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THE 2027 ROSTER PROJECT / MILWAUKEE BREWERS

Keep the Brewers' advantage

Defend the title. Preserve the next good choice.

103	+214	3
WINS	RUN MARGIN	COSTED PATHS

An independent review of the roster, defense, pitching, farm system and financial choices.

A preferred plan. A cheaper alternative.
A clear account of what could go wrong.

Richard Brown | November 3, 2026

Completed 2026 regular season. Roster and market checks November 3.

Independent analysis. Proposed prices and workloads are scenarios.

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READING GUIDE

Start with the decision. Then test the evidence.

The opening brief states the recommendation and its price. The main analysis tests the roster and the alternatives. The back of the report preserves the player register, definitions and sources.

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A single public edition is suitable for forwarding. The analysis makes no claim of club affiliation or access to private baseball information.

ANALYSIS / 01

The decision: pay for continuity where it is hardest to replace

Milwaukee should enter this winter prepared to pay Jake Bauers for one more season, keep William Contreras and Trevor Megill, and preserve the young rotation's opportunities. The largest internal change should come on the left side of the infield: give Cooper Pratt a real shortstop audition and make Joey Ortiz the primary third baseman with shortstop coverage. That is a more specific response to this roster than another broad search for veteran names.

The champions scored 832 runs and allowed 618 in a 103-win regular season. Their advantage was broad enough to withstand imperfection. They finished second in runs and second in ERA across MLB, despite hitting only 154 home runs. The case for continuity rests on that full-season foundation, the quality of the returning players and the cost of replacing their jobs. [1,2,23]

Bauers' free agency is the immediate fork. His 578 plate appearances produced a .389 on-base percentage, 26 home runs and an .873 OPS. His .371 expected weighted on-base average supports treating the improvement as more than a favorable run of outcomes. Andrew Vaughn offers an internal alternative, but his .368 actual wOBA compared with a .329 expected figure makes him a less certain replacement than his .834 OPS suggests. [1,5,23]

The club has already made Bauers a one-year, $23.15 million qualifying offer, with a November 17 decision deadline. [16] Budget for acceptance. Do not commit that same money elsewhere while the offer is open. If he declines, investigate a two-year agreement at an S&S ceiling of $36-40 million, then move to the internal first-base plan if the price or term runs beyond it. The ceiling expresses this report's tolerance for age and performance risk. It is not an estimate of his demands.

Plan A reserves the full qualifying offer plus $6-8 million for depth. That is $29.15-31.15 million beyond the existing-roster planning base, producing an annual allocation of approximately $147.96-153.96 million before benefits, tax and other excluded costs. It retains Vaughn's arbitration allowance and assumes no savings from trading a player. Ownership's actual spending limit is not public evidence in this report.

If Bauers leaves, Plan B investigates Nick Martinez at two years and $26-30 million while expanding Vaughn's work. Plan C makes no major outside purchase and retains only the depth allowance. Neither alternative receives Bauers' offensive production on paper. The missing plate appearances, the greater reliance on internal development and the different pitching opportunities are shown explicitly below.

The strongest reason to reject Plan A is also plain. A large one-year first-base commitment, alongside a retained Vaughn and Christian Yelich, concentrates money and plate appearances in a crowded part of the roster. The answer is disciplined playing time, a short commitment and a willingness to use Plan C. It is not to pretend that a championship has removed the risk of regression.

ANALYSIS / 02

How Milwaukee built a 214-run margin

Season	RS / RA	Margin / HR	OPS	ERA / MLB rank
2024	777 / 641	+136 / 177	.729	3.65 / 5
2025	806 / 634	+172 / 166	.735	3.58 / 2
2026	832 / 618	+214 / 154	.744	3.51 / 2

Milwaukee's run differential improved from plus-136 in 2024 to plus-172 in 2025 and plus-214 in 2026. The latest 42-run gain came from scoring 26 more runs and allowing 16 fewer. Both sides contributed. This was not a team whose record depended on one exceptional offensive season compensating for a weak staff. [2]

42 RUNS OF MARGIN GAINED

2025: +172 / 2026: +214



Scoring and prevention both improved the regular-season margin.

Source: MLB regular seasons. November 3, 2026 edition.

The offense's shape matters. Its 668 walks helped produce a .341 team OBP and gave the lineup another way to score when a ball did not leave the park. Home runs declined from 177 to 166 to 154 across the three seasons while total scoring rose. The club should protect its ability to reach base and its defensive coverage before paying for a power total that does not fit an actual position. [1,2,23]

There are limits to that interpretation. Team OBP and run totals reflect the sequence of events, opposing pitching and the contributions of players who may leave. They do not establish that this exact offensive formula will repeat. Bauers alone supplied 94 walks, and losing those opportunities cannot be repaired by retaining a slogan about patient hitting. [1,23]

Milwaukee stole 162 bases and was caught 54 times, a 75% success rate. That is a description of its activity, not a calculated net run value. A proposed running-game improvement should use the base-out situation and the individual runner, rather than assuming every additional attempt helps. The first objective remains to put the right hitters on base. [1,23]

The staff's 3.51 ERA also needs its proper denominator: 1,446 2/3 innings, 1,544 strikeouts and 518 walks. The ERA excludes unearned runs; the 618 runs allowed do not. Defensive innings summed across positions

are a different measure and cannot be substituted for staff innings. That distinction matters when comparing how much work the team must replace. [1,23]

ANALYSIS / 03

October confirms the ceiling, not every winter choice

The Brewers went 11-2 in the postseason. They beat San Diego in four Division Series games, swept Los Angeles in the NLCS and beat Tampa Bay in five World Series games. The title-clinching final was Milwaukee 4, Tampa Bay 1 on October 28. Those outcomes belong in the club's record, separately from its regular-season totals. [24]

That run provides evidence that the roster could solve several different opponents over a concentrated stretch. It does not tell us that every player should keep the same job or that every free agent should return. A winter decision must consider how a player reaches his next 400 plate appearances or 150 innings, not just how his last important appearance felt.

The most useful lesson from October is the value of having choices. A roster with multiple credible starters, flexible relief and defenders who cover difficult positions lets a manager respond to the game in front of him. Preserving those choices is a reason to avoid using a limited budget on redundant hitters or treating young starting candidates as disposable because they did not occupy the same role all year.

There is also a case for retaining established contributors through a final year of control. A trade can improve a farm system and still weaken the next season if the incoming value cannot cover the outgoing job. This report recommends keeping Contreras and Megill unless an actual offer supplies enough present value and future control to justify the loss. No proposed return is invented to make that trade sound painless.

ANALYSIS / 04

The roster after the option decisions

Player / MLB ID	2026 MIL contribution	November 3 classification
Jake Bauers / 641343	578 PA / .873 OPS	Free agent; $23.15M QO pending
Gary Sánchez / 596142	275 PA / .771 OPS	Free agent after declined mutual option
Brandon Woodruff / 605540	45.1 IP / 2.98 ERA	Free agent
Dustin May / 669160	36.2 IP / 5.65 ERA	Free agent after declined mutual option
JoJo Romero / 668941	13.1 IP / 3.38 ERA	Free agent
Antonio Senzatela / 622608	21.0 IP / 5.14 ERA	Free agent after declined club option
Jared Koenig / 657649	7.0 IP / 9.00 ERA	Outrighted, then elected MLB free agency

Player / MLB ID	2026 MIL contribution	November 3 classification
Bryse Wilson / 669060	25.2 IP / 3.51 ERA	Outrighted, then minor-league free agent
Akil Baddoo / 668731	No MIL MLB workload in collected season row	Claimed by Pittsburgh

The current official administrative roster lists 33 players, including three on the 60-day injured list. That is a list of affiliations and statuses, not a count of occupied offseason roster slots or a projected Opening Day team. The later option announcements and transactions control where older player cards or cached feeds still show the last club. [3,4,17,18]

Bauers, Gary Sanchez, Brandon Woodruff, Dustin May, JoJo Romero and Antonio Senzatela are separated from the returning roster. Jared Koenig and Bryse Wilson have also reached free agency after outright assignments. Akil Baddoo was claimed by Pittsburgh. A previous organizational association is not a retained player. [4,15,17,18]

The listed departing pitchers supplied 149 Milwaukee innings in 2026. That figure uses their Brewers-only pitching rows and excludes position players' pitching work. It is the loss represented by this table, not a census of every player who left Milwaukee at some point during the year. The roster can cover that amount internally, but the allocation must show which pitchers receive the work. [1,23]

The three current IL60 pitchers, Angel Zerpa, Brian Fitzpatrick and Quinn Priester, remain part of the organization in the checked roster. The central workload plan assigns none of them guaranteed innings. Their return would improve the depth choices; it should not be required to make the plan's arithmetic work. Roster status alone does not establish a recovery date. [3]

Woodruff illustrates why the sequence of medical reporting matters. MLB reported in August that his previously planned shoulder operation was no longer needed. [19] His later roster activation and free-agent election do not establish a healthy 2027 workload. A reunion can be considered after a current evaluation, but it is not the volume foundation of this report.

ANALYSIS / 05

The returning lineup and its real workload

Player / MLB ID	PA	AVG / OBP / SLG	HR	BB / K
Brice Turang / 668930	680	.268 / .366 / .450	21	90 / 171
William Contreras / 661388	640	.270 / .341 / .417	18	61 / 94
Jackson Chourio / 694192	573	.291 / .351 / .487	25	47 / 134
Garrett Mitchell / 669003	531	.262 / .354 / .416	11	60 / 167
Christian Yelich / 592885	500	.235 / .315 / .378	12	49 / 135
Joey Ortiz / 687401	415	.270 / .328 / .402	9	35 / 82
David Hamilton / 666152	387	.245 / .314 / .336	4	32 / 86

Player / MLB ID	PA	AVG / OBP / SLG	HR	BB / K
Sal Frelick / 686217	384	.230 / .295 / .319	4	31 / 38
Andrew Vaughn / 683734	331	.306 / .390 / .444	6	35 / 53
Cooper Pratt / 806198	266	.281 / .350 / .368	3	26 / 48
Luis Lara / 800325	212	.246 / .311 / .325	1	18 / 46
Brandon Lockridge / 663604	113	.277 / .348 / .327	0	11 / 33
Tyler Black / 672012	28	.333 / .357 / .481	0	1 / 7
Bo Naylor / 666310	8	.286 / .375 / .714	1	1 / 3
Jeferson Quero / 691620	2	.000 / .500 / .000	0	1 / 0

The lineup still has three clear anchors in Brice Turang, Jackson Chourio and Contreras. Their combined value is not limited to the batting order. Turang covers second base, Chourio supplies a productive everyday outfielder and Contreras handles the largest catching workload. Replacing any of those jobs would require more than matching a single offensive statistic.

Turang's 680 plate appearances, 90 walks and 21 home runs made him a major source of both opportunities and damage. Chourio hit 25 home runs in 573 plate appearances. Contreras' 640 plate appearances and .758 OPS came from a position where the club also needed him to catch 1,085 2/3 innings. The next roster should protect that combination rather than force one of those players to compensate for every weakness. [1,10,23]

The uncertainty is concentrated in the remaining work. Yelich had a .693 OPS in 500 plate appearances, Frelick a .614 OPS in 384, and Hamilton a .650 OPS in 387. Those are meaningful samples. The answer is not to remove all three at once, because their contracts, defensive roles and replacement choices differ. It is to make their next opportunities conditional on the job being filled.

Pratt's 266 plate appearances and .718 OPS are enough to justify an extended look, but not enough to declare him a finished everyday hitter. Lara's .636 OPS in 212 plate appearances leaves a larger offensive question. Both can receive development opportunities while the club remains competitive if the surrounding roster supplies credible alternatives. An eight-figure contract is not itself proof of readiness.

ANALYSIS / 06

The contact-quality test

Player	wOBA	xwOBA	SLG / xSLG	Reading
Jake Bauers	0.381	0.371	0.484 / 0.467	Free agent; strongest contact case among first-base choices
Andrew Vaughn	0.368	0.329	0.444 / 0.380	Actual results ahead of contact model
Christian Yelich	0.305	0.308	0.378 / 0.385	Little expected-stat rebound is visible
Brice Turang	0.358	0.344	0.450 / 0.428	Productive year; some expected-stat regression
William Contreras	0.330	0.334	0.417 / 0.441	Underlying offense broadly supports actual output
Jackson Chourio	0.361	0.344	0.487 / 0.475	Strong actual year; avoid automatic growth forecast
Garrett Mitchell	0.340	0.353	0.416 / 0.447	Expected power offers room, strikeouts remain
Joey Ortiz	0.321	0.297	0.402 / 0.346	Glove helps carry weaker contact model
Cooper Pratt	0.320	0.315	0.368 / 0.362	Small sample supports an audition
Sal Frelick	0.275	0.281	0.319 / 0.324	Weak damage on contact, not a strikeout problem

Expected statistics help separate some parts of performance from the final outcome. They are models of the observed season, not forecasts of next year's health, mechanics or playing time. A gap should prompt a closer look, not a mechanical replacement of the actual line with the expected one. All figures here cover the completed 2026 MLB regular season. [5]

Bauers' .381 wOBA and .371 xwOBA are close enough to support the central point: his best offensive year came with unusually strong underlying contact results for this group. Vaughn's .368 and .329 are farther apart. Vaughn remains useful, especially in selected matchups, but the club should not multiply his .834 OPS by a full season and call the Bauers vacancy solved.

Yelich's .305 wOBA and .308 xwOBA offer little evidence of a large rebound hidden beneath the results. His .385 expected slugging was also close to the actual .378. A comeback would therefore need a change in performance, rather than simply more favorable outcomes on substantially similar contact. That is a reasonable possibility to test, not an assumption to place in the middle of the order.

Mitchell presents a more encouraging gap. His .353 xwOBA and .447 expected slugging exceeded his .340 and .416 actual marks. Yet 167 strikeouts in 531 plate appearances remain part of the offensive cost. The opportunity is to preserve the quality of his contact while reducing the empty trips, not to promise that both improvements arrive together. [1,5,23]

Ortiz and Hamilton also finished ahead of their expected offensive marks. That makes the defensive distinction between them more important. If both bats encounter more difficult outcomes, Ortiz has a stronger demonstrated range foundation to support an everyday role. Hamilton needs to contribute in a narrower reserve job and cannot be treated as the default answer to the third-base question.

ANALYSIS / 07

Bauers, Vaughn and the price of the first-base decision

Player	2024 OPS / PA	2025 OPS / PA	2026 OPS / PA
Jake Bauers	.662 / 346	.752 / 218	.873 / 578
Andrew Vaughn	.699 / 619	.718 / 447	.834 / 331
Christian Yelich	.910 / 315	.795 / 644	.693 / 500
Brice Turang	.665 / 619	.794 / 659	.816 / 680
William Contreras	.831 / 679	.754 / 659	.758 / 640
Jackson Chourio	.791 / 573	.771 / 589	.838 / 573
Garrett Mitchell	.811 / 224	.580 / 78	.770 / 531
Sal Frelick	.655 / 524	.756 / 594	.614 / 384

Bauers improved from a .662 OPS in 2024 to .752 in a smaller 2025 sample and .873 in 2026. His latest season was both his largest recent workload and his strongest production. That makes the case more persuasive than a breakout confined to a few weeks, while the size of the improvement still argues against a long guarantee. [1,21,23]

The proposed two-year ceiling of $36-40 million, if the qualifying offer is declined, would lower the annual allocation to $18-20 million while adding a second guaranteed season. The decision is a trade between annual room and exposure to another year of decline. A third guaranteed season would require a stronger case than this evidence establishes. The outstanding qualifying offer remains the binding contingency until its outcome is known.

Player	vs LHP: PA / OPS	vs RHP: PA / OPS
Jake Bauers	160 / .901	418 / .863
Andrew Vaughn	133 / .938	198 / .764
Christian Yelich	130 / .610	370 / .722
Garrett Mitchell	129 / .668	402 / .802
Sal Frelick	98 / .541	286 / .640
Joey Ortiz	150 / .664	265 / .768
Cooper Pratt	70 / .572	196 / .768

Vaughn's .938 OPS against left-handed pitching in 133 plate appearances and .764 against righties in 198 create a useful lineup option. Bauers, however, produced a .901 OPS against lefties and .863 against righties. The first-base plan should not automatically bench Bauers against every left-hander merely because Vaughn bats right-handed. The samples support matchup judgment, not an inflexible platoon rule. [9]

The more natural source of selected Vaughn opportunities is DH. Yelich's 2026 split was .610 against lefties and .722 against righties. Resting Yelich or moving the better current hitter into the lineup does not require inventing a new defensive position for either player. Vaughn's 58 third-base innings do not establish an everyday solution there. [9,10]

Retaining both first basemen carries an opportunity cost. Vaughn's proposed $8.5 million arbitration allowance is fully retained in all three budgets. If an actual trade offer later clears, the payroll and playing-time plan can be rebuilt around the return. No savings or acquired talent is credited here. A plan that needs an unidentified trade partner before its numbers work is not fully funded.

ANALYSIS / 08

The outfield: keep the center, demand more from the corners

Chourio's .838 OPS and plus-seven OAA support keeping him in the everyday core. His .344 xwOBA was lower than his .361 actual wOBA, so the budget should not depend on another immediate leap in offense. His value already comes from combining a productive bat with useful defensive range. [1,5,7,23]

Mitchell played 1,105 center-field innings and recorded plus-seven OAA. That is a substantial position-specific workload behind the center-field assignment. The arm component in Savant's broader fielding measure was less favorable, which is one reason range and total defensive value should not be treated as identical statistics. His offensive and defensive evidence still make him the first choice in center. [7,8,10]

Frelick's weak offensive season requires a different response from a player who simply struck out too often. He struck out only 38 times in 384 plate appearances, but hit four home runs and slugged .319. The low strikeout rate kept balls in play; it did not create enough damaging contact. His .324 expected slugging offers little reason to assume the problem disappears without a change in the quality of that contact. [1,5,23]

Frelick still has a defensive role, but the full account is mixed. His plus-three OAA measures range, while his overall fielding run value was approximately minus-2.2 with a negative throwing component. The next evaluation should examine the specific throws, positioning and opportunities behind that result. Calling him either an automatic defensive star or a liability from one number would lose the useful detail. [7,8]

Lara should compete for meaningful outfield work rather than inherit it solely because of his long-term deal. The central plan assigns 280 plate appearances, enough for an audition without assuming he replaces a full season of proven production. Lockridge remains a depth option. Neither a brief favorable stretch nor a prospect ranking should close the competition before the current performance is evaluated.

ANALYSIS / 09

Put the infield defense in the right positions

Player	2024 OAA	2025 OAA	2026 OAA	2026 opportunities
Brice Turang	+6	-1	+19	574
Joey Ortiz	+11	+13	+15	395
Jackson Chourio	+5	+3	+7	260
Garrett Mitchell	+3	+5	+7	366
Sal Frelick	+6	+7	+3	226
Cooper Pratt	NA	NA	+1	275
David Hamilton	-1	+1	-11	339
Jake Bauers	-1	-1	-7	336
Andrew Vaughn	-9	+2	-4	154
Luis Lara	NA	NA	+1	134

Turang's plus-19 OAA and Ortiz's plus-15 give Milwaukee a strong middle-infield foundation. The three-year table also shows why a single season should not be treated as a fixed talent rating. Turang moved from plus-six to minus-one to plus-19, while Ortiz remained positive in all three years. The club should preserve the skill while planning for a range of outcomes. [7]

Player	2026 MLB defensive work	Proposed use
Cooper Pratt	SS: 607.0 IP	Primary SS audition, not presumed 3B conversion
Joey Ortiz	1B: 2.0 IP; 2B: 2.0 IP; 3B: 388.1 IP; SS: 580.2 IP	3B with SS coverage; both supported by experience
David Hamilton	2B: 85.0 IP; 3B: 577.1 IP; SS: 247.0 IP	Utility reserve, not automatic everyday 3B
Andrew Vaughn	1B: 547.0 IP; 3B: 58.0 IP	1B/DH; 58 third-base innings do not establish a solution
Jake Bauers	LF: 87.0 IP; 1B: 836.1 IP; RF: 199.0 IP	1B first if retained; corner OF selectively
William Contreras	C: 1085.2 IP	Primary catcher with reduced load
Jeferson Quero	C: 6.0 IP	Backup audition; AAA evidence is more useful than six MLB innings
Bo Naylor	1B: 2.0 IP; C: 16.0 IP	Catching alternative; MIL sample is limited

Pratt played 607 innings at shortstop in 2026. Ortiz handled 580 2/3 at shortstop and 388 1/3 at third. The proposed alignment therefore keeps Pratt at his demonstrated position and shifts more of Ortiz's work toward

a position he has already played extensively. It does not move Pratt to third on the assumption that every shortstop can immediately provide equivalent defense there. [10]

Ortiz's aggregate OAA includes more than one position. His plus-15 cannot be assigned wholesale to third base, and Pratt's plus-one cannot be projected linearly from 607 innings to a full season. The argument is about a credible alignment and an internal alternative, not a claimed number of extra defensive runs.

Hamilton's minus-11 OAA over 339 tracked opportunities strengthens the case for reducing his everyday exposure. His ability to appear at multiple positions is useful, but versatility is not the same as above-average performance at each position. The plan retains him as a reserve and gives the club a specific improvement question: can it cover third base when Ortiz must return to shortstop?

That is one purpose of the depth reserve. If Pratt struggles, Ortiz can take more shortstop work and a portion of the $3-4 million infield allowance can address the resulting coverage gap. The money does not create a named third baseman or a performance improvement by itself. Hamilton, an earned internal promotion or a verified outside fit must actually supply the innings.

ANALYSIS / 10

Keep Contreras, improve the catching support

Contreras' option was exercised at $15.5 million, according to MLB's latest report. [15] The budget uses that current amount. The recommendation is to retain him through 2027 unless a concrete trade return covers the immediate catching loss and supplies enough durable value to justify changing course.

His offensive record is relatively stable across the last two seasons: .754 OPS in 659 plate appearances in 2025 and .758 in 640 in 2026. The larger concern is how much work the club asks him to absorb. Assigning another 640 plate appearances and more than 1,000 catching innings would leave little room for rest or for evaluating the next catcher. [1,10,21,23]

Component	Contreras, 2026 runs	Interpretation
Framing	-6.5	Savant component; do not add framing again to total
Throwing	+3.1	Savant component; do not add framing again to total
Blocking	-1.7	Savant component; do not add framing again to total
ABS	+1.9	Savant component; do not add framing again to total
Total catching	-3.2	Savant component; do not add framing again to total

Savant's catching components are a useful corrective to a reputation-only evaluation. Contreras' framing was approximately minus-6.5 runs, with throwing near plus-3.1, blocking near minus-1.7 and the ABS component near plus-1.9. The combined catching result was about minus-3.2. Those components are already incorporated in the total and must not be added a second time. [8]

The plan reduces his allocation to 570 plate appearances and creates a real backup competition. Quero produced a .712 OPS with 15 home runs in 490 Nashville plate appearances. His six MLB catching innings tell us almost nothing about a full-season defensive workload. Naylor's Brewers catching sample was also small. Their assignment should be earned through current receiving, throwing, blocking and offensive evidence, not

awarded on prospect status alone. [10,11]

A catcher trade should be assessed against that actual alternative. Removing Contreras would require substantially more than a promising backup audition. It would move unproven players into the center of the roster's run-prevention plan and ask them to cover more offensive work at the same time. The present evidence does not make that the preferred route.

ANALYSIS / 11

Misiorowski is an anchor, not the entire rotation

Player / MLB ID	2026 IP	GS / ERA	K / BB	xERA
Jacob Misiorowski / 694819	174.2	30 / 1.80	252 / 44	2.13
Logan Henderson / 701656	98.1	18 / 2.47	110 / 19	2.74
Kyle Harrison / 690986	115.2	24 / 4.20	141 / 36	4.01
Robert Gasser / 688107	109.1	20 / 3.87	103 / 35	4.27
Shane Drohan / 675660	124.2	19 / 4.19	125 / 44	3.81
Chad Patrick / 694477	106.0	6 / 3.40	93 / 47	4.30
Brandon Sproat / 687075	97.0	19 / 5.57	101 / 52	5.02

Misiorowski's 1.80 ERA, 252 strikeouts and 44 walks in 174 2/3 innings supply the strongest foundation on the staff. His 2.13 xERA remains excellent while allowing for less favorable results than the actual season. There is no need to project another 1.80 ERA to justify building around him. [1,6,23]

Henderson is the next pitcher to protect from being reduced to a depth label. He struck out 110 and walked 19 in 98 1/3 innings, with a 2.47 ERA and 2.74 xERA. That combination supports a larger role, provided he can sustain the workload. The proposed 135 starter innings are an allocation to test, not a medical assessment or a guarantee that a young pitcher can add that much work. [1,6,23]

Harrison's 141 strikeouts against 36 walks are useful, but 20 home runs in 115 2/3 innings narrowed his margin. Gasser had a 3.87 ERA and 4.27 xERA, while Drohan's 4.19 ERA compared with a 3.81 xERA. These are different cases. Treating all three as interchangeable back-end pitchers would ignore the distinct questions of contact damage, command and workload. [1,6,23]

The rotation's central task is to supply more innings without assuming every young arm improves at once. That requires both competition and a workable fallback. The staff has enough candidates to begin with an internal plan, but the next section shows why the number of names on a depth chart is not the same as covered starts.

ANALYSIS / 12

The innings behind the first five

Patrick's 106 innings included only six starts. Moving him to 18 proposed starts changes his role as well as his volume. His 93 strikeouts and 47 walks, together with a 4.30 xERA against a 3.40 actual ERA, argue for retaining flexibility rather than penciling him in as a finished full-season starter. [1,6,23]

Sproat's 97 innings and 19 starts came with a 5.57 ERA, 101 strikeouts and 52 walks. His 5.02 xERA leaves a meaningful performance problem even after allowing for some improvement in results. The central plan gives him opportunities, but it does not assume that simply keeping him in the rotation solves the fifth or sixth starter job. [1,6,23]

Crow, Stallings and Gordon provide additional organizational options. Their minor-league records are useful for evaluating readiness, but their MLB samples are too small to support confident full-season projections. The club should carry enough depth to move a struggling pitcher out of a role without asking the remaining starters to absorb every missing inning.

This is where Martinez becomes a legitimate alternative if the batting plan changes. His 180 innings and 31 starts would bring a different workload history from the internal candidates. The price must account for his age, low strikeout total and expected-stat regression, and the acquisition must take starts from specific incumbents. It cannot be added to a rotation already allocated 162 starts.

ANALYSIS / 13

The bullpen is worth preserving

Player	IP	ERA / xERA	K / BB	Role caution
Aaron Ashby	89.1	3.12 / 2.99	116 / 41	89.1 all-role IP is a substantial workload
Trevor Megill	61.2	2.63 / 2.64	69 / 15	Retain primary leverage
DL Hall	61.1	1.91 / 3.42	64 / 35	Walks narrow the margin
Abner Uribe	59.1	1.97 / 2.81	62 / 19	Retain leverage
Grant Anderson	59.0	3.36 / 3.15	52 / 23	Useful middle/leverage bridge
Coleman Crow	18.2	5.30 / 4.99	10 / 6	Small MLB sample, AAA starter depth
Garrett Stallings	14.0	0.00 / 1.24	17 / 5	Small MLB sample, no automatic 1.24 xERA repeat
Colton Gordon	5.0	3.60 / 6.11	1 / 1	Developmental depth
Angel Zerpa	12.2	6.39 / 7.58	8 / 6	IL60; no guaranteed workload
Brian Fitzpatrick	6.2	1.35 / 2.74	5 / 3	IL60; no guaranteed workload

Megill, Uribe, Ashby, Hall and Anderson give Milwaukee a useful returning bullpen core. Their roles should be distinguished. Megill's 2.63 ERA and 2.64 xERA are closely aligned. Uribe's 1.97 ERA was better than his 2.81

xERA but both support a meaningful leverage role. Ashby's 116 strikeouts in 89 1/3 innings supplied both outs and flexibility. [1,6,23]

Hall's 1.91 ERA deserves more caution because it came with 35 walks in 61 1/3 innings and a 3.42 xERA. The next season should not assume that the same number of free passes will keep producing the same run prevention. His workload can remain valuable while the highest-leverage assignments depend on current command.

The bullpen handled 640 2/3 innings in 2026. A proposed 590-inning relief budget therefore asks the rotation to cover more of the season. That shift is intentional, but it is also a risk. If the starters fall short, the club needs additional usable arms rather than simply extending the same five relievers. [1,23]

Keeping Megill at the projected arbitration allowance is preferable to trading him for an unspecified future return and then shopping for a replacement closer. The existing staff already has enough performance uncertainty without voluntarily removing one of its clearest leverage choices. A trade could still make sense at the right return, but the return must be real and the lost innings must be covered.

ANALYSIS / 14

The farm system: preserve paths, not promises

Player / MLB ID	2026 level evidence	2027 role and limit
Jeferson Quero / 691620	AAA: 490 PA, .712 OPS, 15 HR, 39 BB / 104 K	Backup catcher audition
Tyler Black / 672012	AAA: 430 PA, .755 OPS, 7 HR, 64 BB / 95 K	1B/DH depth, not proven power replacement
Jesús Made / 815908	AA: 558 PA, .774 OPS, 14 HR, 57 BB / 80 K	SS prospect; no central MLB PA assumed
Luis Peña / 821270	AA: 61 PA, .667 OPS, 1 HR, 4 BB / 11 K	Short AA sample; development first
Josh Adamczewski / 815304	AA: 283 PA, .847 OPS, 9 HR, 37 BB / 55 K	OF alternative after upper-level progress
Andrew Fischer / 702652	AA: 314 PA, 1.026 OPS, 28 HR, 57 BB / 103 K	Power candidate; strikeouts and position must clear
Coleman Crow / 689441	AAA: 105.1 IP, 3.59 ERA, 102 K / 35 BB	Depth competition, not guaranteed rotation
Garrett Stallings / 668831	AAA: 82.0 IP, 3.95 ERA, 78 K / 28 BB	Starter/relief depth
Colton Gordon / 676467	AAA: 54.0 IP, 4.67 ERA, 48 K / 14 BB	Depth; separate Nashville sample

Milwaukee's internal options extend beyond the players already on the MLB roster. Made, Pena, Adamczewski and Fischer give the club several different development paths. Their current minor-league evidence should determine the next assignment; an estimated arrival year on a prospect list is not a guaranteed major-league contribution. [11,12]

Made's Double-A season included 558 plate appearances, 57 walks and 80 strikeouts. That is a useful contact-and-zone-control foundation for a 19-year-old, but his .774 OPS does not make him an automatic replacement for an established MLB hitter. The central plan assigns him no MLB plate appearances. His development can proceed without requiring him to rescue the roster.

Fischer's power is harder to ignore. He hit 28 home runs in 314 Double-A plate appearances after 20 in 246 at High-A. The corresponding strikeout totals, 103 and 82, make the next challenge equally clear. His power may eventually address first base or third, but the report does not assign him a ready-made MLB position or assume that minor-league damage transfers immediately. [11]

Adamczewski's .847 OPS in 283 Double-A plate appearances provides an outfield alternative worth developing. Pena's Double-A sample was only 61 plate appearances. Their situations should not be compressed into a generic statement that the farm will replace any departing veteran. Level, sample, defensive position and the next development task all matter.

The no-Bauers scenario includes a 100-plate-appearance pool that Fischer could earn. If he is not ready, that pool remains an organizational replacement problem. It is not credited with his minor-league slugging. The same standard applies to Quero's catching audition and to the innings reserved for Crow, Stallings and Gordon.

ANALYSIS / 15

The money: rebuild the baseline before adding names

Player	2027 allocation, $M	Basis
Christian Yelich	26.000	RosterResource allocation, not immediate cash
Jackson Chourio	8.250	RosterResource annual allocation
Cooper Pratt	3.875	RosterResource annual allocation
Luis Lara	2.286	RosterResource annual allocation
Aaron Ashby	7.700	RosterResource annual allocation
William Contreras	15.500	Latest November 2 MLB option report; replaces old $14.5M figure
Contract subtotal	63.611	Six contracts; annual allocation basis

The six-contract subtotal is $63.61 million on an annual allocation basis. It is not an immediate cash-disbursement schedule. Prorated bonuses, deferred payments and competitive-balance-tax accounting can produce different numbers for the same contract. The report uses one consistent planning bridge and keeps benefits and tax outside that bridge. [13,15]

Player	Allowance, $M	Status
Andrew Vaughn	8.50	Published estimate; not agreed salary
Trevor Megill	8.00	Published estimate; not agreed salary
Angel Zerpa	1.30	Published estimate; not agreed salary
Garrett Mitchell	2.70	Published estimate; not agreed salary
Brice Turang	9.50	Published estimate; not agreed salary
DL Hall	1.00	Published estimate; not agreed salary
Sal Frelick	2.40	Published estimate; not agreed salary
Joey Ortiz	2.40	Published estimate; not agreed salary
Bo Naylor	1.50	Published estimate; not agreed salary
David Hamilton	1.60	Published estimate; not agreed salary
Grant Anderson	1.00	Published estimate; not agreed salary
Quinn Priester	1.30	Published estimate; not agreed salary
TOTAL	41.20	Retains all 12 cases; no speculative savings

The $41.2 million arbitration pool retains all 12 listed cases. These are published estimates, not agreed salaries or tender decisions. Vaughn and Megill are included at $8.5 million and $8 million, respectively; no trade or non-tender savings are assumed. The omitted departed players are not quietly left in the returning

salary pool. [14]

Component	Annual allocation	Definition
Six contracts	$63.61M	Includes current $15.5M Contreras option
Arbitration pool	$41.20M	12 estimates, not signed contracts
Listed 2027 buyouts	$2.00M	Rengifo $1.5M and May $0.5M, conservatively retained
Pre-arb, minors, call-up pool	$12-16M	S&S allowance including 40-man minor salaries
Existing-roster envelope	$118.81-122.81M	Before Bauers, other additions, benefits and tax

The $12-16 million pre-arbitration, minors and call-up allowance is an S&S season budget. It includes a provision for 40-man players in the minors and the extra salaries that come with replacement usage. It is not a forecast of a future minimum salary or a count of 26 simultaneous major-league contracts.

The retained $2 million buyout line consists of the listed 2027 Rengifo and May amounts. It remains in the conservative planning base rather than being removed on an unverified assumption about payment timing. The resulting $118.81-122.81 million envelope precedes Bauers, other additions, benefits, any applicable tax, incentives and unlisted obligations. [13]

Do not describe the gap between this base and a prior year's headline payroll as available cash. Published payroll totals use different definitions and may include different dates, benefits or acquired salary offsets. The baseball recommendation can specify its cost without claiming knowledge of the club's cash balance, profitability or ownership authorization.

ANALYSIS / 16

The alternatives and the shared market

Candidate / MLB ID	2026 MLB record	S&S decision / proposed limit
Nick Martinez / 607259	180.0 IP; 3.10 ERA; 109 K / 26 BB	Conditional B: 2 years / $26-30M; no prospect cost
Chris Bassitt / 605135	102.0 IP; 4.41 ERA; 74 K / 38 BB	Pass as primary volume purchase; 102 IP
Michael Lorenzen / 547179	127.1 IP; 7.21 ERA; 90 K / 54 BB	Minor-league recovery inquiry only; no central IP
Kevin Gausman / 592332	177.2 IP; 4.51 ERA; 184 K / 47 BB	Mets comparison: $16-20M annual; pass for MIL at that cost
Freddy Peralta / 642547	169.0 IP; 4.42 ERA; 156 K / 63 BB	Mets alternative: $20-24M annual; no reunion premium
Ty France / 664034	500 PA; .865 OPS; 21 HR; 37 BB / 108 K	Alternative only: 2 years / $24-28M ceiling; replaces first-base role
Rhys Hoskins / 656555	317 PA; .682 OPS; 13 HR; 47 BB / 100 K	Pass as everyday solution
Ryan O'Hearn / 656811	451 PA; .770 OPS; 18 HR; 35 BB / 99 K	Pittsburgh-controlled; no trade price or outgoing package assumed

Martinez is a free agent after the Rays' option decision. [20] The proposed two-year, $26-30 million ceiling purchases an innings candidate, not a forecast that he will repeat his 3.10 ERA. He struck out 109 and walked 26 in 180 innings, while Savant estimated a 3.98 ERA. The age-36 workload history is valuable; the modest strikeout rate and the difference between actual and expected results limit the term and price. [6,21]

Plan B gives Martinez 28 starts and 150 innings. He takes the 22 starts and 110 innings assigned to Drohan plus six starts and 30 innings from Sproat. The resulting starter budget rises by ten innings to 860. Drohan becomes a bulk-relief and rotation-backup option rather than disappearing from the organization. Those changes are essential to evaluating the purchase.

France offers a different first-base alternative. His .865 OPS in 500 plate appearances and plus-eight OAA are attractive, but his .327 xwOBA was well below the actual .373. A two-year, $24-28 million S&S ceiling recognizes both the defensive value and the risk of buying the peak offensive outcome. He would replace the first-base job, not join Bauers, Vaughn and Yelich without a playing-time consequence. [5,7,21]

Hoskins does not clear the everyday-upgrade test on a .682 OPS, 100 strikeouts in 317 plate appearances and minus-seven OAA. Bassitt's 102 innings do not establish the larger volume sought from Martinez. Lorenzen's combined 7.21 ERA and 6.15 xERA make him a recovery inquiry, not a funded central rotation answer. Familiarity and a lower price are not enough to solve the required job. [5,6,7,21]

The Mets report used Gausman as its preferred outside starter at $16-20 million annually, with Peralta a more expensive alternative. Those players would displace weaker or uncovered work in that roster. Milwaukee already has Misiorowski, Henderson and several controlled alternatives. Here, the additional salary would compete directly with the Bauers decision and with retaining existing contributors. The report therefore passes at those prices rather than assigning a different unsupported bargain price to the same target. [21,22]

O'Hearn remains a Pittsburgh-controlled alternative in the checked record. No availability, asking price or outgoing prospect package is established. A hypothetical trade cannot be inserted into the cheaper plan with a zero acquisition cost. The alternative is retained for comparison, not promoted to an obtainable solution. [21]

The earlier Yankees and Marlins reviews prioritized contact or catching support and relief. Toronto and Philadelphia needed a playable impact bat, and the Dodgers review addressed usable pitching depth. Milwaukee's preferred new commitment is retention at first base. Those differences explain the shortlist. They also keep this report from treating six clubs as though each has a separate supply of the same free agents. [22]

ANALYSIS / 17

Three funded plans, three different risks

Plan	Annual additions	Total allocation	New commitment*
A: Bauers QO + depth	$29.15-31.15M	$147.96-153.96M	$29.15-31.15M
B: Martinez + depth	$19.00-23.00M	$137.81-145.81M	$32.00-38.00M
C: Internal + depth	$6.00-8.00M	$124.81-130.81M	$6.00-8.00M

*New commitment includes proposed contract guarantees and the full one-year depth reserve. The reserve is cash capacity, not a signed player. Benefits, tax, incentives, transaction costs and other excluded obligations remain separate. No speculative trade savings are credited.

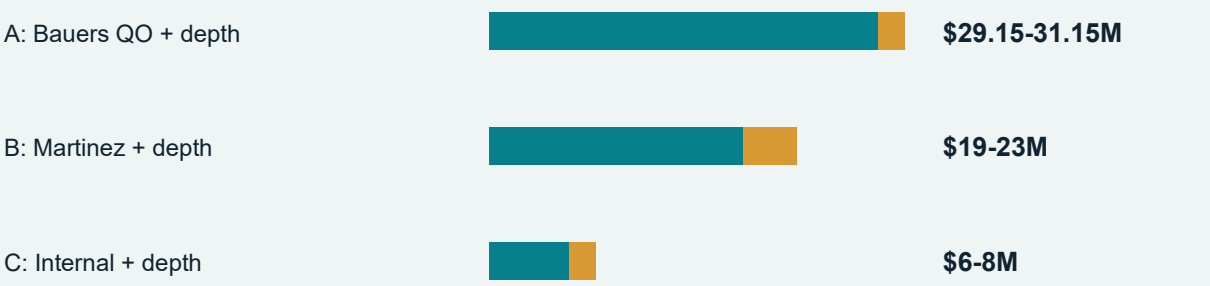
Plan A is the preferred allocation if ownership supports the full envelope. It funds the outstanding Bauers offer and $6-8 million of depth. Split that reserve into $3-4 million for infield or bench coverage and $3-4 million for pitching depth. The club should spend each portion only when an actual player solves the uncovered job. Until then, the related work remains an internal or unfilled assignment.

If Bauers declines and accepts the proposed two-year arrangement instead, his annual line becomes $18-20 million. Including depth, additions would be $24-28 million and the total allocation approximately $142.81-150.81 million. New guarantees, including the one-year reserve, would be $42-48 million. That is a separate contract branch, not a claim that the lower annual cost is already secured.

Plan B is available only if Bauers leaves and Martinez can be signed within the stated limit. Annual additions are $19-23 million, with $32-38 million in new commitments including depth. It buys a more established innings option while accepting a weaker and less certain first-base offense. Martinez is not a financial substitute for Bauers until the qualifying-offer obligation is resolved.

Plan C adds only the $6-8 million depth reserve. It leaves the full arbitration pool intact and asks Vaughn, Black and the development system to cover more offense. Its advantage is flexibility and lower commitment. Its cost is greater dependence on players whose recent underlying evidence does not establish a Bauers-equivalent bat.

THREE DIFFERENT WINTER COMMITMENTS



S&S annual additions, including a $6-8M depth reserve.

Proposed limits. Benefits, tax and other excluded costs are separate.

If Martinez signs elsewhere, Plan B does not automatically become a Bassitt or Lorenzen plan at the same workload. Return to Plan C, retain the money and show the missing coverage. If a third-base purchase becomes necessary, use the dedicated reserve or explicitly revise the total budget. Do not spend the same depth dollar twice.

ANALYSIS / 18

A 6,200-plate-appearance plan

Player / role	PA	Opportunity
Turang	640	2B
Chourio	620	LF
Contreras	570	C / selective DH
Bauers	540	1B; only if retained
Mitchell	540	CF
Pratt	500	SS audition
Ortiz	490	3B / SS
Yelich	420	DH, with merit-based rest
Frelick	400	RF / defense
Vaughn	290	1B / DH, favor useful matchups
Lara	280	OF competition
Quero	170	Backup C audition
Naylor	110	C coverage across season

Player / role	PA	Opportunity
Hamilton	170	IF reserve
Black	120	1B / DH depth
Lockridge	100	OF reserve
Other coverage	240	Injury replacements, not bought production
TOTAL	6200	Season allocation, not simultaneous roster slots

This allocation represents a full season of opportunities, including injuries and replacement usage. It is not a list of 17 players carried on one active roster. A possible 13-player position group begins with Contreras and one backup catcher; Bauers, Vaughn, Turang, Ortiz, Pratt and Hamilton; Chourio, Mitchell, Frelick and Lara; and Yelich. Naylor, Quero, Black and Lockridge require role, option and availability decisions as the season develops.

The core changes are deliberate. Yelich receives 420 plate appearances rather than an unconditional everyday DH assignment. Pratt receives 500 at his demonstrated position. Contreras' reduced total creates room to evaluate the backup and protect the primary catcher. Vaughn retains enough work to contribute in favorable matchups and cover first base or DH without being assumed to duplicate Bauers' full season.

Change from Plan A	PA change	Resulting assignment
Bauers	-540	0 PA, no retained production credited
Vaughn	+220	510 PA at 1B/DH
Black	+180	300 PA at 1B/DH
Yelich	+40	460 PA, only if form supports work
Fischer or unfilled replacement	+100	Readiness-dependent pool; no assumed MLB production
NET	0	Same 6,200-PA season

The no-Bauers allocation raises Vaughn to 510 plate appearances and Black to 300. Yelich gains only 40, and those depend on his current form. The remaining 100 go to Fischer if he earns them or stay in an unresolved replacement pool. The arithmetic preserves 6,200 plate appearances while exposing the offensive risk instead of hiding it in a generic depth line.

If Pratt fails to hold shortstop, Ortiz's work shifts back there and the third-base job reopens. That should trigger a position-specific review of the internal options and the reserved money. It should not trigger an automatic claim that Hamilton's versatility or Vaughn's brief third-base experience makes the problem disappear.

ANALYSIS / 19

Cover 162 starts without promising health

Pitcher / coverage	Starts / IP	Condition
Misiorowski	30 / 175	Anchor, below automatic ace-repeat expectation
Henderson	25 / 135	Workload increase from 98.1 MLB IP
Harrison	24 / 125	Home-run prevention must improve
Gasser	23 / 115	Healthy availability and command
Drohan	22 / 110	Rotation competition
Patrick	18 / 90	Rotation and separate bulk-relief work
Sproat	15 / 75	Command must earn starts
Crow / Gordon / other depth	5 / 25	Unproven coverage pool
TOTAL	162 / 850	Plan A/C workload accounting, not a forecast

The Plan A and Plan C rotation budgets total 162 starts and 850 innings. They ask for more starter work than Milwaukee received in 2026, especially from Henderson and Patrick. That is an important condition, not a hidden assumption. The club needs current availability, stamina and pitch-quality checks before treating those assignments as earned.

Pitcher / coverage	IP	Condition
Ashby	75	Flexible bridge; below 2026 total
Megill	60	Primary leverage
Uribe	60	Primary leverage
Hall	65	Leverage by command and matchup
Anderson	60	Middle innings and bridge
Patrick	35	Additional to 90 starter innings
Sproat	30	Additional to 75 starter innings
Crow	45	Depth workload subject to readiness
Stallings	50	Depth and flexible length
Gordon / other organizational relief	110	Unproven coverage; no guaranteed reserve purchase
TOTAL	590	850 starter IP + 590 relief IP = 1,440

The 590 relief innings bring the total to 1,440. That is a convenient planning denominator, not a prediction of exact team innings after walk-offs, extra innings and other game outcomes. Patrick's and Sproat's relief

assignments are additional to their listed starter innings. Their combined seasonal loads must be assessed as a whole.

The least certain portion is the organizational relief pool. The central budget has 110 innings assigned to Gordon or other organizational coverage, plus developmental work for Crow and Stallings. A small cash reserve does not turn those assignments into verified major-league production. If two starting candidates fail at once, the bullpen demand rises and the club must reallocate or acquire actual coverage.

Under Plan B, Martinez's 150 starter innings replace 140 from Drohan and Sproat. The rotation totals 860 and relief falls to 580. Assign Drohan 80 relief innings and reduce the Gordon/other pool from 110 to 20, leaving the other relief assignments unchanged. That makes the combined staff total 1,440 again. Drohan's changed role requires evaluation; his original starter innings are removed before his relief work is added.

Zerpa, Fitzpatrick and Priester remain outside all central innings totals. A successful return would allow the club to replace some of the least certain assignments. Their absence would not invalidate the numerical plan, though the quality of the replacement work would still be unresolved.

ANALYSIS / 20

What could break the recommendation

Illustrative change from 2026	RS change	RA change	Run margin
Mostly retained level	0	0	+214
Offense -25; prevention slips 25	-25	+25	+164
Offense -50; prevention slips 50	-50	+50	+114
Offense +10; prevention slips 10	+10	+10	+214

These cases are arithmetic stress tests, not forecasts or assigned probabilities. Losing 25 runs of offense and allowing 25 more would reduce the 2026 differential from plus-214 to plus-164. A larger 50-run decline on each side would leave plus-114. The exercise shows the size of the existing margin and the cumulative cost of several regressions. It does not convert that margin into a guaranteed win total.

The most direct threat to Plan A is concentration. Bauers, Vaughn and Yelich occupy overlapping offensive space while Pratt, Lara and the backup catcher remain developmental questions. If Bauers regresses and Yelich does not rebound, the club could spend heavily on the first-base/DH group without getting the intended production. The limited term and the willingness to change playing time are therefore central protections.

The strongest case for Plan B is that innings may prove harder to obtain during the season than an acceptable first-base platoon. The strongest case against it is that Martinez's age and low strikeout total make a two-year commitment risky, and the club already has internal pitchers whose development would be displaced. The purchase should follow an actual assessment of those alternatives, not a reflex preference for a veteran.

There is a serious argument for Plan C. Milwaukee's controlled talent and existing margin may justify keeping the winter short and waiting for a clearer in-season need. The cost is that the offense loses its best 2026 contact-quality case at first base and relies more heavily on Vaughn, Black and a possible promotion. It is a defensible lower-commitment choice, but it should be described as such.

ANALYSIS / 21

The decisions to make in order

First, preserve the full Bauers qualifying-offer contingency until the decision is known. Continue evaluating the two-year retention ceiling and the internal first-base route without committing the same money twice. The club should know in advance which outcome it prefers at each price.

Second, retain Contreras and Megill in the central roster. Consider an actual trade only after evaluating the incoming players, the immediate lost workload and the full salary effect. A prospect return with no near-term catching or leverage answer carries a different cost for a defending champion than for a rebuilding club.

Third, test Pratt at shortstop, Ortiz at third, the backup catcher competition and Frelick's offensive adjustments. Use current performance over a meaningful sample, defensive position evidence and the quality of the alternatives. Do not turn a short spring streak into a permanent conclusion, but do not preserve an everyday job solely because it existed last year.

Fourth, evaluate starter readiness before spending the pitching reserve. Henderson's increase, Patrick's role change and Sproat's command are the clearest checkpoints. Martinez remains the larger conditional alternative if the batting commitment falls away and the internal assessment supports the purchase.

Finally, keep enough flexibility to act on the first real failure. The club does not need to win the winter by collecting recognizable names. It needs a roster in which a failed audition, an injury or a free-agent departure has an identified next step, a funded limit and an honest account of the production still missing.

ANALYSIS / 22

Player register and definitions

Player / MLB ID	Listed position	November 3 status
Aaron Ashby / 676879	P	Active
Abner Uribe / 682842	P	Active
Andrew Vaughn / 683734	1B	Active
Angel Zerpa / 672582	P	Injured 60-Day
Bo Naylor / 666310	C	Forty Man
Brandon Lockridge / 663604	LF	Forty Man
Brandon Sproat / 687075	P	Forty Man
Brian Fitzpatrick / 702153	P	Injured 60-Day
Brice Turang / 668930	2B	Active
Chad Patrick / 694477	P	Forty Man
Christian Yelich / 592885	DH	Active
Coleman Crow / 689441	P	Forty Man
Colton Gordon / 676467	P	Forty Man
Cooper Pratt / 806198	SS	Active
DL Hall / 669084	P	Active
David Hamilton / 666152	3B	Active
Garrett Mitchell / 669003	CF	Active
Garrett Stallings / 668831	P	Forty Man
Grant Anderson / 681982	P	Forty Man
Jackson Chourio / 694192	LF	Active
Jacob Misiorowski / 694819	P	Active
Jeferson Quero / 691620	C	Forty Man
Joey Ortiz / 687401	SS	Active
Kyle Harrison / 690986	P	Active
Logan Henderson / 701656	P	Active
Luis Lara / 800325	RF	Active
Quinn Priester / 682990	P	Injured 60-Day
Robert Gasser / 688107	P	Active

Player / MLB ID	Listed position	November 3 status
Sal Frelick / 686217	RF	Active
Shane Drohan / 675660	P	Active
Trevor Megill / 656730	P	Active
Tyler Black / 672012	DH	Forty Man
William Contreras / 661388	C	Active

The roster table records official administrative status checked November 3, 2026. Active, forty-man and injured-list labels are reproduced as categories, not promises of 2027 availability. Historical 2026 contributors, pending retention cases and outside candidates are identified separately in the relevant tables. Player IDs distinguish players with similar names and preserve the link to the underlying records. [3,4]

All major-league team totals and Milwaukee player rows refer to the completed 2026 regular season unless another year is specified. Multi-team candidate records and three-year player trends use full MLB seasons. Minor-league rows retain their exact affiliate and sample. Postseason results are discussed separately and are not added to regular-season rates or workloads.

Innings notation is baseball notation: .1 means one out and .2 means two outs. Calculations use outs before converting back to innings. OPS is on-base percentage plus slugging. OAA measures outs above average over tracked defensive opportunities; it is not the same unit as fielding runs. Catcher components and expected statistics are model estimates with their own definitions and uncertainty.

Proposed plate appearances, innings, salaries and contract ceilings are S&S planning scenarios. They are not club plans, player commitments, private medical findings or projections supplied by an agent. No trade return, signing probability, future labor agreement, payroll authorization or attendance-driven spending capacity is assumed. The report's choices can be revised when those facts become available without rewriting what the completed season showed.

ANALYSIS / 23

Sources and edition record

[1] MLB: Milwaukee team statistics, 2026

Completed regular season. Team totals reconciled with individual Milwaukee hitting and pitching rows, collected November 3, 2026.

Open source

[2] MLB: team comparison, 2024-26

Same regular-season team query collected separately for 2024, 2025 and 2026; ranks calculated from all 30 clubs.

Open source

[3] MLB: Brewers official administrative roster

November 3 roster check. Injured-list entries are retained as statuses, not counted as available players.

Open source

[4] MLB: Brewers transactions

Official transactions and subsequent option announcements reconciled through November 3. Historical contributors are separate from current members.

Open source

[5] Baseball Savant: expected batting statistics

2026 MLB regular-season wOBA, xwOBA, slugging and expected slugging. Full player seasons, including multiple clubs where applicable.

Open source

[6] Baseball Savant: expected pitching statistics

2026 full-season expected ERA and contact outcomes. Expected results describe observed performance and are not forecasts.

Open source

[7] Baseball Savant: Outs Above Average

2024, 2025 and 2026 editions collected separately. Position totals and tracked opportunities retain the leaderboard's scope.

Open source

[8] Baseball Savant: fielding run value and catching components

2026 range, arm, double-play, first-base and catching components. Components must not be added again to their published total.

Open source

[9] MLB: batter handedness splits

The same query was collected for Bauers, Vaughn, Yelich, Mitchell, Frelick, Ortiz, Pratt and Hamilton. One-season splits are descriptive.

Open source

[10] MLB: Brewers defensive positions and innings

Position-specific Milwaukee regular-season work. Fielding innings across positions are not staff pitching innings.

Open source

[11] MLB/MiLB: Nashville, Biloxi and Wisconsin statistics

Official affiliate identities: Nashville 556, Biloxi 5015, Wisconsin 572. Individual affiliate hitting and pitching season queries preserve level and sample.

Open source

[12] MLB Pipeline: Brewers prospects

Current organization and development context, checked November 3. Estimated arrival years are not guaranteed major-league assignments.

Open source

[13] FanGraphs RosterResource: Brewers payroll

Annual contract columns and listed obligations observed November 3. Contreras updated separately from the latest option report. Planning allowances and totals are S&S calculations.

Open source

[14] MLB Trade Rumors arbitration projections, syndicated by Yardbarker

Matt Swartz's published 2027 estimates are provisional. The S&S pool removes departed players and keeps 12 returning cases.

Open source

[15] MLB: November 2 Brewers option decisions

Latest option and transaction update; used for Contreras' amount and Wilson's subsequent status.

Open source

[16] MLB: 2026-27 qualifying-offer decisions

Bauers: $23.15 million offer, November 17 decision deadline. Pending at this edition's cutoff.

Open source

[17] CBS 58: Brewers roster decisions

November 2 reporting corroborates the exercised and declined options; it does not establish future transactions.

Open source

[18] FOX6 Milwaukee: option, waiver and outright moves

November 2 list used to corroborate departures, including Koenig's election and Baddoo's waiver claim.

Open source

[19] MLB: Woodruff's August medical update

August 22, 2026. Later than the July surgery plan; no 2027 workload forecast is inferred.

Open source

[20] MLB: Rays option decisions

October 30 confirmation that Martinez became a free agent.

Open source

[21] MLB: player identities, full-season histories and transactions

Candidates checked November 3 against current official rosters and transactions. Full MLB season totals selected when players appeared for multiple teams.

Open source

[22] Stadium & Street: published team-analysis series

Cross-club comparison uses the dated Yankees, Marlins, Blue Jays, Phillies, Mets and Dodgers dossiers and the November 1 acquisition review.

Open source

[23] MLB: Brewers player-level statistics

Milwaukee-only rows, including departed contributors. The player register retains MLB IDs and classifications.

Open source

[24] MLB: Brewers completed game schedule

Final postseason results are separated from regular-season statistics. Checked November 3, 2026.

Open source

Research, roster and candidate checks were completed November 3, 2026. Individual source dates and statistical periods are preserved above.