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Saturday, January 12, 2008

Regional digest

Police identify man shot by pellet rifle

HOLDEN -- Police last night identified the man shot Thursday night in the head by a friend with a pellet rifle.

Kevin P. Barrett, 23, of the Chaffins section of town was taken to the UMass Memorial Medical Center — University Campus, according to Detective Lt. Donald A. Ball.

His condition and whether he was still hospitalized were not known last night because of federal privacy laws, the lieutenant said.

Mr. Barrett was shot in the back of the head by a friend with a .177 caliber pellet rifle at a home in the Jefferson section of town. Police are not identifying the friend because they believe the shooting may have been accidental. Mr. Barrett was treated by paramedics before being transported to the hospital.

Both Mr. Barrett and the 21-year-old friend are military reservists trained in the use of weapons. They are scheduled to go overseas in a few months, police said.

Man, 49, struck and killed by train

PUTNAM — A 49-year-old man was killed at 9:12 p.m. Thursday, when he was struck by a northbound Providence and Worcester Railroad freight train about one-quarter mile south of Arch and South Main streets.

Police in a press release identified the victim as Donald Siler, whose last known address was 72-1/2 South Main St. Police said information from witnesses indicated Mr. Siler was lying across the railroad tracks and failed to move as the train approached.

Teacher contract talks to resume

WESTBORO — The local teachers union, which rejected an offer for a three-year contract in October, will continue to discuss a new contract with district representatives at a meeting Monday afternoon.



The section of track in Putnam where police found the body of a man hit by a train. (T&G Staff/DAN GOULD)

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