

weather
report

48°

at noon



Today

- Sunset, 4:24 p.m.
- Tomorrow
- Sunrise, 6:55 a.m.
- Sunset, 4:24 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil Temperature 36 degrees
- Humidity 35 percent
- Sky sunny
- Winds northwest 13 m.p.h.
- Barometer 30.18 inches and falling
- Record High 76° (1939)
- Record Low -23° (1919)

Last 24 Hours*

High	39°
Low	22°
Precipitation	none

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: clear, low lower 20s, winds west 10 mp.h. Tomorrow: sunny, high mid 50s, low lower 20s, winds west 5-10 m.p.h.

Extended Forecast

Wednesday: mostly sunny with 20 percent chance of snow late, high lower 50s, low lower 20s. Thursday: partly cloudy with chance of snow, high lower 40s. Friday: partly cloudy, high upper 40s, low upper teens. (National Weather Service) Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz. * Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local
markets



Noon

Wheat — \$3.72 bushel
Posted county price — \$3.79
Loan deficiency payment — 0¢
Corn — \$2.42 bushel
Posted county price — \$2.20
Loan deficiency payment — 0¢
Milo — \$2.19 bushel
Soybeans — \$5.11 bushel
Posted county price — \$5.05
Loan deficiency payment — 0¢
Millet — \$14.00 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$11.95 cwt.
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Confection current — \$17/\$7 cwt.
Pinto beans — \$16
(Markets provided by Mueller Grain, Sigco Sun, Frontier Equity Co-op and 21st Century Bean. These may not be closing figures.)

afternoon
wire

Late news
from the
Associated
Press



1 p.m.

U.S. has Iraqi
declaration

UNITED NATIONS — The United States took possession today of the Security Council's copy of Saddam Hussein's massive arms declaration, as inspectors began combing the dossier for clues about whether Iraq is free of weapons of mass destruction. Reversing an earlier decision, the U.N. Security Council agreed late Sunday to give the United States and the four other permanent council members — Britain, France, Russia and China — full copies of the 12,000-page declaration. Deputy Russian Ambassador Gennady Gatilov said the United States had taken the council's lone copy to Washington where it would make duplicates for distribution to the four other powerful council members. The 10, non-permanent members, including Syria, will only see a censored version of the document.

United files for bankruptcy protection

By Dave Carpenter

AP Business Writer

CHICAGO (AP) — United Airlines made the largest bankruptcy filing in aviation history today, saying it was the only way to keep the world's No. 2 airline flying after two years of heavy losses. The Chapter 11 filing was the sixth-largest ever as measured by assets. The suburban Chicago-based company has lost \$4 billion in the last two years due to a slumping economy, flawed business strategies and the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. It faced debt payments of \$875 million later this week. "We're in control of United's destiny," United CEO Glenn Tilton said in a telephone interview. "We've made a good decision for United. It is in fact Chapter 11... This is a tremendous opportunity for United to transform this company and to emerge stronger than ever."



Tilton told customers and employees at O'Hare International Airport that the carrier would keep flying. "We are now going to take this occasion to create a new beginning for United," he said. Tilton said he expects the bankruptcy process to be completed within 18 months. At a bankruptcy hearing at 7 a.m., Chief Judge Eugene R. Wedoff issued orders allowing United to keep operat-

ing until another hearing today when he is to issue further orders allowing the airline to continue its operations. United said it obtained \$1.5 billion in financing from several banks to continue operating, and had \$800 million in cash on hand. An attorney for United, James Sprayregen, told the judge the company was losing \$20 million to \$22 million a day this month and desperately

needed to cut costs. The company and a coalition of union leaders were scheduled to meet Tuesday to begin talks about reducing costs. The airline has promised to keep flying while it sheds costs under the auspices of a bankruptcy judge and overhauls its business plan to try to become profitable again. As of today's filing, United had assets of \$22.8 billion and liabilities of \$21.2 billion, the company said. United operates about 1,700 flights a day, or about 20 percent of all U.S. flights. It has the most extensive worldwide route structure of any airline. The bankruptcy filing will come at a steep price for the 83,000 employees who own 55 percent of the company. A bankruptcy court judge is almost certain to order wage and job cuts and could dissolve the employee stock ownership plan. Two of United's unions, the Air Line

Pilots Association and the Association of Flight Attendants, said both sides must work together during restructuring. "Any successful restructuring of United in bankruptcy must involve continued cooperation and collaboration among ALPA, United management and all of the company's labor unions," the pilots' union said. We look forward to those discussions." The carrier's stock, which reached \$100 a share in 1997, rose 10 cents to \$1.03 a share in early afternoon trading toay on the New York Stock Exchange. The bankruptcy restructuring also is likely to result in fewer flights. Experts say frequent-flier miles and basic fare levels are likely to be retained for the short term, although fare hikes are likely over the longer haul. A spokesman for United's pilots union urged passengers Sunday not to abandon the airline during a bankruptcy filing.

Elks honor servicemen with Blue Star banners

By Eric Yonkey

The Goodland Daily News

Goodland Elks honored the servicemen and women who have connections to Goodland and Sherman County with a Blue Star banner program, Sunday afternoon. This marked this first time service families have received the honor of a Blue Star banner since the end of World War II. For all but a few of the most senior members of the audience, a Blue Star banner Program was an unfamiliar tribute to active servicemen and women.

"This is one of the first Elks Lodges to get involved," Zona Price, Elk Lodge manager said, "We are the first to conduct the program in Kansas." Americanism Chairman Ron Barkley, Price, and other Elks had been planning the program since September. The biggest chore, according to Price, was in finding all the local families possible to receive the honor. Barkley, who has recently experienced a medical emergency, was regrettably unable to attend the program.

The program opened with presentation of colors by the Kansas Army National Guard. The local Boy Scouts then led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Marlin Roeder, Esteemed Loyal Knight, led in a tribute to the flag.

Larry Enfield, an Elks officer, introduced Jim Mull as speaker. Mull has been employed with the school district in Goodland for 33 years, ten of those years as principal of Grant Junior High. He served Goodland and its citizens for ten years as a city commissioner. Mull has been an Elks member since 1978.

"Most of all, however, he is here today as an individual who has 'been there, done that' like these young men and women who are in active military duty at the present time," Enfield said. "Jim served with the 101st Airborne in Vietnam and later was transferred to the Seventh Special Forces, better known as the Green Berets."

Mull opened by thanking the Goodland Elks for inviting him to be a part of this "wonderful program to honor those brave young men and women who serve in the armed forces today." He has been honored to have taught and coached many of the servicemen and women honored. "Before that I had the privilege of serving in the U.S. Army....My father was killed in action in World War II while serving with the Fourth Infantry U.S. Army."

"When I first heard that the Blue Star Service banners were once again being displayed throughout the United States,

I wanted to find out more about the history of this symbol," he said. "I wondered, 'How many Americans recognized this only from the movie, 'Saving Private Ryan?'"

From his research, Mull learned that the Blue Star banner was designed and patented in 1917 by World War I Army Captain Robert L. Queissner of the Fifth Ohio Infantry, who had two sons serving on the front lines.

It quickly became the unofficial symbol of a child in the service. Today, Blue Star service banners are displayed by families who have loved ones serving in the armed forces, including activated members of the National Guard and Reserves, whether the family member is a son, daughter, brother, sister, wife, husband, cousin, or grandchild.

The banner displayed in the front window of a home shows a family's pride in their loved one serving in the military, and reminds others that preserving America's freedom demands much. It also serves to remind others of the sacrifice that many Americans make to preserve freedom. It shows the world our nation's overwhelming pride in our courageous men and women in uniform.

"With United States troops once again in harms way in Afghanistan and other parts of the world, extraordinary sacrifices are quietly being made by ordinary Americans in communities all around the country," Mull said. "By displaying this banner it is a profound reminder of both the individuals who are serving their country and their loved ones waiting for them back home."

"It is not only a sign of support, but it is very important because it shows that the tentacles of terrorism reach to virtually every neighborhood in America."

On behalf of the Elks, Mull continued, "We think it is very important to recognize the families who are sacrificing by letting their sons and daughters leave and fight. By hanging one of these banners you're showing how proud you are, not just to be an American, but to be related to someone who is actively serving in the U.S. military."

George L. Skypeck, a Vietnam Veteran, wrote this remembrance below entitled "Soldier."

"I was that which others did not want to be. I went where others feared to go, and did what others failed to do. I asked nothing from those who gave nothing and reluctantly



Members of the local Kansas Army National Guard Color Guard presented the colors for the Goodland Elks Lodge Blue Star Banner Program ceremony on Sunday, Dec. 8, 2002. The soldiers are members of Det. 1 170th Maintenance Company. Goodland Boys Scouts next followed with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Photo by Eric Yonkey/The Goodland Daily News

accepted the thought of eternal loneliness...should I fail. I have seen the face of terror; felt the stinging cold of fear; and enjoyed the sweet taste of a moment's love. I have cried, pained, and hoped...but most of all,

I have lived times others would say were best forgotten. At least someday I will be able to say that I was proud of what I was....a soldier." Next, Mull invited the families of each of the servicemen and women

listed below to receive their Blue Star banners and Elks recognition certificates. Three families received two-Star Blue Star banners because they presently have two family members serving.

See BLUE STAR, Page 4

County to discuss trash liability

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Daily News

The Sherman County commissioners will meet at 8 a.m. Tuesday and the main topics of discussion will be the negotiations on the trash collection system, and Christmas bonuses for county employees.

Discussions with the city and members of the Economic Development Council continue, and the commissioners will be brought up to date on the latest information.

At the meeting on Dec. 3, at question was brought up about liability insurance on the trash trucks and worker compensation insurance for the employees. Commissioner Mitch Tiede had called Tom Job of the Kansas County Association Multi-line Insur-

ance Pool in Topeka, and asked about the county taking over the trash collection system.

Job said it was his opinion that was not a good idea, and said the liability on the trucks might be costly as well as the workers insurance.

A call to City Manager Ron Pickman today posed the question of whether the city has had any problems with insurance for the trash collection system. "We have not had any problem either with liability for the trucks or for the worker compensation coverage," Pickman said. "We have had our share of accidents, but not any more than with other public vehicles."

"The present system is one where there are less worker injuries because

there is only one operator per truck who does not even touch the trash," he said. "The most problems we have had are from employees climbing into the dumpsters to clean them out."

"I am surprised at this information," Pickman said. "It would seem the trash trucks are not much different than any of the other equipment currently insured as part of the county landfill system."

"The county has to make the decision, and I guess we will find out," he said. "I hope it works out."

There are no other appointments on the agenda.

The commissioners meet in the commission room on the main floor of the Sherman County courthouse at 813 Broadway.