



TUESDAY NOVEMBER 18, 2025

# Newsflash

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**96.1 KICX**

## STOCKS

<b>DOW</b>	<b>NASDAQ</b>
374.48 TO 46,215.76	68.22 TO 22,639.86

## WEATHER



TODAY	WED	THURS
Mostly Sunny	Partly Sunny	Mostly Sunny
High 56	High 61	High 55

## 2025 SOUTHWEST NEBRASKA BIG GIVE

If organizers for the 2025 Southwest Nebraska Big Give had to sum up the day in one word, it would be "impressive." Ronda Graff with the McCook Community Foundation said the one-day of giving on Nov. 6 reached a new record in 2025, with \$410,855.49 in donations for 45 organizations in McCook and Southwest Nebraska. While the Southwest Nebraska Big Give is technically 24 hours long, donations trickle in on the days following the event. The total at the end of the Big Give earlier this month was \$370,000, already a new record total. But with additional donations and sponsorships, the total surpassed \$400,000 for the first time in its 10-year history. Additionally, the number of donations reached record levels with more than 1,200 individual donations, surpassing the 954 donations in 2024. Along with individual donors, the Big Give is made possible because of generous sponsors which provide matching funds for the organizations. The 2025 platinum sponsors include the Graff Charitable Foundation and MNB Bank. Gold sponsors are Community Hospital and First Interstate Bank. While donations can no longer be made online, the Big Give website is still available at [swnebiggive.org](http://swnebiggive.org) with a complete list of the organizations, the goals and their totals. The Southwest Nebraska Big Give is organized by the Community Chest, a committee of local volunteers. As they wrap up the 2025 event, plans are already underway for the 2026 Big Give, which will be Thursday, Nov. 5.



Go to the website to check out the great deals!



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## NEBRASKA CASINO INDUSTRY IS GROWING

The casino industry in Nebraska just keeps growing. Casinos in Omaha and Lincoln set records for gross revenue and tax contributions in October. That's according to the latest report from the Nebraska Racing and Gaming Commission. WarHorse Casino Omaha generated almost \$1.9 million in tax revenue for the month of October, while WarHorse Lincoln sent off \$1.5 million to local and state entities. Both of those figures are record high amounts for the racetrack casinos for any month. Lance Morgan, the CEO of Ho-Chunk Inc., which owns the WarHorse brand, said his casinos are cutting into demand for Iowa facilities. "You have to think of it as an economic marketing war that's happening in Omaha and Lincoln," Morgan said, "and we're slowly winning." Slot machines statewide including ones in Grand Island, Columbus and Ogallala topped \$20 million in gross revenue for the first time since May. Table games hit \$2.2 million in revenue for the racetrack casinos. Sports betting generated \$1 million in total revenue for the first time this year. Gaming revenue ebbs and flows throughout the year, Morgan said. "There's seasonality to every month," Morgan said, "but it shows that the investments made by the gaming companies are really starting to take off." Mobile sports betting "will change the equation," Morgan said, adding that it would increase tax revenue by \$30 million per year. A petition to legalize online sports gambling needs signatures from 10% of registered voters in order for the measure to make the November 2026 ballot.

## FARM BILL EXTENDED

The farm bill has been extended for another year as part of legislation reopening the federal government. Responses from agricultural groups and policy experts have ranged from applause to subdued relief. With three years of extensions rather than a new five-year policy, some are concerned about the future of the farm bill and long-standing USDA programs. "The most prominent and possibly the most concerning program in this kind of limbo state of annual extensions is the Conservation Reserve Program, the CRP, which has been the backbone of conservation since 1985," said Jonathan Coppess, associate professor of agricultural policy at the University of Illinois. CRP provides annual rental fees to farmers who take vulnerable land out of row crop production to reduce soil erosion, improve water quality and provide wildlife habitat. For some, this looks like a meadow of native grasses and wildflowers or a riparian buffer along a stream. Contracts typically last for 10-15 years, which provides stable funding for farmers during fluctuating crop prices and trade wars, Coppess said. "CRP is a backbone program because of how it fits within not just conservation, but also agriculture production and economic issues," he added. In June, nearly 26 million acres were enrolled in the program, which is capped at 27 million. After the farm bill expired on Sept. 30, no new acres could be added as old contracts ended. The farm bill extension reauthorized and funded CRP through next September, along with rural development initiatives, such as the Rural Microentrepreneur Assistance Program. It provides funding to organizations that offer small loans and technical support to small business owners with 10 or fewer full-time employees.



**WALK-IN HOURS**  
Monday - Friday  
7am - 4:30pm  
Saturday  
8am - 10am

No Appointment Necessary



**MONDAY-FRIDAY  
11-2**



**LISTEN  
WEEKDAYS  
8:05 AM  
12:45 PM  
ON YOUR  
BISON SPORTS  
STATION**

**96.1 KICX**

**Coaches  
Coffee Club**

**SATURDAY  
MORNINGS AT**





## SPORTS

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WEATHER 24/7 AND  
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The McCook Community College men rolled to a 120-76 win Monday in the Peter and Dolores Graff Events Center over the York University JV as 13 players scored for the Indians and each played at least 11 minutes. "This was a good bounce-back win for us at home and we did what we wanted to do," said MCC Coach Dillon Hargrove. "We wanted to come out with a lot of energy and we did that. We wanted to place emphasis on the defensive end and our starters really took pride in that." The Indians scored the first 16 points of the game on the way to a 55-31 first half lead. MCC then outscored the Panthers 65-45 in the second half. Freshman starter Djibril Diawara, (Aulnay-sous-Bois, France) led all scorers with 18 points. Redshirt freshman Alier Alier, (Bor, South Sudan) led MCC with nine rebounds and scored 12 points while North Platte Community College transfer Mo Dia, (sophomore, Darkar, Senegal) scored nine points. MCC improves to 5-2 and 3-1 at home. Next up the Indians will host No. 16 Indian Hills Community College (6-1) Friday at 7 p.m. The Warriors were coming off their first loss of the season Saturday in Ephraim, Utah, against No. 5 Snow College, 80-71. The MCC women will host Concordia JV tonight at the Graff Events Center.

**Looking for L♥VE?**  
**Find it at the McCook Humane Society!**



McCook Humane Society  
100 South Street, 345-2372  
Hours: M-F: 2-5, Sat: 12-4



## ON THIS DAY IN 1883

The U.S. and  
Canada adopted a  
system of standard  
time zones.

Nebraska volleyball remained No. 1 while Creighton stayed at No. 12 in the latest AVCA Top 25, released Monday. Though the Huskers the last unbeaten team in Division I dropped their first set in Big Ten play, they finished 2-0 on their trip to the West Coast and received all 61 first-place votes. They beat UCLA 25-17, 25-23, 19-25, 25-15 Friday and then-No. 17 Southern California 25-13, 25-16, 25-20 Sunday to improve to 26-0. And at 16-0 in the Big Ten, NU could clinch a share of the league title in its home match against Iowa at 7 p.m. Thursday. The Huskers have four matches remaining in the regular season at Indiana on Saturday then hosting Penn State Nov. 28 and Ohio State on Nov. 29 with a three-game lead in the league.

B	A	B	A	W	H	S	W	B	S
O	R	A	L	I	O	H	E	A	P
S	C	A	R	T	S	K	I	A	I
C	H	O	R	U	S	P	A	N	E
F	M	G			H	A	G		
J	I	F	S	U	D	A	N	G	E
			R	I	G				
B	E	G	S	N	E	E	R	F	I
	N	U	N		A	I	R		
C	O	U	P	O	N	A	I	M	I
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I	C	O	N	B	E	E	T	N	A
B	E	N	D	E	D	L	O	A	D

## TODAY'S PUZZLE

## HOME OF BISON SPORTS!



### ACROSS

- 1 Leather strip
- 5 A toe
- 9 Vitality
- 13 Fall
- 14 Actor Alda
- 15 United States
- 16 Kick out
- 20 Oxygen
- 22 Precious stones
- 24 The other half of Jima
- 25 Roman emperor
- 26 Laughter sound
- 27 Douse
- 30 Pound (abbr.)
- 31 Mayan
- 32 Distress call
- 33 Place (abbr.)
- 35 Rust causer
- 37 Greek "M"
- 39 Baseball's Nolan
- 41 Electroencephalograph (abbr.)
- 42 Lovers quarrel
- 44 Lawyer's title
- 45 Lazed about
- 47 Stretch to make do
- 48 Expel
- 50 Niche
- 52 Author of "The Hunt for Red October"
- 54 Inaccuracies
- 55 Listened

### DOWN

- 1 Use a keyboard
- 2 Hectoliter (abbr.)
- 3 Lincoln locale
- 4 Tiny insect
- 6 Afloat (2 wds.)
- 7 Stuff
- 8 Scale note
- 10 Railway
- 11 Fury
- 12 Tree knot
- 15 Expression
- 17 Levered
- 18 Female sheep
- 19 Posy
- 21 Weep
- 23 Singer Paul
- 25 Bird homes
- 28 Most
- 29 Child
- 33 Before (prefix)
- 34 Household cleaner brand
- 36 Eastern state
- 37 Creator
- 38 Shoshonean
- 40 Turquoise
- 43 Mexican money
- 45 What a mosquito bite does
- 46 Shina
- 49 Tin (abbr.)
- 51 Puerto Rico (abbr.)
- 53 You
- 54 Tv show

