

Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with Gail Huster

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

Interview # SIH-A-L-2017-007

Gail Huster, a high school and college athlete who became an official for girls' sports, especially basketball, was interviewed on the date listed below as part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library's *Sports Stories - IHSA Oral History project*.

Interview dates & location:

Date: Feb 6, 2017 Location: Hinsdale South High School, Hinsdale, Illinois

Interview Format: Digital audio

Interviewer: Philip Pogue, ALPL volunteer

Transcription by: _____

Edited by: _____

Total Pages: _____ Total Time: 1:51 / 1.85 hrs.

Accessioned into the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Archives on June 6, 2017

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

Transcript
being processed

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Abstract

Gail Huster, Sports Stories – IHSA, SIH-A-L-2017-007

Biographical Information Overview of Interview: Gail Huster was born in Chicago, Illinois in November, 1959 and grew up in Wheeling, Illinois. While at Wheeling High School, Gail competed in tennis, track, basketball, and the new sport of cross country. She also managed the volleyball team at a time when Title IX legislation expanded sports opportunities for girls. She graduated in 1977 then went to Western Illinois University in Macomb, earning a BS in Physical Education in 1981. While at Western, she competed on the school's cross country and track teams.

After college, Gail returned to Wheeling as an instructional aide, while also coaching volleyball, basketball and track from 1982 to 1987. Huster then worked at Elmhurst York High School from 1987 to 1992, where she coached track. After a twelve year hiatus from teaching, Gail returned to teaching and coaching at Hinsdale South High School in 2005, teaching driver education and physical education-health. She also returned to coaching track.

Gail met her husband Tom while he officiated one of her games. Tom encouraged her interest in officiating girls' basketball. Both Gail and Tom received the IHSA Basketball Officials of the Year award in 2015. Gail is also president of the local officials association, which helps with professional training of basketball officials. She discusses working state tournaments and gives insights into the skills a good sports official needs, including a thorough knowledge of the rules. She also talks about licensing, travel and expenses and evolving coaching strategies.

Subject Headings/Key Words: officiating girls' basketball games; professional training for officials; coaching girls' track; experiences as a high school and college athlete; officiating girls' basketball finals; rules changes for girls' sports

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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