

USDA: SD Corn Crop To Be 37% Larger

SIOUX FALLS (AP) — The U.S. Department of Agriculture is forecasting South Dakota's 2013 corn crop to be 37 percent above last year's crop.

The department in its production report forecasts the crop, based on Aug. 1 conditions, to be 731 million bushels. Acreage harvested for grain is estimated at 5.3 million acres, unchanged from a year ago, and average yield is forecast at 138 bushels per acre, up 37 bushels from last year.

Soybean production is forecast to be 167 bushels, up 18 percent from last year.

South Dakota's 2013 winter wheat crop is forecast at 25.4 million bushels, unchanged from last month's forecast but down 58 percent from last year's crop. Average yield is forecast at 39 bushels per acre, unchanged from last month but down 11 bushels from last year.

Warmer Temps Needed For SD Crops

SIOUX FALLS (AP) — The U.S. Department of Agriculture says warmer temperatures are needed to advance crop development in South Dakota.

The USDA in its weekly crop report says that winter wheat is 73 percent harvested, behind the 93 percent average and last year's completion by this date.

Spring wheat is 21 percent harvested, well behind the 99 percent last year and 61 percent average. The condition is rated 2 percent very poor, 17 percent poor, 40 percent fair, 36 percent good and 5 percent excellent.

South Dakota saw precipitation across the western and southern parts of the state, and topsoil moisture supplies are rated 3 percent very short, 28 percent short, 65 percent adequate and 4 percent surplus.

There were 5.3 days for fieldwork.

Pasture and range conditions are mostly fair and good.

Police Identify 1 Of 2 Homicide Victims

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — Authorities have released the name of one of two men whose bodies were found inside a pickup near a city pool in southeast Omaha.

He was identified as 29-year-old Jorge Cajiga-Ruiz, of Omaha. Investigators are still trying to identify the other victim.

A police officer found the truck and then the bodies inside it near Spring Lake Park pool while on patrol just before 5 a.m. Sunday.

Police say the deaths are being investigated as homicides but have not said how the men died. No arrests have been reported.

Fatalities Down At Sturgis Rally In 2013

STURGIS (AP) — More accidents caused injuries but there were fewer fatalities during this year's Sturgis Motorcycle Rally in western South Dakota.

The Highway Patrol's final count showed 69 accidents caused injuries during the weeklong rally, up from 50 last year. Six people died in crashes in the Sturgis and Rapid City areas, down from nine in 2012.

The number of drunken driving arrests during this year's rally was about the same — 255 compared to 251 last year. There were 275 misdemeanor and felony drug arrests, up from 219 a year ago.

The increases likely are due to more people at this year's rally, Highway Patrol Capt. Kevin Karley told KNBN-TV. Final crowd numbers won't be available until later in the week, but "we can see the traffic is up this year," he said.

Businesses in the region are expecting that final tallies will show a profitable week, Jody Sperlich, director of operations at the Rapid City Visitors Bureau, told KNBN.

"They're really feeling that their numbers are going to be up over last year," she said of shops and hotels. "The state uses a figure of about \$243 per day, is what visitors coming into South Dakota spend per day. So that's an awfully big economic impact to the state and our community."

Next year's rally is scheduled for Aug. 4-10.

Hog-Slaughter Dispute Ends In Shooting

GRAND ISLAND, Neb. (AP) — Police say an argument that broke out while a group of men were slaughtering hogs ended with a Grand Island man being shot in the leg.

The *Grand Island Independent* reports police were called to a disturbance Saturday evening and found 43-year-old Michel Garcia-Rivera with what appeared to be a cut to his leg.

The Grand Island man was taken to a hospital and the wound was found to have been caused by a gunshot.

Police charged 35-year-old Louis Motola Palaco with second-degree assault and using a weapon to commit a felony. He was held in the Hall County Jail.

Capt. Dean Elliot says the shooting occurred when an argument broke out while a group of men were slaughtering hogs, but he didn't offer further details.*

Passenger Killed In Grand Island Crash

GRAND ISLAND, Neb. (AP) — Authorities say a 33-year-old woman died after a car she was in rammed a tree in western Grand Island.

The *Grand Island Independent* says the accident occurred a little before 1:30 a.m. Sunday.

Grand Island Police Sgt. Todd Dvorak says the car was headed east on West Old Highway 30 when it left the roadway, went into a ditch and struck the tree.

The woman, who was a passenger in the car, was identified as Jamie Sandante, of Grand Island. She was declared dead at the scene.

The driver was identified as 29-year-old Johnny Alvarez. He was flown to a Lincoln hospital and was in serious condition Monday.

Man Shot By Deputy In York

YORK, Neb. (AP) — A 26-year man wounded in an exchange of gunfire with a deputy sheriff is expected to recover after surgery, the York County sheriff said Monday.

Max McCall was hit twice during the shooting early Sunday morning. Sheriff Dale Radcliff said McCall, of York, had surgery later in the day.

"I believe this is the first officer-related shooting we've had at the York County Sheriff's Department," Radcliff told the *York News-Times*. "Well, at least as long as I've been here. And that's been a very long time."

The deputy's name hasn't been released. He was not injured.

Radcliff said the deputy was responding to a call about McCall threatening a relative at a rural residence when the deputy spotted McCall's vehicle and gave chase when McCall didn't stop. The chased ended quickly when McCall's vehicle went into a ditch on the southwest side of town.

Pine Ridge Mulls Alcohol Sales

Tribe Votes Today On Ending 'Dry' Status

BY CARSON WALKER

Associated Press

PINE RIDGE — Jobs and confidence are in short supply on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, where the rugged beauty of South Dakota's Badlands contrasts sharply with dilapidated houses, rusted-out vehicles and trash in the streets — symbols of troubles blamed largely on bootlegged alcohol from a tiny Nebraska town.

Members of the Oglala Sioux Tribe head to the polls Tuesday to decide whether to give up the fight against bootlegging by allowing alcohol to be sold on the reservation — the last place in the state's American Indian territory where it's not allowed. Profits would be used for education, detoxification and treatment centers, for which there is currently little to no funding.

"Alcohol is here. They're kidding themselves if they think we're a dry reservation," said Larry Eagle Bull, one of nine council members who supported the vote, himself a recovering alcoholic. "Prohibition is not working. Alcohol is going to stay. We need to get our people educated about it."

Critics say legalization would only exacerbate the reservation's troubles. Alcohol is blamed for some of the highest rates of domestic abuse, suicide, infant mortality, unemployment and violent crime in Indian Country.

Both sides in the debate agree something must be done to limit the scourge of alcohol on the Lakota people. They also share a goal of putting out of business the

current main suppliers of booze for tribal members — four stores in Whiteclay, Neb., two miles south of Pine Ridge, that sell millions of cans of beer a year.

Many tribal members live on Whiteclay's barren streets to avoid arrest on the reservation for being drunk. Some people try to barter vegetables, electronics and other things for alcohol. One man recently had a store clerk repeatedly try to run through a sale for a couple of bottles on his debit card, but the transaction was rejected due to insufficient funds.

The stores have posted fliers urging customers to contact their tribal council representative if they don't want the businesses to close.

Owners didn't want to comment on Tuesday's vote, though Stuart Kozal, co-owner of the Jumping Eagle, said tribal members seem to be evenly divided.

"I think the vote, one way or the other, is going to be close," he said.

Aloysius White Dress, one of Whiteclay's homeless, said even though he drinks alcohol, he opposes legalization because of the damage it has done.

"There's too much drunks on the reservation," he said. "People are miserable on the reservation."

Federal law bans the sale of alcohol on Native American reservations unless the tribal council allows it. Pine Ridge, the only dry reservation in South Dakota, legalized alcohol for two months in 1970s, but the ban was quickly restored. An attempt to lift prohibition in 2004 also failed.

Opponents of the latest effort, including tribal president Bryan Brewer, believe

a vote in favor of legal sales is a vote for alcoholism, and the problem only will get worse, not better.

"It's destroying our families and children," he said. "It's affected every family on the reservation. If it's legal, I anticipate the use will go up. Abuse of women and children will go up. A lot of people are saying we'll have all this money for treatment, and that's not true."

Most profits from alcohol sales would go to the distributors, Brewer said. The tribe, ultimately, would have very little left to fund meaningful treatment and education, he said.

A 14-page tribal council draft of the law offers no specifics about funding or required qualifications for the people who would run the operation. The proposed law calls for a new department and a full-time director to administer and enforce the law. A new commission comprised of nine members, one from each reservation district, also would be created to guide the director, buy the alcohol, open and operate the liquor stores, hire employees and investigate violations.

Brewer said there are problems with the document that need to be resolved if Tuesday's vote succeeds. Eagle Bull acknowledged it would be amended and a hearty debate would follow legalization before any law takes effect.

The council's plan calls for two detoxification facilities, one in the eastern part of the reservation and one in the west, and treatment and counseling programs for adults, youth and families.

Tribal members would lead the effort, Eagle Bull said.

"They'd rather hear it from one of their own who has dealt with the effects of alcohol," he said.

Nebraska

Heineman Establishing Judicial Legacy

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Gov. Dave Heineman's judicial legacy includes the appointment of 60 of the state's 145 judges, and all but four were Republicans.

When he leaves office more than 16 months from now, Heineman will have served 10 years because he served the remainder of then-Gov. Mike Johanns' term when Johanns became U.S. agriculture secretary in 2005.

And through all of those years and appointments, the Republican Heineman said he's not been interested in a candidate's party affiliation.

"I don't ask them what their party is. I'm more interested in their philosophy," the governor said. "I'm looking for a common-sense Nebraska conservative who recognizes that the Legislature and the governor set the law, and the judicial branch is there to interpret it. They're not there to make law."



Heineman

Former governor Ben Nelson, a Democrat, also told the *Lincoln Journal Star* that political affiliation didn't figure into his judicial selections

and that he, too, wished to avoid judges who wanted to make law.

"I was a stickler about that," Nelson said. "If I thought somebody was going to become a judicial activist, I wouldn't appoint them."

But Vince Powers, chairman of the state Democratic Party, said lawyers know that if they and the gover-

nors are in different political parties, the lawyers need not waste their time applying for judgeships.

University of Nebraska-Lincoln law professor John Lenich said that while Nebraska governors may well favor candidates of like political minds, over the years the governors also seem to have cared about selecting qualified jurists.

"You don't see ... the overt politicization of the judiciary in the state of Nebraska," Lenich said. "I'd find it hard to point to anybody and say the only reason they are there is because they gave money or they knew somebody."

The governors have weighed heavily the candi-

dates' credentials and recommendations by the state's judicial nominating commissions.

Nebraska and a dozen other state use systems in which potential judges are screened by judicial nominating commissions, which forward names to the governors for their selections.

"It eliminates the campaigning," Powers said. "The people who get their name passed along are qualified. It's a good system. I can't think of a better one."

Once appointed, Nebraska judges face retention votes every six years. State Supreme Court judges face retention votes three years after being appointed and every six years after that.

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Tuesday, August 13
7:40 am The Center (Christy Hauer)
8:20 am YHS Principal (Jennifer Johnke)
8:45 am Dakota Museum (Crystal Nelson)
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7:40 am YC Observer (Kathy Church, Kristy Wyland)
8:20 am Hy-Vee Foods (Chef Staci)

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