Woman lied about rape, deputies say

Willoughby Mariano, Sentinel Staff Writer

Deputies arrested a woman Friday who they said falsely accused five of her Walt Disney World co-workers of raping her last weekend, an Orange County sheriff’s spokesman said.

Elisabet Sunde, 19, told deputies that she was walking home from a friend’s apartment about 4 a.m. Sunday when the men approached her, carried her to their apartment and took turns forcing her to perform sex acts, according to a report.

The men made a video of the assault, then walked her home, she told investigators.

They all lived in a fenced housing complex in southwest Orange County that is for foreign employees in the theme park’s international program, according to a report. Sunde is Norwegian, and the men are French.

The tape was inconsistent with Sunde’s statement, according to her arrest warrant.

"We suspected something was up early in the investigation," sheriff’s spokesman Jim Solomons said.

Sunde told investigators she asked the men to stop and picked up a telephone receiver to call for help, but the men hung it up. Yet video shows no evidence she told them to stop. Sunde did use the phone, but during the conversation she was calm and no one tried to take it away from her.

Toward the end of the tape, she said she was "drunk and high," an arrest affidavit states.
Sunde changed her story Thursday, Solomons said. Still, she denied making a false accusation. "It happened the way she remembers it," according to the affidavit.

Sunde was booked into the Orange County Jail. She faces one misdemeanor count each of making false reports to law-enforcement authorities and false official statements. She is being held on $1,000 bail.