

Herndon High Drumline Performs at Nationals Game

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On Saturday, September 19, the award-winning Herndon High School Drumline performed for adoring crowds at the Washington Nationals Ball Park. They were performing at the special invitation of the Nationals organization, who also provided a block of seats and donated \$5 for each ticket sold through a special website link.

The Nationals representative led the students through the special security, loading and player areas, so the kids got to see a ground-level, behind-the-scenes view of the players' dugout and field. Then they were led up to the main entrance plaza just past the ticket gates. Dressed in their red Drumline T-shirts, they wound up blending in perfectly with the many red-shirted Nationals fans who were coming in to watch the team take on the Marlins.

The Drumline started with some crisp warm-up exercises, and then began to proceed through their show music and special routines, including a rousing rendition of “Take Me Out to the Ball Game” and the amazing Drum Pyramid that wowed fans last year at the “Bring It” competition. The wonderful music delighted many fans both young and old.

Their music and dance routines also attracted the attention of some visiting Heads of State, who chose to partake in the festivities. Presidents Washington, Jefferson and Lincoln got their dance groove on, while President Coolidge chose to become an honorary member of the Cymbal Line, complete with crashes and “sizzles”. (If you don’t know what a “sizzle” is, ask a cymbal line member to show you!)

President Theodore Roosevelt surprised all by taking on a sophomore drummer in what is sure to become a drum battle of legend! Teddy showed that he can do a lot more than just bust trusts, fight in the Rough Riders and run a nation. The battle concluded with Teddy dancing to what was surely the world’s fastest version of the Herndon Fight Song.

All in all, the Drumline played for nearly 90 minutes before Saturday’s game, stopping only once for a quick water break. They even cadenced back through the security gate upon exiting to go to their equipment van, all the way down 1st and N streets! Afterward, the Drumline members joined their friends and others who had purchased their special tickets to watch the game from some great seats. The Nationals won the game with two homers, including one from Bryce Harper. Clearly the Pride of Herndon is a good-luck charm for our hometown Major League team!

