

Parents

Where would Aggies be without them?

Many Aggies donated a good part of their weekend to say thanks to a special group of Texas A&M supporters — Aggie parents.

The ninth annual Parents' Weekend was held Friday through Sunday, with a full schedule of events designed to show visiting parents Aggie traditions and hospitality at its best. The weekend was culminated Sunday by the naming of Mr. and Mrs. William Osborn, of Bryan, as Texas A&M's "Parents of the Year."

The Osborns were nominated for the honor by their youngest daughter, Gardner, a Texas A&M senior. Mrs. Osborn explained that

they have their own special Aggie tradition: "It goes back to my Dad (Roy D. Golston) who had his own private scholarship program. He put 40 to 50 boys through Texas A&M — including my husband. The way he worked it was that he would pay for their room, board, tuition and books and then lay the burden on them to help someone else when they got out of school."

"The Osborns have done a good job of carrying out that heritage. They have helped several students through Texas A&M and a few more through other schools. We need more and more

skilled people in this country, and the more people we can educate the better off we'll be," said Gardner.

The Osborn's own children also reflect that belief. Three daughters have graduated from Texas A&M. Gardner plans to graduate this year, and son Bill hopes to begin his college education next year.

"They've shown an excellent example for their children, and they've been there when students needed them," said Wally Brewster, a senior from Tyler and coordinator of continuing education for Student Government, which made the selection. Almost 20 letters recom-

mending the Osborns for the award back up that conclusion: "The most outstanding influence was their overwhelming generosity during my financially unstable college days," wrote one student who received their help. "Bill and Gardner enabled my college education to become a reality."

Another student wrote that through their assistance to struggling students the Osborns have been "parents to many others besides their own children."

All the couple ever ask in return is that the students they help someday do the same for someone else.



Mr. and Mrs. William Osborn, of Bryan, above, were named "Parents of the Year" during the ninth annual Parents' Weekend. Below, Lorraine Christian, a sophomore communications major from Houston, spins the roulette wheel at Casino Night. The Fish Drill Team was humping it at its exhibition Sunday at Kyle Field, while at bottom, alumnus Elvis Walker eludes defenders at the Alumni-Varsity football game.

Staff photos by Guy Hood, Irene Mees and Barry Papke



Parents' Weekend got a lift Saturday morning from Dr. Richard A. Morris, a petroleum engineering professor, and his balloon. Patrick Piehl, from Woodsboro, and Steven Hawes, from Richardson, Fish Officers of the Day for the Elephant Bowl, display the medals they collected from upperclassmen, shown above left. Susan Spantz, at left, was the third place winner in the Variety Show held Friday. Lower left, Mrs. Louise Lagutchik pins a rose on freshman Thorpe Tyler, a general studies major from Austin, during flower pinning ceremonies. Her son, Mike, at right, is an animal science major and commander of Company M-1, watches.

