



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

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John Mckiernan: Hi. My name is John Mckiernan. I am here at the Austin Soccer Apparel store and I'm interviewing Alexis Bartolo about soccer. Alexis, when did you first become aware of soccer?

Alexis Bartolo: To be honest, I wasn't really fully aware what it was at first. My father and his two other brothers were really into it at the time, so they're like hey might as well. My brother, his rec league team was like an elite team so that's how I got aware of soccer.

John Mckiernan: And how old were you?

Alexis Bartolo: I do not recall, but I assume around maybe six, the usual.

John Mckiernan: And was this here, in Austin?

Alexis Bartolo: Yeah. That was here.

John Mckiernan: Okay. In the area?

Alexis Bartolo: Yeah, down south area. By Dove Spring, by the Wright Center. That's how we started off.

John Mckiernan: Okay. So Dove Springs Rec Center. So you first became aware of soccer and started playing organized soccer at the same time?

Alexis Bartolo: Yes. Organized soccer I think was around 12 years old. I joined this team called Millennium Kids Soccer. It wasn't really big at the time but it was cheap. You know parents don't really want to spend that much on their kids at a young age or when they are going to teen years so they just stick with that team. So I was there mostly all the way till the end of high school and from there it's just nothing but kicking around here and there and that's about it.

John Mckiernan: So are you still playing soccer?

Alexis Bartolo: Yeah somewhat you can say. Whenever I have time usually I go on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Actually, I usually just hang around and play soccer here and there.

John Mckiernan: Are those the new fields that are the really nice turf?

Alexis Bartolo: No those are only for students. I go to the one next to the dorms. It's like next to the football stadium.

John Mckiernan: Okay.

Alexis Bartolo: Yeah. That or I just go to [inaudible 00:02:05]

John Mckiernan: Okay. What do you see your role here selling ... how are you part of the soccer community?

Alexis Bartolo: To be honest every kid wants to have shoes that are pretty expensive so I was like I might as well come here start working, help out kids. Some kids really don't know about their shoes. I have some knowledge about my shoes so I might as well spread it out, help out people. People just buy 'cause of the looks. They really not really looking into the comfort or like the small little details that they should pay attention to. Overall, I like helping out people.

John Mckiernan: Alright. Wonderful. Thank you very much.