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Living in the heart of Texas, surrounded by Longhorn fans, it was no question to Ryan Swope and his family that he would attend The University of Texas one day.

Swope was not a typical bandwagon fan. He was a loud and proud Longhorn and there was nothing that would change his mind, or so he thought. Swope's father, Paul, graduated from Texas and it was no doubt that Ryan would be burnt-orange bound.

It wasn't until his junior year of high school when he went on his official visit to Texas A&M that would throw the Swope family for a curve.

"There were no other schools that even compared," Swope says, with a big smile on his face. "Kyle Field sold me. Everything about the school made my decision easy."

Swope verbally committed his junior year, choosing the Aggies over several programs. After committing, he realized that he had some cleaning to do. Not only did he have multiple pictures throwing up the horns, but also his room made it clear that he was a Longhorn fan. Most importantly, he had a handful of t-shirts to throw away. He could not stand to see any burnt-orange in his closet much longer.

"While throwing many of the t-shirts away, I was having a blast," Swope says. "I gave my dad a hard time the whole time. It was great!"

After an outstanding senior year on the football field, coach Mack Brown decided to approach Swope. He offered Swope a scholarship to play for the Longhorns, but Brown was too late. There was no turning back now.

“A commitment is a commitment,” Swope explains, shaking his head. “I’ve always believed that once you commit, there is no backing out. I was happy with my decision and knew that it was the right one.”

Swope proudly bleeds maroon and has completely converted his family to Aggies. Even his sister, Regan, who attended Baylor, catches herself wearing A&M gear far more than her alma mater. The Swope family are officially what you would say ‘proud Fightin’ Texas Aggies’.

Swope saw the field his freshman year, but broke the school record in 2010 for the most catches in a season, sharing the title with Jeff Fuller. Before the season started, it was announced that Swope was on the preseason watch list for the Biletnikoff Award, given to college football’s top receiver.

Swope has worked hard to be where he is today. Having a cousin who plays for the Longhorns, Thanksgiving is always a fun holiday for the Swope family. Now that his dad is an Aggie, Swope enjoys giving his dad a hard time, especially when they play the Longhorns.

“I couldn’t be more blessed and thankful,” Swope says, reminiscing on the season. “This is a big season for the team and we have a lot of expectations. I can’t wait to prove what this team is capable of.”