NFL PLAYOFFS DIVISIONAL ROUND

Texans, Patriots, 49ers, Bills, Bears, Rams advance

NEW YORK (AP) – Houston's stingy defense knocked Aaron Rodgers and the Pittsburgh Steelers out of the NFL playoffs, sending the Texans to the divisional round to complete wild-card weekend.

The Texans sacked Rodgers four times, scored two defensive touchdowns and held Pittsburgh to 175 yards in a 30-6 victory on Monday night. It was Houston's 10th straight win and the franchise's first on the road in the playoffs.

Mike Tomlin and the Steelers lost their seventh consecutive playoff game, and Rodgers may have played the last game of his Hall of Fame career.

Houston (13-5), the AFC's No. 5 seed, will face the No. 2 seed New England Patriots (15-3) next Sunday at 3 p.m. EST. The No. 2 seed Bears (12-6) will host the No. 5 seed Rams (13-5) in the second game Sunday.

The divisional round will kick off with the No. 6 seed Bills (13-5) at the No. 1 seed Broncos (14-3) on Saturday at 4:30 p.m. The No. 6 seed 49ers (13-5) will face the top-seeded Seahawks (14-3) in the night game.

In Sunday's wild-card games, Brock Purdy tossed a 4-yard TD pass to Christian McCaffrey with 2:54 remaining to lift the 49ers to a 23-19 comeback win at Philadelphia. McCaffrey also caught a 29-yard TD pass from wide receiver Jauan Jennings.

The Patriots sacked Justin Herbert six times and held Los Angeles to just 207 yards in a 16-3 winon Sunday night.

Josh Allen led Buffalo to a 27-24 comeback victory in Jacksonville in Sunday's first game. Allen scored on a 1-yard run late in the fourth quarter and Cole Bishop intercepted Trevor Lawrence's pass to secure Buffalo's first playoff win on the road since the 1992 AFC championship game at Miami.

On Saturday, the playoffs kicked off with two wacky games.

The Bears trailed the Green Bay Packers 21-3 at halftime and 27-16 with just under seven minutes left in the fourth quarter before Caleb Williams threw a pair of touchdown passes. His 25-yard TD toss to D.J. Moore put Chicago ahead 31-27 with 1:43 remaining. Then Jordan Love's desperation heave into the end zone from the Bears 28 was knocked down as time expired to secure Chicago's first playoff win since the 2010 season.

Williams finished with 361 yards passing, two TDs and two interceptions for the Bears.

In the opener on wild-card weekend, Matthew Stafford threw a 19-yard touchdown pass to Colby Parkinson in the final minute and Los Angeles rallied to beat the Carolina Panthers 34-31in a game that was much closer than expected.

The Rams were double-digit favorites on BetMGM Sportsbook against the Panthers (8-10). The Rams jumped to a 14-0 lead, but couldn't take advantage of first-half turnovers and allowed Carolina to get within 17-14 at halftime.

Stafford, who earned All-Pro honors for the first time in his 17-year career on Saturday, threw for 304 yards, three TDs and had one pick. Puka Nacua, who was a unanimous All-Pro selection, had 10 catches for 111 yards and one TD and also had a 5-yard TD run.

The Rams are back in the divisional round for the second straight season. Last year, they were 13 yards away from eliminating Philadelphia before a sack and an incomplete pass ended their season with a 28-22 loss.



AP photo

New England defensive end Milton Williams (97), linebacker Christian Elliss (53) and linebacker Robert Spillane (14) celebrate Williams' sack of Los Angeles quarterback Justin Herbert (10) in the second half on Sunday in Foxborough, Mass.



AP photo

Los Angeles guard James Harden (1) dribbles during the first half against Charlotte on Monday in Inglewood, Calif.

Clippers star Harden passes O'Neal for 9th place on the NBA's all-time scoring list

LOS ANGELES (AP) — James Harden has passed Shaquille O'Neal for ninth place on the NBA's all-time scoring list.

The Los Angeles Clippers guard made a 3-pointer early in the third quarter on Monday night against the Charlotte Hornets, pushing his career total to 28,598 points in his 1,187th regular season game. O'Neal had 28,596 points in 1,207 games over 19 years.

Harden entered the night averaging 25.6 points per game, his highest average since the 2019-20 season (34.3 points per game) when he won the last of three straight league scoring titles.

Harden, who began the game with 28,582 career points in his 17th season, faces a steep climb to the next spot. Wilt Chamberlain is eighth with 31,419 points, in just 1,045 games over 14 years. LeBron James is the all-time leader with 42,601 points entering his game with the Los Angeles Lakers on Monday. Following him are Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, Karl Malone, Kobe Bryant, Michael Jordan, Dirk Nowitzki and Kevin Durant.

Harden recently moved up to 12th on the all-time assists list. The 11-time All-Star also ranks second all-time in 3-pointers made, behind Stephen Curry.

Tony Stewart returns to NASCAR in Ram Truck debut

By JENNA FRYER
AP Auto Racing Writer

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Tony Stewart will return to NASCAR competition for the first time since 2016 when he drives for Kaulig Racing in the debut of the Ram Truck at next month's season-opening race at Daytona International Raceway.

Stewart, a three-time NASCAR champion and Hall of Fame inductee, last raced a truck in 2005 at NASCAR's national level. He drives for Dodge in the NHRA drag racing series and racing for Kaulig as it brings Ram trucks back into NASCAR was a perfect re-entry for the brand.

"I've raced just about everything with four wheels at Daytona, but never a truck," Stewart said Tuesday. "So when a seat in the new Ram was offered up for their first race back in NASCAR, I didn't hesitate."

Stewart will be part of Ram's "free agent program" that is designed to bring proven drivers and rising stars into the spotlight. Ram will field five trucks in the 2026 season — full-time seats for Brenden "Butterbean" Queen, Daniel Dye and Justin Haley, as well as the free agent seat and an additional program called "Race For The Seat" in which a competition in the form of a reality show determines the fourth full-time driver.

"We're not just returning to the track, we're rewriting the playbook. Bringing Tony in as the first Free Agent will generate a crazy amount of excitement, which is exactly why we created the program — allowing fans to watch an all-time favorite driver get back into the seat, but this time, it's a Ram truck," said Tim Kuniskis, head of American brands at Stellantis. "This is about honoring a legacy. Tony represents grit, determination, and the spirit of racing — pure adrenaline for the fans."



TERRY RENNA/AP file

In this Nov. 20, 2011 file photo, Tony Stewart celebrates after winning his third NASCAR Sprint Cup Series championship, at Homestead-Miami Speedway in Homestead, Fla.

Stewart is the first and only driver to win all three USAC National championships (Midget, Sprint, Silver Crown) in one year (1995). He also won the IndyCar championship in 1997 and NASCAR championships in 2005, 2008 and 2011.

He ran six Truck Series races in his career with two victories, his last in 2003.

"Having Tony Stewart in one of our Ram trucks is the kind of thing you dream about," team owner Matt Kaulig said. "He's a legend — his name alone brings energy to the sport. We couldn't be more fired up to have him in our camp as we roll into Daytona for our first race. This is going to be a ride worth watching."

Kaulig Racing fields two Cup cars and is the anchor factory team for Ram's return to NASCAR in 2026. Established in 2016, Kaulig Racing competed in more than 700 NASCAR Xfinity Series races, earned two regular-season championships and 27 victories.

The team began competing part-time in the Cup Series in 2021 before expanding to a two-car, full-time team in 2022 and adding a third, part-time entry during the 2023 season. Since its first Cup Series start in 2021, the team has earned two wins.

PUBLIC NOTICES

TO PLACE AN AD: 785.832.2222 ljworld.column.us/place

Lawrence

(First published in the Lawrence Daily Journal-World on the 31st of December, 2025)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF DOUGLAS COUNTY KANSAS

In the Matter of the Estate of Patricia Ann Baker, Deceased

Case No. DG-2025-PR-000250

TITLE TO REAL ESTATE INVOLVED

Pursuant to K.S.A. Chapter 59 Kansas Simplified Estates Act

NOTICE OF HEARING AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are notified that on November 14, 2025, a Petition was filed in this Court by Kimberly Lyn Liebl, Executrix named in the "Last Will and Testament of Patricia Ann Baker," deceased, dated August 25, 2000, requesting that the instrument attached thereto be admitted to probate and record as the Last Will and Testament of the decedent; Letters Testamentary under the Kansas Simplified Estates Act be issued to Executrix to serve without bond.

You are further advised under the provisions of the Kansas Simplified Estates Act the Court need not supervise administration of the Estate, and no notice of any action of the Executrix or other proceedings in the administration will be given, except for notice of final settlement of decedent's estate.

You are further advised if written objections to simplified administration are filed with the Court, the Court may order that supervised administration ensue.

You are required to file your written defenses to the Petition on or before January 20, 2026, at 2:00p.m., in the District Court, in Lawrence, Douglas County, Kansas, at which time and place the cause will be heard. Should you fail to file your written defenses, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the Petition.

All creditors are notified to exhibit their demands against the Estate within the latter of four months from the date of the first publication of this notice, as provided by law, or if the identity of the creditor is known or reasonably ascertainable, 30 days after actual notice was given as provided by law, and if their demands are not thus exhibited, they shall be forever barred.

/s/ Kimberly Lyn Liebl
Petitioner

Sloan Law Firm, P.A.
/s/ Edward S. Sloan

Edward S. Sloan
KS Bar# 14160
4000 W. 6th Street
Suite B205
Lawrence, KS 66049
816-550-4607
esloan@esloanlaw.com
Attorneys for Petitioner

(First published in the Lawrence Daily Journal-World on the 7th of January, 2026)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF LEAVENWORTH COUNTY, KANSAS

In the Interest of:
J. E. C. III
DOB: xx/xx/2008
A male

Case Number: LV-2025-JC-000077
Pursuant to K.S.A. 38-2237

NOTICE OF HEARING - PUBLICATION

TO: **John Conklin Jr, Father** and all other persons who are or may be concerned

You are hereby notified that **a petition has been filed** in this court alleging that the child named above is a Child in Need of Care. The Court may find that the parents are unfit by reason or conduct or condition which renders the parents unable to care properly for a child, the conduct or condition is unlikely to change in the foreseeable future, the parental rights of the parent should be terminated, and a permanent custodian should be appointed for the child(ren).

An Adjudication and Disposition hearing on the petition is scheduled for **February 4, 2026 at 1:00pm**, in **Courtroom #3** of the **Leavenworth County Justice Center** located at **601 S 3rd St**, in the city of **Leavenworth**, Kansas. At the hearing the Court may issue orders relating to the care, custody and control of the child(ren). The hearing will determine if the parents should be deprived of their parental rights and the right to custody of the child(ren).

The parent(s), and any other person having legal custody are required to appear before this Court on the date and time shown, or to file your written response to the petition with the Clerk of the District Court prior to that time. Failure to respond or to appear before the Court at the time shown will not prevent the Court from entering judgment as requested in the petition, finding that the child is a Child in Need of Care, removing the child from the custody of parent, parents or any other present legal custodian until further order of the Court, or finding the parents unfit, and entering an order permanently terminating the parents' parental rights.

An attorney has been appointed as guardian *ad litem* for the child: **Mark C. Hegarty, 10500 Barkley St, Ste 108, Overland Park, KS 66212.** You have the right to appear before the Court and be heard personally, either with or without an attorney. The Court will appoint an attorney for any parent who desires an attorney but is financially unable to hire one. Please contact the Leavenworth County District Court Clerk's office for the application for appointed counsel. The Court may order one or both parents to pay child support.

Date and time of hearing: **February 4, 2026 at 1:00 pm**
Place of hearing: **Courtroom 3** of the **Leavenworth County Justice Center** in the city of Leavenworth, Kansas

Amanda White,
Deputy Clerk

(First published in the Lawrence Daily Journal-World on the 31st of December, 2025)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF DOUGLAS COUNTY, KANSAS CIVIL DEPARTMENT

GITSIT Solutions, LLC, not in its individual capacity but solely in its capacity as Separate Trustee of GV Trust 2025-1
Plaintiff,

vs.

Darryl Lawrence Stone (Deceased), Unknown Heirs of Darryl Lawrence Stone (Deceased), Jane Doe, John Doe, The Board of County Commissioners of Douglas County, Kansas, Frances Darleene Overstreet aka Frances D.S. Overstreet, and Kansas Department of Health and Environment, et al.,
Defendants

Case No. DG-2025-CV-000556
Court No.
Title to Real Estate Involved Pursuant to K.S.A. §60

NOTICE OF SUIT

STATE OF KANSAS to the above named Defendants and The Unknown Heirs, executors, devisees, trustees, creditors, and assigns of any deceased defendants; the unknown spouses of any defendants; the unknown officers, successors, trustees, creditors and assigns of any defendants that are existing, dissolved

PUBLIC NOTICE CONTINUED ON B5