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ISSUE #207 - OCTOBER 24, 2025



2022 Handicapper of the Year
Trevor Tilston-Jones won the ASD
Player's Choice Handicapping
Tourney for the third time last
Saturday. Congratulations!

Trevor Tilston-Jones Wins Player's Choice Tourney for Third Time

Trevor Tilston-Jones won the first Player's Choice Handicapping Tournament of the off-season at ASD last Saturday, and it wasn't close.

The 2022 Handicapper of the Year built his bankroll to \$128.40 to win the contest for the third time, and he started with a bang.

Trevor caught a 20-1 winner on his first bet, just 32 minutes into the contest, establishing a bankroll cushion that would prove insurmountable.

CLICK HERE to read more.



Breeders' Cup from Del Mar

Catch all the excitement of the Breeders' Cup from Del Mar, Friday, Oct. 31 at 1:35 p.m. and Saturday, Nov. 1 at 12:05 p.m.

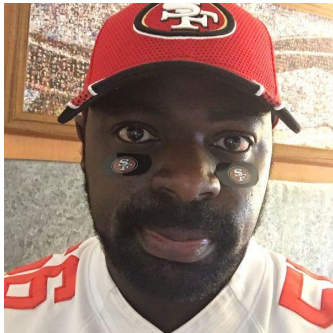
■ Free Breeders' Cup Programs & Daily Racing Forms available at all locations starting Wednesday, Oct. 29 by 5 p.m.

🎁 Breeders' Cup Merchandise Draws at all locations on Saturday, Nov. 1.

🍷 All-day Happy Hour at Assiniboia Downs

📺 Plus, don't miss Kirt & Stretch's special Breeders' Cup show—available on the [ASD YouTube Channel](#) Thursday, Oct. 30.

💰 Earn 3% cashback when you wager \$1,000 or more on any track on Friday, Oct. 31 and Saturday, Nov. 1. Maximum cashback is \$100. Opt-in at [HPIbet.com](#).



Travers Cummings

NFL Picks by TravyFootball Week 8

The NFL season is flying by, and Week 8 is packed with drama, redemption stories, and a long-awaited reunion between one of the game's greatest quarterbacks and his former team. From a struggling franchise in full meltdown mode to an NFC contender finally finding its rhythm, this week's matchups promise plenty of fireworks — and a few surprises.

See my Week 8 top three predictions [here](#).



Open daily from 10 a.m. to 1 a.m.

The fun never stops at Assiniboia Downs Winnipeg's place to play and win!

Did you know that Assiniboia Downs is Winnipeg's #1 Spot for VLT Jackpots? Play any of our 140 VLTs in the Club West Gaming Lounge for your chance to win!

🎰 Free Spin to Win draws — Friday, Saturday and Sunday starting at 6 p.m.

💎 Free \$200 cash draws — Friday, Saturday and Sunday at 9 p.m.

Click [here](#) to see our recent jackpots.

Looking for a Special Photo?

Track Photographer Jason Halstead may have just what you're looking for

Looking for that extra-special photo of your big horse, one you might not find in your win pictures?

Track photographer Jason Halstead takes numerous photos during the races, and not all of them can make



2025 leading trainer Steve Keplin, Jr. contemplating life as he heads to the winner's circle after winning the third race on the final day of the meeting with Mr. Greeley. Keplin had an amazing year, winning 40 races at a 31% clip. Well done! (Jason Halstead / Assiniboia Photo) Click photo to enlarge.

it into the win photos. If you're looking for something frameable from your big race, or of your special horse, email Jason at jjhphoto@gmail.com.

Prices are excellent! Almost as good as his photos 😊



ASSINIBOIA DOWNS
WESTERN CANADA'S FINEST RACETRACK

WINNER NEW FLAG
FEATURE Winnipeg Futurity PURSE 10,000.00 DATE Aug 14/65
DISTANCE 2 Furlongs TIME 1:28.3 JOCKEY D. ARMSTRONG
2ND Fort Rouge OWNER Golden West Farms
3RD Straw Hat TRAINER A. Fraser

BOB BARNES
PHOTOGRAPHER

Click photo to enlarge

A Snapshot in Time by Bob Gates

On August 14, 1965 the gold and black silks of Golden West Farms ruled the day in the 36th running of the Winnipeg Futurity. Pictured above is Mayor Stephen Juba (on the left holding the Futurity blanket) and trainer Angus Fraser (on the right of the blanket) with Downs' favourite, Dickie Armstrong sitting atop the winner, two-year-old filly New Flag (Bob Barnes photo).



- \$13.95 Daily Lunch Special
- Happy Hour (3 to 5pm & 9pm to close)
- Crazy Hour after Live Racing! Beer, Shots & Wine \$5 plus 25% off all appetizers



The Breeders' Cup Friday card at Del Mar begins at 1:35 p.m. Central.

2025 Breeders' Cup: Wagering options aplenty

Bettors targeting the Breeders' Cup cards at Del Mar on Oct. 31 and Nov. 1 will once again have a multitude of wagering options over the two days, with rolling doubles, pick threes, pick fours, pick fives, and pick sixes offered throughout the cards.

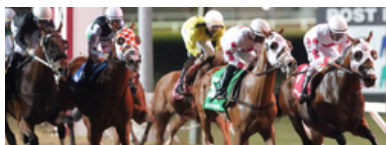
While regular doubles and pick three bets will be available for every race, Breeders' Cup will also offer

Saturday's races will begin at 12:05 p.m. Central. (Barbara D. Livingston / DRF)

four doubles linking non-consecutive races, including three linking races on Friday and Saturday; an all-turf pick three on Friday; an all-turf pick four on Saturday; and an all-dirt pick four on Saturday. Pick four, pick five, and pick six bets will be scattered throughout both cards.

-- [Daily Racing Form](#)

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- Wager on Top Tracks
- Simulcast Schedule
- Off-Track Betting Locations



Making final race selections with a balcony view of the paddock at Keeneland. (Coady Media)

[**Noel's Weekend Winners: Great Betting Races in Keeneland's Fall Finale**](#)

Saturday is the closing day of the 2025 Keeneland fall season and the meet goes out with a bang with a tremendous 10-race card headlined by a pair of graded stakes that drew highly competitive fields. Handicapper Noel Michael's takes a look at the two closing stakes, the Bryan Station Stakes (G3) and the Hagyard Fayette Stakes (G3). Let's get some winners to propel us into Breeders' Cup weekend!

-- [America's Best Racing](#)

[**CLICK FOR FULL STORY**](#)



Belmont Derby winner Test Score looks like the horse to beat in Saturday's Twilight Derby at Santa Anita, but he will have some solid competition. (Janet Garaguso / NYRA)

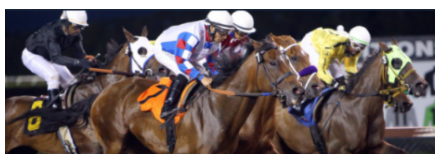
[**Twilight Derby, Autumn Miss Stakes Close Out Santa Anita's Autumn Meet**](#)

The 2025 Santa Anita Autumn Meet comes to a close on Sunday, but not before the stakes program is rounded out with a pair of graded stakes, the Twilight Derby (G2) and the Autumn Miss (G3), as well as the revised Tokyo City Cup Stakes.

Belmont Derby (G1) winner Test Score looks like the horse to beat in the Twilight Derby, but European import Namaron looks interesting making just his second start in North America after arriving from Germany.

-- [Paulick Report](#)

[**CLICK FOR FULL STORY**](#)



- Earn Points for Wagering
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The Best of Bob

Mr. and Mrs. Racing bought and sold Assiniboia Downs twice. This husband and wife team helped to shape the future of the Downs more than any other individuals. It's quite possible that the Downs' very existence would have been doomed without them. [Click here](#) to learn more about the people who were front and center holding the Downs together when times were tough. (From August 17, 2023)

Feedback & Inside Track Archives

We would love to hear from you! Email your comments and/or suggestions to theinsidetrack@ASDowns.com.

Did you know that past issues of The Inside Track are available on our website? Click [here](#) to read them now.



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Trevor Tilston-Jones Wins Player's Choice Tourney for Third Time

Oct 23, 2025 | Handicapping, The Inside Track



October Player's Choice Handicapping Tournament winner Trevor Tilston-Jones.

By G.S. Thompson

Trevor Tilston-Jones won the first Player's Choice Handicapping Tournament of the off-season at ASD last Saturday, and it wasn't close.

The 2022 Handicapper of the Year built his bankroll to \$128.40 to win the contest for the third time, and he started with a bang, catching a 20-1 winner on his first bet. Trevor defeated Brad Ostrove by \$21.70 to take home the \$1,000 first prize, bragging rights, and the trophy.

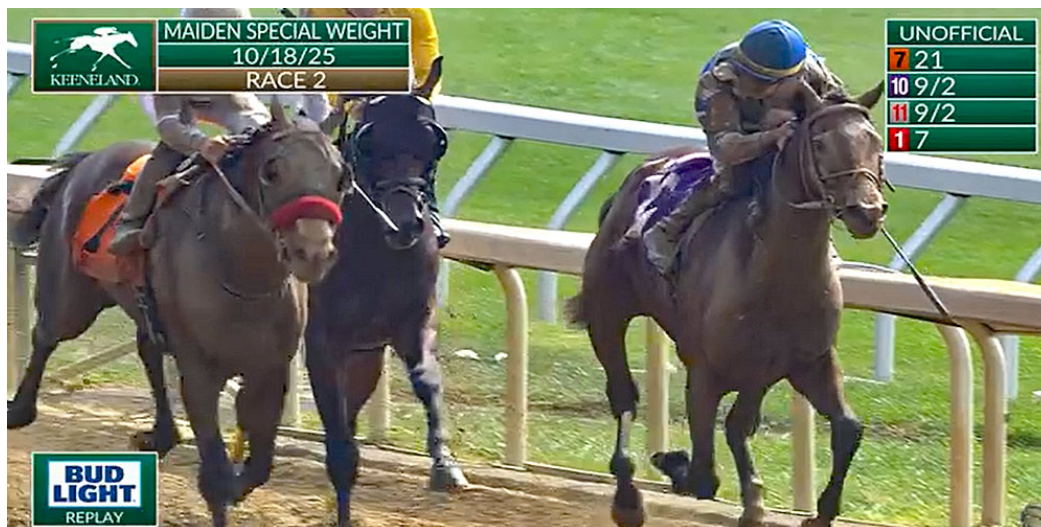
Runner-up Ostrove finished with a respectable total of \$106.70, but it must have been a tough day for longshots, as it was a long way back to third-place finisher Darcy Penner (\$86.90), followed by Larry Liebrecht (\$79.10) and Roger Jones (\$78.00).

Just 32 minutes into the contest, Trevor caught cap-horse lightning with 20-1 Vitruvian Man in Keeneland's second race. Vitruvian Man paid \$42.50, \$16.10, \$10.50 across the board, providing a bankroll cushion that would prove insurmountable.

The play was pure Trevor. Vitruvian Man had two career starts, both on grass at Kentucky Downs, and here he was switching to dirt at Keeneland. "They put blinkers on him," he said. "And when you see blinkers on a horse along with immeasurably better workouts, that's something."

The pedigree didn't hurt either. The horse was by Breeders' Cup Classic winner Vino Rosso, and trained by Doug O'Neill, with jockey Joel Rosario in the irons. "Everything was positive as far as I was concerned," said Trevor, who also took Vitruvian Man's last race into account — a fifth-place finish at Kentucky Downs from post 12. The winner had cleared by eight and a half lengths, and his horse had lost by 11. Simple subtraction told him the horse had only lost three lengths to the second-place finisher. That was the kind of angle most players miss when they see "beaten 11 lengths" and move on.

Vitruvian Man, who was about 10 lengths back on the turn for home, came with a long, sustained rally to get up by a sliver over another rival who rallied up the rail. The finish was so close you couldn't tell who won, but the photo finally said Vitruvian Man.



Vitruvian Man (#7 outside) gets up just in time at 21-1 in the second race at Keeneland last Saturday.

Trevor added another winner in the 9th race at Woodbine, when Borealis Trail won the Ontario Derby and paid \$14.90, \$6.00, \$4.40 across the board. The horse had finished second beaten a head in

the Breeders' Stakes, with the rest of the field more than five lengths back, and he was just the right price on contest day at 6-1.

That's the Trevor Tilston-Jones approach in a nutshell. Look for horses that have shown something against top competition. Watch for equipment changes that signal intent. And don't be afraid to go against the grain when the angles align.

Trevor's handicapping toolkit is deeper than most. He looks for seasonal patterns, blocking off dates when horses were successful the previous year and watching for those same hot streaks to repeat. He knows that in late October, some horses might be tired after long campaigns while others have been saved for cooler weather. "Sometimes they're prepping them for the time of year when the horse wins or does better," said Trevor.

RACE 9 UNOFFICIAL RESULTS				M/L	FINAL ODDS	POOL TOTALS
1ST	5	BOREALIS TRAIL	J. CAMPOS	6	6	TOTAL \$600,422
2ND	2	MANSETTI	P. MORAN	8/5	2	SW \$616
3RD	6	WAGSTAFF	R. HERNANDEZ	8	5	
4TH	1	HE'S NOT JOKING	F. AEBLY	8	9-2	

HOLD ALL TICKETS

Borealis Trail ensured contest victory for Trevor Tilston-Jones when he won the 9th race at Woodbine last Saturday.

Trevor is a believer in Beyer Speed Figures as a starting point, using them to eliminate horses that have never run fast enough to compete at today's level, but he sees figures as a tool, not a religion.

For the contest itself, Trevor had a strategy: don't overthink it.

"You can't look at a race for 25 to 30 minutes," said Trevor. "You have 10 picks to make, you better do them, and you better get going because you could be wrong in the race that you're looking at for that long."

It's about trusting your preparation and your instincts, not getting paralyzed by analysis. Make your plays and move on.

Trevor's background as a manufacturer's agent shaped his handicapping philosophy more than most would guess. "I had all these different customers with different minds and different angles," he said. "I had my own philosophies, and I had to use different ones

with them. So I guess that's what my handicapping style was born from, figuring out that you can't just hone in on one thing."

He'll use whatever tool the race requires, whether that's trainer statistics, equipment changes, breeding angles, or pure form analysis.

Trevor's history with Assiniboia Downs runs deep. He came to the track with his father and saw the very first race ever run at ASD, a connection to the track that spans decades and gives him a perspective few handicappers possess.

Now 79, he sees handicapping as more than just a hobby. It's a mental exercise, a way to stay sharp when peers are fading into retirement without outlets.

"When you get older and you're at my age, it's something you can do that's enjoyable," said Trevor. "And it keeps your mind alert. Because if you're just sitting around when you retire and go home, you're going to die. You have no hobbies, no fantasy football, no memorabilia, none of this."

Trevor still works part-time and makes calls to keep his mind engaged, but says handicapping provides the same kind of intellectual stimulation others might find in crosswords or Sudoku. But sometimes...

This puzzle pays out.

TravyFootball Week 8

Oct 22, 2025 | The Inside Track



By Travers Cummings

Falcons over Dolphins (Sunday noon): There's not much left to say about the Dolphins. They were left for dead by the Browns of all teams last week. The coach is doing his best to put on a brave face knowing he'll be fired any day now, players are starting to point fingers at one another—it's just a total mess. They're 1-6 and seem to have no chance of winning another game. This whole organization is probably getting blown up in the offseason, so their

best bet is to keep losing games to secure a better draft pick in 2026.

The Falcons pulled their usual Jekyll-and-Hyde gimmick last week against my 49ers. The bad version of Atlanta showed up, and they looked awful against San Francisco—who were still missing half their team. Bijan Robinson managed only 40 yards rushing, although he did have 52 yards receiving and a touchdown; he was mostly held in check on the ground. But what better way to bounce back than to face the Dolphins at home—as long as the *good* version of the Falcons shows up.

Eagles over Giants (Sunday noon): The Giants had a collapse for the ages against the Broncos last week. Giving up 33 points in one quarter is unheard of, but that's what they did—costing them the game. I don't know how you recover from something like that, but they'll have to put it in the rear-view mirror as they travel to Philadelphia to face the Eagles, who are looking to avenge their loss to New York earlier this year.

All the talk for the Giants right now is about how well rookie quarterback Jaxon Dart and fellow rookie running back Cam Skattebo are playing. It certainly makes the team more exciting to watch and gives their fans some hope for the future—but they're still just 2-5 on the season. Jalen Hurts and the Eagles' offense finally let loose their potential against the Vikings, with both A.J. Brown and DeVonta Smith going over 100 yards receiving and scoring a combined three touchdowns. Why they don't do this every week, I don't know—but it certainly makes them more dangerous when they have a balanced attack as opposed to just focusing on the run game.

Steelers over Packers (Sunday night): Well, it's happening. Aaron Rodgers—who spent most of his career as a Green Bay Packer—will finally face off against them for the very first time. It would have been a much better atmosphere had this game been in Green Bay instead of Pittsburgh, but since this most likely will be Aaron's last year, this is as close as we'll get. Even though most people believed Rodgers had nothing left in the tank after two abysmal years with the Jets, he's currently tied for fourth in the league with 14 TD passes. Not too bad for a “washed-up” 40-year-old (some people say the same thing about me).

Green Bay is the top team in the NFC currently, but their last two outings haven't exactly been convincing. They struggled against another 40-year-old in Joe Flacco two weeks ago, and last week they struggled against the Cardinals—who didn't even have Kyler Murray. If they want people to take them seriously, they need a big statement game here against their former hero.

Last week: 2-1
Season overall: 13-8