

Douglas R. Mills Biography



Douglas R. Mills, - Class of 1926 - b. April 9, 1908 - d. August 12, 1993
 From the EHS Yearbook, The Maroon: "Gaga", *"He has an open heart, affectionate and true."* General Course - Lightweight Football '22, '23; Heavyweight Football '24, '25; Lightweight Basketball '22; Heavyweight Basketball '23, '24, '25; Captain '25; Track '25; Chairman Junior Prom; Student Council '23, '24, '25; Vice-President '24; Mirror Staff.

He was a native of Elgin, Illinois, was a high school and college basketball player and coach in the state of Illinois. During high school, Mills was the first player in the state to lead his team to back-to-back titles in 1924 and 1925. He totaled 32 points in four state tournament games for Elgin High School during an era of low-scoring play. Mills played for the Illinois Fighting Illini men's basketball team from 1927 to 1930 followed by a five-year coaching stint at Joliet Township High School. It was at Joliet where he led his team to the state tournament in 1935. He returned to the U of I as head men's basketball coach between 1936 and 1947. It was during this time where he coached the f Mills died in 1993.

While coaching at Illinois, Mills compiled a record of 151 wins and 66 losses, winning three conference titles during his tenure. Mills served as Athletic Director for the University of Illinois from 1941 to 1966, responsible for football coaches Ray Eliot and Pete Elliott and basketball coach Harry Combes. In 2007, the Illinois High School Association named Mills one of the 100 Legends of the IHSA Boys Basketball Tournament.

HIGH SCHOOL

School	Season	Record	Postseason
Joliet Township HS	1930-31	12-10	
Joliet Township HS	1931-32	16-3	
Joliet Township HS	1932-33	10-9	
Joliet Township HS	1933-34	18-4	District Champions
Joliet Township HS	1934-35	12-10	State Quarterfinalist
Coaching totals	1930-35	68-36	

COLLEGE

Season	Team	Season Record	Conf. Record	Place
1936-37	Illinois	14-4	10-2	T-1st

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1937-38	Illinois	9-9	4-8	T-8th
1938-39	Illinois	14-5	8-4	3rd
1939-40	Illinois	14-6	7-5	T-4th
1940-41	Illinois	13-7	7-5	T-3rd
1941-42	Illinois	18-5	13-2	1st
1942-43	Illinois	17-1	12-0	1st
1943-44	Illinois	11-9	5-7	6th
1944-45	Illinois	13-7	7-5	3rd
1945-46	Illinois	14-7	7-5	T-5th
1946-47	Illinois	14-6	8-4	T-2nd
Total	Illinois	151-66	88-47	