1. Historical Matters & Grey Cup Quarterbacks:
   - This game will be the first-ever Grey Cup between any clubs from Montréal and Winnipeg. (Now the only remaining true East-West GC matchup not to have ever taken place is BC vs Ottawa)
   - Montréal ended the CFL’s longest active GC drought at 11 straight games without an appearance (2011-2022)
   - Winnipeg is the 4th club to have reached 4 straight Grey Cups (Edmonton 6, 1977-82; Regina 5, 1928-32; Hamilton 5, 1961-65)
   - The Alouettes overcame one of the largest gaps in regular season victories to win their Finals game. Greatest Finals ‘upsets’:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Gap</th>
<th>Div. Final Winner</th>
<th>Losing Team</th>
<th>Note</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1989</td>
<td>-7</td>
<td>Saskatchewan (9-9)</td>
<td>Edmonton (16-2)</td>
<td>From 3rd place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1981</td>
<td>-6</td>
<td>Ottawa (5-11)</td>
<td>Hamilton (11-4-1)</td>
<td>Reached GC with poorest reg. season record</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1988</td>
<td>-5</td>
<td>Winnipeg (9-9)</td>
<td>Toronto (14-4)</td>
<td>Won Grey Cup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2023</td>
<td>-5</td>
<td>Montréal (11-7)</td>
<td>Toronto (16-2)</td>
<td>Montréal's previous best was 3 fewer wins ('78, '49)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

And some initial information on our Grey Cup Quarterbacks:
   - Zach Collaros is slated to start in the Grey Cup for a 4th consecutive season and so will be the first to do that. However ...
   - The question here is “has any QB ever started 4 consecutive Grey Cup games?”. Answer: No ... but also Yes.
   - Across 1939 to 1941, Ottawa was led to the Grey Cup by their QB Orville Burke. So 3 years in a row but ... the 1940 Grey Cup (due to a rules dispute disqualifying Winnipeg) was revised to a 2-game total points affair between Ottawa and Balmy Beach. Since the 1940 Grey Cup was 2 games and Burke started both, that makes 4 games in a row.
   - Otherwise, Edmonton started Warren Moon in 1980, 1981 & 1982. He played a major role in 1979 but Tom Wilkinson was the starter and played the entire first half. Moon started the 2nd half that day and led all but the final EDM possession.
   - Cody Fajardo will make his 1st Grey Cup start, Zach Collaros his 5th (2-2 with Hamilton and Winnipeg).
   - With his 5th start, Collaros moves into a tie for 3rd all-time (joining Ploen, Lancaster, Wilkinson, Dunigan and Ray).

2. Charting the Montréal Route to the Grey Cup:
   - Montréal will be playing in their 19th Grey Cup and first since 2010. Playoff keys to reaching the 2023 title game:

   - Montréal was swept 3-0 in regular season by Toronto but won the Div. Final Only 2 prior teams turned around 0-3 sweeps in a Final
     - BC over Calgary in 2000 West Final
     - Toronto over Montréal in 2004 East Final
   - Montréal’s current 7-game winning streak is the longest active run by any team in 2023. (And longest by any team heading into the Grey Cup since Edmonton in 2015, 9 wins in a row)
   - In the East Final, Montréal scored a TD via Pass, Rush, Interception and Kickoff Returns.
   - The first club with a TD in 4 different ways in one playoff game since 2010 (MTL v TOR), & second in the last 68 years (1955)
   - In their 2 playoff wins, Montréal forced 12 Turnovers and committed only 2 (+10) (9 by TOR ... most since 2001 EDM, 12).
   - Of Montréal’s 65 playoff points, 36 of them (55%) came after Opponent T/Os.
   - In the final after a slow start, they dominated field position starting their last 11 drives on average at their own 49-yard line
   - Cody Fajardo Scrambles: Over 2 games he had 100 rushing yards on 9 carries.
   - Pass Defence: 6 INTs for 151 yards, 2 TDs. Deep throws against: HAM & TOR completed only 3 passes combined of 20+ depth
   - Allowed only one opponent TD in 4 Red Zone trips (1 TD, 1 FG, 2 T/Os forced)
   - Pass Offence: Of their 48 total playoff attempts, 31 were at a depth of no more than 6 yards downfield
     - 0-9 Yd Depth: 28-of-35 75%
     - 10-19 Yd Depth: 3-of-7 43%
     - 20+ Yd Depth: 2-of-6 33%
2. Charting the Montréal Route to the Grey Cup: (Continued)

- Over the two playoff games, the Als committed just 6 total penalties (only 1 on special teams)
- The second playoff kickoff return TD in Als' history (James Letcher, 105 yards).
- Against Toronto, they converted 6 times in 2nd-and-long situations compared to Toronto at just 2-of-9.
- Maintained great Field Position: MTL Avg. Starting Point: Own 43 yd, Opponents Avg: Own 34 yd

3. Charting the Winnipeg Route to the Grey Cup:

Winnipeg will be playing in their 28th Grey Cup including the 1935 'Pegs victory. Playoff keys to reaching the 2023 title game:

- The Blue Bombers come in riding a 5-game win streak. Longest winning run among their 4 straight appearances. (It is their longest win streak going into a Grey Cup game since 1993 at 7 in a row)
- In the W.Final: Winnipeg held BC to just 189 total yards - the fewest allowed by a West Div. winner since 2007 (SSK v BC)
- Did not allow BC to reach the Red Zone at any time and run any play closer than the WPG 35-yard line.
- Winnipeg forced 5 BC T/Os which led to 13 of their 24 points (54%) including a blocked punt TD
- The 9 Sacks recorded by the Bombers tied the CFL A/T Playoff record (Hamilton 1985, Winnipeg 1992).
- Sacked Adams Jr. on 8 of BC's 13 possessions (forcing a kick or T/O on all 8); 6 Two-&-Outs
- Generated 21 first downs on just 52 offensive plays - converted 63% of their 2nd Down Conversions (BC: 4-of-17 24%)
- Passes Stretch the Field: Of their 21 total attempts, 7 were at a depth of 15 yards or more downfield
  - 0-9 Yd Depth: 10-of-13 77%
  - 10-19 Yd Depth: 3-of-3 100%
  - 20+ Yd Depth: 1-of-5 20%
- Brady Oliveira reached 100+ before half (14/101 yds, 7.2 avg). In the 2nd Half: 8 yards on 7 attempts (1.1 yd avg)
- They rushed for 121 yards (fewest since Sep 16th) - 1st Half: 16 for 105, 6.6 avg 1st Half: 11 for 16, 1.5 avg
- Their TD on a blocked punt was the first in a playoff game since 2008 (Edmonton, Justin Cooper)
- The Bombers intercepted Vernon Adams Jr. 3 times after making none against him regular season (in 62 pass attempts)
- Kenny Lawler accounted for more than half of Winnipeg's receiving with 83 yards on 6 catches (among 14 total)
- Were led by an Offensive Line with 47 combined career playoff games started (35 playoff, 12 GC)
- Survived 2 missed FGs in 5 attempts vs BC without a long return

Additional Historical Notes:

1) Other teams from Winnipeg and Montréal have played in the Grey Cup during strictly amateur football times or wartime. The Winnipeg Tammany Tigers played Ottawa in 1925, while the Montréal AAA Winged Wheelers won the Cup in 1931. That game included the first-ever Grey Cup Touchdown pass.

2) During the Service Era (1942 to 1944), the Winnipeg RCAF Bombers played in two Grey Cups. The Montréal St. Hyacinthe-Donacona Navy team captured the 1944 Grey Cup title.