

## Fellow Student Remembered

Unfortunately, the news that we deliver cannot always be celebratory. This past week the community of Chico and University experienced a tragedy.

On December 8, 2005, a CSU, Chico student passed away after being severely beaten at the Holiday Inn in Chico where he had worked as a security guard for the past few years. Travis Williams, 22, responded to an altercation between two brothers who were fighting in the parking lot of the hotel. Travis intervened and was subsequently attacked by those involved in the fight.

Travis was majoring in sociology and had recently transferred from Butte College in Fall 2004. Travis was an outstanding person who should be admired for his hard work and dedication to the community of Chico as well as abroad. He was very active in local community groups such as the Boys and Girls Club and Big Brothers, Big Sister, and volunteered whenever possible to help others. This past summer he volunteered at a camp for underprivileged children. After teaching for the spring in Thailand, he remained in the area to assist with relief efforts for victims of the tsunami. In addition, this fall, he organized a Katrina relief rummage sale that raised more than \$1,100.

Many professors have commented on how wonderful a human being Travis was. Professor Bill Martin commented, "Travis was loved and respected by his professors and fellow students. He was gentle, curious about sociology, and winsome in a way that made his professors glad he was their student." Professor Cynthia Siemsen stated, "Travis was someone who made a difference in the world, and our lives. These are the words that come to mind for myself and one of his friends, who's sitting here with me as I write this. We were a whole that no longer feels complete."

This was a senseless act of violence that never should have happened. A beautiful person was taken from us far before he or us were ready. Please take a moment to think of Travis Williams and his family. Please help our community stop these acts of violence and abuse of alcohol. Families and communities should never have to endure the pain that losses like this bring.

Donations can be made tonight at the Holiday Inn, 685 Manzanita Court, in Chico from 5-8pm. For more information call the Holiday Inn at 530-345-2491. For donations after, contact Ann Prater, Public Relations Director at Enloe Hospital, 530-332-7448.