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Cheryl Heller/Dan Ernst
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Student Watch attempts to decrease fear of rape

By Lauri Hopple

"There is a problem on this campus and it deals with sexual assault," Dave Zierott of the UNL Student Watch said Thursday night at the group's first meeting of the semester.

Zierott, a senior in pre-law, and Gayle Smith, a languages major, presented the group's plans to decrease fear and risk of rape at UNL through student patrols and education.

Zierott and Smith used statistics from rape cases at UNL to explain the Student Watch Group's concern about sexual assault. Smith said that there were nine sexual assaults on campus involving students in 1982. Three were first degree assaults, in which the victim was penetrated by the assailant.

Zierott said 35 percent of all rape victims are students. This is because campuses are high-density population areas and new students often are unfamiliar with the surroundings.

Student patrols are not scheduled to begin until the second week in October. Until then, the program will concentrate on recruiting volunteers and training them, said President Troy Lair, a senior majoring in political science and communications.

The group presently has 20 members; in order to be able to work with two-hour patrol shifts that will run tentatively from 7 p.m. to 1 a.m., a total force of 60 is needed. Both males and females are eligible.

Sept. 27 is lodged as the first day of training for patrols. Smith said all volunteers will be trained by three organizations and must meet those organizations' requirements to be eligible for patrol duty.

The UNL Police Department will train volunteers in the use of a two-way radio. All patrollers will carry a radio that will be in contact with a student stationed in the UNL police office. The police will also train potential watchmen to identify possible criminal situations and to be able to describe events and suspects. This information could help the police investigation.

The Lincoln Rape Crisis Center will teach the recruits about the psychology of the rapist as well as the victim. This will help the patroller identify situations like the trauma syndrome, which often hits the victim after the rape, Smith said. The recruits will also learn how to refer victims to the Crisis Center.

Finally, the Red Cross of Lincoln will train the patrollers in basic first aid and cardio pulmonary resuscitation. These skills are valuable for any type of emergency on campus, Zierott said.

Smith and Zierott stressed that the patrols will not be trained in any sort of self-defense, since they will not actively participate in the halting of the crime. The volunteers will wear identifiable clothing and will patrol in pairs consisting of one man and one woman with a two-way radio.

Parking lots, Love Library, and Nebraska Hall will be patrolled heavily. These areas were determined as high risk in results of a spring pilot survey of 150 UNL women.

Smith said there will be a booth set up next week outside the City Union for people interested in volunteering and for general information. The Student Watch Groups office is in Nebraska Union 345.

Self-defense class offered

By Sara Thomasson

Statistics show one out

of ten women may become a victim of a sexual assault at some point in her lifetime.

In an effort to remedy this situation, the Center for Healthy Lifestyles, in conjunction with Women Against Violence Against Women, has designed a program to teach women basic skills in self-defense.

"A lot of women are starting to get quite afraid nowadays to walk around because they've heard so much about sexual assaults," said Pat Riddle, UNL assistant professor in health education at UNL.

Riddle said the class is being formed for two rea-

sons: first, to improve women's sense of security on campus; and second, to educate women in self-defense.

"The objectives of the class are to help women feel more comfortable with their ability to defend themselves," Riddle said.

The class will meet from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. on four consecutive Tuesdays beginning Sept. 13. Kit Boesch, former Ohio State self-defense coordinator, will teach the class. The fee is \$12 per person. Classes will be in Coliseum Basement 20.

For registration procedures or more information, call 472-3831.

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