

MINNESOTA TWINS (2-0) AT HOUSTON ASTROS (0-0)

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2023 - 3:45 PM (CT) - TV: FS1 | RADIO: TIBN, WCCO, THE WOLF, TWINSBEISBOL.COM, ESPN

POSTSEASON GM 3 RHP Bailey Ober (0-0, 0.00) vs. RHP Justin Verlander (0-0, 0.00) POSTSEASON ROAD GM 1

UPCOMING PROBABLE PITCHERS & BROADCAST SCHEDULE

Table with columns: Date, Opponent, Probable Pitchers, Time, Television, Radio / Spanish Radio. Rows for 10/8, 10/9, and 10/10.

POSTSEASON AT A GLANCE

Table listing various statistics such as Record as Twins, Home Record, Road Record, AL Wild Card, Division Series, ALCS, World Series, Game One, Game Two, Game Three, Game Four, Game Five, Game Six, Game Seven, Facing Elimination, Facing Clinch, 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, Longest win-streak, Longest losing-streak, When Twins score 4+, When Twins score 3+, Team-high hits, Team-high runs, Opp.-high hits, Opp.-high runs, When Twins get 10+ hits, W/L in last at-bats.

THE TWINS: Finished their 63rd season in Minnesota with a record of 87-75, winning the AL Central on September 22...they finished 9.0 games ahead of Detroit (78-84)...it marked their ninth AL Central title in club history (2002, '03, '04, '06, '09, '10, '19 & '20)...

TWINS SWEEP JAYS: The Twins beat the Blue Jays on Wednesday by a score of 2-0, securing the AL Wild Card series victory...it marked their first Postseason series win since defeating Oakland 3-2 in the 2002 ALDS...first time clinching a series at home since winning Game 7 of the 1991 World Series at the Metrodome...

TRIPLE STAMP A DOUBLE STAMP: The Twins are looking to win three consecutive Postseason games for the first time since October 5-8, 2002, when they won two against Oakland in the ALDS, then Game 1 of the ALCS vs. Anaheim...Minnesota's longest Postseason winning streak is five, taking three games against the Blue Jays from October 11-13 in Games 3-5 of the 1991 ALCS...

SPACEBALLS: The Twins and Astros played each other six times during the regular season, going 4-2, winning a three-game series 2-1 to open Target Field from April 7-9, then taking another three-game series 2-1 at Minute Maid Park from May 29-31...

Notable individual numbers vs. Houston this season: Alex Kirilloff is 5-for-8 (.625) with five walks (.786 OBP)...Ryan Jeffers is 5-for-11 (.455) with a double, a home run and four RBI...Willi Castro is 4-for-9 (.444) with one walk (.500 OBP)...Christian Vazquez is 4-for-10 (.400) with three RBI and two walks (.500 OBP)...Kyle Farmer is 7-for-18 (.389) with one home run, four RBI and one walk (.421 OBP)...Donovan Solano is 7-for-18 (.389) with five RBI and three walks (.476 OBP)...

Royce Lewis made his season debut at Minute Maid Park on May 29, returning from right knee surgery...he went 3-for-9 in the series, including 2-for-5 with a home run and four RBI in his first game.

Twins hitters combined to post a .361 on-base percentage against Astros pitching this season, their second-highest mark against any American League opponent (Oakland — .376).

2022 and 2023 comparison vs. Houston in the right margin.

FINE, IF WE HAVE TO TALK ABOUT IT...: The Twins and Astros met in the 2020 AL Wild Card round at Target Field as Houston swept the Twins 2-0, winning by scores of 4-1 and 4-1...Kenta Maeda opposed Zack Greinke in Game 1 and José Berrios opposed José Urquidy in Game 2...Carlos Correa broke a 1-1 tie with a solo home run in the seventh inning of Game 2, off Cody Stashak, leading Houston to the sweep.

THE HEART BEAT: During the regular season, Twins starters combined to go 49-45, 3.82 ERA (895.0 IP, 380 ER) with 223 walks, 970 strikeouts and a .240 opponent batting average...below are Twins starting pitching ranks among MLB teams during the regular season:

Table with columns: INNING, SEA, HOU, MIN, SD, TOR, PHI, MIL, DET, CWS, PIT, CIN, CHC, COL, LAD, NYG, WSH, MIA, TEX, ARI, MIL, DET, CWS, PIT, CIN, CHC, COL, LAD, NYG, WSH, MIA, TEX, ARI. Rows for various stats like SEA-901.1, MIN-76, SEA-288, MIN-4.35, etc.

NOTE: The Twins 970 strikeouts from their starters set a new club record and ranks 14th on baseball's all-time list for a single season...additionally, the Twins' staff recorded and MLB-best 1,560 strikeouts this season, also setting a club record and landing in a tie for 15th most in baseball history.

ARMS RACE: Through two games during the Blue Jays series, Twins pitchers combined to post a 0.50 ERA (18.0 IP, 1 ER) with 15 hits allowed, five walks, 19 strikeouts and a .227 opponent batting average.

Starters, Pablo López and Sonny Gray, combined to go 2-0, 0.84 ERA (10.2 IP, 1 ER) with 10 hits allowed, four walks and nine strikeouts...they averaged 16.7 pitches-per-inning.

Relievers combined to pitch 7.1 scoreless innings, with five hits allowed, one walk and 10 strikeouts, while holding Jays hitters to a .192 batting average.

WE'LL TELL YOU, BUT YOU PROBABLY ALREADY KNOW: In 81 career Postseason games, Carlos Correa has hit .276 (85-for-308) with 16 doubles, 18 home runs, 60 RBI, 37 runs scored, 30 walks, a .348 on-base percentage and an .851 OPS...he ranks sixth on baseball's all-time Postseason list in RBI, trailing Bernie Williams (80), Manny Ramirez (78), David Justice (63), Derek Jeter (61) and David Ortiz (61)...additionally, his 18 career Postseason home runs are tied for seventh most all-time.

In 25 career Division Series games, Correa has hit .290 (27-for-93) with five doubles, eight home runs, 29 RBI, a .383 on-base percentage, a .602 slugging percentage and a .985 OPS...in his last eight DS games, he is 12-for-27 (.444) with 15 RBI, eight walks, a .571 on-base percentage, an .852 slugging percentage and a 1.423 OPS.

Correa has two career multi-homer games in the DS: October 12, 2015 vs. Kansas City (Gm 4) and October 5, 2020 at Oakland (Gm 1).

POST-CC-SON: Below are Carlos Correa's Postseason ranks among active players in a few categories:

Table with columns: GAMES, HITS, HOME RUNS, RBI, DOUBLES, TOTAL BASES. Rows for various players like Altuve, Bregman, Correa, Guriel, Turner, etc.

POSTSEASON CRED: Of the 26 players on the roster, 23 have appeared in a Postseason game...the two players on roster yet to make their Postseason debut are Bailey Ober and Joe Ryan.

Bailey Ober is the only different player on the ALDS roster that was not on the ALWCS roster, replacing left-handed reliever Kody Funderburk.

TWINS VS. ASTROS (REG SEASON)

Table with columns: 2023 Record, Current Streak, 2023 at Home, 2023 at Houston, Under Baldelli (since 2019), Under Baldelli at Houston, All-Time Record, All-Time at Home, All-Time at Houston.

2023 Game Logs:

Table with columns: Date, Site, Score, Winner/Loser/Save. Rows for 4/6, 4/7, 4/8, 4/9, 5/29, 5/30, 5/31.

LAST SERIES (2-0)

Table with columns: Batting average, Runs Per Game, Home Runs, RISP, Errors, Team ERA, Starters W-L, Starters ERA, Relievers W-L-S, Relievers ERA, Saves/Opps.

TWINS AND 'STROS

Table with columns: 2022 vs. HOU, 2023 vs. HOU. Rows for RECORD, RUNS, HOME RUNS, OPS, ERA, BAA.

AL LEADERS - RUN DIFFERENTIAL

Table with columns: Team, Run Differential. Rows for Tampa Bay, Texas, Baltimore, Houston, Minnesota.

MLB LEADERS - POSTSEASON HR

Table with columns: Player, HR. Rows for Manny Ramirez, Jose Altuve, Bernie Williams, Derek Jeter, Albert Pujols, George Springer, Carlos Correa, Nelson Cruz, Reggie Jackson, Mickey Mantle.

MLB LEADERS - POSTSEASON RBI

Table with columns: Player, RBI. Rows for Bernie Williams, Manny Ramirez, David Justice, Derek Jeter, David Ortiz, Carlos Correa.

TWINS POSTSEASON LEADERS

BATTING

Table with columns: Stat, Player. Rows for Games, Batting Average, At-Bats, Hits, Home Runs, Walks, Runs, Doubles, RBI, Strikeouts, OPS.

PITCHING

Table with columns: Stat, Player. Rows for Wins, Losses, Innings, Walks, Starts, ERA (20.0 IP), Saves, Strikeouts.

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KEEP TARGET FIELD WARM: The Twins announced plans for free fan watch parties at Target Field for all ALDS road games...Target Field entrances at Gates 29, 6 and the Ramp A Skyway level will open one hour before first pitch each day, with select concession stands open for food and beverage purchase...the FS1 national broadcasts will be shown on the Target Field main videoboard and on TVs throughout the ballpark.

ON THIS DAY IN TWINS POSTSEASON HISTORY: In 1987, the Twins hosted the Tigers in Game 1 of the ALCS...Gary Gaetti homered in each of his first two plate appearances off Doyle Alexander...Don Baylor broke a 5-5 tie with an eighth-inning single which led to the Twins' first Postseason victory since Game 6 of the 1965 World Series on October 13.

2023 POSTSEASON DAY-BY-DAY

Table with columns: Date, Opponent, Score, W/L, Record, Attendance, Total Home Attendance, Winner/Loser/Save. Rows for 10/3 and 10/4.



BAILEY OBER

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Height: 6-9 Weight: 247 B/T: R/R Age: 28 (7/12/1995 in Huntersville, NC)

2023: 8-6, 3.43 ERA CAREER: 13-12, 3.63 ERA

- Making his first career Postseason start and appearance...will be the first Twin to start a playoff game after not being on the Opening Day roster since Randy Dobnak in 2019 (G2 ALDS at NYY). Facing Houston for the third time in his career, first since the 2021 season...is 0-0, 4.50 ERA (10.0 IP, 5 ER) with two walks and 12 strikeouts in two previous starts vs. the Astros. Selected by the Twins in the 12th round of the 2017 First-Year Player Draft out of the College of Charleston.

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 APRIL TOTALS, MAY TOTALS, JUNE TOTALS, JULY TOTALS, AUG. TOTALS, SEPT. TOTALS, OCT. TOTALS, and 2023 MAJORS TOTALS.

REACHING NEW HEIGHTS: Making his first career Postseason start today...in the 2023 regular season, set single-season career highs in starts (26), wins (8), innings pitched (144.1), strikeouts (146), quality starts (12) and WAR (2.4).

Becomes the third-tallest pitcher in American League/National League history (1901-) to start in a Postseason game, behind Randy Johnson and Chris Young, who are both six feet, 10 inches...will be the second-tallest pitcher in Twins/Senators history (1901-) to pitch in the playoffs, trailing only Jon Rauch (6-11, 5 Postseason appearances from 2009-10).

FAST FINISH: After being recalled from Triple-A St. Paul on September 15, Ober went 2-0, 2.08 ERA (21.2 IP, 5 ER) with three walks, 26 strikeouts, a 0.69 WHIP, a .158 (12-for-76) opponent batting average and a .476 opponent OPS in four starts...Twins went 3-1 in those four starts, with Ober pitching at least 5.0 innings in all four...ended the regular season with a season-high-tying nine strikeouts in 6.2 innings pitched on October 1 at Colorado, taking a no-decision in the Twins' 3-2 defeat in 11 innings.

Owned the second-lowest WHIP in the American League in September and October (min. 20.0 IP), trailing only DET's Tarik Skubal (0.60).

OBER VS. HOUSTON: Facing the Astros for the third time in his career, first time since 2021 and first time in the Postseason...did not factor into the decision in either of his two prior starts vs. Houston, posting a 4.50 ERA (10.0 IP, 5 ER) with two walks and 12 strikeouts...in his third career start on June 11, 2021, pitched 5.0 innings and allowed two runs on seven hits (1 HR), with one walk and seven strikeouts against the Astros at Target Field, a 6-4 Twins' loss...allowed a solo home run to Jose Altuve in the fifth inning...went 5.0 innings and allowed three runs on seven hits (2 HR) with one walk and five strikeouts on August 6, 2021 in a 5-4 Twins' win at Minute Maid Park, his only career appearance at this ballpark...yielded a solo homer to Chas McCormick in the fourth inning.

Houston infielder Jose Abreu has the most career at-bats vs. Ober among active Astros, going 4-for-16 (.250) with one double, one triple, one home run, one walk and five strikeouts against him from 2021-22 with Chicago-AL.

SMOOTH ROAD: Went 5-3, 3.57 ERA (68.0 IP, 27 ER) with 12 walks and 75 strikeouts in 12 starts on the road this year...six of his 12 road starts were quality, and the Twins went 7-5 when he started on the road...his 9.93 strikeouts-per-9.0 innings ratio on the road ranked eighth in the American League in the regular season (min. 12 road GS)...was 3-3 with a 3.30 ERA (76.1 IP, 28 ER), six quality starts, 17 walks and 71 strikeouts in 14 starts at Target Field this season.

In 28 career road starts, he is 6-8, 3.68 ERA (144.1 IP, 59 ER) with 25 walks and 145 strikeouts...is 7-4, 3.58 ERA (148.1 IP, 59 ER) with 34 walks and 148 strikeouts in 29 career starts at Target Field.

LEFT AND RIGHT: Left-handed hitters batted .228 (62-for-272) with 17 walks and 63 strikeouts against Ober this season...right-handed batters hit .236 (63-for-267) with 12 walks and 83 strikeouts...in his career, left-handed hitters are slashing .251/.307/.399 with 121 strikeouts against Ober...righties are hitting .229/.260/.439 with 172 strikeouts.

In two career starts vs. Houston, left-handed hitters went 8-for-16 (.500) with one double, one walk and four strikeouts against him...Astros' righties went 6-for-26 (.231) with one double, three home runs, one walk and eight strikeouts off Ober.

THE ARSENAL: Ober used a four-pitch mix in his 26 starts of the 2023 season, per Baseball Savant...mostly utilized his slider against righties while relying on his changeup and curveball against lefties...here's a look at his repertoire:

Table with columns: PITCH (AVG, MPH), PCT. (# vs. RHB/LHB), RESULTS. Rows include 4-Seam Fastball, Changeup, Slider, and Curveball.

Despite owning a .232 opponent batting average on his four-seam fastball, he had an xBA of .208, the fourth lowest in the American League (min. 200 PA)...his .192 xBA on his four-seam fastball in the second half was the fifth lowest in baseball.

Ober had a run value of eight on his changeup this season, the best among all Twins pitchers in 2023 and the highest since Tyler Clippard had a run value of nine on his changeup in 2020.

ACROSS THE RIVER: In his five starts with Triple-A St. Paul this season, Ober went 2-1, 2.38 ERA (22.2 IP, 6 ER) with six walks and 25 strikeouts...in his last start with the Saints on September 9, Ober did not factor into the decision in a 4-3 St. Paul loss at Louisville; pitched 5.0 innings and allowed one run on three hits with three strikeouts...yielded a sacrifice fly to Matt Reynolds in the second inning.

TOMORROW'S STARTER - RHP PABLO LÓPEZ (2023 POST: 1-0, 1.59 ERA // CAREER POST: 1-1, 2.53 ERA)

Pablo López is set to start Game 2 of the ALDS against Houston at Minute Maid Park tomorrow night...earned the win in his second career Postseason start on October 3 vs. Toronto in the Twins' 3-1 victory at Target Field in Game 1 of the ALWCs...pitched 5.2 innings and allowed one run on five hits, with two walks and three strikeouts on 93 pitches...facing the Astros for the second time in his career, first in the Postseason...took a no-decision on June 10, 2022, a 7-4 Marlins' win at this ballpark; pitched 4.1 innings and allowed two runs on six hits (1 HR), with two walks and five strikeouts...allowed a solo home run to Michael Brantley in the first inning...lost his only previous road Postseason start on October 7, 2020 at Atlanta in Game 2 of NLDS, a 2-0 Marlins' defeat (5.0 IP, 3 H, 2 R/ER, 2 HR, 0 BB, 7 K).

2023 HIGHS

CAREER HIGHS

Table comparing 2023 and Career Highs for metrics: CG's, SHO's, CG Low-Hit, Innings, SO's, Walks, Hits, Home Runs, Win-Streak, Loss-Streak.

CAREER NOTES

- In 2022, made 11 starts for the Twins along with four rehab starts in the minors, going 2-3, 3.21 ERA (56.0 IP, 20 ER) with 11 walks and 51 strikeouts for Minnesota. Split the 2019 season between three levels of Twins organization, combining to go 8-0, 0.69 ERA (78.2 IP, 6 ER) with nine walks, 100 strikeouts and a .194 opponent batting average in 14 games (13 starts) for GCL Twins, High-A Fort Myers and Double-A Pensacola. Led all minor league pitchers (min. 75.0 IP) with a 0.69 ERA in 2019 and ranked second in the minors with a 0.81 WHIP...also became the first Twins minor league pitcher to allow six-or-fewer earned runs in 78.2-or-more innings pitched since at least 1961. Named Twins minor league Pitcher of the Week twice during the 2019 season: once for Fort Myers on August 4 (6.1 IP, 0 ER, 6 H in 1 start) and again on August 25 with Pensacola (1-0, 7.0 IP, 0 ER, 3 H, 0 BB, 12 K). In 2018, was named Twins minor league Pitcher of the Week in consecutive weeks: July 7, going 1-0 with 7.0 shutout innings and 12 strikeouts vs. Wisconsin for Low-A Cedar Rapids Kernels, and again July 14, going 1-0 with two runs allowed in 7.0 innings and 10 strikeouts vs. Fort Wayne...became first ever Twin to win the award twice in a season. Selected by Twins in 12th round of 2017 First-Year Player Draft; signed by scout Seth Moir...originally selected by Los Angeles-NL in the 23rd round of the 2016 First-Year Player Draft, but elected to return to the College of Charleston. Attended College of Charleston from 2014-17, missing the 2015 season recovering from Tommy John surgery on right elbow...compiled a 24-9 record with a 2.91 ERA and 254 strikeouts in 259.2 innings over the course of his collegiate career.

2023 MISC. NUMBERS

Table with columns: W, L, ERA, G/GS, IP, ER, AVG, H, AB, HR, BB, SO. Includes rows for 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. Rows for 2021, 2022, and TOTALS.

MORE 2023 MISCELLANEOUS NUMBERS

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

2023 RUNS/HITS PER INNING

Table with columns: INNING, RUNS/HITS. Rows for INNING (1-9) and RUNS/HITS.

OBER VS. HOUSTON

2021 vs. Houston (2 starts): 0-0, 4.50 ERA (10.0 IP, 5 ER), 2 BB, 12 K
2021 vs. Houston at Home (1 start): 0-0, 3.60 ERA (5.0 IP, 2 ER), 1 BB, 7 K
2021 vs. Houston on Road (1 start): 0-0, 5.40 ERA (5.0 IP, 3 ER), 1 BB, 5 K
Career vs. Houston (2 starts): 0-0, 4.50 ERA (10.0 IP, 5 ER), 2 BB, 12 K
Career vs. Houston at Home (1 start): 0-0, 3.60 ERA (5.0 IP, 2 ER), 1 BB, 7 K
Career vs. Houston on Road (1 start): 0-0, 5.40 ERA (5.0 IP, 3 ER), 1 BB, 5 K

BATTER-PITCHER MATCH-UPS

Table with columns: OBER vs. the Astros, Verlander vs. the Twins (regular season). Rows for PLAYER, AVG, AB, H, HR, BB, SO.

TOP MARKS: Ober ranked among the top 10 percent of all pitchers in baseball this year in several metrics, per Baseball Savant:

Table with columns: STATISTIC, OBER'S #s, MLB PERCENTILE. Rows include Extension, Offspeed Run Value, Walk Rate, Chase Rate.

WALK WITH ME: Ober's 5.0 walk percentage was the lowest on the Twins pitching staff and ranked in the 93rd percentile across baseball this season...issued only 11 walks in 12 starts (61.2 IP) after the All-Star break, the fourth fewest in the American League (min. 12 GS), trailing only TB's Zack Littell (7 BB), TB's Zach Eflin (9 BB) and SEA's George Kirby (9 BB)...has walked only 59 batters in his career (292.2 IP); among pitchers with at least 50 starts since he debuted on May 18, 2021, only Eflin (50 BB) and Kirby (41 BB) have walked fewer batters than Ober in that span.

Owns a career 4.97 strikeout-to-walk ratio (293 K, 59 BB), the second-highest ratio in Twins' history (1961-present) behind Phil Hughes (5.71) and the fourth highest in the American League since the start of 2021 (min. 250.0 IP).

- Pen threw 4.0 scoreless IP on 10/4 in relief of Sonny Gray, with 4 H and 6 K in Game 2 of ALWCS vs. Toronto (2-0 W).
Twins relievers posted a 3.95 ERA (556.1 IP, 244 ER) with a .231 opponent batting average, a .700 opponent OPS, 79 holds and 38 saves in 66 opportunities this season.
Pen threw 1,605 offspeed pitches, 4th most in baseball trailing NYY (2,148), DET (1,760) & CIN (1,691)...averaged 90.1 mph on all pitches, 7th-hardest throwing pen in MLB (4th in AL)... finished T-4th in fewest hits (478) among all MLB bullpens...in Sept./Oct. the Twins pen led baseball with a 30.6 strikeout percentage.
Pen went 23-14, 3.87 ERA (286.1 IP, 123 ER) w/ 124 BB, 302 K and .226 BAA in 79 home games compared to 15-16, 4.03 ERA (270.0 IP, 121 ER) w/ 96 BB, 288 K and .236 BAA in 81 road games.

JHOAN DURAN - RHP

Height: 6-5 Weight: 259 Age: 25 (1/8/98 in Esperanza, DR) Acquired: Trade with ARI, 7/27/18
Career PS: 0-0, 0.00 ERA (2.0 IP), 1 BB, 5 K 2023 WC: 0-0, 0.00 ERA (2.0 IP), 1 BB, 5 K vs. Left .000 vs. Right .200

- Tossed a scoreless 9th inn. on 10/4 in Game 2 of ALWCS, earning his second-straight save of the Postseason...became 6th pitcher in Twins history (1961-) to record a Postseason SV on 10/3 in Game 1 of ALWCS...is 1-0, 0.00 ERA (4.1 IP), 1 H, 2 BB, 6 K and 1 SV in 4 career games vs. HOU.
Threw 104.8 mph pitch to SEA's E. Suarez in 9th inning on 7/19; fastest pitch in MLB this season and T-10th fastest pitch by any pitcher in the Statcast Era (2015-)...has 9 career pitches of 104.0+ mph, 3rd most in MLB since 2015 behind A. Chapman (47) and J. Hicks (13).
27 saves (32 opps), 7th most in AL...has 84.4 SV%, 9th best in AL...his 5 BS were 4/11 vs. CWS, 6/21 vs. BOS, 7/2 at BAL, 7/28 at KC, 8/30 vs. CLE.
Appeared in 47 of Twins' 87 wins & Twins went 47-12 in games which he appeared this regular season...Twins are 88-28 in games which he's appeared since '22.
473 of 1017 pitches 100+ mph; 1st in MLB...thrown 865 pitches 100+ mph since start of '22, the most in baseball.
Struck out multiple batters in 6-straight app. from 5/15-6/2, T-7th best streak in Twins history.
Lefties went 23-for-112 (.205) w/ 3 2B, 14 BB & 51 K...RHH went 23-for-110 (.209) w/ 5 2B, 6 HR, 11 BB & 33 K.
2023 arsenal: 4-seam FB (avg. 101.8 mph) - 457 pitches (44.9%), curveball (avg. 87.7 mph) - 282 pitches (27.7%) splitter (avg. 98.4 mph) - 278 pitches (27.3%),...has .213 BAA on 4-Seam FB, .159 on curveball and .241 on splitter...curveball typically putaway pitch, w/ whiff% of 45.9.

GRIFFIN JAX - RHP

Height: 6-1 Weight: 195 Age: 28 (11/22/94 in Phoenix, AZ) Acquired: 3rd RD, 2016 Draft
Career PS: 0-0, 0.00 ERA (2.0 IP), 1 H, 2 K 2023 WC: 0-0, 0.00 ERA (2.0 IP), 1 H, 2 K vs. Left .000 vs. Right .200

- Second Postseason app. on 10/4 in Game 2 of ALWCS, tossing 1.0 scoreless IP, earning a hold...is 1-0, 0.96 ERA (9.1 IP, 1 ER), 3 H, 1 BB, 4 K and 1 HLD in 5 career regular season games (1 GS) vs. HOU.
Went 6-10, 3.86 ERA (65.1 IP, 28 ER) w/ 19 BB, 68 K, 23 HLD and 4 SV (11 opps) in 71 G this season.
Led club in G (71), appeared in all but 5 series (5/5-7 at CLE, 6/26-28 at ATL, 7/3-5 vs. KC, 8/7-10 at DET & 9/22-24 vs. LAA)...since start of 2022, leads Twins in G w/ 136 and is 6th in the AL in that span.
Posted team-best and career-best 19.1-inning scoreless streak from May 22-July 15...also recorded at least one K in 15-straight appearances since August 24, longest streak for a Twin on season.
Lefties went 25-for-105 (.238) w/ 2 HR, 11 BB & 35 K...righties went 33-for-145 (.228) w/ 3 HR, 8 BB & 33 K this season...197 BAA off sweeper w/ 47 K.
Arsenal: sweeper - 553 pitches (52.8%), 4-seam FB - 232 pitches (22.2%), sinker - 139 pitches (13.3%), changeup - 93 pitches (8.9%), cutter - 30 pitches (2.9%).

KENTA MAEDA - RHP

Height: 6-1 Weight: 185 Age: 35 (4/11/1988 in Osaka, JPN) Acquired: Trade with LAD, 2/10/2020
Career PS: 2-1, 2.87 ERA (37.2 IP, 12 ER), 15 BB, 44 K 2023 WC: - - vs. Left .214 vs. Right .200

- Finished 6-7, 4.28 ERA (101.0 IP, 48 ER) w/ 26 BB, 112 K and a .243 BAA in 20 starts this season.
Made 1 relief app. taking the loss after tossing 3.1 IP, allowing 1 R on 1 H w/ 2 BB & 5 K in 9/28 loss vs. OAK...1st loss in relief since September 25, 2018 at ARI...5 Ks tied his outing on September 2, 2019 vs. Colorado for his 3rd most as a reliever (career high is 6 K, done twice previously).
Last relief app. in Postseason game came with LAD on October 9, 2019 vs. WAS, tossing 1.0 perfect IP w/ 3 K in Game 5 of NLDS.
Is 7-4, 2.66 ERA (67.2 IP, 20 ER) w/ 15 BB, 90 K, a .202 (50-for-247) BAA and a 0.96 WHIP in 56 career relief app. (including Postseason).
Is 1-1, 3.38 ERA (10.2 IP, 4 ER), 8 H, 1 HR, 2 BB, 16 K, 2 HLD and a .200 BAA in 8 career NL Division Series games (1 GS) with LAD.
Posted a 1.59 ERA (5.2 IP, 1 ER), w/ 1 HLD in 4 relief app. vs. HOU in 2017 WS w/ LAD...also threw 5.0 shutout IP vs. HOU in G1 of 2020 ALWCS w/ MIN.
Lefties went 45-for-187 (.241) w/ 9 2B, 6 HR, 18 BB & 53 K against him this season...righties went 49-for-207 (.237) w/ 13 2B, 11 HR, 10 BB & 64 K.
2023 arsenal: split finger - 542 pitches (31.9%), slider - 521 pitches (30.6%), 4-seam FB - 466 pitches (27.4%), sinker - 109 pitches (6.4%) and curveball - 62 pitches (3.6%)...opponents are 25-for-137 off split finger (.182) w/ 47 K.

CHRIS PADDACK - RHP

Height: 6-5 Weight: 217 Age: 27 (1/8/1996 in Austin, TX) Acquired: Trade with SD, 4/7/22
Career PS: 0-1, 23.14 ERA (2.1 IP, 6 ER), 0 BB, 1 K 2023 WC: - - vs. Left .429 vs. Right .714

- Returned from rehab assignment and reinstated from the 60-day IL on 9/24 vs. LAA...entered but did not pitch due to 50-min. rain delay when approaching the infield dirt...underwent Tommy John surgery on his right elbow on May 18, 2022.
Made official return on 9/26 vs. OAK throwing a 99.0 mph fastball to Zack Gelof, making it fastest career pitch after missing 507 days.
One career start vs. Houston w/ SD on 9/5/21, pitching 6.0 innings and allowing 3 R on 6 H (2 HR), with 0 BB & 0 K in no-decision.
Pitched at three levels of the Twins organization during his rehab assignment, going 0-1 with a 3.72 ERA (9.2 IP, 4 ER), 3 BB, 15 K and a .222 (8-for-36) BAA in 3 G (2 GS) between Low-A Fort Myers, Double-A Wichita and Triple-A St. Paul...topped out at 98.2 mph in velocity on 9/19.
One career Postseason start w/ SD in Game 1 of 2020 NLWCS, taking the loss while tossing 2.1 IP & allowing 6 R on 8 H w/ 1 K vs. STL on 9/30.
2023 arsenal: 4-seam FB - 35 pitches (44.3%), changeup - 29 pitches (36.7%), curveball - 12 pitches (15.2%) and slider - 3 pitches (3.8%).

EMILIO PAGAN - RHP

Height: 6-3 Weight: 216 Age: 32 (5/7/91 in Simpsonville, SC) Acquired: Trade with SD, 4/7/22
Career PS: 1-0, 2.25 ERA (8.0 IP, 2 ER), 4 BB, 5 BB 2023 WC: - - vs. Left .083 vs. Right .300

- Started in his final regular season appearance of 2023 on 9/30 at COL, tossing a 1-2-3 inning in his first career ML start...became the 1st Twin in club history (since 1961) to start a game immediately following a save in the previous game (credit Elias).
Posted a 3.03 ERA (68.1 IP, 23 ER) w/ 21 BB, 65 K, 9 HLD and 1 SV in 65 games as a reliever...ranked 2nd on club in games (66) and T-3rd in holds (9).
Posted a 7.71 ERA (2.1 IP, 2 ER), 5 H, 2 HR, 2 BB, 1 K and 1 HLD in 3 AL Division Series games vs. HOU in 2019 with Tampa Bay.
Went 2-1, 1.27 ERA (35.1 IP, 5 ER) in 34 home games this season, compared to 3-1, 4.76 ERA (34.0 IP, 18 ER) in 32 away games.
Allowed just 5 HR posting a 0.65 HR/9.0 ratio, best of career (prev. low 1.25 in 2017)...1.83 HR% also career best.
Lefties went 22-for-107 (.206) w/ 8 2B, 2 HR, 11 BB & 33 K, while righties went 23-for-141 (.163) w/ 4 2B, 2 3B, 3 HR, 10 BB & 32 K.
2023 arsenal: 4-seam FB - 584 pitches (55.0%), cutter - 319 pitches (30.1%), split finger - 131 (12.3%) and curveball - 27 pitches (2.5%)...opponents are 12-for-84 off cutter (.143).

BROCK STEWART - RHP

Height: 6-3 Weight: 218 Age: 32 (10/3/91 in Normal, IL) Acquired: Minor league free agent, 7/14/22
Career PS: 0-0, 0.00 ERA (1.0 IP), 2 K 2023 WC: 0-0, 0.00 ERA (1.0 IP), 2 K vs. Left .000 vs. Right .000

- Made Postseason debut on 10/4 vs. TOR pitching a 1-2-3 7th inn. w/ 2 K, earning a hold...owns 9.00 ERA (2.0 IP, 2 ER), 2 HR (HR-Altuve) and 5 K in 2 career G vs. HOU.
Returned from rehab assignment and reinstated from the 60-day IL on 9/26 vs. OAK...reached 98.1 mph with FB, averaging 96.9 mph.
Appeared in 3 rehab G with Triple-A STP, pitching 3.0 scoreless innings, with 0 H allowed, 2 BB and 5 K, while topping out at 98.9 mph in velocity.
27 of 28 G were scoreless w/ Twins...lone blemish was GS to Altuve on 5/31 at HOU...finished w 13-cons. scoreless appearance streak (12.2 IP).
Finished season w/ 0.65 ERA, 1st in MLB among relievers (min. 25.0 IP)...also lowest in Twins history (1961-) among pitchers with at least 25 app...struck out 39 batters this season, setting single-season career high (29 w/ LAD in 2017).
Lefties went 7-for-38 (.184) w/ 4 BB and 17 K while righties went 12-for-59 (.203) w/ 1 HR, 7 BB and 22 K; HR was hit by Altuve on 5/31 at HOU.
14.0 scoreless IP to begin MIN career, from 4/27-5/27; 14 G 3rd-longest scoreless G streak to start Twins career, trailing C. Thielbar (17 in '13) and D. Reyes (16 in '08).
2023 MLB arsenal: 4-seam FB - 171 pitches (39.0%), sweeper - 94 pitches (21.4%), cutter - 90 pitches (20.5%), sinker - 47 pitches (10.7%), changeup - 37 pitches (8.4%)...has .071 BAA (1-for-14) using cutter...2-for-12 (.167) off sinker...16 K in 34 PA off 4-S FB w/ 51.1 whiff %.

CALEB THIELBAR - LHP

Height: 6-0 Weight: 216 Age: 36 (1/31/87 in Northfield, MN) Acquired: Minor league free agent, 11/29/19
Career PS: 0-0, 0.00 ERA (2.0 IP), 2 H 2023 WC: 0-0, 0.00 ERA (1.2 IP), 1 H vs. Left .500 vs. Right .200

- Induced an inning-ending double play with the bases loaded in the 6th inn. of Game 2 of ALWCS vs. TOR after inducing zero double plays in 36 regular season app...has a Postseason app. in 2020 Wild Card Series vs. HOU, tossing 0.1 IP and allowing 1 H in Game 1 on 9/29/20.
Went 3-1, 3.23 ERA (30.2 IP, 11 ER) w/ 6 BB, 36 K and 14 HLD in 36 appearances this season.
Ranked T-10th in the AL in holds among lefties (14), despite appearing in just 36 games.
Lefties went 6-for-46 (.130) w/ 2 2B, 3B, 0 BB & 14 K this season, while righties went 17-for-67 (.254) w/ 3 2B, 7 HR, 6 BB & 22 K.
Has 288 career appearances, all with the Twins, 7th most in club history among lefties (next Taylor Rogers - 319).
2023 arsenal: 4-seam FB - 251 pitches (52.2%), sweeper - 103 pitches (21.4%), curveball - 99 pitches (20.6%), slider - 28 pitches (5.8%).

LOUIE VARLAND - RHP

Height: 6-1 Weight: 205 Age: 25 (12/09/1997 in St. Paul, MN) Acquired: 15th RD, 2019 Draft
Career PS: 0-0, 0.00 ERA (0.2 IP), 2 H, 1 K 2023 WC: 0-0, 0.00 ERA (0.2 IP), 2 H, 1 K vs. Left 1.000 vs. Right .333

- Second career Postseason app. on 10/4 vs. TOR tossing 0.1 IP allowing 2 H w/ 1 K, earning a hold...threw 100.1 mph FB to Bichette in the 6th inn, second pitch over 100.0 mph in career...is 1-0, 0.00 ERA (7.0 IP), 4 H, 1 BB, 5 K and a .167 BAA in one GS vs. HOU this season.
Was named to the Triple-A International League All-Star team as a starting pitcher on October 4.
Combined to go 11-4, 4.27 ERA (149.2 IP, 71 ER) w/ 43 BB & 159 K in 33 games (25 starts) between Minnesota and Triple-A St. Paul.
Went 1-0, 1.50 ERA (12.0 IP, 2 ER) w/ 1 BB, 17 K and 2 HLD in 7 relief app with Minnesota from 9/6-28.
Lefties went 19-for-91 (.209) w/ 1 2B, 2 3B, 5 HR, 7 BB & 28 K against him this year; righties went 47-for-171 (.275) w/ 6 2B, 2 3B, 11 HR, 10 BB & 43 K.
2023 arsenal: 4-seam FB - 466 pitches (42.7%), cutter - 349 pitches (32.0%), slider - 143 pitches (13.1%), changeup - 123 pitches (11.3%) and sinker - 10 pitches (0.9%).

RECENT APPEARANCES

Table with columns: DATE, DEC, IP, H, R, ER, HR, BB, SO. Rows include 10/4 vs. TOR, 10/3 vs. TOR, 9/30 at COL, 9/27 vs. OAK, 9/22 vs. LAA, 9/20 at CIN, 9/16 at CWS, 9/12 vs. TB, 9/8 vs. NYM, 9/2 at TEX, 9/1 at TEX, 8/30 vs. CLE, 8/27 vs. TEX.

RECENT APPEARANCES

Table with columns: DATE, DEC, IP, H, R, ER, HR, BB, SO. Rows include 10/4 vs. TOR, 10/3 vs. TOR, 9/30 at COL, 9/27 vs. OAK, 9/26 vs. OAK, 9/20 at CIN, 9/17 at CWS, 9/15 at CWS, 9/13 vs. TB, 9/10 vs. NYM.

RECENT APPEARANCES

Table with columns: DATE, DEC, IP, H, R, ER, HR, BB, SO. Rows include 9/28 vs. OAK, 9/19 at CIN, 9/14 at CWS, 9/9 vs. NYM, 9/3 at TEX, 8/28 vs. CLE, 8/23 at MIL, 8/16 vs. DET, 8/10 at DET, 8/5 vs. ARI, 7/30 at KC.

RECENT APPEARANCES

Table with columns: DATE, DEC, IP, H, R, ER, HR, BB, SO. Rows include 9/30 at COL, 9/26 vs. OAK, 9/24 vs. LAA, 9/19 vs. TOR, 9/12 vs. MID, 9/6 vs. BRD.

RECENT APPEARANCES

Table with columns: DATE, DEC, IP, H, R, ER, HR, BB, SO. Rows include 9/30 at COL, 9/29 at COL, 9/27 vs. OAK, 9/23 vs. LAA, 9/19 at CIN, 9/17 at CWS, 9/13 vs. TB, 9/8 vs. NYM, 9/5 at CLE, 9/2 at TEX, 8/30 vs. CLE.

RECENT APPEARANCES

Table with columns: DATE, DEC, IP, H, R, ER, HR, BB, SO. Rows include 10/4 vs. TOR, 10/1 at COL, 9/29 at COL, 9/26 vs. OAK, 9/22 vs. TOR, 9/19 vs. TOR, 9/15 at IOW, 6/25 at DET, 6/23 at DET.

RECENT APPEARANCES

Table with columns: DATE, DEC, IP, H, R, ER, HR, BB, SO. Rows include 10/4 vs. TOR, 10/3 vs. TOR, 9/30 at COL, 9/29 at COL, 9/27 vs. OAK, 9/22 vs. LAA, 9/19 at CIN, 9/13 vs. TB.

RECENT APPEARANCES

Table with columns: DATE, DEC, IP, H, R, ER, HR, BB, SO. Rows include 10/4 vs. TOR, 10/3 vs. TOR, 9/28 vs. OAK, 9/24 vs. LAA, 9/22 vs. LAA, 9/15 at CWS, 9/12 vs. TB, 9/9 vs. NYM.



HITTERS

WILLI CASTRO - UTL #50

Height: 6-1 Weight: 206 B/T: S/R Age: 26 (4/24/1997 in Rio Piedras, PR)

WC Average: .250 Home Runs:

WC: 1-4

- Went 1-for-4 in 2-game ALWC vs. TOR...was def. repl. in LF in both games, which were 1st career Postseason games.
Never faced Verlander in RS or PS...went 4-for-9, BB, 2 SB, 4 R in 2 games vs. HOU in 2023 RS, both at Minute Maid 5/29 & 5/31.
From 9/19-22, XBH in 3-straight G, tying career-best streak...hit .316 (25-for-79), 3 2B, 2 3B, 4 HR, 8 RBI, 10 BB, 18 R, .959 OPS in last 22 regular season games.
In 2023 RS, Led MIN w/ career-high 33 SB this season, 4th most in AL and 10th most in MLB...also set single-season career highs in R (60), hits (92), 2B (18, tied), HR (9, tied) and BB (34).
Played 2 positions in game 38x this regular season and 3 positions in single game 7x this RS... games by position in 2023 RS: 3 G/O GS at P, 10 G/4 GS at 2B, 41 G/23 GS at 3B, 8 G/1 GS at SS, 53 G/34 GS in LF, 45 G/29 GS in CF, 4 G/2 GS in RF, 3 G/O GS at DH...also 2-for-12 as PH.

CARLOS CORREA - SS #4

Height: 6-4 Weight: 215 B/T: R/R Age: 29 (9/22/1994 in Santa Isabel, PR)

WC Average: .250 Home Runs:

WC: 3-7, RBI, HBP

- Went 3-for-7 (.429), RBI, HBP in 2 G ALWC vs. TOR...architect of crucial pickoff play w/ 2 on in 5th inning of G2, noticing that TOR runners couldn't hear 3rd base coach yell "back" b/c crowd was so loud - Sonny Gray picked off Guerrero Jr. at 2nd base on play.
Career .417 (5-for-12), 2B, HR, 3 RBI, 3 BB vs. Verlander in RS...went 2-for-18, 2B, 2 BB, R in 5 games vs. HOU in 2023 RS.
Career .308 (40-for-130), 10 2B, 7 HR, 24 RBI, 9 BB, .908 OPS in 34 playoff G at Minute Maid.
His 81 career Postseason games are 5th most among active players...career .276 (85-for-308), 16 2B, 18 HR, 60 RBI, 30 BB, 37 R, .851 OPS in those games.
His 60 career PS RBI are 6th most all-time, 1 behind D. Ortiz and D. Jeter (61)...his 18 career PS HR are T-7th most all-time, w/ N. Cruz, R. Jackson and M. Mantle.
Missed last 11 games of regular season w/ plantar fasciitis, which he had battled all year... despite this, led MIN in games played (135)...HR 9/8 had exit velo of 114.2 mph, hardest-hit HR of career...has 5 multi-H games in his last 13...8/29 vs. CLE, snapped 19-G on-base streak; streak was season best and 3rd longest of career...9-game hit streak 8/5-8/15.

KYLE FARMER - IF #12

Height: 6-0 Weight: 202 B/T: R/R Age: 33 (8/17/1990 in Atlanta, GA)

WC Average: .000 Home Runs:

WC: 0-1

- Went 0-for-1 in 2 G in ALWC vs. TOR...was sub at 3B in both games...is 0-for-10, RBI in 8 career Postseason games.
Career 1-for-1, HR, RBI vs. Verlander in RS...hit .389 (7-for-18), 2B, HR, 4 RB, BB, SB, 5 R, 1.032 OPS in 5 RS games vs. HOU in 2023.
Co-managed w/ Polanco 9/30 at COL...had career-high-tying 10-G hit streak 9/18-9/29, hitting .333 (13-for-39), 3 2B, 8 RBI, 3 BB, 6 R, .395 OBP, .806 OPS...HR 8/24 traveled 435 ft., longest of career.
Hit .346 (28-for-81), 5 2B, 3B, 3 HR, 36 RBI w/ RISP this season...went 3-for-11 (.289), 8 2B, 3B, 2 HR, 16 RBI, 10 BB vs. LHP and 52-for-222 (.234), 6 2B, 3B, 9 HR, 30 RBI, 12 BB vs. RHP this season.
Games by position in 2023: 4 G/O GS at 1B, 45 G/O GS at 2B, 43 G/32 GS at 3B, 40 G/27 GS at SS, 3 G/O GS in LF...went 2-for-15, 2 2B, 3 RBI, 2 BB as a PH this season.

RYAN JEFFERS - C #27

Height: 6-4 Weight: 237 B/T: R/R Age: 26 (6/3/1997 in Raleigh, NC)

WC Average: .000 Home Runs:

WC: 0-6, 2 BB

- Went 0-for-6, 2 BB in 2 G in ALWC vs. TOR...career 0-for-11, 2 BB in 4 Postseason games, incl. 0-for-5 in 2 G vs. HOU in 2020 WC; has never played beyond WC round.
Career 0-for-2 vs. Verlander in RS...went 5-for-11 (.455), 2B, HR, 4 RBI, HBP, BB, R, .538 OBP, 1.357 OPS in 3 games vs. HOU in 2023 RS.
Went 3-for-4, game-tying solo HR 9/29 at COL; matched career high in H for 8th time...1-for-3, HR, 3 RBI, R as DH 9/28 vs. OAK; 3+ RBI in b2b G for 2nd time in career...2-for-4, 3B, HR, 3 RBI, 2 R 9/24 vs. LAA; 2nd career game w/ 3B & HR, 2nd C in MIN history w/ multiple such career G (also G. Mitterwald, 4x)...career-best 14-game hit streak 7/15-8/9; streak was longest by MIN hitter this season...tied career high w/ 14 HR in 2023; MIN went 13-0 when he homered.
Led all catchers (min. 250 AB) in OPS+ (.136.5) and was 7th in WAR (.2.7) in 2023 RS.

EDOUARD JULIEN - IF #47

Height: 6-2 Weight: 205 B/T: L/R Age: 23 (4/30/1999 in Québec City, CAN)

WC Average: .167 Home Runs:

WC: 1-6, BB, R

- Went 1-for-6, BB, R in 2 G of ALWC vs. TOR...those were 1st 2 career Postseason games.
In ALWC, became the 1st rookie in Twins history (1961-present) to start a playoff game in the leadoff spot in the batting order.
Never faced Verlander...hit .231 (3-for-13), BB in 3 games vs. HOU during 2023 RS, all at Minute Maid 5/29-5/31.
Ended RS w/ 21-G on-base streak, w/ .404 OBP in span...HR 9/30 at COL went 452 ft, longest of career...2nd career leadoff HR 9/27 vs. OAK...his 64 BB in 2023 are 5th most in a single season by MIN rookie...4-for-5, 2 RBI, R 8/16 vs. DET; set single-game career high w/ 4 H, 3rd different MIN rookie w/ 4-H G in 2023 (also, Lewis & Wallner)...22 multi-H G this season were on T-4th on MIN...career-best 9-game hit streak 7/8-7/21.
Finished among rookie leaders in (min. 250 AB) in OBP (.381, 2nd), SLG (.459, 10th), OPS (.839, 7th), BABIP (.371, 3rd) & AVG (.263, 13th)...also 4th in batting WAR (1.7) and 5th in BB (64).

MAX KEPLER - OF #26

Height: 6-4 Weight: 227 B/T: L/L Age: 30 (2/10/1993 in Berlin, Germany)

WC Average: .250 Home Runs:

WC: 2-8, R

- Went 2-for-8, R in 2 G vs. TOR in ALWC...is just 3-for-26, 2B, 7 BB, 2 R in 8 career Postseason games, including 0-for-10 in 3 G in ALDS.
Career 1-for-23, 4 BB vs. Verlander in RS...was just 1-for-14, 2 R in 3 games vs. HOU in 2023 RS...went 0-for-5, 3 BB, R in 2 G in 2020 ALWC vs. HOU.
Led MIN w/ 24 HR this season...4-for-4, R 9/27 vs. OAK; tied single-game career high in H for 5th time...hit .345 (20-for-58), 2 2B, 3B, 3 HR, 10 RBI, .435 OBP, 1.004 OPS in last 16 G... hit .306 (72-for-235), 17 2B, 2 3B, 12 HR, 36 RBI, 27 BB, 45 R, .377 OBP, .926 OPS in 66 games since ASB (7/14).

ALEX KIRILLOFF - OF/1B #19

Height: 6-2 Weight: 214 B/T: L/L Age: 25 (11/9/1997 in Pittsburgh, PA)

WC Average: .000 Home Runs:

WC: 0-2, BB

2023 STARTS BY POSITION

Table with columns: Player, C, 1B, 2B, SS, 3B, LF, CF, RF, DH. Rows include Byron Buxton, Willi Castro, Carlos Correa, Kyle Farmer, Joey Gallo, Kyle Garlick, Nick Gordon, Ryan Jeffers, Edouard Julien, Max Kepler, Alex Kirilloff, Trevor Larnach, Royce Lewis, Jordan Luplow, Jose Miranda, Jorge Polanco, Donovan Solano, Andrew Stevenson, Michael A. Taylor, Christian Vazquez, Matt Wallner.

Kirilloff continued...

- 0-for-2, BB in 2 G of ALWC vs. TOR...career 1-for-6, BB in 3 Postseason games, including 1-for-4 in 1 Postseason game vs. HOU in 2020.
Career 0-for-2 vs. Verlander in RS...went 5-for-8, RBI, HBP, 5 BB, 2 R in 3 games vs. HOU in 2023 RS...career .409 (9-for-22), RBI, HBP, 7 BB, 2 R in 8 RS games vs. HOU.
Made major league debut in Game 2 of ALWC 9/30/20 vs. HOU, batting sixth and starting in RF...1-for-4, singling in second at-bat off José Urquidy...became 1st player in baseball history to record a Postseason hit before a regular season hit...became 3rd player in baseball history to make major league debut in Postseason game, joining Kansas City's Adalberto Mondesi (2015 World Series) and Oakland's Mark Kiger (2006 ALCS) - first player to ever start.

ROYCE LEWIS - IF #23

Height: 6-0 Weight: 213 B/T: R/R Age: 24 (6/5/1999 in Aliso Viejo, CA)

WC Average: .333 Home Runs: 2 (1 1-run, 1 2-run)

WC: 2-6, 2 HR, 3 RBI, 2 BB, 3 R

- Went 2-for-6, 2 HR, 3 RBI, 2 BB, 3 R in 2 G of ALWC vs. TOR, 1st career Postseason games...2-for-3, 2 HR, 3 RBI, BB, 2 R 10/3 in G1 of WC vs. TOR, 1st career Postseason game...HR-ed in each of 1st 2 career Postseason PA 10/3 vs. TOR, 3rd player in AL/NL history (1901-) to homer in each of his first 2 career playoff PA, joining Gary Gaetti in 1987 for MIN and Evan Longoria in 2008 for SF (Elías)...also became 10th rookie in AL/NL history (1901-) with a multi-homer game in the Postseason, 1st since M. Conforto in 2015.
Career 0-for-3 vs. Verlander in RS...went 3-for-9, 2B, HR, 4 RBI, 2 R in 2 G vs. HOU in 2023 RS, both at HOU...returned from IL & played in 1st RS game in a year on 5/29, hitting GS.
Missed last 9 games of season w/ left hamstring strain...hit .381 (8-for-21), 3 HR, 8 RBI, 1.328 OPS in last 6 regular season games...9/15 at CWS hit 4th grand slam, new MIN single-season record; also tied single-season MLB rookie record (CWS A. Ramirez in 2008)...1st player in MLB history w/ 5 GS within 1st 16 career HR.
8/27-8/29, 1st MIN rookie w/ HR in 3-straight games since Kirilloff from 4/30-5/2/21...2-for-4, HR, 4 RBI, BB, 2 R 8/28 vs. CLE; 1st player in MIN history w/ grand slam in consecutive games & 2nd in MLB history, joining Hall of Famer Ken Griffey Jr. (April 1999)...his 15 HR in 2023 are T-11th most in MIN rookie history (1961-) w/ D. Ford (1975) and J. Miranda (2022).

JORGE POLANCO - IF #11

Height: 6-0 Weight: 211 B/T: S/R Age: 29 (7/3/1993 in San Pedro de Macoris, DR)

WC Average: .286 Home Runs:

WC: 2-7, BB, SB

- Went 2-for-7, BB, SB in 2 G of ALWC vs. TOR...career .241 (7-for-29), HR, 2 RBI, HBP, 5 BB, 2 SB, 3 R in 8 Postseason games, including 1-for-7, BB in 2 PS games vs. HOU.
Career 2-for-15, HR, RBI, 4 BB vs. Verlander in RS...did not face HOU in 2023 RS...career .322 (38-for-118), 7 2B, 2 3B, 7 HR, 20 RBI, 12 BB, 18 R, .975 OPS in 31 RS games vs. HOU.
Co-managed game on 9/30 w/ Kyle Farmer; pair has perfect 1-0 record...1-for-3 9/29 at COL; removed w/ right ankle soreness...HR on 9/17 was 111th of career, most by switch hitter in MIN history (1961-)...reinstated from Bereavement List 9/13.
Hit .258 (47-for-182), 9 2B, 9 HR, 32 RBI, 29 BB, 27 R in 50 games since IL return; missed 41 G w/ left hamstring strain...hitting .295 (18-for-61), .834 OPS in high leverage situations this season.
Went 50-for-215 (.233), 15 2B, 10 HR, 32 RBI, 33 BB as LHB this season and 27-for-87 (.310), 3 2B, 4 HR, 16 RBI as RHB...hit .361 (13-for-36), 4 2B, 3 HR, 23 RBI w/ RISP & 2 outs.

DONOVAN SOLANO - IF #39

Height: 5-8 Weight: 210 B/T: R/R Age: 35 (12/17/1987 in Barranquilla, COL)

WC Average: .000 Home Runs:

WC: 0-2

- Went 0-for-2, 3 BB in 2 G of ALWC vs. TOR...career 0-for-10, RBI, 3 BB in 7 Postseason games.
Never faced Verlander in RS or PS...hit .389 (7-for-18), 2 2B, 5 RBI, 3 BB, 2 R in 6 games vs. HOU in 2023 RS...career .391 (9-for-23), 4 2B, 5 RBI, 2 BB, 2 R in 7 RS games at Minute Maid.
Ranked 2nd on MIN in multi-H games in 2023 RS...4-for-4, 2B, BB 9/26 vs. OAK; matched single-game career highs in H and by reaching base 5x...15 HBP in 2023 were career high... hit .313 (46-for-147), 6 2B, 3B, HR, 15 RBI, 7 HBP, 7 BB, 17 R, .373 OBP, .760 OPS in his final 42 RS games.
Averaged a career-high 4.01 pitches/PA (previous most was 3.96 in 2019 w/ SF)...had career-high 40 BB in 450 PA & career-best 11.25 PA/BB (previous was 13.76 in 2021 w/ SF).

ANDREW STEVENSON - OF #45

Height: 5-11 Weight: 191 B/T: L/L Age: 29 (6/1/1994 in Lafayette, LA)

WC Average: .000 Home Runs:

WC: 0-0

- Did not play in ALWC vs. TOR...R in 1 career Postseason game, 10/1/19 vs. MIL w/ WAS.
Never faced Verlander...career 1-for-2, 2B, BB, R in 2 G vs. HOU in RS, both 8/23-24/17 at HOU.
Contract selected by MIN from AAA StP 9/1 (Miranda - 60-day IL)...played in 106 G for the Saints this season, hitting .317 (132-for-416), 23 2B, 7 3B, 16 HR, 57 RBI, 91 R, 42 BB, 44 SB (49 attempts), .395 OBP, .522 SLG, .916 OPS.
Appeared in 25 G for MIN, mainly as sub...had 4 SB & 4 R in those games.

MICHAEL A. TAYLOR - OF #2

Height: 6-4 Weight: 210 B/T: R/R Age: 32 (3/26/1991 in Fort Lauderdale, FL)

WC Average: .167 Home Runs:

WC: 1-6

- Went 1-for-6 in 2 games of ALWC vs. TOR...career .295 (13-for-44), 4 HR, 10 RBI, HBP, 4 BB, 7 R, .936 OPS in 18 Postseason G, including .310 (9-for-29, 2 HR, 8 RBI, 4 BB, 4 R in 12 G in DS.
Never faced Verlander in RS or PS...hit .211 (4-for-19), 2 2B, 2 RBI, 3 BB, 2 R in 6 games vs. HOU in RS.
HR on 9/29 traveled 468 ft, longest HR by MIN hitter this season...21 HR this season set career high...4th on MIN in games played (129) in 2023...13 SB this season, 2nd on MIN (Castro - 33).

CHRISTIAN VÁZQUEZ - C #8

Height: 5-9 Weight: 205 B/T: R/R Age: 33 (8/21/1990 in Bayamón, PR)

WC Average: .000 Home Runs:

WC: 0-0

- Hit .346 (9-for-26), 2 2B, 4 RBI, 2 BB, SB, 3 R in last 7 games of regular season...2-for-3, 2B, BB, SB, 2 R 9/20 at CIN; SB for 1st time since 6/11/22...2-for-2, HR, RBI, 2 BB, R 9/5 at CLE; hit go-ahead solo HR in 6th and matched single-game career high by reaching base 4x...threw out 2 runners attempting to steal 8/26 vs. TEX, tying career high for 10th time.
Career 0-for-5 vs. Verlander in RS...also 1-for-4 vs. Verlander in PS...went 4-for-10, 3 RBI, 2 BB, 2 R in 3 games vs. HOU in 2023 RS.
Career .250 (23-for-92), 2 2B, 2 HR, 11 RBI, 5 BB, 11 R in 31 Postseason G...2-time WS champ, w/ BOS and HOU...career .261 (6-for-23), 2B, HR, BB, 2 R in 10 PS games at Minute Maid.

MATT WALLNER - OF #38

Height: 6-5 Weight: 246 B/T: L/R Age: 25 (12/12/1997 in Forest Lake, MN)

WC Average: .000 Home Runs:

WC: 0-3, BB

- Went 0-for-3, BB, in 2 games of ALWC vs. TOR, 1st career Postseason games.
Never faced Verlander...1 career RS game vs. HOU, 4/9/23 at Target Field; went 0-for-2, HBP.
Hit .354 (17-for-48), 5 2B, 3 HR, 12 RBI, 8 BB, 11 R, .456 OBP, 1.102 OPS in last 17 G of regular season...career-best 11-game on-base streak 8/27-9/8...owns 2 longest grand slams by MIN in Statcast Era (2015-), 450 ft. on 8/15 and 463 ft. on 9/26.
Plunked 13x this season, T-4th among rookies & a MIN single-season rookie record...370 OBP ranked 5th among rookies (min. 200 PA)...average HR distance of 424 ft was 4th in MLB (min. 100 batted ball events)...averaging 97.9 mph on OF throws, 3rd highest in MLB since 2020 (min. 100 throws).

Table with columns: Player, vs. HOU 2023 REGULAR SEASON, 2023 POSTSEASON, POSTSEASON CAREER. Rows include Willi Castro, Carlos Correa, Kyle Farmer, Ryan Jeffers, Edouard Julien, Max Kepler, Alex Kirilloff, Royce Lewis, Jorge Polanco, Donovan Solano, Andrew Stevenson, Michael A. Taylor, Christian Vazquez, Matt Wallner.