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SHS BLUE KNIGHTS MARCHING BAND EARN SEVERAL AWARDS AT ROCKY HILL COMPETITION

For Immediate Release

Monday, October 4, 2004

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Rocky Hill --- The Southington Blue Knights Marching Band earned several awards at their second USSBA (United States Scholastic Band Association) competition of the season, which was held at Rocky Hill High School in Rocky Hill, CT, Saturday, October 2.

In their division, the Blue Knights' earned a first place trophy, along with all of the caption awards (Best Color Guard, Best Marching, Best Percussion, Best Music, and Best Music Effect.) Out of the 11 bands competing they placed 2nd, and earned Best Overall Percussion and Best Overall Music Effect awards.

This year's field show entitled "Hieroglyphics" is a unique repertoire composed by Key Poulan and consists of three movements "Valley of the Kings", "The Golden Horus" and "The Royal Cartouches." The band includes 64 musicians, 27 Color Guard, and one Drum Major, and is directed by Jeff Shaw and Sara Sabatino. The show's visuals are directed by Color Guard instructors Laura Shaw and Jennifer Snow, along with drill instructors Ken Bell, Kevin Cormack and Jeff Weir. Steve St. Mary and Colin Mason are the group's percussion instructors.

After the performance, Jeff Shaw was extremely pleased with his students' efforts. "The kids are really setting a high standard for themselves. With a more than 5 point improvement from their first competition, they are in good shape. They are where we want them to be to be at this point in the season. Now we just need to keep adding and refining the program as needed," said Mr. Shaw.

In addition to performing the half-time show during Southington High School's home football games, the Blue Knights' continue their demanding schedule with competitions in Rockville (Oct. 9), Cheshire (Oct. 16), "Music of the Knight" at Southington High School (Oct. 23), USSBA New England Championships in Groton (Oct. 30), Stratford (Nov. 6), and USSBA State Championships at Giants Stadium in East Rutherford, NJ (Nov. 13).

For more information, visit the Blue Knights Marching Band Website at www.shsbands.com, or contact the Southington High School music department at (860) 628-3229 ext. 250.
