



## Center for the Study of the Southwest Texas State University San Marcos

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John Mckiernan: Hi, my name is John Mckiernan-Gonzalez. I am the director of the Center for the Study of the Southwest, and I'm here as the American ... sorry, Austin Soccer Apparel store, and I'm interviewing-

Carlos Jimenez: Carlos Jimenez

John Mckiernan: Who works at the store and may run the store as well. My first question for you is, "when did you first become aware of soccer"?

Carlos Jimenez: Since I could speak. Four years old is when I started playing, so this is where I like to be.

John Mckiernan: Was that here, or-

Carlos Jimenez: Yeah. Austin, Texas. Yeah.

John Mckiernan: Here in Austin. Was that with your family, or-

Carlos Jimenez: Yeah. My mom's originally from Spain, so I was born into it.

John Mckiernan: Well, and she was ... and she played. Not all Spanish moms play soccer.

Carlos Jimenez: Yeah, yeah. Definitely.

John Mckiernan: You started playing with your mom and around there. When did you first start playing organized soccer?

Carlos Jimenez: Probably around that same time. I could start walking, so like four or five, six years old. Like rec league, and then, obviously Select once you start becoming 12 years old, or whatever. I think it's 12.

John Mckiernan: So, where were these rec leagues?

Carlos Jimenez: Town and Country, down here in Austin. Yeah, I think they're still called Town and Country Fields, right over there. Off of like Baumer, I think it is. Something like that.

John Mckiernan: Off Baumer Lane?

Carlos Jimenez: Yeah, I think so. Pretty sure there's Town and Country right over there. [crosstalk 00:01:27]

John Mckiernan: You played rec leagues, and then you moved to Select. What was Select like?

Carlos Jimenez: Select was ... it was interesting. Competition I think go better, but I was fortunate enough that my team kind of just transformed into a Select team, but other than that it was the same, just the competition was a little different. But, it was a very different style. A lot more serious I guess.

John Mckiernan: When you mean serious, what changed?

Carlos Jimenez: Practices changed. Tactics. Expectations, pretty much.

John Mckiernan: Are you still playing Select?

Carlos Jimenez: I'm not currently playing Select. I just graduated college, so I was playing here actually in Cental Texas ... Southwestern [University] in Georgetown.

John Mckiernan: Okay.

Carlos Jimenez: Played there for my four years, and so now I'm just kinda mentally giving up.

John Mckiernan: Okay. Avoiding the over 30 retirement?

Carlos Jimenez: Exactly. Trying not to stop.

John Mckiernan: Great. Do you have anything else you'd like to add?

Carlos Jimenez: I'm excited that MLS is kinda awesome.

John Mckiernan: And, you're [inaudible 00:02:37] to USL.

Carlos Jimenez: Yeah, yeah, yeah. That's great too.

John Mckiernan: The next question is, and how did you get involved in the selling of [inaudible 00:02:48]? How do you see yourself when you sell shoes?

Carlos Jimenez: How do I see myself?

John Mckiernan: Helping people out ...

Carlos Jimenez: Yeah, honestly, me working here the way I view is just like helping out another way inside the soccer community. I love the soccer community, so anyway that I can be involved is great for me, so this is kinda my way to do it. I love apparel, especially soccer apparel, so this kinda fits right in.

John Mckiernan: Great. Thank you very much, and we'll be in touch.