

## Families seek relief amid rising German costs

By JENNIFER H. SVAN  
*Stars and Stripes*

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany — Skyrocketing utility prices in Germany are driving more U.S. military families to seek on-base housing, where they don't have to worry about paying heating bills this winter.

The wait list for on-base housing in the Kaiserslautern Military Community has climbed 57% over this time last year, from 94 service members to 148, Ronald Jung, a spokesman for the 86th Airlift Wing at Ramstein Air Base, said in a statement.

The reasons why people want to move aren't tracked, Jung said Thursday.

But the rising demand is coming largely from off-base families who want to move on base, Jung added, and military family members who spoke with Stars and Stripes cited energy prices as the reason.

The longest waitlist is one to two years for junior enlisted service members seeking homes at Landstuhl. The same waitlist is one to three months at Vogelweh and Ramstein, Jung said.

"At this time last year, there was virtually no wait list for these homes," he said.

Families may apply to live at a particular installation, which may have made on-base housing more desirable, Jung said.

Army installations "have not noticed an increase in requests to move on post specifically due to energy costs," said Mark Heeter, a spokesman for Installation Management Command-Europe.

However, the price of gas alone has gone up more than 200% on average for couples and families in Germany since a year ago, according to price comparison portal Check24. Some service members in the Kaiserslautern area, home to about 50,000 U.S. personnel and their families, say their prices have gone up more than that.

Brandy Sheldon said she's been pulling money out of savings the last few months to cover rising utility prices on top of higher grocery and fuel bills. That coincides with a cost-of-living allowance for U.S. troops in this part of Germany that has been slowly falling for months.

Sheldon's husband is an Army chief warrant officer 3. The family is moving on base from Hochspeyer to curb their expenses and for their kids, who she said had no one to play with in the village.

They accepted a townhome on the Vogelweh installation last week, Sheldon said.

"Once we saw the utilities increasing drastically over the winter months," combined with other costs, "we decided on-base

was the best choice for us," she said.

Some military families have ideas of finding a historic half-timbered house for their tour in this heavily forested part of the country, while others like modern German homes.

But those dreams can lose out to practicality.

When Sophie Pappas and her family went to see a four-bedroom house offered to them at Vogelweh this week, a housing official said "you're coming at a great time. Everybody is coming in this week to try and get on the wait list," Pappas said Friday.

The Pappases did the math: Estimated utility expenses in Weilerbach, about \$1,200 a month; the family's monthly utility stipend, \$860. A family adding their names to the wait list at the housing office told Pappas their utility expenses had risen 300% since January, she said.

"It just seemed like a risk we didn't want to take," Pappas said.

Base residents don't pay rent, water or heating bills. They do pay for internet, television and phone services.

Defense Department personnel receive varying levels of housing and utility allowances off base, but many are worried that those stipends won't be enough.

## USS Gerald R. Ford's 1st deployment postponed

*The (Norfolk, Va.) Virginian-Pilot*

NORFOLK, Va. — The USS Gerald R. Ford's first deployment was postponed due to severe weather forecast for Hampton Roads as a nor'easter looms to the south.

The Navy's newest carrier, which was years late and 27% over budget, was slated to finally push off from the pier Monday, but was forced into another delay "due to changing weather conditions," said Lara Bollinger, public affairs officer for the U.S. 2nd Fleet.

Previously, the Navy planned to forgo a traditional,

pier-side send-off for the Ford due to weather and safety concerns. The 2nd Fleet was also bracing for potential weather delays.

A new deployment date will be set when the weather allows, Bollinger said.

A coastal flooding event unseen for a decade could inundate parts of Hampton Roads on Monday — three days after the remnants of Hurricane Ian swept through the region.

A low-pressure system spawned in the aftermath of Ian is forecast to bring rain and northeast winds that could

push tides higher than were experienced Friday, and Hampton Roads is under a flood warning until Tuesday.

National Weather Service Wakefield predicted 55-60 mph gusts along the coast late Sunday, persisting into Monday.

The seas, meteorologists said, may be dangerous, with waves as high as 15 feet.

In the Chesapeake Bay, waves could reach 10 feet.

A gale warning was issued for the Chesapeake Bay through Monday night, and a storm watch was issued off Virginia Beach along the Atlantic.

The Ford has been delayed for at least two years by several factors, including the challenges posed by new technologies.

Now that it is ready — weather aside — the warship is touted as the Navy's most technologically advanced carrier as it is the first to use a new aircraft-launching technology called the Electromagnetic Aircraft Launch System, also known as EMALS, to put planes in the air 25% faster.

The Ford will operate in the Atlantic Ocean as the lead ship of a strike group bearing the carrier's name.

## Ukraine advances in territory at risk of annexation

*Associated Press*

KYIV, Ukraine — Ukrainian forces scored more gains in their counteroffensive across a broad front Monday, advancing in the very areas Russia is trying to annex and challenging its effort to bolster its military with fresh troops and its threats to defend incorporated areas by all means, including with nuclear weapons.

In their latest breakthrough, Ukrainian forces penetrated Moscow's defenses in the strategic southern Kherson region, one of the four areas in Ukraine that Russia is absorbing.

Ukraine's advances have become so apparent that even Russia's Defense Ministry spokesman Igor Konashenkov was forced to acknowledge it.

"With numerically superior tank units in the direction of Zolota Balka and Oleksandrivka, the enemy managed to forge deep into our defenses," Konashenkov said, referring to two towns. He coupled that with claims that Russian forces inflicted heavy losses on Ukraine's military.

Ukrainian forces have struggled to retake the Kherson region, in contrast to their breakout offensive in the northeast around Kharkiv that began last month.

As the front lines shifted, the political theater in Moscow continued, with Russia's lower house of parliament rubber-stamping annexation treaties for Kherson, Zaporizhzhia, Donetsk and Luhansk to join Russia. The upper house will follow suit Tuesday as a culmination of "referendums" the Kremlin orchestrated last week — actions the U.N. chief and Western nations have said are illegal.

Russia's moves to incorporate the Ukrainian regions, as well as President Vladimir Putin's effort to mobilize more troops, have been done so hastily that officials have struggled to explain and implement them. Putin admitted that some of the men called up had been mistakenly selected and ordered them sent home. On Monday, the issue was: Exactly what areas of Ukraine is Russia trying to incorporate? Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said Donetsk and Luhansk are joining Russia with the administrative borders that existed before a conflict erupted there in 2014 between pro-Russian separatists and Ukrainian forces. But he added that the borders of Zaporizhzhia and Kherson are undecided.

# Navy says water on USS Nimitz now safe to drink

BY ALISON BATH  
*Stars and Stripes*

The USS Nimitz has left San Diego, ending a delay in port for repair of a water system contaminated by jet fuel, which is suspected of sickening at least 11 sailors assigned to the aircraft carrier.

Symptoms included skin rashes, headaches and diarrhea, which were reported beginning Sept. 17, a day after the contamination was found, as the ship transited the Southern California coast, Navy officials said.

At least 10 of the sailors were no longer experiencing symptoms as of Saturday, Cmdr. Sean Robertson, a spokesman for U.S. 3rd Fleet, said Sunday in an email to Stars and Stripes.

"All 11 sailors have received treatment and have been cleared for duty," Robertson said, adding that the water on board is now safe to drink.

The ship left Naval Air Station North Island on Sunday and rejoined its strike group, he said.

"Nimitz got underway after all tests came

back in limits and the potable water was determined to be safe for the crew," Robertson said.

Sailors who experienced symptoms are still encouraged to seek a medical evaluation aboard the ship, he said.

The Navy did not say how jet fuel got into the water used for drinking, bathing and cooking. Officials also did not identify what steps they had taken to ensure that the water would remain safe to drink. They also did not answer questions about how the Nimitz's potable water system worked.

Testing Sept. 16 found jet propellant-5, or JP-5, in the ship's water supply. The following day, the ship docked at NAS North Island and was connected to San Diego's city water system.

About 1 million gallons of city water was used to flush the system, Robertson said Sunday.

But on Sept. 21, tests found trace amounts of jet fuel. That contamination was pinpointed to a single tank, which was taken offline. Three other nearby tanks also were isolated as a precaution, Stars and Stripes reported last week.

## DPAA IDs 16 troops, including 3 in B-17 crew, killed in past conflicts

*Stars and Stripes*

At least 16 service members from World War II and the Korean War were accounted for last month by the Defense Department agency tasked with recovering U.S. troops listed as missing in action or prisoners of war.

Fourteen of the identifications made in September by the Hawaii-based Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency were killed during WWII. The others fought in Korea, according to DPAA news releases.

Three were U.S. Army Air Forces members killed aboard a B-17G Flying Fortress shot down during a "huge bombing mission" near Leipzig, Germany, May 29, 1944, the agency said. Accounted for on Sept. 9 were the pilot, 1st Lt. Carl Nesbitt, 23; the bombardier, 1st Lt. Melvin Meyer, 25; and the navigator, 2nd Lt. Wayne Dyer, 22.

Another of September's WWII identifica-

tions died a prisoner of war in the Philippines after enduring the Bataan Death March in April 1942, the agency said.

U.S. Army Pvt. James Tash, 20, was captured when Japanese forces invaded the Philippines in late 1941 and died at the Cabanatuan POW camp on July 19, 1942, according to DPAA. He was accounted for on Sept. 27.

Two died as prisoners of war in Korea, agency news releases said.

Army Pfc. Ithiel Whatley, 19, was reported missing in action on July 12, 1950, after a "fighting withdrawal" south of Chochi'won, South Korea. Army Cpl. Cark Worline, 20, was reported missing in action on Nov. 26, 1950, after battling Chinese volunteer forces near Sinjang, North Korea. Whatley was accounted for on Sept. 7 and Worline on Sept. 9, DPAA said.

Information about DPAA's other identifications can be found at <https://www.dpaa.mil/>

# In Hurricane Ian's wake, dangers persist, worsen

*Associated Press*

FORT MYERS, Fla. — People kayaking down streets that were passable just a day or two earlier. Hundreds of thousands without power. National Guard helicopters flying rescue missions to residents still stranded on Florida's barrier islands.

Days after Hurricane Ian carved a path of destruction from Florida to the Carolinas, the dangers persisted, and even worsened in some places. It was clear the road to recovery from this monster storm will be long and painful.

And Ian was still not done. The storm doused Virginia with rain Sunday, and officials warned of the potential for major flooding along its coast, with a coastal flood warning in effect Monday.

Ian's remnants moved offshore and formed a nor'easter that is expected to pile even more water into an already inundated Chesapeake Bay and threatened to cause the most significant tidal flooding event in Virginia's Hampton Roads region in the last 10 to 15 years, said Cody Poche, a National Weather Service meteorologist. Norfolk and Virginia Beach declared states of emergency.

Other portions of the Atlantic coast could see higher tides than usual.

The island town of Chincoteague in Virginia declared a state of emergency Sunday and strongly recommended that residents in certain areas evacuate. The Eastern Shore and northern por-

tion of North Carolina's Outer Banks were also likely to be impacted.

At least 68 people have been confirmed dead: 61 in Florida, four in North Carolina and three in Cuba.

In Florida, Fort Myers Beach Mayor Ray Murphy told NBC's "Today Show" on Monday that the search and rescue mission would be taking place for the next couple of days. Murphy said that was why residents who evacuated are largely being kept away from their homes.

With the death toll rising, Deanne Criswell, administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, said the federal government was ready to help in a huge way, focusing first on victims in Florida, which took the brunt of one of the strongest storms to make landfall in the United States. President Joe Biden and first lady Jill Biden plan to visit the state on Wednesday.

Flooded roadways and washed-out bridges to barrier islands left many people isolated amid limited cellphone service and a lack of basic amenities such as water, electricity and the internet. Officials warned that the situation in many areas isn't expected to improve for several days because the rain that fell has nowhere to go because waterways are overflowing.

About 600,000 homes and businesses in Florida were still without electricity on Monday morning, down from a peak of 2.6 million.

# Biden plans to survey damage in Puerto Rico

*Associated Press*

WASHINGTON — President Joe Biden on Monday planned to survey damage from Hurricane Fiona in Puerto Rico, where tens of thousands of people are still without power two weeks after the storm hit. The Category 1 hurricane knocked out electrical power to the U.S. territory of 3.2 million people, 44% of whom live below the poverty line.

Power has been restored to about 90% of the island's 1.47 million customers, but more than 137,000 others, mostly in the hardest hit areas of Puerto Rico's southern and western regions, continue to struggle in the dark.

Another 66,000 customers are without water.

Biden has pledged that the U.S. government will not abandon Puerto Rico as it starts to rebuild again, five years after the more powerful Hurricane Maria devastated the island in 2017.

On Monday morning, the president said he was going in part because people there "haven't been taken very good care of," and they were "trying like hell to catch up from the last hurricane."

During his visit, Biden planned to announce the administration will provide \$60 million through last year's bipartisan infrastructure law to help Puerto Rico shore up levees, strengthen flood walls and create a new flood warning system so the island will be better prepared for future storms, the White House said.

"We see what you're going through, and we're with you," Biden told Puerto Ricans and Floridians in a message Sunday on his official Twitter account.

# Orlene hits Mexico's Pacific coast

*Associated Press*

MAZATLAN, Mexico — Hurricane Orlene made landfall on Mexico's Pacific coast near the tourist town of Mazatlan on Monday.

Electrical cables swayed and sent off showers of sparks in the town of El Rosario, about 40 miles south of Mazatlan, close to where the hurricane hit.

Orlene lost some strength after roaring over the Islas Maria, a former prison colony being developed as a tourist draw.

The main island is sparsely populated, mainly by government employees, and most buildings there are made of brick or concrete.

The hurricane's winds slipped back to 85 mph as it hit land about 45 miles southeast of Mazatlan Monday morning, according to the U.S. National Hurricane Center.

Authorities did not immediately report any damage, but along the coast they suspended classes, closed seaports and set up shelters.

A hurricane warning was in effect from San Blas to Mazatlan.

The government of Jalisco state, where Puerto Vallarta is located, suspended classes Monday in towns and cities along the coast.

Orlene could bring flood-inducing rainfall of up to 10 inches in some places, as well as coastal flooding and dangerous surf.

The ports of Manzanillo and Puerto Vallarta were closed to ships and Mexico's navy announced that ports including Mazatlan, San Blas and Nuevo Vallarta were closed to small craft.

Mexico's National Water Commission said Orlene could cause "mudslides, rising river and stream levels, and flooding in low-lying areas."

# Nobel Prize awarded for evolution research

*Associated Press*

STOCKHOLM — Swedish scientist Svante Paabo won this year's Nobel Prize in medicine Monday for his discoveries on human evolution that provided key insights into our immune system and what makes us unique compared with our extinct cousins, the award's panel said.

Paabo has spearheaded the development of new techniques that allowed researchers to compare the genome of modern humans and that of other hominins — the Neanderthals and Denisovans.

"Svante Paabo's groundbreaking discoveries have provided important new knowledge regarding our evolutionary history," said Anna Wedell, chair of the Nobel Committee.

While Neanderthal bones were first discovered in the mid-19th century, only by unlocking their DNA — often referred to as the code of life — have scientists been able to fully understand the links between species.

This included the time when modern humans and Neanderthals diverged as a species, determined to be around 800,000 years ago.

"Paabo and his team also surprisingly found that gene flow had occurred from

Neanderthals to Homo sapiens, demonstrating that they had children together during periods of co-existence," Wedell said.

This transfer of genes between hominin species affects how the immune system of modern humans reacts to infections, such as the coronavirus. People outside Africa have 1-2% of Neanderthal genes.

Paabo and his team also managed to extract DNA from a tiny finger bone found in a cave in Siberia, leading to the recognition of a new species of ancient humans they called Denisovans.

Wedell described this as "a sensational discovery" that subsequently showed Neanderthals and Denisovans to be sister groups which split from each other around 600,000 years ago.

Denisovan genes have been found in up to 6% of modern humans in Asia and Southeast Asia, indicating that interbreeding occurred there too.

"By mixing with them after migrating out of Africa, homo sapiens picked up sequences that improved their chances to survive in their new environments," said Wedell. For example, Tibetans share a gene with Denisovans that helps them adapt to the high altitude.

"We already know that it affects our defenses against different types of infections for instance, or how we can cope with high altitude," said Nils-Goran Larsson, a member of the Nobel panel. "But like all great discoveries in basic science, more and more insights will come over the next decades."

Paabo, 67, performed his prizewinning studies in Germany at the University of Munich and at the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology in Leipzig. Paabo is the son of Sune Bergstrom, who won the Nobel prize in medicine in 1982.

The medicine prize kicked off a week of Nobel Prize announcements. It continues Tuesday with the physics prize, with chemistry on Wednesday and literature on Thursday. The 2022 Nobel Peace Prize will be announced Friday and the economics award on Oct. 10.

Last year's medicine recipients were David Julius and Ardem Patapoutian for their discoveries into how the human body perceives temperature and touch.

The prizes carry a cash award of nearly \$900,000 and will be handed out on Dec. 10.

The money comes from a bequest left by the prize's creator, Swedish inventor Alfred Nobel, who died in 1895.

## Brazil's Bolsonaro, far-right defying polls

*Associated Press*

RIO DE JANEIRO — Jair Bolsonaro considerably outperformed expectations in Brazil's presidential election, proving that the far-right wave he rode to the presidency remains a force and providing the world with yet another example of polls missing the mark.

The most-trusted opinion polls had indicated leftist former President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva was far out front, and potentially even clinching a first-round victory.

One prominent pre-election poll gave da Silva a 14 percentage point lead.

In the end, Bolsonaro surprised to the upside and came within just 5 points.

He will face da Silva in a high-

stakes Oct. 30 presidential runoff.

On Sunday, da Silva, known universally as Lula, obtained 48.4% of valid votes, which excludes blank and null ballots, while Bolsonaro got 43.2%, according to Brazil's electoral authority. The first round's nine other candidates received a fraction of the front-runners' support.

"This is a big defeat for the democratic center that saw its voters migrate to Bolsonaro in a polarized scenario," said Arilton Freres, director of Curitiba-based Instituto Opinião. "Lula starts ahead, but it won't be easy for him."

The vote was virtually free from the political violence that many had feared.

## Iranian supreme leader breaks silence on protests

*Associated Press*

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates — Iran's supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei responded publicly on Monday to the biggest protests in Iran in years, breaking weeks of silence to condemn what he called "rioting" and accuse the United States and Israel of planning the protests.

The unrest, ignited by the death of a young woman in the custody of Iran's morality police, are flaring up across the country for a third week despite government efforts to crack down. On Monday, Iran shuttered its top technology university following an hourslong standoff between students and the police that turned the prestigious institution into the latest flashpoint of protests and ended

with hundreds of young people arrested. Speaking to a cadre of police students in Tehran, Khamenei said he was "heartbroken" by the death of 22-year-old Mahsa Amini in police custody, calling it a "sad incident." However, he sharply condemned the protests as a foreign plot to destabilize Iran, echoing authorities' previous comments.

"This rioting was planned," he told a cadre of police students in Tehran. "These riots and insecurities were designed by America and the Zionist regime, and their employees."

Meanwhile Sharif University of Technology in Tehran announced that only doctoral students would be allowed on campus until further notice following hours of turmoil on Sunday evening.

**AMERICAN ROUNDUP**

**Train service halted due to shifting coastal ground**

**CA** SAN CLEMENTE — Metrolink and Amtrak train services have been suspended due to shifting ground beneath a stretch of seaside track in Southern California.

The San Diego Union-Tribune reported Friday that service has been suspended indefinitely in the community of San Clemente on the border of Orange and San Diego counties.

The move comes after a recent storm surge caused high tides and waves that shifted the coastal tracks.

Last year, the community faced a similar problem and the tracks were shut down for two weeks. Workers brought in additional boulders to help shore up the eroding coastline.

The Orange County Transportation Authority, which owns the tracks, will hold a special meeting Monday to discuss potential solutions.

**Moose freed from fence, goes back on the loose**

**CT** BARKHAMSTED — A moose is back on the loose in Connecticut after some quick-acting rescuers helped to free it from a fence.

The Connecticut State Environmental Police received a call at around midnight about a moose stuck in Barkhamsted, northwest of Hartford. Local fire department personnel and state police responded early Saturday to find the animal not impaled on the structure, but unable to get its belly and rear legs over the top.

They cut off and removed one

end of a panel of the fence and that allowed the moose to push the remaining part to the ground and walk through.

The rescue came on the heels of several recent sightings in the state that prompted the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection issued an advisory to motorists last week to be on the lookout for moose.

**County to pay \$690K in no-knock shooting death**

**MS** AMORY — A Mississippi county has agreed to a \$690,000 settlement in the death of a man who was shot by sheriff's deputies during a 2015 no-knock raid.

A federal magistrate on Wednesday confirmed the amount with the attorneys handling the case for Ricky Keeton's family, according to an audio recording of the hearing provided by the court.

The settlement, which has not yet been fully formalized, would be paid to Keeton's family out of a pool to which Monroe County contributes alongside other local governments, the Northeast Mississippi Daily Journal reported.

Keeton's daughters sued after the shooting on Oct. 28, 2015. Monroe County SWAT team rammed the door of Keeton's mobile home, pried it open, then unleashed a barrage of gunfire when they saw Keeton holding a pellet pistol.

**No grand jury charges in fatal police shooting case**

**NJ** BUENA VISTA — State authorities said a New Jersey police officer will not face any charges in the shooting death of a driver who

stole a police car after a crash last year and led officers on a chase that ended after he was shot and killed.

The New Jersey attorney general's office said last week that a state grand jury had declined to bring charges in the 2021 death of 42-year-old Roy K. Jackel, who was shot and killed by a Franklin Township police officer in Buena Vista Township in April 2021.

Authorities said police from multiple jurisdictions responded to a crash in Buena Vista, but one of the drivers fled into the woods, threatening to shoot police if they came any closer. Officials said he later emerged with "a large pitchfork-like tool," stole an unoccupied police vehicle and fled, and a brief pursuit ensued.

Officials said Jackel eventually stopped the police vehicle, got out and "initially walked toward the officers with his right hand behind his back. As he got closer, Mr. Jackel began to run toward the officers, continuing to hold his right arm behind his back and ignoring commands to show his hands." The officer fired, and Jackel died at the scene.

**Hundreds of cars pack streets for illegal stunts**

**NV** RENO — Thousands of people in hundreds of cars took over northern Nevada parking lots and intersections Friday night and into Saturday, performing stunts in souped-up vehicles and leading to crashes and arrests, police said.

Police beefed up nighttime staffing after social media posts urged people from San Francis-

co and Portland, Ore., to come to the "sideshow" in Reno, Police Lt. Michael Browett said.

The disturbances started late Friday as several hundred cars and their occupants met in the parking lot of a still-open Walmart store. Police tried to break up the crowds and drivers sped off, meeting up again at several intersections and industrial parks into Saturday morning. A dozen people were arrested, 14 cars impounded and 33 people were issued citations.

No one was seriously injured, but Browett said those arrested face charges including reckless driving, hit and run causing injury and weapons possession.

**Gunfire after high school football game; 3 wounded**

**NY** NEWBURGH — Three people were wounded by gunfire following a Friday night high school football game, police said.

The victims, a 43-year-old woman, 19-year-old woman and 21-year-old man, are expected to survive after being shot in a parking lot on the Newburgh Free Academy campus.

At least five shots were fired when a dispute broke out at around 9:35 p.m., 10 minutes after the end of the game, Newburgh Police Chief Anthony Geraci said at a news conference.

There were no immediate arrests.

Investigators believe the shooting targeted certain individuals, but it was unclear whether any of the victims were among the intended targets, Geraci said.

— From wire reports



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# Rodgers rebounds as Packers escape Pats in OT

Associated Press

GREEN BAY, Wis. — Aaron Rodgers rebounded from a dreadful start and helped the Green Bay Packers spoil Bailey Zappe's unexpected NFL debut with the New England Patriots.

Rodgers threw two second-half touchdown passes and led an overtime drive that resulted in Mason Crosby's 31-yard field goal as time expired, lifting the Packers to a 27-24 victory Sunday.

The dramatic finish came after Rodgers went 4-for-11 for 44 yards for an 11.2 passer rating in a first-half performance that included New England's Jack

Jones scoring on a 40-yard interception return, lifting the Patriots to a 10-7 halftime lead.

"I settled in and usually don't have two terrible halves, so I kind of returned to the form I expect from myself, and we started moving the football," said Rodgers, who went 21 of 35 for 251 yards.

Zappe, a 2022 fourth-round pick from Western Kentucky, played the majority of the game after Brian Hoyer left with a head injury. Hoyer made his first start since 2020 in place of Mac Jones, who injured his left ankle during last weekend's 37-26 loss to Baltimore.

Hoyer led New England to Nick Folk's 37-yard field goal on the game's opening drive, but he got sacked by Rashan Gary on the team's next series and departed.

Zappe and the Patriots (1-3) still played well enough to force overtime, but Rodgers continued his recent home mastery of AFC teams. The Packers (3-1) are 18-1 in the last 19 home games Rodgers has started against AFC foes.

"Of course, it was exciting at first," said Zappe, who went 10 of 15 for 99 yards with a touchdown. "It was a dream come true to play in an NFL game.

It's obviously not the outcome we wanted at all."

After the Packers went three-and-out on the opening possession of overtime, Marcus Jones' 20-yard punt return gave New England the ball at its 49-yard line. Gary said he had one thing on his mind at that point.

"Get (Rodgers) back the ball," said Gary, who had two sacks. "Give '12' back the ball. We have a quarterback like that, a living Hall of Famer, he's able to do wonderful things for us. You all know what he can do with the ball. We also know what he can do with the ball."

## Mahomes throws for 3 TDs, Chiefs overrun Buccaneers

Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. — Patrick Mahomes had all the answers for solving Tampa Bay's stingy defense, winning his latest matchup against Tom Brady in the stadium where the seven-time Super Bowl winner dealt him one of his most disappointing losses.

Mahomes threw for 249 yards and three touchdowns, including an electrifying jump pass to Clyde Edwards-Helaire, to lead the Chiefs to a 41-31 victory over the Buccaneers on Sunday night.

Playing at sold-out Raymond James Stadium only four days after Hurricane Ian ravaged portions of Florida, Mahomes had TD throws of 16 yards to Travis Kelce, 1 yard to Edwards-Helaire and 10 yards to Jody Fortson while making NFL history by reaching 20,000 yards passing faster than anyone else.

Edwards-Helaire and tight end Noah Gray rushed for TDs for the Chiefs (3-1), who won the first meeting between Mahomes and Brady since Tampa Bay's 31-9 rout of Kansas City in the Super Bowl — also played at Raymond James Stadium — two

seasons ago.

"When I came into the stadium I realized that I hadn't been here, and the bad taste I had last time came into effect," Mahomes said. "But it's still not a playoff game. It's a regular-season game, which is important. That Super Bowl will always leave a bad taste for me."

The short pass to Edwards-Helaire was Mahomes at his improvisational best: He escaped two defenders, did a 360-degree spin move and flipped the ball over a crowd to the running back in the back of the end zone.

"I was able to use my speed, my little bit of speed, to get around the edge there. I was gonna run for it, but they kind of flew around me," Mahomes said. "I realized I wasn't going to make it and I saw Clyde, so I kind of flicked it up to him."

Brady noted that it's fun watching Mahomes, unless he's on the opposing sideline.

"I love seeing Patrick play. ... Unfortunately we're on the wrong end of it tonight," said Brady, who's 1-2 against the Chiefs quarterback since joining the Bucs in 2020.

## 4th-down stop, last-second kick lift Bills past Ravens

Associated Press

BALTIMORE — Josh Allen and the Bills can deal with nasty weather — that's part of the job when you play in Buffalo.

On a rainy afternoon in Baltimore, they pulled off their biggest comeback in over a decade.

"Those are games that you love winning," Allen said. "It's a hard-fought battle both ways. Winning on the last play of the game is always fun."

Buffalo's defense forced a big fourth-down turnover, Allen drove the Bills down the field and Tyler Bass made a 21-yard field goal as time expired for a 23-20 victory over the Baltimore Ravens on Sunday. Buffalo trailed 20-3 late in the second quarter. It was the largest comeback win for the Bills since they erased a 21-point deficit to beat New England in 2011.

With the score tied at 20 in the final quarter, the Ravens (2-2) had second down from the Buffalo 1-yard line. Two straight runs failed to reach the end zone, and Baltimore decided to go for it on fourth down

from the 2.

Lamar Jackson had to scramble a bit, then threw a pass into the end zone that was intercepted by Jordan Poyer for a touchdown with 4:09 remaining — a disastrous result for the Ravens because it meant the Bills (3-1) weren't pinned deep like they would have been following an incompletion.

"Hindsight, you take the points," Baltimore coach John Harbaugh said. "But you look at it analytically, you'll understand why we did it."

Starting from the 20, Allen calmly guided Buffalo into field goal range, with the help of a roughing the passer call on Brandon Stephens. At one point, the Ravens wanted to let the Bills score, but Odafe Oweh tackled Devin Singletary at the 3. Buffalo was able to run the clock all the way down for Bass.

Buffalo's past 20 regular-season victories had been by 10 or more points, matching an NFL record set by the Chicago Bears in the 1940s. That streak is over, but the Bills snapped a seven-game skid in games decided by seven points or fewer.

# Wilson leads Jets' rally past Steelers

Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — Breece Hall ran for a 2-yard touchdown with 16 seconds remaining and New York beat Pittsburgh, which got a spark after rookie quarterback Kenny Pickett relieved the ineffective Mitch Trubisky.

The Jets (2-2) won at Pittsburgh for the second time in franchise history. Zach Wilson, making his season debut, led New York down the field late after the second of Pickett's three interceptions with 3:42 to go.

Wilson took the Jets 65 yards in 10 plays, the last when Hall churned across the goal line.

Wilson finished 18-for-36 for 252 yards with a touchdown and two interceptions. He also became the first quarterback in Jets history to catch a touchdown when he hauled in a 2-yard pass from Braxton Berrios in the second quarter.

The Jets were up 10-6 at the half when the Steelers inserted Pickett, who became the first QB in NFL history to run for a pair of touchdowns in his debut. The second was a 2-yard scramble that gave the Steelers (1-3) a 20-10 lead with 13:41 remaining.

Wilson responded with a 5-yard touchdown pass to Corey Davis that drew the Jets within 20-17 with 7:35 to go.

**Giants 20, Bears 12:** Daniel Jones ran for two touchdowns before injuring an ankle, and Saquon Barkley had 146 yards rushing and ran the wildcat offense at times after both New York quarterbacks were hurt in a win over visiting Chicago.

Jones scored on runs of 21 and 8 yards,

New York rushed for 262 yards and Graham Gano kicked field goals of 44 and 43 yards as the Giants improved to 3-1 under rookie coach Brian Daboll. It's their best start since 2011, when they won the Super Bowl.

Jones and backup Tyrod Taylor were injured a roughly 10-minute span in the second half. Jones (8-for-13 for 71 yards and 68 yards rushing) injured an ankle when he was sacked by Jaquan Brisker late the third quarter. Taylor went into the concussion protocol after scrambling for a first down with 8:35 to go.

**Seahawks 48, Lions 45:** Geno Smith threw for two touchdowns and ran for a score in the first half, and visiting Seattle held off Detroit.

Jared Goff was 26 of 39 for 378 yards with four touchdowns and an interception that Tariq Woolen returned 40 yards for a TD.

**Eagles 29, Jaguars 21:** Miles Sanders ran for 134 yards and two touchdowns, Jalen Hurts threw for 204 yards and ran for a score, and host Philadelphia beat Jacksonville and former coach Doug Pederson to remain the only undefeated team in the NFL.

Trevor Lawrence threw for 174 yards and two touchdowns to Jamal Agnew.

The Eagles (4-0) shook off an abysmal start — Hurts had a pass intercepted by Andre Cisco and returned 59 yards for a TD. Lawrence hit Agnew from 4 yards out to give the Jaguars (2-2) a 14-0 first-quarter lead.

Hurts then ran virtually untouched up the middle, took a big hit at the goal line and powered through for a 20-yard touchdown.

**Cowboys 25, Commanders 10:** Cooper Rush won again filling in for Dak Prescott, throwing a touchdown pass to Michael Gallup in the receiver's 2022 debut as host Dallas beat Washington.

Rush also had a TD toss to new No. 1 receiver CeeDee Lamb while improving to 4-0 in his career as a starter.

**Chargers 34, Texans 24:** Justin Herbert threw for 340 yards and two touchdowns and Austin Ekeler scored three times as visiting Los Angeles built a big early lead, then held on to beat Houston.

Houston scored 17 straight points to get within three with about 8 1/2 minutes left. The Chargers (2-2) then put together a 12-play, 84-yard drive, capped by Ekeler's 14-yard reception, to put the game away and snap a two-game skid.

**Falcons 23, Browns 20:** Dee Alford intercepted Jacoby Brissett's pass with less than a minute remaining and host Atlanta held on to beat Cleveland.

**Titans 24, Colts 17:** Derrick Henry rushed for a season-high 114 yards and a touchdown, and visiting Tennessee's defense held up late to beat Indianapolis.

**Cardinals 26, Panthers 16:** Kyler Murray threw for 207 yards and two touchdowns and added one rushing as visiting Arizona overcame another lackluster first half to beat Carolina.

**Raiders 32, Broncos 23:** Josh Jacobs ran for 144 yards and two touchdowns, Amik Robertson returned a fumble 68 yards for a score and host Las Vegas beat Denver.

## Elliott advances in playoffs with big Talladega win

Associated Press

TALLADEGA, Ala. — As the stars of NASCAR raged over safety concerns with the new car, rumors swirled that the drivers would organize some sort of protest at one of the most dangerous tracks on the circuit.

Perhaps they'd outright boycott Talladega Superspeedway, or maybe they'd send their message to NASCAR by refusing to seriously race on Sunday.

But all 37 drivers showed up at their cars as scheduled. It's the playoffs, after all, and there's a championship to be won.

And it was Chase Elliott, NASCAR's most popular driver who a day earlier accused series leadership of taking a step backward in safety, who drove to victory lane and

earned the automatic berth into the third round of the playoffs.

Elliott, who typically avoids controversial conversations, joined the growing chorus of veteran drivers who found NASCAR's slow response to their concerns unacceptable. Alex Bowman, his teammate at Hendrick Motorsports, and Kurt Busch missed Sunday's race with concussions and Cody Shane Ware competed with a broken foot. Busch has missed 11 consecutive races.

Rick Hendrick said he wasn't surprised when his 26-year-old superstar took a rare public stance.

"I think these guys are concerned and he sees a teammate hurt, and he's a young guy with a career ahead of him," Hendrick said.

"I think this has been on Chase's mind. I'm proud of him. He doesn't say much, but when he speaks, everybody knows he's not just popping off. He's concerned."

The race was one of the cleanest in memory at Talladega and certainly the least dramatic through the first five races of the playoffs. NASCAR's new Next Gen car developed a rash of problems in the first four playoff races, and Bowman's concussion seemed to push the drivers to their breaking point.

NASCAR is scheduled to test this week a potential solution to the stiffness of the cars that drivers claim they've complained about all through the development of the Next Gen.

# Braves sweep Mets, up 2 games in NL East

Associated Press

ATLANTA — Matt Olson knew the Atlanta Braves were too talented to stay in a season-long slump.

That's why no one panicked when the New York Mets' division lead swelled to double digits in May. Now the Braves are on the cusp of another NL East title.

"It's a clubhouse full of guys who want to win," Olson said. "That's all it's been since the moment I walked in. That's No. 1 on the program."

Dansby Swanson and Olson homered for the third straight game, Travis d'Arnaud hit a go-ahead two-run single in the third inning and the Braves beat New York 5-3 on Sunday night, completing a three-game sweep of their NL East rival and taking a two-game lead in the division with three games to play.

The defending World Series champion Braves have been chasing the Mets the entire season. In the final series of the season, any combination of one Atlanta win or one Mets loss would give the Braves their fifth straight division title.

New York plays its final three games of the season against worst-in-the-majors Washington. Atlanta closes out the regular season with a three-game set in Miami. Should the season end Wednesday in a tie, Atlanta would win the division after claiming the season series 10-9 with Sunday's victory.

"We've felt this confidence since the beginning of the year," d'Arnaud said. "It just didn't go our way early in the year, but pulling on the same rope, having each others' backs, not trying to do too much. We're just trying to play the game of baseball and have fun with it."

The Braves won five of the last six games in the series, outscoring the Mets 42-19 over that stretch. New York had a 10 1/2-game lead on June 1, but now is lower in the standings than at any point this season.

It was a lost weekend for New York, which came to Atlanta hoping to clinch its first division title since 2015. Instead, aces Jacob deGrom and Max Scherzer lost Friday and Saturday before Chris Bassitt lasted just 2 2/3 innings on Sunday.

"We still have three games left in the regular season, we're still going to the postseason, that doesn't change, but there's a lot of learning points that we can take from this series moving forward," Mets slugger Pete Alonso said. "I thought we played well, but the Braves played better. They played excellent baseball this entire weekend."

## Padres clinch NL wild card despite loss to White Sox

Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — The San Diego Padres haven't partied this hard at Petco Park in 17 years.

The Padres clinched a playoff spot while batting in the seventh inning against the Chicago White Sox on Sunday, drawing a roar from the sellout crowd of 41,407 after the Miami Marlins beat the Milwaukee Brewers 4-3 in 12 innings.

The Padres had a chance to walk it off and celebrate on the field, but Jorge Alfaro — who has five game-winning plate appearances this year — grounded out with two runners on to end a 2-1 loss.

Fireworks went off, but there were an awkward few moments as the Padres milled around in and around the dugout and were given postseason shirts and caps. Manager Bob Melvin was drenched with a cooler of water and the team went out to the mound for a team photo.

They finally let it rip with a raucous clubhouse celebration that included drenching each other with sparkling wine and beer.

"It's a been a long time since we've been in this spot," said right-hander Joe Musgrove, who grew up a Padres fan in suburban

El Cajon and pitched their first no-hitter in his second start with the team in 2021. "It's pretty crazy how it all worked out, I end up back here in a year where we've got a team like we have to make it this far."

**Marlins 4, Brewers 3 (12):** Miguel Rojas knocked in the go-ahead run in the top of the 12th inning to give visiting Miami a win over Milwaukee and deflating the Brewers' playoff hopes in the race for the final National League wild-card spot.

Milwaukee (84-75) is two games behind Philadelphia for the third NL wild card. The Phillies hold the tiebreaker with the Brewers and both clubs have three games left.

JJ Bleday started the 12th at second for the Marlins, advanced on a ground out and scored when Rojas laced a base hit through the infield off Trevor Gott (3-3).

**Phillies 8, Nationals 1 (6):** Philadelphia picked up another key victory as they try to end an 11-year playoff drought, using three RBIs apiece from Kyle Schwarber and Bryson Stott, plus Zack Wheeler's five scoreless innings, to beat host Washington 8-1 on Sunday in a rain-shortened game.

**Pirates 7, Cardinals 5:** Albert Pujols hit his 702nd career home run and tied Babe Ruth for second on the all-time RBIs, but visiting Pittsburgh got the win over St. Louis.

**Orioles 3, Yankees 1:** Aaron Judge won't break the American League home run record at Yankee Stadium, remaining at 61 as New York headed on the road for its final four regular-season games after a loss to visiting Baltimore.

**Angels 8, Rangers 3:** Mike Trout's 39th homer was one of his three hits in host Los Angeles' season-best seventh consecutive victory.

**Blue Jays 6, Red Sox 3:** Teoscar Hernández hit two home runs, Whit Merrifield also connected and host Toronto edged closer to clinching home-field advantage in the wild-card round by beating Boston.

**Astros 3, Rays 1:** Jeremy Peña hit an early two-run homer and drove in an insurance run late, lifting host Houston over Tampa Bay.

**Athletics 10, Mariners 3:** Robbie Ray was tagged for home runs by Shea Langeliers, Cristian Pache and Nick Allen, and Seattle's hopes of hosting the AL wild-

card series took a serious blow with a loss to visiting Oakland.

**Guardians 7, Royals 5:** Shane Bieber allowed two runs over five innings in his final start before the postseason, Josh Naylor and rookie Will Brennan hit three-run homers and host Cleveland defeated Kansas City.

**Rockies 4, Dodgers 1:** Germán Márquez gave up one hit over six innings to help visiting Colorado end a seven-game losing streak by beating Los Angeles.

**Giants 4, Diamondbacks 3 (10):** Rookie David Villar hit a two-run, bases-loaded single in the 10th inning to give host San Francisco a win against Arizona in the final game of the season at Oracle Park.

**Tigers 5, Twins 2:** Eric Haase and Victor Reyes homered, and host Detroit took advantage of Minnesota's sloppy play, including three errors in the first inning, for the win.

**Cubs 8, Reds 1:** Willson Contreras got several standing ovations in what could be his final home game at Wrigley Field, Marcus Stroman threw six scoreless innings and host Chicago won its seventh straight, beating Cincinnati.