

# *Roughing on it Rio the Grande*

students get away from it all

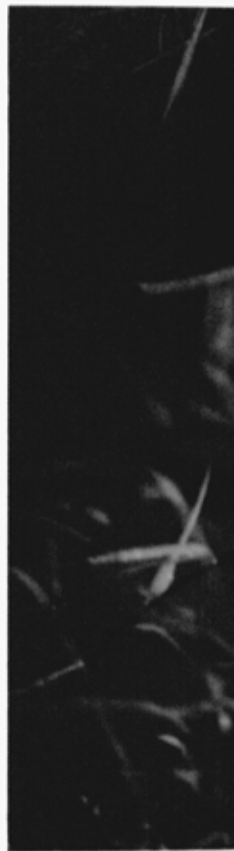
The trip—a 100-mile float of wilderness river—seemed like a bargain. For \$75 total, a Mizzou student could spend part of his semester break escaping Missouri cold and relaxing exam-frayed nerves on the sunny Rio Grande. Unfortunately, there was a lot of cold during January in South Texas and very little sun, but there were experiences that never will be forgotten by the 21 students who took advantage of the trip sponsored by the Missouri Students Association. There were sun dances to ward off further sleet and rain, an encounter with a wild pig, “sock fries” to dry clothing, and many hot springs along the route that offered respite for cold bodies. After it was all over, Dave Haubein concluded, “You know, this trip worked. I can’t remember anything about school. Columbia, where?”

Photographs by Harlan Kirgan





The river seemed no rougher than the Current, the popular Missouri float stream, but at the end of the first day a churning rapid dumped three canoes. After that the travelers repacked gear in watertight garbage bags, but as one student said sadly, "There's no way to waterproof a human."



**Pictured are (kneeling, left to right), Carl Moskey, Hartford, Connecticut; Dick Kenagy, Kansas City; Dave Boehms, Webster Groves; Fran Stroesser, Independence; Donna Brockman, Rockport; Rick Anderson, Hudson, Wisconsin; Winston Buby, Webster Groves; (standing), Les Holtsman, Bowling Green; Betsy Ambra, Louisiana, Missouri; Denette Dengler, Hyattsville, Maryland; Stephen Page, Louisiana; Mark Winslow, Holland, Pennsylvania; Chris Prives, St. Louis; Dave Haubein, Lockwood; Tom Reidy, Houston, Texas; Kristin Olson, Kansas City; Bob Perry, Kansas City; Doug Brockman, Springfield; Mark Cowles, Kansas City; and Scott Schulte, Columbia.**



Portaging (far left) may have been a safer way to travel than riding the rapids. At right is a picture of the daily drying-out session, while below, three adventurers relax in one of the hot springs.

