

Political Forum D.C. trip March 11-17

By JEAN LONGSERRE
Battalion Reporter

A breakfast with the Texas congressional delegation, a luncheon at the Pentagon, a musical at Ford's

Theater, meeting politicians and getting to know the city of Washington, D.C. — all are part of a spring-break trip offered by Political Forum.

The trip, called the Washington, D.C., Extravaganza, will be March 11-17. Deadline for signing up and paying a \$200 deposit is Feb. 23. Any student or faculty member of Texas A&M University is invited.

Patti Shoquist, trip committee chairman, said this is the second year the trip has been offered. "It was such a success last year that Political Forum is going to make it an annual affair," said Shoquist. "I

went last year and I'm planning on going again this year."

The cost per person is \$338. This includes round-trip air fare, six nights at the Capitol Hilton Hotel and other expenses such as city

transportation and two meals a day at the hotel.

"We received group rates for the plane and the hotel," Shoquist said. Rooms for two at the Hilton range from \$60 to \$80 a day, plus \$15 for each extra person. The Political Forum group will be staying three to a room. Shoquist said the group will pay only \$15 per room each day. The usual fare for a round-trip flight from Houston to Washington, D.C., is \$250. The group will be getting a \$75 per person discount.

"The educational aspect of the trip is enough in itself," Shoquist said. "But it is really fun, too." She said the days of the trip will include scheduled activities, but most of the afternoons and evenings will be free of planned activities.

Shoquist said last year most of the nights lasted until the early hours of morning. "Washington discos are fantastic," she said. "One disc jockey even played a country song for us when he found out we were from Texas."

Shoquist said another highlight of last year's trip was getting to meet Mohammed Ali, who was staying at the same hotel.

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Ozona has first 'mud waller-in'

United Press International

OZONA, Texas — Chili buffs are expected to jump into a makeshift bog this weekend in what is the world's first organized "mud waller-in."

The waller-in is a side event to the First Late St. Valentine's Day Chili Cook-Off (Friday-Saturday) in this remote West Texas city of 4,000.

Most people know about chili cook-offs — this one is sanctioned for qualifying points toward the world championship next fall in the ghost town of Terlingua — but few have had the opportunity to take part in a mud waller-in.

"It's just the most fun in the whole world. You just jump in there and you're in hog heaven," said Sam Lewis, inventor of the jalapeno lollipop and general chairman of the event. "And the more the merrier. It's West Texas' answer to the hot tub."

Lewis, a San Angelo novelty promoter who has sold more than 4 million jalapeno lollipops since he introduced them at the Terlingua chili bash in 1977, said waller-in sponsors will try to conserve as much water as possible.

"We don't have all that water to waste so we just mix what little we have with the dust we have a lot of," he said.

Allegani Jani McCullough, the first woman to cook her way to a world chili championship while wearing a pair of hot pants so short "they barely could wad a shotgun," will be among the chili judges, along with several journalists.

Other events will include a series of 10,000 meter foot races for young and old, wet and dry T-shirt contests and two dances.

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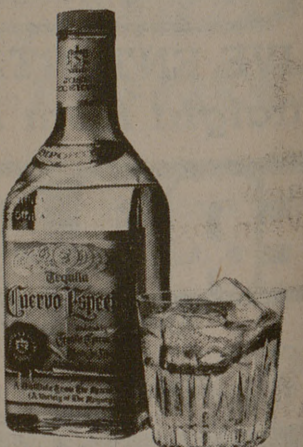


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