

98 Dawn Lane
Southington, CT 06489

SHS BLUE KNIGHTS EARN FIRST PLACE AT WATERFORD COMPETITION

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Contact: Jerry Belanger, Publicity Chairperson
Southington Band Backers
Day: (860) 545-3905
Eve: (860) 621-1099

Waterford --- The Southington Blue Knights Marching Band earned a FIRST PLACE trophy in their division at their first USSBA (United States Scholastic Band Association) competition of the season, which was held at Waterford High School in Waterford, CT, Saturday, September 18.

The Blue Knights' received the 2nd highest score out of the 13 bands competing with their performance entitled "Hieroglyphics." This year's field show 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 Jeffrey 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 declared it a great start to the season. "The kids performed really well. Since the competition was forced indoors (due to the remnants of hurricane Ivan) it was not the kind of competition they have been practicing for. However, they did everything we asked of them and they shined. This is a good indication that their hard work up to this point is paying off. Now we just need to tweak and fine-tune the program," said Mr. Shaw.

The Blue Knights' have a demanding schedule ahead of them with competitions in Rocky Hill (Oct. 2), 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). In addition, they will perform the half-time show during Southington High School's home football games as well as march in Southington's Apple Harvest Parade (Oct. 3).

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.
