

GAME NOTES
Calgary Stampeders at Winnipeg Blue Bombers
Princess Auto Stadium
Week 7
Friday, July 18, 2025



1. GAME OVERVIEW

The Calgary Stampeders seek a third consecutive victory on the road to open the 2025 season as they travel to Winnipeg to face the Blue Bombers in a Week 7 Friday Night Football matchup.

Calgary was a 24-10 winner over the Saskatchewan Roughriders last week in Regina and the Red and White also have a 29-19 Week 2 victory in Toronto to their credit as part of their 4-1 start to the season. The Blue Bombers are 2-0 at home in 2025 and 3-1 overall.

It's the second meeting in three weeks between Calgary and Winnipeg as the Stampeders won 37-16 on July 3 at McMahon Stadium. The clubs will hook up for a third and final time during the regular season on Aug. 9 in Calgary.

While the Blue Bombers were on a bye last week, the Stamps claimed a share of top spot in the West Division with the win at Saskatchewan against the previously undefeated Roughriders. Vernon Adams Jr. threw for 428 yards and three touchdowns including the 100th TD pass of his CFL career.

In his first career start, rookie Stamps receiver Damien Alford had six catches for 156 yards and two scores.

Meanwhile, the Calgary defence held a Saskatchewan team that entered the game averaging a league-best 33.8 points per game to just 10 points. The Stampeders have allowed just five offensive touchdowns through Week 6, three fewer than the Blue Bombers, who rank second in that category with eight.

The Stamps are looking to snap an eight-game losing streak in Winnipeg, with Calgary's most recent victory in the Manitoba capital dating back to the 2017 season. Seven of the eight losses in that stretch have been by one score – eight points or fewer – including three setbacks with a two-point margin and one by a single point.

After this week's contest, the Stamps return home on July 24 to face the Montreal Alouettes. Meanwhile, the Blue Bombers will be heading to Toronto in Week 8 to face the Argonauts in a rematch of the 2024 Grey Cup.

2. HISTORICAL NOTES

- Today's game is the 1,300th regular-season game in Stampeders history. The Stamps have 708 wins, 569 losses and 22 ties since 1945. Calgary has played 650 games at home, with a record of 411-228-11, and 649 games on the road (297-341-11)
- This is the 218th regular-season meeting of all time between Calgary and Winnipeg. The Stamps lead the all-time series 115-102 and are 44-65 all-time in games in the Manitoba capital

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3. 2025 STATS LEADERS

CALGARY STAMPEDERS

- PASSING YARDS: Vernon Adams Jr. – 1,453
- RUSHING YARDS: Dedrick Mills – 396
- RECEIVING YARDS: Jalen Philpot – 310
- DEFENSIVE TACKLES: Tyler Richardson – 29
- SPECIAL-TEAMS TACKLES: Godfrey Onyeka – 7
- SACKS: Jaylon Hutchings – 3
- INTERCEPTIONS: Adrian Greene – 2
- TOUCHDOWNS: Dedrick Mills – 5
- POINTS: René Paredes – 43

WINNIPEG BLUE BOMBERS

- PASSING YARDS: Zach Collaros – 801
- RUSHING YARDS: Matthew Peterson – 245
- RECEIVING YARDS: Keric Wheatfall – 283
- DEFENSIVE TACKLES: Tony Jones – 27
- SPECIAL-TEAMS TACKLES: Tanner Cadwallader – 7
- SACKS: Kyrie Wilson – 2
- INTERCEPTIONS: Marquise Bridges – 2
- TOUCHDOWNS: Nic Demski – 4
- POINTS: Sergio Castillo – 40

4. NOTABLES

- **Run-stoppers:** Calgary's run defence played a large role in last week's win in Regina. The Stamps held Roughriders running back A.J. Ouellette, who went into Week 6 as the CFL rushing leader, to nine yards on six carries. Calgary's overall run-defence numbers suffer from the 239 rushing yards the unit allowed in a Week 3 loss to Ottawa but in the Stamps' four wins, the opposition has managed only a combined 222 yards along the ground with an average of just 4.1 yards per rush
- **The Moose is loose:** In his first career start, rookie **Damien Alford** had a spectacular performance in last week's win over the Saskatchewan Roughriders. The first pick in the 2025 draft, Alford made six catches for 156 yards and a pair of touchdowns including an 81-yard catch-and-run that gave veteran quarterback **Vernon Adams Jr.** the longest completion of his career. It was the best receiving yardage total by a Canadian rookie in 34 years and Saskatchewan's Jeff Fairholm in 1988 and BC's Matt Clark in 1991 – both with 160 yards – are the only first-year Canadians in CFL history to ever have a more productive game

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- **Feeling a draft:** A key component of the Stamps' 4-1 start has been contributions from the team's 2025 draft class. In addition to the receiving exploits of first-overall selection **Damien Alford**, offensive lineman **Chris Fortin** – Calgary's other 2025 first-round pick – has stepped in to replace the injured **Bryce Bell** as the starting centre while second-round pick **Quincy Vaughn** is a perfect 12-for-12 as the Red and White's short-yardage quarterback. Middle-round picks **Nicky Farinaccio**, **Ludovick Choquette** and **Vyshonne Janusas** have also seen action while 2025 global draft selections **Fraser Masin** and **Mark Vassett** have capably handled the punting duties with a combined average of 49.4 yards per kick. In addition, undrafted free agent **Jason MacGougan** has filled in as the team's long snapper since **Aaron Crawford** went down with a knee injury in Week 2
- **Looking to end the heartbreak in the 'Peg:** The Stamps are trying to snap an eight-game losing streak in Winnipeg, with Calgary's most recent victory in the Manitoba capital dating back to the 2017 season. Seven of the eight losses in that stretch have been by one score – eight points or fewer – including three setbacks with a two-point margin and one by a single point. The fruitless period comes on the heels of an eight-year stretch – from 2010 to 2017 – during which the Stamps won nine straight games in Winnipeg
- **Junior achiever:** Stamps pivot **Vernon Adams Jr.** last week delivered the sixth 400-yard passing game of his career and his fourth against the Roughriders. Adams' first 400-yard performance came against Calgary in 2019 and his single-game high of 488 came against Winnipeg during the same season

Vernon's Adams' 400-yard performances

	Yards
Aug. 17, 2019 at Calgary	407
Sept. 21, 2019 vs Winnipeg	488
Aug. 20, 2023 at Saskatchewan	455
Sept. 29, 2023 vs Saskatchewan	458
July 13, 2024 vs Saskatchewan	451
July 12, 2025 at Saskatchewan	428

- **Deep threats:** Through the first five games of the season, the Stampeders have 11 pass completions covering at least 30 yards and heading into Week 7 are tied with Toronto for the league lead. During the 2024 season, Calgary ranked last in the CFL with just 19 explosive passing plays. **Clark Barnes**, **Jalen Philpot** and **Damien Alford** each have three catches of 30-plus yards while **Dominique Rhymes** has two
- **Rhymes on a roll:** Stamps receiver **Dominique Rhymes** enters this week's contest with a catch in 60 consecutive games, the third-longest active streak in the CFL. Winnipeg's Nic Demski is the active leader with a catch in 75 straight games while Calgary's **Reggie Begelton** – currently on the six-game injury list – is second with 72 consecutive contests with at least one reception

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- **Paredes is three-mendous:** Calgary kicker **René Paredes** has 10 field goals through the first five games of the season to increase his career total of three-pointers to 597. He's just three field goals away from becoming the sixth player in CFL history to boot 600 field goals

CFL career leaders in field goals

Lui Passaglia	875
Paul McCallum	722
Mark McLoughlin	673
Paul Osbaldiston	669
Troy Westwood	617
René Paredes	597

5. MILESTONE WATCH

- The Stampeders need one regular-season game played for 1,300 in franchise history
- René Paredes needs three field goals for 600 in his career
- Micah Teitz needs two special-teams tackles for 50 in his career

6. PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

Damien Alford (AL-furd)
Jeshrun Antwi (JESH-rawn ANT-wee)
Kelechi Anyalebechi (kuh-LEH-chee AN-yuh-luh-BE-chee)
Reggie Begelton (BEG-uhl-tuhn)
Eno Benjamin (EE-no)
Morice Blackwell Jr. (moh-REES)
Ludowick Choquette (LOOD-wik SHUH-ket)
Josiah Coatney (joh-SY-uh KOAT-nee)
D'Antne Demery (dee-AWN-tay DE-muh-ree)
Anthony Federico (FED-uh-REE-koh)
Chris Fortin (fawr-TIHN)
Marloshawn Franklin (MAR-loh-shawn)
George Idoko (ih-DOH-koh)
Tomas Jack-Kurdyla (TO-mawss JAK-kuhr-DIL-uh)
Vyshonne Janusas (vuh-SHAWN JAN-a-sis)
Tevin Jones (TE-vin)
Ben Labrosse (LUH-bross)
Marquel Lee (MAR-kell)
Fraser Masin (FRAY-zuhr muh-ZIN)
Dedrick Mills (DEE-drik)
Christy Nkanu (nuh-KA-noo)
Godfrey Onyeka (OWN-yeah-kuh)
Folarin Orimolade (fo-LAIR-in oh-RIM-uh-LAW-day)

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Rene Paredes (puh-RED-ess)
Jalen Philpot (JAY-lin FILL-pot)
Dominique Rhymes (daw-muh-NEEK)
Justin Sambu (SAM-boo)
Jackson Sombach (SOM-back)
Kaylyn St-Cyr (KAY-lin SAINT-SEER)
Micah Teitz (MY-kuh TIGHTS)
Kelon Thomas (KUH-lawn)
Mark Vassett (VA-sett)