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MOVIE SCHEDULE AUG 9-15	WE'RE THE MILLERS (R)	12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:00, 9:30
	PERCY JACKSON: Sea of Monsters 2D (PG)	12:15, 2:30, 7:10
	PERCY JACKSON: Sea of Monsters 3D (PG)	4:45, 9:25
	PLANES (PG)	12:15, 2:25, 4:35, 7:15, 9:15
	SMURFS 2D (PG)	12:20, 2:30, 4:40, 7:10
	SMURFS 3D (PG)	9:20
	CONJURING (R)	1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:25

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- Seniors 62+, always \$6
- Additional \$2.25 for 3D

Farmland value up in Upper Midwest

Associated Press
GRAND FORKS — Drought that devastated crops and pastures in much of the Upper Midwest last year didn't stop the price of farmland from shooting higher, especially in North Dakota.

The average price of an acre of North Dakota cropland has risen nearly 42 percent over the year, to

\$1,910, according to the National Agricultural Statistics Service, an arm of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

The value rose 20 percent in Minnesota to \$4,850 per acre, and 30 percent in South Dakota to \$3,020 per acre. The increase nationally was 13 percent. The report is based on a survey of farmers in the first two weeks of June.

Though drought in 2012 hurt production, it also caused the price of crops such as corn to rise, encouraging farmers to pay more for land to grow the crop, North Dakota State University Extension Service farm management specialist Dwight Aakre told the Grand Forks Herald (<http://bit.ly/167G0dd>).

Low interest rates, which re-

duce the appeal of competing investments such as CDs, also have contributed to rising land prices, though to a lesser extent than the high crop prices, he said.

But crop prices are slumping, and buying land is becoming less attractive, according to Aakre.

"I think land prices have peaked," he said.

The Agriculture Department

survey also found substantial increases in the value of pastures in the three states. High crop prices have encouraged some producers to begin raising crops on land that once was left as pasture. That reduces the supply of pasture and drives up its price.

Nationally, the average value of pasture rose 4 percent over the year to \$1,200 per acre.



Rian Bosse/Daily Journal

Charles Piekarski holds an ear of corn from a healthy stretch of plants. Most corn in the area is pollenated but has fallen behind the rest of the state due to dry conditions in the county.

Corn: More rain needed to recover from late spring

From Page 1

Since he's been in the field this season, his crops have received around 12 inches of rain. Farmers will usually get around 16 to 17 inches by this time. While he uses on an irrigation system, it's not enough to rely on.

"There are cracks in the ground you can't believe," Piekarski said. "The corn wants to grow, but there simply isn't enough water."

Around the rest of the state, cooler weather has meant farmers have not needed as much water to get their crops growing. After a late spring full of wet, cold weather delayed planting, the rest of the state's farmers have caught

up. The U.S. Department of Agriculture projects that the state's harvest will be the second largest in its history, according to the Star Tribune.

In Otter Tail County, however, there hasn't been enough water to fully recover from the spring. Piekarski said he is uncertain what that will mean for the final crop, but the weather in the next few weeks will be a deciding factor.

"To think about a yield is just hard, but without rain it's certainly going to go down," Piekarski said. "The next six weeks are certainly going to be important."

One issue farmers are worried about in that

stretch of time, especially with cool weather, is frost. An early frost could mean damage to an already weak crop, according to Larry Buchholz, who is also dealing with a lack of water in his fields.

"We need a lot of time this fall," Buchholz said. "If we get a frost, that will be bad because the crop is already behind."

Buchholz and Piekarski both mentioned that this season stands out after a better-than-average year last summer. The crops are about 10 to 12 days behind normal this year. At this time last year, they were 15 to 20 days ahead of schedule, according to Piekarski.

"We had a good year last

year," Buchholz said. "So you're just seeing both ends of it."

The time between the last two days of September and Oct. 10 is the average date planned for harvesting soybeans, and after that work starts on corn, Piekarski said. Despite the issue this year, Piekarski is hoping the fields will be ready for harvest at that time. But with around 50 days until he expects frost, time is running out to get enough good weather.

"Halloween is a nice time to be treated to bringing your tractors in and blowing off the dust from the harvest," Piekarski said. "Of course, you can never know what's going to happen."

Bleachers: Construction should be finished by '14

From Page 1

press box and handicap accessible entrances, the district expects the cost to be between \$700,000 and \$800,000, according to

Ness.

Whatever improvements are needed, construction should be completed by the start of the 2014 fall sports season.

"If we can do anything

construction wise this fall, we'll do it," Ness said. "Otherwise, it will be spring and it will be ready for next season."

A \$5 million referendum last spring meant to ex-

pand outdoor facilities on the school campus would have built a new football field and bleachers. The measure failed, however, with 55 percent of voters opposed.

Driver charged with drug possession

Daily Journal

Teresa Ann Wickham, 44, of Fergus Falls, was charged in Otter Tail County District Court with felony fifth-degree drug possession. Her first court appearance was Aug. 12.

According to the criminal complaint, during a traffic stop March 18 in Fergus Falls, Wickham said she was out of gas and asked the officer for a ride home. The officer, needing to

search her before she could get a ride in the squad car, found items in her pocket used to inject methamphetamine, the report says.

A search of Wickham's criminal history indicates she was convicted for a first-degree controlled substance crime Nov. 7, 2005.

Wickham's next court appearance is Aug. 26.

Perham driver jailed for DWI

Tyler Vincent Torgerson, 27, of Perham, was sentenced Aug. 9 in Otter Tail County District Court to 150 days in jail, with 123 days to be stayed for six years, for gross misdemeanor DWI. He pleaded guilty Aug. 9.

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Soybeans.....	12.98
Wht. Mill.....	6.82

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 Butchers 50% lean \$68.50;
 Sows: \$59 to \$67; Boars:
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Add an Important Item to Your Back-to-school List.

For parents, back-to-school season means it's time to stock up on school supplies. But it can also be a good time to think about how to save for your child's future education.

Developing a strategy for achieving your education savings goal — or other savings goals — can help you stay on track. To learn more about your education savings options, call or visit today.

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