

Daniel Velasquez Wilson

Print Content Portfolio

Mr. Velasquez Wilson exempts experience with print content. During current work experience endeavors, Daniel has worked as a digital news companies produce content for distribution on online platforms such as Dear Volleyball and Missouri Valley Delta News Paper, Mr. Velasquez-Wilson served as the sole staff writer for DearVolleyball.com where he was in charge of the interview and reporting on Local Las Vegas players while remotely working from college.

1. From Lay Ups To Labor: Dribbling a collegiate basketball career and a family
2. Top 5 Things to do while in Marshall Missouri
3. Former Mojave Rattler, Alexis Fetui, Making Waves in NAIA PostSeason
4. tockham Hopes to Lead Bishop Gorman Gaels to Glory in State Championship Finals

Dribbling around a child: Managing a collegiate basketball career and a family

At Missouri Valley College (MVC), William Evan Burns Gymnasium cemented purple and white walls as a staple for the college athletic programs. Housing three classrooms, multiple coaching offices, a wrestling room, three full sized basketball courts, three volleyball courts, an indoor track, batting cage, weight room and athletic training room Burns gymnasium is a parcel of hard work, blood, sweat and tears.

Throughout the day teams come and go preparing for their upcoming seasons.

Rushing from classes to the gym can be challenging for any typical college athlete, for Darryl Lemear and Savannah Enlow this task is considerably more difficult

Student coach Andre Scott , standing on the main court in Burns, interrupted a regularly scheduled practice for the Missouri Valley Colleges Men's Basketball team. Screaming with excitement, delivering the news that would change Lemear's life forever, "Darryl! Savannahs water just broke, Go!" Instantly Head Coach Chad Lance released the athlete from the practice so Lemear could be there for the birth of his first son. Completely dressed in a practice uniform Lemear grabbed his belongings, sparked a nervous sweat, spirited up the stairs, and out the main entryway with a rage of fire and determination.

Meanwhile, Enlow was hard at work at the Marshall Applebees. Knowing her due date was approaching she decided to work until her water broke. Working as a server, one can only imagine how hard it was working while nine months pregnant. Not because she had too, but that's who Savannah is, a hard working individual, she refused to stay idle at home. While on the clock Enlows water broke. She instantly called Daryl's cell phone to inform him of the news and to her surprise Coach Scott answered.

The following day, October 29, 2016 Enlow, still in her work uniform and Lemear, still in his practice uniform welcomed their first born son, Kai Lemear to the world. Weighing in at seven pounds six ounces, Kai became the son of two hardworking collegiate basketball players.

Savannah Enlow is a retired basketball player born and raised in Corydon, Indiana. Enlow became a full ride transfer student from Rend Lake College, a junior college located in Ina, Illinois. Enlow wasnt always good at basketball, when reaching her senior year of high school Enlow decided to quit her high school basketball team as she claims she wasn't receiving much playing time if any at all. After internal conversation Savannah decided she wanted to work hard.

Enlow wanted to become a collegiate athlete despite not playing her senior high school season.

She began training herself, going to the gym getting as many reps as she could with a basketball. Spending countless hours striving to sweat a little more, lift a little more, and be sore just a little more.

Enlow was preparing herself to attend Maximum Exposure, a recruiting showcase for high school athletics. During the event student athletes are distributed jerseys in order for potential coaches to track the recruits. As time began ticking and the event was drawing near an end, Enlow heard someone shouting her designated number.

“Hey number 25! Number 25! Number 25 come here, come talk to me. I want you to play for me, I want to offer you a scholarship!”

Instantly all Enlow’s hard work paid off.

Savannah in complete shock packed her bags in Indiana and accepted her offer to Rend Lake College. For the following two years Enlow performed on the court and in the classroom. Graduating with her associates degree in arts and science, she ended up at Missouri Valley in the fall of 2015.

Enlow then met Lemear, the two instantly clicked.

Darryl Lemear is a four year basketball player from Austin, Texas. Growing up Lemear did not see himself completely engaged in the sport of basketball but deemed it mandatory if he wanted to be a collegiate athlete. Lemear grew up back and forth from Houston and Austin as his parents divorced quite early on in his life, playing multiple sports in each city.

Around his sophomore year of high school is when Lemear decided to stem away from the other sports and make basketball his priority. Through his hard work Lemear received many awards and attributions in his district and region. These awards caught the eye of juco level coaches as well as Missouri Valley College.

Lemear decided to accept Valley's offer, coming in as a freshman in 2014 with his best friend and soon to be teammate, Kyle Hickey.

Hickey describes Darryl as a talented and hard working father.

Taking it back to before the pregnancy went public, Enlow kept a secret. Savannah had developed early signs for pregnancy but didn't want to assume the outcome. After missing her menstruation cycle, she decided to take a pregnancy test..

The test read positive.

Still in shock Enlow decided to withhold the information from going public but decided if it was only right that Lemear knew what was happening.

Apon Lemears discovery, he was scared. Not scared to become a parent, but scared to find an explanation to tell his parents. At this time Lemear sat idly in his room, lights off, silent. Rereading the pregnancy test over and over and over again for approximately three hours. Upon the realization of the test being positive he decided to inform Hickey.

Kyle provided guidance and assurance that Lemear would be a good father.

As the pregnancy came to light and confirmed by a doctor, Enlow was nervous but not scared. As time progressed Enlow felt as if she was already ready to take on the responsibility of a child, as she is the oldest of her siblings and had had experience helping raise them. Another frightful thought that ran through Enlows head was the idea of basketball being taken away from her. She knew at this time that playing for another team would be far fetched.

Still competing through pregnancy, Enlow came out clean to her teams following their final game against Benedictine. Instantly her team was supportive regarding the situation.

Within forty eight hours Coach Dixon heard through the grapevine of the news.

He then decided to call a meeting with Enlow. During the discussion Enlow informed him of the pregnancy and had relayed the information that she would not be returning to Valley. They then concluded that her full ride scholarship would be revoked as she was not returning as a student.

At the time Enlows plan was to return home and raise Kai with the help of her grandmother. After much consideration she felt as if it was in the best interest of herself, Kai and Darryl to remain in Marshall to finish their degrees.

She knew it wouldn't be easy but it'll be worth it.

A typical day in the Lemear household is quite entertaining as much consideration and time management must be considered. Oftentimes their attention to detail is often noted.

Anya Muyres, an MVC Softball player, has taken notice of the fine detail. While in the gym or weight room Anya says she admires the couple as Savannah is often seen running in the gym handing off Kai to a coach or Darryl. At this point it seems as if Kai becomes a child of the basketball program, everyone helps keep an eye over him as Darryl practices and Savannah is in class or at work.

Muyres continues to mention "It's really awesome to see how supportive everyone is with Kai and the parents. I don't know how they find time to manage sports, work, school, and a child. I don't know them personally but it's nice to see people my age handle all of it seamlessly."

Enlow believes that she would be struggling if it wasn't for how flexible Applebees, The comfort Inn (Lemear's employer), and Coach Lance has been. With continuous fluidity and flexibility provided by all three parties the couple is able to manage their time and scheduling effectively.

It seems as if the couple is highly respected amongst their peers for their commitment to each other as well as school. Whenever the topic of Savannah and Darryl is mentioned grins are expressed from ear to ear as people instantly imagine baby Kai in their minds.

This is enlightening for many but it wasn't always this way.

When the news broke about Enlows pregnancy, she felt as if there was a negative connotation added to her public appearance. Darryl also confirms that people around campus were well aware of the situation. Oftentimes when entering the cafe or public spaces it seemed to the two that all eyes were all them. Savannah has claimed to even over her people talking about her.

“Look there's that pregnant basketball chick”

Something Enlow heard many times amongst the crowd. She says this was expected at a small school and that it didn't bother her much at the time. Many people have had different opinions regarding the subject, mainly the backlash was because she was a collegiate athlete. Enlow believes if she was a typical student that the reactions would have been more accepting at the time.

Lemear was even affected by the pregnancy going public. He claims that his reaction from students was quite similar to Enlows. Many people were simply referring him to ‘that guy that got that basketball chick pregnant.’ It seemed as if people stopped focusing on his basketball abilities and focusing on his personal life.

For the longest Lemear even kept the secret from his coach, and he had a good reason too. Leading up the days that Savannah broke the news to Lemear. Darryl's older brother was arrested and contained in jail and his lifelong friend had just passed away in a tragic car accident.

The last thing on Lemear was the idea of becoming a father but with death comes life. He decided to hold all of this emotion in.

Coach Lance and his coaching staff noticed Darryls game play being affected and Lance wanted answers. Following the arrival back to campus, Lance released his team from the bus and asked Lemear to stay behind. Here the coaching staff confronted him.

“Darryls what's going on why are you playing like this?”

Lance wanted answers, Darryl came clean about what had happened to him all that week. Instantly Lance was fully supportive saying, "well we'll just have to figure it out, we can manage it"

Ever since that day Coach Lance and his wife Ellen have taken a huge part in supporting the couple and their journey of becoming new parents. It has been comforting seeing a coach care about his athletes the way Lance cares about these two. Not once did he grind or tarish Lemear, he supported him.

Seeing the school's perspective change has been really unique. It's almost as if them continuing their education and working that much harder to make things work has drawn in the attention of their peers and gained respect amongst the crowd.

Throughout this entire process and journey Enlow and Lemear have learned alot about hard work and family values. With Kai as an addition to their lives they have drawn closer together. Lemear continued to say

"Ky is legend, Ky is the man, my man. He's the smartest man in the world. He is the number one ranked basketball player in his age division. I'm not a big family person, I stick to myself. Ky changed that, It's all about family now."

This was enduring for Enlow to hear, as she has seen them two grow as parents just as ky grows everyday. As Kai grows Enlow begins to consider what kind of person she hopes him to be in the future. With life moving so fast and steady she left me with this...

"I want Kai to know that he will always run into obstacles in life but if you put your mind into it you can overcome it all, really. I know that that is typical but I feel like nobody could have done this the way i've done this especially on my own, with Darryl. I truly am happy with the way things have turned out, I want Kai to understand that if he works hard he can do anything."

Top 5 Things To-Do In Marshall Missouri

Marshall Missouri is a small town located just eighty-eight miles west of Downtown Kansas City. Populating just a little under 13,000 thousand people, Marshall is the home to many hidden gems. When visiting Marshall one should truly consider stopping by the following places. These are the top 5 things to do well in Marshall, Missouri.

1. Visit Jim the Wonder Dog

Considered an American legend, Jim the wonder dog was an impeccable Llewelin Setter for his time. Originally from the state of Louisiana, the wonder dog finished his well lived life in Marshall, Missouri. You must be asking what makes Jim such a wonder dog, according to the legends Jim reportedly predicted the winner of the Kentucky Derby seven times, the sex of unborn babies, and take commands in any foreign language thrown his way. Jim was a true wonder dog. Marshall is the home to a small museum and garden dedicated to the long lived life of Jim. The Museum is open most days from 9:00am-5:30pm and is located at *101-113 N Lafayette Ave, Marshall, MO 65340*, when visiting the site you will be greeted by a great staff that will educate you on the life timeline of Jim and how exactly he finished his life in Marshall



<http://likethedew.com/wp-content/uploads/2010/05/Garden-2.jpg>

2. Stop by the Great Circle-Tom Butterfield Campus

Just a little over fifty years ago, Tom Butterfield became the youngest and first male, single foster parent in Missouri History. Attending Missouri Valley College, Tom began a federal work study just that enlisted his help at a local mental institution completing janitorial work. While working one evening he stumbled upon a six year old boy who was forced in the institution temporarily until a foster family became available. Tom decided to do whatever he could to become the child's foster dad. According to Great Circle Tom's courage inspired the Marshall community to join him and, despite many odds, they transformed his vision into an organization

able to serve thousands of children over five decades. Today, Butterfield Youth Services has grown to 100 employees providing services to children with emotional and behavioral disorders in West Central Missouri. The complete Tom Butterfield story is outlined in the Movie 'The Children Nobody Wanted' starring Michelle Pfeiffer, the movie debuted in 1981. *Located at 1126 East Highway WW, Marshall, MO 65340*, the campus is a defining building to the Marshall community.



<http://pwarchitects.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/BYS-entrance.jpg>

3. Take a Stroll down the Brick path way at Missouri Valley College

Missouri Valley College is a small four year Liberal Arts school. Offering a wide variety of majors the college athletic teams compete in the NAIA. With enrollment numbers just a little over 1,200 you would never expect this small campus to be as diverse as it is. A quick stroll down the brick path leading from the Ferguson center to Baity Hall can provide the evidence. Upon walking down the path you will hear languages being spoken from all over the world from nearby conversations. Centered around academics and athletics you're in for an athletic demonstration of hard work. A quick stroll to Valleywillroll.com will provide upcoming game information, If you are in the area it is high likely you plan to attend a any sporting game as the MVC Football team in the most winningest team in the NAIA, the softball Men's Lacrosse team is a dominant force and the Men's Volleyball team is finished fifth in the nation their past season. For more information stop by the admission office at *500 E College Street Marshall, Mo 65340*.

4. Go Bowling at Holiday Lanes

5.

Just north of town Holiday Lanes is a Marshall Treasure. Offering cheap food, great burgers and even cheaper bowling. You will be paying a fraction of the price it cost bowling in neighboring towns or in the city. Holiday Lanes is a fun time away from the normal bowling experience.

Open from 9 in the morning till ten at night most days this hidden gem is located at *1155 Santa Fe Trail, Marshall, MO 65340.*



6. Shot your friends at J&J's Paintball

J&J's Paintball is Marshall Missouri's premier paintball facility. Located just outside of town this paintball facility provides an adrenaline rush for those seeking adventure and fun. J&J offers reasonable priced rates and accommodation to your needs. They even offer group rates. The outdoor paintball arena can be found at *2526 E Eastwood St, Marshall, MO 65340*



Former Mojave Rattler, Alexis Fetui making waves in the NAIA Postseason.

November 9, 2018

Daniel Velasquez Wilson, DearVolleyball.com

Rewind back to 2014, at this time Alexis Fetui was a student at Mojave High School competing in her senior year of volleyball as an outside hitter. Expecting to be a solid competitor and game changer for Lady Rattler volleyball.

Suddenly tragedy happens. Fetui found herself in the first set of her third home game, swinging at a tight set, landing unbalanced and suffering an ACL tear.

Fetui's senior year came to an end before it even started.

An unexpected end to her high school career did not hold this Vegas volleyball player back from accomplishing her goals.

Flash forward to 2018, Fetui is at the highlight of her college career competing as a junior at Benedictine Mesa Arizona in the NAIA CAL PAC Conference.

Obtaining the CAL PAC Conference "Attacker of the Week" three consecutive weeks this season Fetui finds herself and her team attempting to clinch a spot at the NAIA Nationals in Sioux City, Iowa later this November.

In nine games, Fetui has recorded double digits in the kills category, 239 of those kills were in 35 regular season games.

Fetui explained that heading into last night's match was no different from any other. The Red Hawks emphasize the idea of team unity prior to the start of warmups each game.

"Our team is all about mediation, we envision being one unit together. Players don't go off listening to music or goofing off. We're an emotional team and thrive off of emotional connections, we don't allow people to be individuals. It's all about being one big family and creating unity" said Fetui.

This tactic seems to work for the Red Hawks as just last night Fetui's block from the right side ended the third set which led the team's momentum moving into the fourth and final set.

Upsetting La Sierra University secured her and the rest of the BenU RedHawks a spot in the CAL PAC conference finals which are scheduled for tomorrow, Saturday.

In order for the RedHawks to punch their tickets to the Midwest, BenU must defeat the CAL PAC conferences #1 seed Embry-Riddle University.

Confident in her team, Fetui believes that if the team is able to connect and play in tomorrow's match like they did last night against La Sierra, punching that ticket is an achievable goal.

Fetui wants young inspiring players from the valley to understand that anything they put their mind to is achievable and has this advice for them.

"In general focus on what you can control. Whether you're in high school or headed to a university (NAIA, NCAA or even Junior College) be a holistic athlete. Take care of your mind, body and soul as much as you can because that's going to be the foundation in everything you do on and off the court. When one wire is disconnected, the machine isn't going to function right, so connect all the wires. It's important to stay disciplined so you don't go crazy."

Benedictine Mesa University's conference finals match is schedule for Saturday, November 10 and can be viewed online at benuredhawks.com. First serve is set for 7:30pm.

DearVolleyball.com extends its good luck wishes to Alexis Fetui and the rest of the BenU RedHawks.

Stockham Hopes to Lead Bishop Gorman Gaels to Glory in State Championship Finals

November 10, 2018

Daniel Velasquez-Wilson

Last night's match in Reno had two Las Vegas teams in a head-to-head contest with only one advancing to the Nevada State Championship finals.

Those two teams come from prominent southern Nevada high schools with traditionally strong volleyball programs, namely Bishop Gorman and Faith Lutheran.

Bishop Gorman came out of the gates flat but found their rhythm to eventually top Faith Lutheran in a three set sweep. At the top of Gorman's statistical leaderboard was no other than junior outside hitter, Tommi Stockham.

"Faith played a good game but our energy started out slow...in the end we came out stronger." said Stockham.

Recording 16 kills, Stockham's success in the front row last night helped her maintain the MaxPreps #1 kill leader spot in the state of Nevada.

Overall Stockham has recorded 354 kills, 57 service aces and 216 digs in her junior season this year. It comes as no shock that this young athlete is making a name for herself nationally throughout the volleyball community.

On March 11, 2015, as a high school freshman Stockham announced her verbal commitment to continue her education and volleyball career at the University of Southern California, not only as an indoor player but on the beach as well.

Stockham will be the university's first athlete to compete in both sports leaving her the potential to be USC's first player to win an indoor and outdoor national championship.

In an interview, Stockham explained that her recruiting process began quite early as she began competing on the beach prior to competing on the wood early in her career.

This ultimately led to quicker exposure compared to her peers.

According to Tommi, USC had always been the university she wanted to attend since her early playing days back in 7th grade. Her love and passion for the indoor side of the game wasn't relevant until later on, so when USC provided the opportunity for both indoor and outdoor play Stockham couldn't pass it up.

"Indoor is for me, I just enjoy it more, there's a bigger team aspect to it than the beach," she said.

Stockham's passion for the indoor game is quite noticeable as she and the rest of the Bishop Gorman Gaels compete for the Nevada Division 4A State Championship tonight in Reno against Reno High School.

The fact that it's a home game for Reno already puts the Gaels one step behind their opponent as Reno High School will have the hometown advantage.

Gorman leads Reno as the better team statistically this season, but with pressure on and a state championship ring on the line almost anything can happen.

An exciting overview for tonight's matches sees Stockham, Maxpreps #1 kill leader in Nevada, neck-and-neck with the Maxpreps #2 kill leader, Kaitlynn Biassou committed to play at the University of New Mexico.

Stockham explains that her coach Gregg Nunley has planned for the team to add pressure to Biassou in order to minimize her offensively early on in the game play.

During this upcoming club season, Tommi will again suit up in pink for the Dig This! Volleyball Club playing with fellow Player of the Year and UNLV commit Palo Verde setter Arien Fafard.

Tonight's State Championship game can be viewed live online at NFHS.com with first serve set for 4pm.

DearVolleyball.com wishes the Bishop Gorman Volleyball team the best of luck for tonight's match.

Here's to the Gaels bringing a State Championship back to the Las Vegas Valley!

