

*CBS Mornings*

10/06/26

7:10:11 a.m.

3 minutes and 13 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Trump Suggests Iran “Take Out” L.A. & San Diego]

NORAH O’DONNELL: Four weeks before the midterm elections, President Trump is campaigning hard for Republicans but it is his comments in Nebraska suggesting a foreign adversary should take out two big, Democratic-run cities that are making national headlines. There’s also a lot of attention on Kansas. Remember, Kansas was a Republican stronghold that’s become a surprise Senate battleground. That’s why Caitlin Huey-Burns is there. Caitlin, good morning.

CAITLIN HUEY-BURNS: Hey, good morning, Norah. I gotta say I never expected to find myself in ruby-red Kansas a month before election day, but this really is a sleeper. Polling shows a dead-race — dead-heat race here. Meanwhile, President Trump is out on the campaign trail in red states and he’s drawing some criticism for comments he made last night just up in Nebraska.

PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP: I want to a tremendous victory. You want to see a tremendous victory because it verifies all of the things we did.

HUEY-BURNS: At a late-night rally in Nebraska, President Trump appeared to suggest Iran should take out two California cities —

TRUMP: Remember, with the words just “artificial,” it is a little bit high. It’s a small price to pay for keeping the world safe, keeping our country safe. They could take out a city, let ‘em take — let it — let ‘em out Los Angeles, let ‘em take out San Diego.

HUEY-BURNS: — drawing sharp criticism from California governor Gavin Newsom, who called Trump’s comments “deranged and dangerous.” Nebraska is the latest stop on the red state tour for the President, trying to shore up his base amid sagging poll numbers. Meanwhile, another reliably red state is shaping up to be the surprise of the cycle. Kansas voted for Trump three times and hasn’t elected a Democrat to the Senate since 1932, so ordinarily, Democrats here wouldn’t have a prayer.

ADAM HAMILTON: It’s great to have a chance to preach today.

HUEY-BURNS: But now they think they do in the form of reverend Adam Hamilton, founding pastor of the largest United Methodist Church in the country, who is taking on Republican Senator Roger Marshall. [TO HAMILTON] What do you think is different this time around?

HAMILTON: Again, I think people are very frustrated with the decisions made in Washington that are harming people in Kansas.

HUEY-BURNS: Senator Marshall, an ob/gyn, won the seat handily in 2020, but now, he's battling against rising gas diesel prices along with the President's decision to increase beef imports to lower prices, which has worried ranchers in Kansas. Hamilton is making a play for disaffected Republicans like Daryl Potts. He and his wife Tammy, a Democrat, say they're voting for the pastor.

DARRYL POTTS: I don't know what is going to happen with the economy, and it's chaos.

TAMMY POTTS: I mean, the price of beef is outrageous, and when I talk to the farmers, they keep telling me the high cost of diesel. I don't think the farmers in Kansas are even being acknowledged.

HUEY-BURNS: Now, we did reach out to the Marshall campaign, and he hasn't been available for interviews just yet. Meanwhile, President Trump is expected to be out on the campaign trail nearly every day until Election Day, and Democrats, they're going to be bringing out their heavy heater — heavy hitter: Former President Obama is expected to go to Michigan later this month, Gayle.

GAYLE KING: Caitlin, some people say he's a heavy heater too, so we get it. [BURLESON AND O'DONNELL LAUGH] Caitlin, thank you so much.