The precipitous fall is complete. The Indians, who were in first place on June 23, are now in last place. They were 37-33 after 70 games and are now 59-82 after losing three out of four to the Minnesota Twins to put themselves in a tie for the cellar in the American League Central Division. Over their last 71 games, the Indians are 22-49. Now, they head to Texas to open a three-game, mid-week series against the Rangers.

Texas, owners of the best record in the American League at 83-57, has the best run differential of any AL team at +114. Yet, as good as they've played, the Rangers are just 3.5 games ahead of the surprising Oakland A's in the AL West race. With the Indians awful road record of 27-45 and the Rangers best home record in the AL at 43-25, this doesn't look to be a very enjoyable series for the Tribe.

The two teams have split six low-scoring meetings this season, with all six games in Cleveland and just 48 combined runs. The Indians lost two of three in May, but won two of three during their last homestand. With the struggles of Tribe pitchers this season, a trip to the hitter-friendly confines of Arlington does not bode well for the final series of this road trip.

Here are the pitching matchups:

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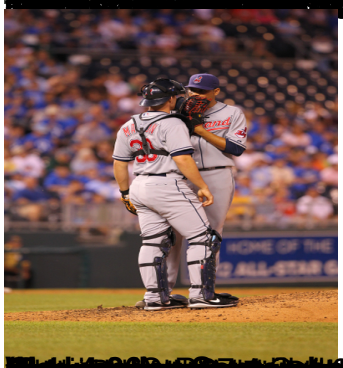

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