

BSU Provides

Escorting Service

by Carolyn Spears

A 24-hour escorting service has been set up for the protection of the sisters on this campus.

The volunteer service, Escorts Unlimited, is coordinated by Larry Grimes and Keith McQueen and was actually started during the last two weeks of last semester.

"Last year there were a couple of incidents where sisters were chased around campus and one sister was attacked," said McQueen.

"The B.S.U. wanted to have something for the protection of the sisters and we were put in charge. We don't want anything to happen to the sisters," Grimes continued.

Last semester, a list of all the brothers working for the service and their extensions was distributed around campus. If a sister wanted to be escorted, she chose from the list and made direct contact with that particular brother.

"There were problems with that," McQueen said, "so we've centralized the system. If a sister wants an escort now, she calls us at ext. 2939 and we'll dispatch the closest dude to her. If we can't find anybody available, we'll come ourselves and we'll never take longer than a half hour to get somebody there."

Several sisters felt that some of the escorts could be as dangerous as a "would-be attacker."

"We figure that if the brother is sincere, he'll sign up and when we need him, he'll show up," said Grimes. "Of course dudes will be dudes, but if he's going to grab, he'll grab on his own time and not while he's escorting somebody.

But if a sister gets too much static from an escort, she should call us back and we'll deal with it."

"The sisters we've escorted so far have pretty open attitudes about it. Some of them offered us money and we've been invited in for some wine after they got to where they wanted to go," continued McQueen. "But the service is free and we ask that the sisters make no donations to the brothers."

But there are problems even in this setup, the first being that Escorts Unlimited is functioning with only three brothers. (The third brother is Guy Jackson.)

"Things are really getting hard now that exams are coming up," Grimes said.

The service averages five calls a night and even though it is a 24-hour service, McQueen and Grimes prefer that escorts be requested after dark. They feel that a core of 20 brothers will insure that the service functions efficiently.

"Unless things get really bad, it's stupid to escort somebody down to Hungry Herman's at 4 p.m.," Grimes said.

The other problem is that sisters have been abusing the use of the service.

"We don't want sisters calling to get escorted to their boyfriend's room," McQueen said. "It's not right to have a brother escort some jive sister to see a jive dude who's sitting in his room playing records."

Brothers interested in joining Escorts Unlimited should call McQueen or Grimes at ext. 2939.