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McLennan prepares cases against suspect

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The McLennan County district attorney's office is preparing to present at least two sexual assault cases and three burglary cases against a 19-year-old Bellmead man to the McLennan County grand jury on Friday, said Assistant District Attorney Deanna Fitzgerald.

The suspect has been charged only with one count of burglary of a habitation, said police Detective Bob Luedke.

He remained in Waco City Jail Wednesday under \$50,000 bond set by Justice of the Peace Joe Johnson. The bond amount was set high because of the suspected connection with the sexual assault cases, Luedke said.

By Wednesday, police said they expected to clear two sexual assault cases that occurred in the Baylor University area within the last few months.

The three burglary cases were tied together through fingerprint comparisons, Luedke said.

The suspect in custody was arrested on a warrant Tuesday afternoon and charged with burglary of a habitation for an offense re-

ported in the 4500 block of Lake Shore Drive. The other two burglaries also occurred in apartments on Lake Shore Drive, but police declined to say which apartments.

Luedke said police were continuing to interview the suspect and may clear other cases, including several attempted sexual assaults.

Police probably will not charge the man with additional offenses, he said, but will turn their information over to the district attorney's office for presentation to the grand jury.

Tuesday evening, police conducted a lineup to allow victims to try to identify a suspect, but Luedke declined to comment on that lineup.

"We're still investigating," he said.

Luedke and Ms. Fitzgerald both said more than one person is probably responsible for the burglaries and attempted sexual assaults in the Baylor and Lake Shore Drive areas.

Ms. Fitzgerald said would-be rapists often walk through apartment complexes looking for open windows and unlocked doors of

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Mother hopes intruder in custody

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apartments that appear to be occupied only by women.

She said women should remove plants and feminine knickknacks from porches, windows and doors so a potential rapist would not suspect the apartment is occupied only by women.

The mother of a Baylor student said her daughter awoke in early

December to find a man standing next to the daughter's roommate's bed. The roommate screamed and the man ran off, the mother said.

It was dark in the apartment and neither her daughter nor the roommate were able to identify the man, the mother said.

The mother said she was relieved to hear of Tuesday's arrest. She said she hoped the man in custody was the one who broke into

her daughter's apartment.

Her daughter now is scared to stay in an apartment alone, the mother said.

Her son is dating a woman who lives in an apartment on Lake Shore Drive, she said, and she knows other women whose apartments have been burglarized. All are frightened, she said.

"I hope that this is the same person."