



Springs Valley Blackhawk Brigade

21-Time ISSMA State Finalist

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Brigade heads to 21st State Finals

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FRANKLIN, Ind. – The Springs Valley Blackhawk Brigade earned their 21st state finals bid this past weekend at the ISSMA Semi-State Contest at Franklin Community High School.

The Brigade performed one of their best shows of the season to earn one of ten spots to the finals. Joining the Brigade is both Orange County counterparts. Paoli will return for the 27th time while Orleans will perform at state for only the fourth time (first since 1999).

This will be the second time the three schools have all three been to state, however the first time all three will be in the same class.

Springs Valley will take the field at 6:04pm in Saturday's State Finals. Awards are scheduled for 6:30pm. Fans can purchase tickets for state finals in the high school office through Friday morning. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$18 for students.

Fans that are heading to Indianapolis are reminded it will take extra time to find a good seat for the event. You are encouraged to arrive well before the performance time so you do not miss the contest. In addition, the Indiana Pacers will have their home opener with Philadelphia on Saturday night as well. Parking will be limited in the area near the sports venues.

The Brigade will also see seven seniors march in their final show this weekend. Following practice on Monday, the seven seniors all spoke about their final practices and performance as a member of the Blackhawk Brigade.

"It is all really emotional," said Lacy Richardson. Emotional was the key as many of the seniors found themselves near tears when speaking of their final week. Amanda Emmons, near tears, added that she wouldn't trade this feeling for a world."

Tyler Beyers talked specifically about this weekend's performance saying that, "I'm going to put everything into it because it is my last time." Tiffany Underhill agreed

adding that she hopes to have her best show ever.

While some are emotional, others are “Excited,” as Alexis Fogle said. Michelle Stinchcomb, with a smile, said she is ready to have a great performance. Emmons added, “We are ready to do what we have to do to bring home a state championship.”

Kylyn Dixon, who lost her grandmother just before state finals last year, is now in her final week in band. She’s sad about it being her final performance, but said “I’m just going to go out and do the show for my grandma.”