

# Primary Election Day

Don't forget to vote! Polls are open at the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Remember your photo ID.

## The Goodland Star-News

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**MIDWEEK**  
Tuesday, August 7,  
2012

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Goodland, Kansas 67763

**weather report**

**85°**  
10:30 a.m.  
Monday



**Today**  
Sunset, 7:52 p.m.  
**Wednesday**  
Sunrise, 5:54 a.m.  
Sunset, 7:51 p.m.

**Midday Conditions**

- Soil temperature 74 degrees
- Humidity 42 percent
- Sky partly cloudy
- Winds southwest 14 mph
- Barometer 30.14 inches and falling
- Record High today 105° (1938)
- Record Low today 48° (1990)

**Last 24 Hours\***

High Sunday	91°
Low Sunday	55°
Precipitation	none
This month	0.18
Year to date	7.44
Below normal	6.29 inches

**The Topside Forecast**

Today: Partly sunny with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after noon, a high near 93, winds out of the west at 5 to 15 mph switching to the east and a low around 64. Wednesday: Sunny with a high near 95, winds out of the west at 5 to 10 switching to the north and a low around 66.

**Extended Forecast**

Thursday: Sunny with a high near 95 and a low around 66. Friday: Mostly sunny with a high near 95 and a low around 68. Saturday: Mostly sunny with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, a high near 90 and a low around 68.

# Area sees temporary heat relief

## High temperatures, drought likely to continue for the area

By Kevin Bottrell

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The massive heat wave that has scorched northwest Kansas for months showed signs of breaking over the weekend, but this week's forecast still shows higher than normal temperatures.

After a week of high temperatures – up to 102 on Wednesday – Saturday turned out to be one of the coolest days in recent months. At 4:20 p.m., the high temperature reached

82 degrees – seven degrees under the average for Aug. 4. The record high for Aug. 4 is 104 degrees, set in 1934. The temperature got down to 56 late Saturday night.

Temperatures were warmer Sunday with a high of 91. The National Weather Service was predicting a high of 100 for Monday, and 93-95 for the rest of the week. While these are closer to the normal high of 89 for this time of year, the temperatures are still hotter than usual.

Other than a slight chance of thunderstorms tonight, little moisture is predicted.

Despite a few days of cooler temperatures, Sherman County is still under extreme to exceptional drought, the two highest ratings of the University of Nebraska's National Drought Monitor.

The Weather Service has recorded .18 inches of rain so far in August and just 3.02 inches since June 1 – 4.13 inches below average. The county is as much as 6.19 inches below average for the year.

A small storm dropped .16 inches on Wednesday, while a larger one dropped .62 inches last Monday.

The City of Goodland has been under a Water Watch, which asks citizens to voluntarily

try to reduce their water usage, since July 9. City Manager Doug Gerber said Monday that while the water situation isn't good, there are currently no plans to go to mandatory water restrictions. The city is continuing to monitor the situation, he said.

Groundwater levels may have also taken a hit from lack of rain. Wayne Bossert, Groundwater District 4 manager, said the situation looks pretty brutal. The Kansas Geological Survey tests more than 1,200 wells across the state each December to measure what the rise or decline in water level compared to previous years, he said, so the overall picture will remain unknown until then.

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## Evening events thrill audiences at fair

Sherman County residents kept busy last week with various evening events at the Northwest Kansas District Free Fair. Events included the tractor pull on Friday (above) and the Texaco Country Showdown Kansas State Final on Thursday. Competitors included Tucker's Town from Cimarron (below), but the winner was Tyler Gregory from Lawrence, who played guitar, sang and played percussion with his feet. As always, the carnival was a big draw, especially when the National Guard brought their mechanical bull (right).

Photos by Pat Schiefen and Kevin Bottrell/The Goodland Star-News



Barret Keene (left) and his companion Kent Esslinger walked through Goodland Friday. Photo by Pat Schiefen, The Goodland Star-News

## Students stop here on walk across U.S.

By Pat Schiefen

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Even after a day of walking Barret Keene was enthusiastically talking about the purpose of his walk across the country from Miami to San Francisco. He wants to raise awareness of the plight of orphans and abandoned children worldwide through go walk America. He expects to reach San Francisco in November.

"We basically walk until it's time to stop," he said. "Next morning, we'll drive to that same intersection or convenience store and then we start again."

Keene said he has never had to sleep in the support van that accompanies him. He has stayed in the houses of people he's met on the way.

"When you get to stay at someone's house, it's a lot different than just speaking at a church," he said. "I get to build relationships with the people I stay with."

"I have two passions in life. One is helping people to develop leadership in all aspects of their life and two helping orphaned and abandoned children."

He was walking with fellow Cornell University student Kent Esslinger, a freshman at Cornell, and Mike Maurath of Oakley. Keene spent Thursday night in Oakley and spoke at the Oakley Christian Church. He expected to speak Sunday morning at the Burlington Christian Church.

Keene said he and his friend Chris Vitelli came up with the idea of walking and were going to divide the country in half. When Vitelli

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**local markets**

10:30 a.m.

Wheat	— \$8.25 bushel
Posted county price	— \$8.22
Corn	— \$8.01 bushel
Posted county price	— \$7.99
Milo	— \$7.52 bushel
Soybeans	— \$15.22 bushel
Posted county price	— \$16.27
Millet	— \$14 hundredweight
Sunflowers	
Oil current crop	— \$25.60 cwt.
Confection	— no bid
Pinto beans	— \$28

(Markets by Scouler Grain, Sun Opta, Frontier Ag and 21st Century Bean. These may not be closing figures.)

**inside today**

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**Mud races dirty and fun**

The Kiwanis Mud Bog races were held Saturday at the County Fairgrounds.

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