

## **Atkinson Family Takes 8th Place In National Competition**

The Atkinson Family band secured 8th place out of 29 bands in the annual SPBGMA Band Championship held in Nashville, Tenn., Feb. 1, 2, 3 and 4, 2007. The band performed with a fill-in mandolin player after a medical emergency sidelined their regular mandolinist and still scored 7,875 points. It was the band's first attempt at the high pressure contest.

The Society for the Preservation of Bluegrass Music in America, commonly known as SPBGMA, is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of traditional bluegrass music. The national organization holds an annual conference and international band competition every year to showcase the best bands in the nation. The competition is judged and bands are scored on vocals, instrumental prowess and performance ability.

The Atkinson's plan to return to the competition next year and compete again.