

Area Band Students Take Part in USF HOT Day

On Sat, Sept. 28 band students from 37 area high schools, including Alonso and Sickles, took to the field at Raymond James Stadium for a massive half-time performance. BY KAREN RING

The annual event, dubbed HOT Day for the USF Herd of Thunder Marching Band, gives local high school students and dance team members an opportunity to get a taste of what it is like to take part in a college marching band. The day began bright and early at Fowler Field on the USF campus. There, a total of 1,000 high school band students and dance team members congregated to prepare for the big performance.

Participating schools were each given a spot in the center of the H, the O, and the T that the Herd of Thunder spells out during their half-time performance. After several run throughs, students were treated to lunch and then it was off to Raymond James Stadium.

Participating students were able to watch the HOT Band's Game-Day Roadshow as well as the first quarter of the game before heading to the tunnels to prep for their performance. After the HOT Band's first song, the high school students were announced and 1,000 musicians and dancers stormed the field for an impressive performance of "Friends in Low Places" and "Don't Stop Believing."

It was a great experience for all involved. A special thanks to the USF HOT Band for offering this amazing opportunity to area band students and dancers.



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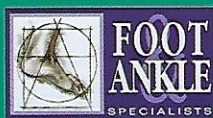
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