

Man cons \$3,000 from students in apartment scam

By Jeff Rubin
 ■ Daily Free Press
 Boston U.

At least three Boston U. students fell victim to an alleged con man who posed as a landlord and then disappeared with more than \$3,000 of their apartment deposit money, a BU official revealed in September.

The man called his company "Beacon Realty" and used an answering service for all correspondence. BU Director of Orientation and Off-Campus Services Maureen L. Hurley said.

Calling himself Steven Hubert, the man said the business was run by himself and his brother Kevin and owned by his father, Kevin Sr., said College of Engineering student Dennis Corsi.

Corsi gave the man \$1,275 in first and last month's

rent and a security deposit. Apparently Hubert was the only person involved in the scheme. "I met him at the apartment and saw it," Corsi said. "I never thought to check his identification or thought to check his office."

The scam was uncovered on Aug. 15, when two School

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— Dennis Corsi,
 Boston U. student

of Law students went to pick up keys to the apartment and were told by the answering service that the account for the realty agent had been closed, Hurley said.

The case is now under investigation with the Boston

Police, who would not return phone calls. Hurley said she did not know if there were any suspects.

An advertisement for the apartment was printed in a July issue of the *Boston Globe*, Corsi said, adding that he called the phone number listed in the ad and reached the answering service. An appointment then was made with Hubert, he said.

Corsi was shown a modern, spacious apartment on two occasions at the end of July, he said. Hubert told him the monthly rent would be \$850 a month, Corsi said.

"I just thought it was a hell of a deal and a nice place," Corsi said. He proceeded to pay the landlord imposter \$1,275 for deposit at the end of July and did not hear from him for two weeks, he said.

When the second week in August came with no word from the alleged realty agent, Corsi notified the police.

Japanese language enrollment doubles

By Amy Barnes
 ■ The Evergreen
 Washington State U.

Washington State U. students are following an international trend by enrolling in Japanese language courses.

According to a national survey by the Modern Language Association of America, enrollment in Japanese courses has more than doubled since 1987.

"At WSU, enrollment in Japanese classes has increased phenomenally," said Aloysius Chang, professor in the department of foreign languages and literatures.

In 1972, only 30 students were studying Japanese at WSU.

But since 1985, the department has been overwhelmed by interest in the classes, Chang said.

In 1985, there were 50 students in Japanese 301, he said. "In 1988, the number increased to over 90 students, and in 1989 we are offering two sections of the class to accommodate 105 students."

"Japan is an economic world power and the interest in their language and culture is increasing because of this," he said. The increased numbers reflect a world trend, Chang said.

Law

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because of prison overcrowding.

Because the Terre Haute prison library holds only Indiana law books, interns look up out-of-state laws to assist prisoners working on their own appeals.

John Sullivan, a second-year law student, said it gives him a sense of satisfaction when the program is able to resolve inmate problems.

ILAC was able to get the prison to incorporate certain types of foods in the menu, such as kosher, to accommodate religious groups.

"It may seem small to you or me, but it's a big deal to them," Sullivan said.

Tara Jackson, an intern since 1987, said interns often feel frustrated by the justice system. And it worked, Jackson said. There was nothing ILAC could do.

"There are unfairnesses; but you get used to it and just do what you can," she said.

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