

FOOTBALL RIVALRY

# Bell Bash comes to Brookdale

## Senior residents get to experience Pueblo tradition

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THE PUEBLO CHIEFTAIN

If the residents of Brookdale El Camino can't get to Dutch Clark Stadium, then the stadium will just have to come to them.

At least in spirit, of both the red- and blue-themed variety.

Thursday's annual Brookdale Bell Bash at the South Side senior living facility saw residents treated to a mini Bell Game rally, complete with an opportunity to ring that hallowed trophy up for grabs in tonight's contest.

Which, of course, residents most joyously (and clamorously) took advantage of.

In addition to lively routines from Central and Centennial cheer and dance teams, residents enjoyed fellowship with the cheerleaders, team mascots and a squad of Wildcat gridiron stars who guarded the Bell as diligently as they most certainly will tonight.

"We're here to celebrate Bell Week," said Devin Johnson, a hulking lineman. "It's a great time to go around town and get people excited. It's awesome seeing the spirit among the senior residents. Once Central, it's always Central."

"I feel like this brings



CHIEFTAIN PHOTO/BRYAN KELSEN

Brookdale El Camino resident Froilan Sanchez rings the bell with the Central High School Wildcat during a Bell Game pep rally at the assisted living facility Thursday afternoon. Both Central and Centennial were represented by cheer squads who performed cheers for residents.

joy to them," added quarterback Donavyn Nailor-Lewis. "Some-

times they don't have people that come to visit them. But they don't real-

ly ask a lot of questions. They just like to see us and get to know who we

are." And while the residents' alliance seemed

divided evenly between

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the red and the blue, the Brookdale staff was unapologetically tilted in favor of the Bulldogs in both attire and attitude.

"We always have both schools here," said Kim Robinson, rocking a red Bell Game T-shirt from 2013. "And among our residents, it sounds like we have more Central graduates here today.

"And quite a few are giving me grief about this shirt, especially Froilan Sanchez, my feisty friend. It's all 'Go Central, Go Central, Go Central ... Central's gonna win.'"

"I graduated in Mexico," Sanchez said, "so I didn't get a chance to go to Central. But all my kids went there. And you better believe I went to all those Bell Games. And I'm predicting a Central win again."

Seated next to Sanchez was Carl Califano, a 1940 Central graduate and proud member of the Orman Army.

"I didn't play football but I'm Central all the way," Califano said. "My time there was good, you couldn't have any better than that.

"And having these kids here from Central makes me feel like I'm right back there. A lot of good memories."

The lone Central stalwart among the Brookdale staff, Colby Miller, took her co-workers' red-tinged ribbing in stride.

"Oh, it's rough, but I'll hold my ground," she said. "All week, we have arguments about who's going to win. I came in early today and everything was blue but they tore it all down.

"But we got the Bell and we're going to keep it."  
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