



FRIDAY JANUARY 14, 2022



96.1 KICX

Newsflash

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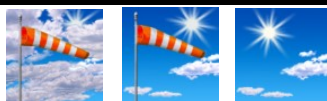
1300
The BIG Talker
KBRL - McCook

103.9
THE HAWK
The Classic Rock Experience

STOCKS

DOW	NASDAQ
344.26 TO 35,769.36	3.01 TO 14,809.82

WEATHER



TODAY	SAT	SUN
Mostly Cloudy	Sunny/ Breezy	Sunny
High 45	High 32	High 51

STATE OF THE STATE IS STRONG

Saying the state of the state is strong, Nebraska Governor Pete Ricketts highlighted priorities for the last year of his governorship in his State of the State speech Thursday. But the plans he outlined drew a mixed reaction from members of the Legislature. It was the eighth and final State of the State speech for Ricketts, inaugurated in 2015 and scheduled to leave office next January due to term limits. The governor said Nebraska is prospering despite floods, fires, and the pandemic. "In the face of unprecedented challenges, the state of the state is strong," Ricketts said. Ricketts said the state is on track to have \$1.5 billion in its cash reserve, and talked about his support for eliminating taxes on Social Security in five years, lowering corporate and individual income taxes, and locking in funds for property tax relief. Sen. Lou Ann Linehan, chair of the Revenue Committee, was enthusiastic about those ideas. "I'm very, very pleased with his recommendations because I agree wholeheartedly with him: when we have the amount of revenue that we have and we're collecting far more revenues than we need to meet our needs, we need to give it back to the people," Linehan said. Ricketts promoted a proposed \$500 million a canal to carry water from Colorado to Nebraska, and \$200 million for water projects elsewhere in the state, including a new lake between Lincoln and Omaha. And he talked about how he thinks the state should use \$1 billion from the federal American Rescue Plan Act, or ARPA.

STAFF SHORTAGE IN SCHOOLS

The latest omicron surge is creating a staff shortage in Nebraska schools. School districts are desperate to find substitute teachers. Hershey Public Schools, west of North Platte, has about 525 students, and 40 teachers. However, Superintendent Jane Davis said three middle school teachers have been absent due to illness. "And one of those three is a positive test.. if that would increase, then it would become a problem," Davis said. The problem would be if they run out of substitute teachers, since they're sharing those subs with other districts. Lincoln Public Schools already has this problem. So far, 334 staff and over 2,486 students haven't been to class this week at LPS schools. "We are seeing an increase in unfilled classrooms where we needed subs and we've just not been able to fill them," said Eric Weber, associate superintendent for human resources. "It's been a real challenge for us." He said about a third of substitute requests for teachers who are out sick were unfilled on Monday and that number continued to grow. On Wednesday, about 40% of classrooms didn't have substitutes to fill. Weber said teachers have been stepping up in school, helping the food service and custodian staff and covering other classes. "So they're using their plan period that they would normally be planning, and they are covering for other teachers, which means then that that planning has to happen at some other time, typically outside of work," he said.

GOV. JARED POLIS PROTECTING WATER RIGHTS

Colorado Gov. Jared Polis said Wednesday that his state would work to protect its water rights in light of Nebraska's proposal to build a canal in his state to pull water from the South Platte River. In a statement, Polis said Colorado would "protect and aggressively assert Colorado's rights under all existing water compacts." Water use in the South Platte River is regulated through an interstate agreement called a compact. This week, Ricketts announced that he would seek \$500 million from the Nebraska Legislature to build a canal that would bring water from the South Platte in Colorado into Nebraska. Thursday, Ricketts proposed using \$400 million in cash reserve funds and \$100 million in federal coronavirus relief funding to construct the canal and reservoir system. The South Platte enters Nebraska from Colorado along Interstate 76 and flows east to where it meets the North Platte River east of the town of North Platte to form the Platte. Ricketts said the canal is needed because Colorado is planning "nearly 300 projects and over \$10 billion of expenditures to ensure no 'excess' water leaves its state." If those proposals are carried out, Ricketts estimates there would be a 90% reduction in flows coming into Nebraska.

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8:05 AM
12:45 PM
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BISON SPORTS
STATION**

96.1 KICX



WALK-IN HOURS

MONDAY - FRIDAY

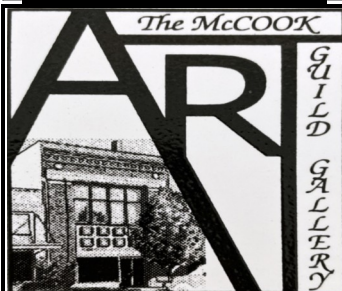
7 AM - 5 PM

SATURDAY

8 AM-10 AM

NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY

1401 EAST H STREET
344-4110



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NEWS, SPORTS,
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ON THIS DAY IN 1999

Metallica sued Victoria's Secret, claiming that the manufacturer infringed on its trademark by marketing a line of "Metallica" lip pencils.

SPORTS

The McCook Bison wrestlers dropped a 65-14 dual at Phillipsburg yesterday. The Bison picked up wins from Davian Hanson, Canyon Hosick, Alex Anthony and Layton Carpenter. The Bison will compete in the Oberlin Invite tomorrow. Coverage can be heard on 101.1 KFNH. The MHS girls will wrestle in the Ord Invite today. The Bison basketball teams will host Hastings tonight. Pregame coverage on KICX starts at 5:40 with the girls tip-off at 6 p.m. Both teams travel to Minden tomorrow. Pregame coverage on KICX starts at 4:10 with the girls tip-off at 4:30. The Bison swimmers/divers are heading to the capital city and the two-day Lincoln High Invite.

The Nebraska women's basketball team trailed by 17 midway through the third quarter at No. 6 Indiana before cutting the lead to 68-65 with 24 seconds left, but the Hoosiers sank four free throws down the stretch to secure a 72-65 win over the Huskers on Thursday night at Simon Skjodt Assembly Hall. The loss dropped Nebraska to 13-3 overall and 2-3 in the Big Ten, while Indiana improved to 13-2 and 5-0 in the conference with its 14th consecutive Big Ten regular-season win and eighth consecutive win over this season. Nebraska is scheduled to return to Big Ten road action on Sunday when the Big Red travel to Iowa on Sunday. Tip-off between the Huskers and Hawkeyes is set for 5 p.m. (CT) with live television coverage by the Big Ten Network.



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TODAY'S PUZZLE



HOME OF BISON SPORTS FOR 43 YEARS!

ACROSS

- 1 Many months
- 6 Church building
- 11 Had known
- 12 Asian nation
- 14 Snacked
- 16 North American country
- 18 Caesar's two
- 19 Overshadow
- 23 Connecticut
- 24 Part of the "KKK"
- 27 Hoopla
- 28 Factual
- 30 Says
- 32 Plants
- 34 Veneration
- 35 Aurora
- 36 Austere
- 39 Toughen
- 42 Christmas song
- 43 Night bird
- 45 Decorative needle case
- 46 Grand Canyon state
- 47 Adios
- 49 Canadian prov.
- 50 Seed bread
- 52 Shoshonean
- 53 Liberal
- 56 U.S. Air Force
- 58 Composer
- 59 Former

DOWN

- 2 Stretch to make do
- 3 Comes before a vowel
- 4 Swamp plant
- 5 Southwest
- 6 Like
- 7 Hit
- 8 Barium (abbr.)
- 9 Flightless bird
- 10 Japanese poem
- 13 Merits
- 15 Bend
- 17 Move quickly
- 20 Been
- 21 Promotion
- 22 Caviar
- 25 Dickens' "___ of Two Cities" (2 wds.)
- 26 Stairway post
- 28 Cut of beef
- 29 Set again
- 31 Radioactivity unit
- 33 Women's partners
- 36 Trap
- 37 Slimly
- 38 Head motion
- 39 Brew
- 40 Father's sister
- 41 Charge falsely
- 44 Wisconsin (abbr.)
- 47 70's drug
- 48 Soviet Union
- 51 Ram's mate
- 52 Unidentified flying object
- 54 Short for hour
- 55 ___ Joe (tv cartoon)
- 56 Rising
- 57 Tree sloth

