



4-23-2020

## The Grizzly, April 23, 2020

Kevin Leon

Ellie LaFountain

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Kim Corona

Skylar Haas

*See next page for additional authors*

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**Authors**

Kevin Leon, Ellie LaFountain, Madison Rodak, Kim Corona, Skylar Haas, Jen Joseph, and Michael Stanziale

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# THE GRIZZLY

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## Keeping up in the quarantine

🕒 April 23, 2020 👤 Kevin Leon 📁 Features 💬 0



Photograph Courtesy of Kevin Leon

Ella LaFountain

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As Ursinus College approaches its fourth week of online classes and the shutdown of campus, it seemed like a good time to catch up with some of the most well-known members of the UC community.

During this time of quarantine, it is easy to get sucked into a social media spiral in which we see and assess what other people are up to. In many ways this can be a positive thing, as we can get ideas for new hobbies or recipes. However, in other ways this spiral can easily create a feeling of despair when one starts to compare themselves to others who might seem more productive during this time. Seeing that if this pandemic

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would have never happened, we would mostly be together, I decided that reaching out to Ursinus members to have a real conversation about what they are up to could bring readers at home a sense of familiarity, comfort and joy.

I reached out to some of Ursinus' most well-known members including students, professors and deans via email and prompted them to share a little bit about how they are handling the pandemic and what they are doing to stay busy. Obviously, different members have different things going on in their lives, just like each person reading this, but each of these people shares something Grizzly readers can relate to – they are part of the UC community! I hope that seeing and hearing about how others are coping might provide readers with some new ideas for their days or just a better understanding/awareness of how the Ursinus Community is continuing to persevere through this traumatic time!

To start, I'd like to shine some light on some graduating seniors. Their lives changed dramatically in many ways; however, Haley Sturla and Luke Nachazel did not let it get the best of them. Check out what they are up to below!

Haley Sturla: "So right now I accepted a full-time offer with a company that I currently intern for, in order to make some extra cash and to have job security I am interning with that company as well as taking classes at Ursinus. So one of the things is just going to meetings and doing work as a way to distract myself from the pandemic and to make me feel like I am accomplishing something while being stuck on a couch. When I start to go stir crazy, I typically go for a casual bike ride with my brother, take my dog for a walk with my dad, do yoga outside or break out the Wii Sports/Just Dance. Oh and of course I have been binge watching the Tiger King and All American."

Luke Nachazel: "After quickly packing up my dorm room and taking countless trips down the Reimert stairs, I had a very brief goodbye to Ursinus College. The next morning I proceed to drive 25 hours in a beat up Xterra back to Colorado. Since I have been home and been in quarantine, I have watched the new season of Ozark as well as Tiger King, two very different shows. I went to the local high school and jogged a few laps on the track and thought my legs might fall off. I now realize how much easier it is to run when you're surrounded by 40 other guys. I have been cooking some fun recipes and have failed at every baking attempt (I blame it on the elevation). I miss Ursinus every day and look forward to the next time I can enjoy a drink and some company in the Reimert Courtyard."

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The Canvas Commencement? April 2, 2020 Kevin Leon News 0 Photograph Courtesy of Kevin Leon Kim Corona [kicorona@ursinus.edu](mailto:kicorona@ursinus.edu) With the remainder of spring semester moved

Next, I talked to sophomore lacrosse player Christian Maienshein. He talks about his yearning to get back to school and his impressive ability to stay focused during this time.

Christian Maienshein: "I've been dealing with the quarantine by staying in contact with my teammates as much as I can and taking advantage of the great weather in Erdenheim, PA. The lack of distractions has made it pretty easy to get schoolwork done, but there is nothing I'm looking forward to more than getting back on campus next semester."

Lastly, let's take a look at how some of our faculty are dealing with the changes. I checked in with Chemistry Professor Dr. Danielle Klein and Dean of Students Missy Bryant to see how they were dealing with all the changes. They are both hard at work for the Ursinus students but have some great advice and information for readers too!

Danielle Klein: "I have been working too hard! What your email reminded me of is that I need to take breaks from my work and my news watching. More work is not better work. So I am going to be monitoring my time spent on work and make a focused effort to have some enjoyable activities planned as well. Some things that I enjoy doing is going for a run, but no time goals, just to stay healthy and get some different scenery. My kids and I are planning on doing some cooking together. We like to make banana chocolate chip muffins and this weekend will make a jello-cake for the holiday treat.

Hopefully you can write to encourage students, faculty, and staff to remember to take time for themselves. That it is not selfish and that it can improve productivity when you do work. You can set a timer to take 30 minutes for yourself. I also am going to be setting a timer for when work is finished in the evening. I need to get to bed sooner so that I can wake up sooner, too."

Missy Bryant: "In addition to my work on the Virus Task Force, I am lucky enough to be able to take walks on campus and enjoy the beauty it brings in the spring. (I have been joking that I am also doing free-lance photography for the Admission Instagram.) I have been running with Bear [her dog], taking Owen on a 5:00 PM walk daily, and enjoying *Hillbilly Elegy* by J.D. Vance. I have to also begrudgingly disclose that I gave in and binge-watched *Tiger King*. I miss you all so much!"

Ursinus members continue to be resilient and strong during this hardship. The one thing each member interviewed had in common as for many others in the community is the love they have for Ursinus College and the

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pain that they are feeling by being away from campus. In closing, stay strong and go Bears!



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## The Career and Post-Graduate Development office adjusts to online campus

🕒 April 23, 2020 👤 Kevin Leon 📁 Features 💬 0



Photograph Courtesy of Rob Varney

Madison Rodak

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The Career and Post-Graduate Development (CPD) office has been sending out weekly newsletters via email to the entire student body in which students can find upcoming events, links to make appointments with Career Advisors, and other helpful resources. Michele Poruban, Associate Director of the CPD, explained that these newsletters are sent

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out each Monday; some of the newsletters may focus on a different class year as a way to give advice to different classes.

The adjustment to holding virtual meetings has been an interesting experience for Michele Poruban and Amy Brink, Assistant Director of the CPD. At first, some appointments were held over Zoom. However, the CPD has since mostly transitioned to GoToMeeting and Skype. In talking about using Skype to meet with students, Poruban explained, "That was something we used previously anyway, especially if we were meeting with students who were doing study abroad."

Poruban and Brink discussed how grateful they are that they can still meet with students virtually. "The best part of our days is meeting with students, so still being able to do that virtually has been a blessing," Poruban said. Brink said that the students themselves are also to thank for the possibility of these virtual appointments, since students are technologically savvy.

Now that campus has acclimated to a virtual environment, Brink wants students to know that the CPD is here to help with job searches, internships, and to answer questions. "I think for students to know that we are here and available and also doing work behind the scenes [such as] webinars, essentially trying to keep up with what's going on out there in terms of the job market, what's going on in terms of virtual internships, so that we can be up to date and provide current information," Brink said.

The CPD has also been hosting Employer in Residences, where students can meet with employers through GoToMeeting. Poruban explained, "Normally what would happen with the employer in residence is that the employer would come into our office and students would be able to meet one-on-one in one of our offices, so again that was very easy to transition to a GoToMeeting." Poruban added, "We've still had students take advantage of those so that's been wonderful."

If you are interested in meeting with a CPD Career Advisor, you can sign up for an appointment on Handshake. You can also email [career@ursinus.edu](mailto:career@ursinus.edu) if you have any questions.



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## New UCSG president elected

🕒 April 24, 2020 👤 Kevin Leon 📁 News 💬 0



Photograph Courtesy of Kevin Leon

Kim Corona

kicorona@ursinus.edu

Last week, the Ursinus College Student Government announced the new student body president for the next academic year.

Sophomore and Political Science major Jalen Everette rose to the top as students' preferred candidate to serve the college's community.

For Everette, a driving factor for running in the race was hearing from students who voiced their complaints to him about issues Ursinus needed to improve on. Due to the relatively small campus size, Everette explained how he was able to foster new relationships with not just the

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student body but with administration as well. It wasn't until he understood this that he knew he could help these concerned students and let them be heard.

Many newly elected presidents tend to focus on issues they believe are vital for the growth of the institution. As a student, Everette saw two issues he believes the college needs to continue to work on, the judicial system and negative culture on campus, specifically students' belief about the administration being out of touch.

"The Judicial process needs to be reformed to where we have a clear layout of the process and what unbiased options students have going through the process. I also saw the culture around campus was negative because students feel the administration is out of touch and not supporting the students. I know personally that a lot of administration supports the students so how can we build better relationships between students and administration so that this culture isn't being passed down to the next class," Everette said.

During his presidency, Everette hopes to make crucial changes to students' assumptions about the administration along with promoting the college's positive attributes to produce better student involvement.

"The Ursinus experience is what you make it and if I can aid people to make their experience what they want, I have done part of my job," he said.

Everette discussed his plan to bridge the gap between the groups, through collaboration and support from both parties.

"We can find the solutions to the relevant issues both sides want to see," he said.

Everette is optimistic about the future.

"As advertised on the Ursinus webpage, 'College isn't all lectures, labs, and libraries,' so it's one thing to promote this but how can follow through efficiently on these advertisements. Also, we have seen life is unpredictable and needs change over time, so I want to be able to adapt to these challenging circumstances to accomplish things people want to see in the midst of life's unpredictability," he said.

For many minority students, Everette's win is a great deal as he's one of the first people of color to hold the title. However, he believes it's a success for all students.

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“I am the Student Body President so I must represent the entirety of the campus. I feel all students should see this as a win because I have tried to build many relationships around campus with people personally in the hope they feel comfortable with me to voice some problems they want to be fixed around campus. I am proud that many minority students around campus see this as the beginning of a new change and I will work to make sure I fulfill the change that minority students want to see,” he said.

Everette closed off with this message for students. “The experience you get at Ursinus is what you make it and the best way to get the most out of your experience is having your ideas heard so they may be instituted. I urge all students to reach out to me or my team of the executive board to see the changes people want to see,” he said.

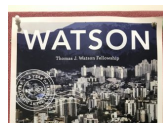


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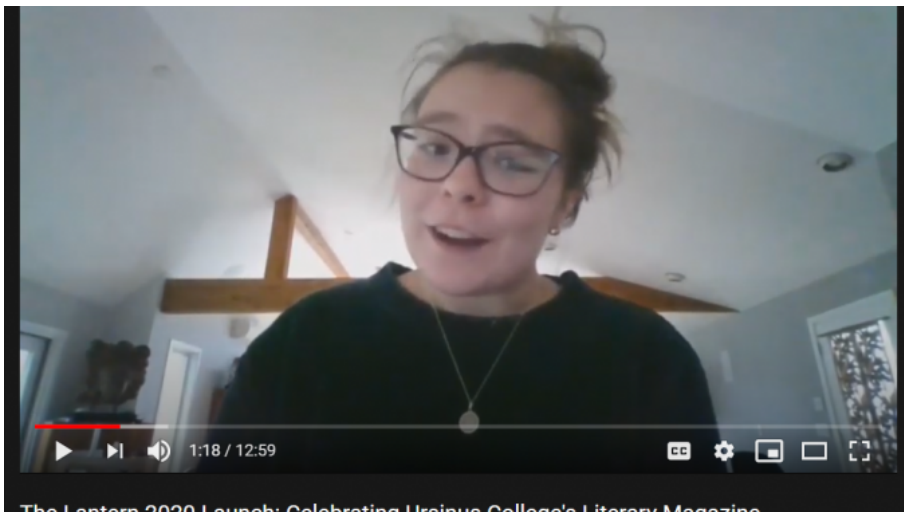
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## Student literary magazine, The Lantern, launches online

🕒 April 23, 2020 👤 Kevin Leon 📁 News 💬 0



The Lantern 2020 Launch: Celebrating Ursinus College's Literary Magazine  
Lantern Editor Nicole Kosar, Photograph Courtesy of Kevin Leon

Skylar Haas

skhaas@ursinus.edu

Ursinus' student literary magazine, The Lantern, is released each year in the spring. The debut of the 2020 Lantern was different than in the past.

This past week, senior and editor of The Lantern Nicole Kosar went live on YouTube for the launch of the magazine. She started it off by stating, "This year was cut short for us. Seniors and underclassmen alike mourn the loss of our last months on campus, of our graduation. After years of frantic essay writing and drunken philosophical conversations, of

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laughing until we cried and crying until we laughed, of best friends and perhaps a few enemies... after years of growing and changing, our last few weeks are gone. Our last chance to say goodbye is gone. But this is the 2020 issue of The Lantern. This is our goodbye, our hello, and anything else we may want to say to the school, our friends, or the world.”

The idea of doing a virtual launch was the idea of a couple of people. Kosar says, “We wanted to find a way to celebrate the completion of this year’s Lantern. We always do a launch party where we announce the prize winners and everyone gets a chance to read their piece. This year, Dr. Volkmer and I were throwing around ideas about a virtual launch and how it would work.”

The virtual launch of the magazine consisted of some special appearances by prize winners reading aloud the work that they had published in this year’s edition. Viewers of the launch were happy with the idea of launching The Lantern virtually this year due to circumstances caused by COVID-19. One user commented, “Super excited for this!”

Kosar said, “I contacted the prize winners to ask if they wanted to read their winning pieces. They each sent a video to Dr. McShane, as did myself, Dr. Volkmer, and the Doleman Prize winner Jen Joseph. I made some advertisements that circulated emails and the English Department’s site, and Dr. McShane put all the videos together and posted it on her YouTube account. Additionally, I sent the online copy of the finished Lantern to Andy Prock, who then put it on the Library Commons where anyone can view it for free and where it will be archived for anyone to read in years to come.”

English professor Kara McShane, added, “The YouTube premiere was designed to make it interactive, so our contributors and community could celebrate together while apart.”

The first prize winner to read their work was Jeremy Moyer. He is the winner of the Prose Prize. He read his work titled, “The Light in the Sky.”

Then, Poetry Prize winner and first-year student Colleen Murphy, read her piece titled, “Cochlea, Greek for Snail.”

Junior Adam Mlodzinski, the winner of the Creager Prize, read his piece next titled, “Overview Effect.”

Lastly, the 2020 Dolman Prize winner was announced by Jon Wilkmer. It was awarded to senior Jenifer Joseph, with the runner-up being Maddy

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Rodak.

The launch ended with Jenifer Joseph reading the sonnet that won her the Dolman Prize, titled, "Christmas Glove."

A physical copy of The Lantern will be available to students, staff and faculty in the fall. In the meantime, the 2020 issue of The Lantern can be found at <https://digitalcommons.ursinus.edu/lantern/>.



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## Tiger King and the Spectacle of the Redneck

🕒 April 23, 2020 👤 Kevin Leon 📁 Features 💬 0



Jen Joseph

[jejoseph@ursinus.edu](mailto:jejoseph@ursinus.edu)

Like I'm sure many of you, I spent last week binging the 8-part series called Tiger King. The series is about internet celebrity, tiger zoo owner, queer magician, and 2016 presidential candidate Joe Exotic. And that sentence barely scratches the surface of what this documentary has to offer.

There are so many things to say on this series, and I highly encourage anyone reading this to watch it. It's one hell of a ride.

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However, I wanted to bring up something that concerned me when I was seeing the way the characters (aka real life human beings) were being portrayed in the documentary. Something didn't sit right with me about the presentation of these Oklahoma natives talking about their (admittedly outlandish) line of work.

Then it hit me. They were painting them as white trash.

Now, the term "white trash" has its own issues (for more on this, read [this NPR article](#)), but for now I want to focus exclusively on what this means in terms of class differences in the United States.

To put it simply, one of the big stereotypes we see about working class communities in states like Oklahoma or Kentucky is that they are poor, uneducated, filthy, or otherwise less "civilized" than middle class Americans. In a way, the people in these impoverished communities probably feel like they're being treated like, for lack of a better word, animals.

One might hope that a documentary such as Tiger King might dispel some of these stereotypes, but instead it digs into them.

Joe's ex-husband John Finley is portrayed in the series with no shirt and only a couple of his teeth left. We find out in episode 8, the recent follow-up interview episode hosted by Community's Joe McHale, that Finley actually had a perfectly good set of false teeth that they TOLD him not to wear.

Similarly, Saff, a trans man who lost his arm to a tiger while working on Joe's zoo, was portrayed as a lesbian woman and repeatedly misgendered by both Joe's dialogue AND the documentary itself. While Saff himself doesn't seem to mind this creative decision, I think it speaks a lot to the assumptions of the directors and the story they wanted to tell. Was it possible that Saff being a trans man didn't fit into the vision the directors had for this type of character in the hillbilly land of Joe Exotic and company?

It's scary that it's easy to overlook these small decisions if you're not paying attention. Documentaries tend to be taken at face value, but even more objective documentaries (which this one absolutely is not) still have a tendency to "code" people in particular character types using tone, music, clothing, or even shirtlessness. These bizarre characters are a whole lot easier to other when they're in a different social and class strata to the typical Netflix watcher.

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As a contrasting example, Doc Antle, whose crimes are probably worse than anyone else's in the documentary, barely gets any screentime or attention paid to him. Why might that be? Again, this is all speculative, but I get the sense that Antle's middle class origins and status made him seem a lot more boring from a director's perspective, and they didn't want to bother. It could be any number of factors, but I can't help but notice that the ways the characters in the docuseries are treated by the camera has a whole lot to do with how "trashy" the directors can make them appear to be.

In sum, I want to warn anyone who plans to watch Tiger King to be wary of the story being told. It's easy to look down upon those with a different upbringing, but it's important to remember that love and compassion should extend to every kind of person, not just the folks with all their teeth. Stories are fun when you're along for the ride, but they get even more fun when you dig deeper and find a bone or two.



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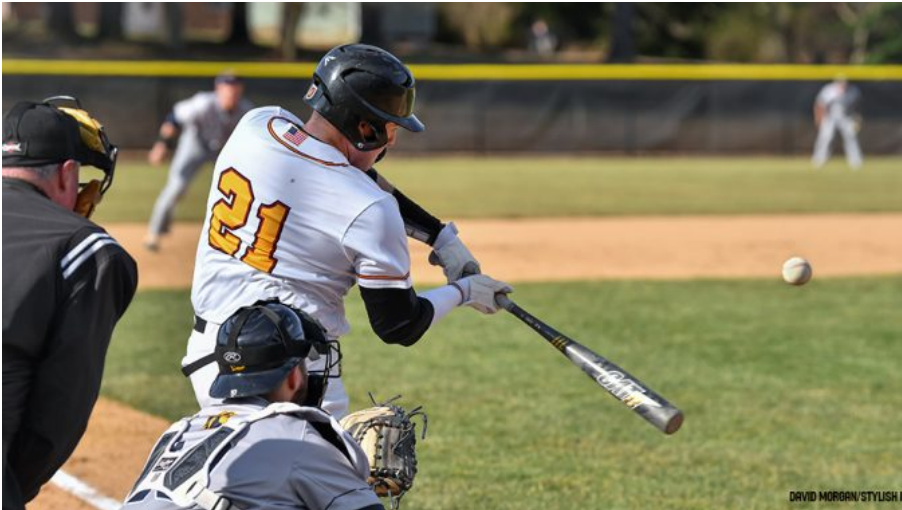
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## “Now batting for the Ursinus College Bears, number 21, Alex Mumme.”

🕒 April 23, 2020 👤 Kevin Leon 📁 Sports 💬 0



Photograph Courtesy of David Morgan

Michael Stanziale

mistanziale@ursinus.edu

Mumme steps into the box for his first at-bat of his final year for the Bears. Last year as a junior, Mumme was named first-team All-American and looks to maintain his status of being one of the best outfielders in the country. Here we go folks; the pitcher gets the sign and gets set. Here's the wind up and the pitch and ... the season is over.

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One of the most prolific players to ever step on the campus in Collegetown was set to lead his team to their first Centennial Conference championship since 2000. On top of this, Mumme was on pace to set records that had a chance to last until his children had children. But it was all for naught. Covid-19 took the world by storm and forced everyone in their homes for the unforeseeable future. Life has changed drastically for Mumme, but regardless, Alex Mumme is one of the greatest athletes in Ursinus College's history.

It was spring break, and the Bears were on their annual trip to Florida to get ready for their season. The Bears were winning a lot down in the Sunshine State, enjoying the weather and some good baseball. As the days pass, there was some chatter among coaches that something may happen to the season, but the players and coaches tried not to pay attention to the outside noise and just continued to play baseball. It was their second off day; Coach Exeter called a meeting for whoever was on site at the hotel. He broke the news: season is over, but they will play all of the remaining games they have down there.

Mumme was not on site and missed the meeting. He received news from fellow seniors about what had just happened. "I was in complete disbelief. It's as if I was in a bad dream and was just waiting to wake up," said the senior outfielder. "I was at a loss of words and still somewhat am. I've never cried so much before. This team was going to do something special, but there is nothing we can do about it. It is important that everyone stays home and stays safe so we can get back to our normal lives."

Even with his senior campaign cut short, Mumme already etched his name in the Ursinus history books. He was in first place for career home runs, second in RBI (one behind the leader), second in hits (29 hits away from first and 31 from 200), first in career runs scored, fourth in career on-base percentage, first in career doubles, first in career slugging percentage, fourth and fifth in single season batting average, tied for first in single season hits, first in single season home runs, first in single season runs which he led the nation in last year, first and second in single season doubles, and finally, first in single season runs batted in.

Mumme just about broke the record for almost every offensive category, but the ones that will stick with him the most are the career hits and RBI record. "I knew I was close. I don't try to go out there and break records. I do whatever I can to help the team" said Mumme, "If I break records along the way, great. I just want to win."

## Tweets by @UrsinusGrizzly



**Ursinus Grizzly**  
@UrsinusGrizzly



Softball player Heather Lazer '21 had her historic start cut [shortursinusgrizzly.com/lazer-start-cu...](https://shortursinusgrizzly.com/lazer-start-cu...)



Apr 14, 2020



**Ursinus Grizzly**  
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Ursinus outlined it's decision on reimbursements for room and board [costsursinusgrizzly.com/ursinus-announ...](https://costsursinusgrizzly.com/ursinus-announ...)



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There will be a virtual commencement this May

### **The Canvas Commencement? – The Grizzly**

[ursinusgrizzly.com](https://ursinusgrizzly.com)

The Canvas Commencement? April 2, 2020 Kevin Leon News 0 Photograph Courtesy of Kevin Leon Kim Corona [kicorona@ursinus.edu](mailto:kicorona@ursinus.edu) With the remainder of spring semester moved

Mumme finished his career with a .386 average, .444 on-base percentage, and a .737 slugging. He accumulated 169 hits over his four years, averaging 52 hits per season, which would have shattered the hits record and made him the only player in Ursinus history to achieve 200 hits. On top of this, he hit 58 doubles, 3 triples, 30 home runs, 113 RBI's, 43 walks, a staggering 106 strikeouts, and 10 stolen bases in 110 games played.

Yes, Mumme played Division 3 baseball, but these types of careers do not happen often at this level. He was also 52 games shy of playing a full 162 game MLB season. Let's compare Mumme to 2019 AL MVP Mike Trout. Mike Trout, of the Los Angeles Angels is considered the best player in baseball. He played 134 games last season and put up career numbers. He hit .291 with a .438 on-base and .645 slugging. He had 137 hits, 27 doubles, 2 triples, 45 home runs and 104 RBIs. Trout played more games and had more at-bats, and Mumme blew his numbers out of the water.

Mumme's ability to do damage made him one of the most feared hitters in the conference. Senior pitcher Tommy Koide of Dickinson college, who was a first-team all-conference pitcher last year, had high praise for Mumme. "I grew up playing with and against Mumme. When I learned I was going to have to play against him in college, I was not thrilled. He is easily one of the best hitters I have ever had to pitch to. I never wanted to throw him a strike."

Baseball is all that Mumme has ever known. It is his life, but now, his life has been taken away from him without him being able to put up a fight. What is next now for Mumme? "You know, I am not sure. I am looking at going to a tryout held by the Phillies. I know that I was granted another year of eligibility, but I haven't put much thought into it. All of this is still hurting."

Whatever is next for Mumme, whether it is going back to school, trying to make a pro club, or acclimating himself to normal civilian life, he will be remembered as the GOAT. The greatest Bear of all time.

"Now batting for the Bears #21 Alex Mumme." Mumme stepping in for his final first at-bat of his college career, looking to continue the success of last season. The pitcher gets the sign, gets set. Here's the wind-up and the pitch and ...



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