

GRIFFIN JAX

#83

Height: 6-2 Weight: 195 B/T: R/R Age: 26 (11/22/1994 in Phoenix, AZ)

2021: 3-3, 6.72 ERA CAREER: 3-3, 6.72 ERA

- Making his 11th career start and 15th appearance. Facing Cleveland for the third time, making his second start...three appearances marks his most against any opponent in his career so far. On June 8, became the first Air Force Academy graduate ever to play in the majors...originally selected by the Twins in the third round of the 2016 First-Year Player Draft.

2021 MAJOR LEAGUE DAY-BY-DAY (ITALICS INDICATE RELIEF)

Table with columns: Date, Opp, Dec, IP, H, R, ER, HR, BB, SO, Left/Final, Notes, Pitches/K. Includes rows for games from 6/8 to 9/10 and cumulative totals for June, July, August, and the season.

LAST TIME OUT: Jax last started on Friday, September 10 vs. Kansas City, taking a no-decision as the Twins fell to the Royals, 6-4, in 11 innings...allowed four runs on five hits (1 HR), with one walk and four strikeouts in a career-high tying 6.0 innings...

START PRIOR: Jax did not factor into the decision on September 5 at Tampa Bay; the Twins won, 6-5, thanks to Nick Gordon's RBI knock in the top of the ninth that drove in the go-ahead run...

COUNTER CLEVELAND: Jax is due to face the Indians for the third time in his career, making his second start...has gone 1-0, 4.35 ERA (10.1 IP, 5 ER), two walks, five strikeouts and a .250 (10-for-40) opponent batting average in those two prior outings...

- Last pitched against Cleveland on August 16, recording his second career quality start after yielding four runs (2 ER) on seven hits (1 HR), with two walks and three strikeouts in 6.0 innings of work; did not factor into the decision as the Twins won, 5-4, in 10 innings. Prior to that start, tossed 4.1 innings in relief on June 25 vs. Cleveland (3 H, 3 R/ER, 1 HR, 2 BB, 2 K) and earned his first career win as the Twins emerged victorious, 8-7, over the Indians.

COMMAND CENTRAL: Tonight marks Jax's seventh career appearance and sixth start against an American League Central division opponent, going 2-1, 5.46 ERA (31.1 IP, 19 ER), 10 walks and 28 strikeouts in those outings...is 2-0, 4.84 ERA (22.1 IP, 12 ER) in four games (3 starts) vs. the AL Central at Target Field...

STRONG STRETCH: In five starts between July 19-August 16, Jax went 2-0, 2.73 ERA (26.1 IP, 8 ER), seven walks, 21 strikeouts and a .188 (18-for-96) opponent batting average...that run came in the wake of allowing six earned runs in his first career start on July 3 at Kansas City...

ROOKIE SUCCESS: Jax did not factor into the decision on August 16 vs. Cleveland, as the Twins defeated the Indians, 5-4, in 10 innings on Jorge Polanco's walk-off double...Jax recorded his second career quality start (and second consecutive), after allowing four runs (2 ER) on seven hits (1 HR), with two walks and three strikeouts over a career-high tying 6.0 innings of work...

- Tonight marks Jax's 11th start of the season...paired with Ober (18 starts this season), they become the first Twins rookie duo each having at least 11 starts in the same season since the rookie quartet of Samuel Deduno (15 starts), Cole De Vries (16 starts), Scott Diamond (16 starts) and Liam Hendriks (16 starts) each did so in 2012. Jax is also holding opposing hitters to a .172 (22-for-128) batting average with two strikes, the lowest mark by a Twins rookie pitcher (min. .115 opp. AB) since Ryan Pressly (.138) in 2013.

EARLY DOMINANCE: Jax is holding opposing hitters to a .183 (20-for-109) batting average the first time through the lineup so far in his major league career...this increases to .296 (20-for-109) the second time around and jumps further to .333 (15-for-45) the third time he sees opposing hitters...

- The three runs Jax allowed in the first inning of his last start were the first he has permitted in the opening frame in his major league career...despite the tallies, he's still holding opposing hitters to a .111 (4-for-36) batting average in the first inning in his career.

THE ARSENAL: Jax has used four different offerings so far in his major league career, relying primarily on his four-seam fastball...here's a look at the rookie's repertoire, per Baseball Savant.

Table with columns: PITCH (AVG. MPH), PCT. (# OF PITCHES, VS. RHB/LHB), RESULTS. Lists four-seam fastball (92.6), slider (83.4), changeup (85.5), and curveball (79.9).

ACROSS THE RIVER: Jax did not play a professional game in 2020 and was not part of the Twins' 60-man player pool...participated in the Twins Fall Instructional League in Fort Myers in October 2020...opened 2021 in the rotation for Triple-A St. Paul, going 3-1, 3.33 ERA (27.0 IP, 10 ER) in five starts during May...

FRIDAY'S STARTER - RHP MICHAEL PINEDA [2021 SEASON: 6-8, 3.87 ERA // CAREER: 59-54, 4.01 ERA]

Veteran right-hander Pineda is due to start Friday's series opener in Toronto, after the off day tomorrow...earned his second-straight win in his last start on September 11 vs. Kansas City, as the Twins defeated the Royals, 9-2...

2021 HIGHS (SP & RP, MLB)

CG's: -- SHO's: -- CG Low Hit: -- Innings: 6.0, 3x, last: 9/10 vs. KC SO's: 10, 8/10 vs. CWS Walks: 4, 8/24 at BOS Hits: 8, 7/3 at KC Home Runs: 3, 8/24 at BOS Win-Streak: 2, last: 8/5-8/10 Loss-Streak: 2, 8/24-present

CAREER HIGHS (SP & RP, MLB)

CG's: -- SHO's: -- CG Low Hit: -- Innings: 6.0, 2x, last: 9/10/21 vs. KC SO's: 10, 8/10/21 vs. CWS Walks: 4, 8/24/21 at BOS Hits: 8, 7/3/21 at KC Home Runs: 3, 8/24/21 at BOS Win-Streak: 2, 8/5-8/10/21 Loss-Streak: 2, 8/24/21-present

CAREER NOTES

- Made his major league debut on June 8, 2021, becoming the first Air Force Academy graduate to ever play in the majors...is a Captain in the United States Air Force Reserve, after completing his two-year active duty commitment in 2019. Enters his sixth year as a member of the Twins organization in 2021; did not play in 2020 when the minor league season was cancelled due to COVID-19. In 2019 for Double-A Pensacola, was a two-time Southern League Pitcher of the Week on May 5 (1-0, 0.75 ERA, 12.0 IP, 1 ER, 3 BB, 7 K) and June 30 (1-0, 0.69 ERA, 13.0 IP, 1 ER, 2 BB, 8 K)...also named SL Midseason All-Star, after going 2-2, 1.92 ERA (51.2 IP, 11 ER) with 11 walks and 34 strikeouts in 10 starts pre-break. Named best control in Twins minor league system by Baseball America in 2019. Selected by Twins in third round of the 2016 First-Year Player Draft out of the Air Force Academy...was rated 95th-best prospect entering the draft by Baseball America. Pitched for Air Force for three seasons, going 15-20 with a 4.28 ERA (298.2 IP, 142 ER), 76 walks and 205 strikeouts in 46 appearances (44 starts). Finished his junior season at the U.S. Air Force Academy going 9-2 with a school-record 2.05 ERA (105.1 IP, 24 ER), 20 walks and 90 strikeouts in 15 starts...in 2016, was named the Mountain West co-Pitcher of the Year and All-Mountain West First-Team after leading the MWC in ERA, innings, complete games (6) and shutouts (2).

2021 MISC. NUMBERS (MAJORS AND MINORS COMBINED)

Table with columns: W, L, ERA, G, GS, IP, ER, AVG, H, AB, HR, BB, K. Includes rows for Road, Home, Day, Night, Grass, Turf.

6.0-PLUS IP/QUALITY STARTS (MLB)

Table with columns: YEAR, STARTS, 6+ IP, QS. Shows 2021 with 10 starts and 3 quality starts.

MORE 2021 MISCELLANEOUS NUMBERS (SP & RP, MLB)

Table with columns: JAX, BASE RUNNERS, PICK-OFFS, SB-ATT, GIDP. Shows 90 base runners, 0 pick-offs, 5-5 stolen bases, and 3 GIDP.

2021 RUNS/HITS PER INNING (SP & RP, MLB)

Table with columns: INNING, RUNS/HITS. Shows rates for innings 1 through 9+.

JAX VS. CLEVELAND

2021 vs. Cleveland (2 games/1 start): 1-0, 4.35 ERA (10.1 IP, 5 ER), 4 BB, 5 K
2021 vs. Cleveland at Home (2 games/1 start): 1-0, 4.35 ERA (10.1 IP, 5 ER), 4 BB, 5 K
2021 vs. Cleveland on Road (0 games): --
Career vs. Cleveland (2 games/1 start): 1-0, 4.35 ERA (10.1 IP, 5 ER), 4 BB, 5 K
Career vs. Cleveland at Home (2 games/1 start): 1-0, 4.35 ERA (10.1 IP, 5 ER), 4 BB, 5 K
Career vs. Cleveland on Road (0 games): --

BATTER-PITCHER MATCH-UPS

Table with columns: Jax vs. the Indians, Quantrell vs. the Twins. Lists players like Hedges, Ramirez, Rosario, Zimmer, Mercado, Straw, Gimenez, Miller, H. Ramirez, Reyes, Bradley, Naylor and Donaldson, Arraez, Polanco, Kepler, Simmons, Sanó, Rooker, Gordon, Jeffers, Cave, Kirilloff, Refsnyder, Rortvedt, Garver, Larnach, Riddle with AVG, AB, H, HR, BB, SO.

JAX AND THE AIR FORCE ACADEMY: Jax is the first graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy to ever play in the major leagues...became the sixth Academy product ever to be drafted when he was selected by the Twins in the third round of the 2016 First-Year Player Draft...

- Completed his two-year active duty commitment in 2019 and was transferred to the Air Force Reserve in November 2019, while continuing with his five-year Reserve requirement with around 24 days per year of military activity. Received the email informing him of his promotion to Captain on June 5, his first day in a big league uniform (made his MLB debut June 8)...matched the current rank of his wife, Savannah, who is an intelligence officer in the Air Force based out of Moody Air Force Base (GA)...Savannah also completed a six-month tour of duty in Afghanistan within the last 18 months and is scheduled to deploy again in the offseason. Jax was presented with the 2021 Bob Feller Act of Valor Award prior to the nightcap yesterday...the MLB award honors major leaguers who embody the spirit of the late Hall-of-Famer Feller, both in terms of his commitment to country and love for baseball.

MISC. HIGHS AND LOWS

Table with 2 columns: Statistic and Value. Includes categories like Most Runs, Game (Team), Most Hits, Inning (Team), etc.

Table with 2 columns: Statistic and Value. Includes categories like Longest Home Runs, Highest Exit Velocity, etc.

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SCORE BY INNING

Table with columns: OPPONENT, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, XTRA, TOTAL. Rows for Twins and Opponent.

INJURED LIST

Table with columns: PLAYER, INJURY, DATE ON, RETRO, DATE OFF, GAMES MISSED. Lists injured players and their status.

Table with columns: STARTS BY POSITION, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9. Lists player starts by position.

Table with columns: MOST USED LINEUP [3X], OUTFIELD ASSISTS, FASTEST PITCHES. Lists lineup frequency, outfield assists, and fastest pitches.

LAST TIME IT HAPPENED

FOR THE TWINS
HITTING: Hit for the Cycle: J. Polanco, 4/5/19 at PHI (11 all-time)
Grand Slam: R. Jeffers, 7/28/21 vs. DET (4 as a team in 2021)
Inside-the-Park Home Run: B. Buxton, 9/15/20 at CWS (1 as a team in 2020, 55 all-time)
Pinch-Hit Home Run: M. Sanó, 8/5/19 vs. ATL (2 as a team in 2019)
Pinch-Hit Grand Slam: M. LeCroy, 9th inning, 5/19/04 at TOR (15 all-time)
Five-Hit Game: B. Buxton, 4/27/21 at CLE (1 in 2021)
Six-Hit Game: K. Puckett, 5/23/91 vs. TEX (2 all-time, both Puckett)
Two Hits, One Inning: M. Sanó, 4th inning, 7/28/21 vs. DET (2 as a team in 2021)
Two Home Runs, One Inning: M. Cuddyer, 8/23/09 at KC (1 all-time)
Two-Home Run Game: J. Polanco, 9/11/21 vs. KC (14 as team in 2021)
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: B. Buxton/J. Polanco, 9/11/21 vs. KC (5 as team in 2021)
Three Consecutive Home Runs: N. Cruz/E. Rosario/C. Cron, 4/26/19 vs. BAL (1 in 2019)
Three Home Runs, One Inning: C. Cron/J. Polanco/N. Cruz (2nd), 8/3/19 vs. KC (5 in 2019)
Four Home Runs, One Inning: M. Sanó/R. Jeffers/M. Kepler/B. Rooker, 7/28/21 vs. DET
Walk-Off Home Run: J. Polanco, 7/11/21 vs. DET (3 as a team in 2021)
Pinch-Hit, Walk-Off Home Run: M. Sanó, 8/5/19 vs. ATL (10 all-time)
Leadoff Home Run: B. Buxton, 9/10/21 vs. KC (7 as a team in 2021)
Consecutive Home Runs to Lead Off Game: M. Kepler/B. Rooker, 7/25/21 vs. LAA (2 as team in 2021)
Three Consecutive Home Runs to Start Game: B. Buxton/J. Donaldson/N. Cruz, 4/28/21 at CLE
Last Pitcher to Hit Home Run: Last actual pitcher Jim Kaat, 6/11/72 at CLE; Chris Gimenez catcher pitching in relief, 9/3/18 at TEX

PITCHING (complete games only for low-hit games):
No-Hitter: F. Liriano, 5/3/11 at CWS (6 all-time)
One-Hitter: E. Santana, 4/15/17 vs. CWS (14 all-time)
Two-Hitter: E. Santana, 5/24/17 at BAL (43 all-time)
10+ Innings Pitched: B. Radke (10.0 innings), 9/21/97 vs. MIL
10+ Strikeouts: 10, G. Jax, 8/10/21 vs. CWS (5 as team in 2021)
Complete Game Shutout: J. Berrios, 4/1/18 at BAL (1 as a team in 2018)
Back-to-Back Complete Game Victories: J. Mays/C. Silva, 5/19-20/05 vs. TOR/ vs. MIL
Back-to-Back Shutouts: 9/7/21 and 9/8/21 at CLE (2 games, 3-0 and 3-0)
Four Strikeouts in an Inning: Z. Duke, 3/29/18 at BAL (7th inning) (4 times since 1961)

MISCELLANEOUS:
Triple Play: M. Sanó/A. Simmons/N. Gordon, 6/6/21 at KC - N. Lopez hitting (15 all-time)
Position Player Pitching: W. Astudillo, 8/26/21 at BOS (4 in 2021)
Three or more Steals, One Game: E. Adriansa (3), 6/21/17 vs. CWS (1 in 2017)
Steal of Home: C. Thomas, 8/3/13 vs. HOU
Pure Steal of Home: R. Becker, 9/27/97 at CLE
Home Run in First ML At-Bat: E. Rosario, 5/6/15 vs. OAK (1st PA, 1st pitch)

AGAINST THE TWINS
HITTING: Hit for the Cycle: A. Beltré, 8/24/12 at TEX (5 allowed all-time)
Grand Slam: E. Haase, 7/27/21 vs. DET (6 allowed as team in 2021)
Inside-the-Park Home Run: K. Kiermaier, 8/13/21 vs. TB (45 allowed all-time)
Pinch-Hit Home Run: R. Grossman, 7/26/21 vs. DET (3 allowed in 2021)
Pinch-Hit Grand Slam: J. Sands, 8/8/15 at CLE
Five-Hit Game: D. Gregorius, 7/23/19 vs. NYY
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: Y. Grandal, 6/30/21 at CWS (8 allowed in 2021)
Three-Home Run Game: J. Donaldson, 8/28/16 at TOR
Back-to-Back Home Runs: Y. Diaz/J. Luplow, 9/4/21 at TB (9 allowed in 2021)
Three Consecutive Home Runs: A. Jones/V. Castilla/J. Franco, 6/11/02 vs. ATL
Three Home Runs, One Inning: N. Lopez/J. Soler/S. Perez, 8/8/20 at KC (2 in 2020)
Four Home Runs, One Inning: C. Everett/T. O'Leary/J. Varitek/M. Burkhart, 7/3/00 vs. BOS
Walk-off Home Run: G. Sheets, 7/19/21 G2 at CWS (3 allowed in 2021)
Pinch-Hit, Walk-Off Home Run: C. Santana, 9/23/11 at CLE (12 all-time)
Leadoff Home Run: R. Grossman, 7/17/21 G1 at DET (5 allowed in 2021)
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: C. Kluber, 8/14/15 vs. CLE (23 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: 13, P. Sandoval, 7/24/21 vs. LAA (3 times in 2021)
Complete Game Shutout: S. Manaea, 4/20/21 (G1) at OAK (1 time in 2021)
Back-to-Back Complete Game Victories: J. Williams/Jer. Weaver, 5/1-2/12 at LAA
Back-to-Back Shutouts: 4/20/21 Game 1 & 4/20/21 Game 2 at OAK (2 games, 7-0 and 1-0)
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: J. Luplow, 8/14/21 vs. TB (2 in 2021)
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: C. Richard, 7/17/00 vs. STL

2021 TARGET FIELD WEATHER DELAYS AND POSTPONEMENTS

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

** Target Field has experienced 57 delayed games, 26 postponed games, 1 suspended game and 1 rain-shortened game in the park's history (since 2010). Longest delay: 4:50. **

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 (9-15), MAY (13-16), JUNE (11-14), and JULY (11-16).

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 (11-16), AUGUST (14-13), SEPT/OCT (6-8), and 2021 WALK-OFF VICTORIES [9].

^ - Denotes Extra-Innings (Twins are 11-12 in extra innings)
* - Denotes Sellout (12 in 2019; 8 in 2021)
- PPD game from April 12 vs. BOS
- PPD game from April 19 at OAK
- PPD games from April 17 & 18 at LAA
- PPD game from May 9 at DET
- PPD game from June 26 vs. CLE
- PPD game from June 28 at CWS
- PPD game from July 16 at DET
- PPD game from August 22 at NYY

EJECTIONS table with columns: DATE, PLAYER/MGR/CH, UMPIRE, REASON, CAREER. Rows include April 11 vs. Seattle, May 19 vs. Chicago-AL, June 6 at Kansas City, Sept. 13 at New York-AL.

2021 WALK-OFF VICTORIES [9] table with columns: DATE, SCORE, NOTES. Rows include 4/15 vs. BOS, 5/18 vs. CWS, 6/10 vs. NYY, 6/21 vs. CIN, 7/11 vs. DET, 7/26 vs. DET, 8/15 vs. TB, 8/16 vs. CLE, 8/18 vs. CLE.

2021 PLAYERS ON ROSTER [58] table with columns: Pitchers (34) and Position Players (24). Lists names and roles of current roster members.