

MINNESOTA TWINS (69-64) vs. CLEVELAND GUARDIANS (63-70)

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30, 2023 - 12:10 PM (CT) - TV: BALLY SPORTS NORTH / RADIO: TIBN, WCCO, THE WOLF

RHP Sonny Gray (7-6, 3.06) vs. RHP Tanner Bibee (10-3, 3.01)

GAME 134

HOME GAME 69

UPCOMING PROBABLE PITCHERS & BROADCAST SCHEDULE

Table with columns: Date, Opponent, Probable Pitchers, Time, Television, Radio / Spanish Radio. Rows for 8/31 (OFF DAY), 9/1 (at Texas), 9/2 (at Texas), 9/3 (at Texas).

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, When Twins score 4+, When Twins score 3+, 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, 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 W/L, Shutouts W/L, CG (Twins), Average Time of Game (Twins), Attendance High, Attendance Total, Attendance Average, Target Field Sellouts - 2023/All-Time.

THE TWINS: Have gone 4-2 through six games on their seven-game homestand, going 3-1 vs. Texas over the weekend, followed by splitting the first two games with the Guardians the last two nights...today, Minnesota will complete the homestand with the three-game series finale against the Guardians...after today's game, the Twins will travel to Texas for an off-day tomorrow then begin a six-game road trip with three against the Rangers over the weekend then three against the Guardians from Monday-Wednesday...the Twins have gone 40-28 at home and 29-36 on the road.
The Twins have gone 19-9 in their last 28 home games, dating back to June 21.

GUARDS 'PEN TOUGH ON TWINS: The Twins lost to the Guardians last night at Target Field by a score of 4-2, evening the series at 1-1...Pablo López (9-7) was the starter and loser, allowing three runs on eight hits in 6.0 innings pitched, with three walks and five strikeouts...the offense recorded seven hits, two from both Max Kepler and Michael A. Taylor...Taylor hit his 20th home run of the season and Royce Lewis hit his ninth home run, and third in as many days...Carlos Correa went 0-for-4, snapping his 19-game on-base streak...Minnesota also went 0-for-9 with runners in scoring position and left nine men on base.

AUGUST RUSH: The Twins will complete the August portion of their schedule this afternoon...below are the offense and pitching comparisons for the first four months:

Two tables comparing offense and pitching for MAR/APR, MAY, JUNE, JULY, and AUGUST. Columns include AVG, R, H, 2B, 3B, HR, BB, K, OBP, SLG, OPS, W, L, S, IP, H, ER, HR, BB, K, ERA, BAA.

NOTEWORTHY: Donovan Solano has hit .361 (26-for-72) in 21 games this month, tied for 11th best in baseball...Royce Lewis has a slugging percentage of .647 this month, 11th best in baseball...Max Kepler has a .646 slugging percentage this month, 12th best in baseball...Kepler's 1.055 OPS in August is the sixth best in the AL and 10th best in baseball.

ON GUARD: The Twins are playing the Guardians for the 10th of 13 times in 2023...the Twins are 4-5 vs. the Guardians this season...these two will meet next week for a final three-game series from September 4-6 at Progressive Field.
Since 2022, 22 of the 28 games have been decided by three runs-or-less and 13 by one run.
Max Kepler has 22 career home runs vs. Cleveland, his personal most vs. any opponent.
The Twins have homered 12 times against Cleveland pitching this season, second most in baseball, trailing only Chicago-AL (17).

REAL DEAL ROYCE: Royce Lewis has homered in three-straight games, driving in nine runs in that span...after starting the season hitting .182 (6-for-33) with a .576 OPS in his first eight games, Lewis has hit .354 (40-for-113) with a .987 OPS and 22 RBI in his last 31 games...since the All-Star break, Lewis ranks seventh in the AL in OPS (1.026) and ninth in wOBA (.428).

MICHAEL A. TATER: Michael A. Taylor set a new single-season career high with his 20th home run last night, passing his previous total of 19, done in 2017 with Washington...he has homered eight times in 21 games this month, his personal most in any month over his career...he ranks tied for sixth in the AL in homers in August...additionally, Taylor is the fourth primary centerfielder in club history (since 1961) with at least 20 home runs:

Table listing home run leaders by player and year: Hall (1963), Hunter (2001), Hunter (2006), Puckett (1986), Hunter (2002), Hunter (2007), Hunter (2001), Hunter (2003), Puckett (1987), Hall (1964), Puckett (1988), Hunter (2004), Taylor (2023), Hall (1966), Hall (1965).

SERIES CONVERSATIONS: The Twins are seeking their 21st series victory this season...they are 20-17-5 in series play in 2023, going 12-6-3 at home and 8-11-2 on the road...Twins have gone 8-7 in rubber games this season.
Entering today, the Twins have gone 10-6-2 in their last 18 series, dating back to their June 23-25 series at Detroit.
A win tonight would give the Twins their first series victory vs. the Guardians since taking two of three games from May 13-15, 2022 at Target Field...Twins have gone 0-5-1 in head-to-head series play against Cleveland since.

LAND OF 10,000 RAKES: The Twins hit two more home runs last night, giving them 72 home runs since the All-Star break, second most in baseball, trailing Atlanta (78)...on the season, they have homered 187 times, third most in the AL and fifth most in baseball...Twins have homered in eight-straight games, hitting 19 in that span...their season long for a homer streak is 18, done from April 18-May 6.

MAX EFFORT: In his last 37 games, since July 17, Max Kepler is hitting .331 (43-for-130) with 14 doubles, nine home runs, 20 RBI, 25 runs scored, 13 walks, a .393 on-base percentage, a .646 slugging percentage and a 1.039 OPS.
Kepler has multiple hits in six of his last nine games, hitting .433 (13-for-30) with six doubles, six walks, a .528 on-base percentage, a .733 slugging percentage and a 1.261 OPS in that span.

ON THIS DAY IN TWINS HISTORY: In 1987, Kirby Puckett set a club record with six hits at Milwaukee, recording two home runs, two doubles and two singles...Puckett tied his own record May 23, 1991 in 11 innings vs. Texas...in 2007, the Twins held a ceremony to break ground on Target Field...Target Field's first game was on April 12, 2010 vs. Boston (5-4 win).

TWINS ON A STICK: The Minnesota Twins Experience is now at the Minnesota State Fair through Monday, September 4...interactive games, giveaways and special appearances are part of the team's daily lineup...the Minnesota Twins Experience is located on the south end of Cooper Street at Judson Avenue, next to the International Bazaar, and is open from 9:00 am to 9:00 pm daily, rain or shine...below are some of the ways fans can engage with the Twins at the Great Minnesota Get-Together.
Hall of Famer Tony Oliva will be at the Experience tomorrow and Friday, September 1 from 10:30 to 11:30 am.

STREAKS

Table listing current streaks: Current Streak (1 loss), Last 5 games (3-2), Last 10 games (5-5), Last 15 games (9-6), Last 20 games (10-10).

TWINS VS. GUARDIANS

Table listing series records: 2023 Record (4-5), Current Streak (1 loss), 2023 at Home (3-3), 2023 at Cleveland (1-2), Under Baldelli (since 2019) (37-39), All-Time Record (449-479), All-Time at Home (244-223), All-Time at Cleveland (205-256).

2023 Game Logs:

Table listing game logs with columns: Date, Site, Score, Winner/Loser/Save. Rows for 5/5, 5/6, 5/7, 6/1, 6/2, 6/3, 6/4, 8/28, 8/29, 8/30, 9/4, 9/5, 9/6.

CURRENT HOMESTAND (4-2)

Table listing batting averages: Batting average (.259), Runs Per Game (6.67), Home Runs (15), RISP (.219), Errors (2).

Table listing team ERA: Team ERA (4.19), Starters W-L (1-1), Starters ERA (6.10), Relievers W-L-S (3-1-2), Relievers ERA (2.00), Saves/Opps (2/2).

MLB FIP LEADERS

Table listing FIP leaders: Spencer Strider, ATL (2.79), Kevin Gausman, TOR (2.84), Sonny Gray, MIN (2.86).

MLB PITCHING LEADERS

Table listing home runs allowed: HOME RUNS ALLOWED (min. 150.0 IP), Sonny Gray, MIN (6), Jordan Montgomery, STL/TEX (14), Zack Wheeler, PHI (15).

MLB OPPONENT SLG LEADERS

Table listing slugging percentages: Blake Snell, SD (.313), Kodai Senga, NYM (.319), Sonny Gray, MIN (.321).

UPCOMING MILESTONES

Table listing player milestones: Rocco Baldelli (357 managerial wins), Kyle Farmer (47 home runs), Joey Gallo (98 doubles), Jorge Polanco (108 home runs), Christian Vázquez (695 hits), MILESTONE WITHIN REACH (Needs 21 to tie Gene Mauch (378) for 4th on Twins all-time list (since 1961), Needs 3 to reach 50 for career, Needs 2 to reach 100 for career, Needs 3 to reach 200 for career, Needs 2 to tie Roy Smalley (110) for 1st on Twins all-time list for switch hitters (since 1961), Needs 5 to reach 700 for career).

RECENT TRANSACTIONS

Table listing recent transactions: 8/28 LHP Funderburk contract selected from AAA, RHP Ober optioned to AAA, RHP Ortega transferred to 60-day IL, 8/26 RHP Ryan returned from rehab assignment, reinstated from 15-day IL, RHP Balazovic optioned to AAA, 8/24 RHP Ortega placed on 15-day IL, RHP Balazovic recalled from AAA, 8/20 RHP Ortega recalled from AAA, RHP Balazovic optioned to AAA, 8/15 IF Lewis returned from rehab assignment, reinstated from 10-day IL, UTL Castro placed on 10-day IL, 8/12 RHP Sands recalled from AAA, LHP Headrick optioned to AAA, 8/6 LHP Headrick recalled from AAA, LHP Moran optioned to AAA.

TWINS PRESSBOX.COM

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Table with columns: Date, Opp., Score, W/L, Rcd., Pos., GA/GB, Daily Att, Total Hm Att, Home Date, Winner/Loser/Save. Rows include MARCH/APRIL (17-12) and MAY (12-15).

Table with columns: Date, Opp., Score, W/L, Rcd., Pos., GA/GB, Daily Att, Total Hm Att, Home Date, Winner/Loser/Save. Rows include JUNE (12-15) and JULY (13-11).

Table with columns: Date, Opp., Score, W/L, Rcd., Pos., GA/GB, Daily Att, Total Hm Att, Home Date, Winner/Loser/Save. Rows include AUGUST (15-11) and SEPT/OCT (- - -).

Table with columns: Date, Opp., Score, W/L, Rcd., Pos., GA/GB, Daily Att, Total Hm Att, Home Date, Winner/Loser/Save. Rows include ALL STAR BREAK and JULY (13-11).

Table with columns: Date, Opp., Score, W/L, Rcd., Pos., GA/GB, Daily Att, Total Hm Att, Home Date, Winner/Loser/Save. Rows include JULY (13-11) and AUGUST (15-11).

Table with columns: Date, Opp., Score, W/L, Rcd., Pos., GA/GB, Daily Att, Total Hm Att, Home Date, Winner/Loser/Save. Rows include SEPT/OCT (- - -) and EJECTIONS.

^ - Denotes Extra-Innings (Twins are 11-6 in extras in 2023)
* - Denotes Sellout (1 in 2023)
- PPD, to be made up on 4/7

Table with columns: DATE, PLAYER/MGR/CH, UMPIRE, REASON, CAREER. Rows include 4/15 at NYY, 5/6 at CLE, 6/21 vs BOS, etc.

Table with columns: DATE, SCORE, NOTES. Rows include 4/7 vs. HOU, 4/11 vs. CWS, 5/10 vs. SD, etc.

Table with columns: Pitchers: (26), Positions Players: (20). Lists names and positions for various players.