

In the dough

Bakery celebrates opening with giant cinnamon roll

*By Yoshiaki Nohara
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MILL CREEK - Bakers wrestled on Saturday morning with 781/2 pounds of dough - to make just one cinnamon roll.

"It's a good workout," said Cora Berry, an assistant baker at the House of Bread, as she spread out dough made of honey, flour, water, yeast and salt.

Berry and others used six baking sheets - each one 18 inches wide and 24 inches long - to bake a cinnamon roll equal to 300 regular-sized ones.

House of Bread celebrated its grand opening on Saturday in Mill Creek Town Center featuring the big cinnamon roll, which they hope is the world's largest even though they couldn't find any such record.

"That's the biggest one we know of," said Sheila McCann, president of the Mill Creek House of Bread franchise, the first in Washington state for the Luis Obispo, Calif.-based company.

The bakery also gave away about 300 regular-sized cinnamon rolls.

Before the big cinnamon roll was topped off with sugar icing - but no nuts - one by one customers dropped by despite the morning chill to take a peek.

"Oh my goodness," said Anne Marie Dibble of Everett as she watched bakers roll the dough on the table.

Her children Madeline, 8, and Paul, 6, urged her to stop for a look before going to a soccer game.

"They are really excited," Dibble said. "We've always talked about what are the biggest things in the world."

Madeline described the making of the big roll as "weird," but was happy to try a free cinnamon roll with sugar icing.

"Just right," she said of the roll's taste, making a big smile.

Inside and outside the bakery, children and adults munched on cinnamon rolls, some licking their fingers as they ate.

Wayne Warren of Mill Creek started the bakery with his wife, Anita, after retiring from 26 years of work in the high-tech industry. Meeting with customers at the bakery makes him happy, said Warren, 50.

"I like being very direct," he said. "It was very abstract or I felt removed from people when I worked in the software" business.

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