

12th Man

WINTER 2019
VOLUME 24, NO. 1

FUNDING SCHOLARSHIPS, PROGRAMS AND FACILITIES
IN SUPPORT OF CHAMPIONSHIP ATHLETICS



**SHARON '81 &
JIM WILSON '81**

E. KING GILL AWARD
HONOREES

Make an Enduring Impact on Texas A&M Athletics with a Charitable Bequest

A charitable bequest is a gift left to charity when someone passes away. It is one of the easiest ways to leave a legacy and support Texas A&M Athletics.

You can leave a bequest to support Texas A&M Athletics and the 12th Man Foundation by making a promise in your will, living trust or codicil.

Certain assets, such as an insurance policy, retirement account or bank account, can be left to charity by way of a beneficiary designation.

With a bequest, or beneficiary gift, the asset is transferred to charity after lifetime.

BENEFITS OF A CHARITABLE BEQUEST

Bequests are Flexible

You can leave a bequest of a specific dollar amount, a percentage of your estate or even a specific asset, such as a retirement account.

Bequests are Empowering

With a bequest, you retain full ownership and control of your assets during life — you can use your assets as you see fit and can even sell the asset if you need to.

Bequests can be Strategic

Bequests can help you establish priorities. You could name a loved one as a primary beneficiary, but if that person is no longer living, your estate plan could leave the asset to the 12th Man Foundation as a contingent beneficiary.

Bequests may Save on Taxes

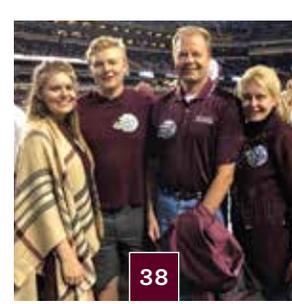
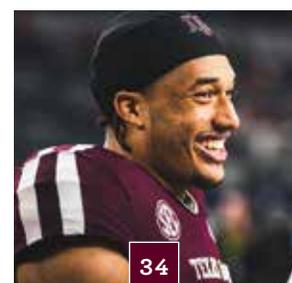
If your estate will be subject to estate taxes, a charitable bequest may reduce the amount of tax by generating a charitable estate tax deduction.

PLEASE ALLOW US TO RECOGNIZE YOUR LEGACY

If you have included the 12th Man Foundation in your estate plans, let us know and join the John David Crow Legacy Society.

Contact Clint Dempsey at 979-260-7584 or clint@12thmanfoundation.com or visit 12thmangift.org to learn more about charitable bequests





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*COVER PHOTO BY MICHAEL KELLETT '91
E. KING GILL AWARD RECIPIENTS SHARON '81 AND JIM WILSON '81 PICTURED IN FRONT OF THE SEC LOGO IN THE LOHMAN CENTER INSIDE THE BRIGHT FOOTBALL COMPLEX. JIM WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN HELPING TEXAS A&M MOVE TO THE SEC DURING HIS TENURE ON THE BOARD OF REGENTS.*

12th Man

VOLUME 24, NO. 1
WINTER 2019

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Ex Officio

12th Man Magazine (ISSN 1091-000X)
Copyright © 2019 is published 4 times
per year by the 12th Man Foundation,
756 Houston Street, College Station, TX 77843.
Issues are published quarterly.
Call 979-846-8892 to subscribe.
Periodicals postage prices is paid at College
Station, Texas, and additional mailing offices.
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to
12th Man Foundation, P.O. Box 2800,
College Station, TX 77841-2800.

Printing by Newman Printing Company, Inc.,
Bryan, TX 77802.

Subscription rate for 12th Man Magazine
is a gift of \$150 or more per year to the
12th Man Foundation. For foreign addresses,
contact the 12th Man Foundation
at 979-846-8892.

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Ticket Center: 979-845-2311 | 888-99-AGGIE

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12thmanfoundation 12thManFndtn

*Funding scholarships, programs and facilities
in support of championship athletics*

STAFF UPDATES

THE 12TH MAN FOUNDATION IS EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONS TO OUR DEDICATED STAFF:



Drew Lee '17
Assistant Ticketing Coordinator



Carol Meeker
Receptionist



Brandon Parrino
Account Executive of Ticket Sales & Development



Maggie Smith
Donor Service Coordinator

IN OTHER STAFF NEWS

- » The Annual Fund & Donor Services department is excited to announce that Adrienne Pace has transitioned from her position as Donor Service Coordinator to her new role as Account Executive of Ticket Sales & Development.
- » Warmest wishes to longtime receptionist Sandra Bosse (below) who retired in January following 17 years of dedicated service to the 12th Man Foundation.



DAVIS DIAMOND DEDICATED

Texas A&M officially dedicated Davis Diamond in February as the Aggie softball program began its first full season in the \$28.6 million dollar facility. The finest softball complex in the nation was made possible by the many generous 12th Man Foundation donors who contributed to the project including lead donors Becky '76 and Monty '77 Davis. Head coach Jo Evans: "It is reassuring and validating to know that there is an organization there specifically and solely for our student-athletes to have the best experience they can possibly have - knowing there are people who are full-time invested in making sure we have the support we need and that our donors not only make an impact, but are emotionally invested in the success of Texas A&M Athletics."



12TH MAN FOUNDATION SUMMER MEETING: JUNE 20-23

The 12th Man Foundation will host its annual Summer Meeting at the JW Marriott San Antonio Hill Country Resort & Spa on June 20-23. The Summer Meeting is a conference-style event featuring Aggie fellowship with coaches, student-athletes and athletics staff. MVP and MVP Gold level donors will receive an exclusive invitation to the Summer Meeting as a thank you for their generous support of Texas A&M Athletics. See page 12 for details on the new MVP and MVP Gold membership levels.

1922 FUND DONORS AND JOHN DAVID CROW LEGACY SOCIETY MEMBERS HONORED

The 12th Man Foundation proudly honored 1922 Fund donors and John David Crow Legacy Society members at a dinner featuring student-athletes inside the Ford Hall of Champions in February. 1922 Fund donors are making an indelible impact on Texas A&M Athletics by endowing scholarships for student-athletes, while John David Crow Legacy Society members are leaving a lasting legacy by including the 12th Man Foundation in their estate plans. Volleyball All-American Hollann Hans was one of the student-athletes who spoke at the event. "I can't thank you all enough for your financial support to Texas A&M Athletics," she said. "When I receive my diploma this time next year, I will be reminded once again that this is only possible because of your generous support." For more information about endowing a scholarship for a student-athlete or including the 12th Man Foundation in your estate plan, please call 979-260-7595.





AGGIE ACCOLADES



▲ **WOMEN'S SWIMMING & DIVING WINS FOURTH STRAIGHT SEC TITLE**

For the fourth consecutive year, the Texas A&M women's swimming and diving team has reigned supreme at the Southeastern Conference Championships. In just its seventh year in the elite conference, A&M joined Florida and Georgia as the only teams to win at least four straight SEC women's team titles. The victory marks A&M's eighth conference title during head coach Steve Bultman's tenure and the first time the Aggies have ever won four straight conference titles in program history.

▲ **300+ STUDENT-ATHLETES MAKE AD'S HONOR ROLL**

More than 300 student-athletes were recognized during halftime of an A&M basketball game in January for earning a spot on the Athletics Director's Honor Roll for the fall semester. The recognition is given to student-athletes who earn a 3.0 or higher. Fifty-four of the student-athletes recognized earned a perfect 4.0, eight were named Distinguished Students and seven made the Dean's Honor Roll.



▲ **CHENNEDY CARTER NAMED A WOODEN AWARD FINALIST**

Sophomore guard Chennedy Carter was named a finalist for the Wooden Award, given annually to the most outstanding women's college basketball player. An All-SEC First Team selection, Carter led the SEC and ranked ninth nationally prior to the NCAA Tournament with 22.5 points per game. The first Aggie on the final ballot since Kelsey Bone in 2013, Carter led A&M to a No. 4-seed in the 2019 NCAA Tournament as one of only seven schools to have qualified for the last 14 consecutive NCAA Tournaments.

COMPLIANCE CORNER

NCAA rules generally prohibit businesses from using the names, nicknames, images and likenesses of current Texas A&M student-athletes to promote a business or its services or products.

Similarly, NCAA rules prohibit student-athletes from using their names, nicknames, images or likenesses to promote a business or its services or products if such promotion occurs at the request of, or results in compensation by, a business.

Therefore, if you notice a business that is engaging in the sale of merchandise (e.g., pictures, shirts, mugs and hats) that includes, or commercial promotions that make use of, the name, nickname, image or likeness of a current Texas A&M student-athlete, promptly notify a member of the Athletics Compliance Office.

When Texas A&M or one of its student-athletes learns of such a commercial item or a business' use of any part of a student-athlete's name, nickname, image or likeness to promote a business or its services or products, Texas A&M or the student-athlete must request that the individual or business stop using the student-athlete's name, nickname, image or likeness to preserve the student-athlete's eligibility for competition. The rationale behind these rules is to reduce the commercial exploitation of student-athletes.

PLEASE CONTACT US WITH QUESTIONS

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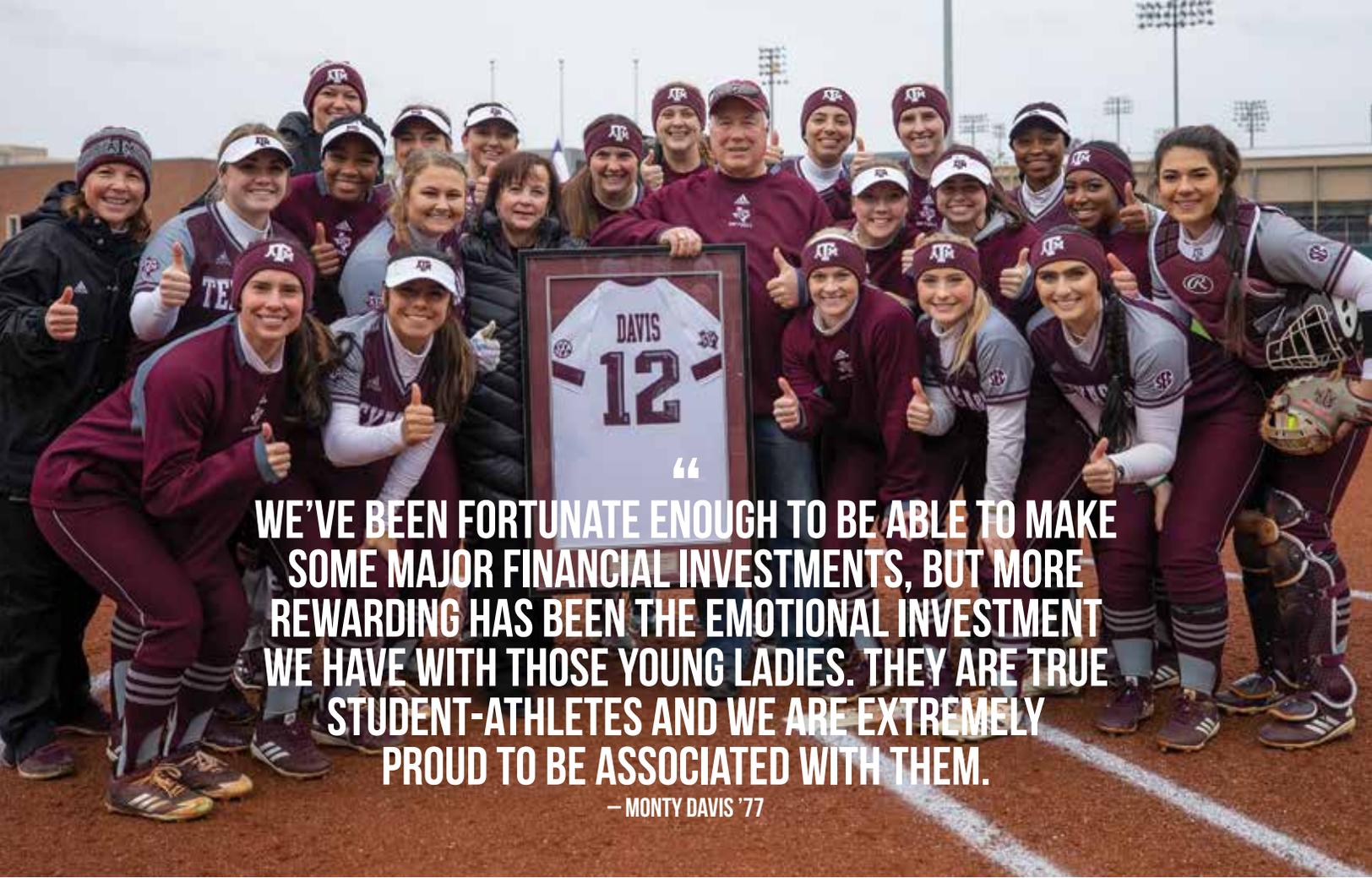
◀ NATHAN HITE WINS ELITE 90 AWARD FOR NCAA INDOOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

For the second time in his career, track and field's Nathan Hite received the prestigious Elite 90 Award at the NCAA Indoor Championship banquet. The Elite 90 is presented to the student-athlete with the highest cumulative grade-point average competing at the finals site for each of the NCAA's 90 championships. "Nate represents the very best of what intercollegiate athletics is at its core," said Chris Barttelbort, Assistant Athletics Director for Academic Services. "There are so many high-achieving track and field student-athletes at this level across the nation, and to stand out above that crowd not once but twice is a remarkable accomplishment by a remarkable person."



▲ 12TH MAN FOUNDATION'S JACOB GREEN NAMED TO 2019 COLLEGE FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME INDUCTION CLASS

A difference-maker on and off the field, Texas A&M legend Jacob Green was one of 13 players and two coaches named to the 2019 induction class for the College Football Hall of Fame. Green, pictured above with his wife, Janet, and daughter, Jannelle, was a first-team All-American as a defensive lineman at A&M in 1979 and still owns school records for sacks in a single season (20) and forced fumbles in a career (12). "To be All-American and all-conference and have done those things was nice, but when you make it to the College Football Hall of Fame, that's as good as it gets for a college football player," he said. Green, who has continued to make an impact on Aggie Athletics through his dedicated service to the 12th Man Foundation as Vice President of Major Gifts & Endowments, enjoyed a long and productive career in the NFL with the Seattle Seahawks and is also a member of the Texas Sports Hall of Fame (2015), the Southwest Conference Hall of Fame (2014) and the Texas A&M Athletic Hall of Fame.



“
**WE'VE BEEN FORTUNATE ENOUGH TO BE ABLE TO MAKE
SOME MAJOR FINANCIAL INVESTMENTS, BUT MORE
REWARDING HAS BEEN THE EMOTIONAL INVESTMENT
WE HAVE WITH THOSE YOUNG LADIES. THEY ARE TRUE
STUDENT-ATHLETES AND WE ARE EXTREMELY
PROUD TO BE ASSOCIATED WITH THEM.**

— MONTY DAVIS '77



MONTY DAVIS '77

A conversation with the Chair of the 2019
12th Man Foundation Board of Trustees

BY ADAM QUISENBERRY



- » LEAD DONOR FOR THE DAVIS CENTER FOR FOOTBALL PLAYER DEVELOPMENT AND DAVIS DIAMOND
- » GAVE LEAD DONATIONS TO THE R.C. SLOCUM NUTRITION CENTER AND KYLE FIELD REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT
- » DIAMOND CHAMPIONS COUNCIL MEMBER
- » WIFE, BECKY '76, AND TWO AGGIE DAUGHTERS

What do you see as the role of the 12th Man Foundation Board of Trustees?

Our role is to see that the mission of the 12th Man Foundation is carried forward. We have an outstanding professional staff that does an excellent job and our role is to provide support and oversight for them. In coordination with the staff, during the last year we have overhauled the 12th Man Foundation's strategic and tactical plan to be very donor-focused. We want our donors to have the best service and experiences because they are the ones who make our mission of supporting championship athletics possible.

What makes Texas A&M and Aggieland special to you and your family?

I am the first in my family to graduate from a university and it was by the grace of God that I ended up at Texas A&M because we had no ties or connections to the school at that time. I met my wife, Becky, here and we married shortly after graduating from A&M. Both of our daughters attended A&M, as did my brother, who also married an Aggie and has two sons that went to A&M. We are maroon through and through at this point. My mother, who is 85, still comes to a couple of football games each year, but if she's not there she is sure to call me to find out what channel the Aggies are on.

How did you first become involved with the 12th Man Foundation?

We've been members of the 12th Man Foundation for over 40 years now. Our major gift involvement started after we saw an article in *12th Man Magazine* in which Coach Mike Sherman was explaining the need for a player development center and how important it was for the future of the football program. Becky and I decided that was something we wanted to get

involved with and we were excited to be a part of getting that project completed.

What led you to a career in business, and what do you credit your professional success to?

I have always been drawn toward the business world. I think a lot of my success came from my desire to be on the international side of things, dealing with people from different cultures all around the world. I've been fortunate enough to travel to over 50 countries through my business ventures.

What is your motivation for making an impact in the lives of student-athletes through the 12th Man Foundation?

I've been an Aggie Athletics fan forever. When we were in school, I never missed a football or basketball game and seldom missed a baseball game. Naturally, that continued on throughout my life. During my business career, I was blessed with good fortune which left me in a position to get more involved and give back.

How much pride do you take in the recent opening of Davis Diamond as the new home for Aggie softball?

It was great to see Davis Diamond come to fruition, primarily for the young ladies on the team. We've been fortunate enough to be able to make some major financial investments, but more rewarding has been the emotional investment we have with those young ladies. They are true student-athletes and we are extremely proud to be associated with them. It was a great leap forward for the program, not just the stadium which everybody gets to see, but also the training, locker room and player development areas that are really second to none. 🍀

Monty Davis threw out the first pitch prior to the Aggies' game against Northern Colorado on Feb. 9, 2019, following Texas A&M's official dedication of Davis Diamond.

2019 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

CHAIR



MONTY DAVIS '77
BRYAN, TX
Retired (Energy Industry)

- » BBA in Accounting (1977)
- » 35+ years of experience in the oil and natural gas business
- » Lead donor for The Davis Center for Football Player Development and Davis Diamond
- » Diamond Champions Council member
- » Gifted lead donations to the R.C. Slocum Nutrition Center and Kyle Field Redevelopment Project
- » Active on the Development Council for Mays and was named an Outstanding Alumnus
- » Endowed scholarships through the Mays Honors Program and the Association of Former Students
- » Wife, Becky '76, and two Aggie daughters

CHAIR-ELECT



DAVID DUNLAP '83
THE WOODLANDS, TX
Superior Energy Services

- » BS in Petroleum Engineering (1983)
- » Former member of the Corps of Cadets, Fightin' Texas Aggie Band and Ross Volunteers
- » President/CEO and Director of Superior Energy Services since 2010
- » 25 years at BJ Services in a variety of engineering, operations and management positions in both international and sales divisions
- » Member of Texas A&M's Petroleum Engineering Industry Board, the College of Engineering Advisory Council and the President's Board of Visitors for the Corps of Cadets
- » Awarded an Ernst & Young's 2013 Transformational CEO from the U.S. Gulf Coast Area
- » Diamond Champions Council member
- » Wife, Anne, and six children

IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIR



CYNTHIA B. "CINDY" TAYLOR '84
HOUSTON, TX
Oil States International, Inc.

- » BBA in Accounting (1984)
- » President, Chief Executive Officer and Director of Oil States International, Inc.
- » One of 46 female CEOs in the Fortune 1000
- » Active on the Mays Business School Development Council, Association of Former Students and 12th Man Foundation
- » Diamond Champions Council member
- » Recipient of Texas A&M Women's Former Students Network Legacy Award, Mays Outstanding Alumni, Aggie 100 Summit Award, McLane Leadership Award and Distinguished Alumnus
- » National finalist of the 2012 Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year in Energy and Clean Tech
- » Husband, Allan '83, and three Aggie boys



EX OFFICIO MEMBERS

TRAVIS V. DABNEY '96
COLLEGE STATION, TX
President & CEO

SCOTT WOODWARD
BRYAN, TX
Director of Athletics

12TH MAN FOUNDATION COMMITTEES
AND BYLAWS CAN BE FOUND AT
WWW.12THMANFOUNDATION.COM



ROBERT DENNIS '83
TYLER, TX
Orthopedic Surgeon

- » BBA in Management (1983)
- » Former member of the Corps of Cadets and Ross Volunteers
- » Attended medical school at UT Houston and completed residency at UT San Antonio
- » Completed a Sports Medicine fellowship in Sydney, Australia
- » Co-founded Texas Spine and Joint Hospital in Tyler, Texas
- » Member of Champions Council and previous captain of the East Texas Chapter
- » Active member of Annual Fund Committee
- » Wife, Sheli, and one son



DARRYL HEATH '84
COLLEYVILLE, TX
Heath Family Holdings

- » BS in Industrial Engineering (1984)
- » 30+ year career at Accenture in DFW
- » President of Heath Family Holdings, an investment/advisory company
- » Member of A&M's College of Engineering Advisory Board, Association of Former Students Leadership Council
- » Sponsor and volunteer for various programs within Memorial Student Center
- » Board member of the College for All Texans Foundation
- » Active member of Major Gifts Committee
- » Wife, Bettye, and four sons



RAY HUFFINES '74
PLANO, TX
Huffines Auto Dealerships

- » BBA in Management (1974)
- » Former member of the Corps and founding member of the Parson's Mounted Cavalry
- » Represents the third generation to oversee Huffines Auto Dealerships (9) in DFW area
- » Member of the Plano Rotary Club and past chairman of the Plano Chamber of Commerce
- » Former vice chairman of Plano Economic Development Board and Advisory Board Member of the Plano Salvation Army, Hendrick Scholarship Foundation and DBU Trustee
- » Diamond Champions Council member
- » Wife, Anne, and four children



BOYD CHERRY '67
BRYAN, TX
Retired (Energy Industry)

- » BS in Electrical Engineering (1967) and Computer Science MBA (1970)
- » Former member of the Corps of Cadets and the Ross Volunteers
- » Served two years in the U.S. Army as an Ordnance Officer
- » Held management positions in engineering, corporate finance, investor relations and marketing
- » Has contributed to organizations including the Corps of Cadets Association, Mays Business School, A&M Foundation, Association of Former Students
- » Supports the 12th Man Foundation through capital campaign gifts
- » Wife, Zou

2019 BOARD OF TRUSTEES



CHRIS COOPER '89
CHATHAM, NJ
Deloitte & Touche LLP

- » BA in Accounting (1989)
- » Began career in Dallas with Deloitte & Touche LLP
- » Relocated to the northeast and was admitted to the firm partnership in 2000
- » Led and provided services to Deloitte's preeminent global audit clients in various industries
- » Serves as leader of the Life Science and Healthcare Audit practice of the U.S.
- » Supports the Mays Business School and the Association of Former Students
- » Football season ticket holder since 1999 and has donated generously to many capital funding projects
- » Wife, Terry, and three boys



RANDY HALE '85
HOUSTON, TX
Rock Hill Capital

- » BBA in Accounting (1985)
- » Began career at Arthur Andersen & Co. in Houston
- » Founded Rock Hill Capital in 2007 and serves as Managing Director
- » Active investor and founder of several private businesses
- » Past President of Houston Venture Capital Association
- » Member of the Association for Corporate Growth
- » Served as Chairman of the Board of Boys and Girls Country of Houston, Trustee of Boys and Girls Country of Houston Endowment Fund
- » Established a Permanently Endowed 12th Man Scholarship in 1998
- » Wife, Tracy, and three children



JAY GRAHAM '92
HOUSTON, TX
Spur Energy Partners

- » BS in Petroleum Engineering (1992)
- » Founder & CEO of Spur Energy Partners
- » Member of the Petroleum Engineering Academy of Distinguished Graduates
- » Serves of the Petroleum Industry Advisory Board and the College of Engineering Advisory Council
- » Co-founder and advisor to Texas A&M's Petroleum Ventures Program
- » Founded the April and Jay Graham Fellowship for Military Service Initiatives at the Bush Institute
- » Diamond Champions Council member
- » Serves of several other charitable boards beyond his career field
- » Wife, April, and two boys



KEVIN MCDONALD '89
HOUSTON, TX
Keane

- » BS in Agricultural Economics (1989)
- » Executive Vice President, General Counsel & Secretary of Keane
- » Held professional leadership positions at Valero Energy, Anadarko Petroleum and Cooper Industries
- » Served as President & Chief Executive Officer and acting General Council of Arms of Hope
- » Practiced as a partner at international law firm Fulbright & Jaworski LLP
- » Served at Marathon Oil on the Deputy General Counsel of Corporate Legal Services and Government Relations, Deputy General Council of Governance, Compliance & Corporate Services, and Assistant General Counsel
- » Wife, Nathalie, and three children



DON MEYER '78
SAN ANTONIO, TX
Scout & Molly's Boutique

- » BS in Animal Science (1978)
- » 35+ years of experience in the insurance industry
- » Partner at Scout & Molly's Boutique
- » Has made generous donations to several 12th Man Foundation capital campaigns and A&M Foundation endowed scholarships
- » Wife, Carol '78, and two Aggie children



JACK LAFIELD '72
DALLAS, TX
Caiman Energy

- » BS in Chemical Engineering (1972)
- » Founder and chairman of Caiman Energy with a 40-year career in the energy industry
- » Has contributed significantly to support student-athlete scholarships, the R.C. Slocum Nutrition Center, the redevelopment of Kyle Field and the soccer program
- » Regularly provide Aggie Rings for military veterans and support engineering scholarships
- » Wife, Michele, and three children



WAYNE ROBERTS '85
AUSTIN, TX
Abrigo

- » BBA in Business Analysis (1985) and MBA (1986)
- » CEO of Abrigo
- » Technology industry veteran with an extensive background building growth companies and teams
- » Lead donor for the Shannon '86 and Wayne '85 Roberts Basketball Student-Athlete Center for the men's basketball program
- » Diamond Champions Council member
- » Supporter of the Mays Business School
- » Wife, Shannon '86, and two children



JOE WRIGHT '82
MIDLAND, TX
Retired (Energy Industry)

- » BS in Petroleum Engineering (1982)
- » Retired as Executive Vice President and COO of Concho in 2018 after 14 years in various leadership positions with the company
- » Serves on the Board of Directors for Concho and Oil States International, Inc.
- » Diamond Champions Council member
- » Has contributed to multiple facility projects for A&M Athletics
- » Wife, Jill '83, and four Aggie children



NEW WAYS TO MAKE AN IMPACT

Redesigned membership levels make supporting Texas A&M Athletics through annual giving easier than ever before

12TH MAN FOUNDATION

YOUR COMMITMENT AS A LOYAL DONOR IS VITAL to the 12th Man Foundation’s mission of funding scholarships, programs and facilities in support of championship athletics.

In an effort to provide more options and benefits to generous donors like you as well as prospective donors, the Foundation is excited to share redesigned membership levels that make it easier than ever to make an impact on Texas A&M Athletics.

As outlined on the opposite page, the first two membership levels, Associate and 12th Man, include philanthropic gifts as well as annual seat contributions that are connected with season ticket purchases. The next two levels of membership, MVP and MVP Gold, include philanthropic giving only.

With an annual gift of \$750 or more, donors at the MVP level will enjoy many of the popular benefits previously reserved for members of Athletic Ambassadors including 10 additional priority points per year and an invitation to the annual Summer Meeting featuring Aggie student-athletes, coaches and staff.

Donors at the MVP Gold level (\$2,500+) receive those benefits and more, including invitations to luncheons with A&M’s Director of Athletics.

MORE OPTIONS AND BENEFITS

Loyal donors Susan and Joseph Gutkowski recently increased their impact with an MVP Gold level gift in support of A&M Athletics.

Susan, one of several active donors to serve on

the committee that helped redesign the membership levels, believes the main benefit to the new levels is that donors have options.

“Everybody wants options no matter what you are doing,” she said. “Whether it’s shopping at the grocery store, eating at a restaurant or buying a car – you want options. With the new membership levels, you have options, and those options give you incentives.”

Supporting Aggie Athletics is a lifelong passion for the Gutkowskis. They give to help A&M student-athletes be successful in competition and in the classroom.

“We donated \$2,500 to the Annual Fund this year because we can right now,” Susan said. “The economy is great, so I’m sure there are a lot more people like us who can give a little more, and it makes a big difference.”

MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP

Donors may also pay for 12th Man, MVP and MVP Gold memberships using a new monthly payment option. For as little as \$12.50 per month for the 12th Man level, \$62.50 for MVP or \$208.34 for MVP Gold, donors can enjoy all of the benefits that come with each membership level, including accruing valuable priority points.

No matter how large or small, your annual contribution helps provide the resources needed for A&M Athletics to be successful. Please review the new membership levels and benefits and consider making a gift to increase your impact today. 



Donor Benefits

Associate
Up to \$149

12th Man*
\$150+

MVP
\$750-\$2,499

MVP Gold
\$2,500+

	Annual Seat Contributions and Philanthropic Gifts		Philanthropic Gifts Only	
	Associate	12th Man*	MVP	MVP Gold
Membership Card	✓	✓	✓	✓
12th Man Foundation Window Decal	✓	✓	✓	✓
Subscription to Athletics Update Emails	✓	✓	✓	✓
4 Priority Points Per \$100 Annual Fund Donation	✓	✓	✓	✓
Years of Consecutive Giving Priority Points	✓	✓	✓	✓
Subscription to 12th Man Foundation Magazine		✓	✓	✓
Access to Donor Ticket Presales		✓	✓	✓
10 Additional Priority Points Per Year			✓	✓
Exclusive MVP Window Decal			✓	✓
Membership Level Lapel Pin			✓	✓
Publication Listing			✓	✓
Complimentary Tailgate Tower and Patio at the Park Passes [#]			✓	✓
Invitation to Tailgate at Home Football Games [^]			✓	✓
Invitation to Coaches Speaker Series [^]			✓	✓
Invitation to Annual Summer Meeting ^{+^}			✓	✓
Invitation to Exclusive Reception at Summer Meeting				✓
Invitation to Director of Athletics Luncheons [^]				✓
Exclusive MVP Gold Window Decal				✓

* New Grad Program offered at 12th Man level | ^ Registration fees may apply | # Restrictions may apply
 † 2019 Summer Meeting will be held at the JW Marriott San Antonio Hill Country Resort & Spa, June 20-22, 2019

WHAT YOUR MVP OR MVP GOLD DONATION CAN PROVIDE

\$750

ONE WEEK OF TUITION, FEES, BOOKS, ROOM AND BOARD

\$1,500

ONE MONTH OF TUITION PLUS ATHLETIC PERFORMANCE AND NUTRITION

\$2,500

SIX MONTHS OF ACADEMIC AND STUDENT DEVELOPMENT

\$5,000

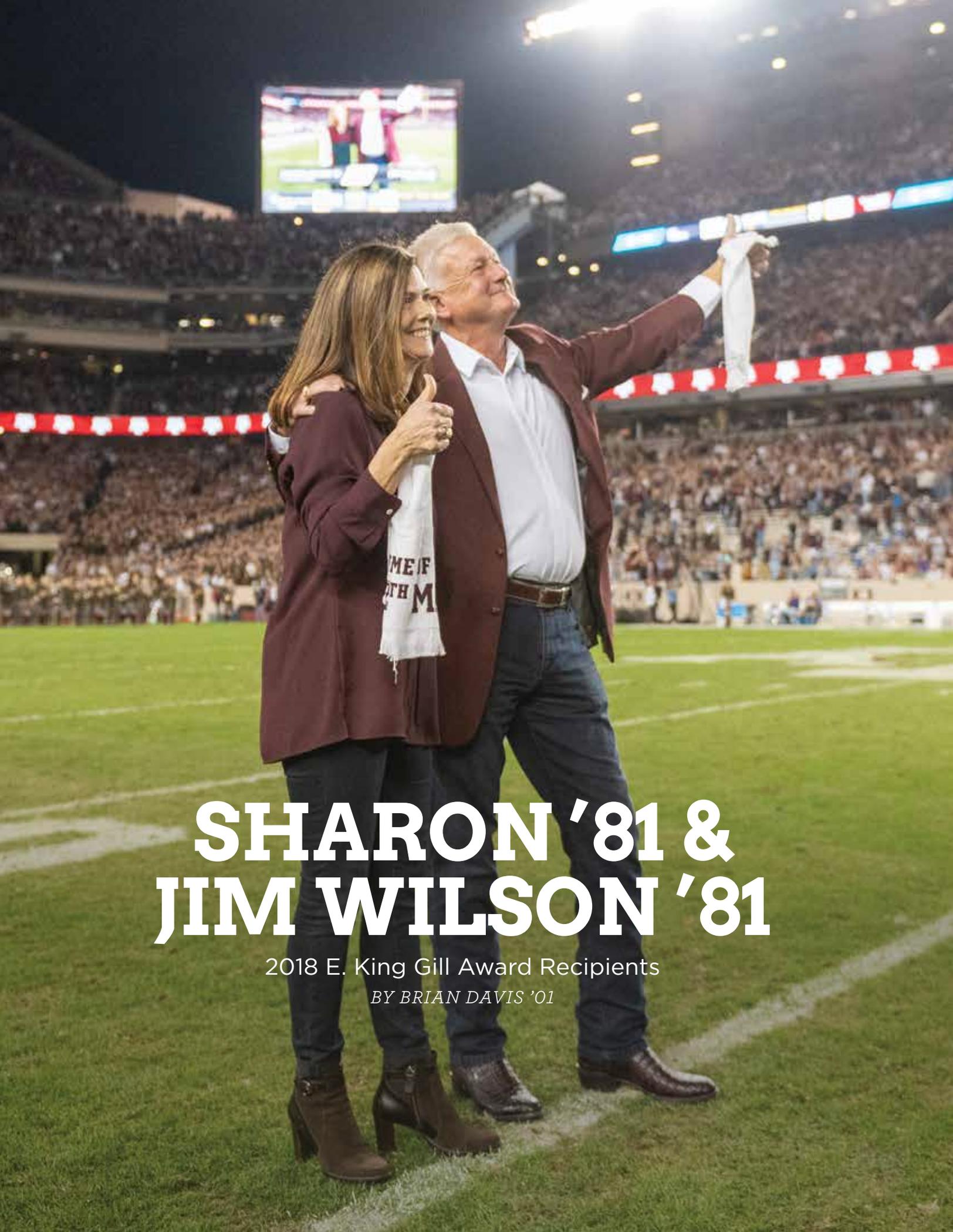
ONE YEAR OF SPORTS MEDICINE

Example expenses are per scholarship student-athlete according to 2016-17 data

INCREASE YOUR IMPACT



FOR QUESTIONS ABOUT MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS OR TO MAKE AN ANNUAL FUND GIFT IN SUPPORT OF AGGIE ATHLETICS, PLEASE CONTACT SAMANTHA MILROY AT 979-260-2397 OR VISIT 12THMANFOUNDATION.COM/DONATE



SHARON '81 & JIM WILSON '81

2018 E. King Gill Award Recipients

BY BRIAN DAVIS '01

“

It is a really special honor to receive the E. King Gill Award. We are grateful to have had the opportunity to do our part to help Texas A&M Athletics be successful.

– SHARON & JIM WILSON

NOVEMBER 24, 2018, PROVED TO BE QUITE an extraordinary day for Texas A&M Athletics.

Every season ticket holder, student and fan in Kyle Field will forever remember the epic seven-overtime thriller against 7th-ranked LSU that night, which featured miraculous receptions, improbable fourth down and two-point conversions, a timely knee down on the ground and even a premature Gatorade shower. The instant classic marked a defining moment for the A&M football program under first-year head coach Jimbo Fisher and was an important step in the Aggies' quest to win a national championship.

For one exceptionally special Aggie couple, A&M's historic win over the rival Tigers was the ultimate cherry on top of a night they will never forget.

During halftime, hours before the highest scoring game in FBS history came to an end, the 12th Man Foundation proudly honored Sharon '81 and Jim Wilson '81 as recipients of the prestigious 2018 E. King Gill Award.

“It is a really special honor to receive the E. King Gill Award,” the Wilsons said. “We are grateful to have had the opportunity to do our part to help Texas A&M Athletics be successful.”

The most significant recognition given by the 12th Man Foundation, the award is presented annually to a person or couple who has been an influential investor and ambassador for Aggie Athletics.

“The pursuit of championship athletics at Texas A&M is not possible without exceptional Aggies like Sharon and Jim,” said Travis Dabney, 12th Man Foundation President and CEO. “They truly embody the spirit of the E. King Gill Award by

consistently going beyond the call in their support of Texas A&M and our student-athletes.”

MAROON BLOODED

The son of a chemical engineer, Jim was born in Beaumont, Texas, where his dad, James Sr., class of '56, worked in refineries. Following a brief move to Ohio when Jim was 12, the family relocated back to Texas and landed in Seabrook, south of Houston. Jim attended Clear Lake High School in Houston before enrolling at A&M in 1977.

“My dad wasn't a huge sports fan, so I didn't come to any games until I was in high school and by that time, I already knew I was going to A&M,” Jim recalled recently from the family's ranch in Bryan, Texas. “I never considered going anywhere else. I knew he went to A&M, so in my mind, that's where I was going.”

Sharon, however, started coming to Aggie football games when she was very young. Her father, Ira “Ford” Flurry '58, was a farmer in Dayton, Texas, where Sharon was born and raised.

“I never thought of going anywhere else because we did spend a lot of time coming here,” she recalled.

Sharon enrolled at A&M in 1978 and met Jim, a fellow accounting major, during her first year on campus.

“She was dating my roommate during my sophomore year,” Jim recalled. “Then she started chasing me around, dumped him and the rest is history. Or at least, that's how I remember it.”

Upon earning bachelor's degrees in accounting in 1981, Sharon and Jim began working for major accounting firms in the Houston area and

ultimately settled in Sugar Land where they have lived ever since. Sharon started her career with Ernst and Whinney, while Jim spent 6 years with Arthur Young & Co. before moving into the private equity business. He joined Rock Hill Capital in 2009 where he currently serves as a Managing Director.

FAMILY TRADITION

The Wilsons decided to buy their first season tickets for Aggie football in 1983 after sitting with Sharon's father for a couple of years following graduation.

"They were way up on top of the third deck on the West side," Jim recalled.

Sharon and Jim have been season ticket holders and dedicated supporters ever since, and even tailgated for games long before it became a popular tradition on the A&M campus.

Aggie Athletics quickly became a family affair for the Wilsons, as their son, Patrick '10, and daughter, Kathleen '12, began attending A&M sporting events. Patrick's first game at Kyle Field in the early 90s was memorable to say the least.

"He was 3 or 4 and it was a non-conference game and pretty hot outside," Jim recalled. "I was feeding him hot dogs, popcorn, cotton candy and M&M's all night to keep him occupied. As we were walking back to the car after the game with Patrick sitting on my shoulders, he said, 'Daddy, I'm not coming to a game again. There are too many people around here.' That was short-lived, but that was his original statement."

The Wilsons were driving home to Sugar Land late that Saturday evening on FM 359 in their Ford Aerostar van when Patrick suddenly woke up from sleeping in the back seat.

"He started throwing up all the junk that I had fed him," Jim said.

"Everywhere," Sharon added.

"All I had to wipe him down with was a brown grocery bag leftover from the tailgate," Jim recalled with a laugh.

The Wilsons eventually did take Patrick to another game a year or two later, and like his parents, he fell in love with supporting A&M Athletics.

"The next one I really remember is the '97 Texas game, because it was played in a torrential down-pour – and we beat them," Jim said. "Sharon and Kathleen were down in the concourse for most of the game, but Patrick wouldn't let me leave the seats. We were just drenched. It's unbelievable how hard it rained that whole first half, but Patrick wouldn't let me leave, which is the way he still is today."

GETTING INVOLVED

The Wilsons steadily increased their involvement with Aggie Athletics through the years, not only as season ticket holders in football, baseball and men's basketball, but also by permanently endowing a scholarship through the 12th Man Foundation in 1994 and contributing to several capital campaigns for facility projects.

"I have always loved sports and I'm thankful my mom and dad took us to games because I enjoy going to all the sporting events," Sharon said. "We've really enjoyed doing that with our family and I'm all for giving financially to help support it."

In the mid-2000s, Jim was nominated to serve on the 12th Man Foundation's Board of Trustees and began his term in 2005.

"That's when it really started becoming clearer to me what the 12th Man Foundation was all about," he said. "It was at a time when A&M was getting more in line with knowing what they needed to do with facilities to keep up with other programs."

Not long after Jim joined the board, the Foundation hired Stu Starnier to lead the newly created

“

Jim, with Sharon right beside him, has been instrumental in moving Texas A&M to the forefront of collegiate athletics and helping us become one of the elite athletic programs in the nation. They have truly left their mark on this university that we all love so much and I cannot think of more deserving recipients of the E. King Gill Award.

– JT HIGGINS, A&M MEN'S GOLF COACH



Major Gifts group representing a significant shift in the fundraising philosophy of the organization which has provided immense benefits to A&M Athletics ever since.

Jim's time on the board included some major structural changes to the Foundation and its membership including the development and implementation of the Aggie Access Priority Point Program.

"We had a number of great leaders on the Foundation board and Jack Little and Willie Langston spearheaded the Priority Point Program," Jim said. "Putting priority points in place ultimately created what we hoped it would, which was an incentive to give more money. It absolutely achieved that goal and you could really see that culminating when they redeveloped Kyle Field."

The Foundation also took over ticketing operations during Jim's tenure on the board at the request of then-Athletics Director Bill Byrne.

"There was a lot of discussion over whether we

should do that or not," Jim recalled. "Ultimately, it was a really smart thing and now tickets are synonymous with the 12th Man Foundation like they've always been doing it."

Jim cherished his time on the board and met a lot of great Aggies who he and Sharon consider really good friends today.

A UNIQUE POSITION

In the summer of 2007, Jim received a call from then-Governor Rick Perry appointing him to the Texas A&M Board of Regents. Around the same time, he was up for consideration to serve as Chair of the 12th Man Foundation Board of Trustees.

"I remember concerns about potential conflict and questions about whether I would have time to do both," Jim said. "From my point of view, it was a great opportunity to help the regents have a better understanding of athletics. Ultimately, it was really good timing because athletics department

Jim and Sharon are both second generation Aggies, and their daughter Kathleen '12, son-in-law Dan Curnutt '12, son Patrick '10 and daughter-in-law Stephanie '10 are all graduates of Texas A&M. The Wilsons' twin grandsons, John and Ross, could be fourth generation Aggies.



MICHAEL KELLETT '91 (TOP LEFT); COURTESY OF THE WILSON FAMILY (ALL OTHERS)

The longtime season ticket holders have been in attendance for many of Aggie Athletics' most memorable moments over the past 35 years, and have contributed financially to numerous facility projects including the Bright Complex, Blue Bell Park and the redevelopment of Kyle Field.

budgets were starting to grow substantially. Having the regents understand more about what all that entailed was important.”

Jim served as Chair-Elect of the Board of Trustees in 2008, Chair in 2009 and Immediate Past Chair in 2010, while concurrently serving as a regent from 2007-13 including a two-year term as Vice Chairman of the Board from 2009-11.

It was a unique situation, marking the first time someone has served on both boards simultaneously.

“Jim understood the finances of the Athletics Department and how it worked and was really instrumental in turning things around and making sure the funding was right,” said Jim Schwertner, a fellow regent who served from 2009-15. “All of the regents respected Sharon and Jim for their dedication and loyalty to A&M.”

RIGHT PLACE, RIGHT TIME

Having someone with a close connection to Aggie Athletics serving on the Board of Regents proved to be invaluable in the spring of 2010.

That’s when the first hints of the proposed Pac-16 conference began to surface involving six Big 12 schools including Texas A&M. Following some conversations with officials at the University of Texas who had been working with then-Pac 10 Commissioner Larry Scott on the concept, A&M’s leadership began exploring what conference realignment would mean for Texas A&M University.

“Bill Byrne made a presentation to the regents showing what the Pac-16 would be all about,” Jim Wilson recalled. “There were a lot of things about it that made sense, and a lot of people felt like we needed to do something knowing the Big 12 might not make it.”

Jim noted that Morris Foster, Chairman of the Board of Regents at the time, helped get the ball rolling towards A&M’s future conference affiliation with his response to Byrne and then-university president R. Bowen Loftin.

“After the presentation, Morris Foster said, ‘One option is not an option, so go find out what our other options are.’ That’s really how it started,” Jim said.

Loftin was tasked with exploring A&M’s options and he and Jim developed a good relationship as they worked closely together. The SEC was an obvious option to consider, as A&M had flirted with joining the league in the mid-90s.

Before going far down that road, however, the Pac-16 idea fell apart and the Big 12, minus Colorado and Nebraska, stayed together with several assurances from the conference regarding revenue distribution and television networks.

“While I wasn’t necessarily in favor of it at the time,” Jim said, “the consensus of the board was to stay put so that’s what we did. I didn’t think it would last very long, because I didn’t believe a lot of the promises the Big 12 made.”

Obviously, things changed in the spring of 2011, and this time, Texas A&M was prepared to make its move.

“When it came back around that time, we knew what we wanted to do,” he said.

THE 100-YEAR DECISION

Texas A&M’s leadership was aligned when the university revisited conference realignment again and began the process to join the SEC in 2011, however making the move was still not without its obstacles.

Jim worked with Loftin, Schwertner and then-Board of Regents Chairman Dr. Richard Box to help navigate those challenges, one of which included the threat of a lawsuit from another Big 12 school.

“I was at Snow’s BBQ one Saturday morning when Loftin called and told me the SEC wanted us to clear up the potential lawsuit – that being the threatened ‘tortious interference’ nonsense,” Jim recalled. “Even though we didn’t consider it a legitimate legal threat, the SEC wanted some

“

Sharon and Jim’s love for Texas A&M is indescribable. You know how players say they would run through a brick wall for their coach... Jim and Sharon would run through a brick wall for Texas A&M.

– JACOB GREEN, 12TH MAN FOUNDATION
VICE PRESIDENT OF MAJOR GIFTS AND ENDOWMENTS



Friends and family joined in the surprise E. King Gill Award announcement at the Wilsons' tailgate prior to the Texas A&M-Kentucky football game on Oct. 6, 2018.

assurances that we could handle the lawsuit if they went through with it. Regents Box and Schwertner began discussions with (12th Man Foundation Board of Trustees Chair) Neal Adams and ultimately the 12th Man Board of Trustees agreed to provide indemnity for what legal costs there might have been if a lawsuit came about.”

Having the 12th Man Foundation involved and the regents understanding the organization's role helped make that possible.

“We told the SEC we had the expenses covered,” Jim said. “After clearing that hurdle, the deal was essentially done.”

Ultimately, the threats were withdrawn. Dr. Loftin received the call from then-SEC Commissioner Mike Slive: “It's done. Texas A&M is in, unconditionally.” A&M received its official invitation to join the nation's best conference in a bold move that has since become everything the leadership hoped and more.

“I like to think it was beneficial to the university to have people on the board who had an appreciation for athletics and what all this conference realignment meant,” Jim said. “It allowed me to get some of the regents involved with university leaders and Athletics Department leaders so that we were all on the same page when those events started happening.”

Through it all, Jim is proud to have played a role in the transition and takes comfort in the fact that

A&M will likely never have to worry about conference realignment again.

“He was at the right place at the right time and we looked up to him because of his wisdom and dedication,” Schwertner said. “I can tell you, because of his intellect and knowledge of how the Athletics Department worked and how important it was for us to get additional revenue, he was pivotal in us understanding how important the SEC was. And that really helped us in rebuilding Kyle Field.”

DESERVING AGGIES

Hours before kickoff of the A&M-Kentucky football game last October, the Wilsons were right where you would expect them to be – at their tailgate on O.R. Simpson Drill Field, preparing to support the Aggies against the 13th-ranked and undefeated Wildcats.

Sharon and Jim knew something was off when Patrick stopped by wearing a sports coat, especially on such a warm gameday afternoon. However, they had no idea what he was about to unveil to them on the laptop he was carrying with him.

As Patrick played a video revealing to his parents that they were the recipients of the 2018 E. King Gill Award, friends and family gathered behind Sharon and Jim, ready to surprise and congratulate the couple on the well-deserved honor.

The Wilsons loyalty and commitment to Texas A&M could not be more evident from Jim's service

on the Board of Trustees and Board of Regents to the family's passionate support of Aggie Athletics as longtime season ticket holders and financially invested donors to the 12th Man Foundation.

"They have made a tremendous impact on this university and Athletics Department," said JT Higgins, A&M's head men's golf coach. "Jim, with Sharon right beside him, has been instrumental in moving Texas A&M to the forefront of collegiate athletics and helping us become one of the elite athletic programs in the nation.

"They have truly left their mark on this university that we all love so much, and I cannot think of more deserving recipients of the E. King Gill Award."

Thanks to the continued generosity of many proud and dedicated 12th Man Foundation donors like the Wilsons, A&M has the resources in place to compete for championships. That level of commitment leads to attracting the best student-athletes and hiring elite coaches.

"We've been pretty good lately about doing things that people say we can't do," Jim said, "like leaving the Big 12 and hiring Jimbo Fisher."

Jim knows first-hand from his experience on the boards that A&M must continue investing in facilities and resources in order to stay ahead of the competition. And A&M knows that, when called upon to help, the Wilsons will always answer.

"Sharon and Jim were pivotal in changing the course of the direction for A&M," Schwertner said. "They are just very honest, loyal and hard-working people and I think history will show they are some of the greatest Aggies we've had at A&M." ■

“

Sharon and Jim were pivotal in changing the course of the direction for A&M. They are just very honest, loyal and hard-working people and I think history will show they are some of the greatest Aggies we've had at A&M.

– JIM SCHWERTNER,
FORMER TEXAS A&M REGENT



THE E. KING GILL AWARD

Established in 2011, the E. King Gill Award is presented annually to a person or couple who has been an influential investor and ambassador for Texas A&M Athletics.

The prestigious award honors supporters who have generously helped the 12th Man Foundation realize its mission of funding scholarships, programs and facilities in support of championship athletics. The recipient is selected based on financial commitment, exemplary service and leadership as a volunteer advocate, ethics and a high level of distinction as a role model.

The honorees of this prestigious award are recognized on an engraved plaque in the Claudia and Rod Stepp '59 Grand Lobby, located just outside the 12th Man Foundation offices.

E. King Gill Award Honorees

- 2011 Col. George J. Eppright '26
Carolyn & Jack E. Little '60
- 2012 Kay & Jerry S. Cox '72
- 2013 Judith & Weldon Jaynes '54
- 2014 Alice & Erle A. Nye '59
- 2015 Dorothy & Artie R. McFerrin '65
- 2016 Susan '13 & Sam '70 Torn
- 2017 Carolyn & Tommie E. Lohman '59
- 2018 Sharon '81 & Jim Wilson '81

RILEY MCQUAID '21

TENNIS | SOPHOMORE | BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

1922 FUND STUDENT-ATHLETE

PAIRED WITH DONORS GLENDA & DOUG OTTEN '65

“
THE OTTENS ARE TWO OF THE MOST KIND-HEARTED AND GENEROUS PEOPLE I KNOW. THEY HAVE HELPED ME FURTHER MY EDUCATION AT THE BEST UNIVERSITY IN THE WORLD AND CONTINUE PARTICIPATING IN THE SPORT THAT I LOVE. THEIR SUPPORT IS SO INCREDIBLE AND HARD TO PUT INTO WORDS. I HOPE TO KEEP A RELATIONSHIP WITH THEM FOR YEARS TO COME.

— RILEY MCQUAID '21



A former five-star recruit from Pacific Coast High School in Tustin, Calif., Riley McQuaid is currently a business administration major on the Texas A&M women's tennis team.

One of three sophomores on a team with no upperclassmen, McQuaid helped lead A&M to 14 victories through its first 15 matches in 2018-19 equaling the best 15-match stretch to open a season in program history. As a freshman in 2017-18, McQuaid recorded the second most singles wins on the team with a 24-13 overall record.

McQuaid, who began playing tennis when she was 2 years old, is paired with donors Glenda & Doug Otten '65 through the 12th Man Foundation's 1922 Fund. Generous donors like the Ottens are helping the 12th Man Foundation in its desire to endow scholarships for every student-athlete at Texas A&M.

For more information about the 1922 Fund, call Lauren Hickey at 979-260-7595 or visit 12thmanfoundation.com.

BUILDING LEADERS WITH REAL-WORLD EXPERIENCES

BY DOUGLAS PILS '92

STUDENT-ATHLETE SUCCESS CAN BE MEASURED in many ways.

Good grades and athletic accomplishments are important examples, but positive occurrences outside of the classroom and competition add incredible value to a student-athlete's experience while at Texas A&M.

The Student-Athlete Engagement staff within A&M's Academic Services department sees Aggies thrive through these experiences every day. It starts with making the effort to try something new and it ends with student-athletes developing lifelong skills and relationships with their peers.

"Mess up, experience it, learn from it and grow from it," said Joe Fields, A&M's Associate Athletics Director for Academic Services. "It's not necessarily from a textbook. It's not necessarily what the coach is telling them to do, but the opportunity to actually do some of these things and make decisions, be involved with growing programs and everything that entails. We think that's only going to serve them well in life when they have a chance to be in leadership roles and do really good things."

Matching opportunities with student-athletes means getting to know the student-athlete individually and tapping into their motivation.

"I think a lot of time you will have a mentor who sees a lot of things in you that you may not see in yourself initially," said Kristi Mejias, A&M's Assistant Director for Student-Athlete Engagement.

Here's a look at three student-athletes who have gained real-world leadership experience by making the most out of their opportunities.

TRADITIONS NIGHT

In summer of 2017, Rachel Bernardo was an

incoming member of the cross country team attending Fish Camp with other student-athletes in what was called Session Zero. The camp was set up before the other Fish Camps with the notion that student-athletes could experience an introduction to A&M without interfering with fall practices. Ultimately, the idea and its implementation presented several challenges, so Mejias and staff, along with students from the Division of Student Affairs, began meeting to assess, improve and continue providing a similar first-year experience to introduce student-athletes to the school's many traditions.

Mejias brought Bernardo, a sophomore from College Station, into the discussion for feedback from the student-athlete's perspective. From those meetings came the idea for Traditions Night, where new student-athletes go on a walking tour of campus, stopping at critical spots and learning some of the traditions that all Aggies should know about.

Sully and Silver Taps. The Academic Building. Century Tree. Bonfire Memorial. Learning the yells.

Bernardo, whose mother has two A&M degrees and runs the Texas Sea Grant on campus, helped map out the route. The women's distance runner used her Garmin watch to help build maps and establish how much time would be needed to complete the circular route.

"I think it went better than we could have hoped for," said Bernardo, who recently changed her major to psychology with a goal of becoming a sports psychologist. "All of the freshmen who talked to me about it said they had a really great time and that they met so many other people they wouldn't have met otherwise."

That was one of the things Bernardo brought to the planning meetings. She made sure to split up

“
IT IS A BIG DEAL TO COMPETE
AT A&M LET ALONE RECEIVE A
SCHOLARSHIP. IT REMINDS YOU
HOW LUCKY YOU ARE TO BE HERE
AND USE ALL OF THE FACILITIES
AND HAVE ALL OF THESE GREAT
RESOURCES WITH THE STAFF
AND ALL OF THE ENGAGEMENT
PROGRAMS. IT'S A CONSTANT
REMINDER OF THE SUCCESS
YOU'VE ACHIEVED SO FAR AND
THAT YOU ARE CAPABLE.

— RACHEL BERNARDO '21



the student-athletes from the different sports into huddles of 10 each in the two groups that traversed campus. Bernardo, who also serves as Vice President of Records & Finance for the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) and is an active executive member of WE³ – a group that seeks to empower female student-athletes on campus, is already signed up for another year of coordinating Traditions Night.

“You have some students who have a goal and vision for themselves early on and she is one of them,” Mejias said. “She was basically an executive leader with fourth- and fifth-year seniors on campus helping run Traditions Night.”

There were two different sessions of Traditions Night in 2018 – one in early summer and another in August for a little more than 100 incoming student-athletes. It is now considered a student-athlete’s first tradition similar to the way Fish Camp and Aggie Transition Camp represent a freshman and transfer student’s first tradition.

SEC CAREER TOUR

In November, the SEC held its third annual career tour for two student-athletes from each member

institution. The group visited several corporations in the Atlanta, Georgia, area including UPS, Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta, The Home Depot and the Atlanta Hawks organization.

Darby Gardner, a rider on the equestrian team, and men’s swimmer Mateo Gonzalez represented A&M for the three-day event. To be selected, student-athletes must build relationships with staff members and show initiative with involvement in other activities on campus.

For Gardner, a junior from New Braunfels majoring in business administration with a focus on event planning, her leadership role with WE³ was an important factor in being selected. She’s now the group’s premiere event coordinator, and it did not take long for Mejias to see Gardner’s enthusiasm.

“I was so impressed with what I saw when she came to the meetings,” Mejias said. “It was obvious that she had a desire to further her experience in event planning and running programs.”

In Atlanta, Gardner took full advantage of meeting student-athletes from fellow SEC schools as well as executives at the companies they visited.

“I was surrounded by people who have the same drive as me and that’s also hard because there are

Rachel Bernardo (above), a sophomore on the cross country team, is helping fellow student-athletes learn what it means to be an Aggie by helping coordinate Traditions Night.

Darby Gardner (right) is a junior equestrian rider who recently represented A&M at the SEC Career Tour in Atlanta, Georgia, which featured interactions with executives and a behind-the-scenes look at several major corporations.

YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT MATTERS

Student-athletes like Rachel Bernardo, Darby Gardner and Keeath Magee are taking full advantage of opportunities provided by Texas A&M Athletics to become leaders in the classroom, in competition and in the community.



CONTACT LAUREN HICKEY AT 979-260-7595 TO SUPPORT ACADEMIC PROGRAMS FOR STUDENT-ATHLETES

not a ton of people who want to do what I want to do,” said Gardner, who is part of the equestrian reining team. “I met a few girls that did and that was cool. And like me, they’re athletes so they’re super busy. It was good to be around some like-minded people who have that same drive for our careers.”

Gardner said the group was able to meet with SEC Commissioner Greg Sankey, who showed great interest in learning a little bit about each of the student-athletes in attendance. The tour happened in the week leading up to the SEC Football Championship Game. That made an impact on Gardner, because the conference was planning one of its major events of the year and yet took the time to help student-athletes from all sports.

“They were still focused on us and that was a huge deal,” she said.

SEC FOOTBALL LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

An event in Birmingham, Alabama, in January, pulled one motivated student-athlete from A&M’s Student-Athlete Advisory Committee. Junior linebacker Keeath Magee from Houston participated in the SEC Football Leadership Council where

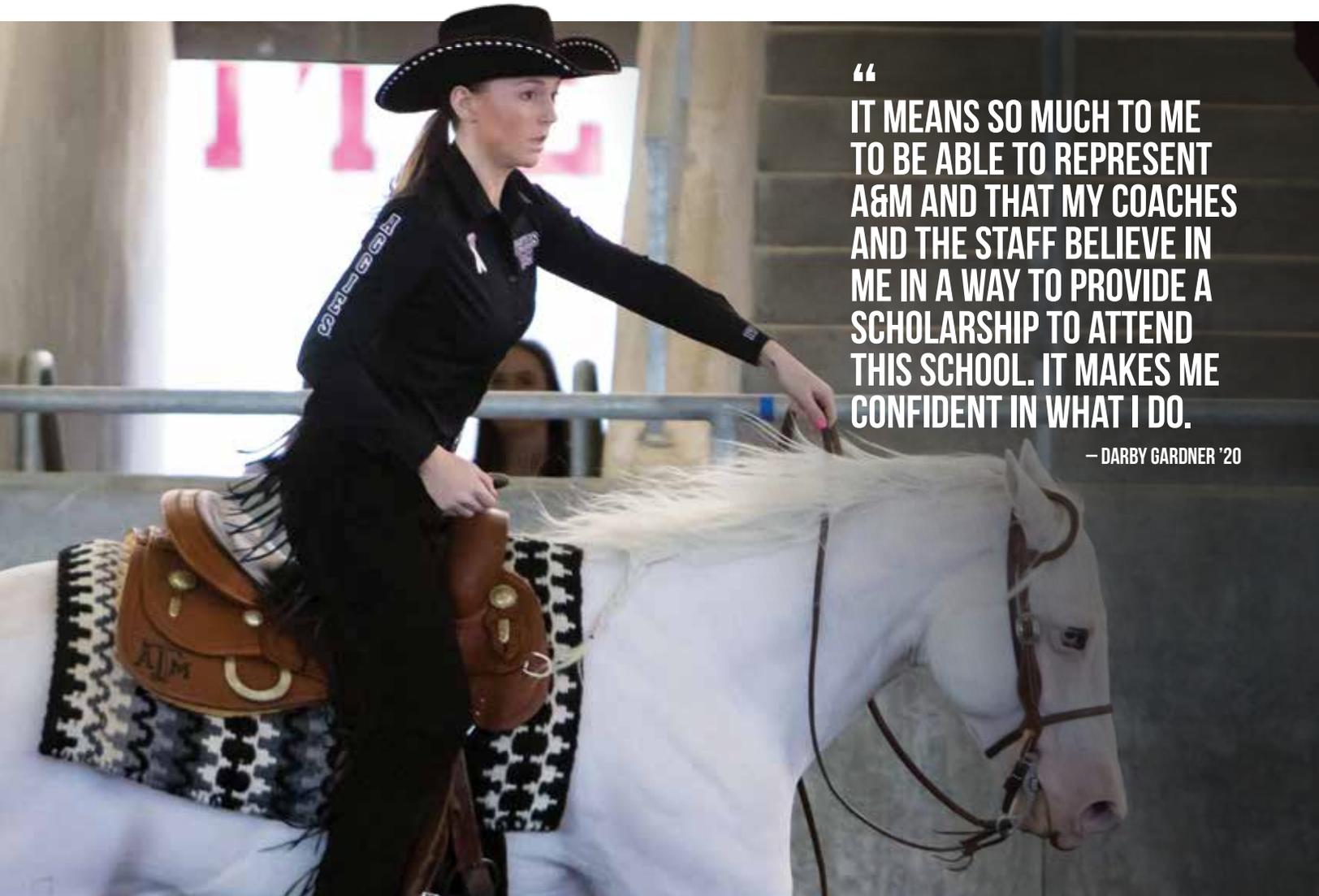
student-athletes reviewed NCAA and SEC legislative issues and held discussions with officials and student-athletes from other schools.

Magee, who will graduate in August with a degree in University Studies Business with minors in sports management and economics, stood out as A&M’s representative for many reasons.

“He doesn’t meet a stranger and he’s intentional with building relationships with everyone he encounters,” Mejias said of Magee, whose parents moved to College Station and are working as a football coach and English teacher at A&M Consolidated. “He will just come into your office and if you’re welcoming, he’s going to be welcoming. He’s going to have some very insightful conversations.”

Magee came to Texas A&M with the notion that he would use his education to help people. He has a lot of ideas about how to do that, from wanting to help build libraries and Boys & Girls Clubs to being a sports agent who does things the right way to being a lawyer or an entrepreneur.

He returned from Birmingham inspired to start a new organization that will help student-athletes develop the tools for success in a variety of ways.



“IT MEANS SO MUCH TO ME TO BE ABLE TO REPRESENT A&M AND THAT MY COACHES AND THE STAFF BELIEVE IN ME IN A WAY TO PROVIDE A SCHOLARSHIP TO ATTEND THIS SCHOOL. IT MAKES ME CONFIDENT IN WHAT I DO.

— DARBY GARDNER '20



After participating in discussions with fellow student-athletes as A&M's representative at the SEC Football Leadership Council in January, junior linebacker Keeath Magee returned to Aggieland inspired to start a new organization to help student-athletes develop the tools for success.

He's still working out the details, but it's clear that being around his peers from the SEC and league executives made an impact on his vision.

A big part of that was understanding that people do not have to be a "LeBron James character" to make a change in the world around them.

"It changed my perspective on if I say I'm a leader, that means I'm willing to go against the grain and I'm willing to speak up for change when other people don't want to," Magee said. "I can be that voice for people who may not have the courage or the strength. So to be the voice of that strength and the voice of everyone who may want to see a change, I think that's the respect that I came away from it."

These experiences and many others, such as WE³ and the Winning Edge Job Shadow Experience, provide A&M student-athletes with the opportunity to earn real-world experience and make the valuable connections that will help them find jobs when they graduate. That does not mean everything works well every time, but as long as the students work together, they are preparing for the challenges they will face after they leave the comforts of Texas A&M.

"They have to work through their differences," Fields said. "They have to work through different ideas and different opinions to ultimately reach an end goal. You have some other initiatives where they're literally behind the scenes being an intern and seeing it first-hand and getting that practical, upfront experience that they wouldn't normally get in the traditional classroom setting."

Being able to take part in these programs only requires student-athletes to take the first step into wanting to be a part of something that makes a difference.

"In my opinion, I believe that positivity can go a long way," Magee said. "You never know what bringing positive energy can do. And so, knowledge is also power. You never know what can change your life." ■

“
I WANT TO SAY THANK YOU TO THE DONORS. YOU KEEP CHANGING LIVES. WE'RE FORTUNATE TO HAVE PEOPLE LIKE YOU THAT WANT TO GIVE BACK. YOU CONTINUE TO TAKE KIDS OUT OF BAD SITUATIONS FROM ACROSS THE COUNTRY AND THAT'S SPECIAL. THAT TYPE OF PHILANTHROPY AND SELFLESS SERVICE IS DEFINITELY TO BE HONORED AND TO BE ADMIRER.

— KEEATH MAGEE '20

JO EVANS

A conversation with the head coach of Texas A&M's softball program

BY ADAM QUISENBERRY



» NATIONAL FASTPITCH COACHES' ASSOCIATION HALL OF FAME IN HER 23RD SEASON AT A&M

» 19 NCAA POSTSEASON APPEARANCES INCLUDING THREE TRIPS TO THE WOMEN'S COLLEGE WORLD SERIES IN 2007, 2008 AND 2017

» 22 STRAIGHT 30-WIN SEASONS INCLUDING 11 40-WIN SEASONS AND A PROGRAM-BEST 57 WINS IN 2008

» 12TH COACH IN NCAA DIVISION I HISTORY TO RECORD 1,200 CAREER VICTORIES AND RANKS 8TH IN CAREER WINS AMONG ACTIVE HEAD COACHES

What excites you about this year's Aggie softball team?

Our enthusiasm, our team chemistry and the excitement our young players show when they have opportunities to get out on the field. There is a lot of competition for positions so it's fun to see them go out and complete.

Now in your 23rd year as the head softball coach, how have you seen Texas A&M University and Texas A&M Athletics grow during your time in Aggieland?

It's a business for sure. Texas A&M has always had high standards and has been very successful, but relatively speaking, we've evolved from a mom-and-pop to big-time college athletics. We're always going to have high expectations of excellence, but we're putting our money where our mouth is and hiring great coaches and building great facilities on par or above every other top program in the country. Every year we continue to raise the bar.

What makes Aggieland special to you?

When I talk about how we have evolved from a mom-and-pop to big-time college athletics, Texas A&M still feels unique and that family

atmosphere is still at the forefront. It feels different than any other place I visit. The people and the core values of Texas A&M and Aggieland haven't changed. People here want to be a part of something bigger than themselves. They care not only about winning, but integrity, building character and developing young people so they go out into the world and do great things. Not just our student-athletes, but the entire student body. Aggieland is invested in young people and their growth.

Your team was able to get a preview of David Diamond at the end of last season, but how much has the completed facility impacted the program this spring?

Davis Diamond has been a game-changer. You think about the typical day in the life of a student-athlete and they're all over the place. So many demands and before they went to one building for this and another building for that, now they come to the stadium and have basically everything they need.

Can you talk about the unique relationship between the 12th Man Foundation and Texas A&M Athletics?

It is reassuring and validating to know that there is an organization there specifically and solely for our student-athletes to have the best experience they can possibly have – knowing there are people who are full-time invested in making sure we have the support we need and that our donors not only make an impact, but are emotionally invested in the success of Texas A&M Athletics. It's not just about selling tickets to say we sold tickets. It's about making sure we have a great atmosphere and that our donors get to know student-athletes. I think the most rewarding part for any donor I've ever talked to is not that they can say they donated so their name is on something, but the personal relationships

“

THERE IS NEVER GOING TO BE A WAY FOR US TO GIVE BACK AS MUCH AS THE DONORS GIVE TO US — IT'S IMPOSSIBLE. WHAT IS IMPORTANT TO ME IS THAT WE COMPETE AT A LEVEL AND A STANDARD THAT THEY CAN BE PROUD OF.

— JO EVANS



Texas A&M Athletics hosted an event to formally dedicate Davis Diamond on Feb. 9, 2019, which featured remarks from Jo Evans and senior Riley Sartain from the softball program, lead donor Monty Davis and university administrators.

they build with student-athletes. How that changes everything for them, their perspective and experience. We try to make it a point that our donors have hands-on experience with these student-athletes so it's up close and personal for them. Our student-athletes appreciate that, and I know the donors do as well.

How important are donors and supporters to the success of your program?

There is never going to be a way for us to give back as much as the donors give to us – it's impossible. What is important to me is that we compete at a level and a standard that they can be proud of.

Can you describe the impact long-time Aggie softball supporters Becky and Monty Davis have had by helping make the new ballpark a reality?

The Davises have made unbelievable contributions to our program, not only financially, but emotionally. They have poured their heart and soul into our program and we feel that. They have

opened their home and their hearts to us and have literally become a part of our Aggie softball family. They have made a huge impact on us and we feel it every day. It's been an honor to open this stadium with their name on it, but it means more because of who they are.

How does a scholarship change a young person's life?

I can speak from personal experience. I don't know that I would have gone to college had I not happened to have some talent playing softball. Because that happened to me, I know that it has happened to thousands of other young women. That scholarship gives a person a chance to potentially be debt free when they get out of college or maybe attend college when they never would have. It also provides the opportunity for a young person to be a part of a team and an organization where they learn characteristics that they will take with them into the workforce. A scholarship might be a chance for a family to send another kid to college, who maybe is not an athlete. The scholarships are everything and so meaningful. ■

MATEO GONZALEZ '19

SWIMMING & DIVING | SENIOR | SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT

1922 FUND STUDENT-ATHLETE

PAIRED WITH DONORS ANNE & HENRY "HANK" B. PAUP '70



Mateo Gonzalez Medina is a native of Torreón, Coahuila, Mexico, and is a senior on the Texas A&M men's swimming and diving team majoring in supply chain management.

A co-captain of the 2018-19 squad, Gonzalez helped the 10th-ranked Aggies finish fourth at the SEC Championships in February with a personal lifetime best time in the 100 butterfly.

Last April, Gonzalez was one of six Aggie swimmers to earn a spot on the Mexican National Team for the 2018 Central American & Caribbean Games, where he placed fourth in the 100 fly. He also swam for Team Mexico at the 2017 World University Games in Taipei, Taiwan.

Gonzalez, whose sister, Esther, also swam for A&M, is paired with donors Anne & Henry "Hank" B. Paup '70 through the 12th Man Foundation's 1922 Fund. Generous donors like the Paups are helping the 12th Man Foundation in its desire to endow scholarships for every student-athlete at Texas A&M.

For more information about the 1922 Fund, call Lauren Hickey at 979-260-7595 or visit 12thmanfoundation.com.

“

WHERE I AM FROM, A PLACE LIKE TEXAS A&M CAN ONLY BE FOUND IN MOVIES. PEOPLE BACK HOME DO NOT UNDERSTAND WHEN I TELL THEM ABOUT THIS PLACE BECAUSE THERE IS NOTHING LIKE IT. THE EXPERIENCE YOU GET HERE IS LIKE NO OTHER, AND IT ALL STARTS WITH PROUD DONORS LIKE ANNE AND HANK PAUP WHO MAKE CONTRIBUTIONS TO CHANGE LIVES. I KNOW THEY CHANGED MY LIFE AND FOR THAT, MY FAMILY AND I WILL ALWAYS BE GRATEFUL.

— MATEO GONZALEZ '19

JOAN & JEFF BOTT '65

BY SAMANTHA LATTA '17

INVEST IN THE FUTURE OF STUDENT- ATHLETES

Joan and Jeff Bott '65 are making a lasting impact with their generous contributions to Texas A&M Athletics.

Join the Botts as 1922 Fund donors and help support the 12th Man Foundation's desire to endow scholarships for all Aggie student-athletes.



CONTACT LAUREN
HICKEY AT
979-260-7595

IT WAS IN THE FALL OF 1957 WHEN THE AGGIE spirit first struck Jeff Bott '65. Sitting amongst thousands of fans packed into Rice Stadium, Bott felt the overwhelming excitement of Aggie football for the first time during a game that he, along with everyone else, would not soon forget.

With one older brother attending Rice and the other at Texas A&M at the time, the game between the Aggies and Owls could not have been more fitting for Bott and his family. In a time where the Aggies were ranked number one in the nation, even the most devastating loss to Rice could not dilute Bott's admiration for A&M that day. Sixty-two years later, the feeling still stands as strong as ever.

Longtime donors to the 12th Man Foundation, Jeff and his wife, Joan, have an unwavering loyalty to Texas A&M. Their passion for the University matched with their personal mission to give back continues to make an enormous impact on both academics and athletics.

Since their first contribution in 1982, the Botts have been dedicated to doing their part in bettering the University and educating the students that foster its rich traditions.

TO AGGIELAND AND BEYOND

Jeff came to A&M in the summer of 1961 to study mathematics and economics. A distinguished student and a member of the Corps of Cadets, Jeff was a hard-working individual who balanced his studies, work and even started a second minor in Russian during his time in Aggieland. However, in the midst of juggling all of his responsibilities, Jeff determined he would need to be released from the Corps in order to stay afloat.

"After the first semester, I asked the Corps Commander if I could be released from the Corps because I was trying to work several jobs to support my way through college," Jeff said. "They agreed, which I'm heavily indebted to them for – both then and more so now – because I didn't have to relocate or try to go to another school. I may not have even graduated from college if they hadn't let me stay."

Jeff graduated from A&M in January of 1965 after completing a hefty 21-hour final semester. Thinking about where he would have been had he not been able to stay and finish his degree, Jeff gives enormous credit to A&M for being the foundation of his success.

"It has been that degree from Texas A&M that provided me the opportunity to go out and do what I consider good or great things, and we've been more than appreciative of it," he said. "Like everyone else, we stumble in life, but it's not what happens when you fall down – it's how you get up and go."

After graduation, Jeff began a 10-year stint in the aerospace industry, first working for Ling Tempco Vault (LTV) and later at NASA. After his first year at LTV, the company received a contract with NASA prompting Jeff's move to their Hampton, Va., facility where he worked on missile simulations and simulations for the Boeing Supersonic Transport. He was later called back home to Texas when an opportunity came at NASA Houston for a special project – the Apollo 11 spacecraft to the moon.

“

THERE ARE A LOT OF REASONS TO GIVE TO DIFFERENT THINGS, BUT I CAN'T THINK OF ANYTHING BETTER THAN GIVING A STUDENT-ATHLETE AN OPPORTUNITY TO COME TO TEXAS A&M, GET AN EDUCATION AND CARRY ON THE TRADITIONS.

— JEFF BOTT '65



“My job there was to simulate the command module of the Apollo 11 spacecraft,” he said. “They wanted to know two things that were most important – how fast or at what velocity to bring the craft back in, and secondly, at what angle to the Earth’s atmosphere do we bring them back in to get the right orbit.”

Jeff’s experiences in the aerospace industry were just the beginning of his exciting and fascinating business ventures. After completing the Apollo 11 project, Jeff left NASA to sell and design hybrid computers for a company called Hybrid Systems in Houston. Coincidentally, it was the same company Joan was working for at the time.

An Ohio native, Joan moved to Houston after a visit that left her heart longing to live in Texas. Once the two met, Jeff introduced Joan to his passion for A&M, starting with her first Kyle Field experience in the fall of 1968. Joan fell in love with A&M from the first time she visited.

“I was just enamored – I could not believe it,” Joan recalled. “I had been on many different college campuses in Ohio, but it was just a very special place, and I always tell him I am so glad that you went to Texas A&M.”

Soon after the stars aligned, Joan and Jeff were married in 1970. Easily described as attached at the hip, the two began venturing into many different business sectors together, ranging from oil and gas and antique cars, to auto dealerships and commercial real estate.

By 1982, the Botts had become well established in their various trades and made the decision to start giving back to A&M.

“We decided we really wanted football season tickets and gave an endowed scholarship to the University,” Jeff said. “We’ve been buying season tickets ever since.”

MAKING THEIR MARK

Becoming somewhat of a Bott tradition, Joan and Jeff are not just proud members of the Aggie family – they also belong to a proud family of Aggies. The Botts have two children and two grandchildren



Savion Flagg (men’s basketball), Tyra Gittens (track and field) and Hunter Coleman (baseball) represent three current Aggie student-athletes who are benefiting from the Botts’ commitment to supporting education through the 1922 Fund.

who are Aggie graduates – soon to be three in 2020 – and countless other relatives who share a love for A&M thanks to Joan and Jeff’s leading example. The two thoroughly enjoy spending time with them in the place they love most – Aggieland.

“I just love being up here and every time, no matter where I go, I always drive past the campus,” Joan said. “I just love it. I think there’s nothing like it anywhere else.”

The Botts are heavily involved in supporting Aggie Athletics and academics in every way they can. Over the years, Joan and Jeff have made an immense impact as donors to the 12th Man Foundation through various facility and renovation contributions, planned gifts, sport-specific donations and more that have helped to ensure that A&M is always equipped with the resources it needs to achieve greatness.

“It’s a fantastic feeling to give,” Jeff said. “You feel better about giving than receiving and are able to see all that your contributions can do. There are a lot of kids who will be productive in society and will go do great things if just given a chance.”

Recognizing that greatness is often built on a solid foundation, the Botts are especially invested in student-athlete education. Supporting student-athletes across multiple sports, the Botts have funded a total of six scholarships through the 1922 Fund in football, baseball, softball, men’s basketball, women’s basketball and track and field.

“We need to get these children educated,” Joan said. “We know it’s hard for a lot of people, and that’s our goal – to educate. We want to get them educated and give as much as we can give.”



Reflecting on the opportunities that A&M once gave to him, Jeff understands the weight of how important an education can be in the lives of young students.

“There are a lot of reasons to give to different things, but I can’t think of anything better than giving a student-athlete an opportunity to come to Texas A&M, get an education and carry on the traditions,” he said. “It’s an amazing feeling and we’re just thrilled to death that we’re able to do that.”

Track and field All-American Tyra Gittens is one of the student-athletes who is benefiting from the Botts’ commitment to supporting education through the 1922 Fund.

“My scholarship means a future for me,” Gittens said. “Being from a family of seven kids, my parents did not know how they were going to get us all to college. But the Botts have taken that worry away from my parents, and for that alone, I am forever grateful. Their investment in me will not be forgotten, and when I step onto the Olympic track in 2020, I will be thinking of both of them.

“They have given me something that is very needed in this world and that is hope.”

Without a doubt, the Botts have played a pivotal role in shaping the future for many student-athletes and their generosity is deeply felt throughout Aggieland. Expressing gratitude for the opportunities A&M has given them, the Botts are never hesitant to share their success with those who aspire to follow in their footsteps.

“We’re going to give as long as we’re living,” Joan said, “and then hopefully there will be plenty left to continue on our legacy.”

Jeff, pictured to the right as an aspiring young football player, and Joan are Eppright Distinguished Donors who have been incredibly generous supporters of student-athlete education at A&M. Through their numerous contributions to the 1922 Fund since it was established in 2015, the Botts have been instrumental in helping the 12th Man Foundation progress towards its goal of fully endowing scholarships for every Aggie student-athlete.



COURTESY OF THE BOTT FAMILY (THIS PAGE); TEXAS A&M ATHLETICS (FACING PAGE)



TYRA GITTENS '21

TRACK & FIELD | SOPHOMORE | PSYCHOLOGY

1922 FUND STUDENT-ATHLETE

PAIRED WITH DONORS JOAN & JEFF BOTT '65



A native of Nashville, Tenn., Tyra Gittens is a sophomore student-athlete on the Texas A&M track and field team majoring in psychology.

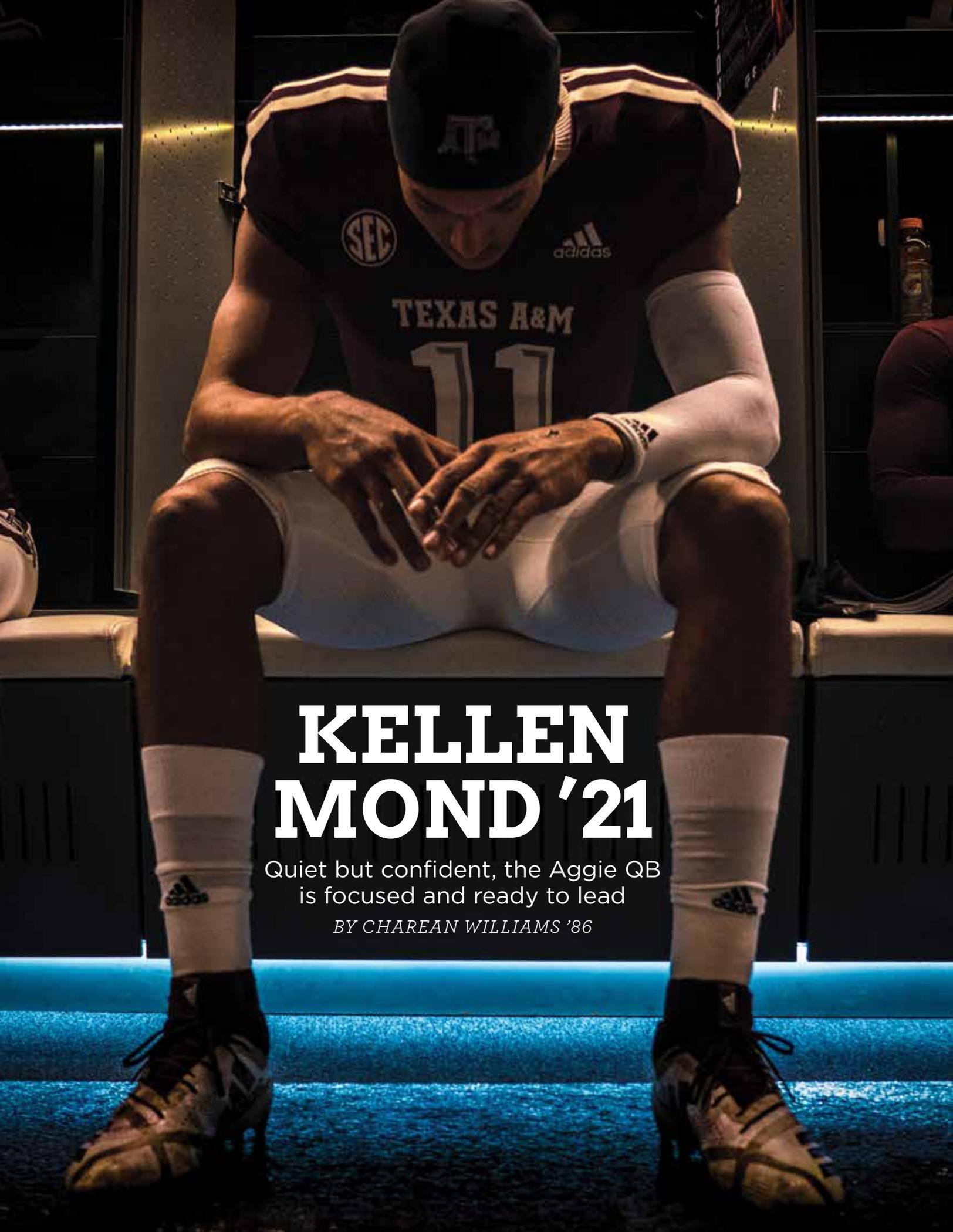
Gittens was named SEC Freshman Field Athlete of the Year in 2018 – an award that is voted upon by conference coaches – after winning the heptathlon at the SEC Outdoor Championships. She also earned All-America honors for her accomplishments in NCAA outdoor (heptathlon) and indoor (pentathlon) events.

A 2017 graduate of The Ensworth School, Gittens is paired with donors Joan and Jeff Bott '65 through the 12th Man Foundation's 1922 Fund. Generous donors like the Botts are helping the 12th Man Foundation in its desire to endow scholarships for every student-athlete at Texas A&M.

For more information about the 1922 Fund, call Lauren Hickey at 979-260-7595 or visit 12thmanfoundation.com.

“MY SCHOLARSHIP MEANS A FUTURE FOR ME. BEING FROM A FAMILY OF SEVEN KIDS, MY PARENTS DID NOT KNOW HOW THEY WERE GOING TO GET US ALL TO COLLEGE. BUT THE BOTTS HAVE TAKEN THAT WORRY AWAY FROM MY PARENTS, AND FOR THAT ALONE, I AM FOREVER GRATEFUL. THEIR INVESTMENT IN ME WILL NOT BE FORGOTTEN, AND WHEN I STEP ONTO THE OLYMPIC TRACK IN 2020, I WILL BE THINKING OF BOTH OF THEM.

— TYRA GITTENS '21



KELLEN MOND '21

Quiet but confident, the Aggie QB
is focused and ready to lead

BY CHAREAN WILLIAMS '86

“

I WANT TO LEAVE A LARGE LEGACY AND LEAVE THE PROGRAM BETTER THAN WHERE I FOUND IT... IF WE CONTINUE TO WORK AND HAVE THE RIGHT MINDSET THIS WHOLE OFFSEASON, WE CAN REACH OUR GOALS. **THERE'S NO REASON WE CAN'T.**

— KELLEN MOND '21

THE ALUMINUM MINI BLINDS IN THE FAMILY ROOM of Kellen Mond's San Antonio home are dented, bent and broken. They do not fit the orderliness of the rest of the house, and yet, they fit the residents of the home perfectly.

Mond damaged the blinds when he began grooming to become Texas A&M's quarterback at the age of 2.

"We said we would not get rid of those blinds until he either graduated or made it to the NFL," Kevin Mond, Kellen's father, said with a laugh. "So we've got a year or two left."

Kellen Mond's accuracy has improved since then, after dozens upon hundreds upon thousands upon tens of thousands throws in his short lifetime.

"I had him throwing on his knees at age 2," Kevin Mond said. "I'm 6 foot 5, and I knew if he had any size to him, he was going to be big enough to play quarterback."

"Every day, we threw the football. Every day, we played in the backyard – running, throwing the football. Every single day. I don't think there was ever a day we missed throwing."

Outside that window, behind those beat-up mini blinds, the sky is the limit for Kellen Mond, who plans to find a place among the stars.

"I have dreams and aspirations, but one thing I know," Mond said, "is it's a process."

Every time he enters the Bright Football Complex, Mond is reminded of Johnny Manziel. A&M's current starting quarterback sees the 2012 Heisman Trophy on display in the facility's grand Tommie E. Lohman '59 Center.

Mond would love to add a third Heisman display in the building to go along with Manziel's and John

David Crow's, but that's not the goal. He instead seeks to bring home the school's first national championship trophy in the sport since 1939.

"I want to leave a large legacy and leave the program better than where I found it," said Mond, who has become friends with Manziel. "That's the same thing Johnny did when he was here. He made it a superstar program. He did something, not only for himself, but for A&M. So I just want to keep elevating to that. If we continue to work and have the right mindset this whole offseason, we can reach our goals. There's no reason we can't."

Mond always has had a championship sense of timing. He was born in San Antonio on June 22, 1999, the day after Game 3 of the NBA Finals, a day before Game 4 and three days before the Spurs clinched their first of five NBA championships.

From sixth grade until he finished high school at the IMG Academy in Bradenton, Florida, Mond lost only two games as a starter. He is 14-7 at A&M, with several comeback wins, most memorably the LSU game to end the 2018 regular season.

"He's always cool, but he's also always, 'We're about to go win this game,'" Erik McCoy, the Aggies' starting center the past three seasons, said. "You can always see it in his eyes."

Mond entered A&M in January 2017 as a quiet, 204-pound freshman. He has added muscle, developed broad shoulders and become a leader over the past two years.

After playing last season at around 210 pounds, the junior sport management major now weighs 216-217 and hopes to be 219-220 when the 2019 season starts.

"I've come a long way," Mond said. "It's not just

A STUDENT-ATHLETE'S EDUCATION IS PRICELESS

Kellen Mond is striving for excellence on the football field and in the classroom.

By giving to the 12th Man Foundation's 1922 Fund, you are supporting Aggie student-athletes athletically and academically.



CONTACT LAUREN HICKEY AT 979-260-7595



“
**THANK YOU TO THE 12TH MAN FOUNDATION DONORS
FOR GIVING ME THE OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE A
SCHOLARSHIP TO PLAY FOR TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY.**

— KELLEN MOND '21

Mond had an impressive sophomore campaign on the field culminating with the Aggies' 2018 TaxSlayer Gator Bowl victory on New Year's Eve. Off the field, the sport management major has been actively involved with 12th Man Foundation events including the annual Summer Meeting and a recent dinner honoring 1922 Fund donors and John David Crow Legacy Society members.

a knowledge of the game from my freshman to my sophomore year, but just being able to lead and impact other people, and that's what leading is – getting people to join you, not just follow you. Then, physically, I've put on a lot of weight.”

Mond also has had to bear the weight of being Jimbo Fisher's starting quarterback. Fisher admits he's hard on quarterbacks, and that's putting it nicely. But Mond's training at home prepared him for everything he has faced.

“He gets it the worst out of anybody at practice,” McCoy said. “In practice, it's rough on him. By the time he gets to the games, he's cool; he's calm. He knows what he's doing.”

Mond is as quiet as he seems, but Trayveon Williams' departure necessitates he become the team's vocal leader. Mond is ready for the job.

“I've already been doing it, just making sure everybody has the right mindset and understands what type of team we can be,” he said. “It's going to be really big for not only me but Jhamon Ausbon and some guys on defense to step up and make sure we put that in people's heads.”

Mond and his family leave nothing to chance. They have considered his future beyond this season. His dreams include an NFL career, following in the cleat marks of Manziel and other former

A&M quarterbacks like Ryan Tannehill and Stephen McGee by being drafted into the league.

His parents are accountants. His father a chess player. They have spent time studying the recent history of the NFL Draft and can recite the numbers of quarterbacks drafted and when.

“We'll see what happens,” Kevin Mond said. “But there's nothing wrong with going back (to school for his senior year). If Kellen is not done with his degree, I can almost assure you, he'll be going back. There's no chance of him coming out early unless he's graduated, and just because he's graduated doesn't mean he's coming out early.”

But the future can wait. After completing 51.5 percent of his passes for 1,375 yards with eight touchdowns and six interceptions in 10 games as a freshman, including eight starts, Mond completed 57.3 percent of his passes for 3,107 yards, 24 touchdowns and nine interceptions in starting all 13 games last season. McCoy expects “another big jump” from the A&M quarterback this season.

Mond is driving the Aggie bandwagon, a role he has prepared for his whole life.

“I want to really impact guys, letting them know they can go a lot further than their mind tells them they can,” Mond said. “I want to win a national championship this year.”



SUSAN & JEFF MILLER '85

BY SAMANTHA LATTA '17

WHEN IT COMES TO SERVICE, PASSION AND LOVE for Texas A&M, Susan and Jeff Miller are an exemplary example on every front. The Millers' influence can be seen across campus, both in academics and athletics. To keep the Aggie tradition of excellence alive and strong, the Millers take pride in doing their part to make Texas A&M an even better place than it already is.

PERFECT MATCH

A Minnesota native, Jeff made the southbound trip to College Station after hearing of A&M's prestigious petroleum engineering program. An unbeatable education matched with a more favorable climate made Aggieland seem like the perfect fit for Jeff. After one visit to campus, he knew that it was.

"My mom actually saw a ranking where Texas A&M University's undergraduate petroleum engineering program was number one in the nation," Jeff recalled. "On top of that, an uncle of one of my close friends was a professor at the veterinary school. When I came down to College Station for the first time, not only was I welcomed by an extended family, but when I did my tour at the petroleum engineering school, several of the professors were also very welcoming. Having an extended family, a great academic program and a very warm welcome by the professors in the department is what got me to Texas A&M."

During his time in Aggieland, Jeff walked onto the Texas A&M track and field team and competed as a triple jumper while balancing his academics. He graduated in 1985 and began his career working in various capacities of the energy business sector, starting first as a petroleum engineer with Exxon in Houston before beginning his graduate studies at Columbia Business School in New York City.

After earning his MBA, Jeff worked in New York in energy investment banking with UBS (formerly Dillon Read). It was upon his return to Texas that

he met his wife, Susan. A Waco, Texas, native and graduate of the Hankamer School of Business at Baylor University, Susan had also recently moved from New York after working in private banking lending on Wall Street. Returning to the Lone Star State to start her sports medicine supplement company serendipitously put the two in Dallas together. Susan and Jeff were later married and had their daughter, Blaise '20, and son, Pierce '23.

AN AGGIE FAMILY

Jeff certainly shared his passion for A&M with his family, "converting" Susan into a die-hard Aggie (as he says) and immersing both of their children into the magic of Aggieland.

"Neither kid applied to any other school," Jeff said. "They grew up going down to College Station for games and I'd take them to various functions of different things I'm involved in.

"They were thoroughly brainwashed from infancy to love Texas A&M," he joked.

Following in her father's footsteps, Blaise is now a junior majoring in petroleum engineering and is set to graduate in December of 2020. Pierce was recently accepted into the College of Engineering and will be joining his sister on campus soon as part of the Fightin' Texas Aggie class of 2023.

"Candidly, to see my kids there in the same engineering program – my daughter in petroleum engineering and hopefully my son also in petroleum engineering – it really makes Susan and I proud to see the success that they've had," Jeff said.

Over the years, Jeff has made for quite the role model for his kids, assuming various positions that have taken them far and wide, from Fort Worth all the way to Geneva, Switzerland. Currently, Jeff serves as the Managing Partner and CEO of Vortus Investments, an oil and gas private equity firm he co-founded about five years ago.

"The Aggie energy fraternity is a very strong one," he said. "Whether it's personal, professional

BECOME A CHAMPION FOR AGGIE ATHLETICS

With their generous commitment to Texas A&M Athletics, Susan and Jeff Miller '85 are helping provide championship-level facilities for Aggie student-athletes.

Join Susan and Jeff as Champions Council members with an investment in support of Aggie Athletics.



CONTACT LAUREN HICKEY AT 979-260-7595



or just having a sounding board, the camaraderie that exists within Texas A&M is very special in the U.S. and abroad.”

GETTING INVOLVED

The Millers have contributed to several academic scholarships over the years, and Jeff has served on the Advisory Board for the Department of Petroleum Engineering for the past 12. It was during this time that he and Susan really began giving back to A&M, specifically to petroleum engineering.

When the Millers learned how they could impact athletics through the 12th Man Foundation from Senior Vice President of Major Gifts Brady Bullard, the couple proudly answered the call.

“If it helps advance Texas A&M and Aggie

Athletics, the Millers are on board and there to help,” Bullard said. “They all bleed maroon, even the former Baylor Bear.”

“Brady shared with me some of the needs and the impact that I could make, and he has been very good at helping me further grasp the importance of having the athletics program be in the top tier and what it takes to get there,” Jeff said. “Purely from an athletics standpoint, to have the best student-athletes, you have to have the best facilities, and that is something that goes hand in hand.”

The Millers’ first gift in support of Aggie Athletics was pledged to the construction of E.B. Cushing Stadium, the sparkling new home for A&M’s nationally-ranked outdoor track and field program.

“Track and field is another area where A&M has

Susan and Jeff, the proud parents of an Aggie daughter, Blaise ’20, and a soon-to-be-Aggie son, Pierce ’23, made their first major gift to the 12th Man Foundation in support of E.B. Cushing Stadium, helping A&M construct the finest outdoor track and field facility in the nation.

The Millers, pictured to the right holding an Aggie flag on a trip to Africa, have continued their commitment to helping build championship athletic programs with a significant contribution to the expansion of Aggie football's Davis Player Development Center.



had a long and successful franchise, and I have a personal connection with it,” Jeff said. “Recruits want to see if our product offering is as good as the other schools that they’re considering, and I think that it’s important to continue on our current path of positive progression to have the best facilities in the nation and ensure that you’re going to have the best team in the nation as a result.”

Susan and Jeff became Champions Council members with their track and field gift in 2017 and have continued to increase their involvement with the 12th Man Foundation.

Most recently, the Millers made a significant contribution to the Davis Player Development Center’s expansion – a project set to keep A&M’s most technologically advanced workout facility at the forefront of football student-athlete development.

“I guess the way I look at it is, the football program is obviously the outward facing front porch of the university, and I think it’s important to maintain

competitiveness,” Jeff said. “I think the expansion of the Davis Player Development Center makes us even more attractive to get the top recruits in the nation.”

In hopes to make an impact on the positive progression, the pair saw undeniable value in their contribution to the project.

“Any and every place where donations can make a difference is important if we want to maintain our trajectory with Coach Fisher and his staff, and to take it to the next level,” Jeff said. “The Davis Player Development Center is a very special facility, and if our gift can make it an even better place to get those additional top recruits, then all the better.”

MAKING AN IMPACT

The feeling of seeing their contributions benefit the future of Texas A&M is second-to-none in the eyes of the Millers. Susan and Jeff enjoy passing down the many benefits to their own children and are proud of the impact they have made and continue to make in the lives of student-athletes. A&M holds a special place in their hearts, and their generosity is ensuring that Aggieland will continue to be a special place for years to come.

“What I’ve done at A&M is just helping to make it a better place, and any influence or ideas that I can bring to make A&M an even more special place is why I serve,” Jeff said. “It makes you proud to be an Aggie, and it makes you proud to see how our generosity and others’ generosity is making A&M to be an even better place than what it was – higher profile, higher goals and higher achievements.”

“
**ANY AND EVERY PLACE WHERE DONATIONS
CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE IS IMPORTANT IF
WE WANT TO MAINTAIN OUR TRAJECTORY
WITH COACH FISHER AND HIS STAFF,
AND TO TAKE IT TO THE NEXT LEVEL.**

— JEFF MILLER '85

HARRY GREEN '52

Former Executive Director of the Aggie Club
and 12th Man Foundation (1979-92)

BY MATT SIMON '98



The 12th Man Foundation was honored to host former staff members Harry Green, Ellen Watson Teetes, Reba Ragsdale and Jeff Allen for a staff appreciation luncheon last summer.

HARRY GREEN '52 HAD NO TIES TO TEXAS A&M when he made the decision to attend the small military college north of his hometown of Houston, Texas.

“I came to A&M because I wanted to,” he recalled.

Entering school in 1948, Green was part of Company B and ran track for the Aggies his freshman year. Everything changed in the summer of 1950, however, when the Korean War began. Green left A&M and enlisted in the Navy, spending four years at sea.

As the war came to an end, Green had a choice to make.

“If I’d stayed in and gotten my commission, my whole life would have been different,” he said.

Green opted to return to Aggieland, finishing his degree in industrial technology in 1957, and began working as a safety engineer.

PERSISTENCE PAYS OFF

In 1968, Richard “Buck” Weirus '42, the executive director of the Association of Former Students at that time, was looking for a field director to help keep the A&M clubs active and involved. Green’s

name popped up in the search, and he landed an interview.

“I went back home and had two old professors write him a letter saying that I was the only guy for the job,” Green said with a laugh. “I had a friend from Dallas write him. Two from Houston. Another from San Antonio.

“He called me back and said, ‘Hold it, no more letters.’ I came back, interviewed again and got the job.”

As the organization’s first field director, Green traveled all over the state and into Louisiana and Oklahoma. He served in that role for seven years before the fledgling Aggie Club – now known as the 12th Man Foundation – took notice.

“Coach (Gene) Stallings realized the potential of The Aggie Club,” Green said. “They needed someone to get out on the road, and I’d just gotten through keeping all the A&M clubs active. So they gave me a company car and I headed out.”

That year, 1975, membership in The Aggie Club was about 1,200 and revenues were around \$275,000. But the momentum was building as The Aggie Club hired four new staff – an accountant, receptionist and two in ticketing – and Green continued to burn up the highways.

“I’d call someone in Wichita Falls and ask them to get five or 10 folks together, and that I’d be there at 10 a.m.,” he recalled. “I’d leave at 4 a.m. Monday morning. That night, I’d go to Amarillo. Then to Lubbock. Then Midland-Odessa. Then I’d come back through San Angelo and Abilene and finally pull back into College Station late Wednesday night or Thursday.”

PEOPLE GIVE TO PEOPLE

Green took over as executive director of The Aggie Club in 1979 and ran the organization until his retirement in 1992. He handled the operation, management and travel, the latter something on which he thrived.



A dedicated Aggie, Green was instrumental in growing The Aggie Club into the organization it is today as the 12th Man Foundation.

Foundation is appreciative of what he did. We smile every time we see him.”

It’s easy to tell how much relationships matter to Green, which undoubtedly was an important reason why he was successful. He’s proud of the impact he made on Texas A&M Athletics along the way.

“It does mean a lot,” Green said with a smile. “We had several years there where it was struggling, but we managed to keep it going.”

A GOOD DEAL

Despite being 88 and legally blind, it should come as no surprise that Green will let neither stop him from seeing his Aggies.

At Kyle Field, Green sits with friends in their Legacy Suite.

“I can get one of those barstools and sit about 12 to 18 inches from that 60-inch television so I can see it. I can get my radio going so I can hear what’s going on. I get to see the game basically,” he said.

Green is happy to share his own season tickets with a friend and the friend’s wife. The deal? They get him to the game.

“We worked it out so we all get to go.”

“

YOU HAD TO BE OUT THERE, GET TO KNOW THEM, SHAKE THEIR HAND...YOU REALLY GET TO KNOW EACH OTHER AND THAT WAS A GOOD THING.

— HARRY GREEN '52

ANDREW HANCOCK '02/TEXAS A&M ATHLETICS (FACING PAGE)

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Harry Green recently received a letter from a man who, as a teenager, met Green at a wedding.

A brief conversation between the two helped right the young man’s relationship with his father, and when the letter arrived this past fall – the two had not kept in touch – the appreciation really touched Green.

“It’s unreal what that means to you,” Green said.

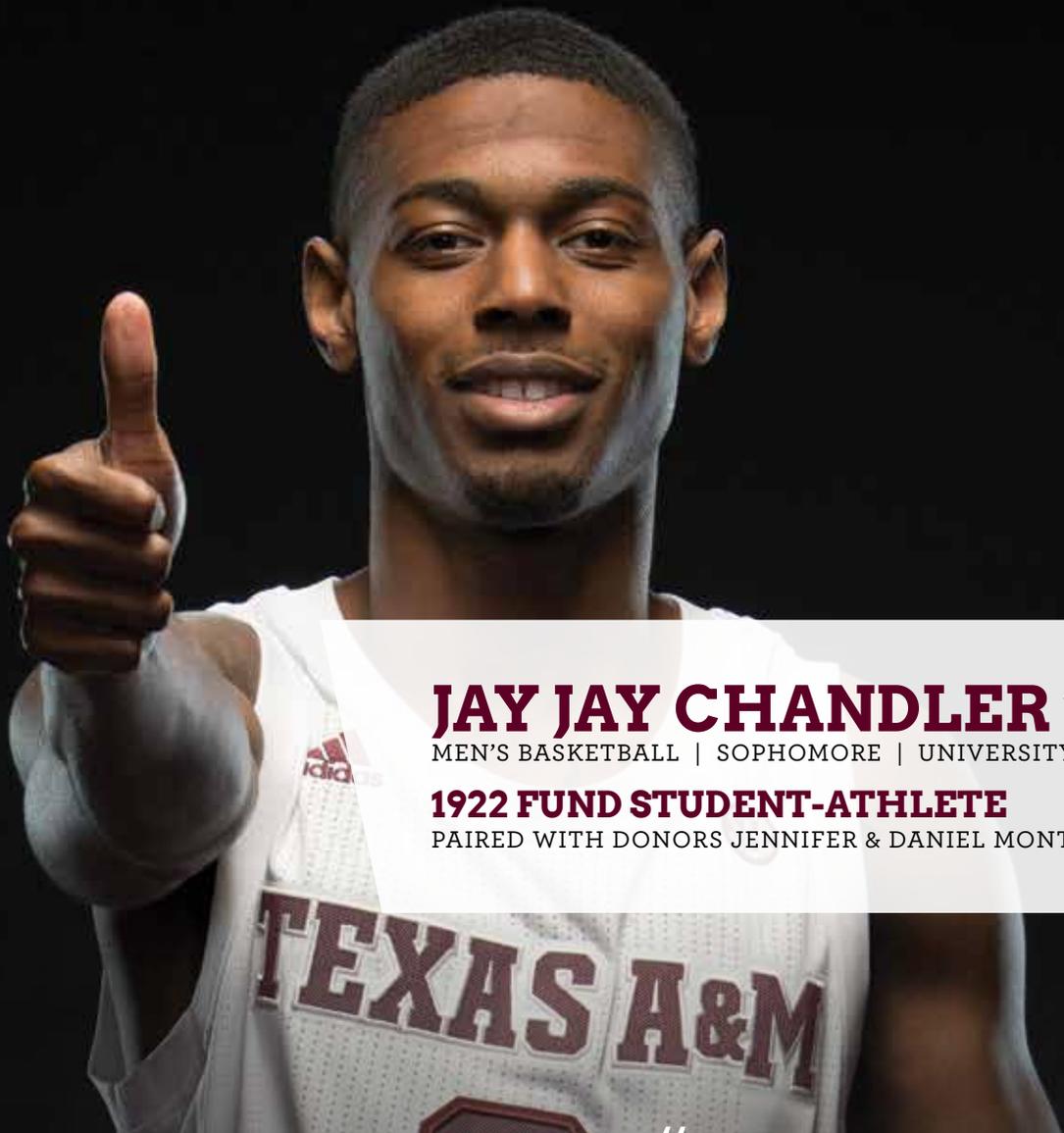
“We had to get out and shake hands,” Green said. “People give to people. You had to be out there, get to know them, shake their hand. We’d go have a drink or two after the meeting. I’d spend the night in the town, and maybe go play golf the next morning. You really get to know each other and that was a good thing. You get to know people all over the state and beyond.”

Green’s ceaseless efforts led to substantial growth for The Aggie Club during his tenure. By the time he left in 1992, the organization had evolved into the 12th Man Foundation and the number of donors had increased to approximately 6,500.

RELATIONSHIPS ARE EVERYTHING

He may have retired from the 12th Man Foundation more than 25 years ago, but Green’s legacy and influence lives on inside the organization he helped build.

“Harry provided long-term leadership and stability to the 12th Man Foundation and established long-term and meaningful relationships with donors who are still today supporting Texas A&M Athletics,” said Travis Dabney, 12th Man Foundation President and CEO. “Everyone at the 12th Man



JAY JAY CHANDLER '21

MEN'S BASKETBALL | SOPHOMORE | UNIVERSITY STUDIES

1922 FUND STUDENT-ATHLETE

PAIRED WITH DONORS JENNIFER & DANIEL MONTGOMERY '86



John "Jay Jay" Chandler III is a sophomore guard on the Texas A&M men's basketball team majoring in university studies.

Chandler, an AD Honor Roll member for the fall semester, played in all but one game during the 2018-19 regular season - including 16 starts - averaging nearly 8 points in 23.5 minutes per contest.

A native of Katy, Texas, Chandler played in 33 games during his freshman campaign after joining A&M out of Cinco Ranch High School as one of the top recruits in Texas.

Dubbed the funniest player on the team by fellow sophomore guard TJ Starks, Chandler is paired with donors Jennifer & Daniel Montgomery '86 through the 12th Man Foundation's 1922 Fund. Generous donors like the Montgomerys are helping the 12th Man Foundation in its desire to endow scholarships for every student-athlete at Texas A&M.

For more information about the 1922 Fund, call Lauren Hickey at 979-260-7595 or visit 12thmanfoundation.com.

“
MY SCHOLARSHIP MEANS A LOT TO ME AND MY FAMILY. I'M A FIRST GENERATION AGGIE AND IT MEANS A LOT TO ME TO COME TO SUCH A RESPECTED UNIVERSITY WITH SUCH GREAT ACADEMICS AND ATHLETICS. IT'S ALSO REALLY NICE FOR TO ME BE ABLE TO BE SO CLOSE TO HOME. I'M REALLY BLESSED TO HAVE THIS OPPORTUNITY AND TO HAVE THE MONTGOMERYS HERE SUPPORTING ME WITH MY SCHOLARSHIP. THEY ARE REALLY GOOD, SWEET PEOPLE AND I REALLY APPRECIATE THEM.

— JAY JAY CHANDLER '21



THE SOUTHWEST CLASSIC

Playing Arkansas in Arlington
is a win for Texas A&M

BY WILL JOHNSON '01

YOUR SUPPORT MAKES A DIFFERENCE

Mark your calendars and join the 12th Man in Arlington on Sept. 28, 2019, as Texas A&M goes for its eighth consecutive victory over Arkansas in The Southwest Classic.

FROM THE FIRST MEETING IN 1903, to the epic Southwest Conference matchups in the mid-70s and late-80s, Texas A&M and Arkansas bring their share of history to the table when gathering. Now, as members of the Southeastern Conference, that table is set in football's most-modern mansion.

The plush AT&T Stadium in Arlington has served as the rivalry's home for its last five matchups as well as three between 2009 and 2011. The Aggie-Razorback series will stay in the lavish venue under the current contract until 2024.

The trip to the Metroplex often sparks questions. Is it a positive to visit an NFL stadium for a tradition rich, college rivalry? Are the campus confines of College Station and Fayetteville more preferred? There's always potential to play in Little Rock when visiting the Razorbacks, but the question remains the same – is home-and-home or neutral better when it comes to the Ags and Hogs?

Scott Woodward has seen it both ways. Upon his arrival to Aggieland, Texas A&M's Director of Athletics was skeptical of playing an SEC game on neutral ground.

"I saw the schedule and thought to myself, my goodness!" Woodward recalled. "Why do we have a good conference game not being played every other year in this beautiful facility we call Kyle Field?"

At first glance, Woodward wanted to see the series become home-and-home.

"My initial reaction was, 'As soon as we can, let's stop,'" he said.

When Woodward dug in and took a closer look at the game's location, more light was shed on the benefits of playing in Arlington.

The student-athlete experience is one of Woodward's top priorities, and the Aggies enjoy quite the experience playing in the Dallas Cowboys' home.

"From the standpoint of a student-athlete, they love playing in a top, pro venue," Woodward said. "They are excited to have the opportunity to play there."

There's no questioning the Aggies' motivation when competing in AT&T Stadium. They have won all five matchups since the series returned there in 2014.

Woodward is also tasked with finding the necessary resources to support those student-athletes. The financial aspect of the annual game in Arlington is a boost to those efforts.

"A lot of people think it's going straight to Jerry Jones' pockets, which it's not," he said. "It's coming to us in a good way."

The proof is in the profit.

"We net around \$2 million a year," he said. "Not every other year – every year. It's a very good thing financially."

Sure, some season ticket holders and fans may lament the lack of a fourth conference game at Kyle

Field every other season. In even numbered years, when the Aggies are the home team in Arlington, they play three SEC games in College Station. But, with good scheduling, the department has supplemented well.

“We’ve done a great job mitigating that on even years,” Woodward said. “We have a tremendous team like Clemson come in. In the future we’ll have Colorado, Miami and Notre Dame.”

The 2018 campaign is a great study. Taking their turn as home team in Arlington, the Aggies held three conference games at Kyle Field instead of four. However, the 12th Man did not miss out on anything. With the addition of Clemson, A&M hosted four Power Five schools – the exact same number as every SEC team hosted in 2018.

Furthermore, Clemson at Texas A&M marked the only 2018 contest in which an SEC program hosted a Power Five conference opponent from outside the league.

When it comes to neutral sites, they are becoming more collegiate. Nine SEC teams played a game on neutral turf in 2018 including one of the elite conference’s most revered rivalries, the annual Florida-Georgia encounter in Jacksonville, Florida.

Jimbo Fisher’s first foray into the Aggie-Razorback experience at AT&T Stadium left him with more pros than cons.

“It’s one of the top places to play in the country, and the road trip to the Metroplex is easy,” the Aggies’ head football coach said.

“

THE COLLEGE FOOTBALL PLAYOFFS ARE AT NEUTRAL SITES LIKE AT&T STADIUM. SO, ANY EXPERIENCE IN THE STADIUM IS A POSITIVE IN MY MIND.

– JIMBO FISHER

Another plus, the search for future Aggies leads right to the region.

“It’s good for recruiting, and provides excellent exposure in the North Texas area,” Fisher added.

After all, Arlington is home to both Myles Garrett and Bobby Brown, and six signees in A&M’s 2019 recruiting class hail from the DFW area.

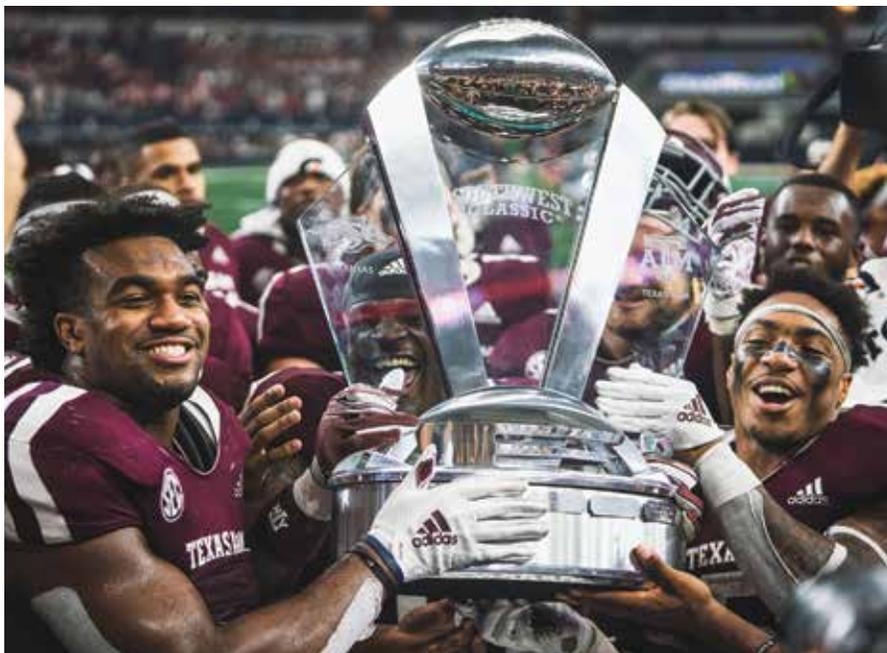
Finally, Fisher believes playing in the venue only benefits the program when it comes to preparing the team for its ultimate goal.

“The College Football Playoffs are at neutral sites like AT&T Stadium,” he said. “So, any experience in the stadium is a positive in my mind.”

The Southwest Classic in Arlington just might be the right fit for the Aggies and Arkansas annually. For the student-athletes, Athletics Department and 12th Man alike, it offers many positives.

For all the right reasons, this old, rugged rivalry is settling nicely into its sparkling new home. ▀

Texas A&M has dominated the rivalry since joining Arkansas in the SEC, winning the last five matchups in Arlington including three overtime victories.



AUSTIN ROBINSON '18 (TROPHY); SAM CRAFT/TEXAS A&M ATHLETICS (SACK)

RANDY HOWARD '79

Senior Vice President of Finance

BY ADAM QUISENBERRY



ABOUT RANDY

- » BORN IN BRYAN, TEXAS AND GRADUATED FROM BRYAN HIGH SCHOOL
- » EARNED A B.S. IN ACCOUNTING FROM TEXAS A&M IN 1979
- » WITH WIFE, BELINDA '79, HAS ONE SON, LUKE, WHO HAS TWO CHILDREN WITH HIS WIFE, MEGAN: HADLEY JO (3) AND HUDSON KYLE (1)
- » IS AN AVID GOLFER

Randy and his wife, Belinda, are the proud grandparents of Hadley Jo (pictured) and Hudson Kyle. The family recently had a scare as Hudson was diagnosed with leukemia last June, but the youngest Howard is thankfully now in remission.

“HE’S JUST RANDY.” It was a common reply when staff of the 12th Man Foundation were asked about Randy Howard, a 28-year veteran of the organization. The initial response was a warm phrase of endearment for a man who serves as Senior Vice President of Finance, but whose impact is hard to quantify.

Long-time friend and co-worker Toni McDowell might have put it best. “He’s just a good guy; one of the good ones,” she said.

COMING A LONG WAY

Though much has changed at the 12th Man Foundation during his tenure, the core mission and values of the organization have remained the same and, in many ways, are embodied by Howard.

McDowell recalls the days in the small building that housed The Aggie Club, which later evolved into the 12th Man Foundation, stuffing envelopes for season ticket renewals alongside Howard. At the time, the pair constituted two of the organization’s seven full-time employees.

“The neat thing is that when I started here it was such a team environment, everybody just did what needed to be done,” Howard recalled. “It’s amazing to see that, as we’ve grown, we still have that teamwork around here. It’s fun to be at a place that works together like that.”

In his role overseeing the finance department, the balance sheet is, of course, important. However, it’s how those funds make an impact that stands out to Howard.

“The fact that it’s for a cause I love – A&M Athletics – makes it special,” he said.

FINDING HOME

Prior to beginning his career at the 12th Man Foundation, Howard enjoyed a position at the Texas A&M Foundation as well as a stint as a broker at Merrill Lynch and a time in the early 80s working in the oil industry for a company owned by Clayton Williams.

“I never intended to be an accountant, but my career just kept forcing me back that direction,” he said.

Randy’s co-workers consider themselves fortunate he ended up where he did.

“He always has your back and is willing to help you out,” said Director of Accounting Terri McKee.

“One of the things I admire most about Randy is he is not only a leader for our department, but he’s ready to pitch in if anybody needs help,” added Director of Human Resources Lauren Pearce.

Getting to know and service the loyal donors has been an added perk, and Howard finds himself getting as much out of the interactions as he hopes the donors do.

“The thing that amazes me about it is the people who are contributing to us are thanking us for what we do,” he said. “That always blows me away. Here they are doing all they do to support our school and while they’re doing it they’re thanking us. I’m always humbled by something like that.”

More time with his grandchildren is on the horizon as Howard anticipates retiring in the not too distant future, but for now he’s enjoying his days working on the north side of Kyle Field.

“I’m an Aggie, I’m a sports fan and I’m accountant, so I lucked into the perfect job for me.” ■



THE 12TH MAN FOUNDATION THANKS ALL OF THE JOHN DAVID CROW LEGACY SOCIETY MEMBERS

Joan & S. Wayne Adamik '58
 Sandra & Daniel J. Adams '77
 Sonja & Neal Adams '68
 Jacolyn Alexander
 Kamal Ariss '84
 Michael '88 & Carol '85 Barrett Ashfield
 Barbara & Dionel E. Aviles '53
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 LaNell B. & E. Gordon Gregg '61
 Eleanor & Lt. Col. Harold Hart '38
 Shana Diane Hart '89
 Kay Douglas "Jack" Hicks '64
 Robert C. Holmes '49
 Anne '84 & Mark Holubec '85
 Lee Roy Howard '52
 Jerry & William C. Huber '43
 Lindsay '00 & Chad Hudson '99
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 Dane '98 & Bob Jenkins '65

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 CAPT Edwin D. Kaiser, USN, '89
 Manon & Matthew Kebodeaux '04
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 Douglas Kennedy '69
 Melinda '83 & Tom Kirkland '76
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 Mark Lowery '01
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 Ann & Charles Manning '82
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 Pam & Warren N. Moore
 Marti Morgan '93
 Julia '81 & Thomas J. Mosley, Jr. '79
 Linda & Allan W. Newberry '57
 Lynda & Craig Noonan '66
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 Gayle & Scott Pierce '90
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 Ted Saba '41
 Sam Houston Sanders '22
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 Eileen & Gary W. Schuchart '68
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 Sid Theis '74
 Elizabeth K. & Gary J. Throckmorton '84
 Cheryl & John E. Trott '66
 Hugh & Pat Turner '68
 Mark D. VanCleave '90
 Virgil Vaughn '31
 Lezlie Lynn & Gregory Frank Visoski '82
 Lt. Col. Tyson T. Voelkel '92
 Frederick John Wagner III
 & William John Wagner '13
 Merri & Fred G. Walsh '74
 Lori Davis Warren
 Jane & B. K. Watson '65
 Marian C. & Kaighin G. Watts '63
 Cora Jane & H. Fritz Welsch, Jr. '53
 Mark Allen White '03
 Patricia & Conley R. Williams '62
 Elizabeth Ann & James Wilson '87
 Patricia & Charles R. Wiseman '57
 Eunice & Dr. J. Max Word '52
 S. Shariq Yosufzai '74



Membership Benefits

Honor of creating a legacy with Texas A&M Athletics

Recognition on the John David Crow Legacy Society plaque in the Bernard C. Richardson Zone at Kyle Field

Invitation to special 12th Man Foundation events including an annual appreciation celebration on campus

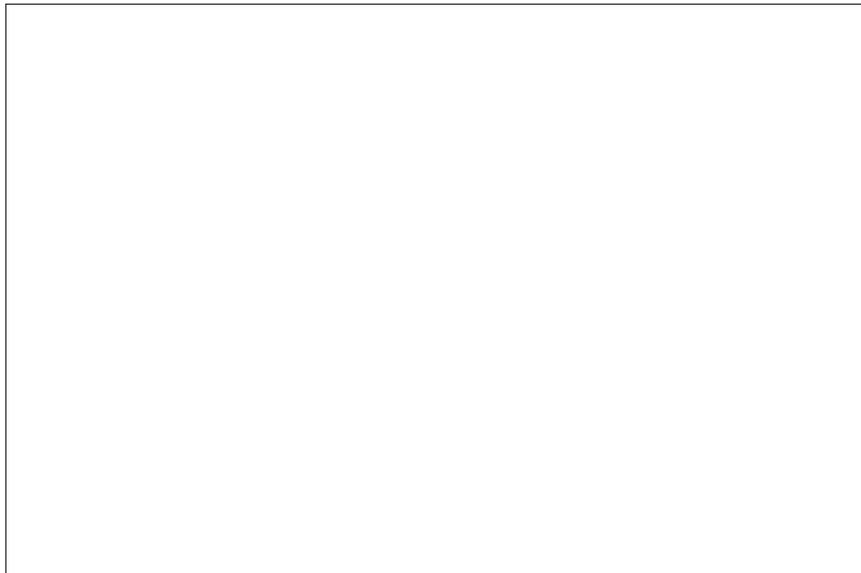
Recognition in the annual honor roll of society members published in 12th Man Magazine

Heritage-level membership in the Texas A&M Foundation's Legacy Society

For more information about the John David Crow Legacy Society or to inquire about making a planned gift, please contact Clint Dempsey at 979-260-7584



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www.12thmangift.org



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Avoid taxes on transfers of up to \$100,000 from your IRA to support student-athletes.



Satisfy some or all of your required minimum distribution for the year.



Reduce your taxable income, even if you do not itemize deductions.



Make a gift that is not subject to the 50% deduction limits on charitable gifts.



Use your rollover to make payments on an existing pledge to us.

There is a way to take your required minimum distribution, skip the tax and make a meaningful gift to support student-athletes this year – the IRA Charitable Rollover.

It's Easy To Do!

Instruct your retirement account custodian to send any amount (up to \$100,000) to us this year. Because the 12th Man Foundation is tax exempt, there is no tax paid on the transfer. All or a part of your required minimum distribution will be met and the money goes straight to work toward Building Champions.

Create Your Legacy With An IRA Charitable Rollover Gift

If you are 70½ or older, you can use your individual retirement account (IRA) to support student-athletes at Texas A&M. Making an IRA charitable rollover gift to us will lower the income and taxes from your IRA required minimum distribution this year.

Please call **979-260-7584** or visit our website **12thmangift.org** to learn about how you can create your legacy by making an IRA charitable rollover gift this year.

IRA CHARITABLE ROLLOVER

70½
OR OLDER

DIRECT UP TO
\$100,000

This information is not intended as tax, legal or financial advice. Gift results may vary. Consult your personal financial advisor for information specific to your situation.

Under federal rules your benefits may be different from this example. Please contact us for your specific benefits.

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