

SHS MARCHING BAND PERFORMS AT SOLD OUT NIU FOOTBALL GAME



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Students in the marching band at Schaumburg High School had an opportunity to perform in front of a sold-out, Northern Illinois University football game.

The SHS Marching Band performed on Sept. 21 at the Northern Illinois University vs. Eastern Illinois University football game for NIU Band Days. SHS joined nine other area high school bands, as well as the NIU Huskie Marching Band, for the halftime show in front of 35,000 game attendees.

“The students had a great time,” said Kevin Miller, band director at SHS. “The crowd was electric that night, and we performed under the lights, which is always wonderful. You could just see the band step a little taller and there definitely was a sense of pride because of this.”

Miller said SHS has attended NIU Band Days every year since he started teaching, except for one. The opportunity to perform with a collegiate band during a Huskies football game is an experience he believes is important for his students.

“We also take the students to NIU to try and let them get a sense of what is at the next level,” Miller said. “We rehearse with the Huskie band and perform next to them, then we sit in the stands next to the NIU band so they get to watch that experience. We hope some of our students will make a decision to play in college.”



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Currently, there are two former Saxons who are playing in the NIU band, and one of them served as a tour guide to the current SHS students during their visit. Between practices, the SHS Marching Band was able to explore campus and get a feel for what college life is all about.

“They get a chance to see what college is all about, and to feel the vibe of a college campus,” Miller said. “Plus, this event is a great day of camaraderie, and spending this time together is great for our cohesion, getting to know each other, and seeing the fun social side of band and our work.”