When I started out my high school career knew exactly what I wanted to do, I had it all planned out. My goal was to attain a scholarship through the University of Arizona by playing basketball. Unfortunately those plans were ended during a junior varsity basketball game. I had cracked my ribs and bruised my knees badly. The doctors said it would be a while to recover which meant I could no longer play basketball. I wondered how I would get myself into college.

With all the extra time I now had, I started dedicating more of it into my schools robotics class. Soon after my teacher Mr. Santa Cruz put me on a VEX Robotics team. In the beginning, I was nervous but once I went to my first tournament, I was thrilled to be in robotics. It was not the same as I felt during a basketball game, it was totally different. I was exposed to different ideas and designs that literally blew me away. It motivated me to get involved into Vex and to further my development in math and science.  On the bus ride home, I stared out the window thinking to myself about college. I thought about how proud my family would be if I was the first to attend college in my entire family.

This is going to be my third year competing in VEX Robotics and I love it. I now know that I want to go to college and attain a degree in mechanical engineering. With the experience I learned in VEX robotics coupled with a Mechanical Engineering degree, I will become prepared with the skills America needs.   I hope I can still be involved in VEX Robotics after high school.  Being involved in this program is not just something I do to waste time, it’s the starting line of my future.