

A Columbus State Community College student died after he fell from a 70-foot cliff while on a camping trip in eastern Kentucky with friends.

Corey Matthew **Bashaw**, 18, of 6371 Newgrange Drive, Dublin, apparently died instantly Friday night, Menifee County Coroner Sharon Sorrell said.

Bashaw was camping with three friends in the Daniel Boone National Forest when he fell from the cliff at 10:30 p.m., Kentucky State Police said. The cliff in Red River Gorge was 15 to 20 feet from their campsite, Sorrell said.

Bashaw's body wasn't recovered by Forestry Service officials until Saturday because his companions were unable to leave the campsite during the night, Sorrell said.

"They had to wait for daybreak to find a way down," she said. "Due to the terrain, it was impossible for them to hike out of there during the dark. It's very rough terrain."

Names of the companions couldn't be supplied, Kentucky police said.

Bashaw's father, Donald **Bashaw**, said his son was walking alone when he fell. His friends were in a cave, he said.

Donald **Bashaw** said his son was a member of the Boy Scouts and loved the outdoors.

"Apparently it was pretty rough terrain, but Corey and the boys liked to camp, and that's what they did best," the father said. "He loved the outdoors and his friends. He loved to camp."

The four arrived to the campsite Friday. **Bashaw** had planned to travel to Cincinnati on Sunday to visit the University of Cincinnati, which he planned to attend in the fall, Donald **Bashaw** said.

Corey **Bashaw** was enrolled in a transfer program at Columbus State Community College. He was a freshman and planned to study photojournalism, Donald **Bashaw** said.

Corey **Bashaw** was a member of Boy Scout Troop 113.

Mark Forster, 18, became friends with **Bashaw** while the two were students at Bishop Watterson High School, where they graduated in 1993.

Forster described **Bashaw** as a serious student who was extremely likable.

"He was a real nice guy. He was real quiet and soft-spoken. You couldn't dislike him," Forster said.

A memorial service is scheduled for Wednesday. The Rutherford-Corbin Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

The Associated Press contributed to this story.