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BREAKING NEWS

Man struck, killed by Amtrak train identified as former UMass employee

A former employee of the University of Massachusetts, and Amherst resident, was struck by an Amtrak passenger train while crossing the tracks near 34 Bridge Street around 4:30 p.m. yesterday. Police identified the man as 63-year-old Jeffrey M. Tenenbaum of 27 Montague Road. Tenenbaum was pronounced dead at the scene when officials responded around 5 p.m.

Man struck, killed by Amtrak train identified as former UMass employee

Matt Rocheleau, Collegian Staff

Issue date: 12/10/08 **Section:** News

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Media Credit: Matt Rocheleau / Collegian
[Click to enlarge]

Police said they do not suspect foul play at this time, but the incident remains under investigation.

Tenenbaum worked as a reference librarian at UMass for 31 years before retiring in December 2003, according to the Amherst College Web site. He also worked as a substitute reference librarian at Amherst College since retiring from UMass, the site said.

"It's a tragedy for his family," said University spokesperson Patrick Callahan.

Town resident Titus Neigens said he witnessed an adult male cross the tracks while the red railroad warning lights were blinking as the train approached.

"At that point the train passed and no one was there," Neigens said.

The train stopped after the alleged incident.

There are warning lights, but no crossing arms where the road and tracks intersect.

After hearing police sirens, Miguel Reda, a nearby Amherst resident, walked to the scene to see what had happened. He said he could see what appeared to be a sheet covering a body near the tracks.

Officials used caution tape to keep onlookers away.

Emily Nuzzo, a manager at Cushman's, said she heard from a witness that the man was wearing a white T-shirt.

"I heard the regular sound of the train coming and then I heard it slowing down," said Nuzzo, who graduated from the University of Massachusetts in May.

POLL

How will you cope with finals?

- Finals!? But it's only...oh holy crap finals are next week!
- Binge drinking
- Denial
- Positive thinking, lots of sleep and healthy studying
- Caffeine, caffeine and more caffeine
- Finals are a piece of cake for me

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24 Hour News

Neigens said he was picking up his son at nearby Cushman Market and Café. He said he gave his number to police in case they wanted to ask him any questions about what he saw.

Matt Rocheleau can be reached at mrochele@dailycollegian.com.

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Ed Cutting
posted 12/10/08 @ 9:15 AM EST

There is a real problem with that track -- from where the old station was on Railroad Ave north to Cushman Village, the track is still in the sense it was in the '70s pre-Amtrak. (Continued…)

Details Reply to this comment

jrod
posted 12/10/08 @ 9:37 AM EST

Let's have UMass setup some safety precautions here - maybe some rumble strips or a random crossing guard that rotates around all the railroad crossings in town. (Continued…)

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white one

BethMac
posted 12/10/08 @ 9:56 AM EST

[QUOTE id="fad926d0-b1c1-4cf3-aa2d-889a5a780fc5"]Let's have UMass setup some safety precautions here - maybe some rumble strips or a random crossing guard that rotates around all the railroad crossings in town. (Continued…)

(1 reply) Details Reply to this comment

MIRIAM
posted 12/10/08 @ 2:49 PM EST

not to mention the fact that there should be a guard while the train is passing, there is also the problem of the bridge down the street from cushman that people tend to walk on. (Continued…)

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