

Parents Day: memories, moms and pageantry

Parents Day, held last Sunday, is an Aggie tradition that allows parents and students to get together in spring. It was originally a function during the "Old Army" days in which parents "inspected the campus" and watched the Corps pass in review. The Corps still passes in review, and the Unit Commander's mother performs the ceremony of flower pinning: red flowers for cadets whose mothers are alive — white for those whose mothers aren't.

Parent's Day is a tradition filled day for parents to be proud of their sons and daughters. Medals and awards are passed out, with oohs, ahhs, and wildcatting as winners of outfit competitions are announced.

With the pageantry, the Corps hits full springtime stride. The Band plays and the Ross Volunteers, Fish Drill Team and the Women's Drill Team perform precision drill. Even the cavalry performs — its seniors make their last ride in final review.

Right, a young admirer of Texas A&M's Ross Volunteers falls into step behind the marching unit during their performance last Sunday. Below, left, a mixed crowd of spectators watches the Volunteers from both high and low as, below right, they perform a "ripple drill."

