



I thought I'd try to find something about Roman and Maggie McFall, whose family

Roman and Maggie McFall have hit their stride on Canyon High School teams in Texas.

moved from Oil City to Texas in 2020.

Roman was a promising football/basketball player and Maggie had already asserted herself on the OCHS girls basketball team in 2019-20 when they went south.

So, I got a hold of mom (Lisa McFall) through Facebook and received quite the response when I asked about her kids. Later, dad (J.J.) got in touch, too.

Anyhow, Roman, a junior high QB at Oil City, had the bloodlines, what with his dad, who was a standout WR on the 1986 Oilers and brother Jackson, one of the best QBs Oil City has ever had who later played DB for Grove City College.

Roman, however, has been moved to defensive end at his new school, Canyon, in New Braunfels, Texas. He also plays hoops for the Cougars. Roman is now a sophomore.

Sister Maggie is a senior, who approached the varsity coach her first year at Canyon, was given a one-and-done tryout, and made the jayvee team.

Lisa McFall said Canyon is way different than Oil City. In the first place, there's 2,700 students in grades 9-12. Oil City, by comparison, graduated 110 last spring.

And then there's this:

"Whatever your primary sport is, you actually have a class during school, So, for example, Maggie goes in early for basketball practice and stays there for first period all year long," Lisa wrote.

"Roman will do the same for football and first period. Basketball for boys is fourth period. So when football is over, he'll switch classes and start attending fourth period basketball and first period whatever class he had been taking fourth period.

Another difference in football is players play either offense or defense -- there's no "two-way" players in "deep in the heart of..."

Lisa said Roman loves playing defensive end. "Being a sophomore they started him practicing with the JV. But last week they moved him up the depth chart from number 3 to 2 so now he practices with the varsity. (There are four rated at the position -- two varsity and two jayvee.)

The Canyon coach is on his second year. And one of the assistants is Mike Adams, who played briefly with the Steelers in the 1990s. He was a big star at wide receiver for the Texas Longhorns. Adams also serves as an assistant principal at Canyon.

Come winter, Roman will play hoops. "He's (a) legit 6-3 and made the transition to 'big guy' well," mom said. "He actually played in a summer travel team league and improved tremendously!"

She's guessing Roman will play varsity this season under a new coach, but doesn't expect the team to set the world on fire.

Still, here he is on YouTube, if you want to take a look.

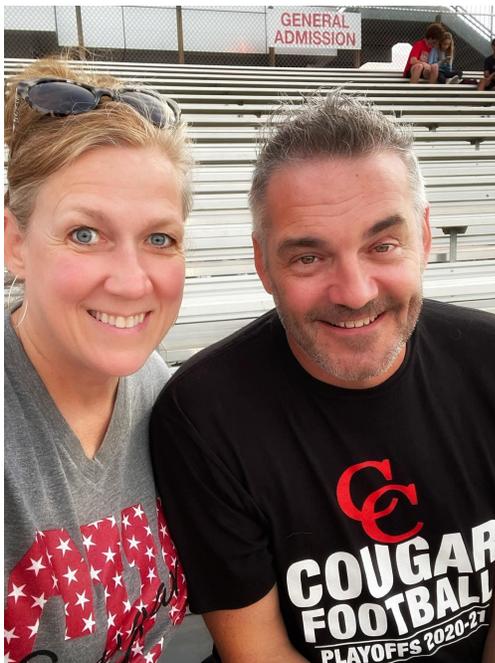
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wK-XsiTuSNI>

Maggie's team was real good last season, making a run in the playoffs and finishing with a 28-7 record.

"Maggie played a little bit on varsity while there were quite a few injuries. When those girls came back, she was sent back to JV for the season...They lost a TON of seniors last year, so she will be starting varsity this year, but the team is going to struggle."

There are two Division I prospects in Maggie's class, but, alas, one of them just tore her ACL and is expected to be out for a while, Lisa said.

The bloodlines are on the basketball court, too, Jackson finished his career at OCHS with 1,092 points (including his ninth grade total at Christian Life Academy.)



Lisa and J.J. McFall became big Texas Longhorn football fans when they lived in Austin from 1989-98.

This is not the first sojourn to Texas for Lisa and J.J. They lived in Austin from 1989-98 and became big Texas Longhorn football fans. In fact, they saw the aforementioned Mike Adams do his thing in college.

Meanwhile, Maggie and Roman have adapted well in Texas.

"I'm super proud of there for coming to a new state, new city and new school and jumping into sports like they did," mom said.