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Josh Butts, Class of '01 IWU Student Selected for CNN Internship

BLOOMINGTON, Ill.--Josh Butts, an Illinois Wesleyan University junior history and English major from Mt. Zion, Ill., was recently selected to participate in a summer internship program with Cable News Network (CNN) in Atlanta, Ga.

Butts will work as a research reporter with "CNN & Time," a documentary-style news magazine show that serves as the network's premiere investigative unit. Butts' responsibilities will include developing story ideas and performing basic reporting skills such as phone interviews and background research. Butts' other responsibilities will include observing the CNN staff and attending seminars.

The Princeton Review's America's Top Internships rates CNN as one of the top internships in the nation for broadcast journalism.

"Obviously, I'm very excited and honored to be selected for an internship that is very selective and competitive," said Butts. "I hope the internship will open a lot of doors for my career."

The internship at CNN was made possible through Butts' research at IWU's Career Center. He reviewed a number of internship guides available at the IWU Career Center and submitted applications for various internships available to students interested in broadcast journalism. As a result, Butts also was selected as a finalist for internships with "CNN Headline News," "Larry King Live," the editing operation at CNN and the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, the organization responsible for the Emmys.

Butts is spending the academic year studying at Pembroke College in Oxford, England. Pembroke College is one of the 39 colleges that are a part of the University of Oxford.

Oxford's approach to education focuses on independent study rather than the traditional classroom approach used in the United States. Students pick their focus of study and meet with their tutor in their division once or twice weekly. At Oxford, the core of the work takes place in the tutorial sessions with emphasis placed on personal thoughts rather than tests.

Since 1997, 13 IWU students have studied at Pembroke as a part of a study-abroad program.

According to Butts, his academic experience at Pembroke College has developed his ability to skim through information, pick out the vital elements of the source and develop coherent ideas from wide-ranging research. Butts believes the development of the ability to conduct efficient research at Pembroke College will enable him to write news stories more effectively.

About Illinois Wesleyan University

IWU, founded in 1850, enrolls about 2,070 students in a College of Liberal Arts, and individual schools of Music, Theatre Arts, Art and Nursing. Since 1994, these facilities have been added to the IWU campus: a \$15 million athletics and recreation center, a \$25 million science center, a \$6.8 million residence hall, a \$5.1 million Center for Liberal Arts and a \$1.65 million baseball stadium. Construction is underway on a \$26 million library and \$6 million student center. Kiplinger's Personal Finance Magazine ranks Illinois Wesleyan University 12th among the nation's 1,600 private colleges in providing a top-quality education at an affordable cost. Also sharing IWU's rank are Princeton and Dartmouth.