Good Bull Story of the Week

As Aggies, success isn’t defined by infamy or an overload of involvement that transcends to the picturesque resume of what an Aggie should look like. Rather, success is about the character in which we live our everyday lives and how we seek to uphold and invigorate the traditions of Texas A&M University. This week we recognize freshman Will Alders and his passion and love for Texas A&M University through his involvement in the Corps of Cadets.

Will, son of David Alders (Class of ’85) and Nicole Alders (Class of ’84), epitomizes the idea of an “Aggie Family”. Having grown up in a household where it was, “not uncommon to hear the Aggie War Hymn being sung around the house, albeit quite off-pitch, have a dog named “Aggie,” and gather around the TV to watch our Ags beat the hell out of the t-sips on a beautiful Thanksgiving afternoon,” Will was needless to say born an Aggie. Supplemental to his family’s love and passion for Texas A&M University, Will discovered an innate love for campus each and every time he visited. It wasn’t his parents or aunts or uncles that swayed him to Texas A&M; it was, “the traditions, the spirit, the camaraderie, the devotion Aggies have for each other that made me feel like Texas A&M was home. Every time I visited the campus, I developed a deeper love for this university and the values it represents,” said Will.

Eager to follow in the footsteps of how this University was founded, Will became immersed in the Corps of Cadets as a fish this Fall. “Joining the Corps as a way to continue that tradition and play a part (however small it may be) in the wonderful history of A&M,” said Will. This past week on campus, we saw the revitalization of one of those traditions before the SMU game. Each year, one week before a designated football game, freshmen in the Corps are required to wear their “fish spurs” across campus as they attend classes. This tradition began back when the Aggies regularly played the SMU Mustangs. The “spurs” were created to demonstrate the Aggies desire to “spur” the Mustangs that weekend on the football field. As freshmen, Will and the other freshman in the Corps were required to make these spurs using hangars or a similar type of metal wire, bottle caps, and spray paint (for our class color). When Will was asked how it was wearing the spurs, he replied, “There is no doubt that every freshman looked completely ridiculous as we “clinked” our way to class. However, the tradition behind ‘fish spurs’ is a valuable and interesting way to inspire school spirit.”

Here at Texas A&M, all students are given an equal opportunity to succeed and excel not only in academics but in student government and student organizations as well. While academics are key and absolutely take priority, involvement with the student body outside of the classroom is crucial to helping one make the most of their time here at A&M, according to Will. As he looks forward to his future years at Texas A&M University, Will hopes to establish a legacy here at A&M in which he, “can say looking back that I awoke each day with a renewed desire and passion to uphold the Aggie Code of Honor, support the traditions, and be the loudest and proudest member of the Fightin’ Texas Aggie class of ’17!”

To Will Alders and all the Fish in the Corps of Cadets, we thank you for your dedication to Texas A&M University, and seeking to uphold our traditions. Looking forward to seeing the spurs on campus next season! Until next time, Gig ‘Em, Aggies!