

not missing a **beat**

Student Council continues Crosstown Showdown tradition

Boom. Boom. Boom. The sound echoed nonstop throughout the school parking lot as students gathered in a display to take down North. By the end of the night, the oil drum looked like a victim of raging school pride.

Alumni brought back 'Beat-the-Drum', a tradition that began in the 1970s. "Where I came from, we didn't have school spirit quite like this," Student Council sponsor Amanda Gorman said. "The kids are so intense about not stopping. They played music. They played ping-pong. Some kids brought footballs and Frisbees. There were hoverboards all over the campus."

Different clubs and groups came to beat the drum from 7 p.m. on Thursday until Friday night's kickoff.

"I was basically there the whole time," Mrs. Gorman said. "I did doze off a couple of times. I won't lie. You can only drink coffee so many times until you become immune. Over time, our eardrums were just done."

Student Council ran the event.

"For Beat-the-drum, we had to get oil drums, sticks and decorate posters," StuCo president Jia Qureshi said. "Our biggest thing was advertising to get students to come out and support us. Usually the juniors and seniors are heavily involved, but this year, we had a more freshman and sophomores in student council who recruited a lot of their friends."

Sophomore Cole South came at 3 a.m. with Engineering Club.

"Honestly, it was repetitive. Beating the drum over and over again," Cole said. "My hand was tired at first, but after a while it just fell numb. We had some fun music playing. It was this weird techno, electro remix. We also started a tribal dance circle. Someone started walking around, and everyone kind of jumped in. It was crazy."

Stu-co member and junior Lauren Chung looks forward to continuing the tradition next year.

"I went to sleep at 3ish, but it was fine," Lauren said. "Once we got down there, it was a ton of fun. We got the ping-pong table out. At one point we had roller skate races around the parking lot, kind of like a derby—that was a blast. We were just having so much fun, the whole experience was worth staying awake."

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by Udani Satarasinghe



beat the drum 24 hours before kickoff



7 p.m. Student Council

"It was a lot of fun this year. I practically stayed up at beat the drum the whole night except for three hours. It was pretty easy to stay up because we were all excited about the game."
- Zach Pfeil, 12

8 p.m. Freshmen

"It was funny because our version of rallying together is deforming a big steel barrel."
- Logan Jones, 9



Zane Logan

9 p.m. Sophomores

"It was similar to what we used to do at my old school. We would beat up a car instead of steel drums before the big rival game. From what I've seen, there was a lot more spirit and reason to why y'all beat the drum."
- Jacob Walker, 10

5 a.m. Seniors

"The most memorable part for me was when I was laughing and singing with my friends as we beat the drum and took part in a tradition so unique to our school."
- Roxana Faroknia, 12

10 p.m. Juniors

"Everybody beating the drum at once and dancing like a fool with all of my friends to the music we were playing was the most memorable part for me."
- Reed Waterman, 11



Ulises Velez

6 a.m. Key Club

"It felt sad knowing the people I have grown with for four years aren't going to be around after this year, but I also felt dignified knowing that we all made it, and we are going to become independent adults soon."
- Animesh Siwakoti, 12

10 a.m. Journalism

"A guy had one of those hover boards, and I would ride it around and get close to beat the drum while riding it."
- Jessica Vigil, 10

3 p.m. NHS

"I appreciate it more because it's a long standing tradition and it's cool to do it to carry on the legacy of Lions before you."
- Gracie Morrison, 12

11 a.m. Jesus Christ Movement Club

"It was a cool opportunity to come together as a club with school spirit. It was grand because school spirit is something I care a lot about especially since it's senior year and it's our last moment to finish the high school experience strong."
- Sophia Salvador, 12

6 p.m. Student Council

"What I remember the most was definitely when we stopped beating the drum at kickoff."
- Zara Firuz, 12



Jessica King



David Funes

circle 'round

At the North pep rally, senior Catelyn Butler and junior Alena Horvath lead the Marquettes in a kick routine. The energy from the crowd encouraged them to give it their all. "It took a lot of practice to get the dance down," Catelyn said. "But it's worth it when the crowd gets into it with us because that makes me have more fun performing."

head wizard

With the Elder Wand, seniors Kaleb Gorman, Joshua Brinkmann, Ross Hoppe and junior Dylan Atkins cast a Harry Potter curse. The Headhunters performed skits with Leo and Lea, the mascots. "The nerdy reference was more of a symbolic way of showing my dedication to the team," Kaleb said. "As well as the lengths the Headhunters were willing to go to bring in the win."



Ulises Velez



Ulises Velez

lift off

In front of the bleachers, sophomore Jackson Hill and junior John Marrs lift freshman Danny Lenard into the air. Although he was the only freshman, he earned the respect of older players. "Through the two-a-days and those first few games he was all in," Jackson said. "He showed he was fully dedicated to the team."

whip through

At the annual teacher dance, Mrs. Amy Neely and Mr. Frances Vu hit the whip dance. Every year, Mrs. Neely incorporates the newest trend into the routine. "Mr. Vu doing the Nae Nae and the Quan made me smile," Mrs. Neely said. "He's so energetic and into it. He made me want to get up and dance all day."