PREGAME NOTES

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2008 AL EAST CHAMPIONS | 2008 AL CHAMPIONS | 2010 AL EAST CHAMPIONS | 2020 AL EAST CHAMPIONS | 2020 AL CHAMPIONS

TAMPA BAY RAYS (3-3-0) vs. ATLANTA BRAVES (3-3-0)

RH Tyler Glasnow (0-0, 10.80) vs. RH Charlie Morton (0-0, 0.00)

Saturday, March 6, 2021 • **First Pitch:** 1:05 p.m. • **Location:** Charlotte Sports Park • **TV:** None • **Radio:** WDAE 95.3 FM/620 AM
Spring Game No.: 7 • **vs. AL Opponents:** 1-3-0 • **vs. NL Opponents:** 2-0-0 • **Home Games:** 2-1-0 • **Road Games:** 1-2-0
Day **17** of Spring Training • **26** Days Until Opening Day–Thursday, April 1 at Miami Marlins (4:10 p.m.)

PRONUNCIATION GUIDE	To hear Rays coaches and players pronouncing their names in their own voices, visit **RAYSBASEBALL.COM/PRONUNCIATION**.

UPCOMING PROBABLE PITCHERS & BROADCAST SCHEDULE

Upcoming Games	Time (ET)	Probable Pitchers (Rays vs. Opp.)	TV & Radio
Sat., 3/6 vs. ATL	1:05 p.m.	**TB**–RH Tyler Glasnow, RH Pete Fairbanks, RH Trevor Richards, LH Cody Reed, RH Hunter Strickland, RH Shane Baz; **ATL**–RH Charlie Morton, RH Huascar Ynoa, RH Victor Arano, LH Thomas Burrows, RH Kurt Hoekstra, LH Phil Pfeifer	WDAE 95.3 FM/620 AM
Sun., 3/7 at MIN	1:05 p.m.	**TB**–TBD; **MIN**–LH Lewis Thorpe, RH Glenn Sparkman, LH Danny Coulombe, RH Ian Gibaut	FOX Sports Sun, WDAE 95.3 FM/620 AM

CATCH SOME RAYS—MLB Network is visiting Port Charlotte today for their "30 Clubs in 30 Days" tour, with **Scott Braun** and **Tom Verducci** conducting Zoom interviews of Manager **Kevin Cash**, OF **Randy Arozarena**, LH **Rich Hill**, INF **Brandon Lowe** and CF **Kevin Kiermaier**...interviews will run during the day on MLB Network and on MLB Tonight at 7 p.m.

- There are 11 new faces on the 40-man roster—four free agents, four acquired via trade and three from the minor league system.
- The Rays have a club-record 77 players on their spring roster: 42 pitchers, 8 catchers, 15 infielders and 12 outfielders...prior to 2021, the largest camp roster was 76 players (1999)...the 77 players on the spring roster includes four rehabbing pitchers on the 60-day IL.
- The Rays are sold out of tickets for home spring games...tickets were all sold within five minutes of going on sale to the public.

TWO DISTINCT ERAS—Since becoming the Rays in 2008, the Rays own the 5th-best record in baseball at 1,081-924 (.539) and have made six trips to the postseason, incl. three AL East division titles (2020, 2010, 2008) and two World Series appearances (2020, 2008)...during this span, only three clubs (Dodgers, Yankees, Cardinals) have reached the postseason more often, and only two (Dodgers, Giants) have competed in more World Series...the Rays have seven 90-win seasons since 2008, a number matched by only three other teams in baseball: Dodgers (8), Red Sox (7) and Yankees (7)...this success comes after the Devil Rays amassed the majors' worst record at 645-972 (.399) over the club's first decade of existence.

- The Rays enter the 2021 season on the heels of the second AL pennant in team history...in 2020, the Rays went 40-20 (.667), the best winning pct. in club history...it was the fourth straight season they improved their winning pct., all under Manager **Kevin Cash**.

SLICE OF GRAPEFRUIT—Per MLB's 2021 guidelines, games from Feb 28–March 13 (excluding ESPN games) will be scheduled for 7 innings, though they can be shortened to 5 innings or lengthened to 9 innings upon mutual agreement of both managers...games from March 14-30 will be scheduled for 9 innings, though managers can decide to shorten to 7 innings.

- Earlier last month, Major League Baseball released a revised, regionalized Grapefruit League schedule to mitigate travel...28 of the Rays 29 spring games are against the Braves (7), Orioles (3), Pirates (2), Red Sox (8) and Twins (8)...the only exception is the final game—March 30 in Lakeland (Tigers)—after the Rays move their major league operations to Tropicana Field to prepare for Opening Day.
- In 2020, three players who entered spring training as non-roster invites made the Opening Day roster...incl. postseason, nine non-roster invites spent time on the Rays active roster last season.

THE SKIPPER—**Kevin Cash** enters his seventh season as Rays manager...he is baseball's 3rd-longest-tenured manager with his current team behind OAK **Bob Melvin** (10th full season) and CLE **Terry Francona** (9th season)...Cash's career 454-416 (.522) record is the best winning pct. of any manager in club history...last season he was named AL Manager of the Year by the BBWAA, receiving 22 of 30 first-place votes...was the second manager in Rays history to win it, joining **Joe Maddon** (2008 and 2011).

- At 42 years old in 2020, Cash was the youngest manager to reach the World Series since **Ozzie Guillén** (41) in 2005 (White Sox).
- Three other current managers are former members of his coaching staff: **Rocco Baldelli** (Twins), **Charlie Montoyo** (Blue Jays) and **Derek Shelton** (Pirates)...Cash is one of six former Rays players who have gone on to manage major league teams...the others: Guillén (White Sox, Marlins), **Mickey Callaway** (Mets), **Gabe Kapler** (Phillies, Giants), **Dave Martinez** (Nationals) and Baldelli (Twins).

MINOR MATTERS—The Rays enter the 2021 season ranked by *Baseball America*, Baseball Prospectus, ESPN and *The Athletic* as the No. 1 farm system in the game...the Rays will attempt to complete the sweep when MLB.com releases their organizational rankings in mid-March...MLB.com placed eight Rays prospects on its preseason Top 100, most of any team.

- Non-roster INF **Wander Franco** is the consensus No. 1 overall prospect in the minors...he became the fourth player to rank as *Baseball America*'s top prospect in consecutive years, joining **Bryce Harper** (2011-12), **Joe Mauer** (2004-05) and **Andruw Jones** (1996-97).
- This season the Rays continued affiliation with Durham, Montgomery and Bowling Green and added Low-A Charleston (S.C.).

RAYS vs. BRAVES—Today is the second of seven Grapefruit League games against the Braves for the Battle of Tamiami Trail, which includes four at Charlotte Sports Park and three in North Port...the Rays won, 9-7, at home in their spring opener... last spring the Rays went 1-1-1 against the Braves and turned a 6-3-4 triple play against them on March 7...the two clubs met four times in the regular season, with the Rays going 2-0 at Tropicana Field and 0-2 at Truist Park.

LINEUP vs. ATLANTA

No.	Player	Pos.
2	Yandy Díaz	1B
17	Austin Meadows (L)	LF
56	Randy Arozarena	RF
26	Ji-Man Choi (L)	DH
25	Yoshi Tsutsugo (L)	3B
1	Willy Adames	SS
18	Joey Wendle (L)	2B
13	Manuel Margot	CF
10	Mike Zunino	C
20	Tyler Glasnow	RHP

- The Rays nearly met the Braves in the World Series...both teams went to a Game 7 in their League Championship Series, with the Rays beating the Astros and the Braves losing to the Dodgers.

UNCLE CHARLIE—Today the Rays are facing RH **Charlie Morton**, who spent the last two seasons with the Rays and went 18-8 with a 3.33 ERA (232.2-IP, 86-ER) in 42 starts...he was even better in the postseason, going 5-1 with a 2.10 ERA (30-IP, 7-ER) in 6 starts and was the winning pitcher in the 2019 AL Wild Card Game at OAK and Game 7 of the 2020 ALCS vs. HOU...he has four career wins in "winner take all" games and five career wins in potential elimination games, both major league records...his five postseason wins with the Rays are the most in club postseason history.

YESTERDAY'S RECAP—The Rays fell behind, 4-0, in the 1st inning, came back to take a 5-4 lead through the 6th inning but lost, 6-5, on a walk-off, 2-run homer in the 7th...LH **Rich Hill** started, faced six batters and did not record an out before the inning was rolled over...SS **Wander Franco** went 2-for-2 including a go-ahead RBI single with 2 outs in the 6th...the Rays lost when RH **Drew Strotman** allowed a walk-off homer...through 6 games this spring, the Rays have both won and lost on walk-off homers.

TODAY'S STARTER vs. ATL—RH Tyler Glasnow (0-0, 10.80 ERA)

- **2020 Regular Season:** 5-1, 4.08 ERA (57.1-IP, 26-ER) in 11 starts
- **2020 Postseason:** 2-3, 6.28 ERA (28.2-IP, 20-ER) in 6 starts
- In 2020, led the Rays with 57.1 IP and 91 SO and tied for 2nd with 5 wins behind RH **Pete Fairbanks** (6)...went 5-0 with a 3.00 ERA (42-IP, 14-ER) and 64 SO in his last 7 starts beginning Aug 19 at NYY.
- His active 5-game winning streak is his longest since winning a career-high six straight decisions from March 30–May 3, 2019.
- His 91 SO were 4th in the AL behind CLE **Shane Bieber** (122), CWS **Lucas Giolito** (97) and NYY **Gerrit Cole** (94)...min. 50 IP, his 14.28 SO/9 IP ratio led the majors and ranked 2nd in franchise history.
- Held batters to a .120 avg. (10-for-83) in at-bats ending with the curveball, 5th in the majors (min. 25 AB)...recorded 48 SO on a swing-and-miss against his curveball, most in the majors...totaled 58 SO with the pitch, 2nd in the majors to HOU **Framber Valdéz** (60).
- The Rays won his first 3 starts of the postseason and lost the last three...yielded 9 HR, a major league record for a single postseason... in Game 2 of the ALDS vs. NYY, recorded a Rays postseason-record 10 SO...started the decisive Game 5 of the ALDS opposite **Gerrit Cole**...faced the Yankees once through the order and did not allow a run or hit, but walked two and got 2 outs on 3-0 pitches.

ON THE AIRWAVES—Both games this weekend will air on WDAE 95.3 FM/620 AM, with **Dave Wills** and **Andy Freed** on the call...Dave and Andy are entering their 17th season together; only the Giants and Tigers have longer-tenured full-season radio broadcast duos...Rays fans have enjoyed remarkable stability in the radio booth, as **Neil Solondz** begins his 10th season as host of the pre- and postgame shows...third base coach **Rodney Linares** and SS **Willy Adames** are guests on this week's Countdown to Opening Day show, airing today and tomorrow at 12:30 p.m.

VIDEO ON A SILVER PLATTER—The Rays will provide a daily postgame video feed of all non-televised spring training games, including today... for day games, video should be uploaded by 5:15 p.m. ...to receive email updates, contact **Chris Tilley** at rayspringtraining@gmail.com.

2021 SPRING INNINGS PLAYED

PLAYER	C	1B	2B	3B	SS	LF	CF	RF	DH
Adames					13				
Arozarena						9		4	
Betts	3								
Boldt						4	3	4	
Brosseau		4		8					
Bruján			7		3		5		
Choi		3							5
Díaz		4		8					
Edwards			11						
Franco					12				8
Gómez						7		6	
Gray		8							
Hunt	4								3
Jones						5			
Kelly		14							
Kiermaier									
Lowe, B					13				
Lowe, J								10	7
Lukes						5	6		
Margot							8	5	
Mastrobuoni		3						8	
Meadows						9			4
Mejía	9								7
Odom	7								
Padlo				13					
Phillips							13		
Pinto	3								1
Quiroz			3	5					
Smith	4								
Sullivan	3					3			
Tsutsugo		4				4			6
Walls			6	3	4				
Wendle			1	4	4				
Whitley							6	4	
Zunino	9								

SPRING TRANSACTIONS

FEBRUARY

14 Placed LH **Jalen Beeks** (recovery from Tommy John surgery) and LH **Colin Poche** (recovery from Tommy John surgery) on the 60-day IL; acquired minor league 1B **Evan Edwards** from the Miami Marlins in exchange for RH **John Curtiss**; acquired RH **Chris Mazza**, LH **Jeffrey Springs** and cash considerations from the Boston Red Sox in exchange for C **Ronaldo Hernández** and minor league INF **Nick Sogard**; signed RH **Oliver Drake** and LH **Rich Hill** to one-year contracts.

22 Placed RH **Yonny Chirinos** (recovery from Tommy John surgery) and RH **Oliver Drake** (right flexor tendon strain) on the 60-day IL; signed RH **Collin McHugh** and RH **Chaz Roe** to one-year contracts.

RAYS SPRING TRAINING HISTORY

YEAR	W-L-T	ATT.	YEAR	W-L-T	ATT.	YEAR	W-L-T	ATT.	YEAR	W-L-T	ATT.
2021	3-3-0	3,381	2014	16-7-4	78,264	2007	10-19-2	79,044	2000	14-17-0	67,089
2020	9-8-4	44,511	2013	15-17-2	90,935	2006	13-16-1	70,756	1999	14-14-1	59,230
2019	13-17-2	74,023	2012	10-16-6	87,916	2005	13-16-0	61,261	1998	12-18-0	66,781
2018	14-16-2	69,731	2011	15-14-2	95,859	2004	11-8-0	43,916		**304-329-45**	**1,637,055**
2017	12-16-5	81,752	2010	20-8-2	97,971	2003	8-19-3	51,324			
2016	12-13-2	68,566	2009	15-16-1	103,255	2002	10-16-1	49,043			
2015	15-13-2	80,406	2008	18-8-2	54,960	2001	12-15-1	57,081			

2021 TAMPA BAY RAYS SPRING TRAINING SCHEDULE

DAY	DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	TV/R	TIME/SCORE	W-L-T	WINNER	LOSER	ATT.
Sun	Feb 28	Atlanta	Charlotte County	W	W, 9-7 (7)	1-0-0	Rios (1-0)	Burrows (0-1)	1,127
Mon	March 1	Minnesota	Charlotte County	M	L, 5-6 (6)	1-1-0	Anderson (1-0)	Zombro (0-1)	1,127
Tues	March 2	@Boston	Fort Myers	E	L, 3-9	1-2-0	Pérez (1-0)	Hess (0-1)	1,860
Wed	March 3	Pittsburgh	Charlotte County	F/M	W, 3-1 (6)	2-2-0	Fleming (1-0)	Yajure (0-1)	1,127
Thurs	March 4	@Minnesota	Lee County	F	W, 5-2 (7)	3-2-0	Patiño (1-0)	Robles (0-1)	2,156
Fri	March 5	@Boston	Fort Myers		L, 5-6 (7)	3-3-0	McCarthy (1-0)	Strotman (0-1)	1,909
Sat	March 6	Atlanta	Port Charlotte	W	1:05 p.m.				
Sun	March 7	@Minnesota	Lee County	F/W	1:05 p.m.				
Tues	March 9	Boston	Charlotte County	F/M	1:05 p.m.				
Wed	March 10	Minnesota	Charlotte County	F/M	1:05 p.m.				
Thurs	March 11	@Atlanta	North Port		1:05 p.m.				
Fri	March 12	@Boston	Fort Myers		1:05 p.m.				
Sat	March 13	Minnesota	Charlotte County	F/W	1:05 p.m.				
Sun	March 14	@Atlanta	North Port	W	1:05 p.m.				
Mon	March 15	Boston	Charlotte County	F/M	1:05 p.m.				
Tues	March 16	Baltimore	Charlotte County	F/M	1:05 p.m.				
Wed	March 17	@Pittsburgh	Bradenton		1:05 p.m.				
Fri	March 19	@Boston	Fort Myers		1:05 p.m.				
Sat	March 20	@Minnesota	Lee County	W	6:05 p.m.				
Sun	March 21	Atlanta	Charlotte County	W	1:05 p.m.				
Mon	March 22	Boston	Charlotte County	F/M	1:05 p.m.				
Tues	March 23	@Baltimore	Sarasota		1:05 p.m.				
Wed	March 24	Minnesota	Charlotte County	F/M	1:05 p.m.				
Thurs	March 25	@Atlanta	North Port		1:05 p.m.				
Fri	March 26	Boston	Charlotte County	F/M	1:05 p.m.				
Sat	March 27	@Minnesota	Lee County	F/W	1:05 p.m.				
Sun	March 28	Atlanta	Charlotte County	F/W	1:05 p.m.				
Mon	March 29	@Baltimore	Sarasota		1:05 p.m.				
Tues	March 30	@Detroit	Lakeland		1:05 p.m.				

Home Games shaded gray **TELEVISION:** FOX Sports Sun (F), ESPN (E) **RADIO:** WDAE 95.3 FM/620 AM (W), MLB.com (M)