

Name: Devan Doan-Curley

My powerlifting career started when I was 3 years old. I watched my Dad, David Doan compete, and became his number one cheerleader. I grew up immersed in the sport and learned the love for it very early on. I did my first bench press competition at age 10 at the Oshkosh YMCA. I became more serious about training before entering my freshman year of high school. I had watched my dad compete on several Open World Bench Press teams, and I told him that my goal was to be just like him. I wanted to make a world team! My Dad told me that if I wanted to make a world team, I had a better chance taking up the other 2 lifts and trying to make a Sub Junior Powerlifting team. So I gave it a try! However, much to mine and my dads surprise, I ended up making an Open Bench Press World Team before I made a Sub Junior Powerlifting World Team.

Some of my accomplishments include; 2 time WHSPA State Champion, 2 time USAPL High School National Champion, former WHSPA 165lb squat, deadlift and total state record holder, current WHSPA 153lb and 165lb state bench press record holder, 2003 IPF Sub Junior World Team qualifier (the US did not send a team that year), 2005 IPF Sub Junior World Team Member placing Silver overall and Gold in the bench press, IPF Sub Junior and Junior Bench Press World Record holder, Multiple state, national and American record holder, 8 time Open Bench Press National Champion, 11 time member of IPF Open World Bench Press Team, 2010 Open Bench Press World Champion, 3 time silver medalist at the IPF Open World Bench Press Championships, 2 time bronze medalist at the IPF Open World Bench Press Championships, and author of the autobiography, "Dream Big! Journey from a Childhood Dream to Reality"

Throughout my powerlifting career, I have met and made so many wonderful friends that I consider family. Some of my closest friends stem from my 4 years lifting in the WHSPA. I continue to give back to the sport that gave me so much by being a national referee at many competitions. I'm thankful to Joe Lewis and the coaching staff at Neenah high school for adopting me as one of their own when I was the lone powerlifter from my high school. I'm thankful to my Dad for pushing me out of my bench pressing comfort zone, and for being an incredible coach. I'm thankful to my husband and family for being so supportive of my continued involvement in the sport I love. And last but not least, I'm thankful to the WHSPA for this great honor. My 4 years of lifting in the WHSPA were some of the most memorable and rewarding years of my life.