

## Many gifts given at Santa Day

By Linda Schneider  
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Saturday the American Legion hall in Bird City was full to capacity with excited kids and adults for Santa Day.

Lunch was provided by the Community Club and there was a variety of soups and plenty of hot dogs.

Nick Ketzner emceed throughout the program along with his elves, Jane Young, Wendy White and Maribel Pinon helping with cash and prizes.

Mr. Ketzner said that 162 children attended the Santa Day, up from 120 last year, and over \$6,300 in gifts and cash prizes given out this year.

Also helping out was Bird City Boy Scout #119 Troop-Ty Carmichael, Jacob Brubaker, Connor Hazuka, Casey Vandike and Derek Vandike, to assist in delivering prizes. The Bird City Go-Getters 4-H Club helped with clean up and assisted in seating.

Back for another year and favorite of both young and old was the Blizzard. Manning the Blizzard were Kirby Krien, Loren White and Rod Young. In addition, time in the Blizzard was extended from 20 seconds to 25 seconds and as an added bonus, the final draw for both a youth and adult was given one full minute.

Blizzard winners were, Derek Vandike, kid, \$38; Brock Eisenbar, adult, \$51; Brenna, kid, \$35; Heather Harshbarger, \$68; Sydney Busse, adult, \$32; Danae Magnani, kid, \$64; Molly, kid, \$53; Holly Riley, adult, \$28; Sara Chumley, kid, \$21; Zoe Sundstrom, kid, \$64; and for one minute Karen Flemming, adult, \$110; and Justis, kid, \$61.

Throughout the program, Mr. Ketzner and his elves drew numbers and gave out cash prizes to kids up to \$25, and every child received something. Adults also won haircuts, manicures, and pedicures from the Hair Nest, Beauty Box and Designs by Dawn.

Meat bundles were given from Hometown Market, gift certificates from Bird City Diner, and prime rib dinners from Big Ed's. The shopping spree from Hometown Market was won by Beth Klepper.

The choice gifts drawing came after the cash and other prizes were given out. Kids and adults were given a yellow ticket to drop in the prize of their choice,



HAILEIGH HICKERT IS ALL SMILES as she tells Santa Claus what she wants for Christmas during Santa Day. Haileigh is the daughter of JD and Laura Hickert of Colby and the granddaughter of Dave and Marcia Hickert.

Times staff photo by Linda Schneider

many prizes were given out. Kade Wright won the Xbox 360; Mike McGilvery won the laptop computer; Steve won the first of two 32 inch television.

Virginia Cooper won the second 32-inch television; Leah Rambat won the Nikon Coolpix camera, Candy Glasco the Tom Tom; Troy Burr the Sony Blue Ray DVD; Jose the RCA Dual

Port DVD; John Serrano RC remote car; Reyton Finley, kids art table; Ada Connett, meat bundle; Ray Johnson, meat bundle; and Amy Hendricks the shop vacuum.

The lighting contest winners were announced by Gary Leach, Community Club president. First place went to Royce and Jan Rambat, second place

to Brian and Dawn Miller, third place, Leslie Frink.

The final boy and girl winners of the big prizes went to Grace Wright and Luis Reynoso.

And to end the program, Santa Claus arrived and to the delight of young and old, he visited with all who had the courage to sit on his lap and tell him what they wanted for Christmas.



Bird City Community Boosters

DANEA MAGNANI takes her turn in the Blizzard booth during Santa Day.

Times staff photo by Linda Schneider

## Lighting contest winner



THE LIGHTING CONTEST WINNERS were Royce and Jan Rambat. Their home was a delightful arrangement of lights and decorations.

Times staff photo by Linda Schneider

## Looking like a white Christmas

By Karen Krien  
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As Bing Crosby is crooning the words "I'm dreaming of a white Christmas" on the radio and television, many are wondering if they really want snow on Christmas, especially if they are traveling or people are planning to travel to their homes.

Most of the time, the chances for a white Christmas are less than 20 percent for northwest Kansas, but, this year may be a different story.

Chances for a white Christmas are normally less than 15 to 18 percent for this area, but an advancing winter storm will raise that and cause potentially hazardous travel conditions though Christmas Day.

Brad Mickelson, meteorologist at the National Weather Service office, said Monday that a winter storm would arrive Tuesday night and the bulk of it would continue through Wednesday with winds picking up Wednesday afternoon and through Thursday night. The storm will wind down Christmas morning.

He said the expected snow accumulation in the area is six to eight inches with blowing snow and visibility dropping to quarter-mile or less with near blizzard conditions.

The storm is expected to cover the area from Wray to Flagler, Colo., and east of there into northwest Kansas and southwest Nebraska. He said the winds are expected to be the worst in northwest Kansas and southwest Nebraska and east as the storm moves across the state.

Christmas Day is expected to stay cold with highs in the 20s, and some winds, he said. Another small storm may add some snow during the day, and will move out by Friday evening.

Mr. Mickelson said once the storm moves out the winds should diminish and start to clear by Friday night with temperatures dropping to the 5 degree or lower range.

He said as the storm develops on Tuesday there is a chance for some freezing drizzle from Benkelman to Hill City to make travel hazardous.

# Merry Christmas