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## Sexual Assault Suspect in Custody; LASD, LAPD Investigating

- Man captured after assault, Thursday, on P-4

By BILL HEARD, Editor

(Sept. 3, 2004) The Sheriff's Department is holding a suspect in an alleged sexual assault that occurred about 3:50 p.m., Thursday, on the P-4 level of the Union Station parking garage.

A Sheriff's deputy arrested the man outside Metro Headquarters, Thursday afternoon. According to Transit Police Chief Capt. Dan Finkelstein, he resembles the description of a suspect in two other sexual assault incidents in the parking garage.

The Sheriff's Crime Lab is investigating and will compare DNA evidence in the previous incidents with the suspect's DNA sample.

The Sheriff's Department also is cooperating with the LAPD to see whether the suspect can be tied to several sexual assaults in the downtown area.

Finkelstein said the 19-year-old victim, a local junior college student, told deputies she had been led to a remote area of the P-4 level and sexually assaulted. Afterward, the suspect took her up to the street, where she flagged down a Sheriff's patrol car at Cesar Chavez and Vignes and reported the alleged assault.

The suspect later was identified in a photo line-up by a previous victim. Detectives from the Sheriff's Department and the LAPD were scheduled to question the suspect Friday afternoon.

As the investigation continues, Finkelstein said that, although he is "optimistic that this person is responsible for the sexual assaults, everyone should continue to be aware of their surroundings, safety and security, particularly in the parking structure."