



Springs Valley Blackhawk Brigade

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Springs Valley shines on National Level

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INDIANAPOLIS – The Springs Valley Blackhawk Brigade impressed many as the only small school band at the Bands of America Lucas Oil Sound Check on Saturday.

The Brigade placed eleventh overall at the BOA event. However, Springs Valley held their own against some of the largest bands in Indiana and the nation. “It was very interesting to see how our program compared to some of the nation’s finest,” stated Director of Bands Luke Aylsworth.

In this contest, the Brigade competed with schools that have 2,000 to 3,000 students in the grades nine through twelve. “Our kids stood their ground and performed without being intimidated. I was very proud of their attitudes and courage,” added Aylsworth.

When designers built Lucas Oil Stadium, marching band was one of the many concepts they were to have in mind. Springs Valley was the first ISSMA Class D band to perform in the stadium. “We really enjoyed the new Lucas Oil Stadium,” Aylsworth said. “It is going to be a terrific location for band competitions. It is ideal for the marching arts activity. It was really awesome to be a part of one of the first marching competitions to be held in the new stadium.”

Earlier in the day, the Brigade performed at the Meijer Greenwood Invitational where they placed second. They won awards for best guard, visual, and general effect.

The Brigade performs twice this weekend. They begin ISSMA competition with District at Jasper on Saturday. They take the field at 11:26 a.m. If the band is awarded with a gold rating, they will advance to Regional on October 18 at Jeffersonville.

Sunday, the Brigade will march in the 41st annual Great Pumpkin Parade to close the Pumpkin Festival. The parade will begin at 2:00 p.m. and will start in West Baden and conclude at the high school.