Underwear thefts still unexplained

By Laura Farbie

The MIT Campus Police are currently searching for suspects in a recent rash of women's underwear thefts from dormitory laundry rooms, according to Sergeant Annie Glavin.

There have been approximately forty underwear thefts from McCormick Hall's laundry room, reported McCormick Judicial Committee (JudCom) Chairman Pam Purdy '82. Women's underwear have also been stolen from the laundry rooms of Baker House, Burton House, East Campus, Eastgate, Senior House, and Westgate.

The Campus Police have a composite sketch of a suspect who is female, Caucasian, six feet tall, with long light brown hair, and of heavy build. This suspect was reported by a woman in Eastgate who observed him loitering around the laundry room and leaving her clothing in the washing machine. Later the woman found five pairs of her panties missing.

Yesterday the MIT Campus Police began showing pictures of the suspect to the complainant in the case to the complainant in the Eastgate, said Sergeant Joseph Sullivan. His reasoning is that McCormick is the dormitory with "the best protection," and therefore the underwear theft is likely to be on the suspect list.

About three people who saw the composite sketch of the suspect told the Campus Police that they knew of people who looked like the sketch, according to Glavin. Sullivan said that one anonymous girl, upon seeing the composite sketch, reported a suspect who is now under investigation.

Although at this time Glavin is uncertain as to what type of person is stealing the underwear, she claimed, "If nothing [no underwear] shows up on Halloween I would be more inclined to rule out a fraternity prank...I would be more inclined to believe that we have a person with a psychological problem."

The only underwear thefts which have been reported recently have been "post-grads," according to Glavin. McCormick JudCom Member Elizabeth Larosiliere '83 said that she has not heard of any underwear thefts in McCormick since those past two weeks.

The other eight schools to receive academic chairs are the University of California at Berkeley, the California Institute of Technology, the University of Chicago, Harvard University, the University of Illinois, the University of Michigan, Northwestern University, and the University of Wisconsin. Liberal arts colleges receiving smaller grants are Bennington, Bucknell, Claremont, Colby, Colgate, Connecticut, Davidson, Hampshire, Kalamazoo, Kenyon, University of Southern Florida, Occidental, Reed, University of the South, and Union.

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