

Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with Edward Hoyt

Part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library
Sports Stories Oral History project

Interview # SIH-A-L-2017-060

Edward Hoyt, who discusses his experiences as a hearing-impaired athlete, coach and athletics director, 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: May 30, 2017 Location: Illinois School for the Deaf, Jacksonville, IL

Interview Format: Digital audio

Interviewer: Philip Pogue, ALPL volunteer

Transcription by: _____

Edited by: _____

Interview being
processed

Total Pages: _____ Total Time: 0:59 / 0.98 hrs

Accessioned into the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Archives on (date).

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

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Abstract

Ed Hoyt, *Sports Stories – IHSA*, SIH-A-L-2017-060

Biographical Information Overview of Interview: Ed Hoyt was born in Cicero, Illinois in August, 1981, and grew up in Tinley Park, Illinois. In 8th grade, he began attending the Illinois School for the Deaf in Jacksonville, Illinois due to his hearing impairment. While in high school, Ed participated in football, track and basketball, graduating in 1999. His football team qualified for the state football playoffs. Ed then attended Gallaudet University in Washington D.C. and played football for the University, graduating in 2004. He also began coaching football, including from 2003-2006. Additionally, he worked at Grant-Grayton Urban Support Inc. In 2006 he became a substitute teacher at the Missouri School for the Deaf, and in 2007 he moved to the Illinois School for the Deaf in Jacksonville and became the school's athletic director. At the time of this interview Ed served on the Illinois High School Association (IHSA) Disabilities Advisory Committee, which seeks to increase opportunities in regular and specialized sports for those students with disabilities.

This interview covers the experiences of a student who had a hearing impairment, including his schooling at the Illinois School for the Deaf (ISD) and at Gallaudet University. Hoyt talks about the programs being offered at ISD, such as basketball, track, football, volleyball and club activities. Challenges he discusses include the participation level, resulting in such things as 8-man football, and entering into a cooperative agreements with neighboring schools. He talks about the duties of an athletic director at a state operated school, the scheduling and conference alignments, and some of the IHSA issues that impact the school, such as the concussion protocol and practice schedules where students often travel home on weekends. Other topics of interest included the history of ISD, its junior high program, the availability coaches, and budgeting. He reflects on the role of the Advisory Committee, which looks at increasing opportunities for students with disabilities, including regular sports and activities, as well as specialized sports such as wheel chair basketball, swimming, track, bowling, and road race.

Subject Headings/Key Words: Illinois School for the Deaf (ISD); Gallaudet University; Illinois High School Association (IHSA); challenges faced by deaf students participating in athletics; IHSA Disabilities Advisory Committee; 8-man football for disabled students;

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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EXCERPTS

Ed Hoyt

38-IHSA advisory committee

13-going to 8 man football

49-cooping sports

34-special memories at ISD

17-challenges at ISD