

JOURDAN BROWN

At four years old, Jourdan Brown said she would have rather picked flowers in the field than play soccer on it.

BRIBERY

It was Brown's first time on a soccer team, and she was coerced to play the sport for ice cream by a former football coach dad and college softball player mom.

However in middle school, the Belton, Texas, native became serious about playing soccer. Looking to increase her chances of being seen by college scouts, Brown tried out for and made the prestigious Austin-based Lonestar Soccer Club. With her future in mind, two-to-three times a week Brown's parents would drive her to-and-from Austin, a two-hour roundtrip journey.

TORN ACL

In high school her goal was to attend Texas State as a legacy - her dad is an alumnus - and play for the Women's Soccer team. But uncertainty took hold during her senior year when she tore her ACL (a sometimes debilitating knee injury) and couldn't play her final season.

Admittedly, Brown said she was unsure how university soccer coaches would take the news of her torn ACL, especially those at Texas State, who offered her a spot on the team a week before National Signing Day, the first day a high school senior athlete can sign a binding letter of intent to play for a university.

When Brown signed to play at Texas State she wore a knee brace, unsure of her soccer future. "They took the selfdoubt out of me," said Brown, referring to her Texas State coaches.

With her self-confidence regained, Brown said she physically exerted herself in preparation for collegiate fall games, playing all but one game her freshman year.

BOBCAT FAMILY

Now the senior captain of the team, Brown has been a standout, recently being named to the Sun Belt Conference Leadership Team. But she says it's the team aspect that has kept her playing soccer. "I love having a team behind

The 28-player team has been like a second family to Brown. Those are her "best friends in college" and future bridesmaids.

Brown said her sister plans to continue the legacy having already verbally committed to play at Texas State. "I think she's learned a lot from watching me play, and I can't wait to watch her play."



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