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THE SUNDAY SCANNER

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CITY OF GERING TAKES A STAND

Gering's New Ordinance Very Specific, Limiting

(GERING, Neb.) – The Gering City Council voted 7-0 to approve a new zoning ordinance regulating future adult entertainment businesses within the city.

The ordinance establishes specific standards governing where such businesses may locate and the manner in which they may operate.

The regulations were adopted after city officials reviewed legal limitations that prevent municipalities from banning adult entertainment businesses outright.

City Engineer Annie Folck prepared the ordinance in lieu of the attempted opening of a similar club in the heart of downtown Scottsbluff.

Operational & Conduct Rules

- No Alcohol: Alcohol is completely prohibited on the premises.
- No Full Nudity: Full nudity and "specified sexual activities" are banned.
- Employee Restrictions: Dancers may be semi-nude but must perform on a stage at least 18 inches high, inside a room spanning at least 600 square feet.
- No Touching: Employees must remain at least 6 feet away from patrons at all times, with absolutely no touching allowed.
- Midnight Closing: Venues must close their doors by 12:00 a.m. (midnight) and remain closed until 6:00 a.m.
- Age Limit: No individuals under the age of 18 are permitted on the property.
- Security: Business operators are required to hire and provide their own security.

Heirloom Market Bounces Back on Day 2



(GERING, Neb.) – Kiowa Honey Company, and several others gave shining reviews of Day 2 at the Heirloom Market after high winds and heavy rainfall darkened Day 1. The organizers and participating vendors were extremely supportive, helping the show bounce back on the second day of the 10th annual event.

Carissa from Kiowa Honey wrote, "Guys THANK YOU for coming to see us during The Heirloom Market! I know you could have gone to the grocery store, or anywhere else to get our honey, but you came to see me and I felt very loved."

She also reports that the farm store and the website are still open for now and that they will be re-stocking Nutty Bee peanut butter & honey spread this week as well.

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Community

HighPlains
MARKET

New Streetlights in Alliance

(ALLIANCE, Neb.) -- As part of an ongoing effort to improve the safety, reliability and efficiency of the electric system, the City of Alliance Electric Department is beginning work to replace streetlight poles and fixtures along West 3rd Street.



The project will include the installation of new streetlight poles, break-away bases and energy-efficient LED lights. Work will begin east of Black Hills Avenue and progress eastward along West 3rd Street.

The first phase of the project will involve removing two existing wooden poles and their streetlights on the north side of West 3rd Street. Concrete footings will then be installed to support the new break-away bases. Once the concrete has had adequate time to cure, crews will return to install the new bases, poles and LED lights.

Work will continue eastward, with the existing streetlight poles on the north side of West 3rd Street being replaced as the project progresses.

Throughout the project, the streetlights on the south side of West 3rd Street will remain functional and continue providing lighting for the roadway.

Residents and motorists are encouraged to use caution around work areas and be aware of crews and equipment as construction progresses.

For more information, please call the Electric Department at (308) 762-1907.

Valentine Joins Bayard with Water Issues

(VALENTINE, Neb.) — The City of Valentine, Nebraska issued an official public notice on September 17, 2026, confirming that high nitrate levels were detected in a portion of its municipal water supply.

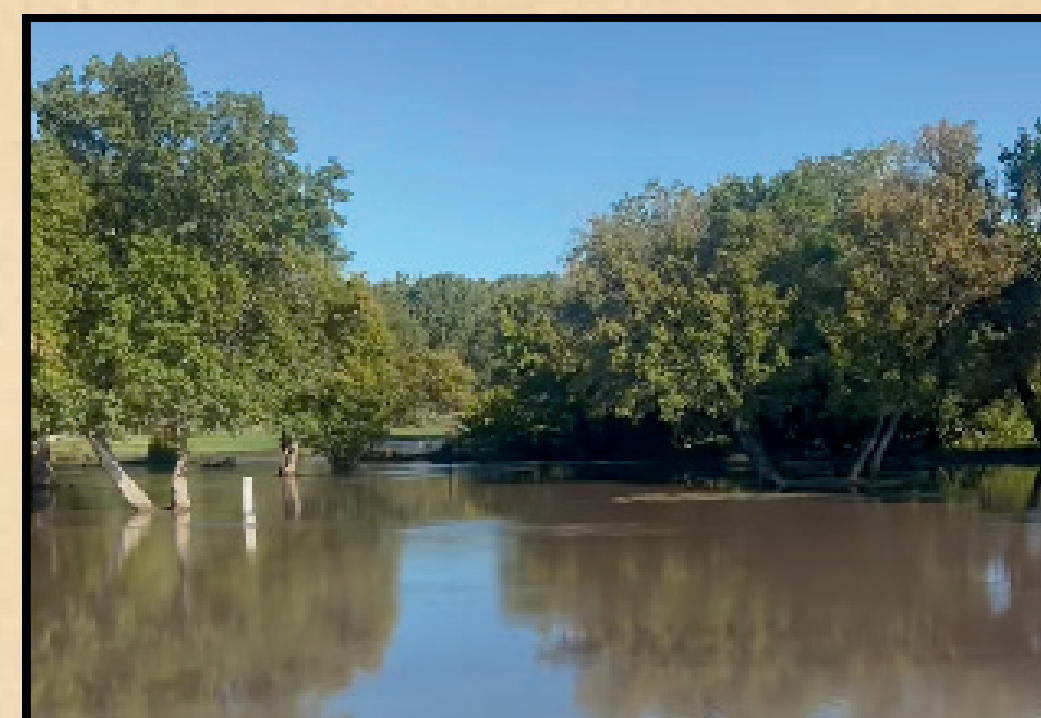
- **Affected Source:** Two separate water samples collected from Well 501—one of the city's five active wells—showed nitrate concentrations exceeding the federal Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) of 10 milligrams per liter.
- **Current Status:** City Manager Shane Siewert confirmed that Well 501 has been removed from service. It will remain completely offline while the city collaborates with the Nebraska Department of Water, Energy, and Environment (NDWEE) to run further tests and bring the system fully back into compliance.
- **Safe Wells:** The city's remaining four active municipal wells tested below the 10 mg/L threshold. Tap water distributed throughout the city is a blended mixture from all operational wells, rather than Well 501 alone.

Critical Safety Guidelines

- **Do NOT Boil the Water:** Boiling, freezing, or letting tap water stand will not reduce nitrate levels. In fact, boiling water causes evaporation, which actually makes the remaining nitrate more concentrated.
- **At-Risk Populations:** High nitrates pose a severe health risk to infants under six months old, as well as pregnant women or nursing mothers. It can cause rapid shortness of breath and blue baby syndrome. Tap water should not be used to mix baby formula, juice, or food for young infants.
- **Alternative Water Access:** The city is providing alternative clean drinking water upon request for impacted households. Local residents can arrange for water or ask questions by calling Valentine City Hall at 402-376-2323.

Legend Buttes Golf Course (Lake)

(CRAWFORD, Neb.) -- Legend Buttes Golf Course is a scenic 9 hole course following the white river in Northwest Nebraska. You are sure to enjoy the picturesque scenery of the par 36 tucked up against the buttes. However, you will need to wait. Gates were locked as of 9/19 until further notice.



On **Friday night, September 18, 2026**, severe thunderstorms dropped heavy rain on Northwest Nebraska, triggering a life-threatening Flash Flood Warning from the National Weather Service Cheyenne.

- **Impacted Areas:** The intense rainfall heavily impacted **Dawes County** and **Sioux County**. Severe flash flooding and debris flows occurred specifically in and around the **South Fork Burn Scar**, affecting Fort Robinson State Park, Crawford, and the Soldier Creek Campground.
- **Rainfall & Hazards:** Thunderstorms dumped up to **1.5 additional inches of rain** over the burn area. Because the ground was compromised by past fire damage, the excessive water caused severe mud, rock, and vegetation debris flows capable of washing out roads and driveways.
- **Context:** Northwest Nebraska has been enduring intense drought conditions, including pockets of extreme and exceptional drought in Dawes and surrounding counties. A broader weekend cold front tracking across the state rolled off the Rockies, triggering these localized, heavy downpours.

THE SUNDAY SCANNER

MISSING PERSONS
AND PROPERTY

STILL MISSING
DUSTIN LEONHARDT

Age When Missing: 14
Race: White
Sex: M
Eyes: Blue
Hair: Blond Or Strawberry
Height: 5'06
Weight: 130 lbs
Missing Date: 10-02-2025



Dustin was last seen wearing a grey hooded sweatshirt and jeans. If you know anything about his whereabouts, please contact the Nebraska State Patrol or the Nebraska Missing Persons at 1-877-441-5678.

MISSING : Declian Walker

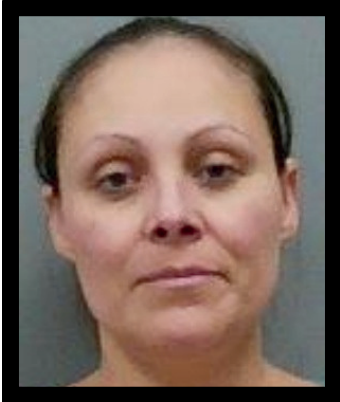
(SIDNEY, Neb.) – On Friday, September 18th scanner traffic indicated that DECLIAN WALKER, a 15 year old white male is once again missing. He was also reported as missing last week, but returned. He is missing again. Declian is 5'09" tall and weighs 130 lbs, with Blonde or Strawberry hair and Blue eyes. If you know anything about his whereabouts, please contact the Sidney Police Department.

STILL MISSING : NAIN CONTRERAS-PENA



Name: [NAIN CONTRERAS-PENA](#)
Missing Date: 08-15-2025
Age Missing: 8
Current Age: 9
Agency Name:





NAIN was last seen with parent, JAHINNA Contreras-Pena, shown in second photo. Contact FBI Omaha at 402-493-8688 or the Nebraska Missing Persons 1-877-441-5678.

Missing Persons; Policies and Procedures

(SCOTTSBLUFF, Neb.) - The first truly valuable mission in the very beginning that the Scotts Bluff County Scanner (now Panhandle Scanner) took on was our **Missing Persons**. It remains one of our 5 primary news categories and remains a top priority. Starting in 2009, we established some firm policies that we still adhere to today.

- 1. We verify that the reporting party is official guardian or next of kin.
- 2. We ask for verification that a police report has been filed.
- 3. We analyze the circumstances to determine validity of our involvement.
- 4. Once the person is found, we often remove the poster and personal details.
- 5. Due to the prevalence of human trafficking, runaways & missing are treated the same.

WAYS YOU CAN HELP

- If you LIVE IN the area of the missing person, please **share** the post.
- If you are friends with someone who lives in the area, please **share** the post.
- If you have friends in the area they are missing from, please **share** the post.
- If you know the missing person, regardless of location, please **share** the post.
- If you know of the missing person's whereabouts, please **contact** reporting party.
- If you have ENOUGH indentifying information, **share** the post and stay alert.
- If you want to join a search party, **contact** the reporting party to learn ways to help.

WHAT IS NOT HELPFUL

- Asking for, or complaining that we didn't include a photo or enough information.
- Reporting that the person is found without citing the source.

We receive audio bulletins via scanner traffic, and therefore will not have a photo many times. Remember, we are NOT asking everyone to start a full blown search party. The best way for you to help is to just SHARE the post and please pray.

Cheyenne
Runaway
Located

(CHEYENNE, Wyo.) -- The Cheyenne Police Department was requesting assistance locating a runaway juvenile. Ashton Boothman is 14 years old, 125 lbs, and 5'4" tall. He has brown buzz-cut hair, blue eyes, and a visible scar on the back of his head. He went missing on September 17, 2026.

Ashton was located within 24-48 hours.



THE SUNDAY SCANNER

--- police & crime ---



Officer Reina Muniz Saves Choking Infant



(SCOTTSBLUFF, Neb.) – Friday, January 19, 2024, was a special day for the Scottsbluff Police Department. They held a pinning ceremony for two new officers, as well as some significant promotions.

Officer Stefan Yocum and **Officer Reina Muniz** were welcomed to the department, while **Captain Krisa Brass**, Sergeant Royce Massie, and Corporal Drew Roalkvan received their new ranks.

Recently, one of those officers, Reina Muniz, was involved in an act of compassion and service when she was called upon to save a child's life.

On Thursday, September 17th, Officer Reina Muniz saved an infant baby girl from choking. The photo above shows her initial pinning, but according to Chief Brass, she has proven to be a great human being capable of alot of things.

WNCC STANDOFF CASE HEADS TO TRIAL

(GERING, Neb.) – A 29-year-old local man who led police on an hours-long standoff on the roof of Western Nebraska Community College entered not guilty pleas during a court appearance Friday.

De La Cruz allegedly repeatedly threatened officers and claimed to have firearms. Officers eventually took him into custody after he ingested various pills and became incapacitated.

De La Cruz faces the following charges:

- Two counts of terroristic threats – Class IIIA felony
- Second-degree criminal trespass – Class II misdemeanor

During Friday's hearing, Judge Andrea Miller signed a pretrial order giving both sides four weeks to file pretrial motions. Prosecutor Paul Payne appeared on behalf of the state.

Judge Miller maintained De La Cruz's bond, which was previously reduced August 31 to \$15,000 with a 10% deposit allowed.

A pretrial conference is scheduled for December 9, 2026, with a jury trial scheduled for January 4, 2027.



Juan De La Cruz waived the waiting period and was formally arraigned in Scotts Bluff County District Court. Represented by defense attorney Brent Hansen, De La Cruz pleaded not guilty to all charges.

The charges stem from a July 21 incident on the WNCC campus in which police cornered De La Cruz between buildings before he accessed the roof of an HVAC-connected structure.



Hit-and-Run Driver Arrested

(SCOTTSBLUFF, Neb.) – A 13-year-old boy was injured Tuesday after being struck by a vehicle while crossing East 20th Street at 3rd Avenue in Scottsbluff.

Officers were dispatched to the area Sept. 15 following a report of a vehicle striking a juvenile pedestrian. The vehicle, described as a silver four-door Kia, left the scene before officers arrived.

The juvenile was transported by ambulance to Regional West Medical Center for treatment. About 15 minutes later, officers located the Kia and stopped it in the 1900 block of Avenue K.

The driver, identified as 18-year-old Daneah Gomez-Vallejo of Scottsbluff, was arrested following an investigation and booked into the Scotts Bluff County Detention Center on a felony charge of leaving the scene of an injury accident.

THE SUNDAY SCANNER

--- police & crime ---

Largest Score in NSP History

-- Ten Tons of Drugs Siezed --

(DAWSON COUNTY, Neb.) — Nebraska State Patrol troopers seized nearly 20,000 pounds of drugs and recovered a semi-trailer loaded with stolen merchandise during two separate traffic stops in Dawson County this month.

The first seizure occurred September 4, 2026 when a trooper stopped a semitrailer near mile marker 228 on Interstate 80. During a commercial vehicle inspection, the trooper detected the odor of marijuana.

A subsequent search uncovered 27 pallets containing approximately 5,200 pounds of marijuana, 13,600 pounds of THC products and 1,000 pounds of psilocybin products. The estimated street value of the drugs is more than \$50 million. NSP said it believes the seizure is the largest volume drug interdiction in the agency's history.

William Gomez, 44, of Virginia, was arrested on suspicion of possession of controlled substances and possession with intent to deliver. He was lodged in the Dawson County Jail.

The second investigation began September 9 after NSP received information that a semitrailer may be transporting approximately \$250,000 worth of stolen professional speaker equipment. A trooper located the truck at a truck stop near Gothenburg and discovered false commercial delivery paperwork.

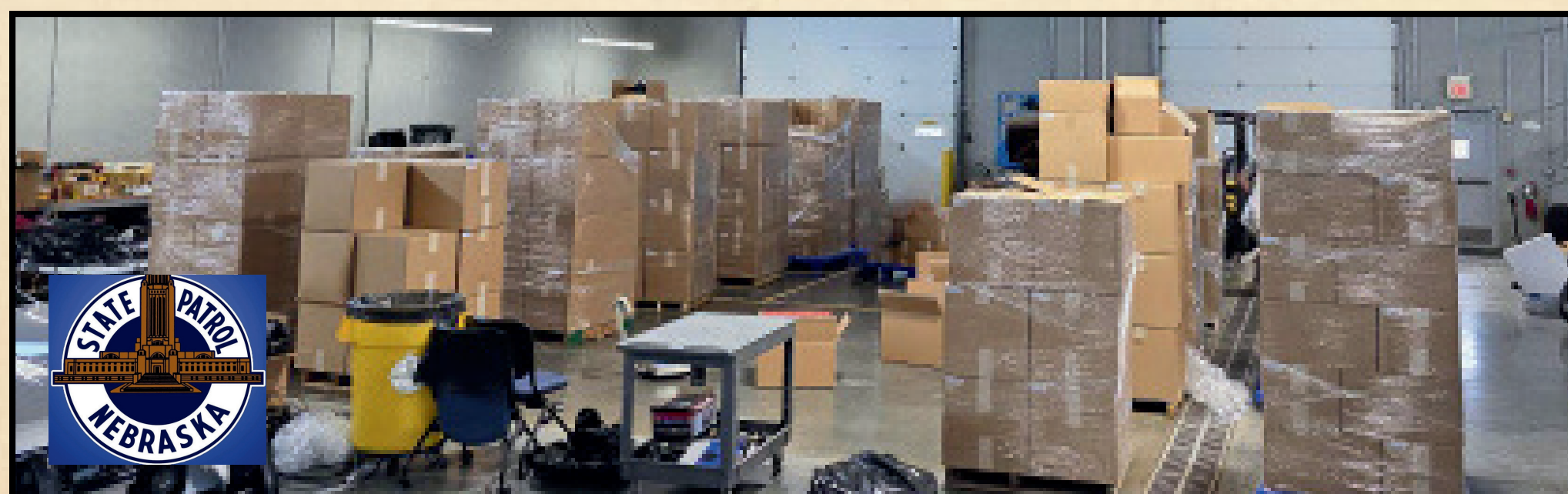
A search warrant was later obtained for the trailer. Troopers found high-end commercial speakers along with miscellaneous merchandise destined for Walmart facilities in Florida. Investigators determined the items had been stolen from Illinois and New York.

The driver, identified as Ashwani Kumar through a New Jersey non-domicile commercial driver's license, was placed out of service but later left the scene. An arrest warrant has been issued for Kumar.

"The Nebraska State Patrol is a tremendous law enforcement agency," Gov. Jim Pillen said, praising troopers for their work in both cases.

NSP Superintendent Col. Bryan Waugh said the investigations demonstrate the importance of troopers looking beyond the initial reason for a traffic stop.

"These two investigations are excellent examples of troopers looking beyond the initial traffic stop for indicators of criminal activity," Waugh said. Both investigations remain ongoing.



Cash Theft Leads to Drug Charges

(SCOTTSBUFF, Neb.) — A 41-year-old local man faces theft and drug charges following an August incident at a Scottsbluff business. Thomas Jerald Mendoza was arrested August 24 by Scottsbluff Police following an investigation into a cash register theft at Cigarette Chain on East Overland Drive.

According to court records, an employee reported that Mendoza grabbed \$150 from the register while completing a transaction Aug. 22 and fled the business, knocking over and damaging a cigar display in the process.

Officers located Mendoza two days later. Police said he admitted to taking the cash and disclosed that he had a glass pipe in his backpack. The pipe tested positive for methamphetamine, according to court records.

Mendoza faces the following charges:

- Theft under \$500 — misdemeanor
- Possession of a controlled substance (methamphetamine) — Class IV felony
- Possession of drug paraphernalia — infraction
- Criminal mischief — misdemeanor

During a court appearance Friday in Scotts Bluff County Court, Judge Andrea Miller set Mendoza's bond at \$10,000 with a 10% deposit required for release.

Defense attorney Brent Hansen was appointed through the Public Defender's Office to represent Mendoza. A preliminary hearing is scheduled for September 17.

THE SUNDAY SCANNER

--- police & crime ---

Fentanyl Pills Found in Traffic Stop



(GERING, Neb.) — A traffic stop on 10th Avenue led to felony drug charges against a man who was also wanted on an outstanding Nebraska Department of Corrections warrant.

On May 25, 2026, a Scottsbluff police officer stopped Gomez near 1700 10th Avenue. A background check confirmed Gomez had an active Department of Corrections warrant for a parole violation and a weapons charge.

During the traffic stop, a police K-9 alerted officers to the presence of narcotics in the vehicle. Officers found 10 blue pills marked “M30” and suspected to contain fentanyl in the glove compartment.

The discovery resulted in a Class 4 felony charge of possession of a controlled substance. Gomez was also facing extradition on the existing state warrant.

Gomez reached a plea agreement and pleaded guilty to an amended charge before Judge Dobrovlny. He was sentenced to 10 days in county jail, with credit for 10 days already served. The sentence was ordered to run concurrently with a state prison sentence he is currently serving.

The court waived court costs because of Gomez’s indigency and assessed a \$300 fine on a second count.

All parties are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Short Sentence for Wrong-Way DUI

(GERING, Neb.) — A 47-year-old Bridgeport woman was sentenced in Scotts Bluff County Court following her arrest for driving under the influence after allegedly driving on the wrong side of the highway.

On July 26, 2026, a Nebraska State Patrol trooper received reports of a vehicle traveling eastbound in the westbound lanes of Highway 26. After stopping the vehicle, the trooper identified the driver as Rosalba Acevedo Ventura. According to the arrest affidavit, she smelled of alcohol, had bloodshot, watery eyes and admitted to drinking.

Breath tests were administered, with an initial result of 0.249 and a secondary Intox DMT breath test showing a blood alcohol concentration of 0.205, more than twice the legal limit. A license check showed Acevedo Ventura did not have a valid driver’s license in Nebraska or Arizona.

During court proceedings Sept. 15, 2026, before Judge Mark L. Kovarik, Acevedo Ventura pleaded guilty to two misdemeanor offenses. She was sentenced on an amended charge of reckless driving, first offense, a Class 3 misdemeanor, and one count of driving without an operator’s license. Kovarik sentenced her to a total of \$300 in fines and \$75 in laboratory testing fees. She was ordered to pay \$425 in total fees. She was also sentenced to 33 days in jail, with credit for 33 days already served.

Man Sentenced in Menards Theft Case

(GERING, Neb.) — A 26-year-old Scottsbluff man was sentenced to 180 days in jail after pleading no contest to a reduced felony shoplifting charge involving thousands of dollars in stolen merchandise.

According to an affidavit filed by the Scottsbluff Police Department, officers responded to Menards at 2401 Delta Drive on April 8, 2026, regarding ongoing theft reports. Store employees told officers that two men — identified as Gustavo Espinosa, also known as Gustavo Espinosa Castro, and a coworker — had allegedly been repeatedly shoplifting building materials over several weeks for their roofing company.

Surveillance video showed Espinosa and his associate placing items in a cart and leaving the store without paying before loading the merchandise into an enclosed trailer attached to a company truck. Espinosa was initially charged with theft by shoplifting of more than \$5,000, a Class 2A felony. Under a plea agreement negotiated between Deputy County Attorney Paul Payne and defense attorney William C. Peters Jr., the state filed an amended information reducing the charge to theft by shoplifting of between \$1,500 and \$4,999, a Class 4 felony.

During a hearing Sept. 16, 2026, in Scotts Bluff County District Court, Espinosa appeared with defense counsel and entered a no-contest plea to the amended charge. District Court Judge Leo Dobrovlny accepted the plea, waived the presentence investigation and sentenced Espinosa to 180 days in jail, with credit for 161 days already served.

Court records state that court costs were waived because Espinosa had served additional jail time. Probation was deemed inappropriate because an Immigration and Customs Enforcement hold remains in place.

Espinosa was ordered to provide a DNA sample before his release from local custody.

THE SUNDAY SCANNER

--- police & crime ---**Starbucks Assault Leads to Jail Time**

(GERING, Neb.) — A 19-year-old Scottsbluff man was sentenced to jail time after reaching a plea agreement stemming from a February assault at a Safeway Starbucks. According to court filings, Scottsbluff police officers were dispatched to the Safeway on Broadway at about 6:18 p.m. Feb. 15, 2026, regarding a disturbance. An investigation determined that Izaiah R. Cohl, who was identified through witness accounts and video footage, approached a man waiting for a drink at the in-store Starbucks counter.

Cellphone video submitted to law enforcement showed Cohl recording with his phone while yelling at the victim before slapping him across the face with the back of his hand. As Cohl walked away, he was heard saying, "I'll kill you." The victim suffered redness to the left side of his face and ear following the assault.

Cohl was initially charged with third-degree assault and terroristic threats, both Class 3A felonies. Under a plea agreement between prosecutor Paul Payne and defense attorney William Madelung, the terroristic threats charge was dismissed. Cohl pleaded guilty to an amended charge of third-degree assault, reduced to a Class 1 misdemeanor.

During a hearing Sept. 16, 2026, in Scotts Bluff County District Court, Judge Leo Dobrovolny accepted Cohl's plea. With a presentence investigation waived, Dobrovolny sentenced Cohl to 10 days in county jail and credited him with 30 days served before sentencing. Cohl was also ordered to pay \$142 in court costs from available bond proceeds.

Early Morning Disturbance Leads to Taser, Felony Arrest

(GERING, Neb.) — A 21-year-old local man faces felony and misdemeanor charges following an early-morning disturbance in August.

According to police affidavits, officers responded to the 500 block of East 16th Street around 3:22 a.m. Aug. 20 after receiving reports of a man lying in the roadway and yelling. Upon arrival, officers contacted Gabriel Ciquero Afraid of Bear, who was sitting in the road and refused multiple requests to get up or accept a ride home.

When officers informed Afraid of Bear he was under arrest for disorderly conduct, he actively resisted by tensing his arms, curling into his body and attempting to bite an officer's arm. Officers deployed a Taser to gain compliance and place him in handcuffs. He was evaluated at Regional West Medical Center following the Taser deployment and for alcohol intoxication before being booked into the Scotts Bluff County Detention Center.

- Attempt of a Class 3 or 3A felony (attempted assault on an officer) — Class 4 felony
- Resisting arrest, first offense — Class 1 misdemeanor
- Disturbing the peace — Class 3 misdemeanor

During an arraignment Friday in Scottsbluff County District Court, Judge Andrea Miller presiding, Afraid of Bear waived the waiting period and pleaded not guilty to all counts. Prosecutor Steven Lyman appeared for the state, and attorney Brent Hansen was appointed to represent Afraid of Bear.

During a prior hearing, Miller reduced Afraid of Bear's bond from \$30,000 to \$15,000, with a 10% deposit allowed. The bond reduction was continued Friday. A pretrial conference is scheduled for December 9, 2026, at 1 p.m., with a jury trial term scheduled to begin January 4, 2027.

Denver Stolen Vehicle Leads To Charges

(GERING, Neb.) — A 48-year-old woman faces felony charges following a high-speed pursuit in late August involving a vehicle reported stolen from Denver.

According to court affidavits, Scottsbluff police officers initiated a traffic stop Aug. 24 near South Beltline West and Avenue I after locating a green Toyota Corolla reported stolen from Denver, Colorado.

The vehicle fled north at high speeds, running a red light, driving left of center and brake-checking officers. Speeds reached 131 mph during the pursuit, which continued through Sioux and Box Butte counties before deputies deployed spike strips to disable the vehicle.

After the vehicle stopped, three occupants fled into the grass, including passenger Jessica Chaqui Camunez. Officers located a backpack in the back seat containing a container with white crystal residue that field-tested positive for methamphetamine.

Camunez is charged with theft by receiving stolen property of \$5,000 or more, a Class 2A felony, and possession of a controlled substance, a Class 4 felony.

During an arraignment Friday in Scottsbluff County District Court, Judge Andrea Miller presiding, Camunez waived the waiting period and pleaded not guilty to both counts. Prosecutor Paul Payne appeared for the state, and attorney Jessica Landers was appointed to represent Camunez.

Miller reduced Camunez's bond from \$45,000 to \$20,000, with a 10% deposit allowed. Release conditions require court permission to leave the state or change residences, maintaining constant contact with counsel and signing a waiver of extradition.

A pretrial conference is scheduled for December 9, 2026, with a jury trial term scheduled to begin January 4, 2027.

THE SUNDAY SCANNER

--- police & crime ---

TWO FACE DRUG CHARGES AFTER TRAFFIC STOP

(GERING, Neb.) — Two Thornton, Colorado, residents are facing felony drug charges after an August traffic stop near Avenue I.

According to police affidavits, a Scottsbluff Police officer pulled over a 2019 black Kia Sorento driven by Bruce Lee, 34, on August 22 after the vehicle failed to signal before turning. Desiree Faith Colleado, 30, was identified as the passenger.

During a pat-down search of Lee, officers located a methamphetamine pipe in his pants pocket. A subsequent search of the vehicle reportedly yielded 38.7 grams of methamphetamine, a digital scale and a baggie with residue.

Officers also located 28 grams of marijuana and 0.6 grams of methamphetamine inside Colleado’s purse. Both individuals were arrested.

Bruce Lee’s Court Charges:

- Possession of methamphetamine (28-139 grams) — Class IC felony
- Failure to affix drug tax stamp — Class IV felony
- Possession or use of drug paraphernalia — infraction

During an arraignment hearing Friday in Scotts Bluff County District Court, Judge Andrea Miller presiding, Lee waived the waiting period and entered not guilty pleas to all counts.

Prosecutor Paul Payne appeared on behalf of the state, and defense attorney Brent Hansen was appointed to represent Lee. Bond was continued as previously set.

A pretrial conference is scheduled for December 9, 2026, with a jury trial set for January 4, 2027.

Desiree Colleado’s Charges:

- Possession of a controlled substance (methamphetamine) — Class IV felony
- Possession of marijuana (1 ounce or less, first offense) — infraction

Appearing in court Friday before Judge Miller, Colleado also waived the waiting period and entered not guilty pleas.

Prosecutor Lyman appeared on behalf of the state, and defense attorney Madelung was appointed to represent Colleado. Bond was maintained at \$11,000 with a 10% deposit allowed.

A pretrial conference is scheduled for January 20, 2027, with a jury trial term beginning February 1, 2027.



Man Sentenced in Kidnapping Case

(CHEYENNE, Wyo.) — A Texas man was sentenced to 20 to 25 years in prison following his conviction in a kidnapping and aggravated assault case investigated by the Cheyenne Police Department.

According to police, the woman had taken steps to end the relationship, but Henderson continued contacting her and traveled from Texas to Cheyenne. Police said Henderson forced his way into the woman’s home that morning while wearing a face covering and gloves. He was armed with a knife, threatened to kill the woman and prevented her from leaving.

The woman was able to contact her sister for help. Her sister arrived at the residence and detained Henderson until police arrived. Henderson was arrested and booked into the Laramie County Jail on charges related to the incident.

The case stems from a Nov. 1, 2025, incident at a residence in the 300 block of East 20th Street. Cheyenne police officers responded to a report of a physical disturbance and determined that a woman had been assaulted by her former partner, Cash Henderson.



Cash Henderson, 21, of Cypress, Texas, was sentenced in Laramie County District Court on charges of kidnapping, aggravated assault, burglary and solicitation to commit a felony.

THE SUNDAY SCANNER**FIRE & RESCUE****Hwy 26 / 21st Ave Injury Accident**

(SCOTTSBLUFF, Neb.) – Scanner traffic indicated a 3 vehicle accident with unknown injuries in the intersection of Hwy 26 & 21st Avenue in Scottsbluff on Thursday. The accident happened just before 3:00 p.m. on the east edge of town. The Nebraska State Patrol was first on scene and called it in as a 10-45 with 10-18 (Hurried Response).

TRIAGE MODE was initiated due to multiple patients with varying injuries. The trooper confirmed severe damage to all three vehicles in the highway speed collision.

Further traffic indicated that all patients were conscious and breathing, with two head/face injuries and a back injury. Three patients were transported to Regional West.

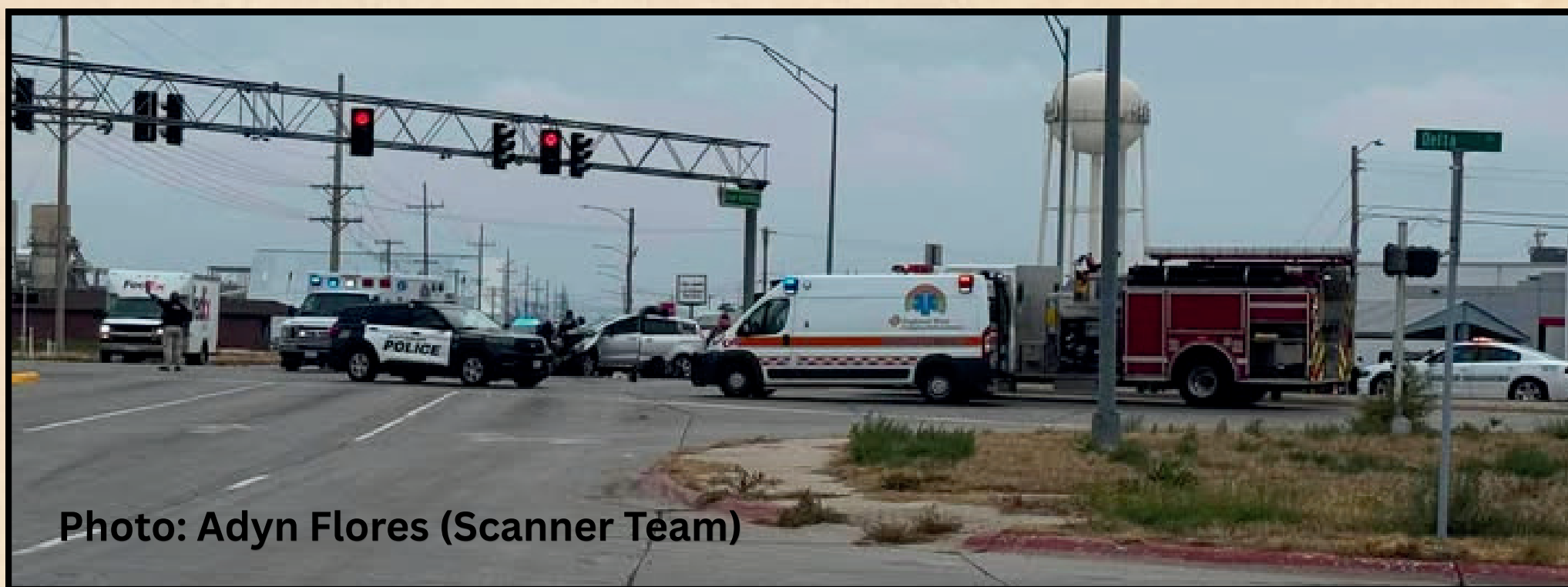


Photo: Adyn Flores (Scanner Team)

Moonshine Fire Reaches 61% Containment

(WHEATLAND, Wyo.) – The Moonshine Fire has burned 7,325 acres and is now 61% contained as crews continue mop-up and suppression repair work, fire officials reported. There are 132 personnel assigned to the incident.

Recent scattered thunderstorms and nearly completed suppression repair work have reduced the threat posed by the fire. Infrared flights have detected minimal remaining heat, and fire officials report secure conditions along the fire perimeter.

Crews are working farther into the burned area, checking for remaining heat and extinguishing hot spots well inside established control lines. The process, known as mop-up and cold trailing, involves locating and cooling hidden heat to reduce the potential for fire spread.

Operations Thursday focused on suppression repair. Equipment operators smoothed dirt access roads to reduce erosion, while crews refilled ponds and other water sources used during firefighting operations. The work is being completed under land-use agreements with property owners to restore water resources used by fire engines and helicopters.

Unmanned aircraft were scheduled to conduct mapping flights Friday to look for lingering hot spots and any new fires caused by lightning. Fire managers will use the information to direct crews to specific areas requiring additional attention.

A specialized wildland fire module will remain at Bookout Ranch to monitor any remaining threats. The small, self-sufficient crew is trained to manage localized fire behavior and protect property. Bookout Ranch is currently the only private property near the active incident boundary.

Firefighters also report early grass regeneration within the burned area. Recent rainfall and nutrients in the ash left by burned vegetation are supporting new growth as unsettled weather continues.

Heavy Rain Causes Rollover Accident

(MITCHELL, Neb.) -- Scanner traffic indicated a witness calling in a single vehicle rollover with unknown injuries, Hwy 26, mm 17. Mitchell Volunteer Fire Department was been paged to the scene. The vehicle was reportedly travelling westbound and went off the road, rolled and hit a pole and fencing. Emergency crews were out trying to locate the accident.

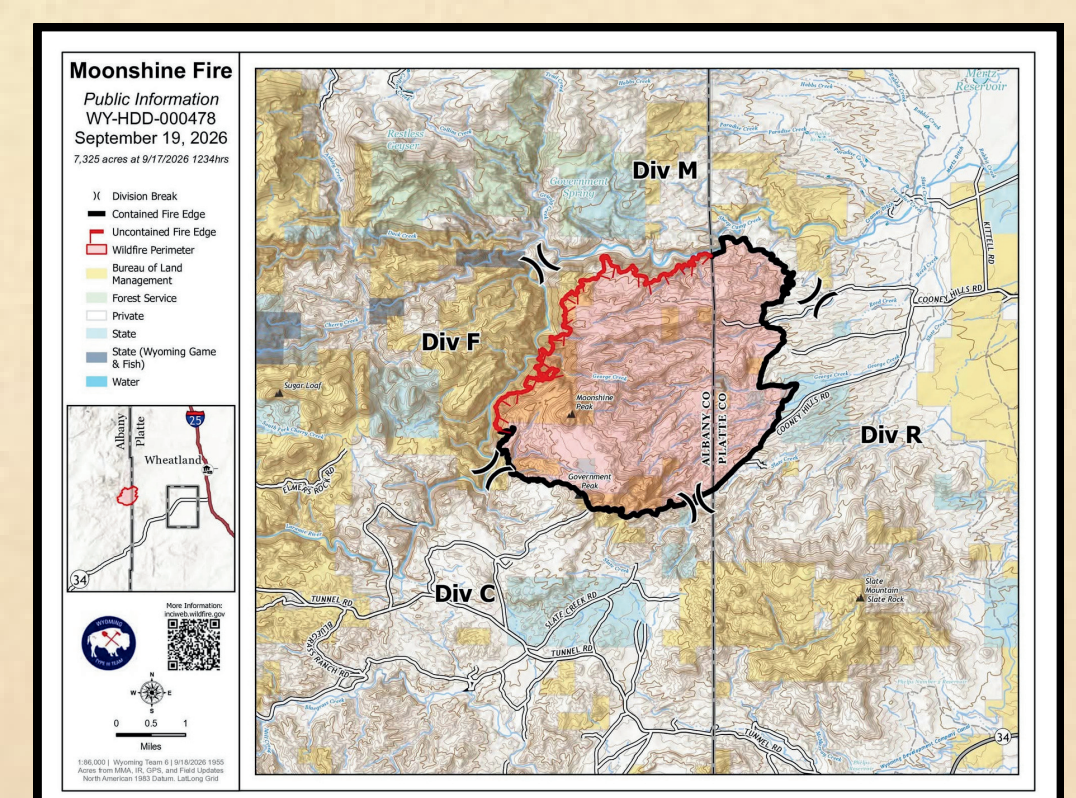
Medic 1 responded that they believed they had found the scene of the accident with several vehicles pulled over because of all the emergency lights. They had difficulty locating the scene of the accident.

The reporting party did not stop, so exact location was unclear. EMS was concerned about a potential secondary crash with so many vehicles stopped.

Tracks were found showing a vehicle sliding off the road, but no vehicle was immediately located.

EMS staged at Sunflower Road and Hwy 26 since no one can find the vehicle that reportedly rolled over.

Eventually, Medic 1 found the Grey Buick Enclave with 21 County plates and stated that the vehicle DID NOT ROLL OVER and that there were no injuries reported and no patient transfer via ambulance for this incident.



THE SUNDAY SCANNER**FIRE & RESCUE**

(MITCHELL, Neb.) – The Mitchell Volunteer Fire Department (MVFD) in Scotts Bluff County, Nebraska, led by Fire Chief Derek Schultz, has been highly active with several major emergency responses and regional mutual aid calls in September.

- **BNSF Train Derailment Response:** On Thursday afternoon, September 10, 2026, Mitchell Fire crews rushed to the scene of a Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) train derailment after at least four coal cars jumped the tracks near Mitchell. Responders quickly managed the scene and extinguished a small localized fire before it could spread, safely reopening railroad crossings by 5:00 PM.
- **Morrill Haystack Fire Mutual Aid:** On Saturday evening, September 12, 2026, the department deployed heavy support to assist the Morrill Volunteer Fire Department with a massive haystack fire. MVFD personnel worked through the evening, flowing an estimated 5,000 gallons of water to suppress the blaze.
- **County Road H Grass Fire:** Earlier that same week, crews rapidly responded to a large grass fire southeast of Mitchell on County Road H. Facing high winds and a large smoke plume, Mitchell firefighters—operating seven trucks—worked alongside Scottsbluff Rural and Morrill units to safely execute a quick knock-down with the assistance of a local tractor and disk.

LIVE FIRE TRAINING BUILDS REAL-TIME SKILLS

(SCOTTSBLUFF, Neb.) – On Saturday, Mitchell firefighters had an opportunity to practice on a live fire exercise hosted by Scottsbluff Rural Fire Protection District. Also in attendance were Banner County Volunteer Fire & Rescue & Western Nebraska Regional Airport Fire Department.



THE SUNDAY SCANNER

FIRE & RESCUE

Mutual Aid Called for Hay Bale Fire

(MORRILL, Neb.) – On the evening of September 12, 2026, Lyman-Kiowa Volunteer Fire Department received a mutual aid request from neighboring district Morrill Nebraska Volunteer Fire Department for a hay stack fire. LKVF responded with 2 trucks.

Mitchell was also requested for mutual aid from Morrill shortly after 6pm. It is estimated that Mitchell VFD flowed 5,000 gallons of water.



CAUTION
Country Club Road
RR Crossing Horn
NOT WORKING

(GERING, Neb.) – The City of Gering has notified residents that the automated horn system at the Union Pacific Railroad crossing on Country Club Road has failed and cannot be repaired.

A replacement system has been ordered and is expected to be delivered and installed within six to eight weeks. Until the new system is operational, trains will be required to sound their horns when approaching the crossing.

The city acknowledged the additional train noise may be disruptive and asked residents for patience and understanding while the system is replaced.

What is Thermal
Runaway?

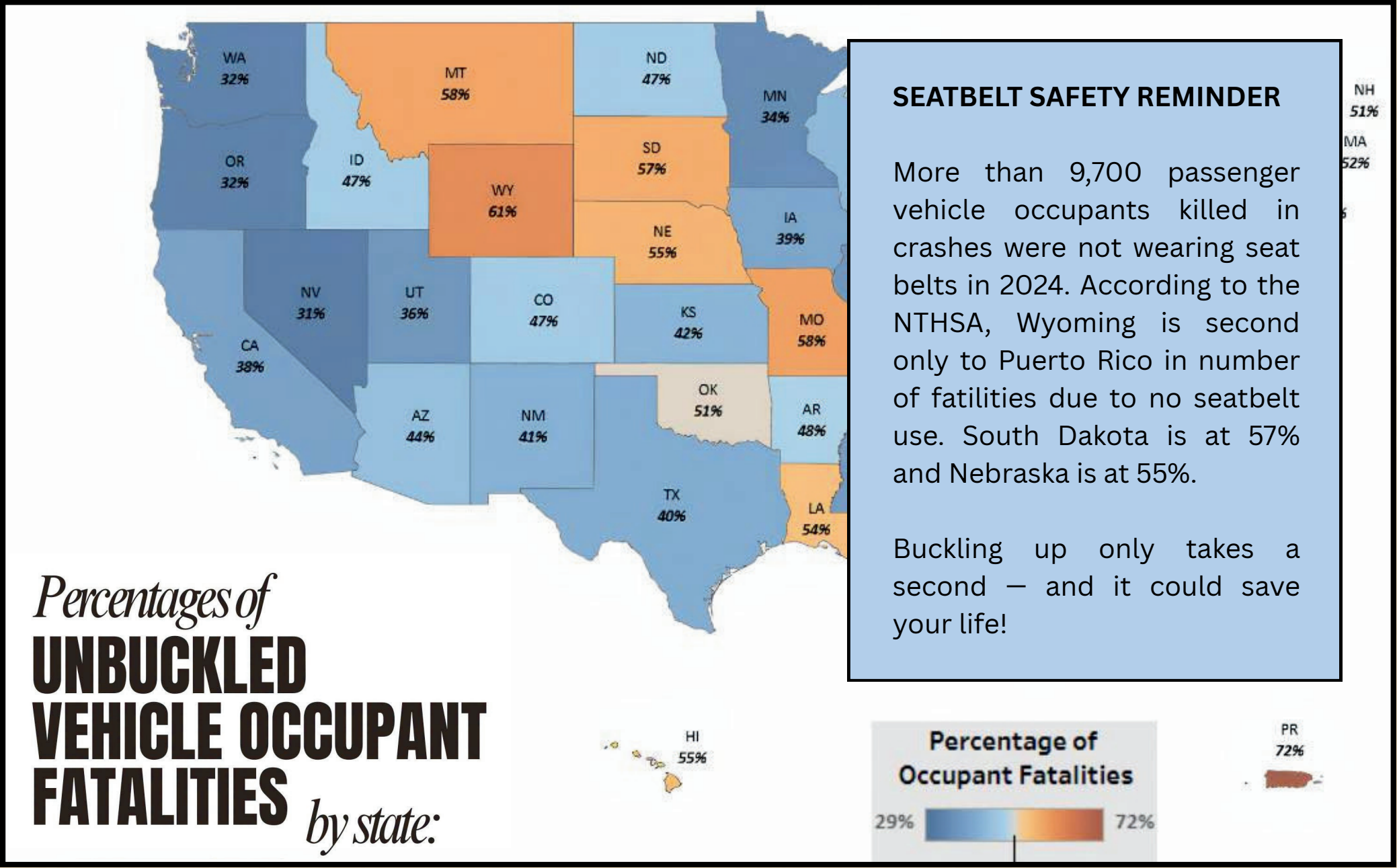
By **Scottsbluff Fire Department**

(SCOTTSSLUF, Neb) – With E-Bikes and E-Scooters becoming much more popular, they also pose a significant fire hazard if not taken care of properly.

When a E-Bike or E-Scooter goes into thermal runaway it can release toxic gases which may lead to an explosion and a fire. So what can cause a E-Bike or E-Scooter to go into thermal runaway?

- Damage to the battery
- Cheaply made products, such as unlisted chargers, and unlisted scooters & bikes
- Improper maintenance

So when you are done using your devices, ensure you are not charging them in your kid's bedroom or near an exit door. If the battery is damaged, ensure you dispose of it properly, and never use third party chargers or batteries for your devices.



THE SUNDAY SCANNER



PANHANDLE
SPORTS



WEEK 3
SPORTS ACTION

 Girls Volleyball

While top-ranked Gering continued its unbeaten streak by sweeping Chadron and beating rival Scottsbluff, other key matchups highlights included:

- Sidney Red Raiders: Swept Bridgeport (3-0) on September 15.
- Alliance Bulldogs: Earned a hard-fought victory on the road, defeating Chase County (3-1).
- Ogallala Indians: Claimed a sweeping victory over Cozad (3-0).

 Cross Country

The premier event of Week 3 was the Chadron Invitational, which featured a strong showcase from top Panhandle distance runners:

- Girls Varsity Champion: Hannah Wemhoff of Scottsbluff High School secured the individual crown with a winning time of 21:20.23. Her performance propelled the Scottsbluff Bearcats to the overall team title, with the host Chadron Cardinals finishing in 2nd place.
- Boys Varsity Highlights: Austin Benda of Hemingford took a stellar runner-up finish, just behind Custer's Carter Cooper. The Panhandle heavily populated the top individual tier, with Gavin Wemhoff (Scottsbluff, 3rd), Jace Castle (Scottsbluff, 4th), Fletcher Moseman (Hemingford, 6th), Brendan Trautman (Gering, 9th), and Hunter Elston (Sidney, 10th) all placing in the top 10.

 Girls Golf

The region's top golfers hit the links to tune up for upcoming postseason play. A primary highlight of the week saw area teams competing in western invitationals, preparing explicitly for the upcoming Class B State Championship, which will be hosted locally at Monument Shadows Golf Course in Gering later this fall.

Bulldogs Over Rival Bearcats 3-1

(SCOTTSBLUFF, Neb.) – The Gering girls volleyball team defeated Scottsbluff in four sets (3-1) on Tuesday night to preserve their undefeated record.

Playing in front of a large crowd at Scottsbluff High School, the No. 7 ranked Bulldogs moved to a 12-0 season record with the victory.

- Set 1: Gering 25, Scottsbluff 14
- Set 2: Scottsbluff 25, Gering 22
- Set 3: Gering 25, Scottsbluff 15
- Set 4: Gering 25, Scottsbluff 19

Gering will next travel east to play in the McCook Tournament this Saturday, September 19.

- Gering: Jacey Cochran unofficially led the Bulldogs' attack with 18 kills, followed closely by Finley Rotherham with 13 kills. Gering's back-line defense and steady serving were crucial in keeping Scottsbluff at bay.
- Scottsbluff: Mia Bowles paced the Bearcats with a 10-kill effort as Scottsbluff fell to an 8-11 overall record

Flashback - Gering Volleyball, 1985-86



Back row - Coach Schadwinkel, Wendy Hansen, Amy Chadwick, Gail King, Tracy Halasinski, Monica Green, Crystal Popp & Coach Wallace. Front - DeDe Vogel, Jacki Bruntz, Pam Hamburger, DeeDee Martin, Lisa Brunner & Lisa Jones

Nebraska Class B State Champions 1985

(GERING, Neb.) – The best volleyball season in history for the Gering Bulldogs is their historic 1985 season.

That year, the team reached the absolute pinnacle of the program's history by finishing with a 22-1 record and capturing the NSAA Class B State Championship—the only state title in Gering volleyball history.

To secure the championship trophy, they battled through a gauntlet at state, defeating Columbus Scotus (16-14, 8-15, 15-3), Nebraska City, and Elkhorn.

The only loss for the 1985 Gering volleyball team during their 22-1 championship run was to their ultimate regional rivals, the Sidney Red Raiders.

Sidney was a powerhouse at the time—having won the Class B State Championships in 1981, 1982, and 1984—making their matches against Gering absolute battles for Panhandle dominance.

Gering avenged the regular-season slip-up by sweeping through the rest of their schedule and taking the state crown in Lincoln.

THE SUNDAY SCANNER

PANHANDLE

SPORTS



MCCOOK TOURNAMENT CHAMPS!

- Defeated Chase County 25-18, 25-15
- Defeated Valentine 25-21, 25-19
- Defeated McCook 25-17, 25-9

Gering Girls Setting the Stage for a Record Breaking Season

The Gering High School Bulldogs girls volleyball team is having a dominant, undefeated 2026 season under head coach Amanda Cochran.

- Overall Record: 15-0
- Swept previously unbeaten Chadron (3-0) on September 10
- Won a high-profile matchup against Cheyenne Central (3-1) on September 12
- Defeated rivals Scottsbluff (3-1) on September 15, powered by Adriana Canales (28 digs, 2 aces) and Jaxie John (18 digs, 9 kills)
- Crowned the Douglas Tournament Gold Bracket champions earlier in the season
- Crowned McCook Tournament Champs in six straight winning sets

The varsity roster features a strong mix of veteran seniors and rising underclassmen:

- Jaxie John (Sr., Outside Hitter/Setter) – A core leader who recently surpassed 1,000 career digs
- Jacey Cochran (Sr., Outside/Middle Hitter) – Stands at 6'1", providing a massive net presence
- Ivy Bruckner (Sr., Middle Hitter) – A crucial force for blocking and serving momentum
- Aubrey Anderson (Sr., Setter) – Directs the offense
- Adriana Canales (So., Libero/Defensive Specialist) – Anchor of the defense, coming off a spectacular 28-dig performance.

Bearcats Over North Platte 11-9, 9-3

(NORTH PLATTE, Neb.) – Scottsbluff manufactured a six run victory over North Platte on Tuesday, after escaping the first game with an 11-9 win. The result was nothing new for the Bearcats, who have now won five games by 8 or more runs this season.

The team relied heavily on Danielle Hunter, who went a perfect 3-for-3 while logging 4 stolen bases, 3 runs, and 2 RBIs. The two RBIs were her most since the 8th, when she brought in two vs. Alliance.



Scottsbluff has a 12-9 record this season.

ATTENTION

Panhandle Sports Teams

WE WELCOME YOUR NEWS RELEASES!

If YOUR team wants more coverage, send your news to sbcoscanner@gmail.com

- Scottsbluff High School (Bearcats)
Gering High School (Bulldogs)
Mitchell High School (Tigers)
Minatare High School (Indians)
Morrill High School (Lions)
Alliance High School (Bulldogs)
Chadron High School (Cardinals)
Sidney High School (Red Raiders)
Kimball High School (Longhorns)
Bayard High School (Tigers)
Bridgeport High School (Bulldogs)
Gordon-Rushville High School (Mustangs)
Leyton High School (Warriors)
Potter-Dix High School (Coyotes)
Creek Valley High School (Storm)
Hemingford High School (Bobcats)
Crawford High School (Rams)
Banner County High School (Wildcats)
Garden County High School (Eagles)
Sioux County High School (Warriors)
Hay Springs High School (Hawks)

Gering Girls Softball Building Momemtum

(GERING, Neb.) – After dropping 3 of their first 5 games to start the season, the Gering Girls have since put up an 11-3 record, winning 7 of their last 8 games. Seven of their nineteen games have included victories of 6 runs or more.

The Bulldogs are sitting at 13-6 on the season and currently in first place in Class B District 10 with a 2-0 conference record.



Gering

Bulldogs

13-6

Overall	District
13-6	2-0
0.684 Win Pct	1st B District 10

THE SUNDAY SCANNER



PANHANDLE
SPORTS



FOOTBALL SCOREBOARD

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Final
Adams Central	0	0	0	0	0
Sidney	7	7	0	6	20

(SIDNEY, Neb.) – Sidney Red Raiders are 4-0 and are ranked prominently in Class C1. Sidney remains a top contender in the state with a spotless record. Sidney blanked Adams Central 20-0.

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Final
Scottsbluff	21	28	3	7	59
Lexington	0	6	0	0	6

(LEXINGTON, Neb.) – The Bearcats are off to an explosive, undefeated at 4-0 to start their 2026 season, led by head coach Jud Hall. Scottsbluff soundly defeated Lexington on the road Friday night, 59-6.

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Final
Banner County	0	12	6	7	25
Minatare	20	12	28	0	60

(MINATARE, Neb.) – On Thursday, the Minatare Indians triumphed over the visiting Banner County Wildcats by a tally of 60-25.

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Final
Chadron	--	--	--	--	47
Valentine	--	--	--	--	18

(VALENTINE, Neb.) – The Chadron Cardinals are 4-0 and have rolled through their opening slate unscathed to sit comfortably as a contender in Class C1. They defeated Valentine 47-18 on this week.

Week 3 Panhandle Scoreboard			
Winning Team	Score	Losing Team	Score
Sidney	42	Gering	0
Scottsbluff	30	York	7
South Platte	61	Paxton	24
Minatare	60	Banner County	25
Southwest	21	Garden County	12
St. Paul	28	Bridgeport	18
Gothenburg	45	Mitchell	29
St. Mary's	48	Hay Springs	14
Maxwell	65	Hyannis	28
Chase County	21	Ogallala	20

← We noticed that the above results did not include the Chadron vs Valentine game, so we included it here. The Cardinals are among the panhandle’s undefeated teams.

Bearcats Trounce Lexington 59-6

Photos by Mike Burda



THE SUNDAY SCANNER

SCHOOL NEWS

Sioux County Public School News

- **Budget and Tax Hearing:** The Sioux County School Board held a Budget & Tax Resolution Hearing on Monday, September 14, 2026, to discuss the district's upcoming proposed budget.
- **Athletic Co-Op Success:** Following discussions earlier this year regarding an activities co-op with nearby Crawford, the combined Crawford/Sioux County volleyball team secured a 3-0 sweep against Kimball (25-20, 25-18, 25-18) on September 14, 2026.
- **Football Season Opener:** The Warriors' six-man football season opener on September 2, 2026, was cut short due to thunderstorms, resulting in a 49-6 win for Paxton after only two quarters of action.
- **Varsity Sports Cancellations:** Due to low participation numbers common in small D2 division districts, school officials previously announced that Sioux County High School will not field a varsity girls basketball team this year. Boys Football was also cancelled after an injury left the team short on numbers required to play.

Hay Springs Public School News

- Homeowners recently received bright pink "Notice of Proposed Tax Increase" postcards. District administration proactively addressed community concern by publishing a transparent budget breakdown. The total proposed property tax request is increasing from \$2.08M to \$2.23M (approx. 7.35%) to cover negotiated teacher compensation and inflationary costs. However, because district overall land valuation rose by 4.58%, the actual proposed General Fund tax rate remains nearly unchanged.
- The school board will address the property tax and budget updates during two public sessions. A Joint Tax Hearing will be held on Friday, September 18, 2026, at 7:00 PM at the Sheridan County Commissioner's Room, followed by the formal 2026-2027 Proposed Budget Hearing on Monday, September 21, 2026, at 7:00 PM in the school cafeteria.
- Following two tough losses to open the 2026 season, the Lady Hawks varsity volleyball team rallied with five consecutive wins against Crawford, Edgemont, Banner County, Garden County, and Wallace, improving their record to 5-2. They host a home triangular tonight (Tuesday, September 15, 2026) against Hyannis and Cody-Kilgore.
- The Hawks varsity football team has faced a brutal stretch against top-five ranked six-man opponents. Despite a massive game from senior Tripp Buettner—who rushed for 187 yards and three touchdowns—the Hawks fell to the #3 Wallace Wildcats 50-22 on September 3, followed by a 48-14 loss to Stuart on September 10.
- The town officially welcomed Sadie Coffey as the new Superintendent of Hay Springs Public Schools, bringing decades of Nebraska educational leadership experience to the district.
- The Hawks Esports team kicked off its fall season under Coach Taden Tobiasson using the new Nebraska State Esports Association management platform. Meanwhile, school officials are actively seeking applicants for junior high coaching positions (basketball and wrestling) and a route bus driver.

Crawford Public School News

- Crawford High School celebrated its 2026 Homecoming week from September 7-12, 2026. Festivities concluded with the annual homecoming dance and community events.
- The newly conjoined Crawford/Sioux County girls varsity volleyball team is off to a strong stretch. They swept Kimball 3-0 on September 14, 2026, following solid 2-1 wins earlier in the month against both Hemingford and Niobrara County (Lusk, WY).
- The Crawford Rams varsity boys football team has faced a tough start to their 2026 season. They suffered a 0-30 shutout against the Arthur County Wolves on September 11, 2026, following previous losses to Creek Valley and Leyton.
- The district recently welcomed Mr. Trace Trainor as the new Junior High Math Teacher and Co-Athletic Director. The administration is actively seeking additional para-educators and an esports coach to help grow their extracurricular programs.
- School pictures were scheduled for Tuesday, September 15, 2026. The district's next major scheduling disruption will be on Thursday, October 1, 2026, for parent-teacher conferences and early dismissal, followed by an educator professional development day (no school) on October 2, 2026.

Banner County School News

- The Banner County School Board held its official Budget and Tax Hearing Meeting Tuesday, September 15, 2026, at 7:00 PM, immediately followed by the regular monthly school board meeting.
- The district's 2026 Homecoming Week will take place from September 21-25, 2026. Themed "Rhythm of Rio," the week features daily spirit dress-up days, the school book fair, and parent-teacher conferences on September 23. Festivities culminate with an evening bonfire, food trucks, and a Friday day off (no school) on September 25.
- The Lady Wildcats varsity volleyball team earned a solid 2-0 sweep against Leyton (25-23, 25-15) on September 10, bouncing back from an earlier hard-fought 3-0 loss to Bayard.
- The six-man varsity football team has had a tough start to the fall stretch. Following a 68-24 loss to the Morrill Lions in their home opener, the Wildcats hit the road to play the Minatare Indians on September 10. They were prepared to face Sioux County on Friday, but their season has been cut short by injuries.
- The Wildcat high school cross country athletes traveled to Bridgeport today, September 15, 2026, to compete in the "Run at the Rocks" invitational at the Court House & Jail Rock Golf Course.

HighPlains
MARKET

THE SUNDAY SCANNER

AGRICULTURE



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The Harvest USA Report is a staple syndicated agricultural radio program and podcast delivering up-to-date harvest news.

First established in 1985 by the late Howard Hale, the show provides timely updates on crop conditions, yields, regional weather impacts, and custom harvesting operations across North America.

Today, the program is produced by Brian Hale under Hale Broadcasting and hosted by David L. Woodruff.

Annual Harvest Festival Moved to October 17

(GERING, Neb.) – The event is an opportunity to enjoy a rare glimpse of antique farm machinery in action demonstrating the hard work involved in the annual harvest at Legacy of the Plains Museum October 17, 2026.

This family-friendly event includes daily parades of horse-drawn equipment and tractors; food vendors; demonstrations of blacksmithing; and kids' activities, including a hay bale fort, pedal tractor course, a barrel train ride, and games.

Plus, you don't to miss the resident chickens, goats, and the museum's herd of Texas Longhorns.

NATIONAL FARM SAFETY WEEK

Farm life comes with plenty of rewards—but it also comes with plenty of things that deserve a second look.

National Farm Safety Week is a good reminder to slow down, pay attention and make sure everyone makes it home safely at the end of the day. From equipment and livestock to kids playing around the farm, a few extra minutes of caution can make a big difference.

And when you live and work in agriculture, home isn't just a house. It's a place, a piece of land and a way of life worth protecting.

That's something our friends at Simply Real Estate in Torrington understand. Here's to safe farms, safe families and the places we're proud to call home!



Area 1 Range Judging Contest Held

(SIDNEY, Neb.) – Students from across western Nebraska competed Sept. 15 in the Area 1 Range Judging Contest hosted by the South Platte Natural Resources District.

Range judging is a high school competition that teaches students to identify range plants and sites and understand proper grazing practices. Nebraska's rangelands make up about half of the state's land area.

In the junior division, Chadron High School placed first, followed by Hay Springs, Creek Valley and a second Chadron team.

Sidney won the senior division, followed by Hay Springs, Mitchell High School and Banner County.

The Mitchell senior team included Josie Weiss, Thane Williams, Madie May and Jarin Houk. Banner County was represented by Makynna Boettcher, Jackson Onstott, Shawnie Mason and Karyle Dittbenner.

Luke Olsen placed 10th and Ryder Loomis placed 16th in the junior individual competition. Josie Weiss of Mitchell placed 15th in the senior division.

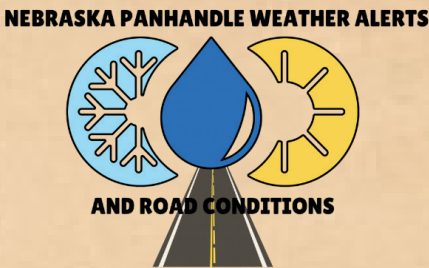
Students from Banner County, Mitchell, Bridgeport and Gering also participated in the contest. The annual competition is coordinated by Nebraska's natural resources districts in partnership with the Society for Range Management, Natural Resources Conservation Service and University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension.

The State Range Judging Contest is scheduled for Sept. 23 in Lincoln County.

THE SUNDAY SCANNER

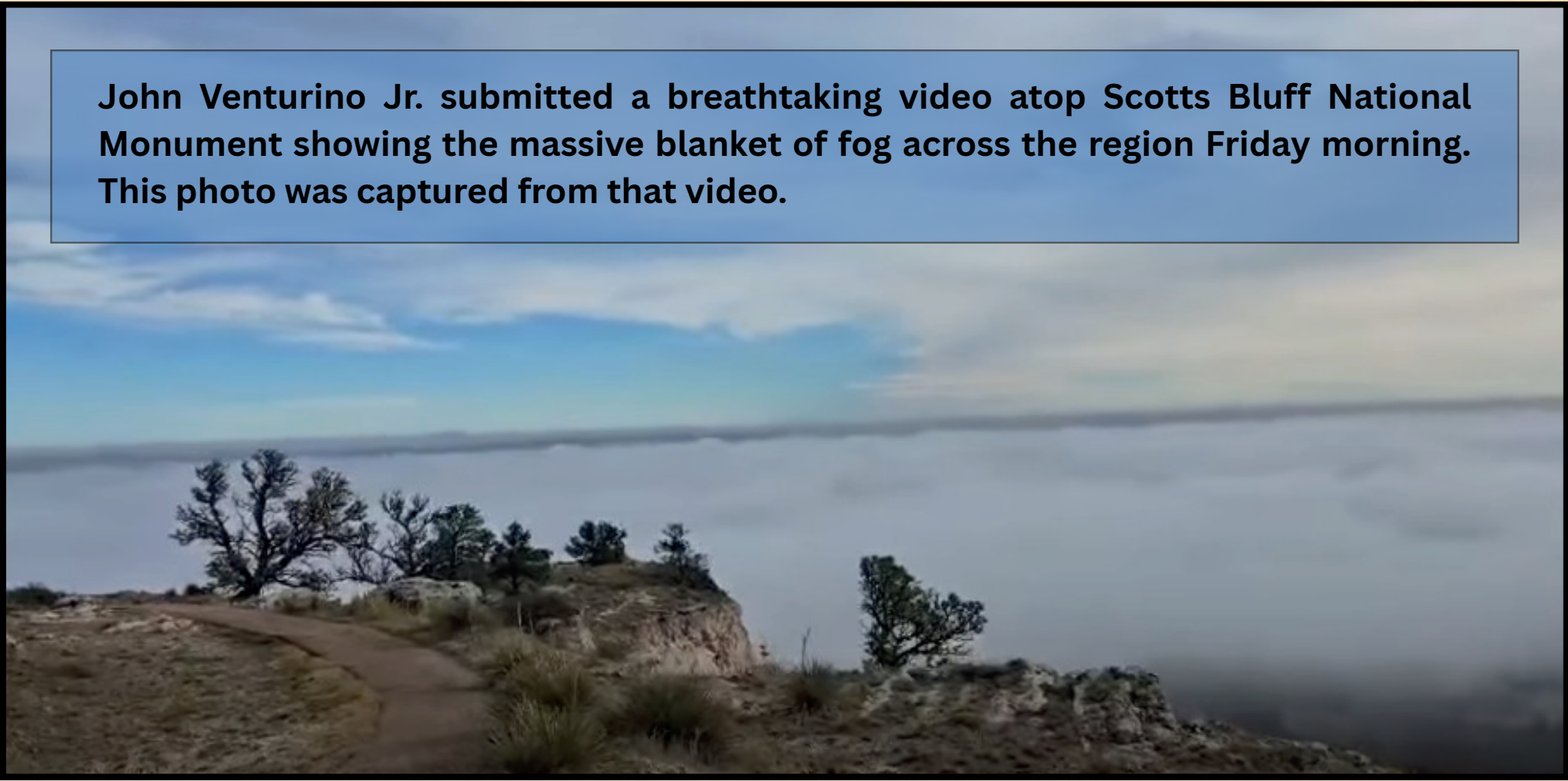


WEATHER



This Week in Weather Photos

John Venturino Jr. submitted a breathtaking video atop Scotts Bluff National Monument showing the massive blanket of fog across the region Friday morning. This photo was captured from that video.



While the fog in Scotts Bluff County caused a driving hazard, so did the rain Friday night in Sioux County. The Sheriff asked us to post a public service announcement that virtually all of Central and Northern Sioux County has County Roads that would likely be washed out in low spots. We warned people to use extreme caution or simply stay away.

Tip #2 - You're in Control of **Where** Your Vehicle Is Repaired

CONSUMER TIP #2

YOU HAVE THE
RIGHT TO CHOOSE

Your insurance provider may suggest a repair shop, but the final decision belongs to you.

Do you want a shop chosen for convenience—or one that prioritizes proper repairs, your safety, and long-term vehicle performance?

Choose a repair facility that follows manufacturer guidelines, uses quality parts, and stands behind its workmanship.

Keep in mind: It's your vehicle. It's your decision.

Weekly Outlook



The weather outlook for the Nebraska Panhandle from September 20–26, 2026, brings a transition from lingering early-week showers to a very stable, warm, and clear stretch.

- Sunday starts with some cloudy conditions and a lingering 55% chance of rain showers left over from the weekend, keeping daytime temperatures around 70°F.
- The sun breaks through completely by Monday, initiating a steady warming trend. Highs will lift to 74°F on Monday and 75°F on Tuesday under clear, beautiful blue skies.
- A dominant ridge of high pressure settles over western Nebraska for the remainder of the week. Expect highly consistent, qualitative sunny, dry, and clear conditions with seasonal afternoon highs peaking between 78°F and 79°F.
- Evening conditions will be crisp but comfortable, with low temperatures holding steady between 50°F and 56°F, making for excellent fall nights.



AFTER A STORM, CONTACT BUMPER BODY AND PAINT - SCOTTSBLUFF, NEBRASKA

THE SUNDAY SCANNER



BUILDING A STRONGER MIND



Understanding Bipolar Disorder

BIPOLAR DISORDER

MANIA (HIGHS)

- Increased energy or activity
- Racing thoughts or rapid speech
- Reduced need for sleep
- Impulsive or risky behavior
- Irritability

DEPRESSION (LOWS)

- Persistent sadness or empty mood
- Fatigue or low energy
- Changes in sleep or appetite
- Difficulty concentrating
- Feelings of hopelessness

Bipolar disorder is more than mood swings. It is a real mental health condition that affects energy, mood, and daily functioning.

Nearly five percent of American adults experience bipolar disorder at some time in their lives. According to Mental Health America, bipolar disorder is characterized by "extreme highs and lows in mood and energy" that can severely impact a person's life beyond the normal ups and downs we all experience. Symptoms of bipolar disorder typically begin in adolescence or early adulthood and continue throughout life. While there isn't a single cause for bipolar disorder, family history, traumatic life events and brain structure are all linked to the development of bipolar disorder.

The "extreme highs and lows" of bipolar disorder are marked by mania and hypomania (highs) and depression (lows). Bipolar disorder can be difficult to recognize and diagnose, often because its symptoms can appear to be a part of another illness or problem. Symptoms of mania and depression can include the following.

- Excessive energy, activity, restlessness, racing thoughts and rapid talking.
 - Extreme euphoric feelings—feeling on top of the world.
 - Being easily irritated or distracted.
 - Needing less sleep—going days with little or no sleep without feeling tired.
 - Exaggerated self-confidence or optimism and uncharacteristically poor judgment.
 - Unusual sex drive or substance use.
 - Provocative, intrusive or aggressive behavior.
 - Symptoms of psychosis, including paranoia and hallucinations.
- Persistent sad, anxious or empty mood.
 - Changes in sleep—getting too much or too little or waking up at odd hours.
 - Changes in appetite and weight.
 - Irritability and restlessness.
 - Difficulty concentrating, remembering or making decisions—interfering with work, school or life obligations.
 - Fatigue or loss of energy.
 - Persistent physical symptoms, like chronic pain or digestive issues.
 - Feeling guilty, hopeless or worthless.
 - Thoughts of death or suicide, including suicide attempts.

While bipolar disorder can be distressing and disruptive, it's treatable with a combination of therapy, medications, lifestyle changes and support from loved ones and communities, and recovery is possible. Many people living with bipolar disorder live full, stable lives with the right treatment and support. Your patience, love and understanding can play an important role in your loved one's recovery journey.

THE SUNDAY SCANNER**BUSINESS NEWS****Camp Heirloom Takes a Direct Hit**

(GERING, Neb.) – Over 100 vendors and countless visitors to the Five Rocks Amphitheater were enjoying a beautiful day when the infamous afternoon Nebraska thunderstorms arrived at the Heirloom Market on Friday.

Panhandle Scanner's 1st Quarter Favorite Local Small Business 2026, Cornerstone Coffee, as well as our 3rd Quarter Favorite for 2025, Kiowa Honey Company, and our 4th Quarter 2024's Happy Dackle were all in attendance as vendors and wrote about the sudden destruction by the wind and rain.



Photo by Kiowa Honey

Kiowa Honey Company wrote, "a few vendors really need some extra support from ya'll!"

"The storm hit some worse than others and there were some losses, we are thankful no one was hurt (to our knowledge)," she wrote.

Carissa continued, "It's so heartbreaking to watch vendors travel far, invest so much, work so hard for so long and then, essentially, on payday, lose it all. Nebraska weather is not for the faint of heart."

That being said, The Heirloom Market staff and other vendors were incredible in notifying and helping the vendors pick up the pieces so that the event could continue on Saturday, according to Kiowa Honey Company's Carissa Prieto.

Cornerstone Coffee offered vendors affected by the storm or anyone helping with cleanup a free drink on Saturday morning.

"We're so sorry this happened. It is incredible to see all the hands helping out. This is such an amazing community."

Cornerstone's setup was not affected by the wind and rain, but some of our friends at the Heirloom Market lost a significant amount of product, they said.



Photo by Sydni Closson

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Making Memories

I'm stuck in the middle, with my crew... after 10 Years, I've only dreamt of building a team of women so fierce that not even a literal storm could take us out! Each of my Camp Counselors brings unique talent and creativity to this market, but most of all, a strong belief in the Camp Heirloom community. Thanks for making this the best one yet! - Camp Director, Tonia



"The memories I hold are heavy with emotions but still so much happiness, and if you see me this year, don't mind the tears- I promise they are filled with joy.

At this market, we want to give back to the community that has shown us so much love and support." - Tonia



THE SUNDAY SCANNER



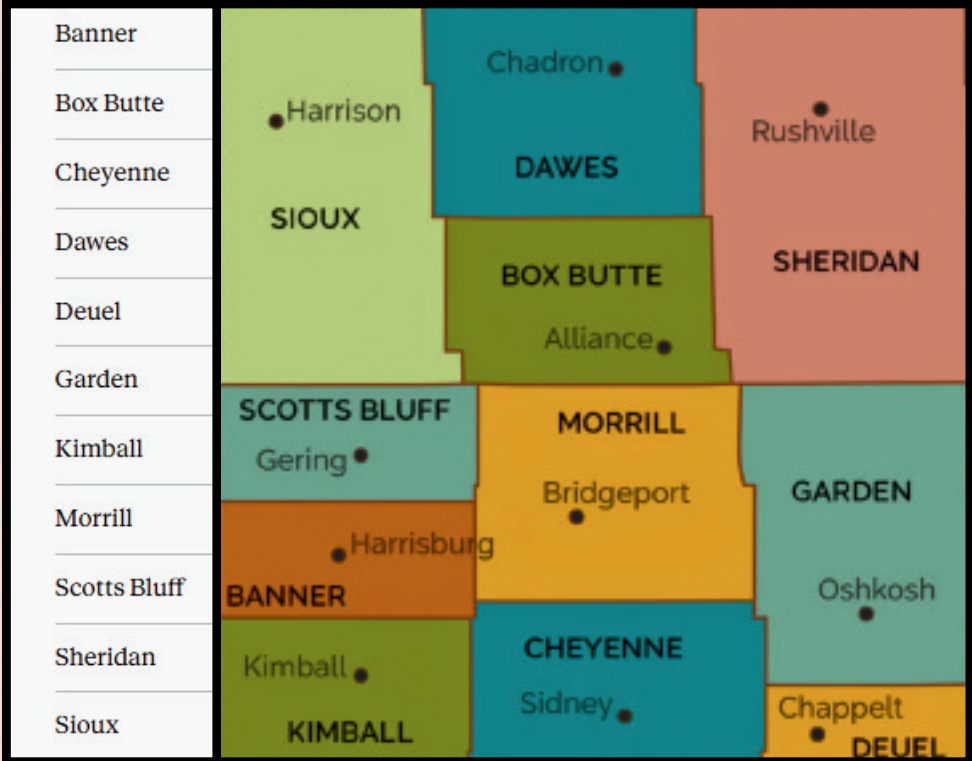
SCANNER TRAFFIC & MORE



Our Coverage Area

If you are located in this 11 County area, we welcome your local news for consideration in our publication.

email sbcoscanner@gmail.com



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ADYN FLORES - CONTRIBUTOR

Who's Behind Panhandle Scanner?

(WICHITA FALLS, Texas) – When you ask A.I. this question, the reply is, “Brian Hale and his media company, Hale Multimedia, lead Panhandle Scanner from their home offices in Texas, utilizing a large group of volunteers in and around the panhandle, maintaining the most followed news service in western Nebraska since 2024.”

- Brian Hale hosts the daily news and is Chief Editor for all news platforms
- Andi Hale authors the news page, maintains the public record, books and asst editor
- Brayden Hale - asst editor, streaming radio station manager at ScannerFM.net
- Arianna Hale - graphics designer, analytics and elections monitor
- Tim Mendez - primary admin for multiple scanner pages
- Raul Fernandez - maverick freelance court reporter for Panhandle Scanner
- Aydyn Flores, Briley Darley, and Cody Martin are valued contributors
- Scanner Insiders are a community group of 1,500+ people that send in local tips
- Board of Directors: This group helps keep the team accountable to the truth

Hale Multimedia handles all official business agreements and advertising contracts.

Andi Hale maintains a **Public Record** repository tracking jail rosters, court cases, and most wanted lists across 20+ counties statewide in Nebraska, every Monday-Friday.

Additional Facebook Pages Owned by Hale Multimedia LLC;

- Greater Nebraska Scanner** covering Nebraska from Ogallala to Omaha
- Southeast Wyoming Scanner** covering Goshen, Platte, & Laramie Counties
- Texoma Scanner News** covering Wichita Falls Texas and surrounding areas
- Box Butte County Scanner** (will be merging with Panhandle Scanner)
- Cheyenne County Scanner** (will be merging with Panhandle Scanner)
- Dawes County Scanner** (will be merging with Panhandle Scanner)
- Scanner FM Radio**, 24/7 Streaming Radio Station for Panhandle Scanner
- Digging Deeper Podcasts**, bringing all 10+ Podcasts under one roof
- Elevate Your Day**, morning show with Andi and Brian Hale
- Digging Deeper TV**, custom built CDN (content delivery network)



In Other Scanner Traffic...

Listen to Scanner Traffic - www.panhandlescanner.com/listen

Scanner Traffic is provided by Hale Multimedia LLC, Streaming by Broadcastify

Rollover Investigation - Sep 13
(MORRILL COUNTY, Neb.) – A rollover was reporter on Hwy 385 near mile market 93 with the Nebraska State Patrol & Morrill County on scene.

Morrill Gas Line Hit - Sep 14
(MORRILL, Neb.) -- A construction company hit a gas line in the alley behind 110 Jirdon Avenue and were asked to evacuate the immediate area.

Stegall Road Call - Sep 17
(Stegall, Wyo.) – Scanner traffic indicated a medical emergency on Stegall Road with a male who was passed out, but came to on-scene and refused medical treatment. They reportedly sought medical attention by personal vehicle.

Possible Impaired Driver - Sep 15
(SCOTTSBUFF, Neb.) – According to scanner traffic, a 10-59 (attn all units) 10-74 (be on the lookout) for a black Ram 1500 with SD plates traveling South on 385. Female possible under the influence of drugs travelling with a 14 year old.

Scanner Traffic is ever evolving and not meant to be the final story, and seldom is. We report what comes across traffic verbatim whenever possible.