



NEW YORK YANKEES

93-68 • Series 0-1

VS



TAMPA BAY RAYS

98-64 • Series 1-0

DIVISION SERIES — GAME 2 • MONDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2026 • TROPICANA FIELD • 5:00 P.M. PT / 8:00 P.M. ET

RHP Cam Schlittler (14-6, 1.95) vs. RHP Freddy Peralta (10-11, 4.42)



HEAD-TO-HEAD INFO

2026 postseason

.....

0-1

All-time postseason

.....

2-4

2026 VS. TAMPA BAY RAYS

Date	H/A	W/L	Score	Rec.
4/10	TB	L	3-5	0-1
4/11	TB	L	4-5	0-2
4/12	TB	L	4-5	0-3
5/22	NY	L	2-4	0-4
5/24	NY	W	2-0	1-4
7/6	TB	W	5-1	2-4
7/7	TB	L	4-6	2-5
7/8	TB	L	0-3	2-6
7/9	TB	W	12-4	3-6
9/22	NY	L	1-6	3-7
9/22	NY	W	2-0	4-7
9/23	NY	W	9-2	5-7
9/24	NY	W	6-4	6-7

COOL STATS

Home fortress

TB 55-26 at home | 2026 REG | T-1st best in MLB

YANKEES Ace separator:

Schlittler 1.95 ERA | 2026 REG | 2nd best SP ERA in MLB

Bullpen gap

NY 3.13 vs Rays 3.99 | 2026 REG | 2nd vs 14th in MLB

Glove wall

TB +87 DRS | 2026 REG | 2nd best in MLB.

Challenge cost

Rays sit at -30.3 net runs vs expected on ABS challenges (7th worst in MLB); NY sit at +0.5

RAYS DeLuca's arm:

Jonny DeLuca's +13 OAA in right field ranks best among RF and 16th in MLB

YANKEES Framing edge:

Austin Wells' +6.6 framing runs rank 4th best in MLB; Ali Sanchez adds +6.1 (5th)

Yankees scoring streak

25 games, T-9th in MLB entering the Division Series

TONIGHT'S GAME

▶ ALDS Game 2 at Tropicana Field puts New York's MLB-best run prevention (3.24 team ERA, 1st best MLB) behind Cam Schlittler (1.95 ERA, 239 K, 193.2 IP) against a 98-64 Tampa Bay club that led MLB in team AVG (.258) and went 55-26 at home, with the Yankees trailing the series 0-1.

▶ Does Tampa Bay's contact-and-defense identity (169 HR, +87 DRS, 2nd best MLB) hold at the Trop against Schlittler's .216 opponent AVG versus these Rays in 2026 - and can a Yankees order with a 9.5% barrel rate (1st best MLB) get to a 53.0% four-seam from Freddy Peralta that has allowed a .435 opponent SLG?

▶ **ACE-LED ROTATION:** Yankees — New York starters posted a **3.30 ERA (1st best in MLB)**, fronted by Cam Schlittler's 1.95 ERA,.185 opponent AVG and 239 strikeouts (T-3rd best in MLB).

▶ **RUN PREVENTION:** Yankees — A **3.24 team ERA (1st best MLB)**, 1.174 WHIP (3rd best MLB), 9.1 K/9 (6th best MLB) and 3.0 BB/9 (4th best MLB), with +26 DRS and +12.7 framing runs (2nd best MLB) behind them.

GAME KEYS

▶ **PERALTA FOUR-SEAM VS RICE:** 1.263 OPS vs four-seamers (3rd best MLB)

▶ **PERALTA CHANGEUP VS BELLINGER:** .421 OPS vs changeups

▶ **SCHLITTLER FOUR-SEAM VS CAMINERO:** 1.038 OPS vs four-seamers

▶ **SCHLITTLER CUTTER VS DELUCA:** 1.119 OPS vs cutters

ALL THINGS TO WATCH

▶ **FOUR-SEAM COLLISION:** Ben Rice carries a 1.263 OPS versus four-seamers league-wide (3rd best MLB, 143 PA) into Peralta's 53.0% four-seam usage, a pitch that produced a .265 opponent AVG and .435 opponent SLG against this season.

▶ **CAMINERO'S HEATER WINDOW:** Junior Caminero owns a 1.038 OPS versus four-seamers league-wide (136 PA) and is 4-for-14 with a home run in 14 career PA against Schlittler, whose primary is a 98.0 mph four-seam at 44.5% usage.

▶ **CUTTER LANE FOR THE RAYS:** Jonny DeLuca sits at 1.119 OPS versus cutters league-wide (31 PA) and Taylor Walls at .935 (43 PA) against Schlittler's cutter, thrown 25.6% of the time at 94.6 mph.

▶ **BENDER AGAINST THE FASTEST BAT:** Caminero swings early on 67.8% of curveballs (87 swings) with a .583 OPS versus curveballs league-wide, while Schlittler's curveball is the only pitch in his mix above a 40% whiff rate (44.2%) and grew from 6.9% to 13.1% usage from the first half to the second.

MATCHUP NOTES

▶ **NEW YORK YANKEES (NYY):** The Yankees rode the majors' best run-prevention staff to a 93-68 finish, but trail this ALDS 0-1 entering Game 2 at Tropicana Field

▶ **IMPROVING - ROTATION IS THE WHOLE BET:** Yankees — The 3.30 starter ERA (1st best MLB) carried the club all year; Schlittler (1.95 ERA) gives them the ace start they need to level the series.

▶ **HOME FORTRESS:** Tampa Bay went 55-26 at home during the 2026 regular season (through October 4, 2026), a .679 clip tied with Milwaukee for the best home record in MLB.

UMPIRE CREW	
HP	Jeremie Rehak
1B	Dan Bellino
2B	Ben May
K%	28.2% +0.5 vs lg (pitcher)
BB%	11.1% -1.8 vs lg (pitcher)
Runs/G ame	10.0 +1.1 vs lg (hitter)
Zone	Near league average.

CONTENTS

Page numbers match the footer PAGE row. Tap a line to jump to that sheet.

TEAM IDENTITIES	3	YANKEES – SCHLITTLER STARTING PITCHER	4
YANKEES BULLPEN INFORMATION	5	YANKEES BATTERS INFORMATION	7
RAYS – PERALTA STARTING PITCHER	9	RAYS BULLPEN INFORMATION	10
RAYS BATTERS INFORMATION	12	BATTER-PITCHER MATCHUPS	14
BETTING LINES & MARKET STORYLINES	15		

TEAM IDENTITIES

YANKEES

2026 REG · 93-68 · Streak: W1 · L10: 5-5

WHAT'S WORKING

- ▶ **Ace-led rotation:** New York starters posted a **3.30 ERA (1st best in MLB)**, fronted by Cam Schlitler's 1.95 ERA,.185 opponent AVG and 239 strikeouts (T-3rd best in MLB).
- ▶ **Run prevention:** A **3.24 team ERA (1st best MLB)**, 1.174 WHIP (3rd best MLB), 9.1 K/9 (6th best MLB) and 3.0 BB/9 (4th best MLB), with +26 DRS and +12.7 framing runs (2nd best MLB) behind them.
- ▶ **Bullpen:** A **3.13 relief ERA (2nd best MLB)** posted on a 0.99 HR/9 - the deepest relief unit in this series.
- ▶ **Impact contact:** 223 home runs and a **9.5% barrel rate (1st best in MLB)** on a team .319 xwOBA (8th best MLB).

WHAT'S NOT

- ▶ **Empty average:** A **.235 AVG (5th worst MLB)** and **.311 OBP (7th worst MLB)** - an order that hits for power but not for average.
- ▶ **Two-strike black hole:** A **.153 AVG with two strikes (2nd worst MLB)** and **.131 AVG in 1-2 counts (1st worst MLB)**.
- ▶ **Road bats:** **.231 AVG (6th worst MLB)** and a .688 OPS away from Yankee Stadium, versus .755 at home.
- ▶ **Close-game trouble:** 17-22 in one-run games and 4-11 in extra-inning games during the 2026 regular season.

TRENDS

- ▶ **Improving - Contact trim:** The L30 strikeout rate fell to 19.7%, well under the 24.7% season mark, as the order trended toward more balls in play.
- ▶ **Declining - Last-10 dip:** A .678 OPS over the final 10 regular-season games is the softest of the four windows and .042 under the season figure.
- ▶ **Stable - Traffic competence:** .757 OPS with runners in scoring position and .727 with RISP and two outs across the season.

AVAILABILITY

- ▶ **Clarke Schmidt (RHP):** 15-day IL, retroactive to September 21, 2026 - right bicep neuritis (placed September 24, 2026).
- ▶ **Fernando Cruz (RHP):** 15-day IL - right elbow discomfort (placed August 26, 2026).
- ▶ **Kervin Castro (RHP):** 15-day IL, retroactive to August 10, 2026 - right elbow neuritis (placed August 11, 2026).

MATCHUP STAKES

- ▶ **One-hit opener:** New York managed a single hit in the ALDS opener (a 1-0 loss on October 3, 2026) after scoring 18 runs in a two-game wild-card sweep of Boston - the same order that carried a 28-game scoring streak (T-9th in MLB) into October.
- ▶ **Ace October résumé:** Cam Schlitler owns a career **1.29 postseason ERA over 14.0 innings with 14 strikeouts and 0 walks**, and he threw 6 1/3 shutout innings with 10 strikeouts in the wild-card opener.
- ▶ **Career October marks in reach:** Cody Bellinger is at **298 career postseason PA (2 from 300)**, Paul Goldschmidt has **8 postseason HR (2 from 10)** and Giancarlo Stanton has **18 (2 from 20)**.

CLUBHOUSE

- ▶ **October without the MVP:** The Yankees have reached the ALDS without three-time AL MVP Aaron Judge, sidelined since September 16, 2026 by a calf injury, and they swept Boston without him in the lineup.
- ▶ **Boone backs his ace:** The manager made clear where the ball goes in a game New York cannot afford to drop.

QUOTES

- ▶ "Always thrilled when we hand the ball to Cam. Hopefully we can put some points on the board to support him, come out of here with a split and head back home." - Aaron Boone · Heavy Sports · October 4, 2026
- ▶ "I feel like to the eye, his stuff seems really crisp to me, that's both the split, his four seamer... that fastball-split combo has been really sharp for a while." - Aaron Boone

MANAGER & COACHING	
Name	Role
Brad Ausmus	Bench Coach
James Rowson	Hitting Coach
Matt Blake	Pitching Coach

FRONT OFFICE	
Name	Title
Brian Cashman	Senior Vice President, General Manager

RAYS

2026 REG · 98-64 · Streak: L1 · L10: 5-5

WHAT'S WORKING

- ▶ **Contact-first offense:** Tampa Bay hit **.258 as a team (1st best MLB)** and reached base at a **.326 clip (5th best MLB)**, a contact-over-power identity that produced 736 runs with a modest 169 HR and an 18.8% strikeout rate.
- ▶ **Home fortress:** The Rays went **55-26 (.679) at Tropicana Field** - tied with Milwaukee for the best home record in MLB and a franchise record for home wins.
- ▶ **Rotation command:** A **3.51 starter ERA (3rd best MLB)** and a team **2.6 BB/9 (1st best MLB)** paced a **3.71 team ERA (7th best)** and 1.139 WHIP (1st best MLB).
- ▶ **Elite defense:** **+87 DRS (2nd best MLB)** with **+5.3 framing runs (7th best MLB)** - the run-prevention backbone behind the staff.

WHAT'S NOT

- ▶ **Power outage:** A **5.7% barrel rate (2nd worst MLB)** and **.304 xwOBA (3rd worst MLB)** behind 169 HR - the **.728 OPS (8th best MLB)** is built on contact, not thump.
- ▶ **Bullpen long ball:** A **3.99 bullpen ERA (14th)** with **1.35 HR/9 (3rd worst MLB)**; the pen suppresses walks (3.13 BB/9, 3rd best MLB) but pays on homers.
- ▶ **Save trouble:** 58 saves against **20 blown saves**, with the relief ERA 12 spots behind New York's 3.13 mark.
- ▶ **Stretch-run chill:** Over the last 10 games the lineup managed an **.627 OPS and 3.8 runs/game**, down from the .728 season OPS.

TRENDS

- ▶ **Improving - DeLuca:** 1.068 OPS over the last 14 days (29 PA) against a .728 season OPS, riding a 5-game hit streak (T-8th best of 345 in MLB).
- ▶ **Declining - Offense:** The last 10 games produced a .627 OPS, 3.8 runs/game and 7 HR, well under the season clip.
- ▶ **Stable - Caminero:** A .885 season OPS with 42 HR and 101 RBI, though the last 14 days sit at .697 (25 PA).

MATCHUP STAKES

- ▶ **Game 1 in the pocket:** Drew Rasmussen carried a no-hitter into the eighth and Jonathan Aranda homered in the third inning for a **1-0 win on October 3 at Tropicana Field**, a sellout crowd of 40,542.
- ▶ **October skid snapped:** The Game 1 win ended a seven-game postseason losing streak for a franchise back in October for the first time since 2023.
- ▶ **Schlittler's book on this order:** Cam Schlitler held Tampa Bay to a **.216 AVG (22-for-102)** with 34 strikeouts and 9 walks over 111 plate appearances in 2026 REG.

CLUBHOUSE

- ▶ **One-year turnaround:** A 77-85 finish in 2025 became 98-64 and the AL's top seed in the first season under new ownership (co-chairs Patrick Zalupski and Bill Cosgrove, CEO Ken Babby).
- ▶ **Caminero's chase:** He carries **94 career REG HR - 6 from 100** - sitting 10th on the franchise career list, with Fred McGriff's 99 next.
- ▶ **Home dominance is the edge:** The majors' best home record (55-26) puts Game 2 in the park where the Rays outscored opponents and posted a .745 home OPS.
- ▶ **Contact identity vs. Schlittler's heat:** The **.258 team AVG (1st best MLB)** meets a starter whose 98.0 mph four-seamer carries a 44.5% usage and a .163 Opp AVG.

QUOTES

- ▶ "Close games are everything. You can't walk guys, and you've got to secure the baseball.
- ▶ "Everything changed when I got traded. I've been treated here as a king, and I feel really good about it." - Freddy Peralta · Tampa Bay Times · October 4, 2026

FRONT OFFICE	
Name	Title
Erik Neander	President, Baseball Operations
Name	Role



CAM SCHLITTLER RHP

2026 RECORD: 14-6, 1.95 ERA

Height/Weight: 6-6 / 225 | Bats/Throws: R/R | Hometown: Walpole, MA | College: Northeastern University | Age: 25 | MLB Debut: 2025-07-09

#31

SCHLITTLER'S SPLITS BY MONTH – 2026				
Month	ERA	BAA	OPS	GS
June	3.38	.250	.804	6
July	1.93	.164	.476	5
August	2.33	.200	.621	5
September	1.20	.119	.382	5

THE NINETY-EIGHT: His engine is a four-seamer that averaged 98.0 mph, and even as he cut its usage to 44.5% it got harder to hit: a 34.8% whiff rate and .163 opponent AVG / .263 opponent SLG against. The fastball's whiff rate climbed from 27.9% (2025) to 34.8% (2026) while opponent OPS against it fell from .576 to .488. The cutter (25.6%, 94.6 mph) and sinker (19.3%, 97.8 mph) round out the mix behind it.

OCTOBER RESUME: He carries a small but loud October résumé into tonight: two career postseason starts, a 1.29 ERA across 14.0 innings with 14 strikeouts and 0 walks. The signature was a 6⅓-inning, two-hit, 10-strikeout shutout of Boston on Sept 29, 2026 in the Wild Card round. He is a 2026 All-Star.

BEHIND IN THE COUNT: The count shapes his strike zone. He fills it on 0-0 (Zone% 52.2%, 760 pitches) and pounds it when behind (57.9%, 463 pitches), but that crashes to 36.1% when he is ahead (947 pitches) - he expands off the plate once he is in control. The curveball is his only pitch above a 40% whiff (44.2%), and it grew as the year went: usage 6.9% → 13.1% first half to second half, velo 84.9 → 87.1 mph.

SEPTEMBER SIGNAL: He finished the regular season at his best - a 1.20 ERA over 30.0 September innings with a .119 opponent AVG and .382 opponent OPS. That steadied a season that started hot (0.00 March, 1.73 April ERA) and sagged in June (3.38) before tightening through the summer. His opponent AVG over the last 30 days is .133.

THE RAYS HE KNOWS: This is a familiar foe: 5 career starts against Tampa Bay for a 2.67 ERA and 34 strikeouts, three of them in 2026 for a 2.81 ERA. The Rays who have seen him most: Yandy Díaz is 2-for-13 (15 PA), Jonathan Aranda is 1-for-8 with 6 K (9 PA), and Junior Caminero is 4-for-14 with a home run (14 PA).

"YANKEE FOREVER": Drafted by the organization and unafraid to say he wants to stay, Schlittler has become a fan favorite fronting a young Yankees core. "The goal is to be a Yankee forever when you get drafted by them," he said. He also shrugged off the road setting at the Trop: "I expect there to be a lot of Yankees fans.

WATCH ITEM: Caminero's heater window: Junior Caminero - the lineup's top power bat (.885 OPS, 42 HR) and the fastest qualified bat in MLB (79.4 mph) - owns a 1.038 league-wide OPS vs four-seamers (136 PA), aimed straight at Schlittler's 44.5%-usage, 98.0 mph primary.

SCHLITTLER PITCH ARSENAL / STATCAST INFO (2026)				
Pitch Type	Usage %	Avg Velo	BAA	SO
Four-Seamer	44.5%	98.0 mph	.163	126
Cutter	25.6%	94.6 mph	.213	49
Sinker	19.3%	97.8 mph	.179	41
Curveball	9.8%	86.3 mph	.250	21
Slider	90.0%	89.6 mph	.000	1

SCHLITTLER VS. TAMPA BAY RAYS (CAREER)
Last Win: 7/6/26 at TB Last Loss: 4/12/26 at TB

	W-L	ERA	G/GS	IP	H	ER	BB	SO
Career	1-2	2.67	5/5	27.0	22	8	9	34
7/28/25	0-1	6.23	1/1	4.1	7	3	4	5
8/20/25	0-0	0.00	1/1	6.2	1	0	2	8
4/12/26	0-1	5.40	1/1	5.0	7	3	1	8

SCHLITTLER SEASON SNAPSHOT	
Split	2026
vs LHB	.188
vs RHB	.181
WHIP	0.92
IP	193.2
SO	239

SCHLITTLER SINGLE-GAME BESTS, HIGHS & STREAKS		
Category	2026 Season	Career
Win Streak	3 games, 4/23-5/4	3 games, 4/23-5/4
Loss Streak	2 games, 6/25-6/30	2g (2x), last: 6/25-6/30
Strikeouts	13, 6/19 vs. CIN	13, 6/19 vs. CIN
10+ K Games	4, last: 9/8 vs. COL (10)	4, last: 9/8 vs. COL (10)
Scoreless Streak	11.2, 3/27-4/1	18.2, 9/27-4/1
IP	8.0 (3x), last: 4/23 at BOS	8.0 (3x), last: 4/23 at BOS
High Hits	8, 5/20 vs. TOR	8, 5/20 vs. TOR
High Runs	6, 6/30 vs. DET	6, 6/30 vs. DET
High ER	6, 6/30 vs. DET	6, 6/30 vs. DET
High HR	4, 6/30 vs. DET	4, 6/30 vs. DET
High Walks	5 (2x), last: 8/3 vs. STL	5 (3x), last: 9/16 at MIN
Complete Games	—	—
Shutouts	—	—

2026 GAME-BY-GAME (AUG-)										
Date	Opp.	Dec	Result	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	HR
8/3	vs. STL	—	L, 7-13	3.0	4	4	4	5	6	1
8/9	vs. ATL	—	L, 1-2	7.0	3	1	1	0	11	1
8/15	at TOR	—	L, 1-4	5.1	4	1	1	3	7	0
8/21	vs. TOR	W	W, 3-1	6.0	6	1	1	3	4	0
8/28	vs. BOS	W	W, 1-0	5.2	2	0	0	5	8	0
August Totals		2-0	2.33	27.0	19	7	7	16	36	2
9/2	at LAA	—	W, 6-3	8.0	2	1	1	0	9	1
9/8	vs. COL	W	W, 5-3	7.0	3	1	1	0	10	1
9/13	vs. NYM	W	W, 2-0	6.0	1	0	0	2	8	0
9/19	at AZ	—	L, 3-5	6.0	3	3	1	3	6	0
9/24	vs. TB	—	W, 6-4	3.0	3	2	1	2	5	0
September Totals		2-0	1.20	30.0	12	7	4	7	38	2
Starter		4-0	1.74	57.0	31	14	11	23	74	4
Season		14-6		193.2						

YORROW'S START

BRENDAN BECK RHP

2026: 0-2, 9.95 ERA

► Last start 9/25 vs. BAL: 5.0 IP, 6 H, 7 ER, 8 K/ 3 BB on 97 pitches. ► 2026: 2 GS, 12.2 IP, 13 K/ 8 BB, 6 HR allowed.

YANKEES BULLPEN INFORMATION

YANKEES MONTHLY BULLPEN BREAKDOWN

MARCH/APRIL		MAY		JUNE		JULY		AUGUST		SEPTEMBER	
Record	7-4	Record	6-5	Record	6-2	Record	8-4	Record	9-5	Record	5-4
ERA	3.79	ERA	3.40	ERA	2.39	ERA	2.27	ERA	3.67	ERA	3.42
ERA Rank	11th	ERA Rank	13th	ERA Rank	2nd	ERA Rank	2nd	ERA Rank	11th	ERA Rank	6th
Sv/Sv Opp	8/10	Sv/Sv Opp	5/7	Sv/Sv Opp	6/8	Sv/Sv Opp	10/16	Sv/Sv Opp	10/12	Sv/Sv Opp	5/6
Strikeouts	93	Strikeouts	88	Strikeouts	94	Strikeouts	98	Strikeouts	98	Strikeouts	71
Walks	37	Walks	38	Walks	28	Walks	46	Walks	35	Walks	34
HR Allowed	10	HR Allowed	10	HR Allowed	6	HR Allowed	10	HR Allowed	14	HR Allowed	13
BAA	.253	BAA	.233	BAA	.198	BAA	.199	BAA	.230	BAA	.245



#53 DAVID BEDNAR
▶ RHP

Games: 64 | Saves/Opp: 35/39 | Holds: 0 | IR/RS: 19/3
vs ALL: .205 (52-254) | vs LHB: .186 (26-140) | vs RHB: .228 (26-114)
Pitch Arsenal: FS 41.2% (90.8 mph), 4SM 40.6% (96.1 mph), CB 18.2% (77.0 mph)
Last Game: 9/30 at NYY; 1.0ip, k (22 pitches)

- ▶ **Ninth-inning volume:** 35/39 in save chances — the convert/blown split that frames every late-inning call for him.
- ▶ **Platoon tell:** vs LHB .186 (26-140) against vs RHB .228 (26-114) — the hand edge managers weigh before the phone rings.
- ▶ **Mess cleanup:** 19/3 inherited runners have scored — every mid-inning call is a traffic bet on whether he strands messes he did not create.
- ▶ **Out-pitch look:** FS 41.2% (90.8 mph) is what hitters see most — the shape that defines his late-inning identity.
- ▶ **Workload stripe:** 64 relief appearances this season — the volume that tells you whether he is a nightly option or a spot-use arm.
- ▶ **Most recent look:** 9/30 at NYY — the last live read before tonight's phone rings.



#58 PAUL BLACKBURN
▶ RHP

Games: 62 | Saves/Opp: 1/5 | Holds: 11 | IR/RS: 27/11
vs ALL: .195 (57-292) | vs LHB: .195 (30-154) | vs RHB: .196 (29-148)
Pitch Arsenal: SK 34.0% (94.3 mph), CH 21.4% (87.5 mph), CT 19.6% (91.8 mph), CB 14.5% (81.1 mph)
Last Game: 10/3 at TB; 1.2ip (25 pitches)

- ▶ **Ninth-inning volume:** 1/5 in save chances — the convert/blown split that frames every late-inning call for him.
- ▶ **Platoon tell:** vs LHB .195 (30-154) against vs RHB .196 (29-148) — the hand edge managers weigh before the phone rings.
- ▶ **Mess cleanup:** 27/11 inherited runners have scored — every mid-inning call is a traffic bet on whether he strands messes he did not create.
- ▶ **Out-pitch look:** SK 34.0% (94.3 mph) is what hitters see most — the shape that defines his late-inning identity.
- ▶ **Workload stripe:** 62 relief appearances this season — the volume that tells you whether he is a nightly option or a spot-use arm.



#47 BRENT HEADRICK
▶ LHP

Games: 81 | Saves/Opp: 0/2 | Holds: 29 | IR/RS: 54/8
vs ALL: .231 (68-294) | vs LHB: .260 (27-104) | vs RHB: .216 (41-190)
Pitch Arsenal: 4SM 48.6% (94.1 mph), SL 30.0% (84.3 mph), FS 12.6% (84.7 mph), SK 8.7% (93.4 mph)
Last Game: 10/3 at TB; 0.1ip (12 pitches)

- ▶ **Ninth-inning volume:** 0/2 in save chances — the convert/blown split that frames every late-inning call for him.
- ▶ **Platoon tell:** vs LHB .260 (27-104) against vs RHB .216 (41-190) — the hand edge managers weigh before the phone rings.
- ▶ **Mess cleanup:** 54/8 inherited runners have scored — every mid-inning call is a traffic bet on whether he strands messes he did not create.
- ▶ **Out-pitch look:** 4SM 48.6% (94.1 mph) is what hitters see most — the shape that defines his late-inning identity.
- ▶ **Workload stripe:** 81 relief appearances this season — the volume that tells you whether he is a nightly option or a spot-use arm.



#40 RYAN WEATHERS
▶ LHP

Games: 25 | Saves/Opp: 0 | Holds: 0 | IR/RS: 0/0
vs ALL: .249 (130-523) | vs LHB: .276 (35-127) | vs RHB: .240 (95-396)
Pitch Arsenal: CH 25.3% (85.7 mph), 4SM 22.2% (95.8 mph), SK 20.8% (94.1 mph), SW 20.1% (81.2 mph)
Last Game: 10/3 at TB; 1.0ip (9 pitches)

- ▶ **Platoon tell:** vs LHB .276 (35-127) against vs RHB .240 (95-396) — the hand edge managers weigh before the phone rings.
- ▶ **Out-pitch look:** CH 25.3% (85.7 mph) is what hitters see most — the shape that defines his late-inning identity.
- ▶ **Workload stripe:** 25 relief appearances this season — the volume that tells you whether he is a nightly option or a spot-use arm.
- ▶ **Most recent look:** 10/3 at TB — the last live read before tonight's phone rings.
- ▶ **PATH:** born in **Loretto, TN**; prep at **Loretto HS (TN)**; **2018** draft (Rd 1).



#29 WILL WARREN

RHP

Games: 32 | Saves/Opp: 0 | Holds: 1 | IR/RS: 1/0
vs ALL: .160 (4-25) | vs LHB: .276 (94-341) | vs RHB: .242 (65-269)
Pitch Arsenal: 4SM 35.4% (93.7 mph), SK 24.7% (93.3 mph), SW 20.1% (83.9 mph), CH 13.8% (87.3 mph)
Last Game: 9/30 at NYY; 1.2ip, 1h, k (19 pitches)

- ▶ **Platoon tell:** vs LHB .276 (94-341) against vs RHB .242 (65-269) – the hand edge managers weigh before the phone rings.
- ▶ **Mess cleanup:** 1/0 inherited runners have scored – every mid-inning call is a traffic bet on whether he strands messes he did not create.
- ▶ **Out-pitch look:** 4SM 35.4% (93.7 mph) is what hitters see most – the shape that defines his late-inning identity.
- ▶ **Workload stripe:** 32 relief appearances this season – the volume that tells you whether he is a nightly option or a spot-use arm.
- ▶ **Most recent look:** 9/30 at NYY – the last live read before tonight's phone rings.



#33 RYAN YARBROUGH

LHP

Games: 38 | Saves/Opp: 3/3 | Holds: 2 | IR/RS: 18/6
vs ALL: .220 (48-218) | vs LHB: .170 (15-88) | vs RHB: .258 (39-151)
Pitch Arsenal: CT 28.7% (84.9 mph), CH 22.7% (77.7 mph), SW 19.8% (71.7 mph), 4SM 15.6% (87.3 mph)
Last Game: 9/22 vs TB; 1.0ip, 2h, k (23 pitches)

- ▶ **Ninth-inning volume:** 3/3 in save chances – the convert/blown split that frames every late-inning call for him.
- ▶ **Platoon tell:** vs LHB .170 (15-88) against vs RHB .258 (39-151) – the hand edge managers weigh before the phone rings.
- ▶ **Mess cleanup:** 18/6 inherited runners have scored – every mid-inning call is a traffic bet on whether he strands messes he did not create.
- ▶ **Out-pitch look:** CT 28.7% (84.9 mph) is what hitters see most – the shape that defines his late-inning identity.
- ▶ **Workload stripe:** 38 relief appearances this season – the volume that tells you whether he is a nightly option or a spot-use arm.

#56 JOHN SCHREIBER ▶ RHP

Games: 66 | Saves/Opp: 2/5 | Holds: 14 | IR/RS: 29/9
vs ALL: .227 (49-216) | vs LHB: .310 (31-100) | vs RHB: .155 (18-116)
Pitch Arsenal: 4SM 28.0% (93.8 mph), SW 27.1% (82.4 mph), SK 25.8% (93.3 mph), CT 12.6% (89.6 mph)
Last Game: 9/29 at NYY; 1.0ip, k (11 pitches)

- ▶ **Ninth-inning volume:** 2/5 in save chances – the convert/blown split that frames every late-inning call for him.
- ▶ **Platoon tell:** vs LHB .310 (31-100) against vs RHB .155 (18-116) – the hand edge managers weigh before the phone rings.
- ▶ **Mess cleanup:** 29/9 inherited runners have scored – every mid-inning call is a traffic bet on whether he strands messes he did not create.
- ▶ **Out-pitch look:** 4SM 28.0% (93.8 mph) is what hitters see most – the shape that defines his late-inning identity.
- ▶ **Workload stripe:** 66 relief appearances this season – the volume that tells you whether he is a nightly option or a spot-use arm.

YANKEES BULLPEN PITCHES THROWN - LAST 5 DAYS						
Pitcher	Wed 9/30	Thu 10/1	Fri 10/2	Sat 10/3	Sun 10/4	
David Bednar	22	–	–	–	–	–
Brent Headrick	3	–	–	12	–	–
Paul Blackburn	–	–	–	25	–	–
Ryan Weathers	–	–	–	9	–	–
Will Warren	19	–	–	–	–	–

YANKEES BATTERS INFORMATION



#22 BEN RICE ▶ 1B

Last Game: 0x3, 1 bb, 2 k Hit Streak: -1(0x3)
vs. LHP: .246, 11 HR | vs. RHP: .273, 30 HR | w/RISP: .273, 8 HR, 55 RBI
Last Series (BAL): 3x8, 1r, bb, 4k (2g) Last HR: 9/29 vs BOS
Last Home Form: 7x22, 5r, 2hr, 2rbi, 4bb, 9k (6g)

- ▶ **HEATER COLLISION:** Rice owns a **1.263 OPS vs four-seamers league-wide (3rd best MLB, 143 PA)** - and that is exactly what Freddy Peralta lives on, a 53.0% four-seam usage that produced a .265 opponent AVG and .435 opponent SLG (.787 opp OPS) against it this season.
- ▶ **SEPTEMBER SURGE:** He hit .333 AVG / .450 OBP / .605 SLG with 6 HR over 22 games in September, capping a season at .897 OPS (5th best MLB) and 41 HR (T-6th MLB) - eight more homers than his first two big-league seasons combined.
- ▶ **CHANGEUP ANSWER:** Peralta's bat-misser is the changeup (23.4% usage, 28.9% whiff), but Rice handles it league-wide - **.828 OPS (76 PA)** - so the pitch that sinks other Yankees is not his hole.
- ▶ **AHEAD-OR-BEHIND SWING:** He is a different hitter in front of the count - **1.384 OPS ahead (263 PA)** versus **.612 with two strikes (340 PA)** - and the aggression is up, chase climbing from 21.3% (2025) to **24.5%** this season.



#78 SPENCER JONES ▶ IF/OF

Last Game: 0x3, 2 k Hit Streak: -1(0x3)
vs. LHP: .389, 3 HR | vs. RHP: .208, 8 HR | w/RISP: .340, 3 HR, 28 RBI
Last Series (BAL): 2x8, 2r, rbi, 3k (2g) Last HR: 9/20 vs AZ
Last Home Form: 4x19, 3r, rbi, bb, 7k, sb (5g)

- ▶ **CAREER-YEAR LEAP:** His 30 HR and 92 RBI are career highs - he had never topped 18 HR or 70 RBI (both 2024) in seven seasons - and his OPS climbed from .762 (2024) and .701 (2025) to .830, lifting his bWAR from 0.4 to 2.8.
- ▶ **TWO SEASONS IN ONE:** Acquired from Washington on Aug 2, 2026 in a four-pitcher deal, he was a different hitter in each uniform -.283 AVG / .560 SLG / .873 OPS with 23 HR in 104 games for the Nationals, then .264 AVG / .434 SLG / .736 OPS with 7 HR in 43 games after the trade.
- ▶ **CURVEBALL COLLISION:** He owns a 1.059 OPS against curveballs league-wide (46 PA, 9th-best league-wide) and 1.030 against cutters (33 PA) - aimed straight at Peralta's curveball, the ace's swing-and-miss pitch off a .091 opponent BA and 42.9% whiff.
- ▶ **RIGHT-SIDE DAMAGE:** He punishes right-handed pitching to a .865 OPS (434 AB, 27 HR) and drops to .653 against lefties (82 AB) - and he draws the right-handed Peralta.



#28 AUSTIN WELLS ▶ C

Last Game: 1x3, 1 2b, 1 k Hit Streak: 3 (4x9)
vs. LHP: .122, 3 HR | vs. RHP: .209, 11 HR | w/RISP: .163, 1 HR, 16 RBI
Last Series (BAL): 0x2, 1r, 2bb, k (1g) Last HR: 9/24 vs TB
Last Home Form: 1x6, 3r, hr, rbi, 4bb, 2k, sb (3g)

- ▶ **SPLIT PERSONALITY VS SPIN:** Wells destroys cutters league-wide (1.359 OPS, 30 PA, 8th best in MLB) but is helpless against sliders -.294 OPS over 53 PA, 10th worst in the league - a hitter whose value swings hard on which breaking look he sees.
- ▶ **THE GLOVE IS THE SEPARATOR:** Wells graded **+6.6 framing runs (4th best in MLB)** with a 1.97s pop time to second, anchoring a Yankees staff that finished +12.7 framing runs (2nd best MLB).
- ▶ **Hand edge:** vs LHP .122, 3 HR against vs RHP .209, 11 HR - the platoon read that shapes how he lines up vs tonight's starter.
- ▶ **Traffic bat:** .163, 1 HR, 16 RBI with runners in scoring position - the RBI engine (or drain) behind his season total.



#35 CODY BELLINGER ▶ OF

Last Game: 0x4, 2 k Hit Streak: -1(0x4)
vs. LHP: .274, 5 HR | vs. RHP: .259, 12 HR | w/RISP: .340, 4 HR, 52 RBI
Last Series (BAL): 0x4, 2k (1g) Last HR: 9/30 vs BOS
Last Home Form: 1x15, 1r, hr, 2rbi, bb, 3k (4g)

- ▶ **BREAKER LOOK:** The one Yankee with a book on Peralta, Bellinger punishes sliders and has never looked overmatched against him.
- ▶ **Hand edge:** vs LHP .274, 5 HR against vs RHP .259, 12 HR - the platoon read that shapes how he lines up vs tonight's starter.
- ▶ **Traffic bat:** .340, 4 HR, 52 RBI with runners in scoring position - the RBI engine (or drain) behind his season total.
- ▶ **Cold carry:** -1(0x4) - the form hole he walks into tonight's order still trying to snap.



#12 TRENT GRISHAM ▶ CF

Last Game: 0x3, 2 k Hit Streak: -1(0x3)
vs. LHP: .233, 3 HR | vs. RHP: .201, 15 HR | w/RISP: .213, 4 HR, 41 RBI
Season: .211, 18 HR, 59 RBI Last HR: 8/23 vs TOR
Last Home Form: -

- ▶ **POWER CARRIES THE LINE:** He has slugged .395 with 18 home runs on a .211 average, backed by a 9.6% barrel rate and 45.3% hard-hit rate at 90.6 mph average exit velocity - the impact is real even though the hit tool is not.
- ▶ **BEHIND-IN-COUNT FADE:** When pitchers get ahead, Grisham is a .130 AVG / .350 OPS hitter (109 PA); the 1-0 count is worse -.121 AVG / .333 OPS (34 PA) - the quietest stretches in a season full of empty at-bats.
- ▶ **OCTOBER RESUME:** This is his third October - 109 career postseason PA at a .160 AVG / .275 OBP / .287 SLG with 3 home runs and 7 RBI; he is 1-for-8 (8 PA) life time against Peralta, and sits **3 career PST homers - two from 5**.
- ▶ **DROUGHT WATCH:** He enters the Division Series on an 11-game home-run drought (last HR Aug 23 vs TOR) and an 11-game extra-base-hit drought, so the extra-base profile is dormant even as he keeps taking walks.



#19 RYAN MCMAHON ▶ 3B

Last Game: 0x2 Hit Streak: -1(0x2)
vs. LHP: .193, 0 HR | vs. RHP: .218, 11 HR | w/RISP: .244, 3 HR, 28 RBI
Last Series (BAL): 2x4, 1r, rbi, 2k (1g) Last HR: 9/23 vs TB
Last Home Form: 4x10, 2r, hr, 6rbi, 4k (3g)

- ▶ **FELT LIKE NORMAL:** "It felt like normal baseball. I think one day getting back to Coors Field, it would feel a little different." - Ryan McMahon · Denver Gazette · Sept 10, 2026
- ▶ **Hand edge:** vs LHP .193, 0 HR against vs RHP .218, 11 HR - the platoon read that shapes how he lines up vs tonight's starter.
- ▶ **Traffic bat:** .244, 3 HR, 28 RBI with runners in scoring position - the RBI engine (or drain) behind his season total.
- ▶ **Cold carry:** -1(0x2) - the form hole he walks into tonight's order still trying to snap.



#48 PAUL GOLDSCHMIDT ▶ 1B

Last Game: 0x1 **Hit Streak:** -3 (0x8)
vs. LHP: .299, 11 HR | **vs. RHP:** .213, 7 HR | **w/RISP:** .254, 3 HR, 33 RBI
Last Series (BAL): 0x4, rbi (1g) **Last HR:** 8/30 vs BOS
Last Home Form: 2x9, 2rbi, k (3g)

- ▶ **THE DEEPEST HISTORY VS PERALTA:** His 38 career regular-season plate appearances against Freddy Peralta are the longest book of any Yankee - 9-for-35 (.257) with 2 home runs and 7 RBI, though the two have not met in 2026.
- ▶ **POWER RESTORED AT 39:** The veteran first baseman has 18 home runs in 105 games this season, already past the 10 he hit in 146 games in 2025, with a .452 SLG that is his best since .447 in 2023. He is in his 16th MLB season.
- ▶ **HUNTS THE FOUR-SEAM:** .991 OPS vs four-seamers league-wide this season (110 PA) is his strongest pitch-type split, aimed at the pitch Peralta uses most (53.0%) and gets hit hardest on (.265 opp BA / .435 opp SLG / .336 xwOBA).
- ▶ **THE RIGHT-HANDED HUMP:** His .590 OPS vs right-handed pitching this season is the toughest such mark in tonight's projected order, down from the .765 he carries overall - the split to watch against a righty starter.



#34 HELIOT RAMOS ▶ LF

Last Game: 0x3, 2 k **Hit Streak:** -1 (0x3)
vs. LHP: .297, 4 HR | **vs. RHP:** .228, 9 HR | **w/RISP:** .239, 5 HR, 35 RBI
Last Series (BAL): 3x7, 2r, rbi, bb, k (2g) **Last HR:** 9/20 vs AZ
Last Home Form: 7x23, 3r, 2rbi, bb, 8k (6g)

- ▶ **WHAT PERALTA HAS SHOWN HIM:** Ramos is 1-for-4 in 5 career REG PA against Peralta, and his league-wide changeup split is a .517 OPS (46 PA) against a pitch Peralta uses 23.4% of the time with a 28.9% whiff.
- ▶ **AT END DAY:** "At the end of the day, I'm me, and I know I'm ready for it, and I'm ready to go." — Heliot Ramos · New York Post · Sep 29, 2026
- ▶ **Hand edge:** vs LHP .297, 4 HR against vs RHP .228, 9 HR — the platoon read that shapes how he lines up vs tonight's starter.
- ▶ **Traffic bat:** .239, 5 HR, 35 RBI with runners in scoring position — the RBI engine (or drain) behind his season total.



#11 ANTHONY VOLPE ▶ SS

Last Game: 1x3 **Hit Streak:** 3 (4x11)
vs. LHP: .256, 1 HR | **vs. RHP:** .238, 1 HR | **w/RISP:** .333, 1 HR, 25 RBI
Last Series (BAL): 3x8, 2rbi, 3k (2g) **Last HR:** 9/10 vs COL
Last Home Form: 3x14, 2rbi, bb, 7k, sb (4g)

- ▶ **THE HISTORY WITH PERALTA:** Volpe is 2-for-4 (.500) with a home run in 4 career REG PA against Freddy Peralta - the only Yankee with a homer off him in a tiny sample, one of the few bats with a real book on the right-hander.
- ▶ **WE GREAT OPPORTUNITY:** "We have a great opportunity. It's not about any individual. It's all hands on deck." — Anthony Volpe · New York Post · Sep 30, 2026
- ▶ **Hand edge:** vs LHP .256, 1 HR against vs RHP .238, 1 HR — the platoon read that shapes how he lines up vs tonight's starter.
- ▶ **Traffic bat:** .333, 1 HR, 25 RBI with runners in scoring position — the RBI engine (or drain) behind his season total.

RAYS – PERALTA STARTING PITCHER



FREDDY PERALTA RHP

2026 RECORD: 10-11, 4.42 ERA

Height/Weight: 6-0 / 198 | Bats/Throws: R/R | Hometown: Moca | Age: 30 | MLB Debut: 2018-05-13

#51

PERALTA'S SPLITS BY MONTH – 2026				
Month	ERA	BAA	OPS	GS
June	6.39	.295	.843	5
July	6.85	.309	.963	5
August	5.60	.250	.743	5
September	0.96	.165	.459	5

THE SEPTEMBER HEATER: He finished the regular season as hot as anyone: over his last six starts (Aug 26 – Sep 25) he went 5-0 with a 0.79 ERA, three earned runs in 34.0 IP, with 27 strikeouts and nine walks. His five September starts alone covered 28.0 IP and three earned runs, and the league named him AL Pitcher of the Month.

TROPICANA HAS BEEN HOME: In four 2026 starts at Tropicana Field (Aug 16, Sep 1, Sep 13, Sep 19) he owns a 1.69 ERA over 21.1 IP with four earned runs, including a five-inning no-hit, no-earned-run outing against Houston on Sep 13. Season-wide, his home split is a 3.53 ERA and .219 opponent AVG versus 5.42 and .277 on the road.

OCTOBER TRACK RECORD: Every prior postseason inning came in a Milwaukee uniform: 9 appearances, 6 starts, 1-3 with a 4.36 ERA, 33.0 IP, 41 strikeouts and 13 walks. His 2025 résumé carries an All-Star nod, All-MLB and a fifth-place NL Cy Young finish. Against the Yankees he has two career starts at a 4.50 ERA with 12 strikeouts.

FOUR-SEAM MEETS THE YANKEES' BEST HEATER HITTER: His most-hit pitch is the four-seam (.265 opp BA / .435 opp SLG / .336 xwOBA against) and he throws it 53.0% of the time. Ben Rice carries a 1.263 OPS versus four-seams league-wide, third best in MLB (143 PA), and Paul Goldschmidt sits at .991 (110 PA). The counter: Giancarlo Stanton's four-seam OPS is .382, ninth worst in the league.

THE CHANGEUP IS THE SWING-MISS PITCH: Peralta's changeup (23.4% usage) misses bats at 28.9% whiff, and several Yankees' bats struggle against it league-wide: Cody Bellinger .421 OPS (59 PA), Austin Wells .448 (46 PA) and Spencer Jones .480 (36 PA). The curveball is his sharpest put-away look, 42.9% whiff with a .091 opp BA.

GOLDSCHMIDT HAS THE LONGEST BOOK: Paul Goldschmidt's 38 career PA against Peralta are the deepest history on either side, a 9-for-35 (.257) line with two home runs. Bellinger has hit him at 6-for-14 (.429), while Ryan McMahon is 1-for-14 (.071) with four strikeouts. > "Everything changed when I got traded. I've been treated here as a king, and I feel really good about it." — Freddy Peralta · Tampa Bay Times · October 4, 2026

WATCH ITEM: Four-seam collision: Peralta's most-hittable pitch is the four-seam (.265 opp BA / .435 opp SLG / .336 xwOBA against, 53.0% usage), and Ben Rice arrives with a 1.263 OPS versus four-seams league-wide, third best in MLB (143 PA).

PERALTA PITCH ARSENAL / STATCAST INFO (2026)				
Pitch Type	Usage %	Avg Velo	BAA	SO
Four-Seamer	53.0%	94.3 mph	.265	67
Changeup	23.4%	87.4 mph	.224	41
Curveball	12.9%	79.5 mph	.250	27
Sweeper	5.7%	82.4 mph	.244	9
Slider	4.0%	83.1 mph	.214	5

PERALTA VS. NEW YORK YANKEES (CAREER)									
Last Win: — Last Loss: 3/27/25 at NYY									
	W-L	ERA	G/GS	IP	H	ER	BB	SO	
Career	0-1	4.50	2/2	10.0	6	5	7	12	
3/27/25	0-1	3.60	1/1	5.0	4	2	1	8	
5/17/26	0-0	5.40	1/1	5.0	2	3	6	4	

PERALTA SEASON SNAPSHOT	
Split	2026
vs LHB	.254
vs RHB	.234
WHIP	1.16
IP	169.0
SO	156

PERALTA SINGLE-GAME BESTS, HIGHS & STREAKS		
Category	2026 Season	Career
Win Streak	4 games, 8/26-9/13	8 games, 6/13-7/19
Loss Streak	3 games, 4/12-4/24	3 games, 4/12-4/24
Strikeouts	9, 5/23 at MIA	11 (2x), last: 4/12 at BAL
10+ K Games	—	3, last: 9/16 vs. LAA (10)
Scoreless Streak	6.0, 8/26-8/26	28.0, 8/12-9/4
IP	7.0 (2x), last: 5/23 at MIA	8.0, 4/2 vs. KC
High Hits	10, 6/20 at PHI	10 (3x), last: 6/14 vs. CIN
High Runs	10, 6/20 at PHI	10, 6/20 at PHI
High ER	10, 6/20 at PHI	10, 6/20 at PHI
High HR	2 (6x), last: 3/26 vs. PIT	2 (16x), last: 5/17 at HOU
High Walks	6, 5/17 vs. NYY	6 (2x), last: 5/5 at CHC
Complete Games	—	—
Shutouts	—	—

2026 GAME-BY-GAME (AUG-)												
Date	Opp.	Dec	Result	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	HR		
8/4	at COL	—	W, 9-7	3.2	9	7	7	1	3	2		
8/10	at ATH	—	W, 10-6	6.0	6	3	3	1	5	1		
8/16	vs. BAL	L	L, 2-10	4.2	1	2	2	3	2	0		
8/21	at BAL	L	L, 3-5	7.0	7	5	5	1	6	2		
8/26	at DET	W	W, 3-0	6.0	2	0	0	0	4	0		
August Totals			1-2	5.60	27.1	25	17	17	6	20	5	
9/1	vs. NYM	W	W, 6-2	6.0	3	1	1	0	7	1		
9/8	at ATL	W	W, 7-1	6.0	5	1	1	1	2	0		
9/13	vs. HOU	W	W, 14-4	5.0	0	0	0	3	4	0		
9/19	vs. BOS	—	W, 2-1	5.2	4	1	1	2	6	0		
9/25	at PHI	W	W, 2-0	5.1	4	0	0	3	4	0		
September Totals			4-0	0.96	28.0	16	3	3	9	23	1	
Starter			5-2	3.25	55.1	41	20	20	15	43	6	
Season			10-11		169.0							

TOMORROW'S START

GRIFFIN JAX #22 RHP

2026: 8-10, 3.53 ERA

▶ Last start 9/26 at PHI: 3.0 IP, 2 H, 0 ER, 1 K/ 0 BB on 52 pitches.
 ▶ 2026: 23 GS, 112.1 IP, 116 K/ 35 BB, 15 HR allowed.

blitz

RAYS BULLPEN INFORMATION

RAYS MONTHLY BULLPEN BREAKDOWN											
MARCH/APRIL			MAY			JUNE			JULY		
Record	8-4	ERA	4.96	Record	9-4	ERA	4.40	Record	5-3	ERA	3.72
ERA Rank	24th	ERA Rank	22nd	ERA Rank	22nd	ERA Rank	12th	ERA Rank	4th	ERA Rank	22nd
Sv/Sv Opp	11/14	Sv/Sv Opp	13/17	Sv/Sv Opp	7/7	Sv/Sv Opp	11/12	Sv/Sv Opp	11/13	Sv/Sv Opp	4/7
Strikeouts	104	Strikeouts	95	Strikeouts	98	Strikeouts	104	Strikeouts	101	Strikeouts	88
Walks	59	Walks	35	Walks	31	Walks	28	Walks	28	Walks	39
HR Allowed	20	HR Allowed	16	HR Allowed	16	HR Allowed	12	HR Allowed	18	HR Allowed	13
BAA	.241	BAA	.255	BAA	.216	BAA	.184	BAA	.255	BAA	.209



#47 BRYAN BAKER
▶ RHP

Games: 65 | Saves/Opp: 41/44 | Holds: 2 | IR/RS: 8/0
vs ALL: .161 (35-218) | vs LHB: .147 (17-116) | vs RHB: .176 (18-102)
Pitch Arsenal: 4SM 52.9% (96.3 mph), CH 43.8% (85.2 mph), SL 3.3% (87.4 mph)
Last Game: 10/3 at TB; SV, 1.0ip, 2k (14 pitches)

- ▶ **OUT OF NOWHERE:** A first-time All-Star at 31, Baker was not the plan - Tampa Bay opened 2026 intending to mix-and-match four arms for the ninth, and he seized it with a **1.44 ERA (8th best in MLB)** and a **0.914 WHIP (10th best in the AL)** across 65 games.
- ▶ **SAVE TOTALS:** 41 saves in 44 chances, an MLB-leading pace, with a 3.07 FIP and 27.2% whiff rate that back the run prevention.
- ▶ **RECENT FORM:** Seven appearances since Sept 5, 2026: 7.1 IP, 0.00 ERA, 3 K, 2 BB - and his last outing was Oct 3 at TB (14 pitches).
- ▶ **IT'S TEAM STAT:** "It's a team stat, so just us as a unit being able to give me those situations throughout the year, it's been amazing." — Bryan Baker · Rays closer · Sept 2026
- ▶ **Ninth-inning volume:** 41/44 in save chances — the convert/blown split that frames every late-inning call for him.
- ▶ **Platoon tell:** vs LHB .147 (17-116) against vs RHB .176 (18-102) — the hand edge managers weigh before the phone rings.



#49 KEVIN KELLY
▶ RHP

Games: 71 | Saves/Opp: 4/7 | Holds: 33 | IR/RS: 49/11
vs ALL: .209 (55-263) | vs LHB: .243 (28-115) | vs RHB: .182 (27-148)
Pitch Arsenal: SK 57.5% (91.3 mph), CH 28.1% (85.9 mph), 4SM 7.1% (93.2 mph), SW 7.0% (78.3 mph)
Last Game: 9/25 at PHI; H, 1.0ip, k (9 pitches)

- ▶ **COMMAND ACE:** A **0.896 WHIP (7th best AL)** and **1.3 BB/9 (T-9th best in MLB)** in 73.2 IP over 71 games - the 11 walks he allowed all season are the defining number for the top setup man and his **33 holds (2nd in MLB)**.
- ▶ **SINKER/CHANGEUP TOP:** Sinker 57.5% at 91.3 mph sets it up, and the changeup 28.1% is the finisher - **.376 opp OPS against it, 35.1% whiff**. His four-seam (7.1%) has a 55.0 K% in a tiny look.
- ▶ **FIRST OCTOBER:** Kelly has no career postseason pitching yet - his first October look arrives in this series.
- ▶ **Ninth-inning volume:** 4/7 in save chances — the convert/blown split that frames every late-inning call for him.
- ▶ **Platoon tell:** vs LHB .243 (28-115) against vs RHB .182 (27-148) — the hand edge managers weigh before the phone rings.
- ▶ **Mess cleanup:** 49/11 inherited runners have scored — every mid-inning call is a traffic bet on whether he strands messes he did not create.



#68 TYLER WELLS
▶ RHP

Games: 57 | Saves/Opp: 6/7 | Holds: 15 | IR/RS: 18/3
vs ALL: .187 (47-251) | vs LHB: .175 (24-137) | vs RHB: .202 (23-114)
Pitch Arsenal: CT 30.3% (90.4 mph), 4SM 28.1% (93.4 mph), CH 22.3% (87.1 mph), SL 14.9% (86.7 mph)
Last Game: 9/12 vs HOU; W, 1.0ip, 2k (15 pitches)

- ▶ **ACQUIRED TO HOLD LEADS:** Cash called him "the benefit of when we acquired him at the deadline... He's pitched in a lot of big innings" after Wells closed out a Sept 5, 2026 save at Texas when Baker left early.
- ▶ **SEASON BODY OF WORK:** 2.38 ERA, 1.009 WHIP, 72.0 IP over 57 games across Baltimore and Tampa Bay, with 72 K and just 18 BB.
- ▶ **STRIKE-THROWER:** The Rays' stint is 14 G, 1.50 ERA, 0.722 WHIP, 19 K in 18.0 IP - and he worked scoreless in three of his last-30-day appearances (4.0 IP, 0.00 ERA).
- ▶ **NOTHING REALLY NOTABLE:** "Nothing really notable... props to Wells for coming in and cleaning up my mess." — Bryan Baker · on Wells' Sept 5 relief · AP · Sept 5, 2026
- ▶ **Ninth-inning volume:** 6/7 in save chances — the convert/blown split that frames every late-inning call for him.



#60 GARRETT CLEAVINGER
▶ LHP

Games: 51 | Saves/Opp: 2/5 | Holds: 23 | IR/RS: 23/9
vs ALL: .243 (37-152) | vs LHB: .293 (17-58) | vs RHB: .213 (20-94)
Pitch Arsenal: SL 44.0% (87.4 mph), SK 28.2% (95.2 mph), 4SM 15.4% (96.6 mph), SW 12.4% (80.4 mph)
Last Game: 9/4 at TEX; 0.0ip, 2h (13 pitches)

- ▶ **THE SINKER IS THE LEAK:** Sinker 28.2% at 95.2 mph has been hammered - **.394 opp BA, 1.111 opp OPS, 17.1% whiff** - the soft spot in an otherwise bat-missing mix.
- ▶ **FOUR-SEAM AND SWEEPER:** Four-seam 15.4% carries a 42.4 K%; sweeper 12.4% generates 46.6% chase.
- ▶ **OCTOBER RÉSUMÉ:** 2 career postseason games, 2.0 IP, 0.00 ERA with 6 K in that look.
- ▶ **SWINGMAN ROLE:** 36 games and 11 starts in 2026, 80.1 IP, 5.49 ERA, 1.232 WHIP; he has survived on soft contact and control, with a 5.02 FIP.
- ▶ **SPLIT LEANING RIGHT:** Held lefties to **.200 Opp AVG** vs .259 against righties; his last 30 days are 9.1 IP, 3.86 ERA.
- ▶ **LONG-MAN VALUE:** Eight of his last-30-day appearances went multiple innings - the bulk option behind a short outing.



#62 CAM BOOSER
▶ LHP

Games: 42 | Saves/Opp: 0/1 | Holds: 13 | IR/RS: 18/2
vs ALL: .174 (25-144) | vs LHB: .123 (8-65) | vs RHB: .215 (17-79)
Pitch Arsenal: 4SM 45.4% (95.7 mph), CT 42.8% (88.3 mph), SW 10.6% (82.0 mph), CH 1.2% (87.8 mph)
Last Game: 9/26 at PHI; 1.0ip, 1h, 2k (21 pitches)

- ▶ **CUTTER, ZONE, AND SWEEP:** Four-seam 45.4% at 95.7 mph, cutter 42.8% at 88.3 (29.2% whiff), and a sweeper 10.6% that produces **.080 opp AVG and 50.0% whiff** - the swing-and-miss piece.



#32 STEVEN MATZ
▶ LHP

Games: 36 | Saves/Opp: 1/2 | Holds: 1 | IR/RS: 8/3
vs ALL: .226 (30-133) | vs LHB: .200 (22-110) | vs RHB: .259 (52-201)
Pitch Arsenal: SK 50.0% (93.6 mph), CH 28.5% (83.0 mph), CB 13.4% (78.8 mph), SL 7.9% (82.4 mph)
Last Game: 9/26 at PHI; W, 1.0ip, k (10 pitches)

- ▶ **Ninth-inning volume:** 1/2 in save chances — the convert/blown split that frames every late-inning call for him.

- ▶ **LEFTY WEAPON:** Holds lefties to **.123 Opp AVG (8-for-65)**; 15 of his 21 inherited runners stranded, and his last 30 days are 7.0 IP, 0.00 ERA with 6 K and no walks.
- ▶ **CASH ON THE SEPT 5 JAM:** "That might be the last person in baseball I want to see come up with the game on the line... Booser took a deep breath, made a big pitch and got a double-play ball."
- ▶ **Ninth-inning volume:** 0/1 in save chances — the convert/blown split that frames every late-inning call for him.
- ▶ **Platoon tell:** vs LHB .123 (8-65) against vs RHB .215 (17-79) — the hand edge managers weigh before the phone rings.

- ▶ **Platoon tell:** vs LHB .200 (22-110) against vs RHB .259 (52-201) — the hand edge managers weigh before the phone rings.
- ▶ **Mess cleanup:** 8/3 inherited runners have scored — every mid-inning call is a traffic bet on whether he strands messes he did not create.
- ▶ **Out-pitch look:** SK 50.0% (93.6 mph) is what hitters see most — the shape that defines his late-inning identity.
- ▶ **Workload stripe:** 36 relief appearances this season — the volume that tells you whether he is a nightly option or a spot-use arm.



#71 COLE SULSER
▶
RHP

Games: 51 | **Saves/Opp:** 3/3 | **Holds:** 12 | **IR/RS:** 16/6
vs ALL: .240 (48-200) | **vs LHB:** .181 (23-127) | **vs RHB:** .341 (30-88)
Pitch Arsenal: 4SM 44.5% (92.3 mph), CH 38.3% (83.6 mph), CT 13.3% (87.5 mph), SW 3.8% (83.1 mph)
Last Game: 9/26 at PHI; 1.0ip, 1h, 2k (25 pitches)

- ▶ **POST-IL STEADINESS:** In the season's final month he worked 10 appearances for 10.0 IP, 1.80 ERA, 8 K, 3 BB - the volume bridge arm.
- ▶ **REVERSE SPLIT:** Righties hit **.341 (30-for-88)** off him while lefties are held to **.181 (23-for-127)** - an unusual look for a right-hander.
- ▶ **SEASON SHAPE:** 4.31 ERA, 1.243 WHIP over 56.1 IP with 3 saves and 12 holds; a 3.63 FIP is better than the ERA.
- ▶ **CLEAN SLATE:** 51 games of middle relief, and he has stranded 10 of 16 inherited runners.
- ▶ **READ:** Tampa Bay's leverage arms enter the Division Series rested - Baker's only recent work was Oct 3 at TB (14 pitches), and the pen threw no arms on Oct 4. Cleavinger has not appeared in the season's final month; Kelly, Booser and Sulser all carried late-season volume.
- ▶ **ERA HIDES SHAPE:** A 3.99 ERA hides the shape - this is a walk-free pen (3.13 BB/9, 3rd best) that lives and dies on the home run ball (1.35 HR/9, 3rd worst), with Baker a 41-save All-Star anchoring the ninth.

RAYS BULLPEN PITCHES THROWN - LAST 5 DAYS

Pitcher	Wed 9/30	Thu 10/1	Fri 10/2	Sat 10/3	Sun 10/4
Bryan Baker	—	—	—	14	—

RAYS
 BATTERS INFORMATION



#8 JONATHAN ARANDA ▶ 1B

Last Game: 1x4, 1 r, 1 hr, 1 rbi
vs. LHP: .250, 3 HR | **vs. RHP:** .284, 19 HR | **w/RISP:** .304, 2 HR, 66 RBI
Last Series (PHI): 2x9, 3bb, 5k (3g) **Last HR:** 10/3 vs NYY
Last Home Form: 8x28, 4r, 3hr, 6rbi, 3bb, 9k (7g)

- ▶ **THE LONG-AWAITED BREAKOUT:** Volume roughly tripled from 422 PA (2025) to 668 (2026) as he seized the everyday first-base job, and his swing shortened 7.29 → 7.10 ft. Barrel% eased 12.8 (2025) → 9.9 (2026) under the workload, but he still posts a 91.1 mph average EV (14th best AL) and 46.0% hard-hit rate (16th best AL). A 2025 AL All-Star.
- ▶ **THE MAN WITH RUNNERS ON:** With RISP he hit .304 with a .793 OPS over 138 AB, driving in 66 of his 92 RBI. He was the AL's sneaky RBI leader at the end of May (MLB.com, May 28, 2026).
- ▶ **FIRST PITCH, LATE INNINGS:** First-pitch OPS 1.120 (89 PA) and 1-0 count OPS 1.788 (32 PA), with Late & Close OPS 1.112 (62 PA). The hang-up is two strikes — .456 OPS over 381 PA — which is the count Schlittler's four-seam (44.5% usage at 98.0 mph, 34.8% whiff) is built to reach.
- ▶ **SWEEPER STRENGTH, FOUR-SEAM WEAKNESS:** He owns a 1.052 OPS vs sweepers league-wide (31 PA), 10th best in the league, and a .952 OPS vs cutters (61 PA). His softest league-wide split is the four-seam at .734 OPS — the pitch Schlittler throws most and hardest.



#34 LIAM HICKS ▶ C

Last Game: 1x3, 1 2b, 1 bb **Hit Streak:** 3 (5x13)
vs. LHP: .192, 1 HR | **vs. RHP:** .309, 17 HR | **w/RISP:** .301, 5 HR, 61 RBI
Last Series (PHI): 4x10, 1r (2g) **Last HR:** 9/8 vs ATL
Last Home Form: 5x17, 1r, 2rbi, 3bb, 2k (7g)

- ▶ **CONTACT KING, THIN THUMP:** His 9.9% strikeout rate is 6th best in MLB and his whiff rate checks in 4th best league-wide — but the payoff is light, with a 3.7% barrel rate (9th worst AL) and an 84.6 mph average exit velocity (16th worst MLB).
- ▶ **THE 6-TO-18 LEAP:** He tripled his home-run total from 6 in 2025 to 18 in 2026 with almost no change in bat speed (67.4 to 68.3 mph) or swing length (6.70 to 6.90 ft) — the shift is aggression, as his chase rate climbed from 17.6% to 26.6% while his attack angle dropped from 9.1° to 7.6°.
- ▶ **CUTTER MATCHUP:** He owns a .976 OPS vs cutters league-wide (42 PA), which lines up with Schlittler's 25.6%-usage cutter (94.6 mph, 23.9% whiff); Hicks is also 1-for-4 (.250) in 4 career PA against Schlittler.
- ▶ **RUNNERS-IN-SCORING-POSITION RUN PRODUCER:** The lefty hits .301/.384/.455 with RISP (.839 OPS, 123 AB), driving 61 of his 82 RBI — his most valuable situational split.



#21 JONNY DELUCA ▶ OF

Last Game: 0x3, 1 k **Hit Streak:** -1 (0x3)
vs. LHP: .264, 2 HR | **vs. RHP:** .267, 9 HR | **w/RISP:** .280, 1 HR, 34 RBI
Last Series (PHI): 4x12, 3r, 2hr, 3rbi, bb, 2k (3g) **Last HR:** 9/27 vs PHI
Last Home Form: 5x22, 5r, 3rbi, 7k, sb (8g)

- ▶ **HOTTEST BAT IN THE SERIES:** DeLuca owns a 1.068 OPS over his last 14 days (29 PA), a +.340 jump on his .728 season OPS, and he rides a 5-game hit streak into the Division Series (T-8th best of 345 in MLB).
- ▶ **CUTTER HUNTER:** He sits at a 1.119 OPS versus cutters league-wide (31 PA, so above the 25-PA floor), and Cam Schlittler leans on his cutter 25.6% of the time at 94.6 mph — the exact pitch DeLuca has punished most this year.
- ▶ **SOFT, NOT LOUD:** The power profile is thin for a bat-speed type — a 3.6% barrel rate on 30.2% hard-hit and an 85.8 mph average exit velocity, even as his bat speed reads 73.4 mph with a 7.8-foot swing.
- ▶ **THE RAYS' BEST DEFENDER:** He grades +13 OAA in right field — 1st best among RF and 16th in MLB — the glove that keeps him in the lineup on nights the bat is quiet.



#13 JUNIOR CAMINERO ▶ 3B

Last Game: 0x2, 2 bb, 1 k **Hit Streak:** -2 (0x4)
vs. LHP: .287, 8 HR | **vs. RHP:** .272, 34 HR | **w/RISP:** .294, 10 HR, 61 RBI
Last Series (PHI): 3x9, 4r, hr, 2rbi, bb, 3k (3g) **Last HR:** 9/26 vs PHI
Last Home Form: 8x34, 7r, 2hr, 4rbi, 4bb, 8k (9g)

- ▶ **SIX FROM 100:** Caminero carries 94 career regular-season home runs — 6 away from 100 — and he sits 10th on the Rays' franchise career list, with Fred McGriff's 99 checking in next at No. 9.
- ▶ **FASTEST BAT ALIVE:** His 79.4 mph bat speed is the top qualified mark in MLB and his 8.7-foot swing length led the league, the engine behind 42 HR and a .524 SLG that both rank top-8 league-wide.
- ▶ **EARLY ON THE BENDER:** He swings early on 67.8% of curveballs (87 swings) and 59.8% of sweepers (132 swings), and Schlittler's curveball is the one pitch in his mix above a 40% whiff at 44.2% — Caminero is also at just .583 OPS vs curveballs league-wide.
- ▶ **HE KNOWS THE ARM:** Caminero is 4-for-14 (.286) with a home run and 3 RBI in 14 career PA against Schlittler, the deepest book in the Rays' order, and he owns a 1.038 OPS vs four-seamers league-wide (136 PA) aimed squarely at Schlittler's 44.5%-usage, 98.0 mph primary.



#14 CHANDLER SIMPSON ▶ OF

Last Game: 0x4, 1 k **Hit Streak:** -2 (0x7)
vs. LHP: .285, 0 HR | **vs. RHP:** .318, 0 HR | **w/RISP:** .344, 0 HR, 37 RBI
Last Series (PHI): 0x3, k (1g) **Last HR:** —
Last Home Form: 12x36, 5r, 7rbi, 5sb (9g)

- ▶ **THE 46-STEAL ENGINE:** He swiped 46 bags, most in MLB, at a 29.4 ft/s sprint speed — the whole offensive profile runs through contact and legs, not power.
- ▶ **ZERO-BARREL MATH:** 0.0% barrel rate (1st worst MLB), 13.4% hard-hit (3rd worst MLB), 83.6 mph average exit velocity (3rd worst MLB) and 65.1 mph bat speed (3rd worst MLB) — no home runs across 612 PA.
- ▶ **CONTACT TAX:** His 7.8% strikeout rate is 2nd best in MLB, but it comes with a 4.2% walk rate (10th worst MLB) — a bat that puts the ball in play and dares the defense rather than working counts.
- ▶ **YEARS IN THE DIRT:** From 2025 to 2026 his bat speed ticked 64.2 → 65.1 mph and swing length 6.31 → 6.60 ft, while chase rose 29.8% → 31.2% and zone% fell 57.3% → 51.3%. Career: 0 HR, 297 H, 90 SB in 260 games.



#1 RICHIE PALACIOS ▶ OF

Last Game: 1x3, 1 2b **Hit Streak:** 1 (1x3)
vs. LHP: .158, 0 HR | **vs. RHP:** .250, 10 HR | **w/RISP:** .289, 6 HR, 51 RBI
Last Series (PHI): 2x8, 4rbi, bb, k (2g) **Last HR:** 9/13 vs HOU
Last Home Form: 6x18, 3r, hr, 8rbi, 3bb, 2k, 2sb (7g)

- ▶ **CAREER-HIGH VOLUME, CAREER-HIGH PUNCH:** Palacios set personal bests across the board — 399 PA, 10 HR, 57 RBI and 17 SB — after a 2025 season in which a finger fracture and a knee sprain limited him to 17 games.
- ▶ **LOCKED IN DOWN THE STRETCH:** He has slashed .302/.400/.558 with 3 HR and 15 RBI over his last 15 games (since Sep 5, 2026) — a batting eye that walks (11.5% BB rate) and a bat that's finally driving in runs.
- ▶ **CUTTER MATCHUP:** A 1.029 OPS versus cutters league-wide (28 PA) sets him up against Schlittler's 25.6%-usage cutter at 94.6 mph.
- ▶ **CURVEBALL IS THE HOLE:** His .291 OPS versus curveballs is 5th worst in MLB (29 PA), and Schlittler's curveball is his highest-whiff pitch at 44.2% — the two-strike put-away look in this matchup.



#6 TAYLOR WALLS ▶ SS

Last Game: 0x3, 1 k **Hit Streak:** -1 (0x3)
vs. LHP: .203, 1 HR | **vs. RHP:** .233, 1 HR | **w/RISP:** .256, 0 HR, 32 RBI
Last Series (PHI): 1x5, 1r, 3k (1g) **Last HR:** 8/11 vs ATH
Last Home Form: 1x8, 1r, 2rbi, 2bb, 2k (4g)

- ▶ **GLOVE BEFORE BAT:** The 30-year-old switch-hitting shortstop is the anchor of a Tampa Bay defense rated +87 DRS (2nd best in MLB), and his +21 DRS at short is the loudest single number on his card — the bat (.298 SLG, 2 HR) is the afterthought.
- ▶ **CARRYING A 27-GAME HOME-RUN DROUGHT:** Walls has not homered in 27 straight games (T-#92 in MLB), since a two-homer game at Athletics on Aug 11, 2026 — his only multi-homer day of the year.
- ▶ **THE CUTTER IS THE PITCH HE PUNISHES:** He owns a .935 OPS against cutters league-wide this season (43 PA, 15 hits), and Cam Schlichtler leans on a cutter 25.6% of the time at 94.6 mph — the one lane Walls has consistently squared.
- ▶ **BREAKING BALLS ARE THE TAX:** His league-wide OPS sits at .334 vs sliders (34 PA, 41.2% K) and .303 vs curveballs (25 PA) — and Schlichtler's curveball is his highest-whiff pitch at 44.2%, though he uses it just 9.8% of the time.



#15 BEN WILLIAMSON ▶ 3B

Last Game: 0x2 **Hit Streak:** -3 (0x7)
vs. LHP: .224, 1 HR | **vs. RHP:** .250, 2 HR | **w/RISP:** .246, 0 HR, 20 RBI
Last Series (PHI): 0x5, bb, 3k (2g) **Last HR:** 8/2 vs CWS
Last Home Form: 0x3 (1g)

- ▶ **SIGNED TO RUN:** Tampa Bay added Mateo on Aug 14, 2026 after Atlanta released him, filling the utility role it lost when Ben Williamson strained a hamstring on Aug 8; he brought 19 steals in 221 combined plate appearances and a manager who gushed about the tool.
- ▶ **HAMSTRING TO OCTOBER:** The 25-year-old utility infielder strained his right hamstring on Aug 8, 2026 — the injury that pushed Tampa Bay to sign Mateo — and is back for his first postseason after 88 games and 286 plate appearances.
- ▶ **CONTACT UP, POWER FLAT:** His strikeout rate dropped from 21.7% (2025) to 18.9% and his walk rate climbed from 5.1% to 7.7%, but the slugging barely moved (.310 with Seattle in 2025 to .318) — a table-setter's build.
- ▶ **TWO-STRIKE LEAK:** He is a .151 AVG /.420 OPS hitter with two strikes (147 PA), and Schlichtler's curveball is the Yankee's highest-whiff pitch (44.2%) — the deep-count look runs the pitcher's way.



#40 NICK FORTES ▶ C

Last Game: 0x4, 2 k **Hit Streak:** -1 (0x4)
vs. LHP: .252, 2 HR | **vs. RHP:** .265, 4 HR | **w/RISP:** .269, 1 HR, 26 RBI
Last Series (PHI): 1x8, 1r, hr, rbi, 4k (2g) **Last HR:** 9/25 vs PHI
Last Home Form: 3x10, 2r, hr, 3rbi, 2bb, 2k (5g)

- ▶ **HE PUTS THE BALL IN PLAY:** Fortes' 13.9% strikeout rate is the defining trait of his season line — a catcher who rarely gives away an at-bat, even with limited walk rate (3.7%).
- ▶ **THE FOUR-SEAM IS HIS PITCH:** He carries a .745 OPS against four-seamers league-wide (84 PA, 21 hits), which lines up with Schlichtler's primary at 44.5% usage and 98.0 mph.
- ▶ **SLIDERS HAVE BEEN HIS SOFT SPOT:** His league-wide OPS is just .514 vs sliders (46 PA, 32.6% whiff) — a breaking-ball weakness that lives outside Schlichtler's arsenal, which runs fastball/cutter/sinker/curve.
- ▶ **AGGRESSIVE, NOT PASSIVE:** A 37.3% chase rate with only a 3.7% walk rate marks him as a swing-first bat who hunts early, and his last 30 days (Sep 5 – Oct 4, 2026) produced 2 HR and a .467 SLG in 30 AB.

BATTER-PITCHER MATCHUPS

STATS UPDATED THROUGH OCTOBER 5, 2026 AND INCLUDE REGULAR-SEASON AND POSTSEASON STATS

YANKEES VS. TB PITCHERS

vs. Peralta							vs. Baker							vs. Kelly						
Batter	LINE	AB	H	HR	BB	K	Batter	LINE	AB	H	HR	BB	K	Batter	LINE	AB	H	HR	BB	K
Volpe	.500/.500/1.500	4	2	1	0	2	Sánchez	1.000/1.000/1.000	1	1	0	0	0	Volpe	.600/.600/1.200	5	3	1	0	1
Wells	.500/.667/2.000	2	1	1	1	1	Volpe	.000/.375/.000	4	0	0	3	2	Wells	.000/.000/.000	5	0	0	0	0
Rice	.400/.400/1.000	5	2	1	0	1	Wells	.200/.333/.800	5	1	1	1	1	Rice	.000/.000/.000	1	0	0	0	1
Bellinger	.429/.556/.714	14	6	1	4	5	Rice	.800/.857/.800	5	4	0	2	0	Bellinger	1.000/1.000/1.000	1	1	0	0	0
Ramos	.250/.400/.250	4	1	0	1	1	Bellinger	.167/.286/.167	6	1	0	1	3	Lombard Jr.	1.000/1.000/1.000	1	1	0	0	0
Chisholm Jr.	.182/.400/.545	11	2	1	4	5	Lombard Jr.	.000/.000/.000	1	0	0	0	0	Stanton	.250/.250/.250	4	1	0	0	1
Caballero	.000/.000/.000	2	0	0	0	2	Stanton	.714/.778/.714	7	5	0	2	1	Ramos	1.000/1.000/1.000	1	1	0	0	0
Goldschmidt	.257/.316/.571	35	9	2	3	10	Ramos	.000/.000/.000	2	0	0	0	1	Chisholm Jr.	.500/.500/.500	2	1	0	0	0
McMahon	.071/.235/.071	14	1	0	3	4	Chisholm Jr.	.429/.429/.714	7	3	0	0	0	Caballero	.000/.000/.000	5	0	0	0	1

RAYS VS. NYY PITCHERS

vs. Schlittler							vs. Bednar							vs. Headrick						
Batter	LINE	AB	H	HR	BB	K	Batter	LINE	AB	H	HR	BB	K	Batter	LINE	AB	H	HR	BB	K
Williamson	.000/.000/.000	2	0	0	0	1	Mullins	.000/.000/.000	3	0	0	0	0	Williamson	.750/.750/1.000	4	3	0	0	1
Mullins	.200/.200/.600	5	1	0	0	2	Simpson	1.000/1.000/1.000	2	2	0	0	0	Mullins	1.000/1.000/2.000	1	1	0	0	0
Simpson	.286/.286/.286	14	4	0	0	1	Aranda	.333/.333/.333	3	1	0	0	0	Simpson	.750/.750/1.250	4	3	0	0	1
Aranda	.125/.222/.125	8	1	0	1	6	Mateo	.000/.500/.000	1	0	0	1	1	Aranda	.000/.000/.000	2	0	0	0	0
DeLuca	.333/.500/.333	3	1	0	1	0	Camínero	.333/.333/.333	3	1	0	0	2	DeLuca	.667/.667/.667	3	2	0	0	1
Camínero	.286/.286/.500	14	4	1	0	2	Hicks	.000/.250/.000	3	0	0	1	1	Hicks	.000/.000/.000	1	0	0	0	0
Hicks	.250/.250/.250	4	1	0	0	3	Fortes	.500/.500/1.000	4	2	0	0	2	Fortes	.333/.333/.333	3	1	0	0	1
Fortes	.000/.000/.000	3	0	0	0	0	Palacios	.000/.000/.000	1	0	0	0	0	Palacios	.000/.000/.000	2	0	0	0	0
Palacios	.500/.500/.500	6	3	0	0	0	Vilade	.000/.000/.000	1	0	0	0	0	Vilade	.000/.000/.000	1	0	0	0	1

YANKEES INJURED LIST							
Pos	Player	IL	Injury	Date On IL	Eligible	G Missed	Team W-L
P	Clarke Schmidt	15-Day	retroactive to September 21, 2026. Right bicep neuritis.	9/24	10/9	3	2-1
P	Fernando Cruz	60-Day	Right elbow discomfort.	8/26	10/25	30	19-11
P	Kervin Castro	60-Day	retroactive to August 10, 2026. Right elbow neuritis.	8/11	10/10	43	27-16

RAYS INJURED LIST							
Pos	Player	IL	Injury	Date On IL	Eligible	G Missed	Team W-L
P	Edwin Uceta	60-Day	Right shoulder impingement.	4/24	6/23	138	85-53
LF	Gavin Lux	60-Day	Right shoulder impingement.	5/27	7/26	110	64-46
LF	Jacob Melton	60-Day	Right hamstring strain.	9/15	11/14	13	8-5
P	Jonathan Heasley	60-Day	retroactive to May 29, 2026.	6/2	8/1	105	62-43
P	Ryan Pepiot	60-Day	retroactive to March 22, 2026. Right hip inflammation.	3/24	5/23	162	98-64

BETTING LINES & MARKET STORYLINES

GAME LINES

- ▶ **Under 6.5 (-112):** Both Game 1 starters carry shutout form into October - Cam Schlichtler allowed 4 earned runs across his last five regular-season starts (1.20 ERA over 30.0 IP, 38 K, Sept 2 - 24, 2026), and Freddy Peralta gave up 3 over his last five (0.96 ERA, 0.893 WHIP across 28.0 IP, Sept 1 - 25, 2026).
- ▶ **Over 6.5 (-108):** The counterweight is Peralta's full-season body - a 4.42 ERA, 1.162 WHIP and .247 opponent AVG (2TM) - plus how hard New York has hit him: 3 home runs in 43 career plate appearances against him (1 HR in 23 PA in 2026).
- ▶ **Schlittler's Rays file (under lean):** The right-hander held Tampa Bay to a .216 AVG (22-for-102) with 34 strikeouts against 9 walks over 111 career plate appearances (2026 REG:.226, 14-for-62).
- ▶ **Tampa Bay long-ball risk (over lean):** The Rays bullpen posted a 1.35 HR/9 this season, 3rd worst in MLB, behind a 3.99 ERA (14th) - and the Yankees arrive on a 28-game scoring streak, T-9th longest in MLB.
- ▶ **Yankees late-inning lock (under lean):** New York's relief corps finished at a 3.13 ERA, 2nd best in MLB, the unit most likely to protect a low total once both starters exit.

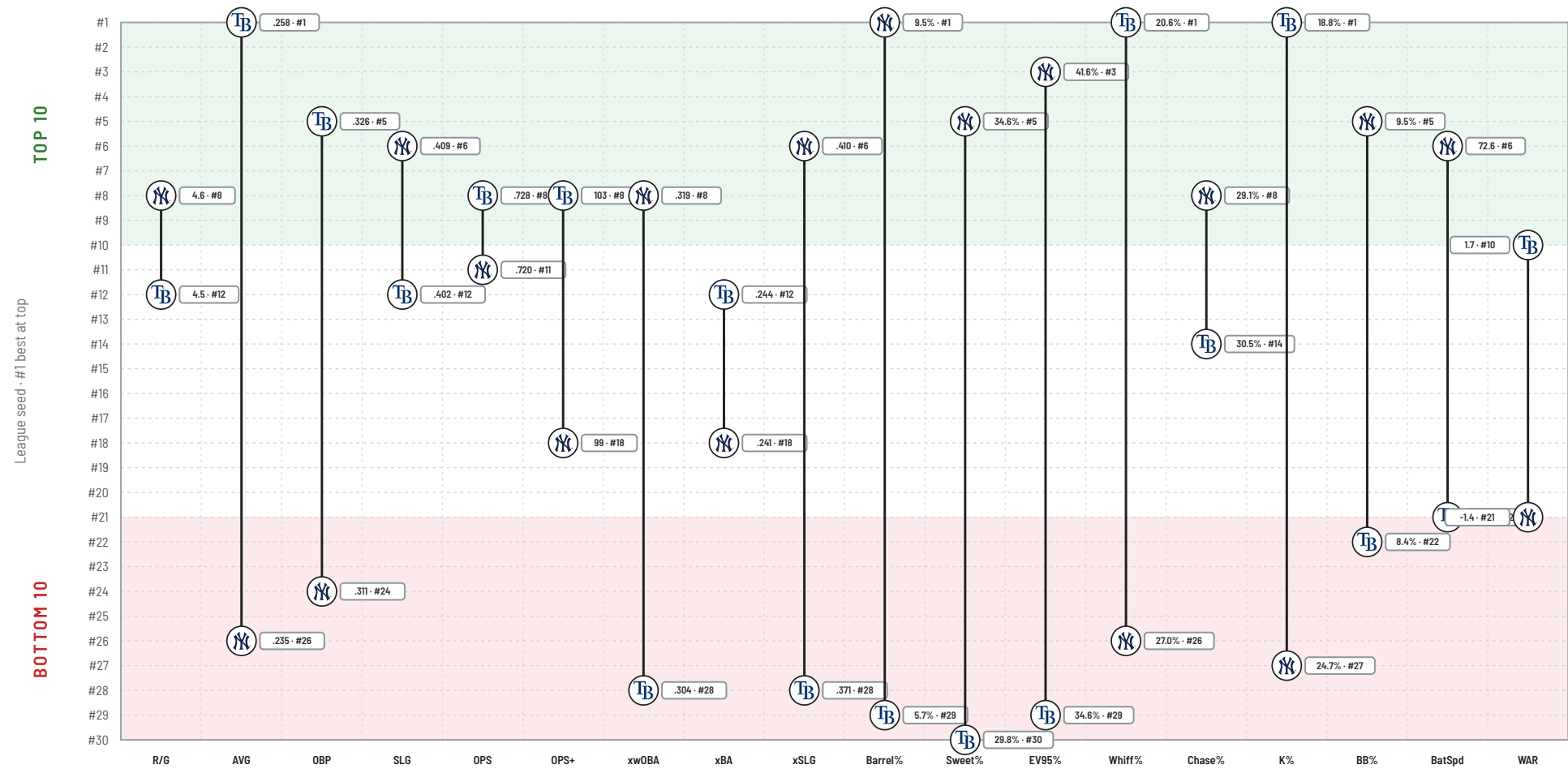
PLAYER PROPS

- ▶ **Ben Rice Hits 0.5 (-185):** NYY - 63.6% season over-rate (98/154) and 80% over his last five; he is 2-for-5 with a home run in 5 career PA against Peralta.
- ▶ **Cody Bellinger Hits 0.5 (-195):** 67.4% season over-rate (89/132); 6-for-14 (.429) life time against Peralta with a home run in 18 PA.
- ▶ **Junior Caminero Hits 0.5 (-200):** Rays - 73.5% season over-rate (119/162), the highest on the board, and 70% over his last 10 games.
- ▶ **Chandler Simpson Hits 0.5 (-210):** 71.8% season over-rate (107/149) at 1.17 hits per game, clearing in 80% of both his last five and last 10.
- ▶ **Yandy Diaz Hits 0.5 (-211):** 68.8% season over-rate (106/154) at 1.17 hits per game - but just 2-for-13 (.154) life time against Schlittler.
- ▶ **Austin Wells Hits+Runs+RBIs 0.5 (-126):** 50.4% season over-rate (61/121) climbing to 70% over his last 10, and he carries a 6-game walk streak into the series.
- ▶ **Ben Rice Home Runs 0.5 (+350):** 25.3% season over-rate (39/154) on 41 homers this year, with a home run already on his career line against Peralta.
- ▶ **Jonny DeLuca Hits+Runs+RBIs 0.5 (-164):** Rays - 64.2% season over-rate (68/106), 100% over his last five and riding a 5-game hit streak.
- ▶ **George Lombard Jr. Hits+Runs+RBIs 0.5 (-165):** NYY - 71.4% season over-rate (30/42) in a 42-game debut sample and 80% over his last five.

No park, weather or umpire factor is printed that meaningfully moves the 8 or the prop board tonight.

KEY METRICS - BATTING

NY Yankees vs TB Rays · 2026 REG · Batting · League seed #1 is best (lower-better metrics still map best to #1)

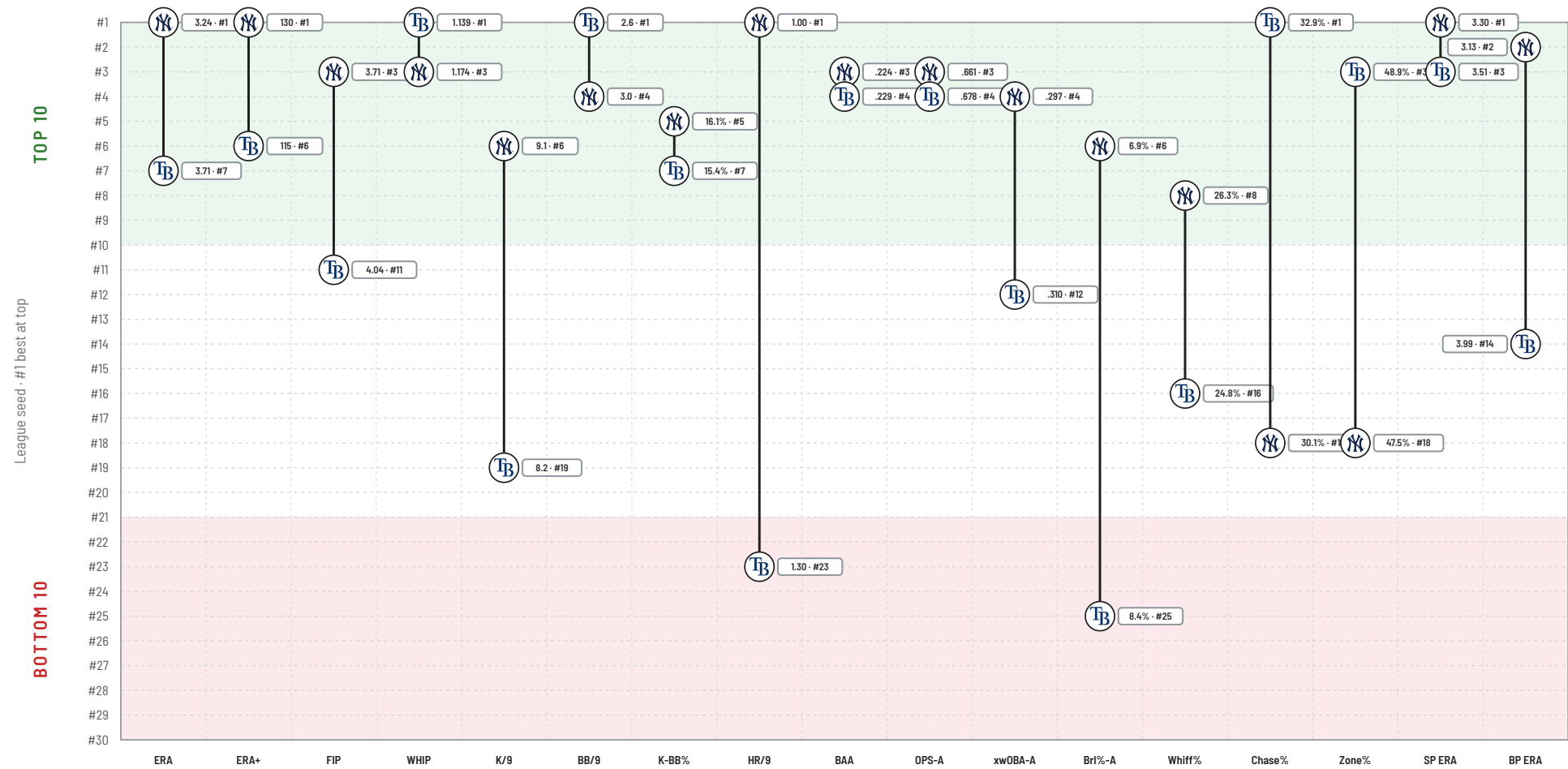


MATCHUP READ

NY Yankees Barrel% #1 vs #29 is the clearest rank separator. Next: NY Yankees EV95% #3 vs #29. Bottom line: ride the widest efficiency / rate edges.

KEY METRICS - PITCHING

NY Yankees vs TB Tampa Bay · 2026 REG · Pitching · League seed #1 is best (lower-better metrics still map best to #1)

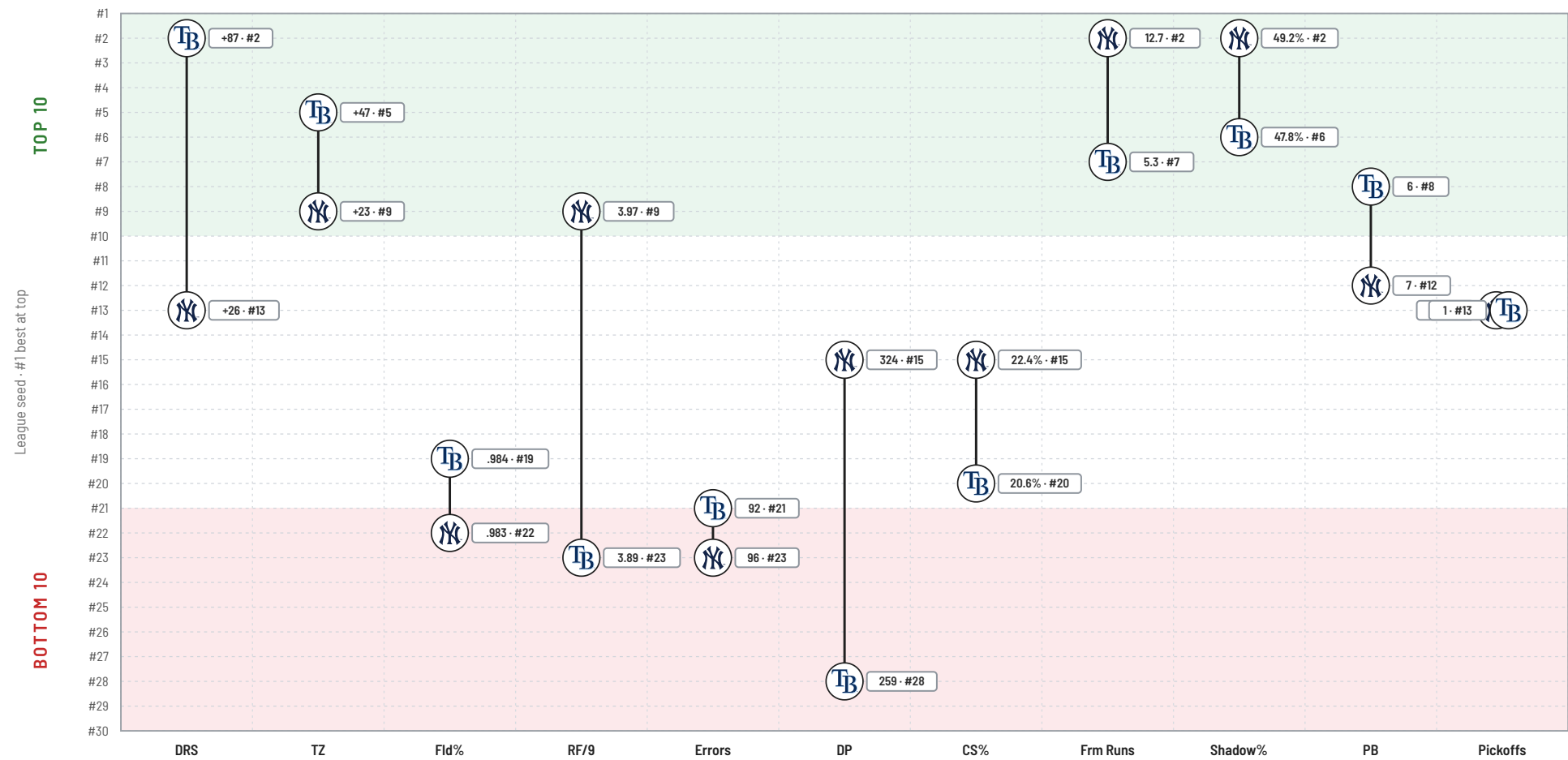


MATCHUP READ

NY Yankees HR/9 #1 vs #23 is the clearest rank separator. Next: NY Yankees BrI%-A #6 vs #25. Bottom line: ride the widest efficiency / rate edges.

KEY METRICS - FIELDING

NY Yankees vs TB Rays · 2026 REG · Fielding · League seed #1 is best (lower-better metrics still map best to #1)



MATCHUP READ

NY Yankees RF/9 #9 vs #23 is the clearest rank separator. Next: NY Yankees DP #15 vs #28. Bottom line: ride the widest efficiency / rate edges.