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**Trumpeter to Herald
2010 Royal Court in the
Pasadena Tournament
of Roses Parade**

- Robert Ullrich's excellent trumpeting landed him a spot in the 2009 Rose Parade last year, and this year, he'll announce the Rose Queen and Royal Court.

- **Temple City High School senior, son of Customer Information Officer David Ullrich, chosen to march with Herald Trumpets in the 121st Rose Parade on New Year's Day**

By LAURA KLOTH
Staff Writer

(Oct. 27, 2009) Customer Information Officer David Ullrich remembers how his 17-year-old son Robert was introduced to music.



Robert was in 4th grade when Ullrich spotted a dusty old trumpet in a pawn shop selling for \$45. Deciding to purchase it, Ullrich figured if his young son lost interest later on, he wouldn't lose too much money.

Over the years, Robert began playing day-in and day-out and subsequently decided to join the Temple City High School Band.

"He loves it. He enjoys it. I've never had to force him to play it," said Ullrich.

Customer Information Officer David Ullrich, left, says son Robert will likely make music his career.

So it was no surprise that Robert was almost speechless this month, when he received a letter from Pasadena City

College Tournament of Roses Honor Band saying that he'd been selected to play with the Herald Trumpets in the 2010 Rose Bowl Parade.

"Congratulations," the letter read. "As a result of your outstanding audition, you have been selected to perform with the Herald Trumpets in the 2010 Tournament of Roses Parade. As a member of this group you become a part of a yearly tradition dating back 81 years."

The Herald Trumpets consist of nine musicians who play fanfare trumpets and a snare drummer announcing the arrival of the Rose Queen. More than 600 high school students audition every year for the 200 parade spots in the Tournament of Roses Honor Band with only 10 chosen for the Herald Trumpet unit.

The Herald Trumpets also get to perform at the Rose Queen breakfast in November and other Tournament of Roses events.

Robert auditioned last year and participated in the last parade as a band member.

Ullrich says his son is very excited about his top spot and, to prepare for it, he and other band members will be rehearsing on a daily basis during winter break, as well as every Sunday in November and December.

The band is expected to march some six miles down Colorado Boulevard on Jan. 1.

Today, Ullrich smiles when he remembers that dusty trumpet and how it led to Robert's passion for music and his plans to attend Cal State-Long Beach and finish up at USC. Robert was also recently nominated to become president of his high school band.

"It's turned into something where this is what he wants to do for a living," his father said.

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