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ways suggested that women call ahead, Wilson said, it is now necessary because drivers are no longer following a set route and need to design a schedule each night.

"It's a waste of gas to do that whole route six times a night, and a waste of riders' time when they have to drive around for 45 minutes before they can get home," co-director Rhonda Fenrich said. "This will help us serve the students better."

In addition to picking up women on an on-call basis, the off-campus van will make two half-hour shuttles to Amazon and Westmoreland student housing each night — leaving the EMU at 9:30 and 11:30 p.m..

"But that doesn't mean women going to those areas have to wait until those times," Wilson said. "They can schedule to go at another time if necessary."

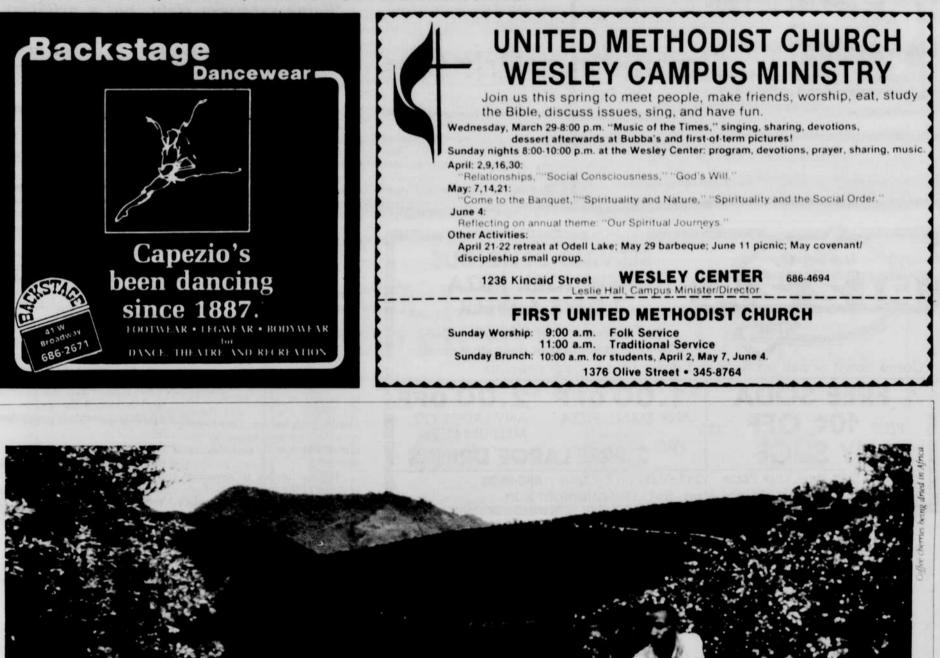
Saferide now asks that women call 24 hours in advance if possible, and three days ahead for a large group, Wilson said. Dispatchers will then call riders to confirm pick-up times; when conflicts arise and a driver cannot be in two places at once, she may evaluate the calls on a priority basis.

Women on campus for academic reasons may receive first priority, Wilson said, while student interest groups and social groups may come second or third. Low-priority riders may be asked to reschedule their pick-up time.

But while Wilson said calling ahead will make scheduling easier, drivers will continue to transport women on the spur of the moment when they can. The group also is eliminating two hours from both routes because the days are getting longer. Wilson said, so vans will now run from 8 p.m. to midnight unless enough drivers volunteer to fill earlier hours.

At the same time, the group made minor changes in the more popular oncampus route, eliminating, for example, stops in front of the Gamma Phi Beta and Tri Delta sororities.

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