

Weather Brings A Little Relief For S.D. Farmers

SIoux FALLS (AP) — Precipitation and cooler temperatures have brought some relief to South Dakota farmers, as many began cutting recently released CRP acres for hay this past week.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture says in its weekly crop and weather report that temperatures were below average over much of the state for the first time since early June. Precipitation was fairly widespread, but generally light.

Topsoil moisture was rated at 13 percent adequate, 36 percent short and 51 percent very short.

About 77 percent of corn has reached the dough stage, compared to 22 percent last year and 27 percent for the five year average. Barley is 95 percent harvested.

Cattle conditions improved slightly with 69 percent rated in the good to excellent range, 27 percent fair, and 4 percent poor.

Nebraska Crops Continue To Decline

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Nebraska's corn crop is still declining as the dry weather continues to plague key farm states.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture says in Monday's weekly report that the state saw some milder temperatures last week, but rain was spotty. The USDA says only 31 percent of the corn is in good or excellent condition. A year ago, it was 76 percent.

Damaged cornfields are being chopped for silage or baled, while a few fields in southeast Nebraska are being harvested.

Soybeans are rated 18 percent in good or excellent condition. That's well below last year's 78 percent.

The USDA says most of Nebraska's pasture and range land is in poor or very poor condition.

Two Omaha Banks Robbed Minutes Apart

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — Omaha police are investigating two bank robberies that happened minutes apart.

Authorities say a man wearing a ski mask and armed with a gun robbed a First National Bank branch about 10 a.m. on Monday. He demanded cash and fled on foot.

About 15 minutes later, a man robbed a Wells Fargo bank a few blocks away. Police say he didn't show a weapon.

A man matching the robber's description in the Wells Fargo holdup was taken into custody. Police say 48-year-old Jesus Robles, of Omaha, was arrested for robbery, obstructing a police officer and resisting arrest. Robles' case is not on the online court system and it's unclear if he has an attorney.

Police don't believe the robberies are connected.

Mission Man Sentenced For Role In Death

SIoux FALLS (AP) — U.S. Attorney Brendan Johnson says a 19-year-old Mission man has been sentenced to more than 14 years in prison for his role in the beating death of a man with a baseball bat.

Jason DeSersa was sentenced on Monday after pleading guilty in May to voluntary manslaughter.

The conviction stems from an October incident in which DeSersa hit the victim, knocking him to the ground. Prosecutors say that while the victim was on the ground, DeSersa and others struck him several times, including with a baseball bat. The victim died as a result of the injuries.

Texting Driver Pleads Not Guilty In Death

SIoux FALLS (AP) — A 21-year-old man accused of fatally injuring a motorcyclist while he was speeding and texting has pleaded not guilty to manslaughter charges.

Brent O'Neal was indicted by a grand jury last week on the traffic violations and on alternate counts of first- and second-degree manslaughter for the collision that killed 33-year-old Philip Sorensen.

The *Argus Leader* reports that O'Neal pleaded not guilty Monday to all counts.

Police say O'Neal was texting and driving nearly 60 miles per hour on July 25 when he lost control and struck two cars, pushing one of them into the back of a third vehicle. Prosecutors say he struck Sorensen's motorcycle and tried to run away.

In Iowa, Obama Reaches Out To Omaha

BY GRANT SCHULTE
Associated Press



Obama

COUNCIL BLUFFS, Iowa — Omaha was on President Barack Obama's mind Monday, when he gave a shout-out to the city that went for him in 2008 during a speech in neighboring Iowa.

Many in the audience of roughly 4,000 at a downtown park in Council Bluffs were clearly from the Omaha area, which went for the Democrat four years ago and gave him one of the Republican-leaning state's five Electoral College votes. Speaking in Council Bluffs, Obama was able to appeal to those voters again while seeking support in up-for-grabs Iowa.

"This is important for Council Bluffs and Omaha," Obama said as he described his plans for the country.

In most states, Electoral College votes are winner-take-all. Nebraska and Maine are the only ones that award them by congressional district. It usually isn't an issue in conservative Nebraska, but the Obama campaign worked hard in 2008 to organize supporters and score a victory.

Repeating that achievement this year could be difficult, however. The Legislature reduced the number of Democrats in the 2nd District as part of the redrawing of district boundaries fol-

lowing each census. And some Nebraska Democrats said the Obama campaign hasn't worked as hard to mobilize voters this year.

"They're not doing anything in the second congressional district," U.S. Senate candidate Bob Kerrey said at a news conference last week. "It's a very secretive operation if they have one. I haven't seen it."

Some of those at the rally said they remained optimistic about Obama's chances in the 2nd District.

"I still think everybody's fired up about being the 'blue dot city,'" said Jim Cavanaugh, of Omaha, referring to the city's nickname after Obama's 2008 win. "We're lucky to be this close to a battleground state. We get the benefit of being in play, where Nebraska is pretty much ignored."

But Cavanaugh said even in Omaha, voters have grown impatient with the still sputtering national economy.

"It's all about the economy and jobs," he said. "Turning the economy around is a huge job. It seems the worst is behind us, and that gives peo-

ple hope that over the next four years, we can get back to prosperity."

David Zellmer, an Omaha resident who voted for Obama in 2008, said Nebraska's 3.8 percent unemployment rate, the nation's second lowest, gave him some hope Obama would score an other upset.

"I don't know that he's lost any support," Zellmer said.

As people waited in a line that snaked for blocks through downtown Council Bluffs, Obama campaign volunteers urged them to vote early by mail.

Nebraska Democratic Party executive director Jim Rogers said Obama still has an "extremely good" chance of winning in the 2nd District, citing interest in the Council Bluffs event.

Other Obama supporters from Omaha weren't as optimistic.

"I don't think he can get Omaha again," said Megan Dakin, as she waited in a line that snaked down a dozen blocks. "I just feel like the atmosphere in Omaha is more like it used to be. People don't seem to be as fired up about it. I don't think voting will be as high as it was. I'd love it if he got Omaha again, but I don't see it happening."

USDA: Rain, Cooler Weather Helping Corn, Soybeans

BY DAVID PITT
Associated Press

DES MOINES, Iowa — Cooler weather and rain in the middle of the country have slowed the deterioration of the nation's corn and soybean crops, but experts said the drought isn't over and the recent respite won't make much of a difference.

The weekly crop condition report released Monday by the U.S. Department of Agriculture rated the corn and soybean almost the same as the week before and marked the first time months that the news wasn't significantly worse.

In the 18 states that grow most of the nation's corn, the USDA rated 51 percent of the crop as poor or very poor last week. A week earlier, it was 50 percent.

Twenty-six percent of the corn was rated fair, compared with 27 percent a week earlier. Twenty-three percent remained rated good or excellent.

Greg Thessen, director of the Iowa field office for the USDA's National Agriculture Statistics Service, said the rain and cooler temperatures had helped in some cases. In others, the corn hadn't gotten worse because it was already in bad shape.

"Some of those fields that were

going to be good will be good now until harvest," Thessen said. "For others, there's not a lot further down it could go."

Some farmers are expected to harvest earlier than usual this year because a warm spring allowed them to plant earlier. Some in Iowa, Illinois and Indiana could begin harvesting in two weeks.

The USDA predicted the nation's biggest harvest ever in the spring, when farmers planted 96.4 million acres of corn — the most since 1937. But it cut its estimate a month ago and again Friday, saying it now expects the nation to produce 10.8 billion bushels, the least since 2006.

The USDA's latest estimate predicts corn farmers nationally will average 123.4 bushels per acre, down 24 bushels from last year, and the lowest average yield in 17 years.

In Iowa, the nation's leading corn producer, the USDA estimated Monday that yield will drop to 141 bushels per acre from 172 bushels last year. Iowa farmers are expected to bring in 1.92 billion bushels, 19 percent less than last year.

The nation's soybean crop also remained mostly stable last week, with 38 percent rated poor or very poor, compared with 39 percent the week before. Thirty-two percent remained in fair condition. Thirty percent was good or excel-

lent, in a slight improvement from 29 percent the prior week.

Cooler, wetter weather could help soybean plants grow larger beans in the pods, but it's too late in the season for plants to produce more pods, Thessen said.

"If we keep close to normal tem-

peratures and get some rain, it probably would have a little impact on soybeans," he said, "but how much is yet to be determined."

And, he cautioned, "the drought's certainly not over."

Get Your Support From Roger's...

Has your doctor ordered you to wear support hose? Then your first stop should be Roger's Family Pharmacy for Jobst Stockings. We will get you measured for the correct fit and have them within 24 hours.

For the support you need call...



ROGER'S FAMILY PHARMACY
"A tradition of trust"

218 West 4th Street • Yankton, SD 57078 • (605) 665-8042



You are invited!

Enjoy over 65 displays of art in the Services Center Federal Credit Union lobby during our regular business hours. 26 local artists from South Dakota and the Midwest proudly show off their original pieces!

We encourage you to stop out!

Services Center Federal Credit Union...It's Where You Belong!

Yankton • 609 W. 21st St.

ON DISPLAY NOW THROUGH RIVERBOAT DAYS



Announcing...**Yankton Citywide Rummage**

SEPTEMBER 6th-9th

Ask About Our On-line Rummage Map!

Stop By The Press & Dakotan To Place Your Ad OR Place It On-line At www.yankton.net! \$27.00 prepaid

(10¢ per word over 30 words)

Includes:

- Your ad (30 words, 1 address per ad) placed in the special Citywide Rummage Sale section published along with the P&D Locator Map on Wednesday, Sept. 5th & Friday, Sept. 7th
- Your ad will also appear on-line at www.yankton.net
- Garage Sale Kit: 2 Yard Signs with Stickers & Balloons

DEADLINE: Friday, Aug. 31st

sponsored by the: **PRESS&DAKOTAN**

WE BUY GOLD

TOP DOLLAR PAID ON THE SPOT







GOLD • SILVER • PLATINUM • COINS
ESTATE JEWELRY

IT'S SO EASY TO CONVERT YOUR UNWANTED GOLD & SILVER JEWELRY AND OTHER GOLD ITEMS INTO QUICK CASH. STOP IN TODAY AND WE'LL APPRAISE AND BUY YOUR ITEMS ON THE SPOT.

Summer Hours:
Wed-Thurs- Fri • 10:00am-5:30pm
Saturday • 10:00am-4:30pm
or by appointment

LOCAL DEALER.

2901 Broadway, Suite E
Next to Sears
Yankton, SD 57078
605-260-4653
www.midwestgold-silver.com

