



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

Please cite the interview the following way:

John Mckiernan-Gonzalez, "Interview with Kirsha Haverlah, 11/17/2017," Center for the Study of the Southwest, Texas State University, <https://www.txstate.edu/cssw/projects/futbol.html>

John Mckiernan-G: Hi, my name is John Mckiernan-Gonzalez. I am fifty years old. Today is November 18, 2017. This is Kirsha Haverlah. We're recording this interview in Austin, Texas at the Onion Creek Soccer Complex.

Kirsha Haverlah: I remember when I was wearing glasses, and I had to wear a strap to keep my glasses on. And I remember I was one of the taller people on the team. And I think because I was tall, people were thinking I could play, but I was just learning. Some people had been playing much longer than I had been

John Mckiernan-G: What elementary school was it?

Kirsha Haverlah: It wasn't an elementary school when I was that age, but we played with, at Bartholomew. So, that's been a long time, and it's also sad.

John Mckiernan-G: For the record, I'm trying to get an interview with Tilly Crosby as well. So, when did you start playing organized soccer?

Kirsha Haverlah: It was at that time. I really didn't have, growing up on the streets, mostly threw the football around. There wasn't a lot of soccer playing. Maybe, kicking the ball around a little bit, but first organized was in [inaudible 00:01:35].

John Mckiernan-G: Did you play in high school?

Kirsha Haverlah: I did. I could have played in university.

John Mckiernan-G: And how did you keep playing after high school?

Kirsha Haverlah: I did. I continued to play with the Rebels. Tilly captained this whole time and I kinda kept in track with Tilly and Dianna Harrell.

John Mckiernan-G: So, what has kept you playing?

Kirsha Haverlah: I enjoy it, and when I don't play, I didn't play for about the last year, cause I had injured myself. Not because of soccer. But, I just miss it when I'm not outside playing.

John Mckiernan-G: And is soccer your main sport?

Kirsha Haverlah: It is. I lift weights, so that's kinda worked out a little bit, but yeah. It's my main organized sport.

John Mckiernan-G: And, what obstacles have you faced while playing soccer?

Kirsha Haverlah: I would say, just the distance, to where people have to go to play. We used to play at Zilker on Sundays. That's when I was with the women's team. But, I kinda enjoy co-ed. And, we played at Martin Junior High. We played at the field off of Robert E. Lee road [behind Barton Springs], which were horrible. The fields here are the best, but there are no restrooms here. I would say that that's kept up.

John Mckiernan-G: [inaudible 00:03:14] demands here?

Kirsha Haverlah: Well, the demands are just in general. They did an understudy [inaudible 00:03:20].

John Mckiernan-G: Are you sad? What else to see with soccer [inaudible 00:03:28]?

Kirsha Haverlah: I think there is a lot more people playing soccer. When I was in high school, and I guess early college, we played indoor. I played indoor and there was like one place to play indoor, and now there's like three or four. Yeah, I don't play indoor, oh, I also played indoor at the Y, the YMCA. But, this is a man foot sport.

John Mckiernan-G: What is the most fun thing about playing soccer?

Kirsha Haverlah: Not screwing up. The camaraderie of the people that I've known for a long time, and then the new people you meet. People from all walks of life come together to play this sport, and you know, you don't know them outside of the game, but it's nice to see them again. You might have a

shake with them, the people just out of college, or people in graduate school, or people getting their doctorate, or whatever. [inaudible 00:04:30], sometimes they don't. You have a great team, so I like it.

John Mckiernan-G: Thank you very much, this is John Mckiernan-Gonzalez, signing off.