



With the Indians looking up at two teams in the standings ahead of them instead of just one for the first time since April 22, numerous players are slumping at a bad time with a four-game series against the Tampa Bay Rays on the horizon. The Rays rank third in the American League in total team ERA. With a forgettable offensive weekend in Toronto behind them, the Indians will try to get back on the right track with their only trip to the Sunshine State this season.

The Indians sandwiched a nine-run explosion with two pathetic offensive performances, scoring just one run in their only win of the series on Friday night and getting blanked on Sunday in Toronto. The Rays lost a series at home to the Red Sox, managing just seven runs in those three games. Both teams enter the series with nearly identical records, the Rays having one more win and one more game played than the Indians who are 45-43. Both teams are third in their respective divisions, though the AL East is clearly tougher than the AL Central.

For the four-game set, every starter except Derek Lowe and James Shields will get some action this week. With both teams looking to rebound from disappointing second half starts, here are the probable pitching matchups:



