

The ADF in Action

Megan Clement and Joe Baumgardner (*below*) are attending OU with the aid of Alumni Development Fund scholarships. Last year \$134,000 of the ADF total of \$322,000 was earmarked for financial aid for students. Though this is an impressive figure, it is also somewhat misleading in that it includes loan and work-study programs and graduate fellowships as well as undergraduate scholarships. More than 90 percent of the \$134,000 was restricted to specific areas of study to be administered by the appropriate academic departments. Most of this money came from established, continued endowed gifts from families, foundations, and firms. Only \$12,000 was allocated from *unrestricted* alumni contributions for scholarships to be awarded deserving undergraduates regardless of their field of study, their class, their career plan, their sex, or their home town.

In any discussion of the ADF the importance of the unrestricted donations will inevitably be emphasized again and again. The flexibility of these gifts lends additional value to the money. During the 1965 drive alumni and friends of the University gave a bit over \$50,000 in unrestricted money—money that can be used where the need is greatest.

The ADF Board of Directors (made up of eight alumni members and four faculty members) has the duty of distributing the unrestricted contributions. In addition to allocations for special equipment, books, faculty grants, and research funds, a sum is annually set aside for undergraduate scholarships. This year between fifty and sixty students, selected by the University's general scholarship committee, are receiving ADF scholarships, which range from \$300 to \$800 annually, depending on the individual need.

Megan, a junior from Ardmore majoring in French, and Joe, a freshman physics major from Tulsa, applied for the ADF grants last

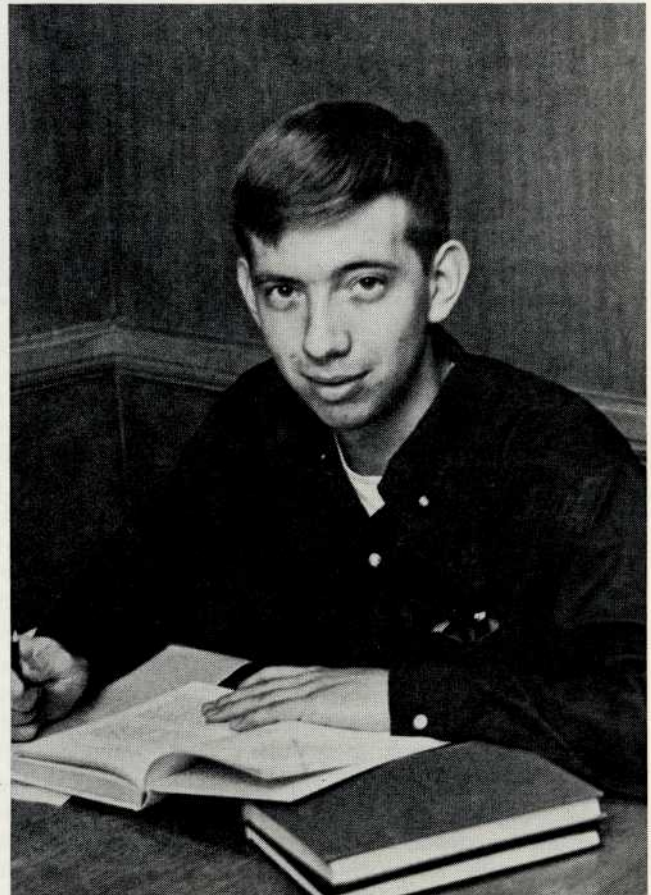
spring. To qualify, a student must demonstrate scholastic achievement and financial need, which is confidential. Megan, through her first three semesters, accumulated 37 hours of A, 7 of B, and 3 of C. Besides the ADF scholarship, she serves as assistant counselor in Cate Center's Bizzell House, an experimental language dorm in which majors in French, Spanish, and German live and have an opportunity to speak their second language from dawn to dark. Joe holds a National Defense Education Act loan and a scholarship from Tulsa's Downtown Kiwanis Club as well as his ADF grant. Although he had not yet entered college when he applied, he was highly recommended by his teachers, his high school transcript was strong, and he scored extremely well on college entrance tests.

Though it is deeply satisfying to see alumni donations put to such worthwhile use, it is at the same time disturbing when one learns that many equally capable students with equally pressing financial needs must be turned down for lack of sufficient funds. Last year \$400,000 would have been required before all students qualifying for scholarships would have received aid. Of the slightly more than 1,500 deserving applicants, only about 300 received scholarships. These included ADF scholarships, general University tuition awards, Lew Wentz Service Scholarships, Federal Economic Opportunity grants, plus a few special merit scholarships like the General Motors grant.

The need is great, the cause worthy, and the results beneficial to all concerned: to the person who gives, to the person who is helped, and to the ultimate benefactor, society. There is no better, more constructive way of investing money than in a Megan Clement and a Joe Baumgardner. When you send your contribution to the Alumni Development Fund, earmark it for the unrestricted fund or for unrestricted fund scholarships. You'll be proud of the results.



MARY MEGAN CLEMENT



JOE L. BAUMGARDNER