).

ROLLING VS. THE ROYALS: López has won each of his two starts against Kansas City this season, going 2-0 with a 4.76 ERA (11.1 IP, 6 ER), four walks and 15 strikeouts in those outings...beat the Royals on Opening Day at Kauffman Stadium, pitching 5.1 shutout innings with two hits allowed, three walks and eight strikeouts in the Twins' 2-0 win on March 30...defeated Kansas City again on April 28 at Target Field in Minnesota's 8-6 win, going 6.0 innings and allowing six runs on eight hits, with one walk and seven strikeouts...

- In eight career starts against American League Central division opponents (KC - 3, CLE - 2, CWS - 2, DET - 1), he is 3-2, 3.75 ERA (50.1 IP, 21 ER) with 10 walks and 60 strikeouts.

GETTING HELP AT HOME: Making his ninth home start of 2023 tonight...is 2-2, 5.94 ERA (47.0 IP, 31 ER) with 16 walks and 60 strikeouts in eight starts at Target Field this season...despite owning the highest home ERA among qualified American League pitchers in 2023, the Twins have gone 6-2 in his eight home starts, with López receiving an average of 5.55 runs of support at Target Field this year...

- Is 16-17, 3.81 ERA (331.0 IP, 140 ER) with 95 walks and 328 strikeouts in 58 career home starts...in 53 career road starts, he is 16-19, 4.20 ERA (281.0 IP, 131 ER) with 77 walks and 287 strikeouts.

RIGHT ON: López has limited right-handed hitters to a .208 (43-for-207) batting average this season...his 77 strikeouts against righties are tied with TOR's Yusei Kikuchi for the sixth most in the American League this year, trailing only HOU's Framber Valdez (92), LAA's Reid Detmers (88), TB's Shane Bieber (87), TOR's Kevin Gausman (87) and OAK's JP Sears (78)...

- Over his career, he has better numbers against right-handed hitters (.656 OPS) than left-handed hitters (.740 OPS).

PITCH BREAKDOWN: Used a five-pitch mix in his first 17 starts this season, according to Baseball Savant...has primarily used his sweeper and sinker against right-handed hitters, favoring his changeup and curveball against left-handed hitters...opposing batters went 0-for-7 with four strikeouts against his four-seam fastball in his last start on June 30 at Baltimore; tied three other starts for his highest strikeout total with his four-seamer in any start this season...here is a look at his 2023 arsenal:

PITCH (AVG. MPH) PCT. (# OF PITCHES, VS. RHB/LHB) RESULTS. 4-Seam Fastball (94.9)...35.0% (563 pitches, 267/296)259 (30-for-116), 7 2B, 6 HR, 41 K Changeup (88.4)...21.0% (338 pitches, 133/205)... .188 (18-for-96), 2 2B, 2 HR, 30 K Sweeper (84.3)...20.9% (337 pitches, 269/68)... .155 (11-for-71), 1 2B, 2 3B, 2 HR, 29 K Curveball (82.3)...12.2% (196 pitches, 49/147)... .245 (13-for-53), 1 2B, 1 3B, 1 HR, 22 K Sinker (94.5)...10.9% (176 pitches, 171/5)... .326 (15-for-46), 2 2B, 1 HR, 3 K

- López's changeup has accumulated a run value of -6 this year, tied for the eighth-best run value on a changeup in baseball, according to Baseball Savant. In his first 17 starts this year, López has an average fastball velocity of 94.8 mph, a 2.1 mph increase from last season and the largest year-to-year jump of his career.

FRIDAY'S STARTER - RHP BAILEY OBER (2023: 5-4, 2.70 ERA // CAREER: 10-10, 3.44 ERA)

Bailey Ober is set to start the three-game series opener against the Baltimore Orioles on Friday night at Target Field...earned the win against the Orioles in his last start on July 1 at Oriole Park at Camden Yards, tossing 7.0 shutout innings with two hits allowed, no walks and eight strikeouts in the Twins' 1-0 win over Baltimore...opposing hitters batted .087 (2-for-23) with a .212 OPS against Ober in his last start...has recorded a quality start in each of his last four outings, tied with seven other pitchers for the sixth-longest active quality start streak in baseball; also has recorded a career-high eight quality starts in 2023...in eight games at Target Field this season, he is 2-3, 3.18 ERA (45.1 IP, 16 ER) with 10 walks and 39 strikeouts; Twins have gone 4-4 in his eight home starts.

2023 HIGHS

- CG's: -- SHO's: -- CG Low-Hit: -- Innings: 7.2, 4/11 vs. CWS SO's: 10, 2x, last 6/24 at DET Walks: 4, 5/10 vs. SD Hits: 8, 3x, last 6/1 vs. CLE Home Runs: 3, 5/15 at LAD Win-Streak: 1, 4x, last 6/30-present Loss-Streak: 2, 2x, last 6/19-6/24

CAREER HIGHS

- CG's: -- SHO's: -- CG Low-Hit: -- Innings: 8.0, 2x, last 5/7/22 at SD SO's: 11, 2x, last 7/26/22 at CIN Walks: 5, 8/26/18 vs. ATL Hits: 12, 7/31/22 vs. NYM Home Runs: 3, 4x, last 5/15/23 at LAD Win-Streak: 4, 7/11/21-4/27/22 Loss-Streak: 3, 3x, last 7/31-8/17/22

CAREER NOTES

- On April 21, 2023, signed a four-year contract extension through the 2027 season with Minnesota. In 2022, set career highs in wins (10), games started (32), innings pitched (180.0) and strikeouts (174) as number two starter for Miami. 489 career strikeouts with Miami are 11th on their all-time list and is one of 16 pitchers in Marlins history to reach 500.0 innings pitched. In 2021, spent fourth season with Miami, holding opponents to two-or-fewer runs in 15 of his 18 starts and posting a career-low 1.12 WHIP. Made first career Postseason appearance October 7, 2020, going 5.0 innings and allowing three hits and two runs while striking out seven in a loss to Atlanta in Game 2 of the National League Division Series. Received 2020 Marlins Charlie Hough Good Guy Award, voted on by Miami chapter of BBWAA recognizing a Miami player who fostered a strong relationship with reporters. In 2020, spent entire season on active roster and led Marlins in innings pitched (57.1), games started (11), wins (6) and strikeouts (59). Made only 21 starts in 2019 after missing over two months on the Injured List with a right shoulder strain, posting a 5.09 ERA in 111.1 innings pitched with 95 strikeouts. Made major league debut on June 30, 2018 vs. New York-NL and earned first career victory, tossing 6.0 innings with five strikeouts while limiting the Mets to two runs. Started 2018 season with Double-A Jacksonville, earning Southern League Midseason All-Star honors before being promoted to Triple-A New Orleans. Acquired by Miami along with outfielder Brayan Hernandez, right-handed pitcher Brandon Miller and right-handed pitcher Lukas Schiraldi from Seattle in exchange for right-handed pitcher David Phelps on July 20, 2017. Spent 2017 season at High-A level in Seattle and Miami organizations. Went 6-1, 1.88 ERA (71.2 IP, 15 ER) in 17 appearances (13 starts) for Low-A Clinton (Seattle) in 2016. Missed 2014 season following Tommy John surgery on November 11, 2013. Made professional debut with Venezuelan Summer League Mariners on May 23, 2013. Originally signed by Seattle as international free agent on July 4, 2012.

2023 MISC. NUMBERS

Table with columns: W, L, ERA, G/GS, IP, ER, AVG, H, AB, HR, BB, SO. Rows for Home, Road, Day, Night, Grass, Turf and None On.

6.0-PLUS IP/QUALITY STARTS

Table with columns: YEAR, STARTS, 6+ IP, QS. Rows for 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, and TOTALS.

MORE 2023 MISCELLANEOUS NUMBERS

Table with columns: BASE RUNNERS, PICK-OFFS, SB-ATT, GDP. Row for LÓPEZ.

2023 RUNS/HITS PER INNING

Table with columns: INNING, RUNS/HITS. Rows for 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9.

LÓPEZ VS. KANSAS CITY

- 2023 vs. Kansas City (2 starts): 2-0, 4.76 ERA (11.1 IP, 6 ER), 4 BB, 15 K 2023 vs. Kansas City at Home (1 start): 1-0, 9.00 ERA (6.0 IP, 6 ER), 1 BB, 7 K 2023 vs. Kansas City on Road (1 start): 1-0, 0.00 ERA (5.1 IP, 0 ER), 3 BB, 8 K Career vs. Kansas City (3 starts): 2-1, 4.08 ERA (17.2 IP, 8 ER), 4 BB, 21 K Career vs. Kansas City at Home (2 starts): 1-1, 5.84 ERA (12.1 IP, 8 ER), 1 BB, 13 K Career vs. Kansas City on Road (1 start): 1-0, 0.00 ERA (5.1 IP, 0 ER), 3 BB, 8 K

BATTER-PITCHER MATCH-UPS

Table with columns: López vs. the Royals (PLAYER, AVG, AB, H, HR, BB, SO) and Marsh vs. the Twins (PLAYER, AVG, AB, H, HR, BB, SO).

REELIN' IN THE STRIKEOUTS: After fanning six batters in his last start on June 30 at Baltimore, López has recorded 126 strikeouts in his first 17 starts with Minnesota, the most through a pitcher's first 17 games with the Twins in club history (since 1961):

PITCHER STRIKEOUTS YEAR. Pablo López... 126 2023 Kenta Maeda... 108 2020-21 Bert Blyleven... 95 1985-86 Phil Hughes... 94 2014 Dean Chance... 91 1967 Joe Ryan... 90 2021-22

CUTTING TO THE CHASE: Through 17 starts, López has a career-high 36.0 chase percentage, placing him in the 96th percentile in all of baseball, according to Baseball Savant...his chase rate ranks second on the Twins staff (Joe Ryan - 36.9) and 14th in the majors...also has a career-best 52.2 percent swing rate and 29.8 percent whiff rate in 2023; his whiff rate ranks in the 78th percentile in all of baseball.

TEAM BULLPEN NOTES

Ortega (1.0 IP) and López (1.0 IP) pitched in yesterday's win...pen has allowed just 23 H and 9 R, w/ 40 K and a .183 BAA in last 12 G (36.1 IP, 2.23 ERA).
Pen is 2-1, 3.00 ERA (30.0 IP, 10 ER) with 2 HR (Duffy off Moran, Pratto off Headrick), 16 BB & 30 K in 9 games vs. KC this season.
Pen has thrown 908 offspeed pitches, 4th most in baseball trailing CIN (1,053), NYY (1,026) & DET (976)...they have averaged 90.3 mph on all pitches, 6th-hardest throwing pen in MLB (3rd in AL).
Pen has the 2nd-lowest xBA (.227) in MLB, 3rd-lowest wOBA (.291) and 8th-lowest xSLG (.372)...also, they have allowed the fewest hits (233) among all MLB bullpens.

JORDAN BALAZOVIC - RHP #81

Height: 6-5 Weight: 194 Age: 24 (9/17/1998 in Oakville, CAN) Acquired: 5th RD, 2016 Draft
Homestand: 0-0-0, 0.00 (0.1 IP, 0 ER), 0 K, 0 BB Series vs KC: 0-0-0, 0.00 (0.1 IP, 0 ER), 0 K, 0 BB vs. Left 429 vs. Right 111
Recorded final out of 7th on 7/3 vs KC, inducing inning-ending flyout by Witt Jr. ...5 of 6 ML appearances have been scoreless (1.23 ERA).
Recalled prior to game on 6/18 vs. DET, making ML debut, pitching 3.2 scoreless IP w/ 2 H allowed, 1 BB & 2 K...first K came in 6th inning, fanning Torkelson...became 3rd player to debut for the Twins this season (also, Headrick and Julien).
Prior to recall, went 1-1, 4.79 ERA (35.2 IP, 19 ER), 21 BB, 50 K, .261 BAA (36-for-138) in 14 games (3 GS) for Saints this season.
2023 MLB arsenal: 4-seam FB - 39 pitches (40.2%), curveball - 31 pitches (32.0%), slider - 17 pitches (17.5%), changeup - 10 pitches (10.3%).
Selected by MIN 5th round of 2016 Draft out of St. Martin Secondary School in Mississauga...pitched in parts of 7 seasons in MIN minor league system, going 24-24, 4.24 ERA (433.0 IP, 204 ER), 164 BB, 481 strikeouts in 106 games (82 starts)...11th Canadian-born player to play for Twins.

RECENT APPEARANCES table with columns: DATE, DEC, IP, H, R, ER, HR, BB, SO

JHOAN DURAN - RHP #59

Height: 6-5 Weight: 259 Age: 25 (1/8/98 in Esperanza, DR) Acquired: Trade with ARI, 7/27/18
Homestand: 0-0-0, 0.00 (0.0 IP, 0 ER), 0 K, 0 BB Series vs KC: 0-0-0, 0.00 (0.0 IP, 0 ER), 0 K, 0 BB vs. Left 176 vs. Right 167
Blew 3rd SV of 2023 and took the loss 7/2 at BAL; worked 0.2 IP in the 8th allowing 2 R, 1 BB, 1 SO and 1 HBP.
Has 1.61 ERA (22.1 IP, 4 ER) w/ 29 K in his last 19 games...in his last 16 G, has >1.0+ IP 6x, being forced to extend his outings due to close games.
Lefties are 9-for-51 w/ 9 BB, 22 K and 1 2B (Casas on 6/21 vs. BOS), while righties are 10-for-60 w/ 5 XBH (3 HR), 6 BB & 21 K.
Topped out at 104.6 mph (strike) and 104.5 mph (ball) in AB to Straw 6/2 vs. CLE, matching his season/career high...on 5/24 vs. SF, threw 104.0, 104.4 & 104.6 mph, career highs at the time and highest in Twins history...8th fastest pitch in baseball in Statcast Era.
12 saves (15 opps), T-9th in AL...has 80.0 SV%, 11th best in AL...his 3 BS were 4/11 vs. CWS, 6/21 vs. BOS and 7/2 at BAL.
Is 0-1, 0.82 ERA (11.0 IP, 1 ER) w/ 5 H, 6 BB & 17 K in 11 career G vs KC, including 4 SV.
Has appeared in 25 of Twins' 43 wins & Twins are 25-5 in games which he has appeared...Twins are 66-21 in games which he's appeared (since '22).
254 of 525 pitches 100+ mph; 254 rank 2nd in MLB trailing J. Hicks - 332...thrown 646 pitches 100+ mph since start of '22, the most in baseball.
Ranks in the 96th percentile in baseball in whiff% (36.8)...also in the 96th percentile in xBA (.181) and in xSLG (.276).
Avg velo are 4-up on both fastballs (100.8 < 101.9) and offspeed pitches (96.4 < 98.8).
2023 arsenal: 4-seam FB (avg. 101.9 mph) - 238 pitches (45.3%), curveball (avg. 87.8 mph) - 150 pitches (28.6%), splitter (avg. 98.8 mph) - 137 pitches (26.1%)...has .189 BAA of 4-Seam FB, .114 off curveball and .205 off splitter...curveball typically putaway pitch, w/ whiff% of 46.9.

RECENT APPEARANCES table with columns: DATE, DEC, IP, H, R, ER, HR, BB, SO

GRIFFIN JAX - RHP #22

Height: 6-1 Weight: 195 Age: 28 (11/22/94 in Phoenix, AZ) Acquired: 3rd RD, 2016 Draft
Homestand: 0-0-0, 0.00 (0.0 IP, 0 ER), 0 K, 0 BB Series vs KC: 0-0-0, 0.00 (0.0 IP, 0 ER), 0 K, 0 BB vs. Left 196 vs. Right 228
Earned 12th hold w/ scoreless 7th inning in Sunday's game at BAL...his 4 relief wins are T-6th most in AL this season.
16.2 IP active scoreless streak, 3rd in baseball, since 5/22 w/ 6 H, 1 BB & 15 K; had 9.00 ERA (8.0 IP, 8 ER) w/ 14 H and 7 BB in a 9-G stretch from 4/29-5/19.
Leads club in G (38), appeared in all but 2 series (5/5-7 at CLE & 6/26-28 at ATL)...since start of 2022, leads Twins in G w/ 103 & T-9th in the AL in that span.
Has appeared vs KC 4 times this season...2.45 ERA (3.2 IP, 1 ER), 1 H, 2 BB & 2 K...2 HR allowed in career vs KC (Olivares and Benintendi).
Yet to allow HR in 36.0 IP this season...last HR came in 6th inning 9/7/22 at NYY; 45.2 IP homerless streak is 10th-longest active in MLB.
Has 56.4% GB rate & 14.9% FB rate...ranks in 98th percentile in MLB in lowest barrel% (2.0)...of 101 batted balls off Jax, 2 have been barrels.
Has 2.48 xERA (top 4% of MLB) but 3.00 ERA on season...2.48 xERA is lowest of career...has 34.7 hard hit %, best of career.
Lefties are 11-for-56 w/ 3 2B, 3B, 4 BB, 20 K and righties are 18-for-79 w/ 6 BB and 15 K this season...172 BAA off sweeper w/ 28 K.
Arsenal: sweeper - 333 pitches (60.7%), 4-seam FB - 128 pitches (23.3%), changeup - 31 pitches (5.6%), sinker - 29 pitches (5.3%), cutter - 28 pitches (5.1%).

RECENT APPEARANCES table with columns: DATE, DEC, IP, H, R, ER, HR, BB, SO

JORGE LÓPEZ - RHP #48

Height: 6-4 Weight: 206 Age: 30 (2/10/93 in Caguas, PR) Acquired: Trade with BAL, 8/2/22
Homestand: 0-0-0, 9.00 (1.0 IP, 1 ER), 0 K, 0 BB Series vs KC: 0-0-0, 9.00 (1.0 IP, 1 ER), 0 K, 0 BB vs. Left 171 vs. Right 324
Worked 1.0 IP in the 9th inn. to close out yesterday's win allowing 1 R on 2 H...reinstated from 15-day IL yesterday, missing the last 17 G w/ mental health.
T-4th on club in G (30)...has 9.00 ERA w/ .364 BAA in last 17 G since 5/2 after starting season w/ 0.00 ERA & .140 BAA in first 13 G from 3/30-4/29.
Has posted 5.6% weak contact, 4th-best of career (6.9% in 2022)...solid percentage is just 5.6%.
2 SV (3 SVO), 1 hold, 5.0 IP w/ 1 R, 5 H, 1 BB, 3 K in 6 games vs. KC this season...career 0-1-4, 2.76 ERA (16.1 IP, 5 ER) in 14 G/1 GS vs. KC.
Lefties are 6-for-35 w/ 6 BB & 10 K this season and righties are 24-for-74 w/ 4 BB and 12 K...allowed HR to lefties in 3 of last 8 G (Conforto, Varsho & Kwan).
Has average breaking ball velo of 86.6 mph, the highest of career...up 1.3 mph from 2022.
2023 arsenal: sinker - 123 pitches (28.1%), slider - 90 pitches (20.6%), 4-seam FB - 89 pitches (20.4%), curveball - 70 pitches (16.0%), changeup - 65 pitches (14.9%)...ranks in the 93rd percentile in MLB in fastball velocity (97.0 mph).

RECENT APPEARANCES table with columns: DATE, DEC, IP, H, R, ER, HR, BB, SO

JOVANI MORAN - LHP #71

Height: 6-1 Weight: 199 Age: 26 (4/24/97 in Mayaguez, PR) Acquired: 7th RD, 2015 Draft
Homestand: 0-0-0, 0.00 (0.2 IP, 0 ER), 1 K, 1 BB Series vs KC: 0-0-0, 0.00 (0.2 IP, 0 ER), 1 K, 1 BB vs. Left 200 vs. Right 234
Tossed 0.2 IP (1 BB, 1 K) in 7th inning on 7/3 vs KC, w/ 1 K; 3rd-straight scoreless app (3.2 IP).
Has 33 G this season, setting a new single-season career high (previous was 31 in 2022)...19 IR w/ just 3 scoring for 15.8 IRS% - 4th best in AL.
Has 19 BB in 33 G, including 1 BB in 5 of last 6 G...leads Twins relievers in BB and ranks 3rd on MIN staff behind Gray (36) and P. López (30).
Has 5.79 ERA (9.1 IP, 6 ER) in last 10 G after posting 1.26 ERA (14.1 IP, 1 ER) w/ 5 BB, 16 K & .200 BAA in 15-game span from 5/4-6/11 including 7 HLD.
Has faced KC 8 times in his career, posting a 5.11 ERA (12.1 IP, 7 ER), 13 H, 1 HR (M. Duffy), 9 BB & 17 K.
LHB are 10-for-50 (9 1B, 1 3B), 8 BB & 18 K against him and RHB are 18-for-77 (2 2B, 3B, 2 HR - J. Peña & M. Duffy), 11 BB & 22 K.
2023 arsenal: changeup - 283 pitches (47.1%), 4-seam FB - 272 pitches (45.3%), slider - 46 pitches (7.7%)...used slider exclusively vs. LHB, throwing 46 sliders to LHB and 0 to RHB...changeup has .135 BAA (10-for-74)...ranks in 92nd percentile in MLB in avg. exit velo (86.1) & 95th in whiff % (35.9).

RECENT APPEARANCES table with columns: DATE, DEC, IP, H, R, ER, HR, BB, SO

OLIVER ORTEGA - RHP #62

Height: 6-0 Weight: 204 Age: 26 (10/2/1996 in Nagua, DR) Acquired: Claimed off waivers from LAA, 1/6/23
Homestand: 0-0-0, 0.00 (1.0 IP, 0 ER), 0 K, 0 BB Series vs KC: 0-0-0, 0.00 (1.0 IP, 0 ER), 0 K, 0 BB vs. Left 111 vs. Right 000
Worked 1.0 IP scoreless 8th inning in yesterday's win...recalled 6/27 from AAA STP (Stewart - IL).
Has gone 3-0, 2.22 ERA (24.1 IP, 6 ER), 2 SV, 8 BB, 29 K, .209 BAA in 17 games overall for Saints this season...struck out 12 of last 35 batters faced, since 6/8...9 of 17 app. were 1.0+ IP, 3 were 2.0 IP and 2 were 3.0 IP.
2023 arsenal w/ MIN: curveball - 20 pitches (32.8%), 4-seam FB - 16 pitches (26.2%), slider - 14 pitches (23%), sinker - 10 pitches (16.4%), sweeper - 1 pitch (1.6%).
NRI in 2023 MIN ST after being claimed off waivers from LAA on 1/6/23...prior to MIN: 35 MLB G w/ LAA from 2021-22; 2-3, 3.95 ERA (43.1 IP, 19 ER), 20 BB, 37 K.

RECENT APPEARANCES table with columns: DATE, DEC, IP, H, R, ER, HR, BB, SO

EMILIO PAGÁN - RHP #15

Height: 6-3 Weight: 216 Age: 32 (5/7/91 in Simpsonville, SC) Acquired: Trade with SD, 4/7/22
Homestand: 0-0-0, 9.00 (1.0 IP, 1 ER), 1 K, 1 BB Series vs KC: 0-0-0, 9.00 (1.0 IP, 1 ER), 1 K, 1 BB vs. Left 309 vs. Right 162
Pitched 9th inning in 7/3 vs KC, allowing 1 R on Witt Jr. RBI double...2 ER in last 8 app. (8.1 IP, 2.16 ERA).
13 of last 16 G have been scoreless, posting 2.50 ERA (18.0 IP, 5 ER) w/ 10 H, 6 BB & 17 K in that span.
Is 1-1-5, 3.07 ERA (14.2 IP, 5 ER) w/ 20 H, 3 BB, 11 K, 1 HLD & 5 SV in 16 career G vs. KC.
Lefties are 17-for-55 w/ 8 2B, 2 HR, 7 BB & 17 K, while righties are 13-for-80 w/ 3 2B, HR, 5 BB & 17 K.
Has 8.58 K/9.0 IP ratio this season, lowest of career; multiple Ks in just 9 of 32 G...has 0.76 HR/9.0 ratio, lowest of career (prev. low 1.25 in 2017).
Has induced 5.0 weak contact%, the best of career...has 6.9 barrel percentage, 3rd lowest of career.
2023 arsenal: 4-seam FB - 301 pitches (50.3%), cutter - 186 pitches (31.1%), split finger - 84 pitches (14.0%), curveball - 27 pitches (4.5%)...most effective pitch in 2023 has been cutter as opponents are 6-for-45 (.133)...has .211 xBA on 4S-FB with actual BA of .250 on that pitch.

RECENT APPEARANCES table with columns: DATE, DEC, IP, H, R, ER, HR, BB, SO

COLE SANDS - RHP #77

Height: 6-3 Weight: 226 Age: 25 (7/17/1997 in Tallahassee, FL) Acquired: 5th RD, 2018 Draft
Homestand: 0-0-0, 0.00 (0.0 IP, 0 ER), 0 K, 0 BB Series vs KC: 0-0-0, 0.00 (0.0 IP, 0 ER), 0 K, 0 BB vs. Left 182 vs. Right 240
Returned from rehab, reinstated today from the 15-day IL (right shoulder impingement)...appeared in 2 rehab G with the Saints (3.0 IP, 0 ER) w/ 1 H, 1 BB & 6 K.
Has 8.1 active scoreless IP streak...has allowed just 3 H, 5 BB & 6 K in 3 G (5.0 IP) at Target Field this season.
Recalled 5/13 from AAA STP...2nd stint w/ MIN this season (also, Opening Day-April 14).
Has yet to face KC this season...1 career app. vs. KC, 8/16/22 at Target Field (1.0 IP, 1 H & 2 K).
2023 arsenal: 4-seam FB - 80 pitches (35.9%), split finger - 58 pitches (26.0%), curveball - 34 pitches (15.2%), sinker - 34 pitches (15.2%), cutter - 17 pitches (7.6%)...opponents are 2-for-17 off 4S-FB (.176 BAA) and 2-for-13 (.154 BAA) off split finger.

RECENT APPEARANCES table with columns: DATE, DEC, IP, H, R, ER, HR, BB, SO

2023 BULLPEN INFO

Table with columns: Player name, 1st Batter Avg, BB/9, K/9, Saves/Opps, Holds, IRS%, WHIP, HR, Last game, 2 games ago, 3 games ago

MISC. HIGHS AND LOWS

Table with 2 columns: Statistic and Value. Includes rows like 'Most Runs, Game (Team)', 'Most Hits, Game (Team)', 'Longest Hitting Streak (Individual)', etc.

SCORE BY INNING

Table with 12 columns: Inning (1-9, XTRA, TOTAL) and 2 rows: Opponent (Twins) and Scores.

INJURED LIST

Table with 6 columns: Player, Injury, Date On, Retro, Date Off, Games Missed. Lists injured players like Chris Paddock, Royce Lewis, etc.

BOLD indicates currently on IL
* - 10-day IL ^ - 15-day IL # - 60-day IL

LONGEST HOME RUNS

Table with 2 columns: Player and Distance/Date vs. Team. Lists longest home runs by Buxton, Taylor, Gallo, etc.

HIGHEST EXIT VELOCITY

Table with 2 columns: Player and Exit Velocity/Date vs. Team. Lists highest exit velocities by Jeffers, Castro, Correa, etc.

STARTS BY POSITION

Table with 11 columns: Position (C, 1B, 2B, SS, 3B, LF, CF, RF, DH) and 16 rows of player start counts.

STARTS BY BATTING ORDER

Table with 10 columns: Batting Order (1-9) and 16 rows of player start counts.

MOST USED LINEUP (3X)

Table with 2 columns: Player and Position. Shows lineup preferences for Kepler, Correa, Buxton, etc.

OUTFIELD ASSISTS

Table with 2 columns: Player and Assists. Shows outfield assists for Castro, Gallo, Kepler, etc.

LAST TIME IT HAPPENED

FOR THE TWINS

HITTING: Hit for the Cycle: J. Polanco, 4/5/19 at PHI (11 all-time)
Grand Slam: C. Correa, 6/10/23 at TOR (1 as a team in 2023)
Inside-the-Park Home Run: B. Buxton, 9/15/20 at CWS (1 as a team in 2020, 54 all-time)
Pinch-Hit Home Run: E. Julien, 7/3/23 vs. KC (3 as a team in 2023)
Pinch-Hit Grand Slam: M. LeCroy, 9th inning, 5/19/04 at TOR (15 all-time)
Five-Hit Game: B. Buxton, 4/28/21 at CLE (1 in 2021)
Six-Hit Game: K. Puckett, 5/23/91 vs. TEX (2 all-time, both Puckett)
Two Hits, One Inning: E. Julien, 1st inning, 4/13/23 at NYY (1 as a team in 2023)
Two Home Runs, One Inning: M. Cuddyer, 8/23/09 at KC (1 all-time)
Two-Home Run Game: B. Buxton, 6/22/23 vs BOS (6 as a team in 2023)
Three-Home Run Game: M. Sanó, 5/18/21 vs. CWS (1 as a team in 2021, 13 all-time)
Back-to-Back Home Runs: D. Solano/B. Buxton, 7/4/23 vs. KC (7 as a team in 2023)
Three Consecutive Home Runs: M. Taylor/E. Julien/C. Correa, 4/13/23 at NYY (1 in 2023)
Three Home Runs, One Inning: M. Taylor/E. Julien/C. Correa, 4/13/23 at NYY (1 in 2023)
Four Home Runs, One Inning: M. Sanó/R. Jeffers/M. Kepler/B. Rooker, 7/28/21 vs. DET (1 in 2021)
Walk-Off Home Run: C. Correa, 6/13/23 vs. MIL (1 as a team in 2023)
Pinch-Hit, Walk-Off Home Run: M. Sanó, 8/5/19 vs. ATL (9 all-time)
Leadoff Home Run: J. Polanco, 6/3/23 vs. CLE (4 as a team in 2023)
Consecutive Home Runs to Lead Off Game: M. Kepler/B. Rooker, 7/25/21 vs. LAA (2 as a team in 2021)
Three Consecutive Home Runs to Start Game: L. Arraez/B. Buxton/C. Correa, 6/9/22 vs. NYY
Last Pitcher to Hit Home Run: Last actual pitcher Jim Kaat, 6/11/72 at CLE; Chris Gimenez catcher pitching in relief, 9/2/18 at TEX

AGAINST THE TWINS

HITTING: Hit for the Cycle: A. Beltré, 8/24/12 at TEX (5 allowed all-time)
Grand Slam: J. Outman, 5/17/23 at LAD (2 allowed as team in 2023)
Inside-the-Park Home Run: R. Arozarena, 6/10/22 vs. TB (46 allowed all-time)
Pinch-Hit Home Run: J. Gallo, 8/10/22 at LAD (1 allowed in 2022)
Pinch-Hit Grand Slam: J. Sands, 8/8/15 at CLE
Five-Hit Game: C. Arroyo, 6/20/23 vs. BOS
Six-Hit Game: J. Segura, 5/28/13 at MIL (3 allowed all-time)
Two Hits, One Inning: W. Merrifield, 1st inning, 6/4/21 at KC (2 allowed in 2021)
Two Home Runs, One Inning: D. Nilsson, 5/17/96 vs. MIL
Two-Home Run Game: R. Acuña Jr, 6/27/23 at ATL (4 allowed in 2023)
Three-Home Run Game: J. Donaldson, 8/28/16 at TOR (26 allowed since 1961)
Back-to-Back Home Runs: M. Harris II/R. Acuña Jr, 6/27/23 at ATL (7 allowed in 2023)
Three Consecutive Home Runs: C. Bellinger/G. Lux/A. Barnes, 4/13/22 vs. LAD
Three Home Runs, One Inning: R. Acuña Jr/A. Riley/S. Murphy, 6/27/23 at ATL (1 in 2023)
Four Home Runs, One Inning: C. Everett/T. O'Leary/J. Varitek/M. Burkhardt, 7/3/00 vs. BOS
Walk-Off Home Run: R. Arozarena, 6/7/23 at TB (4 allowed in 2022)
Pinch-Hit, Walk-Off Home Run: C. Santana, 9/23/11 at CLE (12 all-time)
Leadoff Home Run: M. Garcia, 7/3/23 vs. KC (5 allowed in 2023)
Consecutive Home Runs to Lead Off Game: S. Smith/M. Machado, 7/7/17 vs. BAL (1 in '17)
Last Pitcher to Hit Home Run: Jon Lester, 7/1/18 at CHC

PITCHING (complete games only for low-hit games):

No-Hitter: Jer. Weaver, 5/2/12 at LAA (5 all-time)
One-Hitter: D. Cease, 9/3/22 at CWS (25 all-time)
Two-Hitter: R. Halladay, 5/29/05 at TOR (49 all-time)
10+ Innings Pitched: A. Fernández (10.0 innings), 10/1/95 at CHW
10+ Strikeouts: 10, T. McKenzie, 6/4/23 vs. CLE (7 times in 2023)
Complete Game Shutout: G. Cole, 4/16/23 at NYY (2 times in 2023)
Back-to-Back Complete Game Victories: J. Williams/Jer. Weaver, 5/1-2/12 at LAA
Back-to-Back Shutouts: 5/31/22 (G2) & 6/1/22 at DET (2 games, 4-0 and 5-0)
Four Strikeouts in an Inning: F. Hernández, 6/3/10 vs. SEA (8th inning)

MISCELLANEOUS:

Triple Play: J. Donaldson/A. Rosales/C. Carter, 8/21/12 at OAK - T. Plouffe hitting (8 all-time)
Position Player Pitching: M. Mastrobuoni, 5/14/23 vs. CHC (3 in 2023)
Three or more Steals, One Game: W. Merrifield (3), 7/2/17 at KC (1 in 2017)
Steal of Home: R. Davis, 8/1/18 vs. CLE
Pure Steal of Home: S. Green, 5/26/00 vs. TEX
Home Run in First ML At-Bat: Se. Alcántara, 9/26/20 vs. DET

2023 TARGET FIELD WEATHER DELAYS AND POSTPONEMENTS

Table with 3 columns: DATE, DELAYED/PPD, NOTES. Lists weather-related game delays and postponements.

