

Middlebury Police Department

Media Release

27 March 2008

Sub: Missing Person Investigation – Nicholas Garza

Ground search operations around the Middlebury College campus commenced this morning at about 10:00 a.m. The searched focus on peripheral areas of the campus where Nicholas Garza was known to have traveled. The search area extended east to the Otter Creek from Pulp Mill Bridge Road in the north to the area of the railroad trestle to the south and areas encompassing the Ridgeline complex and wooded area to the west and areas south of Route 30.

In many of these areas, improving ground conditions were conducive for a high probability of detection. However, in some of the areas, especially along the western edge of the campus area and certain small areas within the campus, snow and ice accumulation prevented a thorough search.

The search was suspended at 6:00 p.m. Nothing relevant to the missing person investigation was discovered.

Plans are underway for resuming another full scale search as soon as conditions warrant.

In the interim, smaller scale area scans and searches will continue. The missing person investigation will resume tomorrow in an effort to develop any information relevant to the manner and cause of Nick's disappearance.

Organizations participating in today's operation are:

Vermont State Police Search and Rescue
Upper Valley Wilderness Response (New Hampshire)
Colchester Technical Rescue
New England Canine Search and Rescue (with 6 canines)
Middlebury Police
Middlebury College Public Safety

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Thomas Hanley
Chief of Police