

AGGIELIFE

THE BATTALION

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Parents just don't understand

Parents' antics on visits to Aggiland amuse and embarrass their children

By Daniel Chapman
THE BATTALION

Ariana Nizza's father knows how to work a room. On the last day of spring semester, her father came to help her move out. They decided to venture over to Sbisa for one last campus meal before leaving for the summer. They arrived at Sbisa only to find it closed.

"We all turned to leave except my dad who said confidently, 'Let me take care of this,' in his thick Italian accent.

He strolled up to the manager, and for 10 minutes talked to him," said nizza, a sophomore business administration major. "I couldn't hear a word he said, but reluctantly, and to my embarrassment, the manager let us in. My father looked as though he had just inherited a gold mine and began to get his tray together. He talked to every worker about the food and their life. When we left he said bye to every person and made his grand exit."

For any student who thinks coming to college brings absolute freedom from their parents, think again. From move-in days and football games to the dreaded spontaneous visits, many students find and have learned to appreciate that mom and dad are a vital and sometimes amusing part of the Aggie experience.

Parents sometimes need to be taught the subtleties of College Station streets. Brock Ramos, a senior psychology major, knows this from firsthand experience. Brock's mother was at the wheel turning onto Texas near the Holiday Inn.

"She got into what she thought was a turning lane but was actually oncoming traffic," he said. "At the time, I started yelling something like 'Get back in the other lane! We're going to die!' Later when we realized that she had almost killed everyone and caused a

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— Arianna Nizza
psychology major



IVAN FLORES • THE BATTALION

traffic jam, it was quite humorous to think about."

Parents are crucial to a college student's success. Most provide monetary and emotional support. Unfortunately, a student's social life can be adversely affected by his parents' behavior.

Move-in day can culminate in an embarrassing parental moment for some students.

Joy Vick, a freshman accounting major, knew it wouldn't be a normal weekend when her mom came down to help her move in.

Vick was moving into her residence hall and was searching for her mother because she wasn't sure where she had parked.

"When my mother spotted me from a distance and realized that I

couldn't see them because of all the other parents, she commenced with an impromptu 'interpretative dance' to differentiate herself from all the other Aggie Moms," Vick said. "Once I saw flailing arms in the corner of my eye, I knew it had to be her, but it honestly made me want to turn and go the other direction.

This isn't anything out of the ordinary for my mom, but even though I grew up with it, she can still surprise me."

While college students are the definition of grace under pressure, the same cannot always be said for their parents. Aggie parents have a special way of being amazing and spastic at the same time, though some Aggie students say they wouldn't have it any other way.

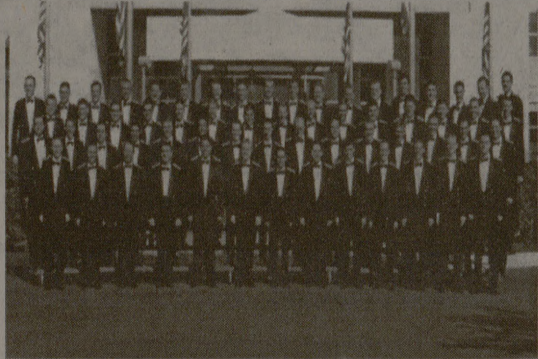
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