

Houston Astros Parade

Homerun! That's right Houston, our Astros have defeated the Philadelphia Phillies and have etched their name in baseball history once again. This is the Astros 2nd title in 4 years but Houston celebrated like it was the first.

On Friday, November 8, Houstonians crowded together to witness all the floats that drove down main street. Many Houston celebrities were there, such as rapper Paul Wall, mayor Sylvester Turner, Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee, and KTSU's very own Mad Hatta! Houston was also treated to some serious soul, the Ocean of Soul that is, as Texas Southern University's band marched through the parade blasting their instruments and adding some swagger in the parade.

The parade was estimated to have 2 million fans show up cheering on their Astros, and it sure looked like it. There were fans hanging from light poles, watching from their work offices, crowding the street barriers, and even filling up whole parking garages just to glimpse of our champion Astros. I was able to ask my roommate, debate team member at Texas Southern University and intern of Mayor Sylvester Turner, Alexander Williams what it was like being in the middle of the action. "Oh man marching down that street, seeing all the half drunk and fully crazed fans was a dream, I felt like I won the championship and I'm just a student! Actually I vividly remember someone throwing me a beer."

With the other parade floats passing by, Astros fans in attendance finally got what they were waiting for! The team floats starting off with Astros pitcher Justin Verlander and manager Dusty Baker! Houstonians went wild, chanting Dusty's name, knowing his story made it all

much sweeter for the crowd. The next floats featured Houston favorite Jose Altuve and the final float had Houston heartthrob rookie MVP Jeremy Pena. Just one look from the crowd and one could tell how much this championship meant to the team after being labeled as cheaters for the past 4 years. They have truly earned it and no one could take it away.

As the parade ended Houstonians walked back to continue their everyday lives. So many people attended, with so many different lives and paths, but for one day we were all united because of one team. With this team, this city, and these fans. Something tells me we'll be back to have a parade around the same time next year.