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Erika Mantz
UNH Media Relations

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Police Continue To Search For Witnesses To Halloween Assault

Media Contact: Erika Mantz
603-862-1567
UNH Media Relations

Nov. 2, 2009

DURHAM, N.H. – Police continue to investigate the assault of a male University of New Hampshire student outside Sawyer Hall on the Ballard Street side at approximately 11:35 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 31, 2009, urging anyone who may have witnessed the assault or have information to call (603) 862-1427 immediately.

According to UNH Police Sgt. Steven Lee, there may have been as many as five people involved in the assault, including one male wearing a red plaid buttoned-down shirt, as well as multiple witnesses. The assailants are all described as male, medium build, between 5’10” and 6’1”. Police are also eager to talk with a male who may have witnessed the assault and then helped the victim up and away from the scene after it occurred.

The 21-year-old victim suffered significant facial injuries as well as bruising to his upper torso. He was released from the hospital early Sunday morning. Earlier witness reports said the victim was attacked by three men, one described as wearing a yellowish Halloween costume in the shape of a banana or hot dog. The other two males were wearing dark colored hoodies. The attack occurred between Sawyer and Stoke halls on a grassy area off Ballard Street. No weapons were used; police believe the victim was kicked and punched repeatedly.

A campus alert issued the next afternoon resulted in multiple calls to police and Lee said they are eager to talk with additional witnesses. Anyone with information about this incident should contact Lee at (603) 862-1427. Anonymous reports can also be made at http://www.unh.edu/upd/Contact-Us.html