Jesus Alamillo

Senior Project Engineer for Trinity Industries in Dallas, Texas and former member of the University of Texas at Arlington Movin' Mavs wheelchair basketball team

Interview conducted by

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Disability Studies Minor

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Biography

Jesus Alamillo was born in Valparaíso, Zacatecas, Mexico, where he contracted polio at two years of age. When he was eleven, Mr. Alamillo and his family moved to Long Beach, California to seek further treatment. He attended Whitney High School, where he was introduced to wheelchair basketball.

In 1989, Alamillo received a full athletic scholarship to play with the newly renamed wheelchair basketball team, the "Movin' Mavs" coached by Jim Hayes at the University of Texas at Arlington. In his four years at UTA, the team won three consecutive National Intercollegiate Wheelchair Basketball Championships, and Alamillo became a four-time All-American. Alamillo graduated in 1995 with a Bachelor's of Science in Mechanical Engineering.

Presently, Alamillo is a senior project engineer for Trinity Industries in Dallas, Texas and plays wheelchair basketball with the Dallas Freewheelers.

Topics discussed

- Personal background and acquiring disability from polio
- Discovering wheelchair basketball
- Jim Hayes as a head coach
- UTA Movin' Mavs
- Willie Hernandez and full scholarships to UTA
- Moving to Texas
- Movin' Mavs and the national championships
- Jim Hayes as a coach
- Accessibility at UT Arlington

- Andy Beck
- Friendship with Willie Hernandez
- Life as a scholarship athlete
- Accessibility on other campuses and during travel
- UTA's adapted sports program
- Mechanical engineering career
- Playing for Dallas Freewheelers and working with Wounded Warriors/disabled veterans
- The Sweatbox and development of Movin' Mavs
- Jim Hayes
- National championships and UTA's reputation

Wes Wettengel

My name is Wes Wettengel; I'm a graduate student at the University of Texas at Arlington [UTA]. Today is April 1st, 2017 [2016] and I have the pleasure and honor of meeting with Jesus Amalao...

Jesus Alamillo

Alamillo

Wettengel

Alamillo, yes, I'm sorry sir, Alamillo, a UTA alumni [alumnus], and one of the stars of the 1989 and 1990 championship Movin' Mavs basketball team. Thank you.

Alamillo

<topic>Personal background and acquiring disability from polio</topic>
Thank you, Wes. Yes, like you said, my name is Jesus Alamillo and I'll go through a little bit of the history of how I got to UTA, and I'll start at the very beginning. I was born in Mexico. I became disabled when I was two years old in Mexico, due to the polio disease. Polio at that time was (Clears throat) going around pretty strongly in the village, in the town where I was born...

Wettengel

What village was that?

Alamillo

It was a small town called Valparaíso in the state of Zacatecas, Mexico. Several people got it. Of course, it affected everybody, everyone differently. Some people, it was pretty mild, others got it worse. The long and the short is, I was two years [old] and when I got it, it affected me immediately. It attacked the muscles. You know polio attacks the muscles and deteriorates the muscles.

And at the beginning, I don't remember this, but in the beginning I was paralyzed from my waist down, and I couldn't feel from my waist down as well. So, I'm going through various

places to get medical attention, hospitals and places recommended. We decided that, and this was...well this was later on in life that we decided to go to the California. This was at the age of eleven that we came to California to seek better help from, you know, from the medical industry in regarding what to do with my legs. I went through various surgeries in L.A. [Los Angeles, California] as a teenager.

<topic>Discovering wheelchair basketballl</topic>

I attended several schools, finally I came to a school where...it was sort of adapted for people with disabilities, and it was called, the name of the school was Whitney High School, if I remember correctly, and that's where I saw a lot of people getting involved in different sports, wheelchair sports from racing, tennis, wheelchair basketball. I tried 'em all (Laughs). I was good at several of them, but the one that caught my eye was basketball. I was able to develop skills and excel in basketball more than any other sport. So, that's where I really got started in the wheelchair basketball sports, really, at that particular high school.

So, I played junior, what they call junior ball, or high school wheelchair basketball. So, we would get invited to a lot of tournaments playing junior teams, and occasionally we would come to a tournament where at that time Jim Hayes, who was the coach for the UTA Movin' Mavs, having a team called the "Hot Shots" here in Texas. So, Jim Hayes knew the coach I had in California, which ironically was his name was Les Hayes, so they were both Hayes. So, then we talked to each other in...you know, we would beat up on Jim Hayes' team here in Texas. We were pretty good.

<topic> Willie Hernandez and full scholarships to UTA</topic> After we got done, or after I got done playing junior ball, I did attend one semester of community college in L.A. with intention of going to a university there. However, in the...well right after my semester, I got word, or actually I talked to my friend Willie Hernandez, which was my teammate in the junior team and we met at the same school, Whitney High School. We kept in good communication, and he's the one that was contacted by Jim Hayes and offering him a scholarship to come and see if he could come and start the team the Movin' Mavs here at the University of Texas [at Arlington].

Since Willie was my good friend he turned around and asked the question: "Could my friend Jesus get a scholarship too." (Laughs) Jim Hayes, the coach here at UTA, he came back to Texas and raised enough money to get us both out here on full scholarships. And this was going to be for the season [of] 1989-90.

Willie Hernandez and myself were the first two full scholarship recipients. [Prior to this time only the University of Illinois offered scholarships to athletes with disabilities.]

<topic>Moving to Texas</topic>

We didn't really know what to expect. Texas was not the place that I imagined I would be in one day...or say, "Oh, one day I would like to live in Texas!" I had never been in Texas. I always pictured Texas as the way to travel or to get from one place to another was on a horse. (Smiles) That was my...thinking of how Texan people were here. We got here; obviously, it was if I remember it was, I think it was August where, you know, August is a very hot month. I wasn't used to living...you know growing up from age eleven to nineteen in L.A., I got used to the nice weather by the coast.

When I got here and I was getting off the plane I thought it was the engine that was so hot. Like it just kind of felt in my face, "This is so hot!" I said, "Okay, it was just probably the engine of the plane," but I opened the door to go outside the terminal, and no, it was not the engine, it was just the actual weather here. I thought to myself, "Well, I don't know if I'm going to get used to this weather, but I'll give it a shot!" Months went by, and it's just like any other place you go, you just adapt to the weather. Slowly but surely I got used to it.

I think Willie was having a harder time since he was a California boy. He was there longer than I was. But eventually we both got used to it. I really thought that after I graduated from

UTA I was gonna go back to California, but liven' in a place for a while you just get...you build a relationship with friends, and you just get used to the area, so we decided to stay here, both of us. He's got his own family now, and I got my own family.

<topic>Movin' Mavs and the national championships</topic>
Going back to the program, when we first got here it was our first...it was our first year playing in the Final Four. We had a hard time. Well, we didn't have a lot of players, well-developed players, because, obviously there was only two people on scholarships. Everybody else was...we were limited in the amount of players that we had, but everybody else was what they call a "walk-on." They paid their own way through school. We played, we did participate in the Final Four, but we came up short and we didn't win that first year.

The following year we acquired a couple of more skilled players and we started a really good team that went on to not only win the next year championship, but three times in a row. [The Movin' Mavs won consecutive championships in 1991 1992, 1993, and 1994.] Back then it was only four years of eligibility. Now I believe it's five. So, I played my four years. The first we didn't win, but the second, third, and fourth we won National Championships.

Wettengel

I believe you hold the record for the most points scored in a tournament, does that still hold? [110 points in the 1990 tournament.]

Alamillo

<topic>Jim Hayes as a coach</topic>

(Laughs) Well, I don't know. I didn't really keep up with statistics. I only knew that I would tend to score a lot of points every game. That's what got us through the whole, every, every year and championships. I did share the ball. I tried to share the ball (Laughs). There were several players that they played a big role in us winning championships. Obviously, and especially the coach, Jim Hayes; he was a very good coach. He was one of those people that because he was a...he played sports himself in a wheelchair. He knew how to develop a player so he can be most effective in the areas to help the whole team...the team and the teammates get the best out of them. He was one of the great coaches that helped me and helped Willie and helped many others that went through the program. That's basically how we started winning championships.

He played a big part. Not only that but he always kept us...he always said to us that playing basketball is important, but getting your education is more important, because ultimately that's what's gonna pay the bills when you don't play basketball anymore and you go out in the real world. That's how you're gonna earn your living: through your good education. He always taught us to make it a priority to take advantage of the opportunity given to us to get a free education. Many of us did, I know some that didn't, but I share the same thinking that, yeah, you got to take advantage of the opportunity given to you. Yeah, I got a mechanical engineering degree, Willie is also a mechanical engineer...various other ones for some reason they're also engineers of some sort. It's been a nice experience going through the program.

Wettengel

I read in an article from the 1990 championship, and the reporter remarked that what beat the other it team was the discipline on the UTA team. Was that something that was instilled both on and off the court?

Alamillo

I didn't quite follow that, the other team was ...

Wettengel

You displayed a huge amount of discipline on the UTA team.

Alamillo

Yeah, there was certainly a lot of discipline, discipline that we went through we respected other teams. Some teams did not really respect us, respected us the way we wanted, but we always showed respect for other teams if we beat up on them or, you know, we never did disrespect somebody off the court. We were...a lot of us guys from other teams ended up being good buddies of us, whether we saw 'em playing other sports, other than basketball. I remember a couple of the members for the Illinois team, when we played against them. Back in the days those guys we would see 'em on track meets, in racing, the sport of racing, so we were friends with those guys even before we even came here and played basketball. On the court we would be enemies, we would try to win a win from our side, but when it was all said and done and the game was over, we would shake their hand and just respect one another.

Wettengel

What was the atmosphere like at UTA? Were the accommodations helpful?

Alamillo

<topic>Accessibility at UT Arlington</topic>

Accommodation was, it's one of the most...I guess accessible universities here. As far on the exterior of the whole school and when I say that, throughout the campus, sidewalks and ramps, and all that is very accessible, inside the classrooms back then maybe not as much. Some doors were a little narrow for our chairs of course. Back in the days we had our...[our] basketball chairs were the chairs we actually used for every day. So they were designed with camber, which is...made the wheels tilt in with a wider base, sort of like a ...I don't know if you're familiar with camber. It's wide at the very bottom and narrows as you go up. And what that does is basically it allows you to be quick on the chair when you spin. So, because of that and because we use the chairs for every day as well as play basketball in 'em, you know, the doors were not very wide, and so we would not fit through the doors. So, we would just hop sideways and get through the doors that way.

But, later on a lot of people just started using everyday chairs which you have your small narrow chair for every day and you have your sports chair for basketball and sports. Or for any...or for tennis or whatever you played. So yeah, it was accessible for the most part.

A lot of that is thanks to Jim Hayes, he (Laughs) he's the one that at one point challenged the President of the University [Dr. Wendell Nedderman, UTA President 1972-1992] to spend one day in a wheelchair, so that he could see for himself of what someone in a wheelchair goes through every day. So that he can spend more money (Laughs) on developing accessibility for everybody. That day came and it so happened that that day was a rainy day. So not only was he frustrated getting around in it, the president, this was the president was in a wheelchair, getting around through campus, but it was pouring rain. So, I think that played, that made a huge impact on his decision to spend the capital to invest in more accessibility around campus. So yeah, Jim Hayes was a big part in making it accessible here.

Wettengel

Do you remember what year that was?

Alamillo

<topic>Andy Beck</topic>

I did not know the exact year, but I think it might have been a year or two before we came to UTA. So, late '80s I would say, when that happened [Administrators toured the campus in wheelchairs on March 21, 1974]. Another reason I hear is that someone, I forget his name, but it was, someone died, someone that raced, was a wheelchair athlete, this is before the Movin' Mavs was started, before we came here. He was a very good track athlete and he

was...this was when Cooper [Street] was basically there was not a stop light and it was a small street. [It was a major street with thousands of people crossing every day]. He got ran over trying to cross Cooper Street. I think that was a starting point when or the beginning of the evolution of the thinking of making it more accessible for people to be more safe again [1989. When Beck died, the redesign of Cooper was already well under way, but his death led to the creation of the first adapted sports scholarships at UTA, which Alamillo and Hernandez held.]

Wettengel

Did you live on campus or off campus?

Alamillo

<topic>Friendship with Willie Hernandez</topic>

I lived on campus. I lived at the University Village Apartments, which is right there close to the P.E. building across from the tennis courts. Me and Willie were roommates for the whole time, so they paired us together. All the athletes that were in, whether it was basketball or other sports, they lived in the same apartment complex. We would see each other pretty frequently.

Wettengel

I don't know if I would pair two engineers together?

Alamillo

(Laughs) Yes, you know we helped each other out I would say. I was one year ahead of Willie...cause Willie...in engineering. Willie started off with a different major; he wanted to be an astronomer. (Laughs) After a while he just...didn't, I guess he didn't see himself as someone that would contribute in [the] astronomy side. So, he changed his major. He said "You know what? I'm going to go for what you're going for engineering." So, I was one year ahead, so he used the books...books back in the days you would still be able to use the same books the next semester. Now days it's like nah...each semester they're a little different, you got to buy new books. But yeah, we helped each other.

Wettengel

So, there weren't any problems with accommodations in housing or food?

Alamillo

<topic>Life as a scholarship athlete</topic>

No, because like I said we were, we got lucky in a sense that we were on full scholarships and not only was our apartment paid for, our food was paid for. Coach gave us meal cards, which had plenty of money for the whole semester. Every semester he would reload the cards with more food money. (Smiles) I remember us treating friends like, "Hey, let's go and eat lunch", and they would say, "Well, I don't have any money." "Oh, just get behind me." We wouldn't tell coach that we spent "X" amount of money treating friends, but we did. He kind of knew, but he didn't say anything.

So, food was taken care of. We got, we also got [funds from] the Texas Rehabilitation Commission. They would also give us a little bit of money for everyday stuff that we needed. That took care of haircuts, whatever, you know just extra money. We didn't need a whole lot, we had food. We had a place to stay. We had free tuition, free books, free everything. So, we just concentrated on our studies and played sports.

We found ourselves every weekend, just playing ball, go to the gym and that's all we did. By then...a whole lot...you just get good at it. That contributed to us just being in shape. Every time that we played any team, not just the college teams...but we played other teams that were considered semi-pro, like for the Maverick wheelchair basketball team or any[one else].

We beat a lot of those teams. That kind of kept our spirits up all the time thinking that, "Yeah well, we're good enough to beat these guys, we can just destroy any college team." And so that's what we did. Living on campus helped us a lot because we were just close. Everything was close by we didn't have to go anywhere.

Wettengel

You have a pretty unique perspective in that you traveled to other schools. Without naming names, I mean, were the accommodations at UTA better than most schools?

Alamillo

<topic>Accessibility on other campuses and during travel</topic>
Yeah, definitely, the school [UTA] when we started the [formal intercollegiate] program here.
The school had a reputation to be the best school with a...wheelchair program and offering scholarships, I guess, and the University of Illinois [as well]. That was the team to beat, that was the champions for...since I can remember since they started the program. So that's what we would hear: the team to beat is the University of Illinois (miles), and they hated us, we hated them, and they hated us. We built a rivalry, they were out to get us and we were out to get 'em every year. But I would say that UTA, UTA has become one of the best programs or actually the best program there is for wheelchair athletes. We have...from what I hear everybody wants to come to UTA to play wheelchair sports. It's got the best accommodations, it's got the know-how, the equipment, and it's built a good reputation because it's got several national championships [seven as of 2016]. So, everybody wants to be here.

Wettengel

Was traveling hard at that time or was it fairly accessible?

Alamillo

Traveling to other schools?

Wettengel

...to other schools, yes.

Alamillo

No, it was pretty easy. A lot of us like myself, as far as the physical part of it goes, we walked. I can walk for "X" amount of distance, but when it comes to say going to Six Flags [Six Flags over Texas Amusement Park in Arlington, Texas.] is a little too much for me, so I will take my everyday wheelchair and do that, but as far as traveling to other universities, we had our wheelchairs with us. Boarding the plane, very easy: take your chair all the way to the entrance of the plane, and they'll take your chair and stick it in the cargo area, but bags we just basically had our suitcase, just put it in our lap and off we go.

I think the more challenging thing that I can remember is getting all the equipment, all of the basketball chairs and loading them up in the van or a bus. That was always a process. You have to take them apart. Take off the wheels, put the frames on one side, put the wheels here, stack 'em up this way and so forth. It was never anything that was impossible, it was always just a process. It takes a little bit of time. Most of the time we didn't find ourselves doing that, lucky enough the coach had some staff, able-bodied staff that would travel with or they traveled with us and they would do that for us. (Smiles) All we had to do was like hop in the bus or the van and go. Obviously, some of the mini-vans or some of the cargo vans didn't really have a ramp, so the guys that were paralyzed, that would find themselves crawling in there (Laughs) crawling just to get inside, but, I mean, nobody really cared doing that but we were young anyways.

Wettengel

<topic>UTA's adapted sports program</topic>

So, by that time you were through the program were most of the players scholarship players?

Alamillo

Yes, by the second year, no by the first…not the first championship, but by the second championship, by then, everybody on the team, well I wouldn't say everybody. Maybe if we were ten players, maybe eight out of ten were on scholarship. Now I don't know if it was a full scholarship, but I know all the starting five was full scholarship. Maybe the sixth, seventh, eighth guy—maybe they were on partial scholarship. But, yeah, most of us were on scholarship [By 1993, six players received full scholarships]. That was good because that meant that everybody was gonna put a little bit more effort and play harder or just support your team, not worrying about the expenses here and there and so forth. We were lucky enough the program had raised enough funds to cover a lot of us and gave us that opportunity.

Wettengel

<topic>Mechanical engineering career</topic>

So, you graduated in mechanical engineering?

Alamillo

Yes, in 1995 I graduated with [a degree in] mechanical engineering. I had (Laughs) in 1994 before I graduated...I held a Co-op [Cooperative Engineering Education/Internships], a job for experience, because I wanted the experience in the real world out there having a job. It was good for you to do a Co-op before you get out and that I did. So am like, "And they pay me too! Wow! This is good! I can get used to it." So, from not having a lot of extra money because we were college students and playing sports to actually having some money, you know paid for jobs like this, you know, "This is actually good, I can get used to this."

Having that job really...I guess I should say, it allowed me to gain some experience so that when I did graduate and actually had a full-time job it gave me the tools to quickly excel and develop the know-how of how to do my job, you know well. What they said was true, you know get that experience before you graduate so you can quickly adapt to whatever it is you're going to be doing with a company.

So, I did get a job initially, and I quickly learned that doing contract work because...I was lucky enough that I come in a time when this program in designing in 3-D modeling "Pro/ENGINEER" [Pro/ENGINEER Wildfire is now PTC Creo] came out, and I learned it at the place where I did the Co-op. In learning this program, [it] helped me get a better job with certain companies...doing that directly, not working directly, but as a contract with them, and actually getting paid a lot, because I had picked up this know-how and [knew] how to work the project program.

The Pro/ENGINEER program is used whether you're going to design a car or an airplane, but you're doing it in 3-D. Because I learned that, it gave me better opportunity to make more money. So, I spent a few years doing contract work. I like it, I mean I didn't have a wife, I didn't have any kids, I didn't have a home, a mortgage. That worked out for me. I wasn't really interested in actually getting a full time permanent job with a company. This contract work was just everywhere, you do two years here. I spent several years designing stuff for aircraft, for oil tools, for Motorola.

So, I would gain experience in different areas whether it was cell phones, or it was aircraft parts, doing that. Whatever it was I got a little bit of engineering experience that is, in each area. Not until later on, when I settled down, well, you know, "I think I'm going to get married now." I just started to think of going permanent with a company. I went on and

worked for a company here in Dallas; I was there for a year or two years and didn't really like it. So that's when I got on with Trinity Industries [a manufacturer of transportation, construction and industrial products located in Dallas, Texas]. And I've been there ever since, I've been there since. They treat me well.

Wettengel

And you haven't given up your love of basketball, have you?

Alamillo

<topic>Playing for Dallas Freewheelers and working with Wounded Warriors/disabled veterans</topic>

No I have not. I was...after I was done with school, with UTA I was kept in touch with, obviously with the coach, the players that would go through the program. I play wheelchair basketball in a semi-pro team. Some of the teams over the years in Dallas there were two teams. One of them was called the "Texans" and the other was the "Mavericks" wheelchair basketball team. I started off with the...Willie and I started off with the Texans.

After college, we still kept playing ball throughout the years, eventually we switched over to the Mavericks—played for some years then I basically retired in 2008. I said, "Well, I think this is where I'm going to stop." I was able to do that for two years (Laughs), and then I happened to go in to UTA after two years, and Doug Garner the coach here currently, he said "Well, you know, can you help us out? We have this team called the "Freewheelers," and this is basically a team that is made up out of a lot of players that are not as developed...to be able to play at a higher level for instance with a college team. These mainly are "wounded warriors," or people in the military that get hurt and they want to...they want to play wheelchair basketball, but they want a starting point; they want to learn how to play.

Doug created this Freewheelers team which would be mainly composed of alumnus...some of the military that are hurt, and some of the those wounded warriors, they come and seek a team to play for—it's a good combination because you guys can help them out and develop them. And so yeah, I told them I would help them out. I always try to help wherever I can. So, I started showing up, with intention of just coming to practice and that was it and helping them out.

You know the coach said, "Well, you know, I think they would really like it if you joined the team and help 'em," (Laughs) so I started, okay, I told him I would come in and play with the team, and I've playing with the team ever since. I find the time to travel when we need to. I think it's a nice addition to the already existing programs, because like I said, not everybody that shows up is going to be able to make the team, the UTA team, because they play at a very high level, and this team is sort of like a stepping stone. This team if you can do well on this team, on the Freewheelers, you can try for the UTA Movin' Mavs. That would be your next target. So that's where I stand.

Wettengel

So that sounds like a pretty full schedule.

Alamillo

Yeah, it is a full schedule; I mean I got to balance that out with work and family of course. So, I told the team, "Let's not try to have a lot of tournaments that we have to travel a lot and just bring those teams here." And we do that a lot. We bring after every opportunity we bring teams to play here. That's how we get our games in.

Wettengel

And you play at the UTA facility?

Alamillo

Yes, the facility a lot of the times. The coach there, Doug, would schedule a tournament, and schedule a tournament that would involve his team the UTA Mavs, Jason Nelms' team—the girls, the UTA Lady Movin' Mavs—and us. He'll bring teams that would play those teams and, teams that play our team. So, it would be a nice event, full of games everywhere.

<topic>The Sweatbox and development of Movin' Mavs</topic>
We would have games at...it's called the MAC [Maverick Activities Center] now, the MAC Center. Back in the days it was called the Activity Center, the Activities Building. There and at the P.E. Building [PEB], which back then we called the "Sweatbox."

Wettengel

I've heard that term before, explain that.

Alamillo

The sweatbox was basically...it just resembled a sweat box. I mean we had no air conditioning, and every time you walked in there it was just hot as heck. It's just like walking into a steam room [Laughs]. Not only did we have to work out in there, but it was very hot and needless to say...well, I guess it kept us in shape I guess, it kept us slim and trim and in shape. That it did for sure. So that's how it got its name, the sweatbox. Now they added air conditioning, so that's nice for the new guys.

Wettengel

You paved the way for them?

Alamillo

We paved the way. We worked through the struggles and we worked through the rough, but you know those things are gonna happen at one point or another. I have to improve on...you know not only the building but the resources as well. They got pretty nice. They let them actually play in the new arena they built. When they have a big tournament, nowadays they can play there. That's nice. We didn't have...back in the days, we had...the nicest we had was the Texas Hall (Laughs) Texas Hall, it was sort of like a theater stage. I don't know if you remember that?

Wettengel

Oh yeah.

Alamillo

So that's basically in a nutshell.

Wettengel

Very good, is there anything else you might think of to add?

Alamillo

<topic>Jim Hayes</topic>

I just want to emphasize the point that Jim Hayes...he was one of the people that everybody at that time looked up to and thought that he was one of the greatest coaches then. He was, he was tough sometimes, but he meant it in the nicest way. (Laughs) I couldn't thank him enough for the opportunity. I'm sure every athlete that went through his program would say

the same thing. We were...you know it was sad to see him go in 2006 [2008] I believe. That's when he passed away. One thing for sure now we definitely need more championships here. Hopefully these guys that go through the program can get 'em there.

Wettengel

Do you recruit?

Alamillo

<topic>National championships and UTA's reputation
Oh work Well not directly indirectly. If someone asks me like

Oh yeah. Well, not directly, indirectly. If someone asks me...like for instance next week, my team's gonna attend the National Championship for Division III. This is gonna be held in [coughs] excuse me. Louisville, Kentucky, April 7th, 8th, and 9th and we're gonna travel there. We're gonna be part of the tournament. Hopefully we do well. Hopefully we come back with a National Championship, we'll see. But, where I'm getting out, is that we see a lot of athletes there, we see...this is not just for our Division, Division III that we play in. There's gonna be a lot of Juniors, that they hold in the same tournament for the Nationals in the same facility, and there's gonna be Division I, which is the championship division, like the Mavericks and those guys, Wheelchair Mavericks. So, there's gonna be lots of games. There's gonna be lots of athletes, lots of Juniors. So, there you encounter a lot of people that would ask you about the program at UTA. At that time you get a good opportunity to tell 'em, what my experience was. Tell 'em...give 'em a little bit of inside of what to expect. What to ask, make sure that they're informed. Naturally answer whatever questions they have, so that they can make a decision whether they want to come here or not.

Wettengel

So, you ...

Alamillo

Yeah, mainly because the UTA Movin' Mavs—we built the reputation as one of the elites here nationwide. So, a lot of people know about the team here. So, they ask us questions, I don't think there's anybody out there in those tournaments that don't know anything about the program here. I think most people are aware of what's goin' on here at UTA.

Wettengel

Very good, well, I want to thank you for inviting me into your house.

Alamillo

Oh, you are most welcome. Thanks for coming by and doing this interview and hope you get what you need.

Wettengel

I'm sure I have. Thank you