



Now in fourth place, and losers of five straight, the Indians travel the west coast to Seattle to take on the Mariners in the final leg of their nine-game road trip. The season continues to spiral into the abyss as the Tribe has gone just 4-14 in the month of August and hasn't been competitive in most of those defeats. One would think that they might be able to have some measure of success against a similar foe in this series, but, their defeatist body language says otherwise.

Since the Tribe's emotional win over Justin Verlander on July 26, they've gone 4-18 and have been outscored by 79 runs in those 18 losses. Only two of the last 18 losses have been by one run. In that span, they've lost eight games in the Central Division to fall to 11.5 back. They have allowed 10 or more runs six times. It seems that apathy has set in from both the players and the fans.

The Mariners, on the other hand, have stayed scrappy under Eric Wedge, winning 22 of 35 since the All-Star break. They're riding a five-game winning streak, have won seven of their last eight, and have won 15 of 22. The Mariners have won 12 of their last 13 home games. Also in that stretch, Felix Hernandez threw a perfect game against the Tampa Bay Rays. It's amazing that the M's are 30-30 at home, given that their team OPS at Safeco Field is just .598.

It appears to be a bad mix for the Tribe that the Mariners have won 12 of 13 at home while the Indians have lost 14 of 15 on the road. We'll see if those trends continue this week as the Tribe and Mariners meet in Seattle. Here are the pitching matchups:

