



Tips Lead To Arrest Of UNH Student

Contact: [Deputy Chief Paul Dean](#)

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University Police Department

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DURHAM, N.H. –Thanks in part to information provided to police by members of the University of New Hampshire community, UNH Police arrested Matthew W. Bessette, (DOB 01/11/1988) of 22 Angel Road, Lincoln, R.I., for an assault that occurred in front of the New England Center Hotel and Conference Center Sunday, Nov. 8, 2009, at 1 a.m.

Both the victim and Bessette are UNH students and the motive for the alleged assault is believed to be an argument over a young woman. Bessette is alleged to have assaulted the victim causing serious bodily injury to his face and causing the victim to lose consciousness.

The assault was not reported to police until two days after it occurred. Bessette was charged with second-degree assault and released on personal recognizance bail. He is scheduled to appear in Dover District Court January 28, 2010.

“Students are becoming more aware of the violent crimes occurring on their campus,” said Deputy Police Chief Paul Dean. “The providing of tips on this case and other recent assaults is evidence that the community is not going to tolerate this behavior and is saying ‘enough is enough.’”

Members of the campus community are encouraged to call 911 immediately upon observing anyone or anything suspicious and to continue to contact police at (603) 862-1427 if they have or learn of any information regarding the continuing investigation into the assault which took place over the Halloween weekend. Anonymous reports can also be made at <http://www.unh.edu/upd/Contact-Us.html>. For additional safety information go to: <http://unh.edu/upd/Prevention%20-%20General.html>.

PHOTO: A photo of Bessette is available for download:

http://unh.edu/news/cj_nr/2009/nov/18bessette.jpg

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