



## Minnesota Twins Daily Clips

Sunday, August 10, 2014

- May lasts just two innings in Major League debut. MLB.com (Bollinger) pg. 1
- Right-hander Correia traded to Dodgers. MLB.com (Bollinger) pg. 3
- Mauer on track to return for Houston series. MLB.com (Bollinger) pg. 3
- Fryer starts, gives May level of comfort behind plate. MLB.com (Bollinger) pg. 4
- Hughes hopes to continue road success in finale. MLB.com (Leibowitz) pg. 4
- Seven walks make May's Twins debut a dud. Star Tribune (Miller) pg. 6
- Twins deal Correia to Dodgers for player to be named. Star Tribune (Miller) pg. 7
- Lefty Thielbar handles increased role in Twins bullpen. Star Tribune (Miller) pg. 7
- Twins add Milone to rotation, ship Correia to Dodgers. Star Tribune (Miller) pg. 8
- Saturday's recap: Twins- Oakland. Star Tribune staff. pg. 9
- Big crowd expected as May makes debut. Star Tribune (Miller) pg. 9
- Twins trade Kevin Correia to Dodgers. Pioneer Press (Berardino) pg. 9
- Twins rookie Trevor May loses wild major league debut. Pioneer Press (Berardino) pg. 11
- Twins: Houston return still the hope for rehabbing Joe Mauer. Pioneer Press (Berardino) pg. 12
- Twinsights: It's official- Kennys Vargas punishes baseballs. Pioneer Press (Berardino) pg. 13
- Postgame Twinsights: Trevor May knows what he needs to fix. Pioneer Press (Berardino) pg. 14
- Kevin Correia trade clears path for Twins to plan for 2015 rotation. 1500 ESPN (Wetmore) pg. 15
- Trevor May walks seven in two innings, Twins lose his big league debut. Associated Press. pg. 16
- Can Trevor May help turn around one of Twins' chronic issues? 1500 ESPN (Mackey) pg. 17
- Twins trade Correia to Dodgers. FOX Sports North (Mason) pg. 18
- Twins rookie May endures unfortunate debut. FOX Sports North (Mason) pg. 18

---

### **May lasts just two innings in Major League debut**

**Rhett Bollinger / MLB.com – 8/10/14**

OAKLAND -- It was a forgettable Major League debut for right-hander Trevor May, who generated plenty of buzz among Twins fans heading into his first start.

But May lasted just two innings, issuing seven walks and allowing four runs, to put the Twins into a hole they couldn't recover from in a 9-4 loss to the A's on Saturday night at O.Co Coliseum.

May, ranked as the club's No. 8 prospect by MLB.com, was called up from Triple-A Rochester to make his highly anticipated big league debut against the A's, who have the best record in the Majors.

But May had trouble finding the strike zone, as only 28 of his 63 pitches went for strikes. He became just the second Twins pitcher to walk at least seven batters in two innings or fewer, joining Mike Cook, who walked seven in 1 2/3 innings on May 1, 1989.

"It was the case of a lot of things today," May said. "It was a lot of factors --some excitement, getting used to the ball. All kinds of stuff. But at the end of the day there's no excuses not making pitches when you need to and not executing."

It started out innocently enough for May, as his first pitch was a strike and resulted in an out with Coco Crisp popping out in foul ground. But Sam Fuld followed with a single before Josh Donaldson doubled and Brandon Moss walked to load the bases.

May walked Derek Norris to bring home a run, but was able to get out of the jam with the help of left fielder Josh Willingham, who threw out Donaldson at home as he tried to tag up on a fly ball from Josh Reddick.

The shaky first inning was harbinger of things to come, as May wasn't as fortunate in the second, walking five batters that inning and giving up three runs.

"The kid just had a hard time," Twins manager Ron Gardenhire said. "He couldn't gather himself. They took a lot of pitches and we walked a lot of people. That was pretty much the story. We couldn't throw the ball over. The kid had a hard time but he'll try again when it's his time the next time."

In the second, Donaldson brought home two runs with single after May issued three straight walks with two outs before Norris drew his second bases loaded walk of the game two batters later.

"After the first, I went in hoping to establish the strike zone in the second inning and wanted to get some quick hits," May said. "At that point it was a just a 1-1 game and I wanted to settle in. But I walked [Eric] Sogard and let it snowball a little bit. I got ahead of some guys and couldn't put them away."

Norris, who had five RBIs on the night, felt for May, as he understood his first-game jitters.

"All of us remember our debuts," Norris said. "Your brain can get scattered in several different ways. Some guys are able to harness it, and unfortunately the kid tonight, he just wasn't able to harness all the adrenaline, stuff that was going on."

May was able to get out of the inning without any further damage and was replaced by right-hander Samuel Deduno, who scuffled through three-plus innings in long relief. Deduno also had trouble with his control, walking three and allowing five runs on five hits.

All five runs allowed by Deduno came on homers, as Stephen Vogt connected on a two-run homer in the fifth and Norris crushed a three-run blast in the sixth.

"Sammy gave up a couple big ones but we tried to get through it as best as we could," Gardenhire said.

It backed A's right-hander Jeff Samardzija, who gave up two runs on seven hits over six innings to get his third win with Oakland since being traded from the Cubs in early July.

The Twins scored early on an RBI single from Trevor Plouffe in the first inning after Brian Dozier doubled with one out. Plouffe brought home the other run against Samardzija with an RBI groundout in the fifth.

Minnesota scored twice in the eighth against reliever Dan Otero, but it wasn't close to enough, and it handed the Twins their 12th straight loss to the A's dating back to Sept. 11, 2013. The last time the Twins lost 12 in a row to one team was in 2002-03, when they matched a club record by losing 13 straight to the Yankees.

## **Right-hander Correia traded to Dodgers**

**Rhett Bollinger / MLB.com – 8/10/14**

OAKLAND -- The Twins traded right-hander Kevin Correia to the Dodgers for a player to be named or cash considerations, the club announced after Saturday's 9-4 loss to the A's.

Additionally, the Twins announced left-hander Tommy Milone will be recalled from Triple-A Rochester to take Correia's spot in the rotation to start against the Astros on Monday.

Correia, 33, went 5-13 with a 4.94 ERA in 23 starts with the Twins this season. The right-hander struck out 61, walked 32 and allowed 13 homers in 129 1/3 innings, while registering 13 quality starts. It marked the first time in Correia's 12-year career that he was traded.

"It's always tough leaving guys who you played with for a while because they become friends of yours but it's nice to go somewhere and play some important baseball games at the end of the year," Correia said. "It's exciting."

Correia, a San Diego native, will get the chance to play near his hometown for a club leading the National League West. He's expected to give the Dodgers rotation depth and could also be used in long relief.

Correia joined the Twins on a two-year, \$10 million deal before last season. He was the club's most consistent starter last year, posting a 4.18 ERA in 31 starts.

"He was nothing but a pleasure," Twins manager Ron Gardenhire said. "Last year, he was our best and most consistent pitcher. This year, I know he had some ups and downs but he always seemed to give us a chance. He was a great guy in the clubhouse and always a pleasure to be around."

Correia said he had no hard feelings about the trade and said he enjoyed his time with the Twins despite their struggles during his tenure in Minnesota.

"I enjoyed every minute of it," Correia said. "The guys on the team and the coaching staff, everyone was great. I wish we would've won more games, obviously. But besides that, I couldn't have enjoyed my time in Minnesota any more."

Milone, meanwhile, was acquired by the Twins from the A's for outfielder Sam Fuld on July 31. The left-hander had a 3.55 ERA in 16 starts with the A's this season and has a career 3.84 ERA in parts of four seasons in the Majors.

The 27-year-old was assigned to Triple-A Rochester after the trade, and made one start there on Monday, giving up just one run over seven innings.

"He's a guy who knows how to pitch in the big leagues and has a good track record," Gardenhire said. "We're excited to have him up here. He pitched well in his start at Triple-A."

## **Mauer on track to return for Houston series**

**Rhett Bollinger / MLB.com – 8/9/14**

OAKLAND -- First baseman Joe Mauer's rehab assignment with Class A Cedar Rapids has been going well, and the Twins remain hopeful he'll be able to join them when they begin a three-game series in Houston on Monday.

Mauer, who has been on the 15-day disabled list with a strained right oblique since July 3, went 3-for-5 while playing nine innings at first base Friday night and reported no issues. He was back in the lineup at first base for his fourth rehab game Saturday, and went 2-for-4.

"He's doing fine," Twins manager Ron Gardenhire said. "We'll see where we'll go from there. Everything seems to be going good."

Gardenhire said the plan remains for Mauer to be activated from the DL on Monday as long as everything continues to go well.

"We're hoping it works out where he joins us in Houston," Gardenhire said. "He came in today a little sore but said he's good to go after five at-bats last night. He's had no problems whatsoever. Just normal soreness from playing nine innings in the field, which he hadn't done in a month-plus."

### **Fryer starts, gives May level of comfort behind plate**

OAKLAND -- Given his familiarity with right-hander Trevor May, who made his Major League debut on Saturday, Eric Fryer made the start behind the plate against the A's.

Fryer worked with May in nine starts at Triple-A Rochester this season before being called up on June 12. It also gave regular catcher Kurt Suzuki a rest and marked Fryer's first start at catcher since Wednesday.

May was recalled from Triple-A Rochester on Friday to make his first big league start after posting a 2.93 ERA in 17 starts with the Red Wings.

"The way it worked out here was perfect," Twins manager Ron Gardenhire said. "He caught him down in the Minor Leagues. This works out good. Plus, Suzuki could use a blow."

Suzuki is scheduled to return to the lineup on Sunday to catch right-hander Phil Hughes.

### **Hughes hopes to continue road success in finale**

**Aaron Leibowitz / MLB.com – 8/10/14**

On Tuesday, Jason Hammel took a critical step toward turning Oakland's Big Four -- Jon Lester, Jeff Samardzija, Sonny Gray and Scott Kazmir -- into the Big Five.

Hammel threw 5 2/3 shutout innings against Tampa Bay en route to his first win with the A's. Eleven runners reached base, but Hammel sidestepped trouble and lowered his 9.53 ERA with Oakland to 7.15.

His followup comes Sunday at the Coliseum in the last of four games against the Twins.

"I know what I can do as a pitcher, and right now it's that tough part of the season that you just got to get through," Hammel said. "I'm going to continue to battle, continue to work hard, like I keep telling you guys. I'll find myself and get right back into the swing of things."

In 17 starts with the Cubs this season, Hammel posted a 2.98 ERA, but since being traded along with Samardzija, his walk rate has spiked and his strikeout rate has dipped. Tuesday's outing, though far from dominant, could be just what the righty needed to get rolling.

"I think that could get the monkey off his back a little bit, because when he was in Chicago, we saw the type of numbers he was putting up, the kind of pitcher that he is," said A's closer Sean Doolittle. "You could see him pitching with a lot of confidence out there, and hopefully it's a sign of good things to come moving forward."

Hammel will face Phil Hughes, who is 11-8 with a 4.01 ERA. On April 9, Hughes allowed four runs to the A's in five innings.

Hughes has done his best work on the road this season, going 7-3 with a 2.92 ERA in 12 starts. He has 66 strikeouts versus just six walks in those outings.

Against the Padres on Tuesday, Hughes tossed six innings of one-run ball despite battling a broken fingernail on his right index finger.

"I was able to locate my pitches probably the best I have in quite a while," Hughes said. "That always helps. I thought my stuff was pretty good outside of the one [home run] where the ball came over the plate."

Twins: Mauer likely to join team on Monday

First baseman Joe Mauer's rehab assignment with Class A Cedar Rapids has been going well, and the Twins remain hopeful he'll be able to join them when they begin a three-game series in Houston on Monday.

Mauer, who has been on the 15-day disabled list with a strained right oblique since July 3, went 3-for-5 while playing nine innings at first base Friday night and reported no issues. He was back in the lineup at first base for his fourth rehab game Saturday, and went 2-for-4.

"He's doing fine," Twins manager Ron Gardenhire said. "We'll see where we'll go from there. Everything seems to be going good."

Gardenhire said the plan remains for Mauer to be activated from the DL on Monday as long as everything continues to go well.

A's: Sogard having success since All-Star break

After a frustrating first half in which he was on the chopping block multiple times, Eric Sogard could have understandably spent his All-Star break mulling over everything that had gone wrong. Instead, his mind was anywhere but the baseball diamond.

Sogard's home was burglarized while the A's were in Seattle, so he spent the break moving his family into a new place. Now, he realizes there may have been a bright side to the terrible situation. Since then, he has been hitting well and playing on a regular basis.

"I think the All-Star break definitely helped a lot, just kind of allowed me to get my mind off baseball for a few days there," Sogard said Saturday. "Obviously moving out of the house, having to deal with that kind of made me take my mind off baseball."

Sogard has started 14 of 21 games since the All-Star break, including six in a row after Nick Punto went on the disabled list with a strained right hamstring. Clearing his head certainly helped, but just as vital to Sogard's turnaround was his work with batting coach Chili Davis to shorten his swing.

"That's what's fueled my success in the second half," said Sogard, "is being able to recognize pitches early and wait to the last second, just take my short swing to it, keep that line drive swing."

Worth noting

- A's closer Sean Doolittle set a franchise record for saves by a lefty on Friday when he recorded his 18th save, exceeding Alan Embree's 2007 mark.
- Twins' first baseman Chris Colabello was optioned to Triple-A Friday night to make room for right-hander Trevor May, who made his big league debut Saturday.

### **Seven walks make May's Twins debut a dud**

**Phil Miller / Star Tribune – 8/10/14**

OAKLAND, CALIF. – One pitch into Trevor May's major league career, he had thrown a strike, forced Coco Crisp to pop up, and recorded an out.

He had no way of knowing that he had already experienced the highlight of his debut.

In one of the most cringe-worthy displays of first-day jitters in recent memory, May was unable to throw the ball across the plate Saturday night, walking seven Oakland hitters and recording just six outs. The 24-year-old righthander threw 63 pitches in his two innings, but only 28 of them crossed the plate, and the rookie absorbed the loss in a game the Athletics eventually won 9-4.

That's 12 consecutive losses to Oakland, and if the A's complete the four-game sweep on Sunday, it would tie the Twins franchise record of consecutive losses to one team. The Rangers (in 1998-99) and Yankees (in 2002-03) each won 13 games in a row against them.

Sam Deduno gave up five runs over three innings, all on a pair of home runs by Stephen Vogt and Derek Norris, and the Twins squandered some early chances to stay close, going 3-for-13 with runners in scoring position. But the game was deflated by May's first two innings.

"It was a case of a lot of things. The excitement, getting used to the ball, all kinds of stuff," May said. "But at the end of the day, there's no excuses for not making pitches, not executing, not being able to follow your [plan]. To get behind guys, this isn't a team you do that to. And when I got ahead, I wasn't putting guys away."

May, acquired from Philadelphia in the Ben Revere trade two winters ago, spoke confidently Friday about his ability to deal with the excitement of his debut, but he couldn't have imagined this. The Twins gave him a 1-0 lead in the top of the first, but after retiring Crisp on his first pitch — a fastball clocked at 91 miles per hour — May gave up a sharp single to Sam Fuld and a double to Josh Donaldson. Then the nerves took over: May walked Brandon Moss on four pitches to load the bases, and Derek Norris on six pitches to force in a run.

His first real jam ended abruptly when Josh Reddick lifted a fly ball into shallow left field that Josh Willingham caught. Donaldson decided to try to score, but Willingham threw him out easily.

But if he thought the worst was behind him, he was too optimistic.

May retired the first two batters in the second inning on just eight pitches, getting a pair of routine fly balls. But the jitters returned: 12 of his next 13 pitches were balls, loading the bases once more. When he then tried to get ahead in the count by laying an 80-mph curve across the middle of the plate, Donaldson surprised him by swinging. He lined a two-run single to left, giving the A's a 3-1 lead.

May's problems weren't over, though. Moss battled him for 10 pitches and drew another walk, loading the bases once more, and May, by now completely flustered, walked in another run on just five pitches to Norris. The inning — and May's night — mercifully ended with a Reddick ground out.

The seven walks were a season high by any Twins pitcher, and the most May had allowed since July 18, 2012, when he walked eight batters in five innings while pitching for the Class AA Reading Phillies.

"He just couldn't gather himself enough," Twins manager Ron Gardenhire said. "They took a lot of pitches, walked a lot of people. ... The kid had a hard time. We'll let him try it again here. When you get in the big leagues, it's a different [place] than being anywhere else. He just couldn't get it, couldn't find the strike zone."

## **Twins deal Correia to Dodgers for player to be named**

**Phil Miller / Star Tribune – 8/10/14**

OAKLAND, CALIF. – After watching one newcomer make his first start, the Twins made room for another.

Tommy Milone, acquired from the Athletics at the trade deadline, will start for the Twins on Monday in Houston, replacing Kevin Correia, who was traded to the Los Angeles Dodgers during Saturday's game, the team announced after the 9-4 loss to Oakland.

The Twins will receive a player to be named later or cash in the transaction.

Correia, signed to a two-year, \$10 million contract in December 2012, gave the Twins 314 innings for their money, posting a 4.49 ERA and a 14-26 record in 54 starts for the Twins. His 13 quality starts this season were tied for the most on the Twins, despite a 5-13 record — he leads the majors in losses — and 4.94 ERA.

"It was a pleasure. He's very professional, a guy that's going to be missed out there," Twins manager Ron Gardenhire said. "He pitched very well for us. He did a nice job."

For Correia, who turns 34 next month, it's a chance to go back home to California. The San Diego native has pitched for the Giants and Padres, so he knows the NL West well. But he said he wasn't looking to leave, though going to a first-place team is intriguing.

"It's always tough leaving guys you've played with for a while, they've become good friends," he said. "But it will be nice to go somewhere and play some important baseball games at the end of the year. It's a place I'm familiar with, so it's exciting."

The move was made in order to add Milone to the rotation, joining Saturday's starter Trevor May in a revamped fivesome. Milone, a 27-year-old lefthander, gave up only one run in his debut for AAA Rochester last week, and considering he has a career 3.84 ERA in 80 major league games, including a 6-3 record and 3.55 ERA this year for the Athletics, the Twins didn't want to wait to add him.

**Mauer nears return**

Joe Mauer had another hit on Saturday, after three hits Friday night, and played another complete game for Class A Cedar Rapids, another indication that he is about ready to be activated from the disabled list. Twins manager Ron Gardenhire said Mauer felt "general soreness" after Friday's game, his first nine-inning game in the field since straining his oblique muscle on July 1, but has had no recurrence of the injury.

Might Mauer join the Twins in Houston for the second half of this road trip? "I'm sure it's a possibility. Let's see how he does [today]," Gardenhire said.

Mauer's activation would mean a difficult decision for the Twins, who don't have any obvious roster spots available. They could return Kennys Vargas to the minors, but that seems unlikely after the start he has had in his first week in the majors. Vargas is batting .310 entering Saturday's game, and as Gardenhire pointed out, "He's not facing rookies. He's facing some pretty great pitchers."

Etc.

- The A's honored longtime manager Tony La Russa, handing out bobbleheads to the crowd and having the new Hall of Fame member throw out the first pitch. Catching that pitch was the man who served as the A's regular catcher for LaRussa's entire 10-year career in Oakland: Twins coach Terry Steinbach.

## **Lefty Thielbar handles increased role in Twins bullpen**

**Phil Miller / Star Tribune – 8/9/14**

OAKLAND, CALIF. – He nearly turns his back to the batter as he winds up, then whirls forcefully forward, using an exaggerated stride toward the plate to generate velocity as he releases the ball. If you were a coach teaching proper pitching mechanics, you would erase all video of Caleb Thielbar's delivery, for fear kids would emulate his violent motion.

Wait, bad choice of words. "I don't know if I'd say it's violent — it's explosive," Thielbar said. "But the Twins didn't try to change it. They've embraced it. And it's worked out."

It has, probably because of his unusual windup, not despite it. Thielbar hasn't had a season as statistically successful as last year, except when it matters. His ERA of 3.13 is significantly higher than last year's 1.76, but it's due almost entirely to a four-game slump in mid-May, when his control was out of whack. Remove that bad week, and the 27-year-old from Randolph, Minn., is at 1.95 this season.

More importantly, he is pitching in significantly more critical situations this year, mostly against lefthanded batters, and he's rewarding the Twins' trust. Thielbar has held hitters to a .186 average in "high-leverage" or "medium-leverage" situations, when the game is at stake.

Not bad for a guy the Brewers released before he climbed any higher than Class A.

That unusual delivery is the reason why. When he was drafted, the Brewers did an evaluation of his mechanics, "and they said I was going to have some shoulder problems if I kept throwing that way," Thielbar said. "They changed how I threw, and I lost 6 miles per hour immediately, and ended up getting released."

He went back to his old delivery when the Twins signed him off the St. Paul Saints roster, and he has stuck with it.

"When he came over, we said, '[Do] you always throw like that?' He told us the story, but if you ask hitters or catchers about him, they'll tell you he's very deceptive," Twins pitching coach Rick Anderson said. "One thing with pitching, you always love deception. You can get by with lesser stuff if you keep the hitter from seeing the ball. And that's him. I would never change it."

### **Twins add Milone to rotation, ship Correia to Dodgers**

**Phil Miller / Star Tribune – 8/10/14**

OAKLAND, Calif. -- After watching one newcomer make his first start, the Twins made room for another.

Tommy Milone, acquired from the A's at the trade deadline, will start for the Twins on Monday in Houston, replacing Kevin Correia, who was traded to the Los Angeles Dodgers during Saturday's game, the team announced afterward.

The Twins will receive a player to be named later or cash in the transaction.

Correia, signed to a two-year, \$10 million contract in December 2012, gave the Twins 314 innings for their money, posting a 4.49 ERA and a 14-26 record in 54 starts for Minnesota. His 13 quality starts this season (after providing 16 more in 2013) were tied for the most on the Twins, despite a 5-13 record and 4.94 ERA.

"He's been a pleasure. He's very professional, a guy that's going to be missed out there," manager Ron Gardenhire said. "Last year, he was our best pitcher, our most consistent pitcher. And this year, I know he had some ups and downs, but he always seemed to give us a chance."

For Correia, who turns 34 next month, it's a chance to go back home to California. The San Diego native has pitched for the Giants and Padres, so he knows the NL West well. But he said he wasn't looking to leave, though going to a first-place team is intriguing.

"It's always tough leaving guys you've played with for awhile, they've become good friends," he said. "But it will be nice to go somewhere and play some important baseball games at the end of the year. It's a place I'm familiar with, so it's exciting."

The move was made in order to add Milone to the rotation, joining Saturday's starter Trevor May in a revamped fivesome. Milone, a 27-year-old lefthander, allowed only one run in his debut for AAA Rochester last week, and considering he has a career 3.84 ERA in 80 major-league games, including a 6-3 record and 3.55 ERA this year for the Athletics, the Twins didn't want to wait to add him.

"We're going to get him up here. He pitched really well for his start in Triple-A. We did that to see where we're going, and we've made a spot now, and he's going to get the ball," Gardenhire said. "We're excited to have him. We know he can pitch in the big leagues."

The manager said he was happy for Correia, too, since the Dodgers have the best record in the National League. "He's going to a team in a pennant race, which is good. He deserves that," Gardenhire said. "And [to] California, where he can play a lot of golf. He likes that, too."



## **Saturday's recap: Twins- Oakland**

**Star Tribune staff – 8/9/14**

GAME RECAP

IMPACT PLAYER

Derek Norris, Oakland

He drew two bases-loaded walks from Trevor May before driving in runs with his bat, hitting a three-run homer off Sam Deduno.

BY THE NUMBERS

4 Walks drawn by A's No. 9 hitter Eric Sogard, a .214 hitter.

2 Doubles for Eduardo Escobar, giving him 29 on the season. The Twins hit six doubles.

19 Stolen bases for Brian Dozier, matching his home run total.

ON DECK

Jason Hammel has a 7.15 ERA in five starts with the A's since being traded from the Cubs, although he won his most recent start after losing his first four with Oakland.

## **Big crowd expected as May makes debut**

**Phil Miller / Star Tribune – 8/10/14**

OAKLAND, Calif. -- The interest in Trevor May's major-league debut is startlingly high. Hundreds of fans were lined up at the O.co Coliseum gates five hours before first pitch, and there's a festive mood in the stands during batting practice.

OK, maybe the crowd thing has more to do with Tony LaRussa bobblehead night, but it's still going to be a fun atmosphere for May's first game. The A's may not draw the biggest crowds -- it's been 20,000 each of the first two nights -- but they do a good job of backing their team here, with soccer-style chants, flags and the swaying to the sax music of "Careless Whisper" when Josh Reddick bats.

Maybe the mellow music will keep May from getting too keyed up, because he knows nerves are his biggest obstacle tonight. Well, nerves and the highest-scoring offense in the majors. May will be pitching to his Rochester teammate Eric Fryer, with Kurt Suzuki getting a night off before tomorrow's day game.

## **Twins trade Kevin Correia to Dodgers**

**Mike Berardino / Pioneer Press – 8/10/14**

OAKLAND, Calif. -- Of all the things Kevin Correia has experienced since being drafted in 2002, the veteran right-hander had never been traded before.

That changed late Saturday night, when Correia was informed after the Twins' 9-4 loss to Oakland that he had been traded to the first-place Los Angeles Dodgers.

The Twins will receive a player to be named or cash for Correia, who should step into the back of the Dodgers' rotation in the wake of injuries to Josh Beckett and Paul Maholm.

"You don't get to do a lot of firsts at this point when you've been playing as long as I have," Correia said of the trade. "I guess I can add that to the list now."

Set to turn 34 two weeks from Sunday, Correia went 14-26 with a 4.49 earned run average in his two seasons with the Twins. Signed to a two-year, \$10 million deal two winters ago, he made quality starts 55.6 percent of the time (30 of 54), never missed a start and set a professional example for a team in transition.

"He's been a pleasure -- nothing but a pleasure," Twins manager Ron Gardenhire said. "Last year he was our best pitcher, our most consistent pitcher. This year, I know he had some ups and downs, but he always seemed to give us a chance."

It was about more than that with Correia, of course. At 5-13, he was tied with San Diego's Eric Stults for the majors' lead in losses, but Correia never let his frustration boil over or seep into his treatment of others, including the media.

When the media was allowed into the Twins clubhouse after Saturday's game, seemingly half the team was gathered around Correia's locker, wishing him well and smiling at his good fortune to be joining a pennant race.

"A great guy in the clubhouse, a pleasure to be around, very professional," Gardenhire said. "One of the guys you're going to definitely miss out there. He was a quiet guy but yet he meant a lot to a lot of people out there and he pitched very well for us. He did a real nice job for us. I wish him nothing but the best."

In joining the Dodgers, Correia will be reunited with Dodgers general manager Ned Colletti and head trainer Stan Conte. Both were with the San Francisco Giants through the early part of Correia's career.

"It's a good situation," Gardenhire said. "He's going to a team in a pennant race, which is good. He deserves that."

Right at \$1.5 million remains on Correia's contract. The Twins typically don't pick up any of the remaining obligation, and considering the Dodgers' wherewithal it's unlikely the Twins are sending along any money in this case either.

"It's always tough leaving guys you've played with for awhile," Correia said. "They become good friends of yours, but it's nice to go somewhere and be able to play some important baseball games at the end of this year. It's a place I'm very familiar with, so it's exciting."

Correia has a career mark of 4-2 with a 4.04 ERA in 49 innings (14 games, seven starts) at Dodger Stadium. That's his third-lowest ERA of any park in which he's worked more than 20 innings.

"That's a division I'm familiar with, and there's a couple familiar faces over there," Correia said. "It's not going to be a completely foreign situation for me. I think that will help."

The chance to help the first-place Dodgers reach the postseason and potentially to make his first postseason appearance carries great appeal for Correia.

"That's why you play the game," he said. "I'm getting toward the end of my career, and you want to play in some meaningful games. I'll have the opportunity to do that over there."

Correia, a San Diego native and resident, had nothing but positive words for the Twins, with whom he was openly interested in signing an extension this spring.

"I enjoyed every minute of it," he said. "The guys on the team, the coaching staff, everything was great. I wish we would have won more games, obviously, but besides that I couldn't have enjoyed the time any more in Minnesota and in this organization."

### **Twins rookie Trevor May loses wild major league debut**

**Mike Berardino / Pioneer Press – 8/10/14**

OAKLAND, Calif. -- On the very first pitch Trevor May threw in the major leagues, a 91-mph fastball, Coco Crisp fouled out to third.

Nothing to it.

Sixty-two pitches and seven walks later, the Twins' rookie right-hander was made fully aware just how misleading that start was.

With a dozen friends and family members looking on helplessly, May lasted just two innings as the Oakland A's handed the Twins a 9-4 loss on Tony La Russa Night at the O.Co Coliseum.

After the game, the Twins announced they had traded veteran right-hander Kevin Correia to the Los Angeles Dodgers for a player to be named or cash. Left-hander Tommy Milone will be recalled from Triple-A Rochester to start Monday in Houston.

Correia, 5-13 with a 4.94 earned-run average, is tied for the major league lead in losses but was a reliable starter and quiet clubhouse leader for the Twins over his two seasons with the club. A prospective free agent at season's end, Correia turns 34 on Aug. 24 and had never been traded before.

He is still owed \$1.5 million for the rest of the season.

"It's always tough leaving guys you've played with for awhile," Correia said. "They become good friends of yours. It's nice to go somewhere and be able to play some important baseball games at the end of this year. It's a place I'm very familiar with. It's exciting."

May's excitement about his debut appeared to work to his detriment.

He once walked eight for Double-A Reading in 2012 as a Philadelphia Phillies farmhand, but this was a far bigger stage.

"It was just a merry-go-round of walks," May said. "You want any runs scored off you to be earned by the other team swinging the bat, not just standing there."

Since World War II, just two other major league starters have debuted with seven or more walks while failing to pitch past the third inning.

New York Yankees left-hander Steve Adkins walked eight while securing just four outs against the Texas Rangers on Sept. 12, 1990, and Chicago White Sox lefty Ken Kravec lasted just 2 1/3 innings while walking seven Kansas City Royals in his debut on Sept. 4, 1975.

Adkins made four more starts that season for the Yankees, posting a 6.38 earned-run average, and never returned to the majors. Kravec didn't start again until the following season but lasted through 1982 and had a career mark of 43-56 with a 4.47 ERA.

Four other starters since World War II have walked six or more in their debuts.

Francisco Liriano and Boof Bonser each walked seven for the Twins in recent years, but you have to go back to Rich Robertson's eight walks on July 17, 1996 to find a pitcher who walked more than May.

In all, May threw 35 balls in his 63 pitches. By comparison, that was one more ball than A's starter Jeff Samardija (3-1) threw in his 109-pitch outing that lasted six innings.

"All in all, most of the negative parts I take from today were my own doing," May said.

It was the Twins' 12th straight loss to the A's and their ninth straight at the Coliseum. Just three other times in Twins franchise history have they dropped 12 or more consecutive games to the same opponent: 2002-03 Yankees, 1998-99 Texas Rangers and 1980-81 Baltimore Orioles.

Just two of May's walks came in the first inning, which featured a run-scoring double by Josh Donaldson and ended with Josh Willingham throwing out Donaldson at the plate.

When May retired the first two batters on fly balls to open the second, it appeared he was settling in.

Just as quickly, however, the wheels fell off.

He missed the plate with 12 of his next 13 pitches, walking the bases full for Donaldson, who ripped a two-run single to left.

Two more walks followed to the A's Nos. 4 and 5 hitters, including a 10-pitch battle with cleanup hitter Brandon Moss. In all, the A's fouled off eight pitches in the second, forcing May to keep working even on those rare occasions when he actually found the strike zone.

The plate umpire was minor-league fill-in Pat Hoberg, a resident of Urbandale, Iowa who usually works the Pacific Coast League. But that wasn't the issue for May on this night.

Repeating his mechanics and locating his fastball were of much greater concern.

May did manage to complete the second after getting Josh Reddick on a grounder to second, but Sam Deduno replace him to start the third.

May, 24, was coming off a shaky outing for Triple-A Rochester, tying a season high with eight hits and four walks allowed on Monday at Louisville.

Third baseman Trevor Plouffe drove in half the Twins' runs, pulling him within one of his career-high for runs batted in (55), set in 2012.

### **Twins: Houston return still the hope for rehabbing Joe Mauer**

**Mike Berardino / Pioneer Press – 8/9/14**

OAKLAND, Calif. -- Joe Mauer missed his 33rd straight game Saturday with a strained right oblique muscle, but a Monday return in Houston was looking more promising by the hour.

After banging out three hits in five at-bats on Friday for Class A Cedar Rapids, the Twins' franchise first baseman reported "general soreness," according to Twins manager Ron Gardenhire.

"No problems -- he's had no problems whatsoever," Gardenhire said. "Just general soreness from playing in the field for nine innings, which he hasn't done too often lately. He's been out a month-plus. We'll see how he does (Saturday) night."

Saturday, Mauer went 2 for 4 with a pair of singles, leaving him 5 for 9 over the past two games. He played all nine innings again at first base for the Kernels, managed by older brother Jake Mauer.

A return on Monday at Houston could give the Twins a difficult decision on what to do with rookie slugger Kennys Vargas. Sending down a reliever such as Ryan Pressly could be another short-term solution.

"We're hoping it works out where (Mauer) joins us in Houston, but we'll see how he does (Saturday)," Gardenhire said. "If everything goes great, we're hoping Houston."

If Mauer isn't deemed ready by the close of Cedar Rapids' homestand on Sunday, he would report to Triple-A Rochester to continue his rehab assignment. The Red Wings open an eight-day homestand Monday against the Durham Bulls.

The Twins, who had gone 13-19 in Mauer's latest absence, return home Aug. 15 against Kansas City. It was against the Royals on July 1 that Mauer suffered the oblique injury while doubling to left.

### **Twinsights: It's official- Kennys Vargas punishes baseballs**

**Mike Berardino / Pioneer Press – 8/9/14**

OAKLAND, Calif. – Kennys Vargas didn't just rip a couple of base hits off the gloves of Oakland A's infielders Friday night.

The Twins' rookie slugger put himself in rare company when it comes to exit velocity in the major leagues.

According to the Twins, Vargas' fifth-inning shot off the glove of A's shortstop Jed Lowrie registered an exit velocity of 120.2 mph. That was the Twins' first hit of the game after left-hander Scott Kazmir was perfect through four innings.

Leading off the ninth against Oakland's all-star closer, Sean Doolittle, Vargas sent a ball at 117.5 mph off the glove of all-star third baseman Josh Donaldson. Both swings came from the right side for the switch-hitting Vargas.

"(Vargas) about killed two people on the Oakland Athletics by hitting a ball so hard," Twins manager Ron Gardenhire said. "I don't know if anybody's hit a ball that hard in a long time."

According to ESPN.com's Home Run Tracker, the two hardest-hit balls this season that carried over the fence both registered at 119.9 mph. Boston's David Ortiz hit that number on April 22, while Giancarlo Stanton of the Miami Marlins matched Big Papi on May 4.

Washington's Bryce Harper is reputed to have registered an exit velocity of 124 mph in recent years. The average exit velocity in the majors is 108 mph, according to several online resources.

According to efastball.com, a 120-mph exit velocity equates to an estimated distance of 443 feet. The ball Vargas hit off Donaldson at 117.5 mph would have carried an estimated 430 feet if he'd hit it on a different trajectory.

"Their third baseman might be able to talk about it a little more than I can because he almost got killed," Gardenhire said of Donaldson.

No wonder the skipper already calls Vargas, 24, one of his favorite players to watch walk up to the plate.

“Whether he strikes out or he hits it, he’s fun,” Gardenhire said. “He brings that entertainment value. There’s something really special to him. He’s got that, and he’s got a great attitude.”

## **Postgame Twinsights: Trevor May knows what he needs to fix**

**Mike Berardino / Pioneer Press – 8/10/14**

OAKLAND, Calif. — As much of a nightmare as Saturday night’s two-inning, seven-walk big-league debut was for Twins right-hander Trevor May, he’s actually had a worse day in his professional career.

Two years ago, while pitching at Double-A Reading in the Philadelphia Phillies organization, May had a game in Portland, Maine where he walked eight Sea Dogs, struck out seven and was done after four innings.

“It was horrendous,” May said. “It was the worst day pitching I’ve ever had in my life. It was a six-hour game. Anyone involved in that remembers that game.”

Just as May bounced back from that outing two years ago to gradually build his status as one of the top pitching prospects in the game, he is determined to emerge from this 9-4 shellacking by the Oakland A’s stronger and better. He will get the ball again, Twins manager Ron Gardenhire said, likely next Friday or Saturday against the surging Kansas City Royals.

May actually smiled after this one at the thought of getting back on the bullpen mound in a few days and starting the process of atonement.

“I’m excited to get out and get another chance and improve the things I need to improve,” he said. “There’s really not much mechanically or approach-wise I feel was the big difference. It was just execution — simply that. The best part about it is it’s a simple fix.”

With the powerful A’s loading up their lineup with seven left-handed hitters — Josh Donaldson and Derek Norris were the only exceptions — May leaned on his change-up even more than normal as he tried to survive long enough to find some sort of rhythm. At one point he threw nine straight off-speed pitches, most of them change-ups, but he doesn’t doubt himself for going away from his fastball.

While he touched 93 mph several times Saturday, May mostly worked at 90-92 mph with his fastball, which he struggled to command.

“Historically the change-up has been such a good strike pitch for me and it’s always gotten my fastball back to the lower half of the zone, where it needs to be,” May said. “Unfortunately the change-up was what was up in the zone today — above the zone, most of the time. If I were able to keep it down in the zone and keep it over the plate, I feel like I would have had much more success, adding and subtracting and keeping guys off the fastball a little bit.”

The A’s entered this one with a 39-20 home record, best in the majors, and led all teams with a 119 Runs Created Plus and a 10.2 percent walk rate at home. They were striking out at home just 16.3 percent of the time, third-best in the game, and May left with no strikeouts for the first time in 18 starts this year.

“There’s a reason they have 70-plus wins,” he said. “Just getting behind guys, this isn’t a team you do that to and find success. ... There were some close 2-0 pitches that historically I might have gotten a guy to get himself out that were just off the plate. They were balls, but it was all about just trying to get the run on my fastball to stay on the plate instead of running off.”

He mentioned those seven lefties in the A’s lineup. Josh Reddick accounted for two of the five outs May was able to secure on his own, with another coming on Josh Willingham’s third outfield assist of the year to end the first.

“Against those lefties, you’ve got to get that fastball away for strikes,” May said, “and it just wasn’t. It’s simple as that.”

Plate umpire Pat Hoberg, a 27-year-old Pacific Coast League fill-in from Urbandale, Iowa, didn't seem to do May any favors. Yet the rookie right-hander firmly denied he was being squeezed by the inexperienced umpire's unpredictable strike zone.

"You come up expecting for the guys behind the plate to know the zone better," May said. "That's how they get here, just like we do. I didn't feel squeezed at all. I felt like there were some close (pitches) that he gave me. In the end, it's up to me to adjust and be able to get ahead of hitters and put them away."

"It's rinse and repeat. The adjustments were not made as they should and as I know how to do and as I know I'm capable of. So, going into my next start, or even my bullpen, there's nothing to worry me because I know it was all stuff I was in control of."

May's maturity in the postgame inquisition was remarkable, actually. That doesn't always translate into on-field success, but it sure beats the alternative: excuse-making and denial.

"I said yesterday the difference between a good and bad outing is a handful of pitches most of the time," May said. "Those handful today were not executed at all. Looking back, I can identify which ones weren't executed. The next time I'm in situations like that, I need to make those pitches. Five or six, here or there, in those two innings, and it could have been a much different outing."

### **Kevin Correia trade clears path for Twins to plan for 2015 rotation**

**Derek Wetmore / 1500 ESPN – 8/10/14**

MINNEAPOLIS - The Twins on Saturday traded veteran pitcher Kevin Correia for cash considerations or a player to be named later. He's owed about than \$1.6 million the rest of the season. It makes plenty of sense to unload that salary and free up a rotation spot by jettisoning the 33-year-old who almost certainly didn't factor into the 2015 starting rotation.

There's nothing really to analyze about the return for Correia, because it's an unknown. But getting cash or a PTBNL often suggests one team was merely trying to unload that player.

With the Twins now a season-low 13 games below .500, it's worth exploring what the 2015 rotation may look like.

For starters Tommy Milone will be recalled from Triple-A to take Correia's place in the rotation. He'll start Monday night in Houston after making one start for Triple-A Rochester. It's a move that, in a vacuum, appears overdue, but the Twins appear to have incentive to keep Milone in the minors until Monday. Now, he won't reach three years of service time this season and the Twins can have him under team control for four seasons instead of three.

Could he earn a spot in the 2015 rotation?

In short, yes, but there will be competition.

The candidates

Phil Hughes and Ricky Nolasco are set in stone, leaving three available spots.

If the Twins get a fortunate break, Alex Meyer will leave camp as the pitcher with the most upside. Trevor May, despite his regrettable debut, certainly should be in the mix.

Then there's Kyle Gibson, who has spent this whole season in the rotation with reasonable success. He doesn't appear to have ace potential -- he has struck out about 5 batters per 9 innings -- but his high ground ball rate means he could remain a solid-average starting rotation option.

Milone, who came to the Twins from Oakland in the Sam Fuld trade, has 468 2/3 Major League innings. We have a fairly good idea of what the 27-year-old contributes. Milone has 339 strikeouts and 105 walks in the big leagues. He has a 3.84 ERA, and a 4.13 FIP, which may be a better predictor of his future ERA. He has a fastball in the high-80s (averages 87 mph). He was 6-3 with a 3.55 ERA (4.42 FIP) this season before the A's built a super rotation and he asked to be traded after being optioned to the minors.

Don't forget the Twins have Mike Pelfrey under contract for another season.

Then there are starters like Kris Johnson, Logan Darnell, Yohan Pino, Sam Deduno(?), who could figure into the equation if things don't go according to hope with higher upside pitchers.

If we're projecting, though, I'll take the highest upside:

Alex Meyer

Phil Hughes  
Ricky Nolasco  
Kyle Gibson  
Trevor May

## **Trevor May walks seven in two innings, Twins lose his big league debut**

### **Associated Press – 8/10/14**

OAKLAND, Calif. -- There's nothing like a couple of timely home runs to get a stagnant offense back on track.

Derek Norris hit a three-run homer, Stephen Vogt added a two-run shot, and the Oakland Athletics won their 12th straight against the Minnesota Twins with a 9-4 victory Saturday night.

"We've been getting progressively better offensively the last few days," manager Bob Melvin said. "The homers help. We've been a little shy with those recently. That cures a lot of ills when you're scoring two and three runs off one swing of the bat."

Jeff Samardzija (3-1) improved to 3-0 at home since coming to the AL West-leading A's in a trade from the Cubs on July 4. He followed winning lefties Jon Lester and Scott Kazmir, who kept Minnesota in check over the first two games of the series, with six tough innings that forced him to throw 109 pitches.

Vogt hit his second clout in three games in the fifth following a long funk. Norris connected for his 10th home run the next inning.

"When runners get on base that's the time when you make your money," he said. "My power may not be able to compete with (Josh) Donaldson, (Brandon) Moss and guys like that, but I like to think when I do it's meaningful and it's not a solo home run when we're up 8-0."

Oakland drew seven walks in two innings to chase Trevor May (0-1) quickly from his forgettable major league debut.

May threw 11 balls among his first 19 pitches and received a mound visit from pitching coach Rick Anderson after issuing a bases-loaded walk to Norris. But left fielder Josh Willingham fielded Josh Reddick's shallow fly and threw home for a nifty double play to save May further damage in a 21-pitch first.

Anderson was out again after May's three two-out walks loaded the bases in the second. Donaldson followed with a two-run single.

May, winless in his last three outings for Triple-A Rochester, walked seven while throwing 63 pitches on a cool night when the 6-foot-5 right-hander's parents traveled from Southwest Washington to be in the stands. The last Twins pitcher to walk seven was Francisco Liriano on Aug. 9, 2011, against Boston.

Long man Samuel Deduno relieved and gave up both home runs.

Samardzija allowed seven hits and two runs, struck out five and walked two as the A's earned their first three-game winning streak since six straight victories July 3-8.

Oakland's bullpen extended its scoreless innings streak to 29 2/3 innings before Jordan Schafer's eighth-inning RBI double off Dan Otero. The A's relievers set the mark Friday night at 28 2-3.

### **POSTGAME TRADE**

The Twins traded right-hander Kevin Correia to the Dodgers for a player to be named or cash. Minnesota will call up ex-A's lefty Tommy Milone to start Monday in Houston. Milone was dealt to the Twins at the July 31 deadline for outfielder Sam Fuld.

"We are really excited to get him. We didn't want to give up Sammy Fuld," manager Ron Gardenhire said. "We got a nice pitcher out of the deal, a guy that knows how to pitch in the big leagues, good track record. We're going to get him up here. ... We've made a spot now, and he's going to get the ball."

### **LA RUSSA'S FIRST PITCH**

Newly enshrined Hall of Famer Tony La Russa threw out the ceremonial first pitch to Twins bench coach Terry Steinbach on a night La Russa's bobblehead was the giveaway and a banner in his honor was unfurled in left field. He is the last manager to lead the A's to a World Series (1990) and championship ('89).

### **GOVERNOR'S VISIT**



New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie attended the game while on vacation with family, sporting a green A's cap during his latest ballpark stop. He sat behind the A's dugout.

#### TRAINER'S ROOM

Twins: After a three-hit performance in nine innings Friday night, first baseman Joe Mauer added two more hits as he again tested his strained right oblique muscle on a rehab assignment with Class-A Cedar Rapids. He is likely to rejoin the Twins on Monday to begin a series at Houston. "Everything seems to be good," Gardenhire said. "We're hoping Houston."

Athletics: Second baseman Nick Punto is still working through stiffness in his right hamstring that he strained Aug. 2. He is not close to resuming baseball activities and won't make the trip to Kansas City and Atlanta.

#### ON DECK

Twins: RHP Phil Hughes (11-8, 4.01 ERA), who snapped a three-game losing streak his last time out, faces the A's for the 12th time in his career and second this season in the series finale.

Athletics: RHP Jason Hammel (1-4, 7.15) tries to make it two straight wins after losing each of his first four starts following a July 4 trade from the Cubs.

### Can Trevor May help turn around one of Twins' chronic issues?

**Phil Mackey / 1500 ESPN – 8/9/14**

The Minnesota Twins were late to this party, but two years ago they realized a chronic issue needed to be fixed: A starting pitching staff that didn't strike anybody out.

One peek at the top of the MLB standings provided powerful evidence: The Phillies, Yankees, Brewers and Rangers were the four best teams in baseball at the time (2011). Those starting pitching staffs ranked 1st, 3rd, 10th and 9th in strikeouts. Does that mean strikeouts are the only ingredient needed to field a playoff baseball team? Of course not. But preventing opposing hitters from putting the ball in play is a pretty sure-fire way to prevent runs.

Recognizing this, the Twins set out to pick up power arms in the 2012 June draft (including J.O. Berrios and Mason Melotakis). A few months later, the Twins traded for power arms in the offseason (Alex Meyer and Trevor May).

The problem with drafting and trading for young power arms is they don't offer instant gratification. There's a slow cooking process involved - a process that is oftentimes slower in the Twins organization than in other places.

While the prospects have been cooking, so to speak, the strikeout drought has continued in 2014. Even with free agent addition Phil Hughes tallying frequent punch outs, the contact-prone nature of the rest of the staff has Twins starters, collectively, ranked dead last in strikeout rate (5.96 K/9) for the third consecutive year. This wouldn't be as big of a deal if the Twins didn't compound the problem by running out mostly statue-esque corner outfielders.

Orioles starters, by contrast, own the American League's second worst strikeout rate (6.6 K/9), but Baltimore fielders convert batted balls into outs at a higher rate than almost any defense in baseball. This helps explain why Baltimore's starting staff ERA (3.88) is a full run lower than the Twins' (4.96).

To put it simply, when a team combines a contact-prone pitching staff with statue-esque fielders who don't convert batted balls to outs, runs will be scored. A lot of runs.

An injection of Byron Buxton and Aaron Hicks into the outfield defense would help turn more fly balls and line drives into outs, but both of those players are still in the minor leagues. Hicks might be in line for a September call-up, but Buxton still has not played above High-A.

In the meantime, the Twins need to hope May - who will finally make his major league debut on Saturday night in Oakland - can stick in the rotation and help reverse the strikeout drought. Then Meyer. Then Berrios.

Since the Twins moved into Target Field, 70 MLB starting pitchers have thrown at least 150 innings with a strikeout rate below 6 K/9. Of those 70 starters, 10 donned a Twins uniform at some point during that stretch -- Brian Duensing (5.9 K/9), Sam Deduno (5.8), Jason Marquis (5.6), Liam Hendriks (5.3), Mike Pelfrey (5.2), Kevin Correia (5.1), Kyle Gibson (5.0), Carl Pavano (4.5), Scott Diamond (4.2) and Nick Blackburn (4.1).

May's mid-90's, downward-moving fastball and offspeed mix has helped him rack up 10.5 strikeouts per nine innings in his minor league career, including 91 punch outs in 95 1/3 innings for Triple-A Rochester this season.

The Twins desperately need him to replicate those trends in the big leagues.

## **Twins trade Correia to Dodgers**

**Tyler Mason / FOX Sports North – 8/10/14**

Twins pitcher Kevin Correia's name had long been mentioned as a possible trade candidate. Now, those rumors have come to fruition.

Following Saturday's game in Oakland, Minnesota announced that Correia has been traded to the Los Angeles Dodgers for a player to be named or cash. Additionally, the Twins will recall pitcher Tommy Milone from Triple-A Rochester to take Correia's place on the 25-man roster.

"It's always tough leaving guys you've played with for a while. They become good friends of yours," Correia said. "But it's nice to be able to go somewhere and play some important baseball games at the end of this year."

Correia, 33, is in the last year of a two-year contract with Minnesota. In 23 starts this year with the Twins, the right-hander was 5-13 with a 4.94 ERA. His 13 losses were the most in the American League, but he'll bring a veteran presence to the Dodgers rotation. Correia was the Twins' most consistent starting pitcher in 2013 when he was 9-13 with a 4.18 ERA.

Before coming to Minnesota, Correia spent his first 10 seasons with the Giants, Padres and Pirates. In 344 career games (213 starts), Correia has posted a 74-91 record with a 4.53 ERA. He signed a two-year, \$10 million contract with the Twins before the 2013 season.

Correia now leaves a Twins team in last place in the American League Central to join a Dodgers squad currently in first place in the National League West.

"I'm getting towards the end of my career, and you want to play in some meaningful games," said Correia, who has never pitched in the postseason. "I'm glad I'll get the opportunity to do that over there."

Milone, who was acquired in a trade with Oakland that sent Sam Fuld to the A's, is expected to start Monday in Houston in his Twins debut. The 27-year-old Milone was 6-3 with a 3.55 ERA in 16 starts for Oakland this season, but he was the odd man out in a loaded A's rotation after Oakland acquired several pitchers prior to the July 31 trade deadline.

Milone originally reported to Triple-A Rochester after the Twins traded for him late last month. He made one start for the Red Wings, allowing just one run in seven innings.

## **Twins rookie May endures unfortunate debut**

**Tyler Mason / FOX Sports North – 8/10/14**

Trevor May probably couldn't have envisioned a more disappointing Twins debut than what took place Saturday in Oakland.

Minnesota's right-hander made his first big-league start against the A's at O.co Coliseum, but the outing didn't last long. May walked seven batters in just two innings as his first night in a big-league uniform did not have a storybook ending.

With Twins fans anxiously awaiting this night, the hopes were high that May could translate his Triple-A success to the majors. Whatever the reason, May couldn't live up to those lofty expectations as he was on the hook for the loss in the Twins' 9-4 defeat. On top of his seven walks, he gave up three hits and four runs and needed 63 pitches to get through two innings.

"Our kid just had a hard time," said Twins manager Ron Gardenhire. "He just couldn't gather himself enough."

May's first pitch of the night yielded an out off the bat of Coco Crisp, a seemingly good omen for the 24-year-old Twins rookie. But the night went downhill from there, and fast. He gave up a base hit to former Minnesota outfielder Sam Fuld, and Josh Donaldson doubled to end a six-pitch at-bat. May then walked Brandon Moss on four pitches to load the bases, and with nowhere to put Derek Norris, May walked him, too.

The 1-0 lead May was handed in the top of the first inning disappeared before May could record the second out of his debut. He eventually escaped the inning with just the one A's run on the board, thanks to a throw by left fielder Josh Willingham on Josh Reddick's fly ball out that nabbed Donaldson at the plate. But May's evening was about to get much worse.

After May retired the first two Oakland batters in the bottom of the second inning, he simply couldn't find the strike zone. He walked Eric Sogard, Crisp and Fuld in succession to load the bases with two outs. Donaldson then drove in a pair of runs with a base hit, and May followed that up with another walk to Moss to load the bases. Norris worked another walk from May to bring in a run to put Oakland up 4-1 before May finally got out of the inning with the bases loaded. That was it for May in his debut. Two innings, seven walks, one loss.

"There was some excitement, some getting used to the ball, all kinds of stuff," May said. "But at the end of the day, there's no excuse for not making pitches when you need to and not executing and not being able to follow your plan when you're executing. That's the result you'll get."

There's plenty of historical context surrounding May's debut. According to the play index on [baseball-reference.com](http://baseball-reference.com), only two other pitchers since 1914 issued seven or more walks in two or fewer innings in their major-league debut: Yankees pitcher Steve Adkins - who walked eight in 1 1/3 hitless innings in 1990 -- and the Philadelphia Athletics' Frank Fahey back in 1918. May also becomes the first Twins pitcher to walk seven batters in a game since Francisco Liriano did so in 2011 against Boston.

Control has never been May's strongest suit. In 17 starts for Triple-A Rochester this year, he averaged 3.5 walks per nine innings -- and had three outings with four walks issued. Throughout his seven seasons in the minors, May walked an average of 4.4 batters per nine innings.

May's career high for walks in a game during his minor league days was eight, which occurred with Double-A Reading in 2012 in the Phillies' organization. His seven walks Saturday were certainly not what May wanted to accomplish in his first start in the majors after posting a 2.93 ERA this year with Rochester.

For as rough as Saturday's debut was, it sounds as if May will get another chance to redeem himself when his spot in the rotation comes up next.

"He just didn't have it. One of those nights," Gardenhire said. "We'll let him try it again here when his time's up the next time. . . . When you get in the big leagues, it's a different feeling than being anywhere else when you pitch. You've just got to be able to regroup and gather yourself a little bit. He just couldn't get it; he couldn't find the strike zone. A tough night for him. He'll be OK."