

Campus tunnels of love?

By JOHN MITCHELL
Collegian Staff Writer

Twenty-four-hour visitation was not always a reality at the University, but for students who wished it was, tunnels running under the campus posed an interesting alternative to waiting for daylight hours to visit girl's dormitories.

Several tunnels run from the Pollock Union Building to girl's dorms in the area and now are used as service tunnels, according to John Fishburn, director of Housing and Food Services.

These tunnels are used to transport goods between buildings. Housing steam and utility lines which service the area also run through the tunnels.

But in the past, it is rumored that these underground service tunnels may have served as "tunnels of love" when a forgetful janitor forgot to lock them up securely.

Marvin Freed, community relations officer at University Safety, said that this infiltration of guys didn't cause any great problem. "Just once in awhile we got a call about it," he said.

Some of the tunnels under Penn State may have been designed larger than average so they could be used as air raid shelters in case of an attack, according to Robert Link project assistant administrator for the Physical Plant.

Specifically, some tunnels under East Halls and under Pollock area were built in the early 60s when the Cold War was hot, and were designed larger than the previous utility tunnels. The increase in size could have permitted them to be equipped

with emergency provisions, Link said. Most of the tunnels that run underground across campus are not very comfortable for human beings. Steam can be seen rising from tunnels during the winter.

One worker said that the tunnels get as hot as 120 degrees F. in the summer months. When it is necessary to send workers into the tunnels for maintenance work, they go in pairs because of the hazards involved, Link said.

High-pressure steam lines, faulty electrical connections and high temperatures contribute to the hazardous conditions, Link said.

The power plant in the southwest corner of campus generates steam to heat the buildings all over campus, according to Charles P. Martin, manager of utilities operations for the Physical Plant. The steam is transported under pressure of around 160 pounds in pipes which lie in the tunnels, he said.

Martin said that the steam tunnels originate from the power plant and branch out all over campus. The paths these tunnels take is readily apparent in the winter because of the dry streets and sidewalks which exist when the rest of campus is icy and snowy, he said.

There are various other tunnels that are more accessible to the tunnel "spelunker" at Penn State. The pedestrian walkway at the intersection of Pollock and Shortlidge Roads is an example of a tunnel system that was designed specifically for people.



Photo by Tom Peters

Alaskan pipe line?

TEMPERATURES MAY SOAR above 120 degrees in many of the tunnels running underground at Penn State.

Prof to talk on behavior change

Michael Mahoney, assistant professor of psychology, will speak on behavior modification of yourself and others 8 tonight in Irvin lounge.

The Student Assistance Center Advisory Board will meet 7:30 tonight in 235 Boucke.

The Wildlife Society will present a program on "Hunter Harvest Data - What, How and Why" 7:30 tonight in 5 Ferguson.

The National Art Education Association will meet 7:30 tonight in 230 Chambers. Paul

Collegian notes

Edmondston, associate professor of art education, will speak on brush ink techniques on rice paper.

The Student Environmental Counseling Organization steering committee will meet 7:30 tonight in 306 Willard.

The Centre County Chapter of the National Organization for Women will meet 7 tonight at the Unitarian Fellowship.

709 Ridge Ave. Galen Dreibelbis, incumbent candidate for State House, will speak.

A panel discussion on "Man and Food in the 20th Century: An Historical Perspective" will take place 8 tonight in the HUB Assembly Room.

The Penn State Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws will meet 7:30 tonight in 369 Willard.

The Penn State Barbell Club will meet 6:30 tonight in 167 Willard.

FSHA 410 will present a Contemporary German Dinner today in the Maple Room of Human Development. For information and reservations call 865-7441.

The Penn State Frisbee Team will have an intrasquad game 6 tonight on the HUB lawn. An organizational meeting will follow.

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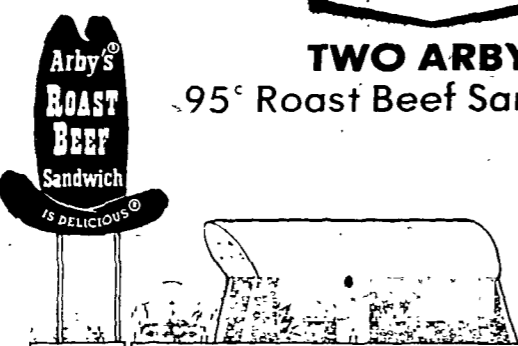
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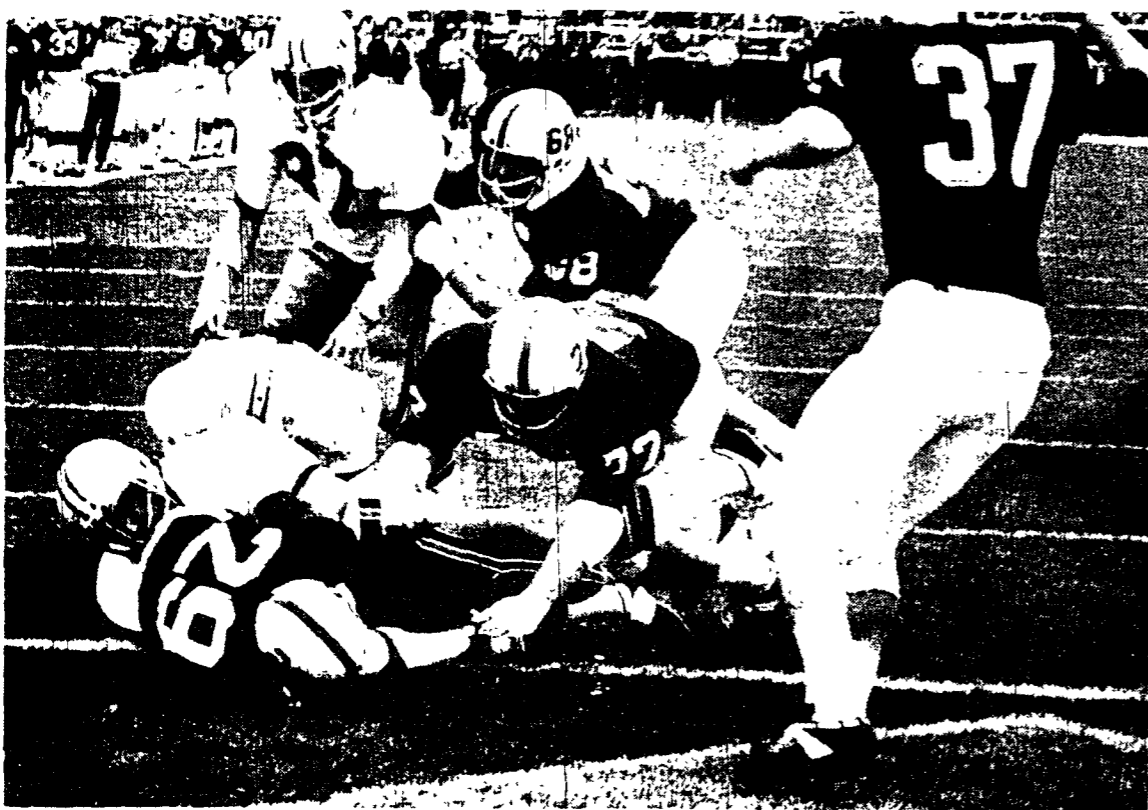
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