

Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with Abigail Murphy

Part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library
Illinois High School Association (IHSA) Oral History project

Interview # SIH-A-L-2017-062

Abigail Murphy, a student at Downers Grove North High School, was interviewed on the date listed below as part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library's *Sports Stories- Illinois High School Association Oral History project*.

Interview dates & location:

Date: June 2, 2017 Location: Downers Grove North High School, Downers Grove, IL

Interview Format: Digital audio

Interviewer: Philip Pogue, ALPL volunteer

Transcription by: _____

Edited by: _____

Total Pages: _____ Total Time: 33:16 / 0.55 hrs.

Accessioned into the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Archives on September 17, 2017.

The interview is archived at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library in Springfield, Illinois.

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Interview being
processed

Abstract

Abigail Murphy, *Sports Stories* – IHSA, SIH-A-L-2017-062

Biographical Information Overview of Interview: Abigail Murphy was born in Hinsdale, Illinois January, 1999. She attended elementary and middle school in Downers Grove. At Downers Grove North High School she participated in track and basketball, and also worked on Omega, the school's newspaper, for three years. In that capacity, she served as the 'future editor' as a sophomore and as the editor during her junior and senior years. She competed in the Illinois High School Association (IHSA) journalism contest for three years, and won medals in Newspaper Design each year. Downers Grove North journalism team earned a third place finish in 2017, and Abigail was named Illinois Journalist of the Year that same year (2017).

This interview covers the experiences of Abigail's involvement in journalism, both as an editor of the school newspaper and as a competitor in three different categories in the IHSA state journalism contest. Abigail talks about IHSA's format for the individual journalism contests, the preparation needed prior to the contest, the evaluation process used for judging student work, and her favorite memories as a participant. She was involved in three portions of the IHSA Journalism Contest, feature writing, newspaper design, and editorial writing. Murphy also talks about the duties of an editor for a high school paper, and the various challenges faced in getting a paper ready for deadline. She reflects on the importance that her involvement in the school newspaper and in the IHSA competition has meant for her overall academic growth.

Subject Headings/Key Words: Illinois High School Association (IHSA); Downers Grove North High School; editing for the Omega (Downers Grove High school paper); IHSA State Journalism Contest; newspaper design; feature writing; editorial writing

Note to the Reader: Readers of the oral history memoir should bear in mind that this is a transcript of the spoken word, and that the interviewer, interviewee and editor sought to preserve the informal, conversational style that is inherent in such historical sources. The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library is not responsible for the factual accuracy of the memoir, nor for the views expressed therein. We leave these for the reader to judge.

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