

Nouvel's Jenny Ryan is the 28th recipient of the Michigan Miss Basketball trophy

Greg Mancina | The Saginaw News, March 16, 2009 1:52 p.m.

Nouvel Catholic Central's Jenny Ryan was named the 28th recipient of the Michigan Miss Basketball trophy as the state's best senior girls basketball player on Monday in Detroit.

Ryan, who compiled a 93-10 record in her four years as a varsity starter, including a pair of Class C state championships and an Associated Press Class C player of the year award, won 1,728 points while Benton Harbor's Destiny Williams was second with 1,523 points. None of the four other candidates won more than 770 points, which are awarded in a 5-3-1 format by votes of the Basketball Coaches Association of Michigan membership.

The 18-year old, who is the first Saginaw area winner since Nouvel's Danielle Kamm won it in 2002, said she was concerned about her chances to win after seeing Williams' scoring average, which is about 30 points per game.

"Jenny is way more valuable than stats," said Nouvel coach Kris Hengesbach. "People who appreciate the game love watching her play. She plays with so much passion and intensity."

Ryan, who is her class president and carries a 4.3 grade-point average as the No. 2-rated student in her class, scored 1,405 career points with 4.3 steals per game over the four years. As a senior, she averaged nearly 17 points per game with 4.5 assists and 4.3 rebounds.

Ryan holds the state finals records of 17 points in a quarter against Flint Hamady in the 2006 state championship game, while she had 12 steals in the 2008 state finals. "I am honored, blessed and thankful to be Miss Basketball 2009," Ryan said.