

Accident on campus injures two workers

Recent poor weather conditions and humidity cited as possible causes

by Floyd J. Csir
Collegian Staff Writer

Fellow workers pulled Mike DeDad and Tony Spaeder from the manhole. The two were then transported to St. Vincent Health Center.

Yesterday afternoon two workers lost consciousness while

"Going down there, we could only last for ten seconds at a time"

-Neil Londell
Spaeder Plumbing co.

drilling holes in an underground sewer line on campus.

The accident took place near the new residence hall construction site as workers from the Spaeder Plumbing Co. were working 20 feet below ground.

"Going down there, we could only last for ten seconds at a time," said Neil Londell, one of the rescuers from the Spaeder Plumbing Co.

Randy Hoffman, Manager of Police and Safety, declined to comment on whether or not the accident could have been prevented.

However, he did say the recent storms have made conditions more difficult and could have played a part in the accident.

"Confined spaces are notorious people killers," said Gary Postlewaite, Deputy Chief of the



Photo by Jim Pierdomenico

Hospital bound: Emergency rescuers attend to a construction worker who lost consciousness while drilling holes in a sewer line wednesday afternoon

Brookside Fire Co.

Postlewaite also said the humidity was a factor in the accident.

"All they needed was a fresh air supply," said Postlewaite.

However, Ed Olszewski of the Spaeder Plumbing Co. said, "It's not normal to use (oxygen) tanks except for welding . . . they go down there all the time."

When the victims were pulled

out of the man-hole, they were "both blue in the face," said Dennis Watkins of McKean.

Both Spaeder and DeDad were treated and released from St. Vincent yesterday.

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New parking lots expected to help relieve Behrend parking crunch

by Mark Owens
Collegian Managing Editor

Behrend is experiencing growing pains during its expansion, and parking is quickly becoming one of its biggest.

Two new parking lots are planned to alleviate the parking crunch, but only one of them will be ready by the middle of this semester. In the meantime, "everyone is taking this one day at a time," according to Randy Hoffman, manager of Police and Safety.

"So far, the parking lot being built behind the maintenance building is more or less on schedule," said Director of Operations John Ream.

"The contractor was delayed because of the bad weather we've had over the past two weeks, but we expect the parking lot to be completed in 2 - 3 weeks," he said.

The \$500,000 lot was originally slated to be finished by the end of October. The contractor, Poliuka Surface Engineering of Ohio, was required by the university to

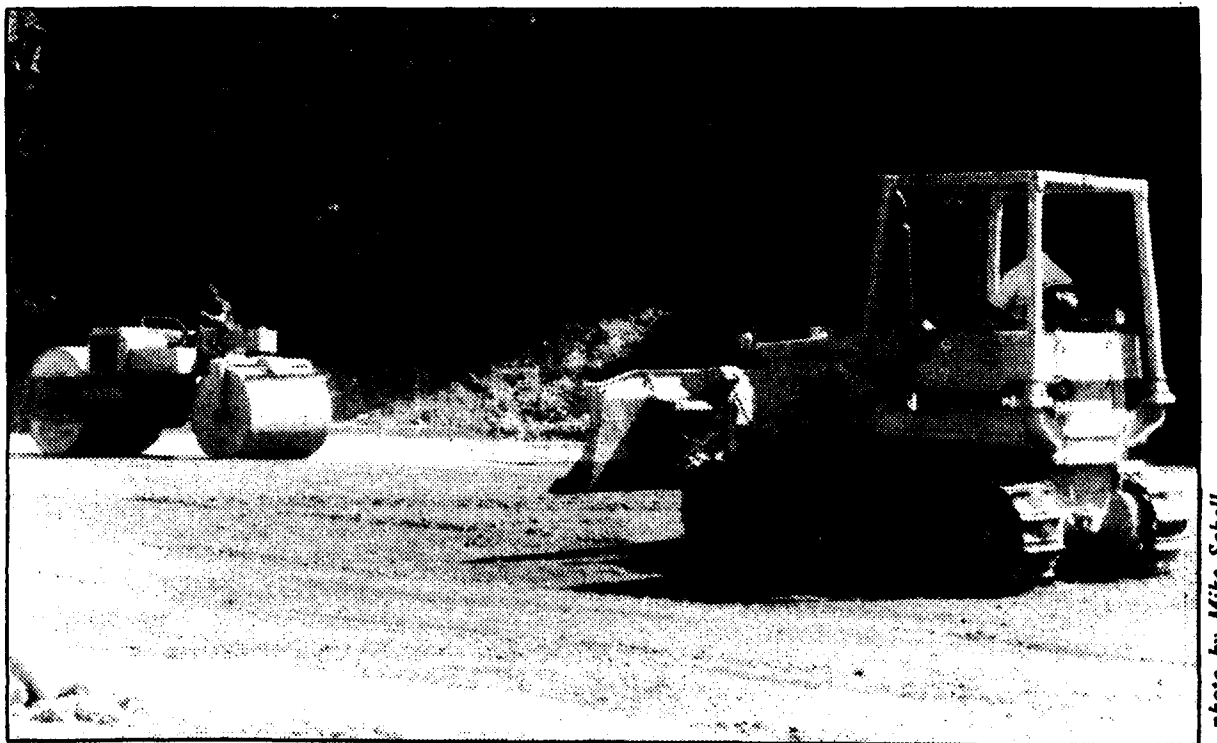


photo by Mike Schell

Men at work: Workers from the Poliuka Construction Company start work on the new parking lot behind the maintenance building

finish by the set time or face penalties.

"Right now, it looks like the lot will be finished on schedule,"

Ream said.

Another parking lot is planned to be built behind the Hammermill and Zurn Buildings.

Bids were received last Friday and construction is scheduled to begin on Sept. 15. Although the final

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