

www.usatoday.com



Sports

SECTION C

Wednesday, October 22, 2003

USA TODAY · WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2003 · 3C

Brother of Mavs' Nash gets his kicks in soccer

By Dawn Reiss
Special for USA TODAY

DALLAS — Maybe this should be called the city of brotherly love. While NBA star Steve Nash has already made his mark in the Big D, younger brother Martin

Soccer Nash is trying to find his niche as a professional indoor soccer player for the Sidekicks.

After finishing the outdoor soccer season with the A-League Montreal Impact, Nash played his first Major Indoor Soccer League game Sunday with the Sidekicks, a 6-5 loss to the Cleveland Force. He scored the first goal at 12:05 of the first quarter.

"I'm excited," says Martin Nash, whom the Sidekicks acquired July 29 in the largest trade in franchise history. "This is the only place I wanted to go. I wanted to be near my brother. I haven't been near family for 10 years."

Steve Nash, 29, the starting point guard for the NBA's Mavericks, is a strong soccer player, too.

Martin, 27, had the opportunity to play basketball at the University of Utah but opted to play for the Canadian na-



Martin Nash



Steve Nash

tional soccer team.

While Steve pursued a career as a point guard at Santa Clara and then with the Mavericks, Martin made his mark as a professional midfielder in 1995.

Their father, John, played professional soccer in England

and South Africa.

So who is the better athlete?

"It's pretty close," Steve says about their playing ability.

"Martin might be. He's not as big as me, but Martin excels at every sport."