



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

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John Mckiernan: Hi, this is John McKiernan-Gonzalez with Texas State University interviewing Anthony Ndike again.

John Mckiernan: Anthony, when did you first become aware of soccer?

Anthony Ndike: Was three years old.

John Mckiernan: You were three? Where were you?

Anthony Ndike: I was back in Nigeria watching my older brothers play.

John Mckiernan: Playing in the compound, on the street?

Anthony Ndike: In the compound, streets, anywhere they could find space, they played.

John Mckiernan: Right.

John Mckiernan: And when did you start playing organized soccer?

Anthony Ndike: In secondary school.

John Mckiernan: What position did you play?

Anthony Ndike: I played a forward, center forward.

John Mckiernan: Oh, great.

John Mckiernan: What kept you playing? Did you play after high school?

Anthony Ndike: Yeah, not organized, but just for fun, and to keep in shape. Played in college with my roommates and friends, but not on a club team. So I've continued to play with friends, and older leagues, men's leagues. Then I started reffing, and I'm still playing now.

John Mckiernan: And how did you get into reffing?

Anthony Ndike: Actually, my kids did it. My kids were playing, and I would take them, and they started reffing. I would sit and watch them, and then all of the sudden, I go, "I could do this too." So I joined and started reffing, and started getting better development ref, started doing high schools, and now I do a little bit of college, and now I'm doing co-ed.

John Mckiernan: Is there any joy in reffing?

Anthony Ndike: Oh, yeah. You get to see the game from right under the fringes, watch different aspects of the game, the defense, and the counterattacks, and all the way the ball flows, and you're in the mix of it.

John Mckiernan: Wonderful, thanks so much, Anthony.

Anthony Ndike: You're welcome.

John Mckiernan: All right.