

# Colfax shows off its colors at annual event

*Concrete River Festival offers unique race, foods to community*

**Whitney Hilliard/Moscow-Pullman Daily News**

Color Run participants crossed the finish line with flying colors Saturday in one of many events held during Colfax's three-day long Concrete River Festival.

Families were doused in bright pink powder as they wrapped up the race at Colfax's Schmuck Park. Onlookers cheered as the final few Color Run groups entered the park, and many children gathered at the finish line for an extra dose of pink powder.

Elizabeth Wiley and Morgan Vander Esch, along with a handful of their group members, decided to wear brightly colored tutus during the run.

"When else can you wear a tutu?" Vander Esch asked.

They both agreed the run was fun for the whole family, especially for children.

"It's fun to see the community come together," Wiley said.

Community members visited Schmuck Park off and on throughout the day and were greeted by vendors who had a variety of products on display.

Max Weekly sold his wife's homemade fudge to customers looking for a sweet treat. Among the list of unique flavors he had for sale was a peanut butter and jelly fudge, which was pretty popular, Weekly said.

He explained his wife, Barbara, got the idea for the flavor from one of their grandchildren. Barbara, now in her 70s, has been making fudge since she was in her teens, he said.

Barbara's Homemade Fudge and Divinity joined with Aebleskivers and Philly Express to provide a unique food selection for the community. Some of the locals curiously approached the Aebleskivers booth, ran by Ron Nelson, who described an aebleskiver as a danish pancake.

Some enjoyed the opportunity to create their own snow cones at a booth. Customers had a choice of a wide selection of flavors, which they applied themselves to create a personalized concoction.

The event was complete with live music and plenty of activities for children. The park hosted an outdoor laser tag arena, put on by Palouse Play, and multiple bounce houses.

Jeremy and Melody Gerber, who have lived in Colfax for roughly 15 years, attended Saturday's festivities with their two dogs. The couple said the event seemed bigger in previous years, and they suggested it might be nice for the city to include other activities.

"Not so much a carnival-type thing, but some of those activities would be kind of cool," Jeremy said.

Colfax Mayor Todd Vanek said the city would like to move the festival downtown, where the parade was held this year. He said the city has to work with other departments in order to move additional events, Vanek said.

He also said the Colfax Downtown Association is the primary source of funding for the festival and handles any revenue the event generates.