

# Chilled water pipes burst, flood Harper-Schramm-Smith

BY SARAH BAKER  
Assignment Reporter

During last week's extended period of 90-degree temperatures, most people would have thought that a flood of cold water sounded like a good idea.

But that wasn't the case for students in the Harper-Schramm-Smith residence halls.

In two separate incidents last week, chilled water pipes beneath the complex burst, flooding the underground tunnels linking the buildings and shorting out the entire complex's air conditioning system.

The second break in the HSS chilled water line happened Sunday afternoon. The first break occurred Thursday. University Housing director Doug Zatechka said the pipes around campus residence halls are having some problems.

"Soon we are going to have to start looking at replacing all the pipes around the halls," Zatechka said. "But it is just ungodly expensive."

Zatechka estimated the cost of patching the pipes at about \$7,000 to \$8,000. Replacing the entire system

would be much more expensive. "I would guess it at hundreds of thousands of dollars," he said. "Maybe even into the millions."

For now, the pipes are being fixed with patches and clamps, Gary Thalken, facility systems manager, said.

The water, which was about 50 degrees, gushed up through drains in the basement and out of the walls, causing about 4 inches of water to collect in the tunnels between the buildings.

HSS student assistants, residence directors and maintenance workers cleaned up the water for about three hours Sunday afternoon. HSS maintenance director Mike Kansier said the cause of the pipes breaking was ground movement.

"The forces of the ground moving cause the pipes to shift," Kansier said. "We had two lateral shears in the pipes, and in the second break, the water came up through the floor."

Kansier said in both of these incidents, acidic soil causing corrosion in the pipes was not the cause of the breaks.

"It is partially true that there is corrosion in some of the under-

**"Eventually these pipes could cause more problems. They are almost 30 years old."**

MIKE KANSIER  
HSS maintenance director

ground pipes because of naturally acidic soil," he said. "But in this case, that was not the cause."

Kansier said in his opinion some of the lines should be considered for replacement.

"Eventually these pipes could cause more problems," he said. "They are almost 30 years old."

Thalken said clamps have been installed to prevent these types of breaks in the pipes.

"There should be no more problems with these pipes," Thalken said. "With these clamps, the pipes should be able to withstand ground movement without breaking."

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# ASUN Watch

## And the score is ...

The following is a list of the goals ASUN has set, and the progress it has made.

- 1. Continue our commitment to diversity issues through sponsored events and increased communication with campus community.**  
—Human Rights Committee Chairwoman Sara Russell said her committee is writing legislation to expand the opportunities of College of Arts and Sciences students to take ethnic studies classes. The committee is gathering information about the classes available and will present a proposal to ASUN next week recommending the expansion of classes.
- 2. Improve interaction between campus student governing bodies: ASUN, the Residence Hall Association, the Interfraternity Council and the Panhellenic Council.**  
—ASUN President Curt Ruwe said the presidents of the groups will meet within the week.
- 3. Work for the implementation of a parking ticket class.**  
—Campus Life Committee Chairman Kelly Hoffschneider will meet with Parking and Transit Services on Oct. 10 to discuss his committee's proposal to offer students the opportunity to take a class in place of paying their entire parking violation tickets.
- 4. Address pedestrian safety concerns in the 14th & Vine area.**  
—ASUN senators unanimously passed a bill to allow the Government Liaison Committee to begin research to lobby the city about safety concerns.
- 5. Work to see more student input in the student fee allocation process.**  
—Committee for Fees Allocation Chairman Kendall Swenson is meeting with student organizations to teach them about and seek their input on allocating student fees.
- 6. Lobby for the university to continue research regarding a fall break policy.**  
—ASUN has talked with Creighton University in Omaha and plans to talk to other universities regarding their fall break policies.
- 7. Work toward a regents' bylaw change to allow student organizations to apply for funds from the University Programs Council once every two years rather than once every four.**  
—Ruwe and Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs James Griesen discussed this topic on a conference call with the student regents and vice chancellors of student affairs from UNO and UNK. They plan to present their case for programming funding to the NU Board of Regents.
- 8. Research advising policies on campus and gather students input in order to look for ways that advising best serves student needs.**  
—A survey will be sent to each college's advisory board to evaluate advising policies. The ASUN Student Impact Team also took the survey at its Sept. 16 meeting.
- 9. More efficiently inform students of services that ASUN provides and what it accomplishes for students.**  
—The Advertising Club offered to create an advertising promotion for ASUN. Ruwe said he wants to advertise the University Leadership Community and the services ASUN provides with this promotion.
- 10. Successfully create a more integrated campus community through the implementation of the Student Impact Team and the University Leadership Community.**  
—SIT's first meeting attracted 150 students, which Ruwe said was a "huge success." The group met for the second time Tuesday. The ULC will meet Oct. 7 in the Nebraska Union, where participants will discuss breaking down barriers among students, Ruwe said.

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### CORRECTION

A story listing student organizations in Monday's Daily Nebraskan erred in the status of the Abel Residence Hall Association. It is an official group at UNL and renewed its status earlier this semester.

## Geometry 101: Ratios

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