

KIRITAKA English Journal Vol.25

~Stay Independent, Stay as ONE TEAM~ September 29th, 2023



Kiwi Corner



Coming from New Zealand, I grew up watching rugby and cheering for my country's team, the **All Blacks**, which many of you may know because of their world-famous *haka* or ceremonial dance that is performed before each match. I also knew that rugby was played here in Japan, as your national team, otherwise known as the **Brave Blossoms**, often played in world cup matches.



The world-famous All Blacks' *haka*.

However, when I came to Kiritaka, I was elated to hear that there was a rugby club!

In the last edition of the Kiwi Corner, I wrote about the 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup, which was jointly hosted by Australia and New Zealand. But did you know, there is another massive sporting event happening now? It is the **2023 Rugby World Cup**, currently being played in France!



RUGBY
WORLD CUP™
FRANCE 2023

Logo for the 2023 World

Did you know that the Rugby World Cup is the **third largest sporting event in the world**, after the Olympics and the FIFA World Cup? The tournament's unique blend of physicality, skill, and teamwork captivates fans worldwide, making it a must-watch event for sport enthusiasts. With each edition, the Rugby World Cup continues to grow and strengthen its position as a premier international sporting event.



If you get the chance, you should watch and cheer for the Brave Blossoms! They have just played against Samoa this morning, and will face Los Pumas from Argentina next week. Also, please cheer for the All Blacks! At the previous tournament held

Jubilant scenes as the Brave Blossoms defeat Chile 42-12 here in 2019, they lost to England in the semi-finals, so I'm hoping that they can advance to the finals this time!

As this article is all about the Rugby World Cup, I'd like to share this clip of the All Blacks' *haka* at the first game of the tournament on the 9th of September. Unfortunately, they lost to the host team, France, but the performance by the All Blacks was outstanding. You can watch the *haka* here:

<https://youtu.be/YarrGWQXXzi?si=qPJjRXAolyTuidB>

(Liam Campbell)

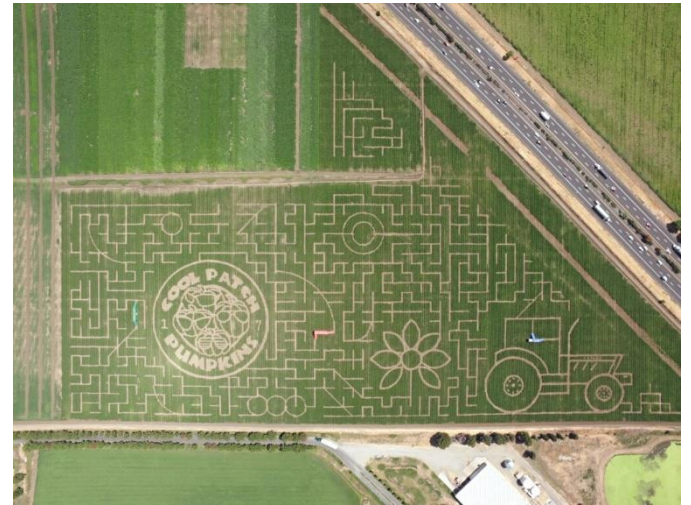


Lauren's Newsletter



California's Most A"maize"ing Corn Maze

During the Halloween season, some people go to pumpkin patches to buy pumpkins for making jack-o-lanterns or even go through corn mazes. When I was a college student at UC Davis, I would make my way to a place called Cool Patch Pumpkins during the fall. Just as the name implies, people can buy pumpkins here, however, pumpkins are not all they have. They also have something much larger and much more thrilling: a world famous corn maze!



A picture of the Cool Patch corn maze.



A map of one of Cool Patch's corn mazes.

From the end of September until October 31st, Cool Patch Pumpkins opens a corn maze to the public. Since 2001, unique mazes have been made every year for visitors to test their map reading skills. This maze has been featured as the largest corn maze in the world in the Guinness Book of World Records twice, once in 2007 and then again in 2014. In 2014, the maze was a whopping 63 acres (over five times the size of Tokyo Dome)! Now that is a lot of corn. According to Cool

Patch, it can take 30 minutes to 2 hours to escape the maze, and although it hasn't broken any records lately, it is still listed in the "Top 10 Corn Mazes in America".

Cool Patch Pumpkins is a great place to go with friends to work together through a challenge! In the end, the main question is: would you dare to enter the maze? Lastly, here are some links to explore:

1. Cool Patch Pumpkin's official website: <https://www.coolpatchpumpkins.com/>
2. A video about the corn maze: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-6qAlczAwGY>



Cool Patch Pumpkins' logo.

Happy (almost) fall! Stay cool!

Your Friendly Neighborhood ALT,
(Lauren Taylor)

