



96.1 KICX

THURSDAY OCTOBER 15, 2026

Newsflash

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

1300
The BIG Talker
KBRL - McCook

103.9
THE HAWK
The Classic Rock Experience

STOCKS

DOW	↑	NASDAQ	↓
242.12 TO		268.85 TO	
51,863.60		26,424.02	

WEATHER



TODAY	FRI	SAT
Chance Showers	Sunny/Breezy	Sunny/Breezy
High 56	High 55	High 66

GOVERNOR PILLEN'S TOUR

Today, Governor Jim Pillen will travel to central Nebraska for a series of stops in the communities of North Platte, Imperial, McCook and Holdrege. Gov. Pillen will launch the day at the North Platte Fire Department announcing a new executive order pertaining to public safety improvements and the creation of a task force to address critical emergency communication gaps among rural first responders and regional emergency services. Later today, he will join Jesse Bradley, director of the Department of Water, Energy and Environment for another news conference highlighting the State Revolving Fund (SRF) Lead Service Line Replacement Program in McCook.

NIOCORP ELK CREEK RARE EARTH MINE

Federal officials voiced support Wednesday for a rare earth mine in southeast Nebraska. But the long-awaited project still needs final approval. U.S. Energy Secretary Chris Wright and Export-Import Bank Chair John Jovanovic were among those on hand for a signing ceremony at the still-under-construction Niocorp mine near Elk Creek, Nebraska, about 75 miles southeast of Lincoln. The mine is intended to produce niobium, used for strengthening steel, and a host of other rare earth minerals, many currently sourced from China, that are vital for military and civilian purposes. It is expected to cost \$2 billion to build, and would employ up to 500 people during its 40-year life. "This is a big deal for our state, but it is a huge deal for our country," said Sen. Deb Fischer, who attended Wednesday's ceremony along with Sen. Pete Ricketts, Rep. Adrian Smith, and Gov. Jim Pillen. Jovanovic signed what he said was a "letter of support" for the project. The Export-Import Bank had previously signed a letter of interest in the project in 2023. But Jovanovic said approval of an \$840 million loan from the bank depends on final due diligence, which he predicted would be completed "shortly."

COOLEST THING MADE IN NEBRASKA CONTEST

The contest is down to four contenders as voting has opened for the third and final round of this year's "Coolest Thing Made in Nebraska" competition organized by the Nebraska Chamber of Commerce and Industry. More than 20,000 votes were cast in the first two rounds of the bracket-style tournament. The top four contenders: Modular Housing – Family Built Homes, Gering, Fresh, Stone Milled Flour – Grand Republic Milling Company, Gering, Animal Health IV Fluids – Nova-Tech, Inc., Grand Island and Popcorn – Popcorn County, USA, North Loup. The final round of voting is open now through 11:59 p.m. Sunday, October 18. Nebraskans and supporters nationwide can cast their votes for their favorite product by visiting the Nebraska Chamber website. The competition, hosted by the NE Chamber and NE Manufacturing Alliance, and presented by Pinnacle Bank, celebrates Nebraska's dynamic manufacturing industry, home to more than 100,000 Nebraskans working in manufacturing every day.



Go to the website to check out the great deals!

HIGH PLAINS RADIO

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RADIO JOB LINK

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

96.1 KICX

COMMUNITY HOSPITAL
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MCCOOK CLINIC
1301 East H Street | 308.344.4110

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

No Appointment Necessary

THE CLAY TRAVIS & BUCK SEXTON SHOW



MONDAY-FRIDAY
11-2

1300
The BIG Talker
KBRL - McCook

Coaches Coffee Club

SATURDAY MORNINGS AT



96.1 KICX **1300**
The BIG Talker
KBRL - McCook



SPORTS

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DID YOU KNOW

"Donald Grump" appeared on Sesame Street. It was in 2005 before he became president. Of course, in his skit with Oscar the Grouch, he had more trash than Oscar.

The McCook Bison boys tennis team won a few matches on day one of the Class B state tennis tournament in Lincoln yesterday. Day two starts at 9 a.m. this morning. The Bison cross country teams are in Overton for their district meet today. The Bison volleyball team travels to North Platte for reserve and varsity matches. The Southwest Conference tournament bracket was released yesterday. The MHS girls are the fourth seed and will face Holdrege on Monday at 4 p.m. The RPAC volleyball tournament begins today. RPAC West Division at Dundy County-Stratton can be heard on 103.9 The Hawk starting at 3:30 p.m. RPAC East Division matches in Arapahoe can be heard on KICX 961 and watched on the KICX 961 YouTube channel. The MCC volleyball team will host Otero tonight at the Graff Events Center. First serve is at 6 p.m.

KenPom's freshly released preseason ratings project Nebraska to have two of the nation's top college basketball teams this season. Coming off the best campaign in program history, the Huskers checked in at No. 16. Creighton which missed the NCAA tournament for the first time in five years and lost its winningest coach, Greg McDermott, to retirement begins the Alan Huss era at No. 30. NU is third in the Big Ten behind fourth-rated Illinois and seventh-rated Michigan State, followed by Ohio State (21), Purdue (24), UCLA (27) and defending national champion Michigan (28). It's the Huskers' highest preseason rating since KenPom began them in 2012.

Looking for L♥VE?

Find it at the McCook Humane Society!



TODAY'S PUZZLE

HOME OF BISON SPORTS!



ACROSS

- 1 Tax agency
- 4 Old style plane
- 8 Prejudice
- 12 Plate guards
- 13 Tinge
- 14 Pride
- 15 Vague
- 16 Morning moisture
- 17 Of an oath
- 22 Operatic bass
- 26 Use a keyboard
- 27 WWII pilot clothing (2 wds.)
- 29 Exhort
- 30 Storage buildings
- 31 Medicated eye solution
- 32 American Federation of Teachers (abbr.)
- 35 Exceed in number
- 42 River (Spanish)
- 43 Against
- 44 Becoming electrically charged
- 45 Formal "you"
- 46 Nix
- 47 Hoopla

DOWN

- 1 Type of tea
- 2 Storm
- 3 Pack
- 4 Egypt king
- 5 Rapid eye movement
- 6 Ball
- 7 Pressure unit
- 8 British thermal unit
- 9 Caesar's three
- 10 Picnic visitor
- 11 Pigpen
- 18 ___-a-sketch
- 19 Dick Van ___ Show
- 20 Imitated
- 21 Allows
- 22 Unhappy
- 23 Airy
- 24 Discerning
- 25 Brood
- 28 Ancient biblical empire in Asia
- 32 Opera solo
- 33 See
- 34 African country
- 35 Cereal
- 36 Good grief!
- 37 Men's neckwear
- 38 North northeast
- 39 Least amount
- 40 Snake
- 41 Stop

