

'Buena Foot' prowls Calif. drain

BUENA PARK, Calif. (UPI) — Some people living near Disneyland think the Abominable Snowman has wandered off the amusement park's famous Matterhorn ride and has taken up residence in a sewer drain.

Some people even take the other people seriously.

The smelly, hairy creature dubbed "Buena Foot" failed to appear at a "monster watch" Tuesday night, but two men using divining rods claim they have evidence a huge humanoid is nearby.

And hundreds of people nationwide have called police since five people reported Monday they saw an 8-foot, hairy creature walking down a storm tunnel.

"We've had 200 to 500 calls easily," Officer Terry Branum said. "We're telling people we have investigated the area and found nothing there."

Dennis Ruminer, a member of a group called the Special Forces Investigations, which in-

vestigates unexplained phenomena, claimed Wednesday he found footprints and handprints of the beast in a drainage tunnel.

"We were looking around the mouth of the tunnel when someone shouted, 'There's a track!'" Ruminer said. "There were a lot of people around and as we went to look a kid stepped on the track, so we only saw the front part of the track."

"It was a humanoid foot with five big toe marks and about seven inches across the ball of the foot. Before we got a good, clear look at it, another kid stepped on it and completely obliterated the track."

But Ruminer said he and his

partner, Tom Muzila, used divining rods to track the creature and went inside the tunnel, where they found a handprint.

"We discovered a handprint in a mud bank on one side of the tunnel. We saw the first three digits of the right hand and a thumb print," he said. "I put my hand next to the print and pushed it into the bank in the same manner and I couldn't push it half as far and I weigh 170 pounds."

Ruminer said the team made a plaster cast of the print and took pictures of several other sets of prints discovered farther back in the cave.

Frank Missanelli, manager of

an apartment building near the drainage ditch, said he heard the beast but did not see it.

"It roared and growled just like the dinosaurs in the movies," Missanelli said.

Bennie Hinsley, 18, said he and his brother, Raymond, 16, saw the beast Monday.

"We could see the monster's shadow in the drainage ditch," Bennie said. "We heard the water splash and then we smelled something awful."

About 100 believers held a "monster watch" Tuesday night, but failed to spot anything resembling the beast.

"Of course it didn't show," Missanelli said. "All the people scared it off."