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Doutt heading to Southern Virginia

BY MATT RAWLINGS
Of the Keizertimes

After a successful three-year stint with the McNary girls' basketball squad, Leah Doutt announced last week that she will be continuing her education and basketball career at

Southern Virginia University, a Division III school in Buena Vista, Va.

Doutt had garnered interest from schools such as Northwest Nazarene, Linfield, George Fox, Pacific Lutheran and Arizona Christian, but ultimately decided on attending Southern Virginia. She plans to double major in business and politics

"I am so excited. I have wanted to compete at the next level for a long time. I am so stoked," Doutt said.

Despite missing eight games last season, Doutt was still a first-team all-Mountain Valley Conference selection last season as a junior after leading her team in scoring and assists. She was a sec-

ond-team all-conference selection the year prior.

"Leah has been a critical part of this team ever since her freshman year. She has amazing court vision and is a great passer. She shoots the ball really well and is one of our

"I am so excited. I have wanted to compete at the next level for a long time.

— Leah Doutt

best defenders," McNary girls' basketball coach Elizabeth Doran said. Doutt first heard about the school from Gretchen Olsen, a former South Salem player who is entering her freshman year at Southern Virginia. One of the reasons that Southern Virginia first appealed to Doutt was because the school is aligned with The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints — Doutt is a devout Mormon.

"My religion is really important to me," Doutt said.

When she first took her official visit to Southern Virginia last month, Doutt knew that

Please see DOUTT, Page A8



McNary point guard Leah Doutt will be forgoing a chance to play her senior year with the Celtics and instead will be enrolling early at Southern Virginia University. She plans to join the school's women's basketball team next month.

#10 Adam Duvall



Getty Images

Adam Duvall had the best season of his young career in 2016 with the Reds, hitting 33 homers and knocking in 103 RBIs.

BY MATT RAWLINGS
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At #10 on the Keizertimes list of the top 20 Volcanoes players of all time is Atlanta Braves outfielder/first baseman Adam Duvall. Duvall has played in the big leagues for seven seasons and made the National League (NL) All-Star team in 2016.

Duvall grew up in Kentucky and started his collegiate career at Western Kentucky University before eventually transferring to Chipola College and then the University of Louisville. He was drafted by the San Francisco Giants in the 11th round of the 2010 Major League Baseball (MLB) Draft.

With the Volcanoes in 2010, Duvall batted .245 with four home runs and 18 RBIs in 54 games. He was promoted to the Augusta GreenJackets in 2011, which is where his talent began to show. Duvall led the team with 22 homers and 87 RBIs while batting .285 in 116 games.

Duvall's power numbers increased the following season in high-A ball with the San

Jose Giants as he led all Single-A players in 2012 with 30 homers.

After missing some time due to an injury to his left thumb in Double-A with the Richmond Flying Squirrels, Duvall still hit 17 homers and had 58 RBIs to go along with his .252 average in 2013.

Duvall spent the first three months of the 2014 season in Triple-A with the Fresno Grizzlies, but on June 25, 2014, he was called up to make his big league debut with the Giants.

In his first MLB game, Duvall homered off of Cincinnati Reds right-hander Mike Leake — the two players were involved in a trade the following season. Duvall was sent back down to the minor leagues on July 4, 2014, but re-joined the Giants later in the month.

Even though his MLB career began with a bang, Duvall struggled in his 28 games with the Giants, batting just .192 with three homers.

Duvall was sent back to Triple-A for the beginning of the 2015 season. On July 30, 2015,

the Giants traded Duvall and Keury Mella to the Reds in exchange for Leake.

After the trade was completed, Duvall spent the next month in Triple-A with the Louisville Bats before the Reds called him up on Aug. 31, 2015.

In his first at-bat for Cincinnati, Duvall blasted a two-run, pinch-hit homer in the Reds 13-6 win over the Chicago Cubs. In 27 games with the Reds, Duvall hit .219 with five homers and nine RBIs.

Duvall's first full season in the big leagues came in 2016. While he was a little-known player to begin the year, Duvall quickly became one of the best power hitters in all of baseball.

For the first three months of the 2016 season, Duvall led the NL in slugging percentage and was tied for first in the MLB in homers. In July 2016, he was the only Cincinnati player selected to the All-Star Game, becoming the first Louisville University alum to ever become an All-Star.

Duvall also participated in the 2016 Home Run Derby



Bill Greenblatt/United Press International

Duvall shouts in celebration after hitting the go-ahead two-run single in game three of the 2019 National League Division Series.

— he was defeated by 2015 champion Todd Frazier in the semifinals.

Duvall ended the season with 33 home runs, which was good enough for sixth in the National League. He also had 103 RBIs on the season.

Duvall put up similar numbers in 2017, batting .247 with 31 dingers and 99 RBIs. The 2017 season was also a year of firsts for Duvall. He hit his first grand slam on April 18, 2017 off of Kevin Gausman in the Reds 9-3 win over the Balti-

more Orioles. Then on July 14, 2017, Duvall had his first career walk-off hit in a 4-3 victory over the Arizona Diamondbacks.

Early in the 2018 season, Duvall hit his first walk-off home run against A.J. Ramos of the New York Mets, propelling the Reds to the 2-1 win.

However, Duvall struggled for just .205 in 2018, batting just .205 in 105 games. On July 30, 2018, Duvall was traded to the Braves for Lucas Sims, Matt Wisler, and Preston

Tucker. But Duvall's struggles continued in Atlanta for the remainder of the year as he finished the season batting .192 with 15 homers and 61 RBIs.

Duvall encountered more issues at the plate during spring training of 2019, which prompted the Braves to send him back down to Triple-A. However, Duvall was able to get back in a groove at a lower level.

Duvall had 32 homers and Please see DUVALL, Page A8