

Chiefs unveil full schedule with 'QVChiefs' skit and a Donna Kelce appearance

BY PJ GREEN
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The Chiefs decided take it back to the days of television infomercial shopping in their video released Thursday night.

Comedians Rob Riggle (a Shawnee Mission South High School graduate) and Lisa Gilroy co-hosted QVChiefs — instead of QVC — to present a product to go with every game on the schedule.

Weaved throughout are the stylings of Riggle and Gilroy, or "Bruce" and "Gayle," who rib each other on in back-and-forth-banter.

Items for sale included a jar of Mile High air (Denver Broncos), Green-B-Gone cream (New York Jets), Indestructi-Bill Tailgate Table (Buffalo Bills) and Football Guy Starch in honor of the khaki pants frequently worn by Los Angeles Chargers head coach Jim Harbaugh.

Of course, they saved one of the most unique gifts for the rival Cincinnati Bengals: a loaded chili candle, with beans.



The Kansas City Chiefs announced their 2026 schedule with a QVC-style skit, headlined by celebrities Rob Riggle (a graduate of Shawnee Mission South High School) and Laura Gilroy.

Initially at a price-point of \$19.99, the cost was slashed to "free" once

Gilroy took a whiff and immediately began dry-heaving. Coughing, she was also bleeped for some colorful language.

"It is a robust ... aroma," Riggle struggled to say after taking a whiff of his own.

For the Chiefs' Week 15

home game against New England, the item was Patriots memorabilia signed by such great players from the past as Thomas Jefferson. Cost: \$17.76. Riggle then pulled out a copy of the Declaration of Independence.

Donna Kelce even made an appearance for KC's Week 16 game against the San Francisco 49ers. Riggle showed a copy of a fake VHS tape with the title "The Faithfuls." It included a picture of Donna Kelce and cost \$13.78.

That was an ode to Kelce's run on the TV game show "The Traitors," from which she was eliminated in January.

"America's favorite mom was robbed of a generational run on a certain reality show," Riggle said.

"It felt a little funny being a faithful, but now I can dominate the competition, just like I always should have," Kelce said in her cameo.

The final joke was for the Las Vegas Raiders — with a shovel, or Excavator 5800 (\$7.77), as a nod to the construction worker who buried a Chiefs flag at Allegiant Stadium during its build in Las Vegas.

"That really gets down there, too. Deep, deep below the surface, to uncover all sorts of hidden secrets," Riggle said.

"Yep, it'll dig up all your red flags," Gilroy said.

"Wish I had this before I

married (gestures to Riggle) this guy."

And it wouldn't have been a Chiefs social-media moment unless Taylor Swift was acknowledged.

For the Chiefs' Week 3 road game against the Miami Dolphins, "A Really Hard Rock" was the item to buy. That was a reference to Hard Rock Stadium in Miami Gardens, Florida, where KC won Super Bowl LIV. It's priced at \$999.99.

Taylor Swift's video for her song "Opalite" features Swift as a "lonely woman" with a Pet Rock. The video is shot in a 1990s-era style, like the Chiefs' video.

Swifties also connected some of the banter to Swift's song "Wood," which may or may not boast of Kelce's hip-move-ment skills.

"Say, this is a really hard rock," Gilroy said while holding it.

"If you find a harder rock, this hard rock is free," Riggle said.

As Taylor Swift sings on "Wood," *Girls, I don't need to catch the bouquet, mm/To know a hard rock is on the way.*

There's also a number shown in the schedule-release video (1-888-343-6642) that connects fans to gifts and voicemails from Chiefs head coach Andy Reid, wide receiver Xavier Worthy and tight end Kelce.

ANALYSIS

Five teams in trouble after schedule release

BY TYLER DRAGON
USA TODAY

There aren't any more leaks. The NFL schedule is officially released.

Teams typically look at their home opener, when their bye week lands, consecutive road games, games around the holidays and the final few weeks of the season as reference points to gauge the difficulty of their regular-season schedule.

Logistics can often play a role in how difficult a team's schedule is. The San Francisco 49ers and Los Angeles Rams will each travel more than 30,000 miles this season. While the Cleveland Browns and Carolina Panthers are set to travel the lowest number of miles, with each traveling under 10,000 miles.

Sometimes the regular-season schedule is inadvertently advantageous for some teams while conversely unfavorable to other clubs.

USA TODAY Sports list five NFL teams who could be in trouble based on

their 2026 schedule:

SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS

The 49ers are scheduled to travel an NFL-record 38,105 miles during the course of the 2026 regular season. The record amount of air miles is bound to take a toll on the team. The 49ers will play in two of the nine international games: Week 1 versus the Los Angeles Rams in Australia and Week 11 against the Minnesota Vikings in Mexico City. The 49ers are the designated "road team" in Week 1 and claim the "home team" designation in Week 11. Niners fans typically pack SoFi Stadium when they play the Rams, but the club won't get to face their division rival in the revenue during the regular season.

Aside from all the travel, Week 10-17 could be a murderers' row for San Francisco. The 49ers are at the Dallas Cowboys (Week 10), they are at home versus the Seattle Seahawks and Los Angeles Rams in Week 12 and 14. Plus, the Niners

have two tough road games against Los Angeles Chargers (Week 15) and Kansas City Chiefs (Week 16) before their final regular season home game against the Philadelphia Eagles in Week 17.

MIAMI DOLPHINS

The schedule makers didn't do the Dolphins any favors.

The Dolphins' winning percentage might be at the bottom of the ocean this year. They have the AFC's toughest strength of schedule based on opponent winning percentage from the 2025 season despite coming off a 7-10 campaign.

The new-look Dolphins have a tough road ahead, literally, with road games against the San Francisco 49ers (Week 2), Indianapolis Colts (Week 10), Denver Broncos (Week 13) and Green Bay Packers (Week 15) in addition to their AFC East rivals.

Miami ends the season against six opponents who qualified to the postseason last year: at Denver Broncos (Week 13), vs. Chicago Bears (Week 14),

at Green Bay Packers (Week 15), vs. Los Angeles Chargers (Week 16), vs. Buffalo Bills (Week 17) and at New England Patriots (Week 18).

The Dolphins could easily close the regular season on a six-game losing streak.

NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS

The Patriots open the regular season with a Super Bowl 60 rematch against the Seattle Seahawks, a team that pummeled them 29-13 with the Lombardi Trophy at stake. It doesn't get much easier. The Patriots have one of the NFL's most difficult first four games of any NFL team — a home opener versus the Pittsburgh Steelers (Week 2) before back-to-back road games against the Jacksonville Jaguars (Week 3) and Buffalo Bills (Week 4).

New England's Week 11 bye week also is probably a little later than they would ideally like.

Overall, the Patriots have the sixth-toughest strength of schedule based on opponent winning percentage from the 2025 season. Five of New England's road opponents made the playoffs last year. Plus, they have to face the Detroit Lions (Week 10) and Kansas City Chiefs (Week 15) on the road, two teams that

figure to be much better in 2026.

KANSAS CITY CHIEFS

The Chiefs don't have the luxury of easing Patrick Mahomes in if he returns from a knee injury in Week 1. They host the Denver Broncos (Week 1) and Indianapolis Colts (Week 2) to start the season.

The Chiefs have a very early bye in Week 5, which will force them to end the year with 13 straight games. The daunting 13-week stretch features road games against the Seattle Seahawks and Denver Broncos in Week 7 and 8 in addition to three straight away contests against the Buffalo Bills (Week 12) on Thanksgiving, Los Angeles Rams (Week 13) and Cincinnati Bengals (Week 14).

Kansas City's playoff fate will likely be decided from Week 12 through Week 17 when they are at the Bills, at the Rams, at the Bengals. They then host the New England Patriots (Week 15) and San Francisco 49ers

(Week 16) before a final away game against the Los Angeles Chargers (Week 17).

CAROLINA PANTHERS

Bryce Young and the Panthers backed into the playoffs at 8-9 last year. Carolina's schedule might produce another sub-.500 season in 2026.

The Panthers face a hungry Detroit Lions team in Week 4 before they have an early Week 5 bye. After that they'll face a difficult four-game stretch at the Philadelphia Eagles (Week 6), versus the Tampa Bay Buccaneers (Week 7), at the Green Bay Packers (Week 8) on a short week on a Thursday night and against the Denver Broncos (Week 9).

The Panthers do have two home games to close the regular season, albeit against the Seattle Seahawks and a divisional showdown versus the Atlanta Falcons.

Carolina is set to open the regular season with the 10th toughest strength of schedule based on opponents win percentage from 2025.

Seahawks open title defense in rematch vs. Pats

Field Level Media

For the first time since 2016, the first game of the NFL season will be a Super Bowl rematch.

The Seattle Seahawks will begin their title defense on Wednesday, Sept. 9 when they host the New England Patriots, the team they dominated for a 29-13 Super Bowl LX victory on Feb. 8.

This was one of the marquee matchups announced when the NFL announced its full 272-game schedule for the 2026 season Thursday night.

It's the fourth straight season that will feature a Super Bowl rematch.

Seattle's schedule also includes games against the three prior Super Bowl

champions, with a Week 8 home game against the Kansas City Chiefs (Oct. 25), where their Super Bowl MVP running back Kenneth Walker III now plays, and a trip to see the Philadelphia Eagles in Week 15 (Dec. 19).

The Seahawks will face the Los Angeles Rams, who they beat in the NFC Championship Game, twice in the final three weeks of the season on Christmas Day (home) and Jan. 10 (road) in the regular-season finale.

No. 1 overall pick quarterback Fernando Mendoza is likely to make his NFL debut for the Las Vegas Raiders when they host the Miami Dolphins in Week 1 on Sunday, Sept. 13.

A few teams which leapt into last season's

playoffs will have to work to make it back-to-back postseason appearances.

The AFC South champion Jacksonville Jaguars will close their regular season with seven of their final 10 games away from home.

The NFC South champion Chicago Bears have the hardest 2026 schedule based on their opponents' combined 2025 win percentage (.550). Their schedule concludes with a game at Buffalo, home matchups against Green Bay and Detroit and a road trip to Minnesota, presenting a hard path in what should again be a closely contested division.

Conversely, the Cincinnati Bengals, who are coming off their first losing season since 2020,

have the third-easiest schedule per last year's win percentages (.450). Opening against Tampa Bay, Houston, Pittsburgh and Jacksonville presents a challenge, but eight of their nine games after that are against teams that weren't in the playoffs last season.

The Kansas City Chiefs, looking to bounce back from missing the playoffs for the first time with Patrick Mahomes at QB, don't seem to have an easy path back to the postseason. The final seven weeks of their schedule includes consecutive road games at Buffalo, the Los Angeles Rams and Cincinnati as well as games against New England (home), San Francisco (home), the Los Angeles Chargers (road) and Las Vegas Raiders (home).

Super Bowl LXI, to be held at SoFi Stadium in Inglewood, Calif., will conclude the season on Sunday, Feb. 14.

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LEGAL PUBLICATION

Public Notice

File Nos. 38,361 and 38,362

A change application for a permit to appropriate water has been submitted to the Kansas Department of Agriculture, Division of Water Resources. The proposed point of diversion is located in the Southeast of Section 11, Township 29 South, Range 1 East, Sedgwick County, Kansas. Questions regarding the application can be directed to KDA-DWR by calling 785-564-6640.

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BREACH NOTIFICATION

VisionCare4Life was the victim of a cybercriminal attack. We have no evidence that any information has been used to harm patients. We are taking every step possible to ensure the security of our patients' information. Contact our Privacy Officer, Dr. Wendy Foster, at dr.foster@visioncare4life.com if you have any questions or concerns.

IFL0318616
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Agricultural Engineer (Cimarron, KS) multiple openings - Provide professional services in range management, soil & water conservation. Make recommendations over plant population & soil technology to improve cattle performance; Contribute to the growth of feed crops; Advise cattle producers in animal production, management, health, & nutrition. **Reqs:** Bachelors in Agriculture or Agronomy, or a rtd field. Send resume to: Irisk and Doll Feed Services Inc., 104 W Avenue A, Cimarron KS 67835