



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

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John M.: Hi. My name is John Mckiernan-Gonzalez. I'm here at the Onion Creek Soccer Complex, playing with the grassy stains, and I work at Texas State University, and I'm here asking-

Tracy Rodgers: Tracy Rodgers.

John M.: This is Tracy Rodgers. Some questions about soccer. Is it okay if I ask you questions about soccer and share some of your answers with Texas State public?

Tracy Rodgers: Yes.

John M.: So Tracy, when did you first become aware of soccer?

Tracy Rodgers: When I was 27, 30 years ago.

John M.: Where were you when you were 27?

Tracy Rodgers: Atlanta, Georgia.

John M.: Was it the World Cup?

Tracy Rodgers: No. I was wanting to do something outdoors, and I knew I sucked at softball, so I checked into soccer leagues and there was a women's league.

John M.: And that's when you started playing soccer?

Tracy Rodgers: Yeah.

John M.: And what was that like?

Tracy Rodgers: It was fun. It was not... the fields there are scattered all over so you had to allow plenty of time to get to the field, and we'd have a wrap and [inaudible 00:01:08] and they'd be only one field, and you were messed up because there was no way to pick up anybody.

John M.: And when did you start playing soccer in Austin?

Tracy Rodgers: Let's see, 1992.

John M.: And did you play women's or co-ed?

Tracy Rodgers: I started out playing women's, and then I was playing for a while. Two women's I played on, over 30 and regular, and then I joined co-ed, so for a series I was playing on three teams.

John M.: And what keeps you playing soccer?

Tracy Rodgers: I don't like to run. It's too hard to run, and I like the being outdoors, and it's fun interacting. Running and some of the other sports are boring. It's like you've got some interaction with people and stuff. It's fun.

John M.: And what has changed for soccer for you here in Austin?

Tracy Rodgers: There's more fields and they're better maintained.

John M.: More organized?

Tracy Rodgers: Yes. Because like I said, where we were before... when I played in Georgia, the fields were just so spread out. The one central field was okay. The fields weren't kept up and it was like playing on concrete. There was no grass. It was just... I was actually glad when we were playing elsewhere, because it was hard on the knees running and stuff.

John M.: Well, and thank you very much.

Tracy Rodgers: Welcome.

John M.: I'd ask you more questions, but I try to ask everyone all the