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"Just had a big tidal wave hit. I am not injured but lost some climbing gear, my camera and mobile phone. Please tell family am safe."
 Sam Nicols, in a text message from Thailand sent to his father, University professor John Nicols, the morning of the tsunami



COURTESY MATT ENGBRING

Top series: (Left) Rock climbers at a cliff on Tonsai Beach in Thailand. (Middle) The men try to put their gear on a ledge to protect it from the approaching waves. (Right) The wave has trapped the men against the cliff. Everyone in the picture survived. **Bottom:** Tonsai Beach the day after the tsunami.

Left in the wake

Sam Nicols, son of a University professor, was on vacation in Thailand when the lethal tsunami hit

BY AMANDA BOLSINGER
NEWS REPORTER

The Nicols family is used to communicating with their son, Sam, by text messages. Sam Nicols lives in Sweden, and text messages are a cheaper way to stay in touch with family.

But the message Sam's father, John, received at 8:59 p.m. on Dec. 25 didn't tell the whole story.

"Just had a big tidal wave hit. I am not injured but lost some climbing gear, my camera and mobile phone. Please tell family am safe."

Sam was vacationing in Thailand when he sent the message at 11:59 a.m. on Dec. 26, Thailand time.

John Nicols, a University history professor, said he wasn't sure exactly what Sam was talking about when he received the text message from his son.

He and his family didn't know a tsunami had started spreading across Asia, wiping out entire cities and leaving only destruction behind. They didn't know their son's three-month vacation in Thailand had just been interrupted by a series of powerful waves sweeping onto shore. And they didn't know they almost lost their son to those waves.

Sam's family members knew he was OK before they knew what was wrong.

Sam is a rock climber and was in paradise with jagged cliffs overhanging

TSUNAMI, page 6

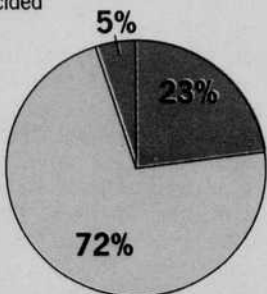
Current OUS policies prohibit people who have licenses to carry concealed handguns from carrying them on Oregon campuses. A random survey of 100 students showed many believe concealed handguns should not be allowed on campus.

OUS **should NOT** prevent someone with a license to carry a concealed handgun from carrying on campus

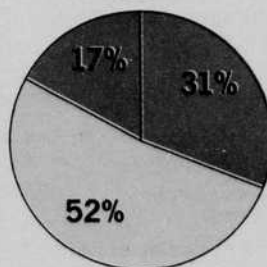
OUS **should** prevent someone with a license to carry a concealed handgun from carrying on campus

Undecided

January 2005



February 2004



Firearms on campus

Tuesday: Concealed handgun advocates challenge the OUS policy
Today: Seeking solutions to the handgun dilemma

PART 2 OF 2

Reconciling lawfulness, safety of handgun debate

Viewpoints differ on which firearms rules stay within the law and keep students safe

BY PARKER HOWELL
SENIOR NEWS REPORTER

While the Oregon University System's contentious rule restricting Concealed Handgun License holders from carrying firearms on university campuses has remained static since graduate student Brian Stubbs challenged it in court last year, debate continues over what balance of power between gun owners and the OUS will create the safest campuses.

Supporters of concealed firearms say the OUS policy violates state law, and concealed handguns are a right necessary for self-defense.

Opponents argue that

handguns on university campuses are a safety issue that the Oregon State Board of Higher Education has the authority to regulate.

The Oregon Revised Statutes allow CHL holders to carry concealed weapons in "public buildings," including hospitals, schools and universities.

Yet the university system cites an Oregon Administrative Rule allowing it to regulate firearms at its facilities. Under the rule, the OUS prohibits CHL holders from bringing guns on University property.

Stubbs challenged the policy in January 2004 when he

filed suit against the board of higher education in federal court. Stubbs eventually lost the case on procedural grounds.

Reactions to the Stubbs case

Portland lawyer Kristian Roggendorf, who was Stubbs' attorney for the case, said Stubbs didn't file an appeal because he was leaving campus.

"Although I know the case could technically not be necessarily moot in the sense that Brian could always come back to campus, it just wasn't practical from ... a pragmatic standpoint," Roggendorf said.

Roggendorf said he wasn't surprised by the court's

HANDGUNS, page 4

University to help train educators in rural areas

The new project, called QC Teach, will revise teaching content in 38 Oregon school districts

BY ADAM CHERRY
NEWS REPORTER

The University's College of Education and College of Arts and Sciences have teamed up for a groundbreaking project intended to help train teachers and enrich lesson plans in Oregon's rural school districts. One of the first programs of its kind in the nation, the Quality Content Teaching Program, or QC Teach, will employ a lesson study model used in Japanese schools to review and revise the teaching style and content in ways that foster a better response from students.

According to a University press release, the three-year program will focus on 38 school districts in Coos, Curry, Douglas and Lane

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