



Springs Valley Blackhawk Brigade

20-Time ISSMA State Finalist

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Brigade Undefeated... Again.

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GREENWOOD, Ind. - It is not often that a marching band goes undefeated throughout a season. However, the Springs Valley Blackhawk Brigade has done it, again. They completed the mark by winning Class D at the Cavalcade of Champions in Greenwood, Ind.

"It is pretty amazing to say we have gone undefeated for two straight invitational seasons," stated Director of Bands Luke Aylsworth. "That is something that no other Springs Valley band can claim."

Springs Valley, on top of winning the class, won best music, visual, and general effect. It is the third consecutive week that the Brigade has won best music this season. "Even though it was not our best performance, the students still performed a musical production," added Aylsworth.

Since taking over the program in 2001, Aylsworth has restored the tradition of bands from the 80s and early 90s. That starts with expecting the best out of the students on and off the field. "We continue to set very high expectations. All of our success is a by-product of hard work, dedication, and a commitment to examine and define every detail of our production," said Aylsworth.

Now that invitational's are over, it now comes down to state competition. Next on the docket is the ISSMA Southern Regional at Evansville Central. "I'm really excited about regional," said senior clarinet Michelle Stinchcomb. "I think it is going to be where we fulfill our full potential this season."

"I hope we have a good crowd. Our students really feed off that enthusiasm," concluded Aylsworth. This is evident by Stinchcomb's final comment by saying, "I'm just really pumped to throw down."

Springs Valley will take the field at 1:44pm EDT. Awards are slated for about 3:15pm EDT. The top ten will advance to the Semi-State Contest on October 23 in Franklin, Ind.

In the weekly Indiana Marching.com Class D Writers Poll, Springs Valley remains in second the back-to-back weeks behind defending champion Lewis Cass. Orange County is now represented in the top six as Paoli is fourth and Orleans up to their highest ranking at sixth.