



A Passion for Purple...

Just like his WIU coach Harry Mussatto, Mel Blasi is sure to become Western's next golf legend. In his 20-year career as head coach, Mel has valued seeing his players' achievements and was recently proud to see his men's NCAA Division I team take first place in Indiana's Hoosier Invitational Tournament.

As the director of the university's beautiful Harry Mussatto Golf Course, which is open to the public, Mel also gives private lessons and is known for his easy-going instructional style. He especially enjoys teaching kids and passing his love of the sport on to the next generation.

His wife Melissa shares that Leatherneck Spirit and likes working in the WIU Union Book Store. The couple values serving in their church and has passed on their strong faith to their three sons: Eli, 20; Noah, 19; and Ezra, 15. Eli is currently on a mission trip in Spain while Noah is working as an au pair just an hour away from his older brother. Ezra plans to follow suit by taking a mission trip after high school as well.

Mel and Melissa love living in Macomb. They have many long-standing relationships within the community, including the family at First Bankers Trust Company. They have valued working with Leslie Westen for their lending needs, and Mel says, "Leslie is very knowledgeable and knows the market. She's been fantastic, and she's a lot of fun to work with." Melissa laughs and adds, "She's a hoot – but in the best way! She knows us really well. She always asks us about the boys and knows each one by name."

Speaking of the boys, all of them have accounts with First Bankers too. Eli and Noah use their debit cards often while overseas, and Mel is happy to say, "That has worked out really well for them – even in Spain!"

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