



AP Photo/Gene J. Puskar

Kansas City Chiefs tight end Travis Kelce (87) makes the catch against Kansas City Chiefs safety Deon Bush (26) during the first half of an NFL football game on Wednesday in Pittsburgh.

NFL's Netflix debut on Christmas Day kicks off without a glitch

BY ROB MAADDI
AP PRO FOOTBALL WRITER

Patrick Mahomes and Travis Kelce exposed a glitch in Pittsburgh's defense during Netflix's NFL debut on Christmas Day.

The broadcast itself went off just fine, quickly becoming the second-most popular live title on Netflix to date, according to NFL Media.

Mariah Carey opened Wednesday's doubleheader with a taped performance of "All I Want for Christmas is You" before Mahomes, Kelce and the two-time defending Super Bowl champion Kansas City Chiefs trounced the Steelers 29-10 to clinch the No. 1 seed in the AFC.

There were no signs of streaming issues during the game after Netflix experienced minor blunders at the start of the pregame show. The broadcast opened with roughly 10 seconds of silence because it appeared studio host Kay Adams' microphone wasn't turned on.

The Houston Texans hosted the Baltimore Ravens in the second game as the NFL showcased four of the AFC's top five teams.

The biggest test for the streaming giant should come at halftime of the Ravens-Texans game when Beyoncé performs live at NRG Stadium.

Mahomes threw for 320 yards and three touchdowns and Kelce had eight catches for 84 yards and one score as the Chiefs (15-1) earned a first-round bye and home-field advantage throughout the AFC playoffs. The Steelers (10-6) have lost three straight games and may have to settle for a wild-card spot instead of an AFC North title.

Netflix agreed to a three-year contract in May to broadcast Christmas Day games. The NFL is expected to give the streaming service one of its biggest days since the site launched in 1998.

Netflix's 282.3 million subscribers in more than 190 countries could stream the games, marking the first time one outlet distributed an NFL game globally. Netflix had the games available in five languages — English, French, Spanish, Portuguese and German.

Netflix had problems streaming the Mike Tyson-Jake Paul fight on Nov. 14. The bout peaked at 65 million concurrent streams, including 38 million concurrent streams in the United States. According to the website Down Detector, nearly 85,000 viewers logged problems with outages or streaming leading up to and during the fight.

There were fewer complaints on Wednesday.

According to NFL Media, viewers in all 50 states tuned in within minutes of the pregame show going live and viewers from nearly 200 countries watched the first game. Before the Ravens-Texans kicked off, Netflix reported that it eclipsed its peak concurrent viewers of any Christmas in the past four years.

The NFL was playing its first games on a Wednesday since the Steelers and Ravens were forced to play on Dec. 2, 2020, because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The only other time the league played on a Wednesday since 1948 was in 2012 when the Giants and Cowboys met in the season opener.

COMMERCIALS

Netflix promoted its own programming in addition to the usual slew of advertisements. The first teaser trailer for "Happy Gilmore 2" was released before kickoff. Adam Sandler is back as Happy Gilmore for the sports comedy that hits the streaming service in 2025. Travis Kelce also was featured in a trailer filled with cameos by celebrities, including Bad Bunny and Kid Cudi.

NEW CHRISTMAS TRADITION

The NFL played its first games on Christmas Day in 1971 with a pair of divisional playoff games. The league avoided playing on Dec. 25 from 1972-88 and shifted its full slate of games to Saturday if Christmas fell on a Sunday. Since 1989, there will have been 30 games on Christmas, never more than three on that day. But the NFL went out of its way to schedule two games on Wednesday to accommodate its \$150 million deal with Netflix.

BROADCASTING TEAMS

J.J. Watt, a three-time AP Defensive Player of the Year and brother of Steelers four-time All-Pro edge rusher T.J. Watt, and former NFL wide receiver Nate Burleson shared analyst duties for the Chiefs-Steelers game, with Ian Eagle on play-by-play.

"I'm extremely proud of him and also slightly concerned he's getting close to a lot of my records," J.J. Watt said of his younger brother at the start of the broadcast.

Noah Eagle, Ian's son, will be on play-by-play for the Ravens-Texans game, with former NFL tight end Greg Olsen in the analyst seat.

LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE INVITATION TO BID

Bid No. 2425-48: Roadside Litter Collection Services (Solid Waste)

Bid No. 2425-49: Horse Fork Creek Park Painting Project (Parks)

Bid No. 2425-50: One (1) New Class A Fire Engine (Fire Rescue)

Bid No. 2425-51: Fleet Fuel System (Annual)

Daviess County Fiscal Court is seeking a qualified vendor to provide the item(s)/service(s) listed above. Bid specifications are on file at the Daviess County Administrative Offices, 221 Allen Street, Owensboro, KY 42303 in the Purchasing Department or online at www.daviessky.org. Bids must be mailed or delivered to Daviess County Fiscal Court on or before 2:00 PM, local time on Thursday, January 23, 2024. The bids shall be opened and publicly read at this time. Daviess County Fiscal Court reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any irregularities in said bids.

1,000-yard rushers are keeping pace with 1,000-yard receivers for a change in the NFL

BY JOSH DUBOW
AP PRO FOOTBALL WRITER

Inside the Numbers dives into NFL statistics, streaks and trends each week. For more Inside the Numbers, head here.

Led by free-agent bargains Saquon Barkley and Derrick Henry, the number of big-play running backs is rivaling the number of high-production wide receivers for a change.

With two weeks remaining in the season, there are 11 players who have reached the 1,000-yard milestone in both rushing and receiving, a far cry from the pattern in recent seasons.

The last time there were as many 1,000-yard rushers as receivers in an entire season came in 2010 when there were 17 of each. While that might not happen this season, with more pass catchers nearing the mark than runners, it does figure to be far closer than it has been the last decade when there were more than twice as many receivers (233) hitting the mark than runners (110).

The running renaissance is being led by Barkley and Henry, who have elevated their teams with their big-play ability after signing deals that are far smaller than the ones that go to top wideouts.

The Eagles' Barkley leads the NFL in rushing with 1,838 yards and could become the ninth player in NFL history to reach 2,000 yards in a season. He still has an outside shot at breaking Eric Dickerson's single-season record of 2,105 in a 16-game season in 1984. Barkley needs 268 yards to break that in a 17-game season.

Barkley has been a big-play threat all season, including a 68-yard TD run on Sunday against Washington. He's the first player in NFL history with at least four TD runs of 65 yards or more in the same season.

The Ravens' Henry has



AP Photo/Stephanie Scarbrough

Philadelphia Eagles running back Saquon Barkley (26) running with the ball during the first half of an NFL football game against the Washington Commanders on Sunday in Landover, Md.

1,636 yards rushing, making this the first season since 2012 with multiple backs topping the 1,600-yard mark. Henry became the fifth player to top 1,500 yards at least four times in a career and is one shy of Barry Sanders' record of five. Dickerson, Walter Payton and Edgerin James also did it four times.

RARE ROOKIES

Washington's Jayden Daniels and Las Vegas' Brock Bowers are on the verge of some record-setting rookie seasons.

Daniels threw five touchdown passes to lead the Commanders to a 36-33 comeback win over Philadelphia that snapped Washington's 98-game losing streak in games the team trailed by at least 13 points in the fourth quarter.

Daniels threw for 258 yards and ran for 81 more, joining 2015 MVP Cam Newton as the only players NFL history with at least 250 yards passing, 75 yards rushing and five TD passes in a game.

Daniels has 737 yards rushing this season and needs just 79 more to break the record of 815 that Robert Griffin III set

for Washington in 2012. Daniels is already just the second rookie QB to win 10 starts and produce at least 4,000 yards rushing and passing, joining Andrew Luck, who did it in 2012 for Indianapolis.

Bowers had 11 catches for 99 yards for the Raiders on Sunday to tie Anquan Boldin for the third-most catches in a season by a rookie with 101. Bowers needs five more catches in the final two weeks to break Puka Nacua's record set last season for the Rams. Malik Nabers of the New York Giants also could do it; he has 97 catches this season.

Bowers' 1,067 yards receiving are 9 shy of matching the rookie record for tight ends set by Hall of Famer Mike Ditka in 1961 for Chicago.

Just for kicks In a record-setting season for long kicks, no one has done it quite at the level of Dallas' Brandon Aubrey.

Aubrey has made an NFL-record 14 field goals from at least 50 yards, one more than Houston's Ka'imi Fairbairn has made.

Those two account for 27 of the record 173 field goals of at least 50 yards,

beating the record of 158 set just last season. There already have been twice as many field goals from at least 50 yards this season as there were as recently as 2019, when there were just 84.

Aubrey made two kicks from 58 yards, one from 53 and another from 49 this past week, to set another record. His 36 made field goals have combined for 1,636 yards for the most yards on made field goals in any season, topping Justin Tucker's 1,601 in 2016 for Baltimore.

49ERS FEAST OR FAMINE

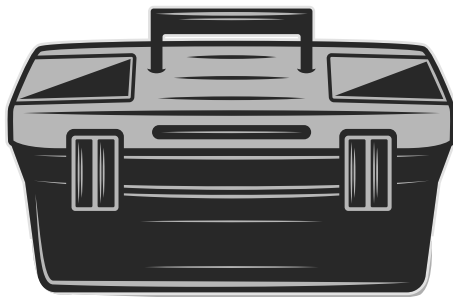
San Francisco's latest loss extended an odd streak of feast or famine for the franchise after the 49ers were assured of a losing season.

Over the last 22 seasons, San Francisco has had a winning record just seven times but made it to the NFC title game or Super Bowl in each of those seasons.

The Niners are tied for the ninth-fewest seasons with a winning record in that span but have the second-most conference championship game appearances, trailing only the 12 for New England.

HOME SERVICES GUIDE

REVERSE WEAR AND TEAR ON YOUR SHELTER WITH THESE PROFESSIONAL SOLUTIONS!



MAINTENANCE REPAIRS IMPROVEMENTS

SERVICES

THE PAINTER!
Best Prices in the Tri-State.
Excellent Results
Inside and Out.
Plenty of local refs.
270-302-0497

SERVICES

YARD/LANDSCAPE
Accepting New Accounts

Fall Cleanup, leaf removal, and Tree work
Free Estimates, Lic. & Ins.
Keith 270-316-0178

24 Hour Towing Service

Quality Auto Service Since 1968

24th & Veach Road - Owensboro, KY.
683-4251 or 684-0719

We install Jasper Engines & Transmissions
100,000 Miles/36 Month Nationwide Warranty

SERVICES

APEX RENOVATION COMPANY

- Additions • Pole Barns
- Custom Showers • Decks
- Bathroom & Kitchen
- All Roofs • Windows
- Floor Installation
- Commercial Remodels

FREE ESTIMATES
Licensed & Insured

We do it all!
Give us a Call!
(270)-240-2525
(270)313-0400

SERVICES

HOME REPAIR
TC Construction
Roofing & Remodeling

- * Handyman Services
- * Roofing * Gutters
- * Fencing * Decks * Siding
- * Landscaping
- * Pressure Washing
- * Windows * Doors
- * Flooring
- * Home Improvement
- * Drywall * Painting
- * Kitchen * Bathroom

Licensed & Insured
Free Estimates
270-315-7648

HOME SERVICES

YARD DOG

Free Removal of Unwanted Appliances, Mowers, Exercise Equipment Grills & Batteries

SAME DAY PICK UP
270-313-7227

Ebling Contracting, LLC

Roofing Expert

Hail Yeah!

Free Estimates: Your Hail Storm and Wind Roof Specialist

- ① We offer claim assistance
- ② We'll aid in claim interpretation
- ③ We'll meet with your adjuster
- ④ We'll get adjustments to "left off" items
- ⑤ We'll assist you with your final check
- ⑥ Start to finish with 34 years local service

Customer Service and Satisfaction is #1 in Us

Mr. Ebling was instrumental to getting the insurance company to include the large hail damage on the garage & shed, which they'd denied earlier.
- Jackie Timmore, St. Ann St. 9/30/22

I was so pleased that not only was Mr. Ebling able to get our roof replaced through insurance, but had our decking replaced at no extra charge. Love our new roof done in 1 day. - Stephanie Yate, Ridgewood Drive, 9/22/22

Don't Think Your Roof is Alright, Call David Today and Make Sure Especially in Masonville, Utica, or Whitesville

Call Today! 683-7503 **Call The PROS You Can TRUST**
Flat Roof Problems Gone With Rubber Roofs
The Pink Panther™ & © 1964-2006 Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Studios Inc. All Rights Reserved