

# 2014 ARMY WARRIOR GAMES ATHLETE

## NAME

Vester (Max) Maxwell Hasson, IV

## RANK

Sergeant

## STATUS

National Guard

## FORMER WARRIOR TRANSITION UNIT

Warrior Transition Battalion,  
Fort Carson, Colorado

## CURRENT UNIT

Utah National Guard,  
Medical Command

## HOMETOWN

Winnie, Texas

## SCHOOL(S)

Moore High School, Moore, Oklahoma

## INJURY OR ILLNESS

Bilateral anterior cruciate ligament  
(ACL) replacement, vertebrae fusion  
and disc degeneration

## LOCATION AND DATE OF INJURY OR ILLNESS

Iraq, 2007-2008

## EVENT(S)

Cycling, Sitting Volleyball



Sgt. **Vester (Max) Maxwell Hasson, IV**, worked as a combat medic in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) from 2007 to 2009. His job was to keep any Soldier in need of medical attention alive until the next stage of care, regardless of the circumstances. The wear and tear that occurs during combat weighed on Hasson, and he developed degenerative disc disease while deployed.

In January 2014, Hasson underwent back fusion surgery to address his disease. As he recovered at the Warrior Transition Battalion, Fort Carson, Colorado, Hasson figured out how to get back involved in a life-long passion—cycling. “I picked it up in the late ‘80s, and started competing in the ‘90s,” said Hasson. “It only made sense to pick it up as an adaptive sport.”

“When I’m worked up, I go for a 15- to 20-mile ride, and it helps calm me down,” he said.

After competing in the 2012 Warrior Games, Hasson is looking forward to the 2014

competition. He’s added sitting volleyball to his agenda this year. “I also played volleyball when I was young, but this is completely different,” Hasson said. “It’s a great transition going from an individual sport to a team event. It all comes together very quickly.”

Beyond the Warrior Games, Hasson is working on a sports kinesiology degree so he can help others who are recovering.



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