



After notching, by far, the biggest win of the season, the Indians head to Minnesota for a long 10-day, nine-game road trip that features two AL Central bottom feeders and a rematch with the Tigers in Detroit next weekend. The Twins series is an especially crucial one because they have to build off the momentum of beating Justin Verlander and taking two of three from the Tigers to stay firmly entrenched in the AL Central face. The Indians haven't faced the Twins since the first weekend in June, losing two of three at home to the worst team in the American League.

The Indians will try to finish the month of July strong, with a three-game weekend set in Minnesota and then the opening game of a three-game series in Kansas City. July has not been kind to the Indians, who have gone 11-11 and scored just 91 runs in those 22 games, two games accounting for 19 of those runs. The 11-11 record has been compounded by the Tigers going 14-6, putting the Indians three games back in the division, exactly where they were out of the All-Star break. Given how they've played, not losing any ground over the last two weeks is pretty fortunate. The only difference is that they have to leapfrog both Chicago and Detroit now.

The Tribe have won three of five against Minnesota this season, sweeping a two-game set at Target Field and dropping two of three at home in early June. The Twins are just 8-13 in July and are second-worst in the league with 19-30 record at home. It's been a rough season for the Twins, who don't have any household names outside of Joe Mauer and have allowed a league-worst 5.3 runs per game. They have, however, been respectable in the Central Division with a 16-18 record.

With the Indians in need of victories to keep pace, this is a must-win series for them. Here are the pitching matchups for the weekend:

