I’m not wanting to wear my prosthetics, my wife will tell me she’s not having it.”

None of Hannon’s peers have been as instrumental in his recovery as Seth Alexander and Hayden Bailey. Both men have bilateral transfemoral amputations and have helped Hannon see and experience what is possible as a full-time prosthesis user. Alexander says he could tell Hannon was apprehensive about using the stubbies when they first met. “But I could tell he had a good head on his shoulders, and I knew he was going to do okay,” says Alexander, who competed with Hannon in the Endeavor Games last year.

Alexander says what he has offered Hannon as a peer mentor and a friend is support and encouragement. “You don’t want to feel like you’re the only person in the world without legs,” he says.

Alexander and Hannon are also peer mentors in the Dream Team Prosthetic’s Bilateral Life Camp, an annual event that brings people with transfemoral amputations worldwide together for a unique hands-on, informative experience on how to thrive with bilateral limb loss. The next life camp will be held June 11-14 in Duncan. A second Bilateral Life Camp will be held at the Amputee Coalition National Conference July 12-14 in Tucson, Arizona.

**Determined to Accomplish More**

Since Hannon has had his prostheses, he hasn’t let much slow him down. He hasn’t used a wheelchair since March 2015. He wears his prostheses about 14 hours per day, and he carries his daughter and his newborn son in his arms.

Not only has Hannon risen to meet his challenges, Simpson has also been able to grow and learn as a prosthetist. “With the challenges of fitting Kyle, it has enabled me as a clinician to develop new skills and techniques that not only help me fit Kyle, but other patients with challenging situations.”

Hannon’s positive attitude has never faded—not even in the intense heat and humidity of an Oklahoma summer. At Dream Team’s Bilateral Life Camp last July, Hannon, Alexander, and several other participants hiked three miles in the Wichita Mountain Wildlife Refuge under a sweltering sun. “I think Kyle will probably agree that was the most difficult thing he has done since losing his legs,” Simpson says. “But he powered through it like he does every day. He’s a great example of inner strength and determination, and he is a key peer mentor for others with multiple limb loss.”

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