



TUESDAY AUGUST 18, 2026

Newsflash

1300
The BIG Talker
KBRL - McCook

103.9
THE HAWK
The Classic Rock Experience

96.1 KICX

www.highplainsradio.net 308-345-5400 openline@highplainsradio.net

STOCKS

DOW	NASDAQ
43.45 TO 53,416.33	323.53 TO 26,321.38

WEATHER



TODAY	WED	THURS
Sunny	Sunny	Sunny
High 93	High 86	High 92

MOSQUITOES TESTING POSITIVE FOR WEST NILE

Southwest Nebraska Public Health Department (SWNPHD) has been notified of mosquitoes testing positive for West Nile Virus (WNV) in the health district, 2 weeks after mosquitoes tested positive for Cache Valley Virus. The pool of mosquitoes carrying West Nile Virus was reported in Red Willow County. Over the last 10 years the health district has had over 100 positive WNV pools, so SWNPHD recommends residents take precautions to avoid mosquito bites. "This is a reminder for everyone to continue taking steps to prevent mosquito bites," states Sarah Minnick, Program Manager at SWNPHD. "Mosquitoes in the area may potentially be carrying West Nile Virus or Cache Valley Virus and can pass those on to humans. Most people are fine after catching West Nile, but some people will become severely ill." The incubation time for the development of symptoms of West Nile Virus can take anywhere from 3 days to 2 weeks after being bitten by a mosquito. Around 8 out of 10 people who become infected with West Nile Virus will not experience any symptoms. Two in 10 people may experience symptoms such as fever, headache, body aches, joint pain, rash, vomiting, and diarrhea. In severe cases, West Nile Virus can invade the brain and spinal cord leading to stiff neck, confusion, paralysis, coma, or death. There is no treatment for West Nile Virus, so the best way to avoid becoming sick is to take action to prevent mosquito bites. This means wearing insect repellent and long shirts and pants, especially at dawn and dusk when mosquitoes are most active. Check for standing water in yards and ditches. Drain water if possible or use mosquito dunks to kill mosquito larvae.

LAWSUIT TO REPLACE FORMER SENATE CANDIDATE

Nebraska Attorney General Mike Hilgers gave notice to a Lancaster County district judge that he plans to be heard on a lawsuit that seeks to force the state Democratic Party to replace its former Senate candidate. The three-page notice filed last week cites a state statute that the attorney general "shall" be heard if a state law is alleged to be unconstitutional. Earlier this month, Lancaster County District Court Judge Susan Strong declined to grant William Forbes a temporary injunction to force the Nebraska Democratic Party to replace U.S. Senate nominee Cindy Burbank after she dropped out of the race. Strong, in her ruling, said Forbes' arguments would raise "serious constitutional concerns" and that he was unlikely to succeed in forcing the party to replace Burbank. In his lawsuit, Forbes cited a state law that reads: "If a vacancy on the ballot arises for any partisan office except President and Vice President of the United States before a general election, the vacancy shall be filled by the majority vote of the proper committee of the same political party." His attorneys argued that the law's language requires a replacement. Nebraska Democrats said Forbes is misreading state law because the statute he cited addresses the process that must be followed if a party chooses to replace a nominee an interpretation that Strong so far seems to agree with. Burbank's short-lived candidacy was scrutinized as Republicans accused her of being "planted" in the race to boost nonpartisan U.S. Senate candidate Dan Osborn's chances. Burbank filed her paperwork to withdraw one day after the secretary of state verified Osborn's petition signatures to be on the fall ballot.

HIGHWAY 6 WORK PLANNED FOR MONDAY

Weather permitting, work is scheduled to begin Monday, Aug. 24, on U.S. Highway 6 (US-6), from reference post 130.52 to reference post 140.41, according to the Nebraska Department of Transportation. Vontz Paving, Inc., of Hastings, is the contractor for this project. Work will include bridge work, asphalt milling, asphalt overlay, guardrail replacement and pavement marking. Traffic will be maintained with a pilot car and flaggers for the majority of the project. Temporary traffic signals and a single 17-foot-wide lane will be used at the Turkey Creek Bridge (reference point 134.62). A 12-foot width restriction will be in effect for the duration of construction. Anticipated completion is Dec. 2026. Motorists are reminded to drive cautiously in and near work zones, to buckle up, and put phones down.



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No Appointment Necessary



MONDAY-FRIDAY
11-2



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ON THIS DAY IN 1937

The first FM radio construction permit was issued in Boston, MA. The station went on the air two years later.

Chadron State was picked No. 21 in the D2Football.com preseason poll, revealed Monday night. Last season the Eagles went 8-4 in one of the best seasons of Jay Long's tenure, with an NCAA Playoff appearance, falling to Pittsburg State in the opening round. Last month, the Eagles were picked fourth and received a first-place vote in the RMAC poll behind CSU-Pueblo, Western Colorado, and Colorado Mines. Two of their opponents were also ranked, with Western Colorado (Sept 12) ranked No. 11, and CSU-Pueblo (Sept 19) ranked No. 10. Defending champion Ferris State was the unanimous No. 1 in the preseason poll, followed by last year's runner-up Harding at No. 2 and Minnesota State — Mankato at No. 3. Kutztown and Pittsburg State round out the top five. In the preseason poll, 49 teams received at least one vote.

After less than a month in Lincoln, Tikey Hayes has been dismissed from the Nebraska football program. Hayes spent one season at Penn State before entering the transfer portal in January, leaving the FBS for Iowa Western Junior College in Council Bluffs. He was then picked by the Huskers. As a true freshman, he ran the ball three times for 18 yards at Penn State. Ohio State and Oregon were 1-2 in the Associated Press Preseason Top 25 College Football Poll, giving the Big Ten Conference the top two teams in the preseason rankings for the first time in 65 years and just the second time ever. Georgia is third followed by Notre Dame and Texas. Rounding out the top ten were Indiana, Miami, Texas A & M, Ole Miss and Oklahoma. USC was tied for 14th, Michigan was 16th, Washington 17th, Penn State 18th and Iowa was number 22. In all, 50 teams received votes in the preseason poll, Nebraska was not one of them.

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TODAY'S PUZZLE

HOME OF BISON SPORTS!



ACROSS

- 1 Herb
- 6 Road (abbr.)
- 8 Book of Samuel abbr.
- 10 Sharp tasting vegetable
- 12 Short for hour
- 13 Tennessee (abbr.)
- 14 Roman six
- 15 Toward
- 16 Gold (abbr.)
- 17 Comes before a vowel
- 18 Frozen water
- 20 Ruby
- 21 System international (abbr.)
- 22 Sponsored child
- 24 Constructs
- 26 Spiral motion
- 28 Wander
- 29 ___ feeling
- 30 White fruit
- 34 Distance marker
- 40 Continent
- 42 Medicinal drink
- 43 Canadian prov.
- 44 Sister for short
- 45 Rend
- 46 Baton Rouge locale
- 47 Scottish "one"
- 48 Emergency room
- 49 Computer science (abbr.)
- 50 Miss lang
- 51 Master of ceremonies (abbr.)
- 52 Large shrimp
- 56 You
- 57 Near
- 58 Grown-up

DOWN

- 1 Knit fabric
- 2 Laughter sound
- 3 Length measurement
- 4 Scale note before fa
- 5 Organic compound
- 6 Soft drink brand
- 7 Cliché
- 8 Canned chili brand
- 9 Rankle
- 11 Home run hit
- 14 Permission to enter a foreign country
- 19 Puzzles
- 20 Milder
- 23 Doctor (abbr.)
- 25 Denver's st.
- 27 French "yes"
- 30 Straw hat
- 31 Meaning
- 32 Little Rock locale
- 33 Arises
- 35 Educate
- 36 Small fruit seeds
- 37 Beast of burden
- 38 Glossy
- 39 Profession
- 41 Approximate date
- 53 Promotion
- 54 Greek "M"
- 55 Place (abbr.)

