

Staff Publications

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## Balancing Act

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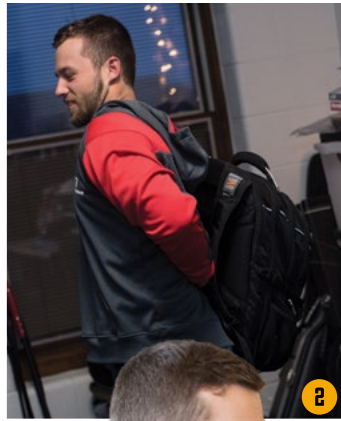
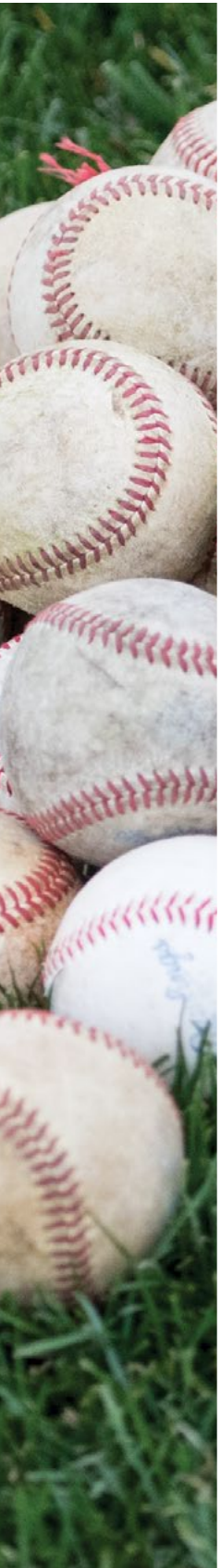
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# BALANCING ACT

PHOTO FEATURE BY SCOTT HUCK

Cedarville student-athletes lead very active lives. Not only do they give their all as members of their Yellow Jacket team, they also must keep up with the rigorous course load of a Cedarville education. For fall 2016, Cedarville men's teams scored a cumulative GPA of 3.221, and the women's teams 3.508. This academic year, the NCAA honored Cedarville as one of 26 Division II schools in the country to earn its prestigious Presidents' Award for Academic Excellence. Yellow Jackets left fielder Gunnar Stinson '18, a business management major, exemplifies the kind of balance Cedarville athletes maintain between academics, faith, and sports. Follow him as he navigates a day in his busy athletic and student career.



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- 1 It's probably 6:50 a.m. and I'm doing a quick rundown in my head, thinking about what I'm going to do that day.
- 2 Heading out the door at 7 a.m. for breakfast. I keep all my books in there, minus one, so my backpack is heavy!
- 3 Walking out of Brock Hall with my roommate, Ben Luckhof '19, an international student. His parents are missionaries in the Philippines. We usually grab breakfast a couple times a week.
- 4 I usually have my devotions at breakfast. Right now, I'm reading Ezekiel. I've really been struck by the paradox of God's mercy and wrath.
- 5 On Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, I don't have class till 1, so I normally catch up or get ahead in my classes. I study in either the Stevens Student Center, like I was this day, or the library.
- 6 I usually sit with the same group in chapel, a mix of volleyball and baseball players and athletic trainers. Dr. White spoke that day on letting your yes be yes, and your no be no. Better to under promise and over deliver, than over promise and have to ask for an extension and forgiveness.
- 7 I have accountability with Adam Southerland, Resident Director at Brock, once a week at lunch. He'll ask how life is going, what I'm reading in the Word, and how my reading impacts what I'm doing. I'll ask him about issues I'm facing, and he'll offer scriptural and personal advice. We go through everything.
- 8 I met with my Principles of Organization and Management instructor, Professor John LeBlanc. My group is doing a presentation, but we needed to move our time because of a baseball game. Professor LeBlanc is also my academic adviser.
- 9 This is right before batting practice, when I go into the cage. I work on having a short swing so I get to the ball quickly. I also work on hitting the inside of the baseball so I can drive it to the opposite field or up the middle.
- 10 I play left field. During practice, we take ground balls to the middle, left, and right; then Coach Kip will hit us line drives, and we work on fly balls. I work on my route to the baseball, being in a good throwing position once I've caught the ball, and getting behind the ball so I have extra momentum to throw the ball in with quickness and authority.
- 11 After practice we always circle up with Coach Manes and pray together.
- 12 Hanging out with Danielle Wolgamot '18, a pitcher on the softball team. She's dating my friend and teammate Marc Russell '18. A group of us study together regularly in the library. The library is my second home.



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