

BIO:

Gwen Doyle Howard – du Pont Manual High School (Class of 1990)

Gwen Doyle maiden name

Gwen Doyle Howard is one of the most accomplished players in Kentucky girls' basketball history. A 1990 graduate of du Pont Manual High School in Louisville, Kentucky, Doyle ended her high school career as the all-time leading scorer in du Pont Manual history with an astonishing 2,997 points. Known for her dominance on both ends of the court, she averaged 32 points and 14 rebounds per game as a senior, earning the prestigious title of Gatorade Player of the Year in Kentucky.

Doyle's senior year was filled with accolades, including selection to the USA Today Super 25 and being honored with the Naismith Award for the top player in Kentucky. A three-time First-Team All-State honoree during her sophomore, junior, and senior seasons, she also led her team with unmatched intensity and consistency.

Her performance in the 1989 game against Wagner High School remains legendary, setting Manual's single-game records with 50 points and 40 rebounds. Over her final two seasons, she led the Lady Crimson to a combined 69–7 record and was named Most Valuable Player of the Louisville Invitational Tournament in both her junior and senior years.

Doyle was selected to represent Kentucky in the 1990 Kentucky-Indiana All-Star series and is a proud member of the Kentucky All-Stars Hall of Fame and duPont Manual High School Hall of Fame. Manual also retired her number 43 and her banner hangs in the school gymnasium. Following her stellar high school career, she earned a basketball scholarship to the University of Louisville, where she played two seasons before transferring to Western Kentucky University to complete her collegiate career and graduated with her Bachelor of Arts degree in communications in 1995. She later took her talents overseas and played professional basketball in Belgium for two years.

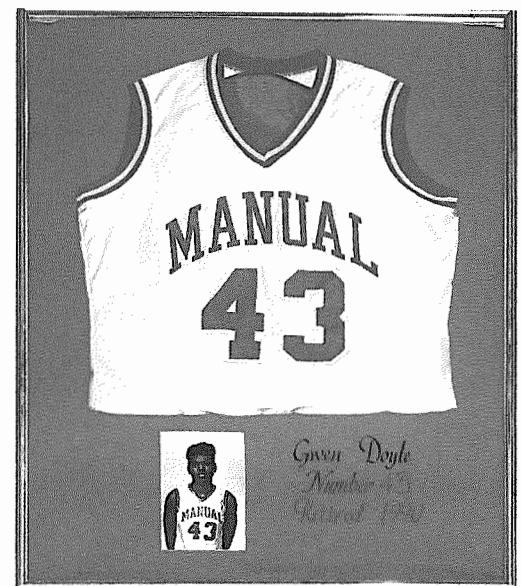
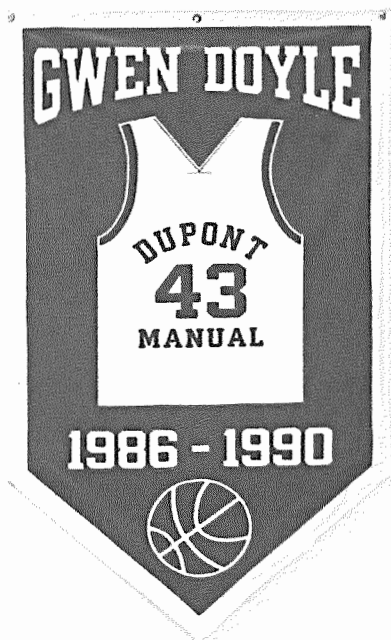
Gwen Doyle Howard's impact on the court and her contributions to Kentucky basketball history remain remarkable. Her legacy continues to inspire generations of athletes across the Commonwealth.

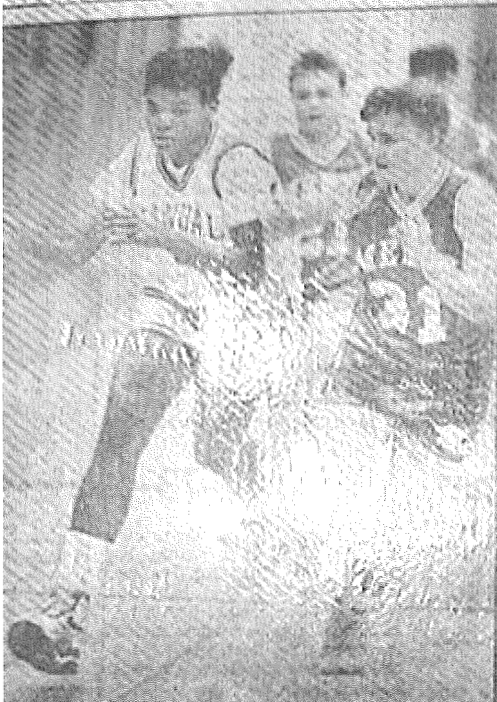
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STAFF PHOTO BY MICHAEL HAYMAN

Doyle scores 37, rallies Manual past Mercy 77-73

By JULIUS KEY
Staff Writer

Mercy basketball coach Leslie Scully thought she had the perfect plan for stopping Manual All-American Gwen Doyle. Unfortunately for Scully, Doyle overcame the plot to score 37 points, including five in the final 2½ minutes, to help Manual (8-2) rally past Mercy 77-73 last night.

Scully had planned to place three players around Doyle in an attempt to deny her the ball. But Doyle caught seven entry passes and pranced through the Jaguars' defense 22 first-half points.

Many of Doyle's points came on half-court drives. She came up near the midcourt circle, caught a lob pass and dribbled to the basket by using one of her many one-on-one moves. In the second half, however, the Jaguars began to follow Scully's instructions. They denied Doyle the ball and kept her to six points in the third period.

With Doyle unable to get the ball, Mercy, led by Chris Jansen, who finished with 19 points, and 6-foot-2 back center Kristie Stuckenberg, who tossed in 14 points, beat its comeback. After trailing 50-34, the Jaguars cut the deficit to 58-53 at the end of the third quarter.

"We didn't do anything different in the second half," Doyle said. "We just weren't very effective in the first half, finally started doing the things we had practiced after time."

le Roalofs, right, tried to keep up with Manual's Gwen Doyle last night. Doyle had 37 points in a 77-73 win.

See DOYLE
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SPORTS

25 GIRLS BASKETBALL PLAYERS MIDSEASON UPDATE

A list of 25 girls basketball players from the USA TODAY preseason top 100 who are currently playing in the state, or are expected to, is listed below. The players are listed by their current team, their preseason ranking, and their current stats. The players are listed in alphabetical order by last name.

Donna Steele, 5-7, New Augusta (Miss.) Perry Central Averaging 24.1 points, 7.2 rebounds, 7.4 assists. Signed with Louisiana State.

Valerie Wages, 5-7, Washington (D.C.) H.D. Woodson Averaging 26 points, five rebounds, five assists. To make college decisions in spring from among Western Kentucky, Maryland, Southern California, Virginia State, Florida International.

Vonda Ward, 5-4, junior, Garfield Heights (Ohio) Trinity Averaging 22.4 points, 16.5 rebounds, 3.5 blocks, 5.4 assists. High jumper of 36 points and 21 rebounds. Has increased shooting range to avoid double- and triple-teaming. Shooting 80 percent from the field, 73 percent of free throws.

Linda Watson, 5-10, Lywood (Calif.) Averaging 20.5 points, 11 rebounds, 5 assists, 1 steal and 2 blocked shots for 20-1 team. Made 69 of 126 three-pointers. Signed with Southern California.

Samantha Williams, 6-1, junior, Louisville Manual First year of point guard, averaging 15.4 points, 4.6 assists, four blocked shots.

Sara Wilson, 6-3, Newhall (Calif.) Bart Averaging 17.9 points, 10 rebounds for 17-4 team ranked No. 4 in California Interscholastic Federation Class 1A Southern Section. Signed with Oregon.

Tiffany Woolsey, 5-7, junior, Shelbyville (Tenn.) Central Averaging 20.7 points, six assists, four rebounds, four steals.

Meggan Yedema, 5-8, Mahanoy City (Pa.) Averaging 25.2 points, 4.4 rebounds, 4.9 assists. Southern basketball star two weeks ago. Signed with Nebraska.

Travessa Gant, 6-1, West Orange-Stark (Texas) Averaging 27.2 points, 13.5 rebounds, 4.4 blocks, 2.1 blocked shots, four assists for 24-4 team. Made 20 percent of three-point shot and tries to make college decisions in spring.

Cornelia Gayden, 5-8, Baylor College (Miss.) Averaging 21.1 points, 11.1 rebounds, four assists, three steals, shooting 60 percent from field, 81.4 percent from free throw line for 23-6 team. High jumper, 53 points. Signed with Louisiana State.

Tammy Gibson, 5-6, Bartlett (S.C.) Averaging 18.8 points, 1.5 rebounds, seven steals, 3.2 assists, 71 from free throw line. Signed with North Carolina State.

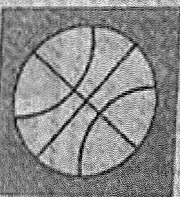
Heidi Gillingham, 6-1, Pott (Texas) Averaging 22.3 points, 11 rebounds, 1.5 blocked shots for 16-2 team. Shooting 72 percent from field. Signed with Vanderbilt.

Yvonne (E.C.) Hill, 5-4, Chicago Whitney Young 22A's top player averaging 25.4 points, 7.9 rebounds, 7.9 assists, 1.1 steals, one blocked shot, 27 percent from free throw line. Signed with Northern Illinois.

Tawana Jackson, 5-7, South Bend (Ind.) LaSalle Averaging 22 points, 6.1 rebounds, 3.1 steals, 4.3 assists. She made 12 of 20 from three-point range. To make college decisions in spring.

Mary Kennel, 5-5, Dan Platten (Ill.) Marian West Averaging 18.2 points, 8.1 assists, 4.7 steals, 3.6 rebounds, 4.6 of 17 three-point tries. Signed with Northeastern.

Lisa Leslie, 5-4, Imperial (Calif.) Norwood Averaging 24.1 points, 11 rebounds, seven blocked shots for 24-4 team. To make college decisions in spring from among Southern California, Long Beach State and Northern Illinois.



Stallings reportedly is new 'Bama coach

See Page 5

TOP SCORING TEAMS

Through Monday's games

Oklahoma
Loyola Marymount
Arkansas
Texas
Georgia Tech

Associated Press poll

The top teams in the Associated Press boys and girls basketball polls, with first-place votes, records through Tuesday's games.

BOYS			
Pos.	School	Record	Pts.
1.	Pleasure Ridge Park (Ky.)	14-2	107
2.	Fairdale (Ky.)	10-3	106
3.	Central (Ky.)	10-2	91
4.	Apollo	12-2	65
5.	Lexington Lafayette	11-1	65
6.	Clay County	12-1	47
7.	University Heights (Ky.)	10-1	44
8.	Warren Central (Ky.)	12-1	38
9.	Elizabeth	13-0	23
10.	Adair County	12-2	10

GIRLS			
Pos.	School	Record	Pts.
1.	Clark County (Ky.)	13-0	69
2.	Southern	6-1	77
3.	Madison (Ky.)	5-2	67
4.	Marshall County	7-2	58
5.	Hardin County (Ky.)	9-0	50
6.	Clayton County	10-1	48
7.	Barren	9-2	47

On the court, Manual rules according to Doyle

By JULIE KEN
Staff Writer

There are times Manual High School All-State basketball player Gwen Doyle simply loves playing over the line like Michael Jordan, scoring over and around defenders.

Doyle makes points. Sometimes she tries to overtake them.

In a game against Male last year, she had one of the best shots she had ever seen. She was on the line, and she was in the zone. Doyle spun around her defender and tried to convert a 360-degree jump. Something was lost in the translation. The ball missed the rim and flew over the backboard.

"It was so silly that coach (Ken) Smith just laughed at me," Doyle said. "He wanted to take me out, but it was in funny and embarrassing that he just left me at there."

Smith just knows Doyle is there a lot. Left to her own devices, she is good enough to be considered one of the nation's top players and the nation's premiere player as the state's top player. The 6-foot senior has signed with the University of Louisville.

As a junior Doyle averaged 21 points and 13.7 rebounds a game while leading Manual to the Sweet Sixteen for the second consecutive year. The Lady Crimsons last year at Christian City County in the semifinals.

"She's a big girl with tremendous talent," said Mary head coach Leslie Gruffy, whose team was burned by Doyle's career-high, 44-point performance last season. "She has a soft touch as a shooter. She's quick, and it's hard to find someone that big and quick. But I think a big key in her ability is that she uses her body well. She's obviously been taught well."

The architect of Doyle's development has been Smith. His eyes lit up when she stepped into the program three years ago.

"Just watching her I knew she was going to be unbelievable," Smith said. "I didn't want to rub her along, so I didn't start her until the late game of the season."

The Crimsons behind Doyle's 13 points a game finished 14-4 that year. But already, Doyle's name had begun to surface among the state's top players.

"She has a great first step," Smith said. "You can see her eyes widening when she gets into the ball. She knows she's going to score while she has the ball in the post. She's an impact player."

Doyle got her start at the DuValle Community Center. She would spend hours after school each day playing basketball at the center. Although the gym was packed with boys, she always played with the girls.

"They played too rough," Doyle said, of the boys. "I didn't like to be touched then."

Eventually Doyle got up the courage to play a pickup game with some of the boys. At first they looked at her like, what do I want," she said. "But after I started playing, it didn't seem so bad. I think I did all right playing with them."

"That's how you get better. They play more physical and faster. Playing with them helped me get better."

By the time Doyle reached Iroquois Middle School, she was an accomplished player. There she was taught to be more than a basketball player. Her coach, Judy Simpson, often tried to convince her of the importance of education. Simpson's efforts helped cement their strong friendship.

"She really helped me with a lot of things," Doyle said. "We really got very close. I talk to her a lot. She helps me when I'm down."

"It was Simpson whom Doyle consulted before making her decision to attend U of L.

"I told her that all those schools may sound wonderful, but she had to go somewhere where you can finish school," said Simpson, who compiled a 72-5 record in the three years she coached Doyle. "I don't think she would have been happy if she would have left Louisville. She might be tall, but she is still a kid. She needs to be where she can have her support system."

Simpson is still pushing Doyle to use basketball to get a degree.

"I've often told her that basketball is her ticket, but the game is education," she said. "She got the scholarship through basketball, but now she's got to use that scholarship to get an education."

Simpson became Doyle's tutor. Often she would have Doyle sit in her English classes to observe her and time for her classwork.

"I'll do anything I can to help Gwen and she knows that," Simpson said. "I bought her an ACT test book to help her study. She's like one of my own kids. I even have a room for her at my house."

The two often shop and spend holidays together.

"One year I remember we went shopping and I bought her a letterman's jacket," Simpson said. "She loved that letterman's jacket. We had so much fun being together. That Christmas she was over in my house, and I didn't know it but Gwen had slipped a gift under the tree for me. She's just a wonderful young lady."

Doyle

Doyle's father, who is a coach, is a basketball player for the Louisville Cardinals. He often likes to say he is a basketball player. His son, William, is a basketball player at Great.

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It also makes Gwen Doyle a basketball player. It also makes Gwen Doyle a basketball player. It also makes Gwen Doyle a basketball player.

They help me and I help them. They help me and I help them. They help me and I help them.

It is also important to see that Manual win the state championship this season. The Lady Crimsons have made the Sweet Sixteen the past two years, but a state championship has eluded them.

"This is my last chance," Doyle said. "We got close last year. I know we have the team to do it this year. That's our mission."

For the Crimsons to win, Doyle must get help from her two closest friends on the team, junior forward Erica Jackson and guard-forward Samantha Williams.

"They're both really good players," Doyle said. "We're kind of like family. That keeps us strong. If we play together, I know we can do it."

But Doyle's goals go beyond basketball. Although she hasn't decided on a major, she wants to be an entrepreneur.

"I want to be a businesswoman," Doyle said. "I know that basketball will end after college. I'm looking beyond that. I want my own business."

After watching Doyle grow from a tiny little girl in strong young woman, Simpson believes Doyle will accomplish all her goals.

"I know she'll do all right," Simpson said. "We often talk about these things. She's determined. She won't fail. There are too many people pulling for her."

Doyle is center of attention

(This is the sixth in an eight-part series previewing the teams participating in the Allcoona Rotary Holiday Tournament Dec. 27-29 at the Allcoona Fieldhouse.)

By John Hartsock
Mirror Sports Staff

Senior center-forward Gwen Doyle, one of the top high school girls basketball players in the country, has done everything but take refreshments at the games for the Louisville Manual (Ky.) team.

Doyle has averaged an astounding 38 points and 23 rebounds per game in leading Manual to a 4-1 record entering next week's Rotary Tournament at the Allcoona Area High School Fieldhouse.

"Gwen is a remarkable player,"

Louisville Manual Coach Ken Smith said. "She does so many things so

well. This season, Doyle—who recently finished with the Under-16 Louisville—hit her high school's first game against Louisville High School, scoring 50 points and adding 49 rebounds, 10 blocked shots—a season's first for many players.

Doyle is a good player, and she's really taking the game to the next level. We have a lot of young players on our team, and Gwen is doing a real good job in leading them by example."

Louisville Manual had been ranked second nationally until a 13-point loss to rival Oldham County early this season. Manual was play-

ing the game with one of its better starters, 6-1 junior guard Samantha Williams, struggling with the flu. Williams, a fine three-point shooter, has averaged 29 points a game.

"There are six or seven high school programs in Kentucky where you don't go into their gym and win," Smith said, citing Oldham County—currently ranked eighth in the country, as one of those programs.

Louisville Manual has since rebounded admirably from that loss, winning its next two games by scores of 68-37 and 162-31.

"We're on the road to recovery," Smith said.

The team's other everyday starter besides Doyle and Williams is 5-foot-9 junior post player Erica Jackson. Four other players—sophomore guards Tanika Smith and Julie Dugan, freshman wing Sarah Eder-

ALCOONA MIRROR, Saturday, December 23, 1989

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at Louisville Manual

heimer, and junior center Sandy Haller—all see plenty of playing time in Smith's seven-player rotation.

"If we have our droppers, we plan to play an up-tempo game," Smith said. "We like to move the ball up the floor, and press on defense. Dugan and Sam (Samantha Williams) are two kids who can shoot the three-pointers, and getting the ball inside to Gwen, is our bread and butter."

Smith—who sports a composite three-year coaching record at Manual of 78 wins and just 15 losses—heard rave reviews about the Allcoona Rotary Tournament from Russ Thompson, an assist coach at Louisville Southern.

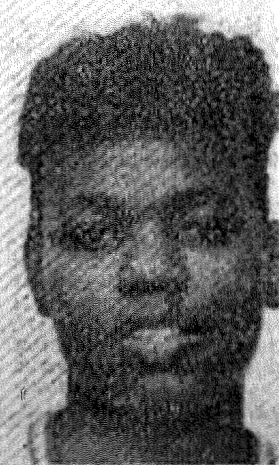
"We've heard so many fine things about the (Rotary Tournament)," Smith said. "We get along with the (Louisville) Southern people real well, and they think this tournament might be run better than our state

tournament."

Louisville Manual finished second in Kentucky's marathon state tournament last year. Unlike Pennsylvania, there are no separate classifications for high school basketball competition in Kentucky—the state's nearly 300 teams spanning 16 regions pair off against one another until a champion is determined.

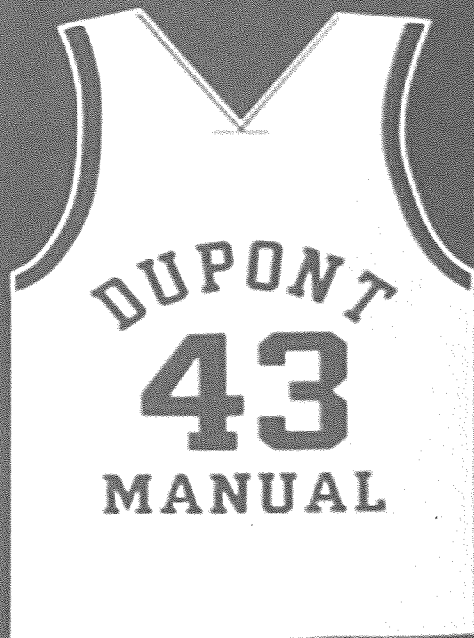
Smith thinks that his team's participation in the Rotary Tournament will be a positive experience.

"It will be culturally enriching for some of my kids, who have never been out of Louisville," Smith said. "The thing I really like about this tournament is that every team is guaranteed at least three games, so if you have a bad first game, you have the opportunity to bounce back. We're really excited about being there."

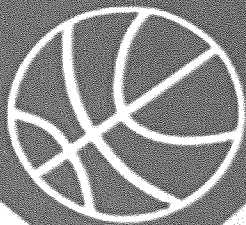


Gwen Doyle

GWEN DOYLE



1986 - 1990



Gwen Doyle
Number 43
Retired 1990

Girls' LIT puts Manual's Gwen Doyle in spotlight

By JAMES S. JUNOT
Editor

As the 1989 Girls Louisville Invitational Tournament opened last week, Jefferson County would also be putting the top scorer in the state on display.

But the day before the tournament was scheduled to begin, Gwen Doyle was worried about what people would say even if the Lady Crimsons of duPont Manual would wind up winning it all.

"I was looking forward to playing Southern (in the LIT)," Doyle said. "But now, even if we win it, people will be saying we won only because Southern wasn't in it. I really wanted to play them."

Southern and their top player, Lisa Harrison, as it was found out earlier in the week, would be absent from the LIT because of a rule that limits the number of tournaments a team can compete in.

On Wednesday night, Manual will meet the winner of the Fairdale-Eastern game, and Doyle will be attempting to increase her 35.1 points per game scoring average.

The 6-0 Doyle also leads the state in rebounding with a 16.0 rebounds per game average. In 1988-89, Doyle has hit 62 percent from the field and 75 percent from the foul line.

And she's only a junior.

With Doyle leading the way, Ken Smith's Lady Crimsons have gotten off to their best start in history with a 13-4 record heading into the LIT.

"I didn't know what kind of season I was going to have," Doyle said. "Last year I would sometimes come into games feeling like I would have a 30- or 40-point game. But some games I would only get around 20, and people think that's a bad game for me. But I'd just be happy that we won."

But scoring "only" 20 or so points is something that Doyle hasn't had to face very

often this season, however. Against Morey Academy she set a school record with 44 points.

In the Lady Crimsons' game against Ingot, Smith removed Doyle from the game after playing 19 minutes. But even with the abbreviated playing time, she still scored 22 points and hauled down 12 rebounds. Smith said it was because of Doyle's recent bout with the flu and that the game was well in Manual's hands made him decide to remove the Street and Smith All-American.

Smith, who coached several great prep players while he was an assistant at Mercy and Sacred Heart, is now in his third year at Manual. He said that Doyle is the best forward he has seen.

"Dawn Brohmman did a great job for us at Sacred Heart," Smith said. "She's now playing at St. Mary's. Susan Yates, who's now playing for Centre College, scored over 2,000 career points at Sacred Heart. But they were different players. Susan was a guard, and Gwen is a power forward and can sometimes play center. I've never seen one with her ability at that position."

But at 6-0, Doyle herself wonders if she has the height to play power forward in when she starts college in 1990. But college for the junior is still one and half years away. And the immediate future holds the LIT. Smith said that opponents feel intimidated by having to defend not only against Doyle, but also the other Lady Crimsons.

"(Having Doyle) puts pressure on every team we play," Smith said. "It makes them conscious of the inside game." It allows people like Amy Drummond and Samantha Williams to take advantage of it and shoot un molested most of the time. It makes every team conscious that you've got to stop Doyle somehow or the other or at least offset her points in some way.

Smith said that since Doyle has emerged as the scoring leader, Manual has

seen all types of gimmick defenses designed to stop her.

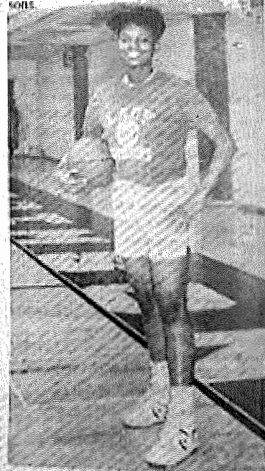
"We'll see man defenses only because I'll force you to play me man," he said.

Since Southern will be sitting out this year's tournament, Manual has been made the odds-on favorite to win. Doyle and the Lady Crimsons will have to wait until the last game of the season to meet the Lady Trojans.

Doyle said that facing the Harrison-led Lady Trojans just before the district tournament doesn't faze her.

"I think it's good for us," she said. "We did that last year. We had a tough game against Ballard. Then we had a tough game against Valley, and then we played Southern later that same week. We won both games, and they were close. When we went through the regionals and the district, it was like a dream come true."

Gwen Doyle may be having a dream of a season, but opponents would testify that it's a nightmare. They have to face her and the other Lady Crimsons.



GWEN DOYLE
duPont Manual High School
35.1 points per game average
16.0 rebounds per game average

Top 25 teams

GIRLS		
(First place wins in parentheses)		
Team	W-L	Last yr.
1 Manual LIT	31-4	
2 Morey Academy	28-3	
3 St. Mary's	25-5	
4 Ballard	24-2	
5 Morey Academy	24-4	
6 St. Mary's	23-5	
7 St. Mary's	23-4	
8 St. Mary's	22-5	
9 St. Mary's	22-7	
10 St. Mary's	21-1	
11 St. Mary's	20-4	
12 St. Mary's	20-4	
13 St. Mary's	20-4	
14 St. Mary's	20-4	
15 St. Mary's	20-4	
16 St. Mary's	20-4	
17 St. Mary's	20-4	
18 St. Mary's	20-4	
19 St. Mary's	20-4	
20 St. Mary's	20-4	
21 St. Mary's	20-4	
22 St. Mary's	20-4	
23 St. Mary's	20-4	
24 St. Mary's	20-4	
25 St. Mary's	20-4	

Top 25 players

GIRLS		
Player, school	Ht.	Yr.
1 Gwen Doyle, Manual	6-0	Jr.
2 Geraldine Bright, Henry Clay	6-0	Jr.
3 Kim Mays, Knox Central	5-9	Jr.
4 Lisa Robinson, Clark Co.	5-11	Jr.
5 Samantha Williams, Manual	6-1	Jr.
6 Virginia Dillingham, Madison Cent.	6-0	Jr.
7 Lisa Gerton, PJP	5-8	Jr.
8 Lori Abbott, Ballard	6-3	Jr.
9 Debbie Hook, Green Co.	5-11	Jr.
10 Becky Robinson, Nelson Co.	5-9	Jr.
11 Michelle Burden, Southern	5-8	Jr.
12 Vesperia Cook, F-Simpson	6-0	Jr.
13 Geraldine Hill, Holmes	5-11	Jr.
14 Joa Bowen, Madison Clark	6-1	Jr.
15 Lisa Hayden, Henderson Co.	5-9	Jr.
16 Shirley Bryant, Henry Clay	5-10	Jr.
17 Stacy Reed, Laurel Co.	5-8	Jr.
18 Stephanie Minor, West Hopkins	6-0	Jr.
19 Henry D. Bryan, Odessa Co.	5-4	Jr.
20 Ericka Murrey, Bryan Station	5-6	Jr.
21 Debbie Nichols, West Harsh	5-9	Jr.
22 Kristina Martin, Holy Cross	5-8	Jr.
23 Carol Fennell, Hazard	5-6	Jr.
24 Karen Powell, Gentry Co.	5-10	Jr.
25 Kim Wernick, Colson	5-8	Jr.

Based on poll of coaches