



WESTERN DIVISION CHAMPIONS '69 '70 '87 '91

CENTRAL DIVISION CHAMPIONS '02 '03 '04 '06 '09 '10 '19 '20

AMERICAN LEAGUE CHAMPIONS '25 '33 '65 '87 '91

WORLD CHAMPIONS '24 '87 '91

MINNESOTA TWINS (5-7) vs. BOSTON RED SOX (9-3)

THURSDAY, APRIL 15, 2021 - 12:10 P.M. (CT) - TV: BALLY SPORTS NORTH / RADIO: TIBN, WCCO, THE WOLF

RHP Michael Pineda (1-0, 1.64) vs. RHP Garrett Richards (0-1, 10.29)

GAME 13

HOME GAME 7

UPCOMING PROBABLE PITCHERS & BROADCAST SCHEDULE

Table with columns: Date, Opponent, Probable Pitchers, Time, Television, Radio / Spanish Radio

SEASON AT A GLANCE

Table with columns: Category (Under Baldelli, Home Record, etc.), Value

THE TWINS: The Twins have gone 1-5 through six games on their seven-game homestand, going 1-2 vs. the Mariners last weekend and 0-3 vs. Boston this week...

Today the Twins look to avoid their first four-game sweep since April 23-26, 2018 at Yankee Stadium...

TWINS SWEEPED ON THE DAY: The Twins lost both games of the doubleheader with the Red Sox yesterday afternoon by scores of 2-3 and 1-7...

STRIKING SUCCESS: Twins pitching staff has recorded 120 strikeouts through the club's first 12 games, marking a Twins/Senators franchise record...

CLUB RECORDS THRU FIRST 12 / 13. Table with columns: Year, Strikeouts

THE BUCK STARTS HERE: Byron Buxton enters today ranked in the top five in baseball in batting average, on-base and slugging...

BATTING AVERAGE, ON-BASE PERCENTAGE, SLUGGING PERCENTAGE. Table with columns: Player, Stat, Value

LEADING MEN: Twins have hit .314 (16-for-51) with five doubles, seven walks and a .412 on-base percentage from the leadoff spot...

Table with columns: Player, Starts, AB, Hits, 2B, BB, Avg, OBP

NOTE: Willians Astudillo went 3-for-4 with two doubles and a walk on April 5 at Detroit off the bench for Arraez.

MR. ANDERSON: The Twins have recalled right-handed pitcher Shaun Anderson from the alternate training site...

STREAKING BUX: Byron Buxton has hit safely in all nine games this season and is one of two players (C. Mullins - 11) in baseball to hit safely in each of their games played...

TWINS AND SOX: The Twins and Red Sox are playing the fourth of seven meetings in 2021...they will play three games at Fenway Park from August 24-26...

CRUZ CONTROL: Nelson Cruz enters today with a nine-game hitting streak, batting .452 (14-for-31) with two doubles, four home runs, 10 RBI...

JACKIE ROBINSON DAY: As has been tradition each season since 2004, MLB and Clubs are commemorating Jackie Robinson Day at ballparks throughout the league today...

- Players, managers, coaches, umpires and all on-field personnel will once again wear Robinson's iconic number (at least once) on games on April 15th and April 16.

DID YOU KNOW?: Bally Sports North broadcaster Justin Morneau hit .338 (74-for-219) in 57 career games against the Red Sox with 16 doubles...

ADJUST YOUR BUNNY EAR ANTENNAS: Tomorrow night's Twins game can be seen on Bally Sports North PLUS, due to scheduling conflicts as the Minnesota Wild play the San Jose Sharks on Bally Sports North...

STREAKS

Table with columns: Category (Current Streak, Last 5 games, etc.), Value

TWINS VS. RED SOX

Table with columns: Category (2021 Record, Current Streak, etc.), Value

2021 Game Logs:

Table with columns: Date, Site, Score, Winner/Loser/Save

CURRENT HOMESTAND (1-4)

Table with columns: Category (Batting average, Runs Per Game, etc.), Value

RECENT TRANSACTIONS

Table with columns: Date, Transaction Description

TWINS PRESSBOX.COM

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UPCOMING MILESTONES

Table with columns: Player, Current No., Milestone Within Reach

ALL-TIME HOME RUN LIST

Table with columns: Rank, Player Name, Home Runs



MICHAEL PINEDA

#35

Height: 6-7 Weight: 280 B/T: R/R Age: 32 (1/18/1989 in Yaguatae, DR)

2021: 1-0, 1.64 ERA CAREER: 54-46, 3.99 ERA

- Making his third start of the season. Making the 151st start and appearance of career. Enters today on a career-best eight-decision winning streak, dating back to July 26, 2019.

2021 DAY-BY-DAY

Table with columns: Date, Opp., Dec., IP, H, R, ER, HR, BB, SO, Left/Right, Notes, Pitches/K. Includes rows for games at MIL, SEA, and ND, and APRIL TOTALS.

Table with columns: Date, Opp., Dec., IP, H, R, ER, HR, BB, SO, Left/Right, Notes, Pitches/K. Includes RECORD, 2020 TOTALS, and CAREER TOTALS.

LAST TIME OUT: Pineda made his 2021 Target Field debut last Saturday vs. Seattle, turning in a quality start in the Mariners' eventual 4-3, 10-inning victory...

- Marked his 15th career start of at least 6.0 innings without a walk and six-or-more strikeouts...was his fifth such effort allowing four-or-fewer hits and two-or-fewer earned runs. Was Pineda's 76th career quality start, and his 16th with the Twins (in 33 trips to the hill).

STRONG SEASON DEBUT: "Big Mike" opened his 2021 campaign by pitching the Twins to an 8-2, rubber-game victory at Milwaukee on April 4...

MICHAEL PINEDA, STOPPER: Looking to snap a five-game losing streak, the Twins are giving the ball to the right pitcher in Michael Pineda...Big Mike has started 15 times following a Minnesota loss since 2019...

- Last season, Minnesota went 4-0 when Pineda started the next game following a Twins loss.

BIG MIKE, BIG PERFORMANCES: Pineda enters this afternoon's start on a career-high winning streak that began July 26, 2019, as he is 8-0, 2.94 ERA (79.2 IP, 26 ER), 16 walks and 81 strikeouts over his last 14 starts...

- Going back even further, since June 29, 2019, Big Mike is 10-1, 2.80 ERA (103.0 IP, 32 ER), 23 walks, 109 strikeouts and a .232/.277/.361 opponents' slash line in his last 18 starts (11 quality starts)...Minnesota is 14-4 (.778) in those games.

FOUR BELOW: When Pineda throws the first pitch of today's contest, he will do so with a career ERA under 4.00 (3.99) for the first time since he took the mound at Yankee Stadium on June 25, 2017 (3.94)...

- Big Mike made two more starts in 2017 before landing on the Injured List on July 14 and undergoing Tommy John surgery on July 18. His ERA reached 4.16 following a June 7, 2019 start (the highest it had been since 4.50 after his MLB debut)...since then, he has fashioned a 2.93 mark (119.2 IP, 39 ER) over 21 starts.

MINNESOTA MIKE: Big Mike has made 33 starts in a Minnesota uniform, going 14-5, 3.77 ERA (183.2 IP, 77 ER)...

- Pineda has a 4.76 strikeout-to-walk ratio since 2019, along with a 1.15 WHIP...those stats, along with his ERA, are all better than his career numbers (4.45, 1.18 and 3.99). His 3.8 WAR (per Fangraphs) since 2019 is 14th among AL starters (min. 180.0 IP).

HOME COOKING: Pineda takes the mound this afternoon for his 19th start at Target Field as a member of the Twins...over his first 18 outings, he has gone 4-3, 3.86 ERA (100.1 IP, 43 ER), while Minnesota is 11-7.

BOSTON BANter: Today marks Pineda's 14th career start vs. the Red Sox, his second with the Twins...in his previous 13 outings, he is 5-5, 4.00 ERA (72.0 IP, 32 ER).

- Made one start against Boston in 2019, allowing one run on five hits over 6.0 innings (1 BB, 5 SO) on June 18 at Target Field, opposite David Price...departed the game tied at 1-1, a contest the Twins eventually won, 4-3 in 17 innings...Max Kepler homered to tie the game 3-3 in the 13th, then delivered the walk-off single to end the 5-hour, 45-minute marathon.

NOT FOOLING AROUND IN APRIL: Pineda has made more starts (31) and has posted more victories (16) in April than any other month of his career...he is 16-9, 3.88 ERA (174.0 IP, 75 ER) lifetime in the traditional season-opening month, while his ERA is second only to his 3.18 career mark in September (152.2 IP, 54 ER).

SIX EQUALS SUCCESS: In his last start, Pineda worked 6.0 innings for the first time in 2021 and the 16th time in 33 outings with the Twins...in 91 career starts of at least 6.0 frames, Big Mike is 45-21, 2.88 ERA (581.1 IP, 186 ER), while his teams are 56-35.

- In his 16 Minnesota starts of 6.0-or-more innings, he is 9-1, 2.97 ERA (106.0 IP, 35 ER)...the Twins are 11-6 when he completes six.

2020 NOTES:

- Reinstated from Restricted List September 1 after missing the Twins' first 36 games, serving his suspension after violating MLB's Joint Drug Prevention and Treatment Program. Earned an 8-1 win September 19 at Chicago-NL (5.0 IP, 4 H, 1 R/ER, 0 BB, 1 SO), a victory that clinched a Postseason berth for the Twins. Held right-handed batters to a .184 batting average (9-for-49); lefties hit .308 (16-for-52). Per Fangraphs, Pineda tied for second among AL starters with a 1.1 WAR in September, matching New York-AL's Gerrit Cole and trailing only Kansas City rookie Brady Singer (1.2). The Twins went 5-0 in Pineda's starts, as he played a key role in Minnesota going 16-8 over the season's final month, erasing a 2.5-game deficit and valuing from third place to repeat as AL Central Division champions.

STARTING PITCHER

2021 HIGHS

CG's: -- SHO's: -- CG Low Hit: -- Innings: 6.0, 4/10 vs. SEA SO's: 6, 4/10 vs. SEA Walks: 2, 4/4 at MIL Hits: 4, 2x, last: 4/10 vs. SEA Home Runs: 2, 4/10 vs. SEA Win-Streak: 8, 7/26/19-present Loss-Streak: --

CAREER HIGHS

CG's: 1, 6/28/15 at HOU SHO's: -- CG Low-Hit: 7, 6/28/15 at HOU Innings: 8.0, 3x, last: 6/28/15 at HOU SO's: 16, 5/10/15 vs. BAL Walks: 5, 3x, last: 7/21/19 vs. OAK Hits: 11, 6/22/15 vs. PHI Home Runs: 4, 4/24/16 vs. TB Win-Streak: 8, 7/26/19-present Loss-Streak: 3, 3x, last: 4/18/19-5/11/19

CAREER NOTES

- Missed last 21 games of 2019, the entire ALDS and the first 36 contests of 2020 due to a 60-game suspension for violating MLB's Joint Drug and Prevention Treatment Program. Spent the entire 2018 season on the Injured List, recovering from Tommy John surgery on right elbow...also missed the entire 2012 campaign with New York-AL recovering from right shoulder surgery, and was out of the majors in 2013 while rehabbing. Struck out 207 batters over 175.2 innings pitched in 2016, setting the fifth-lowest innings total for a pitcher who recorded 200+ strikeouts in American League history. Was an AL All-Star in 2011 as a member of the Seattle Mariners, posting a 3.03 ERA (113.0 IP, 38 ER) with 113 strikeouts and an opponents average of .198 in the first half, and finished the year fifth in the AL Rookie of the Year voting. In 2011, he became one of 27 rookie pitchers in the Expansion Era (1961-present) to throw at least 171.0 innings and strikeout 173 or more batters, and first since Daisuke Matsuzaka (Boston, 2007). Was signed by Seattle as a 16-year-old undrafted free agent December 12, 2005...signed by Patrick Guerrero, brother of Fred Guerrero, Twins' Director of Latin American Scouting & U.S. Integration. He owns a farm in his native Dominican Republic, where he raises chickens in addition to growing a number of crops.

2021 MISC. NUMBERS

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

6.0-PLUS IP/QUALITY STARTS

Table with columns: YEAR, STARTS, 6+ IP, QS, YEAR, STARTS, 6.0+ IP, QS. Includes rows for 2011-2016 and TOTALS.

2021 MISCELLANEOUS NUMBERS

Table with columns: PINEDA, BASE RUNNERS, PICK-OFFS, SB-ATT, GIDP. Values: PINEDA: 10, 0, 0-0, 0

2021 RUNS/HITS PER INNING

Table with columns: INNING, RUNS/HITS. Values for innings 1-9.

PINEDA VS. BOSTON

2019 vs. Boston (1 start): 0-0, 1.50 ERA (6.0 IP, 1 ER), 1 BB, 5 K
2019 vs. Boston at Home (1 start): 0-0, 1.50 ERA (6.0 IP, 1 ER), 1 BB, 5 K
2019 vs. Boston on Road (0 starts): ----
Career vs. Boston (13 starts): 5-5, 4.00 ERA (72.0 IP, 32 ER), 13 BB, 67 K
Career vs. Boston at Home (6 starts): 2-2, 4.00 ERA (36.0 IP, 16 ER), 7 BB, 34 K
Career vs. Boston on Road (7 starts): 3-3, 4.00 ERA (36.0 IP, 16 ER), 6 BB, 33 K

BATTER-PITCHER MATCH-UPS

Table comparing Pineda vs. the Red Sox and Richards vs. the Twins. Columns: PLAYER, AVG, AB, H, HR, BB, SO.

SWING AND A MISS (OR SOFT CONTACT): Among AL starters who worked a minimum of 20.0 innings during the shortened 2020 season, Pineda ranked ninth for both swinging strike percentage (14.3%) and soft contact percentage (20.5%).

- Those numbers are down to 9.6 and 19.4 percent, respectively, through two starts in 2021...however, he is striking out a batter per inning (11.0 IP, 11 SO).

PITCH SELECTION: Below is a breakdown of Pineda's 2021 three-pitch repertoire, according to Baseball Savant, which follows similar to what he featured in 2020.

- His 2020 slider usage (38.5%) ranked fourth among AL starters (min. 20.0 IP), and with good reason: it produced a .119 opponent batting avg. (5-for-42) and a .119 WOBA, a 77.5 MPH avg. exit velocity and a 46.2% whiff rate. In two seasons with the Twins, he has used his four-seam fastball more than half the time (50.1% in 2020, 54.1% in 2019)...after a career-high 59.5% use rate as a Mariners rookie, he never topped 47.7% as a Yankee (85 of his first 156 pitches of 2021, or 54.5, have been four-seamers).

Table with columns: PITCH, NUMBER (vs. RHB-LHB)/AVG MPH, PERCENTAGE. Rows: Fastball, Slider, Changeup.







Table with columns: Date, Opp, Score, W/L Rcd, Pos, GA/GB, Daily Att, Total Hm Att, Home Date, Winner/Loser/Save. Rows include APRIL (5-7), MAY (1-31), JUNE (1-30), and JULY (1-11).

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 (12-31), AUGUST (1-31), SEPT/OCT (1-31).

^ - Denotes Extra-Innings (Twins are 0-3 in extra innings)

\* - Denotes Sellout (12 in 2019; 2 in 2020)

HOME GAMES ROAD GAMES

# - PPD game from April 12 vs. Boston

2021 WALK-OFF VICTORIES

Table with columns: DATE, SCORE, NOTES. Contains one row with 'None'.

2021 PLAYERS ON ROSTER (31)

Table listing Pitchers (15) and Position Players (16) with names and abbreviations.

(\* - on Opening Day roster)