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Cedars, September 2017

Cedarville University

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CEDARS

The Award Winning Student News Publication of Cedarville University

September 2017



CEDARVILLE BUILDS NEWS STUDIO TO EXPAND STUDENTS' ELECTRONIC MEDIA CAPABILITIES

ALSO INSIDE:

Analysis: Trump's role discussed as racial tensions rise following protests in Charlottesville, Virginia...



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Cover: Design by Jen Yosinski, Photo by Naomi Harward.
Page Designs by: Jen Yosinski, Nathan Overlock, Tasha Peterson and Kimberly Acevedo.

BEOC

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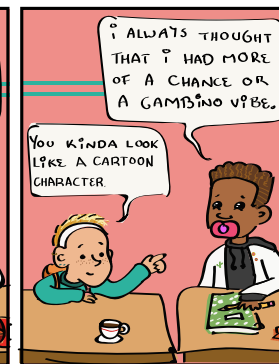
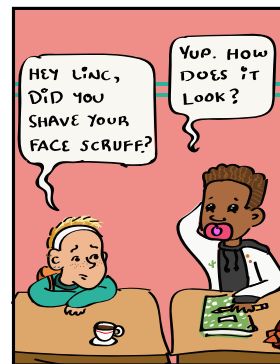


By Abigail Wisser



To see more of these comics, go to ReadCedars.com

Toast



By Berkeley Benson

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Keegan D'Alfonso
Editor-in-Chief



Rebekah Erway
Campus news



Paolo Carrion
Arts and Entertainment



Alexandria Hentschel
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Just Sayin' ... Alex Hentschel

A Day Without Caffeine

How I destroyed every relationship I have and nearly failed a class

Relationship status between Alex and Coffee: It's complicated. "Complicated" meaning that I both love and hate my caffeine. Love, because it makes me bubbly, cheerful and productive. Love, because a good latte tastes like it's brewed by a chorus of harp-strumming angels. Hate, because without it, I turn into a mascara-streaked monster with a migraine. Hate, because about 50 percent of my discretionary budget goes to cold brews and dirty chais.



I evaluated our relationship and decided we needed a break. We were becoming too attached. Everywhere we went, we went together. The old spark of joy and delight had dulled. We were only together because it would be far more painful to split up.

So I made a vow: coffee and I would spend 24 entire hours apart to see if a long-term break was in our best interests. If one day without coffee seems a little pathetic, I assure you that that's about what I can handle at this point in my addiction. I documented this experience of withdrawal for my "pro-con" list and for your entertainment.

8:22 a.m., Hour 1: I wake up for my 9 a.m. class, angry (as always) that I convinced myself into taking a morning class. I remember and regret binging "The Good Place" for six hours last night. I pick up a mug and my almond milk. I drop the k-cup into the machine. I am about to press brew when I remember my vow. I lament all things done and undone, said and unsaid.

10:30 a.m., Hour 3: During chapel, tears of exhaustion are leaking from my eyes. I have to keep wiping my face with a Kleenex, looking as though I am deeply moved by the speaker. It is mildly embarrassing.

Noon., Hour 4: Someone — a very small monkey, perhaps — is smashing through my frontal lobe with a hammer. I am angry at this monkey yet too exhausted to muster up the strength to tell it to buzz off. I try to pay attention in my politics class, but the monkey is distracting. I successfully walk past Rinnova. My footsteps slow, as though pulled by a magnet, but I resist temptation. I am ridiculously proud of myself.

2 p.m., Hour 6: I am eating with a friend in Chucks and she tells me that I look "tired" today. I want to giggle hysterically, but repress the urge. I tell her that I'm writing an article about withdrawing from my coffee addiction. She says, "How about tea?" A 1,000-megawatt lightbulb of revelation blazes over my head for a moment. I think — yes! — I can relieve this torment.

2:10 p.m., Hour 6.2: After a moment of bliss, I feel bad — drinking black tea would deceive my readers. With a heavy heart, I drink raspberry tea instead — no caffeine content. It tastes like a fruity lie.

6 p.m., Hour 10: The caffeine headaches have passed, and the world has descended into absurdist delirium. Every friend who stops to talk to me is confused by my dead-eyed stare and guttural, one-word responses — usually I'm on my second caffeine kick at this point in the day and full of energy. I get a lot of, "Are you OK?" Who really knows, at this point? Are any of us OK? What is "OK?"

9 p.m., Hour 13: I am so tired I can barely keep my eyes open. I trip up the Maddox stairs and flop, like a thrown backpack, onto my bed. I write one line of my economics assignment, and . . . sleep.

And, 9 a.m., Hour 25: I brew myself a gigantic mug of coffee. It tastes like a 100 percent mid-term grade and feels like a warm sweater.

After an objective evaluation, coffee and I have been found inextricable. There's nothing like the first mug of the day. However, after doing some research into the health detriments of drinking coffee, I've cut back to two cups a day, a healthy caffeine limit. In fact, a moderate amount of coffee is beneficial to heart health.

I apologized to every friend I spoke to during my withdrawal, and I scrambled to finish my assignment that I'd fallen asleep on top of the night before. Thankfully, they forgave me, and I managed to pull it together and save my grade. It was a close call, and I won't be attempting to break up with caffeine again anytime soon. We're better together. As I write this, I'm drinking a honey latte — and I have no regrets.

Alexandria Hentschel is a sophomore International Studies and Spanish double major and the Off-Campus news editor for Cedars. She enjoys old books, strong coffee, and honest debate.



What did God teach you this summer?

David Carter
SGA Chaplain



God and I had a lot of alone time this summer. It was a wonderful opportunity to walk with Him continually reminded of the power of prayer and depth of my dependence upon Him.

I came face to face with my insufficiencies as a leader, preacher, student, friend, son, etc., but as I turned to God, his patience and power displayed the glory that would be more than enough for me.

I made so many plans that I thought were the best for me, but God lovingly told me again and again that it's not about me.

Sermon preparation went way differently than I thought it would. I had so many plans to have every sermon written before I came to school, but God showed me I wasn't paying attention to my current ministry opportunities while I was at home.

I thought my job was going to keep me busy, but God showed me how much I needed rest and peace before another year of hard work. Even my recent engagement plan got turned upside down (she still said yes, though!). I learned a lot of lessons simply by working on an often forgotten discipline in my life — listening in prayer.

My summer might not have gone according to my ideals, but God wanted me to listen. He has better plans than I do, and His glory is always better than mine!

PHOTO



CedarFest 2017

Dr. White joins the Cedarville Women's Volleyball team handing out candy at the annual CedarFest Parade on Labor Day.

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Meet the Staff {editors}



Keegan D'Alfonso
Editor-in-Chief

Keegan is a junior journalism major. He was a sergeant in the Marines and has a passion for intercultural communication.



Naomi Harward
Photography Editor

Naomi Harward is a senior journalism major. She is an avid photographer who loves writing, the outdoors, and people-watching.



Callahan Jones
Digital & Design Editor

Callahan is a junior journalism major. In his free time, he enjoys making coffee, collecting headphones and playing games with friends.



Alex Hentschel
Off-Campus News Editor

Alex is a sophomore international studies and Spanish double major. She enjoys old books, strong coffee, and honest debate.



Paolo Carrion
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Paolo is a sophomore journalism major. He enjoys drinking hot chocolate, reading comic books and making animal crackers watch as he devours their family.



Rebekah Erway
Campus News Editor

Rebekah is a senior Christian education major. She enjoys odd numbers, Oxford commas, and speaking in a British accent.



Tim Miller
Sports Editor

Tim is a sophomore marketing major. He enjoys having a baby face, sipping Dunkin Donuts coffee and striving to be the optimal combination of Dwight Schrute and Ron Swanson.

{creatives}



Kimberly Acevedo

Designer

Kimberly is a freshman pharmacy major. She enjoys drinking coffee, listening to Salsa music and loves being outdoors.



Jen Yosinski

Designer

Jen is a junior industrial design major. She excels at finding ways to get things for free and losing games of Magic: The Gathering.



Nathan Overlock

Designer

Nathan is a senior professional writing and information design major. He spends most of his day reading books and playing with his foster dogs from 4 Paws for Ability.



Tasha Peterson

Designer

Tasha is a junior visual communication design major. She can usually be found obsessing over cute animals, enjoying nature, or dyeing her hair.



Abigail Wisser

Comic Artist

Abigail is a junior English major. She loves Kate Beaton's comics, seltzer water, and hearing about your day. She hopes to become a proud cat mom sometime soon.



Berkeley Benson

Comic Artist

Berkeley is a senior information design major. She owns a charming hedgehog mug and an actual (less charming) hedgehog named Penderwick.



Erica Zichi

Videographer

Erica is a sophomore broadcasting and digital media major. She is passionate about exceptional camera angles, music and worship, and adventure.

New Horizons

Cedarville's new newsroom offers profesional opportunities to students, helps market university



Photo by Naomi Harward

Shawn Rifner, studio and technology manager for CU's Department of Communication and supervisor of the newsroom project, experiences what it's like to be on the other side of the camera.

by *Rebekah Erway*

Multiple departments of Cedarville University have partnered to build an on-campus newsroom which offers students, and the university as a whole, new opportunities.

Located in Library 022, the newsroom has a green screen, two studio cameras, a 14-channel recording mixer, studio lighting and more. The new room offers the ability to do live reports on news programs at local TV stations with interviews with faculty experts.

Previously, interviews set up by the marketing and public relations departments with local news companies were pre-recorded elsewhere on campus or live at the TV

stations. Now, all parts of the video production process can take place on-campus and live when needed.

"For a school our size, I don't know of another school that has a newsroom, especially one that's going to be as high end as ours," said Mark Weinstein, executive director of public relations and overseer of the newsroom.

Doing live and recorded interviews enable Cedarville to gain more visibility, Weinstein said.

The first use of the newsroom happened on Sept. 12 when Dr. Mark Caleb Smith, chair of the Department of History and Government and director of the Center for Political Studies, was interviewed remotely by WHIO-TV in Dayton for a story

about the Dayton mayoral race.

News outlets regularly ask Weinstein for experts to comment on issues such as North Korea, the police shooting in Dayton, and DACA.

On an issue such as the police shooting, Weinstein could place Dr. Patrick Oliver, director of the criminal justice program and former police chief, in the newsroom, and connect him with TV outlets from around the world who could then ask him questions directly. Weinstein's team would record the interview, edit it, and email it to the media. This technique enables Cedarville to deal with and distribute to multiple news stations at a time.

"I'm looking forward to the day when I put any faculty member who can comment

on a story in the newsroom and they're talking with CNN in the morning and FOX news in the afternoon and ABC News at night," Weinstein said. "I think it's going to happen, and I look forward to that day."

Weinstein also said that the room is an obvious next step to where the university's PR has been advancing. Over the past few years, Cedarville faculty have often shared their expertise with the media.

"We have put our footprint in current events with media in Ohio and throughout the United States," Weinstein said. "And as a result of that, I think a lot of people have come together with the idea that this was a good idea."

Numerous sources mentioned that the interdepartmental collaborative aspects of

the newsroom are some of the most exciting.

“It’s not just a public relations initiative, it’s a campus-wide initiative that’s been bought in by a lot of people,” Weinstein said.

The marketing and PR department’s major partner on the newsroom project was the Department of Communication. The newsroom will be both a PR production room and a learning lab for students.

Derrick Green, chair of the Department of Communication, partnered with Dr. Janice Supplee, vice president for Marketing and Communications, on blending the marketing and academic aspects of the newsroom. Most of the videos produced will be used for the university’s PR, but student-workers will be doing the actual producing.

“They are the production managers, they are the ones running the studio,” Supplee said. “If we go in there, there’s going to be a student there.”

Green described how the room seemed like a “very natural partnership” between the two departments.

“Our public relations courses will get an up-close and personal look at what it’s like to do PR from the University’s perspective,” Green said.

The newsroom offers key additions to a broadcasting and digital media or journalism major’s resumé. Green explained how the new room will provide opportunities for job experience, practicums, and possible internships. Comm students will also have the ability to gain hands-on experience earlier in their program. These opportunities are more than just classroom projects, Green explained.

“These are actual newsroom situations that are going to reflect Cedarville University to an external audience,” he said.

Green said his and the Comm. faculty’s main roles with the newsroom will be to help create practicum, internship and other opportunities that can offer academic credit for students and to identify students with the capability to be hired for various positions in the newsroom. Shawn Rifner, technical supervisor, manages the student workers.

While the creation of the newsroom was a joint effort, with starting concepts coming

from a variety of departments, Rifner and Mark Tucker, campus videographer, recognized the need for a video studio on campus for the communication, marketing and PR departments to share. Before, communication had a room where students could view already produced content but not a space where they could shoot videos.

“We had a need for the videographer of the comm department to have a space, a dedicated space,” Rifner said.

Tucker took the idea to the marketing and PR departments, who agreed to partner with the comm department. Other departments on campus, including the Center for Political Studies and School of Business, participated financially. Supplee acted as facilitator for the project. Supplee wrote a proposal for the newsroom and took the plan to the university’s cabinet, which includes President Dr. Thomas White.

“[White] was totally on board from the beginning and has seen the value,” Supplee said. “Once he had the proposal, he actually said ‘I think we need to put some more resources toward it’ and we said, ‘thank you.’”

Supplee was also involved in finding a space for the room. The Centennial Library was “wholeheartedly supportive,” Supplee said, offering the use of lower-level office space near the curriculum materials center.

After the project was approved in May, construction began in August and the room opened August 29.

When the studio begins regularly producing content, Rifner said the team hopes to produce daily content, including 30-60 second news commentaries by professors on recent events to send to local news stations.

Other content produced by the room could range from discussions with the Bereans at the Gate, live interviews of professors by CNN or local media, an intro to Dr. White’s sermon series, or perhaps a president’s podcast. Cedars, the school newspaper, will also have the opportunity to use the room for video or audio podcasts for its website ReadCedars.com. Overall, the media produced by the room will have a content focus.

“It’s not like the university video where

we’re going to be out on campus and people are talking and we’re trying to get them in their scene. This is more of people sitting on a stool sitting at a desk, sharing information,” Supplee said. “This is going to be very information-focused, news-focused.”

Supplee mentioned that students and faculty can offer content-based video suggestions to the marketing and PR department. The idea would then move up through the department and an approval process headed up by Weinstein, who will be in charge of the newsroom overall.

While the general student body will have limited to no access to the newsroom, the room demonstrates the academic quality which is part of the school’s overall reputation, which benefits the student body as a whole.

“If I’m a senior at Cedarville University, I want to be sure that my degree is worth something, and a big piece of that is academic quality and the ability to get a job,”

Supplee said. “This is going to be a big deal for the Department of Communication students.”

Supplee also commented that the PR materials created in the room will get the word out about Cedarville and perhaps recruit more students, which helps the university stay healthy. The materials produced from the room will also have a Gospel impact, as each faculty member interviewed will ground their expertise in a biblical worldview. Overall, the newsroom opens a variety of new avenues to promote Cedarville and promote Christ.

“I’m excited about the impact for our students, excited about the impact for our university,” Green said. “I’m very anxious to get down there and get this off the ground.”

Rebekah Erway is a senior Christian education major and Campus News editor for Cedars. She enjoys odd numbers, Oxford commas, and speaking in a British accent.



Photo by Naomi Harward

The new newsroom will allow student workers to conduct live recordings of interviews that can be carried live on local news programs.

Trustees Approve Concealed Carry Policy

Editor's note: This is an updated version of the story that was published online at ReadCedars.com on May 9.

by Callahan Jones

Cedarville University's board of trustees approved a new concealed carry policy during its summer meetings.

The policy, a first among Ohio colleges, "authorizes the President to grant permission to faculty, staff, and trustees with concealed carry licenses to carry a concealed handgun on campus under approved terms and/or conditions consistent with state law."

In March, Ohio became one of 24 states to allow universities to decide whether concealed carry permits should be allowed on campus. The policy was finalized over the summer by the university president and board of trustees and went into effect on Aug. 1.

"The process to bring a concealed carry

proposal to our board for consideration was handled carefully, with significant input and dialogue, and always keeping the safety of our campus community as the highest priority," Dr. Thomas White, Cedarville University's president, said in a statement. "We weighed all of the issues very carefully to ensure we were moving in the best direction for Cedarville."

To receive permission to conceal carry on campus, a full-time faculty or staff member of the school must go through an application process which includes proving ownership of an Ohio concealed carry license. If approved, the applicant must then go through orientation and further training conducted by Cedarville's Campus Safety and must sign a special agreement with the school in order to carry.

Students of the university are not allowed to carry concealed weapons at any time unless they are also full-time faculty or staff.



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The concealed carry discussion began in Feb. 2016 when the Ohio House began talks of allowing campuses to make their own decision concerning concealed carry on their campuses. When the corresponding bill was signed into law by Gov. John Kasich in December, the process intensified.

"The board discussed this matter, and in our determination, we believed it was important to allow our conscientious faculty and staff to have the opportunity to exercise their second amendment rights, and, if necessary, to defend themselves should an incident arise in the future," Board of Trustees Chairman Chip Bernhard said in a statement. "It is our prayer, of course, that no one is ever forced to take this type of action."

Cedarville's president and trustees emphasized their care in forming the policy, which included consultations with law enforcement, legal counsel and insurance representatives.

The administration also held a town hall meeting for university faculty and staff and conducted two campus-wide surveys of faculty and staff. The surveys revealed eight percent of the faculty and staff on campus were against the potential policy.

Cedars conducted a student-wide survey in March to see how students felt about the possibility of the concealed carry policy changing on campus.

Thirty-five percent of students responded to the survey. Of those who responded, 51.3 percent favored concealed

carry on campus, 11.3 percent did not favor it and 36 percent said they would approve it with limitations.

When asked who should be permitted if a concealed carry policy was adopted, 50.8 percent said administration, faculty and staff only, 43 percent said anyone with a permit including students and 6.2 percent said no one.

In the faculty and staff survey, 73.5 percent of the 347 respondents were in agreement that concealed carry should be permitted among administration, faculty and staff. A fourth of them said they possess a concealed carry permit.

Many other colleges in Ohio have declined to make concealed carry available on their campuses.

Dr. Patrick Oliver, associate professor of criminal justice and former chief of police in Cleveland, Fairborn and Grandview Heights, Ohio, contributed to the policy's development.

"From my perspective as a peace officer in the state of Ohio," he said in a statement, "I believe the decision to allow law-abiding faculty and staff to conceal carry on campus is strategically beneficial given the growing safety concerns among institutions of higher education."

Callahan Jones is a junior journalism major and the Digital and Design editor for Cedars. In his free time, he enjoys making coffee, collecting headphones and playing games with friends.



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Phillys and Philanthropy

New restaurant, Grille-N-the-Ville, serves cheesesteaks and the community

by *Shelby Ahlborg*

For Matt Willis, the restaurant business is not just about serving good food — it's about giving back to the community.

Willis is the owner of Grille-N-the-Ville, a new restaurant on Main Street south of the Cedarville Opera House that opened in early May. Willis is a Cedarville native. He moved away and did some cooking in Yellow Springs, eventually opening up his own restaurant there. He later found himself returning to his hometown.

Willis and his family and friends who work at the restaurant have attempted to create an atmosphere that is laid-back and comfortable.

"We wanted to create a normal, more modern feel," Willis said. "I guess you could say kind of like a sports bar with a casual feel."

Willis's girlfriend Michelle Harlow also works at the restaurant. She agrees that it is similar to a sports bar.

"Yeah, there's a lot of sports memorabilia," Harlow added. "Plus we've got the wings, and the Phillys. And then we've got other stuff, for everybody."

Willis said he believes that many restaurants in Cedarville have a country, home-cooked feel. He wanted to create a place that was more contemporary.

Willis said he wanted his restaurant to be "for the modern generation, instead of more mashed-potatoes-and-gravy sort of thing."

Indeed, at least in the way of food, the Grille-N-the-Ville menu has definitely shaken things up a bit in this small, country town. The restaurant started by serving burgers, chicken wings, and Philly cheesesteaks. The cheesesteaks are something they have been serving for a while, first for a non-profit cause at the Dayton Dragons baseball games, and then for cheerleading teams, including cheer teams with special needs.

Willis used this previous food experience to generate his menu. Since then they have come out with an expanded menu, adding food like salads, wraps, and ice cream sodas.

"We're kind of evolving," Willis said. "Now we do have the gluten-free bread and options coming in for vegetarians."

If a customer doesn't see anything on the menu that meets their needs, Willis said that he and his staff are more than willing to experiment and come up with a special order for them. Willis and Harlow have been in the food business a long time, so they are well-versed in the realm



Photo by Lauren Jacobs

Grille-N-the-Ville features a small, homey interior where owner Matt Willis chats with customers.

of allergies, making Grille-N-the-Ville an option for Cedarville students looking for a place that can meet their dietary needs.

For new customers, Willis recommends the "Big Buster Philly," which has provolone, onion, green peppers, mushrooms, and freshly sliced steak meat from a local farmer. Other recommended menu items include the "Midwestern Philly," their best seller; the "Bacon Ranch Burger," and the "Zucchini Kale Salad."

"We take pride in our food, and we want to make good food," Willis said, "and sometimes that takes some time to do. A lot of times, you're not going to come in here in five minutes and get something, because we want to have that hand-patted burger cooked, and we want to have a good product for each and every one."

One of the things that makes Grille-N-the-Ville special is the concern that Willis and his staff have for both their restaurant and the community around them. Not only did Willis gain experience in the food business when he served at non-profit events — he gained a passion for serving others which he then carried into his restaurant.

Harlow expressed support for Willis's vision to give

back to the community.

"We support everybody," Harlow said. "The boosters, the junior high, the high school, and the college. Wherever we can give back, we give back. We're proud to help anybody with anything, if it's sports, education, art, music."

As the primary owner of the restaurant, Willis wants to not only help people himself, but hopes that the restaurant's generosity will inspire others to do the same.

"When you spend money here, it goes back to the community," Willis said. "We want to stay humble. Our business motto is 'There's no greed in our food.' If we have money coming in, it's to pay people well so they can work, or even so a college student can afford books, or a kid can get shoes. We're here to do that. We try to stay humble, stay positive, show our children that if you work hard and put your head to it, you can achieve your dream and be successful, and if you are a success, to spread that to others."

Shelby Ahlborg is a junior graphic design major and arts and entertainment writer for Cedars. In her free time, she enjoys drawing, writing, and studying the animation and special effects in movies.

Charlottesville and Racial Tension in Trump's America

How President Trump is affecting unity in the face of tragedy



Associated Press

An organizer with "Showing Up For Racial Justice" (SURJ) of Charlottesville speaks to community members and protesters on Sept. 1 outside of the Charlottesville Circuit Courthouse before a hearing set to discuss the pending case regarding the removal of Confederate statues in the city.

by Alex Hentschel

The word at the forefront of the national discussion on race relations is "Charlottesville."

A "Unite the Right" rally was held in Charlottesville, Virginia, in August to protest the removal of a statue of Confederate general Robert E. Lee. Several other groups showed up to protest the event, including the anti-fascist political group Antifa, clerical ministers and members of the Black Lives Matter movement. The protests turned violent, resulting in several casualties on both

sides and the death of one woman when a speeding car rammed through a crowd of counter-protesters.

Political leaders were quick to condemn the white supremacist groups. Virginia governor Terry McAuliffe demanded that the alt-right protesters "go home," and, in a later comment, went so far as to state they should "leave America ... because they are not Americans."

President Donald Trump was criticized for his vague and equivocating response to the violence, namely for his statement that there was blame to be had on "both sides"

and that "not all of [the alt-right protesters] were white supremacists." He criticized the alt-left, calling them "very, very violent."

Trump stood mostly alone in his rebuke of the counter-protesters. His fellow Republicans scurried away from his generalization. Sen. Marco Rubio, a Republican from Florida, tweeted that the white nationalists were "100% to blame." Even members of the military spoke out against their commander in chief: Gen. Robert Neller of the Marine Corps tweeted that there is "no place for racial hatred or extremism in @USMC."

Dr. Marc Clauson, professor of histo-

ry and law at Cedarville University, said he believes the president was factually correct, but could have been more diplomatic in his approach.

"He was correct to condemn 'both sides,' now that we know more of the facts," Clauson said. "I think there was a certain group in the media who immediately saw an opportunity to jump on him for that wording."

Dr. Mark Caleb Smith, associate professor of political science and the director of the Center for Political Studies at Cedarville, said he believes Trump is unique among presidents in that he did not condemn the white

nationalists strongly.

“We’ve never had a president who’s even sent mixed signals about this sort of behavior for a long, long time,” Smith said. “At minimum, we want a president who tries to alleviate racial tension, and I think you’d have to say that Donald Trump doesn’t do that. I wouldn’t blame the increased violence all on Donald Trump, but the way that he’s handled these events has not been par for the course.”

Inextricably tied to the Charlottesville issue is the debate on the Confederate monuments, as the “Unite the Right” rally originally planned to protest taking down the statue of Robert E. Lee. Debate has raged across the country as to whether the monuments have historical value or merely propagate hatred. Trump spoke against their removal, saying, “This week, it is Robert E. Lee. ... I wonder, is it George Washington next week? And is it Thomas Jefferson the week after? You know, you really do have to ask yourself, where does it stop?”

Clauson postulated that the increase in racial discussion promoted by the media and by different sects of the alt-left and the alt-right may have something to do with the monuments gaining national attention.

“The statues weren’t an issue just a few months ago,” Clauson said. “It really makes you wonder: What’s precipitating the sudden interest? I think this new attitude has been forced by certain subgroups of each side of the population, who are better-organized than the average voter.”

Though we are still in the early days of Trump’s presidency, there is value to be had in discussing whether our president has had a positive or negative effect on racial tension in America. Smith said racial tension has been a source of major media coverage since the early days of Trump’s campaign. Trump was lambasted for his inflammatory remarks about certain ethnic groups and for his hesitancy to reject Ku Klux Klan Grand Wizard David Duke’s endorsement.

According to PBS, crimes have spiked violently since the 2016 election. Within 10 days of Trump’s election, the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC) catalogued 900 bias-related crimes against minorities. According to the Anti-Defamation League, anti-Semitic incidents rose by 86 percent in

the first quarter of 2017.

Smith said he believes increasing racial violence is less a result of the Trump presidency but rather a trend nationwide.

“If we’re fair, there was a fair bit of racial-based violence during the tail end of the Obama administration: Ferguson happened and Baltimore happened,” he said. “As awful as it is, this is a trend within American history. However, I don’t say that to minimize or negate Trump’s influence — there’s certainly been an increase in coverage and an increase in sensitivity.”

Clauson said it is difficult to tell whether there has been a significant effect on racial tension in America since the election of Trump.

“We’ve definitely seen an increased media focus over the past few weeks because of what happened in Charlottesville,” Clauson said. “The election did a lot to dredge [racial tension] up, and Trump became a bit of a lightning rod for that. I don’t see as much clash among the population as a whole as I do among certain fringe groups.”

Whether incidents of racial violence will continue to increase in the next years of the presidency remains to be seen. What is clear is that Trump’s attitude toward racial tension is without historical precedent, and that his inflammatory campaign may have resulted in an increase in racial tension.

Smith and Clauson concur that Christians should carefully consider how to proceed in this tense atmosphere, encouraging Christians to be uniters, not dividers.

“When we interact with people politically, we need to remember that we are interacting with a child of God,” Smith said. “Our interaction has to start at that level — the personal, spiritual level, not the political or ideological level. You’re dealing with a person who is potentially in need of God’s grace. In a sense then, Christians can be one of those groups that can bring sides together — that can build with people, not just immediately tear them down.”

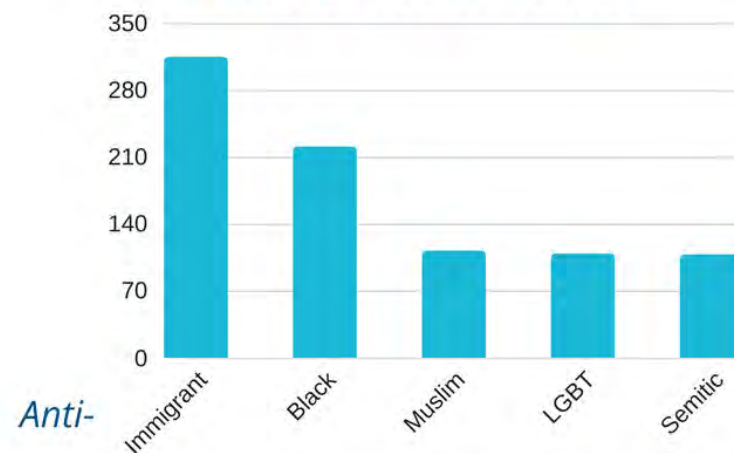
Alexandria Hentschel is a sophomore International Studies and Spanish double major and the Off-Campus news editor for Cedars. She enjoys old books, strong coffee, and honest debate.

HATE INCIDENTS FOLLOWING THE TRUMP ELECTION

1,094 Bias-Related Incidents Occurred in the Month Following the Election



HATE INCIDENT MOTIVATIONS



Data from Southern Poverty Law Center's Catalog of Reported Incidents

Movie Review: 'Spider-Man: Homecoming'

by Ian Sarmiento

Spider-Man has swung his way back into theaters and has become a must-see for all audiences. In the new film "Spider-Man: Homecoming," directed by Jon Watts, audiences get a new look on Peter Parker's life as he juggles high school, friends, and being a web-slinging superhero.

The story follows Peter Parker (Tom Holland), also known as Spider-Man, directly after his time fighting with and against the Avengers in "Captain America: Civil War." He makes his return to New York City only to find himself a little too eager to get back into the fight alongside his heroes. But to his frustration, his superhero antics are limited to stopping bike thefts and helping old women cross the street in Queens.

The directors give a strong amount of screen-time to Adrian Toomes (Michael Keaton), also known as The Vulture. Originally a disaster relief worker, Toomes finds himself out of a job when another big-name corporation takes over. Upset that he is unable to use the job to support his family, Toomes turns to other means.

This is the first time that a Marvel villain isn't something outlandish like an alien or failed science experiment. By keeping the villain grounded and realistic, the movie emphasizes his intentions and character.

The movie highlights both the protagonist and antagonist's goals. Toomes wants to find a way to feed his family, and Peter wants to be seen as an equal and trustworthy hero to Tony Stark (Robert Downey Jr.).

The story focuses on how young Peter really is, as he matures through the difficult positions he gets himself into.

Many have fallen in love with the comedic-yet-serious characters Marvel has recreated in the comics and on the big screen. Yet, others will argue that Marvel movies have been following an outline, repeating the same ideas in every movie:

There's a protagonist with a troubled past who makes the best with what



Associated Press

he's got. When things don't go his way, he pushes his luck, gets beaten by the bad guy who has his own reasons for doing what he does. And just when it seems like there's nothing he can do, our hero somehow wins and gets the girl, only to leave her (at least until the next movie).

Despite following this Marvel movie outline, "Spider-Man: Homecoming" is one of the greatest superhero films ever. The previous Spider-Man films spent so much time caught up in the little things, like Uncle Ben and his impact on Peter, or the Spider-Man costume, that they missed the big picture.

People wanted a Spider-Man who they could relate to.

Tobey Maguire and Andrew Garfield were great Spider-Men in 2002 and 2012.

However, despite Tobey Maguire's nerdiness that was well-portrayed in the movie, he failed to touch on Peter Parker's funny and

carefree attitude with quips and witty banter.

In Andrew Garfield's "The Amazing Spider-Man," Peter is quite full of himself, constantly throwing out quips and jokes even in the most intense moments. Yet, Andrew Garfield's Spider-Man was a lot cooler. With a skateboard, big hair and the ability to actually contain himself around his crush, Peter was a little too cool.

Tom Holland, however, captures the perfect balance between Maguire and Garfield, giving us the young, immature, smart, yet carefree Spider-Man we all needed.

Now, most people can't imagine what it's like to have a web-shooter jam, or to have a wedgie in your crime-fighting onesie, but a lot of people do know what it's like to be looked down on.

We can all relate to the struggle of believing we're fully capable, trying to prove our worth to the people that matter, only to know that no

matter what we do, we won't be good enough.

It can stink, but whether you're a superhero or just an average friendly neighborhood kid, it's a part of growing up. This movie touches on this message better than any other Marvel film, which sets up several opportunities in Spidey's upcoming films.

"Spider-Man: Homecoming" lives up to the hype, despite trying to squeeze as much as possible into an already long movie. With its focus on character portrayal, a relatable and realistic villain and a Spider-Man we can all relate to, this is one of the best movies in the Marvel Cinematic Universe.

Ian Sarmiento is a freshmen electrical engineering major and an Arts and Entertainment reporter for Cedars. He enjoys paying the piano, watching anime, and buying swords and knives so he can pretend to be a ninja.

Kelsey DePree: Serving Through Music

by Kellyn Post

Kelsey DePree, a senior music education major, hasn't always been sure about where God would lead her, but she is now passionate about serving others through music education and through involvement in student orgs on campus.

DePree and her twin brother, Kurtis, who also attends Cedarville, were born in Haiti and adopted at the age of one, and have been living in the United States ever since.

While most of her family is not musical, DePree and her brother were encouraged by their parents to take lessons, and DePree now plays an assortment of instruments, including piano, violin, guitar, several brass instruments, most string instruments, several woodwind instruments, and percussion. DePree also grew up playing duets with her brother, as well as performing in recitals.

"My mom and dad were really intentional about making us do music, and even when we said, 'I don't really want to do this anymore,' they said, 'No, trust me, you're going to want to use this later.' So they really kept us in it, and I'm really grateful to them now for that," DePree said.

One of DePree's older sisters attended Cedarville to study music education, and DePree initially did not want to follow her footsteps. Because of that, DePree said she did not intend to study music education in college, or even to attend Cedarville.

However, DePree said she and her brother wanted to attend the same college and looked at multiple other schools together. God eventually led them to Cedarville, where they fell in love with the school. But even after choosing the school, DePree still did not intend to major in music education — she initially wanted to double-major in vocal performance and communication.

"My father said, 'Why don't you try music education for one semester, and if you don't like it, you can switch to the other concentration,'" DePree said.

Four years later, DePree is not only a se-



Photo by Jennifer Gammie

Kelsey DePree uses her passion for music and education to serve those with special needs.

nior music education major, but is also looking into graduate school for music education and a special education certificate. When she first came to Cedarville, DePree did not expect to be called to teaching music to children with special needs, but now she views it as another way that she would love to serve.

"Coming into school, I had worked in several music settings where I had to teach children with special needs. I'd enjoyed it, but I hadn't really thought that that's where my path was going," DePree said.

However, through several opportunities

to teach music to special needs children and through special education seminars she attended at the Ohio Music Educators Association, DePree sensed God increasing her passion for special education. For the past year, she has been pursuing special education as another way to serve others through her major, and she is excited to see where God leads her.

DePree views both music education and her involvement in several student organizations on campus as ways to serve and love those around her. As a required part of her major, she is involved in the National Asso-

ciation for Music Education (NAFME) org on campus, as well as the dance and sign language organizations. DePree currently serves as the vice-president of both NAFME and Alpha Sigma Lambda, the sign language org, and is a choreographer for Ayo, the dance org.

DePree said she loves having the opportunity to meet new people through the orgs she is involved with, especially those she might not have met otherwise.

"I really wanted to challenge myself to meet people that I wouldn't meet as part of the music department ... and being in the different orgs really fosters and allows for that," DePree said.

For DePree, being a leader means having a willingness to serve the people around her by putting them first.

"Servant leadership is huge, and that's something that, not only have I learned from my department, but also from the orgs that I was in," DePree said. "There's no way to be a leader without being a servant."

Kristen Jarboe, a fellow music education major, shared some of the ways that DePree already encourages others both in and outside of the music department.

"[DePree] always makes you feel loved and welcomed, and you can talk to her. She's always willing to help me, and I've seen her help people in music theory when she's not their tutor, and just offer up her time," Jarboe said.

In addition, DePree said she sees music education as an opportunity to love God and others through being intentional with her students and through being respectful to the people she will be working under.

"[Love for God] means that I love my students no matter what they're going through," DePree said. "It means that even though I might not be able to do it in the classroom, I'm praying for them. It means I'm involved in their lives."

Kellyn Post is a junior English major and an Arts and Entertainment writer for Cedars. She is happiest when drinking tea, listening to music, and reading old books.

Top 5 Movies of Summer 2017

by Nathan Robertson

The summer of 2017 has had a good bit of variety when it comes to movies. We were given the usual superhero treatment with “Spider-Man: Homecoming,” “Wonder Woman,” and “Guardians of the Galaxy Vol.2.” There was also plenty of action with “War for the Planet of the Apes” and “Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Men Tell No Tales.” We were taken back to our childhood with the third installments of the “Cars” and “Despicable Me” franchises. Many of us were left confused with the likes of a movie featuring emojis, creatively titled: “The Emoji Movie.”

But no one has time to watch every single movie. So here is my list of the top five movies from the summer that you definitely do not want to miss. *No movies with an “R” rating are included in this list.*

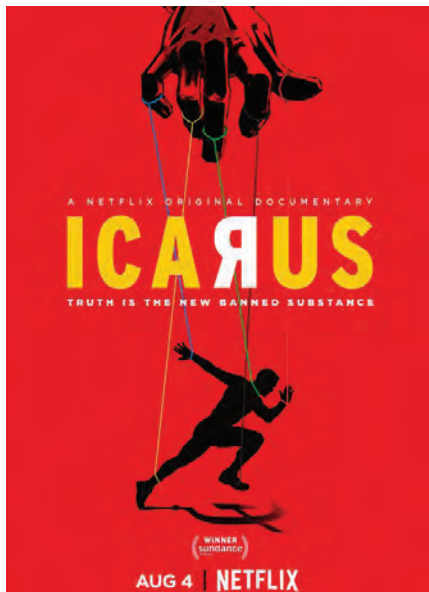


Photo from IMP Awards

5. Icarus (NR)

Being an American tends to mean that by default you are supposed to enjoy certain things: cookouts, watching baseball, and maybe most important of all: having seen “Rocky IV.” We all remember watching Drago, the Russian boxer, cheat his way to being a champion by way of carefully administered steroids. We all remember the chill that went through our bodies when he tells Rocky, “I must break you.” We remember thinking, thank goodness this isn’t real. Well unfortunately, the fictional story is not completely absent of the truth. The reality is that doping in sports is not only popular, but also fairly simple to get away with if you are a professional athlete.

The documentary, “Icarus,” focuses on a massive doping scandal involving Russian sports, and more specifically, the entire Russian Olympic team. Filmmaker and amateur cyclist, Bryan Fogel, seeks to investigate the true effects of doping on an athlete. This leads him to test the process himself.

Through the guidance of the director of the Anti-Doping Centre in Russia, Grigory Rodchenkov, Fogel begins to discover the corruption that is taking place in Russian sports.

This thrilling documentary exposes the political corruption in Russian sports, and the consequences that come with telling the truth.

There are constant parallels to George Orwell’s “1984” throughout, as Rodchenkov struggles to right his many years of wrongdoing under the guise and influence of Russian leadership. “Icarus” is unique as it dives into a subject that is prevalent in our current times and is still an ongoing issue that has yet to be solved.

Also, the filmmaker is directly involved in everything that is happening, which gives the audience a perspective that is rare even among documentaries.

4. Dunkirk (PG-13)

Christopher Nolan’s (“Memento,” “Inception”) newest film takes aim at a heavy target as it deals with the evacuation of British soldiers from the beach of Dunkirk during World War II. The film is written in three sections: land, sea, and air. Each has its own storyline that the film seamlessly weaves together through a creative timeline.

So what makes “Dunkirk” different from last year’s “Hacksaw Ridge” or even a classic like “Saving Private Ryan”? “Dunkirk” is unlike any other war movie for multiple reasons: First, rather than focusing on heroism and the glory of battle, the film focuses on the idea that it’s all right to be afraid. Fear drove so many of these soldiers to a point where they weren’t focused on fighting for their country, but simply fighting to survive.

Second, while the film does have key characters that drive each storyline, the purpose of the film is not to make those characters more important than everyone else.

Tom Hardy, one of the most popular stars in Hollywood, has barely 10 lines of dialogue. Why? Because the film is much more focused on telling its story through action rather than detailed character building.

Third, “Dunkirk” isn’t about Americans. There are no Americans in the film.

So, how does a movie about a British conflict in World War II, that requires a full Hollywood budget, get an audience in America? The answer is simple: the film’s message is universal.

We all face situations in our lives that culminate to a point of feeling impossible to navigate. Is it wrong for us to feel afraid in those situations? Absolutely not. Fear is a very real part of every person’s life, and “Dunkirk” shows us hundreds of thousands of soldiers who are terrified about what their fate will be. However, they understand that they must have courage, and with that courage, comes hope.



Photo from IMP Awards



Photo from IMP Awards

3. War for the Planet of the Apes (PG-13)

“War for the Planet of the Apes” is the third installment of the recently rebooted trilogy, inspired by the classic 1968 “Planet of the Apes” starring Charlton Heston. Director Matt Reeves (“Cloverfield,” “Let Me In”) returns after the success of “Dawn of the Planet of the Apes.” The story continues to follow Caesar (Andy Serkis), the ape who began the spread of a virus that allowed others to gain human abilities such as enhanced intelligence. If you couldn’t tell based on the title, this film shows humans and apes on the verge of war.

The film is incredibly well paced and is so dedicated to its character development that you never want to look away. The special effects are groundbreaking; each film in the trilogy has continued to push the envelope for what is possible with modern day technology. I would certainly advise watching its two predecessors, “Rise of the Planet of the Apes” and “Dawn of the Planet of the Apes,” beforehand.

Aside from the different social commentaries that the film makes, it’s just a lot of fun to watch. The action is intense but never overwhelming, and the dramatic scenes are heartbreaking and always genuine. However, the social commentaries made really amplify the power of the film as a whole. The importance of being a voice for the voiceless is constantly present, as well as discussions involving the evils of viewing people who are different as less than human.

2. Spider-Man: Homecoming (PG-13)

“With great power comes great responsibility” is one of the most quotable lines of all time. The original Spider-Man movies that we know and love starring Tobey Maguire (we won’t talk about “Spider-Man 3”) were heavily focused on the tragic part of Peter Parker’s life. However, “Spider-Man: Homecoming” does something different; rather than focusing on Peter Parker’s biggest tragedies, it follows him through the everyday struggles of being a teenager.

“Homecoming” is the perfect summer movie, because not only is it made for all ages, but it’s not necessary to have seen any previous films to understand it. The film possesses what other Marvel movies have been lacking of late: a quality story.

Marvel movies have become reliant on funny jokes and come-and-go sympathy for its characters. A good example is “Guardians of the Galaxy Vol.2.” The movie is so focused on making the audience laugh that a lot of key story moments take a back seat. While the movie is enjoyable and a lot of fun to watch, “Spider-Man” stands above it in just about every way.

At its core, “Spider-Man: Homecoming” is a coming-of-age story that anyone can relate to. The dialogue is well written and witty, in true Spider-Man fashion. With the Vulture (Michael Keaton), the film shows us a humanized villain that is easily one of the best movie villains created by Marvel in the past 10 years.



Photo from IMP Awards

1. Logan Lucky (PG-13)

“Country roads, take me home to the place I belong.” The underlying theme of Logan Lucky can be found in the classic John Denver song “Take Me Home, Country Roads.” The place that we belong can sometimes mean a physical location, but it can also mean a place among family. Staying true to family is a driving force for the characters in this film.

Jimmy Logan (Channing Tatum) is a West Virginia native and blue-collar worker who is working on a construction project under the Charlotte Motor Speedway. After losing his job, Jimmy comes up with a plan to rob the people who fired him with the help of a few family members (Adam Driver, Riley Keough, Daniel Craig).

In a surprising and wholly entertaining way, the film takes the classic heist, and turns it into a story about never giving up on family. If you encountered these characters in real life, you probably wouldn’t give them the time of day, much less genuinely care about them. However, this film finds a way to not only make you care about its characters but to make you root for them while they are conducting a major robbery.

Directed by Steven Soderbergh (“Ocean’s Eleven”) “Logan Lucky” takes what Soderbergh does best and combines clever and creative shooting with a warm backdrop of characters and location. The film talks quite a bit about “Take Me Home, Country Roads,” a West Virginia classic. It even comments on the fact that John Denver had never actually been to West Virginia. “Logan Lucky” has a similar effect; though



Photo from IMP Awards

Nathan Robertson is a Junior Broadcasting and Digital Media major and a writer for Cedars. He is an avid film watcher, an open-minded music lover, and a devoted Netflix binger.

Young Players Could Help Cedarville Men's Soccer

by Joshua Woolverton

A new school year brings a new season for the Cedarville men's soccer team. This year the team brings more maturity and experience to the table as they plan to win the G-MAC this year and improve on their 12-8-3 record from last year.

"We had a lot of young guys play a lot of minutes last year," head coach Brett Faro said. "Now we have these guys back that are stronger and more experienced than last year."

Faro expects his team to do all the little things this year to make sure they are the best team they can be.

"Our focus is always to try to be the best version of this group that we can be," Faro said. "I expect these guys to do everything they can in each week, game or practice to get better."

Faro said he is happy with the incoming freshmen and that they all have potential to play well this year. He thinks that they will each fit in on the team but he is not sure how big of a role they will play.

"All the freshmen are a good fit for what we want from them, but it is too early to know who will step into a big role and play a lot of minutes this year," Faro said.

Last year, Cedarville finished as the runner-up in the G-MAC, losing to Alderson Broaddus in the conference final. The juniors that went through this loss now lead the team and give it direction. People across the board have stepped into leadership roles on the team both on and off the field.

"We have a rising class of seniors on this team that give us good leadership and maturity," Faro said. "We lost in the conference final last year but they want to leave a good legacy this year as they head out."

However, it may be harder to win the conference this year because of the rise in competition levels. Hillsdale College, Lake Erie College, Ohio Dominican University, University of Findlay and Walsh University have all been added to the G-MAC.

The added teams to the conference changes the schedules for games. Now each conference opponent will only face each other one time in the regular season. This makes each game against a conference opponent even more important.

Last year, Cedarville played Alderson Broaddus three times. This year, teams will not be as familiar with each other as they were last year because there is only one meeting between them in the regular season.

The added teams also changed the number of times Cedarville will play out-of-conference games. Cedarville only has three out-of-conference games on its schedule this year against Bellarmine, Indianapolis and California (Pa.).

"I think adding these teams is exciting," Faro said. "It



Photo by Scott Huck

1st Row (left to right): Derek Braak, John Schwiens, Levi Haight, Alexander Narog, Michael Auld, Brian Wolverton
 2nd Row: Kyle Smoker, Conner Hughes, Cole Butaud, Nick Marculo, Stephen Bailey, Kyle Nikerle, Ben Johnson, Josh Brown, T.J. Milby
 3rd Row: Head Coach Brett Faro, Assistant Coach Isaac Nelson, Assistant Coach Zachary Harris, Assistant Coach Grant Knight, Graham Sachtleben, Sam Barnard, Carter Selvius, Assistant Athletic Trainer Kurt Gruenberg, Student Athletic Trainer Chris Brown, Student Athletic Trainer Ashtyn Kaptein
 4th Row: Keegan Wondergem, Zac Muir, Greg Williams, Bryce Childers, Sean Reilly, Mason Hecklinger, Aiden Dougherty, Joel Fullmer

will spark both new and old rivalries and make the standings a lot closer which puts a lot more pressure on our conference games."

The postseason format will also change to accommodate the larger conference. The G-MAC tournament will expand this year to allow eight teams in the tournament rather than six. Faro said that he thinks there will be a lot of jockeying for position in this tournament in order to gain home-field advantage and to take the best route to the finals.

"We have a case where I think the eighth-seeded team could be just as good as the first seed in this tournament," Faro said. "The big thing is that we just make the playoffs because anything can happen there."

There is even more pressure on teams to win the conference this year than in years previous. For the first time, the winner of the G-MAC gets an automatic bid to the NCAA Division II tournament.

With all the excitement about the conference, Faro said he thinks it is important that the team remember its ultimate goal of the season.

"Our aim is always to show how we steward what talents we were given and to show how the Gospel influences how we play and how we interact with each other and others

around us," Faro said. "That's the biggest thing." *Josh Woolverton is a junior journalism major and sports reporter for Cedars. He hopes to get involved in sports reporting and analysis after graduation and enjoys watch-*

Promo Games

Cedarville Women's Volleyball

Friday, Sep. 22, 7 p.m.	Free t-shirt night
Tuesday, Sep. 26, 7 p.m.	Night of the Jackets Cup match
Friday, Sep. 29, 7 p.m.	White out night/Faith & family night
Saturday, Oct. 7, 3 p.m.	Homecoming game
Tuesday, Oct. 24 at 7 p.m.	Turn back the clock/Department night
Friday, Oct. 27, 7 p.m.	Beach night/Club team night
Saturday, Oct. 28, 1 p.m.	Junior Jacket Scholar/Battle of the dorms
Saturday, Nov. 4, 3 p.m.	Senior Day

Cedarville Men's Soccer

Thursday, Sep. 21, 4:30 p.m.	Free t-shirt night
Saturday, Sep. 30, 5:30 p.m.	Gold rush/Go4thegoal

Cedarville Women's Soccer

Thursday, Sep. 21, 7 p.m.	Free t-shirt night
Saturday, Sep. 30, 3 p.m.	Gold rush/Go4thegoal

Chemisty Could Steer CU Women's Soccer to Success

by Gwendolyn Peterson

With a strong end to the preseason and an exciting 4-0 win in its first match, Cedarville University's women's soccer team is looking forward to the season ahead of them.

Starting the year with no injured players and strong upperclassmen as well as freshmen, Jonathan Meade is beginning his second season as head coach with confidence.

"It's a super group of ladies that love God and want to glorify Him in what we do. And I think we're going to give our fans some good games to watch," Meade said.

Sophomore forward Hannah Atkinson said that they have a very well-rounded team this year with a wide range of collegiate experience.

"We have some really technically gifted players and also physically gifted players," Atkins said. "We're thinking we'll be really solid in all areas of play."

The team also has a mix of experience, with a good number of sophomores and juniors and a new group of nine freshmen.

Meade said he was impressed by the character and drive of the freshmen.

"They're good soccer players too," Meade said. "I really feel like we're moving in the right direction, and some will definitely get some playing time this year."

Players to watch

Other players that Meade has big expectations for are two seniors who were redshirted last season but are back and ready to play.

Grace Miorelli and Stephanie Craddock were both injured for the 2016 season, but have recovered and are able to play their final seasons for Cedarville.

"They're talented, experienced, and I expect they'll have big seasons for us," Meade said.

Meade also highlighted players from the large group of juniors on the team, including Alyssa Maillefer and Hannah Atkinson, the two leading scorers from last season.

Junior Creslyn Van Dyck is another returner that Meade is excited about, as she is returning after having brain surgery last November.

"That's a huge blessing just to have her back, and she's a talented player," Meade said.

Team Chemistry

Atkinson said the team chemistry has been great thanks to having a team with so many returners.

"Last year we had so many new players and even a new



Photo by Scott Huck

1st Row (left to right): Alyssa Maillefer, Lyndsey Smith, Sam Newman, Stephanie Craddock, Grace Miorelli, Sarah Meisel, Hannah Whicker

2nd Row: Sophia Norden, Hannah Atkinson, Creslyn Van Dyck, Jocelyn Quirple, Delight Williams, Bex Velloney, Taylor McKee, Allie Davidson, Dani-Joy Leonhardt

3rd Row: Student Athletic Trainer Alyssa Nusser, Student Athletic Trainer Ellie Dixon, Jordan Nerderman, Kaley Jamison, Gaby Young, Kaitlyn Walters, Alex Haddix, Assistant Coach Kevin Roper, Assistant Coach Brianne Barnes

4th Row: Assistant Athletic Trainer Becca Stokes, Taylor Noll, Rachel Wiggins, Lauren Lichty, Allison Garlock, Emma Conway, Rose Anthony, Head Coach Jonathan Meade

coach. But now, the freshmen were able to come into a team that has some team chemistry already built," Atkinson said.

Meade said that chemistry is a huge part of the sport.

"You need to understand each other's strengths and weaknesses and see who meshes with who. We want to get that down so we can be ready to hit on all cylinders," Meade said.

Standing Out in the G-MAC

As the season progresses and the chemistry builds, the Lady Jackets are prepared to head into what could be a more challenging season than the last.

Last season, Cedarville finished third in the G-MAC. This season, the conference is adding four teams that were previously in the GLLAC: Walsh, Ohio Dominican, Lake Erie and Findlay. Walsh had one of the better records in the GLLAC last season with an overall record of 10-6-4.

With the conference growing from eight teams to 12, and adding more competitive teams, this season may prove to be a change for the Lady Jackets. With the increase in teams, each will compete against the other only once in the

regular season.

"Every game is a big game," Meade said, "but traditionally Trevecca and Ursuline have been big ones for us." Trevecca and Ursuline finished first and second in the regular season last year.

Pursuing the Right Goals

Despite having a more challenging season in front of them, Meade has his sights set on a higher cause than simply getting the win.

"We want to have an impact on our opponents. Not just from a soccer standpoint, but from a spiritual standpoint," Meade said. "We have a chance to pray with close to 600 different opponents this year, and that would be awesome if they all allowed us to do that."

Gwendolyn Peterson is a sophomore English major and off-campus news writer for Cedars. Her favorite things include being outside, Ron Swanson quotes, and Oreos (because the serving size is four instead of three).

Stronger G-MAC Poses Threat to Lady Jackets Volleyball

by Tim Miller

The Cedarville Lady Jackets' volleyball team is coming off one of its best seasons in school history. The Lady Jackets reached the NCAA Tournament for the first time in its 54-year existence last season.

This year, however, Cedarville will need to leap over new obstacles in order to find itself back in the NCAA Tournament. Even though the Lady Jackets have won the G-MAC conference championship in four of the past five years, winning the conference this season will be no easy task.

Findlay, Hillsdale, Lake Erie and Walsh join an expanded G-MAC this season. Findlay was voted to finish first in the G-MAC West Division, and earned just seven more points in the preseason poll than second-place Cedarville. The Lady Jackets earned three first-place votes in the poll.

In the East Division, Lake Erie is tabbed as a heavy favorite to win the division. Lake Erie garnered 125 points, which is 44 more points than second-place Walsh.

Cedarville head coach Doug Walters said he understands the conference is stacked even moreso this season, and the West Division is shaping up to be a mammoth of a division.

"When you look at the poll, you see a conference that will be much more competitive," Walters said. "Our side of the conference is super strong. I think that will bode well for us down the road."

Walters said that even though Cedarville took two of three against Findlay last season, he wasn't surprised to see Findlay get the most votes. The Lady Jackets lose Abby Shelton, Angela Becker, Kristen Cardwell and Rachel Krikke, so inexperience could hurt the Lady Jackets at times.

"The big thing about those four is the leadership they provided," Walters said. "Everyone sees their playing ability and what they can do, but their leadership was the key component to a lot of our success in the last few years."

Even though Walters said he expects



Photo by Scott Huck

Top Row (left to right): Senior Gabby Olson, junior Taylor Wilkerson, junior Abby Woodard, senior Krissy Pratt

Middle Row: Head Coach Doug Walters, junior Faith Ferris, sophomore Brooke Blattner, sophomore Katherine Adail, sophomore Erin McCullough, freshman Liene Miller, freshman Lauren Willow, assistant coach Abby Shelton

Front Row: Freshmen Sierra Schuitema, Autumn Foust, Lindsey Bray, and Sami Gibbs

more ups and downs with this year's group, he has still seen some players step into leadership roles.

Senior Krissy Pratt and juniors Abby Woodard and Taylor Wilkerson are all captains and have taken the reins this season. Walters has also been impressed with the increased vocal presence from Gabby Olson.

Even with a rigorous schedule and new faces in the lineup, expectations are still high for the Lady Jackets. Cedarville has already been tested this season, and there are few games that Cedarville will be heavily favored in.

Cedarville opened its season on Sept. 1 at the Ferris State Invitational with matches against Davenport and Ferris State. The Lady Jackets lost each of the matches, and the season's harsh components only begins there.

Cedarville's first three G-MAC games

pose a formidable threat to the Lady Jackets. Cedarville will travel to Ohio Dominican, Hillsdale and Findlay during the first three weeks of the season, and they won't play a game in the friendly confines of the Callan Athletic Center until Sept. 22. This means the Lady Jackets' first 12 games of the season will be played away from Cedarville's campus.

"It's gonna be a grind," Walters said. "Our team is used to that though, since it's been a pattern in years past."

On Sept. 22, Cedarville finally gets its home opener against Lake Erie. Erie was voted first place in the G-MAC East Division, so playing in front of a home crowd may give the Lady Jackets the boost they need.

"We love playing at home," Walters said. "There's nothing like playing here in front of a thousand people that are just

rocking and it provides an extra bit of energy to our team."

Walters also said that the road trip to Kentucky Wesleyan and Trevecca on back-to-back nights will also be an exhausting trip to make.

Walters said his team's most favorable facet is the front line. The blocking and hitting abilities are top-notch, according to Walters.

"Our front line is very good. We've got hitters all over the place and stacked the front line strong," Walters said.

However, the youthfulness of the team may be cause for growing pains this season. He said there will be four freshmen on the court on a regular basis, and ball control could make or break the team's sets.

Returning players Pratt, Olson and Wilkerson will be the core for the team this season according to Walters. He also expects Lauren Willow to compete for G-MAC Freshman of the Year, while freshman Autumn Foust is expected to see extended time on the court as well.

Sophomore Brooke Blattner and junior Faith Ferris are breakout candidates for Walter's squad this season, as each have seen sporadic playing time in the past, but will see regular playing time this season.

Walters said he expects the Lady Jackets to compete for the conference once again this season, and said it's one of the team's goals to win the G-MAC. Returning to the NCAA Tournament is also something the Lady Jackets have their eyes set on.

The outcome of each match is important, but Walters said wins and losses will never be the most accurate determinant of success.

"A big thing for us is the spiritual aspect of what we're trying to do," he said. "We want to use these games as ministry opportunities."

Tim Miller is a sophomore marketing major and sports editor for Cedars. He enjoys having a baby face, sipping Dunkin Donuts coffee and striving to be the optimal combination of Dwight Schrute and Ron Swanson.

Star Athlete Returns as Assistant Coach

by Tim Miller

When Abby Shelton's illustrious career for the Cedarville volleyball team came to an end in December of 2016, she never thought she'd be back in the cornfields of Cedarville, Ohio.

However, she has since returned as an assistant coach for her former team.

Shelton finished her career at Cedarville with the sixth most service aces in Lady Jackets history, and is also in the top 10 in program history in kills per set and pass percentage. Cedarville was 89-51 with Shelton on the roster and reached the NCAA Tournament for the first time last season with Shelton leading the way.

On top of all that, Shelton earned the G-MAC Female Collegiate Achievement Award for the 2016-17 academic year and was the conference nominee for the 2017 NCAA Woman of the Year Award.

During the summer, Shelton sifted through job posting after job posting, but nothing felt right.

Meanwhile, Cedarville Lady Jackets head volleyball coach Doug Walters continued to look for options for his coaching staff back in Cedarville, but dead ends and roadblocks stalled the search.

Walters was hesitant to consider bringing Shelton on as an assistant coach since the bulk of the players she'd be coaching would be the same ones she played with a season ago. Walters continued to have Shelton pointed out to him, yet he didn't consider her for quite some time.

In July, Shelton came extremely close to accepting an offer in North Carolina but decided to turn it down.

Two hours later, Shelton received a call from Walters.

And two days after that, Shelton accepted Walters' offer to become Cedarville's graduate assistant for the upcoming season.

"I think it was a God thing because all the other options I was looking at, suddenly the door would close," Walters said. "Even for her, she was looking for jobs elsewhere



Photo provided by Abby Shelton
Abby Shelton had an accomplished volleyball career as a student at Cedarville and now returns as an assistant coach for the team she once played for.

and doors kept closing."

Now, sitting in her office in the Callan Athletic Center for a good chunk of her days, Shelton must balance her time as an assistant coach for the volleyball team while also pursuing a Master of Business Administration at Cedarville.

Shelton said she spends anywhere from 24-40 hours per week working on her Master's of Business, while spending at least six hours a day as a coach.

She overachieved on the volleyball court, so up to 80 hours of combined work is but a minor hurdle for Shelton, right?

While in the office, Shelton's plate is full every day. Thinking about having to

scout, coach, recruit, contact other coaches, set up meetings with players, plan itineraries for road trips and much more exhausts the average human, yet, Walters says, Shelton is able to do all this flawlessly.

"So far it's been going really well. I'm fully confident that she'll continue to handle it well," Walters said.

The concern of Shelton coaching her friends wasn't something that was only on Walters' mind, as Shelton admitted it would be a challenge for her as well. Figuring out how Shelton would fit into Cedarville's coaching staff puzzle has already been a trial.

"I think the biggest challenge right now

is finding my place," Shelton said. "In the midst of a staff who love Jesus and lead really well, trying to find the balance of learning with them while also being with them has been hard."

Shelton said that not being able to hang out with her former teammates has been tough. Learning the NCAA's compliance rules and how to transition from teammate and friend to coach and overseer is something Shelton must learn to do every day.

Even with the ups and downs and learning curves, Shelton already values her time back in Cedarville. Watching players that she played with and loves while stepping in to lead has been the best part of her job, Shelton said.

Now that she is back in Cedarville, she expects to stay for the next two years. When she finishes her master's in business, Shelton intends to pursue a Master of Ministry degree next year.

If there's any lesson to learn here, it's that plans can spring into a state of upheaval at any time.

Shelton could be here for two years, or she could be here longer than that. Either way, Shelton seems to know why she ended up back in the cornfields. To coach.

"I think that that's why I'm here," Shelton said. "I've had so many people tell me they think I'd be a great coach. This is a really neat environment to see if I'd really like coaching."

Regardless of where Shelton ends up, she will soak up these next couple years spending her falls in the Callan Athletic Center, just like she has in each of the past four years.

"Cedarville volleyball is such a special thing," Shelton said. "Getting to be a part of it as a player and now taking part in it as a coach is just fun to be a part of."

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Kick-Off Party

Photos by Naomi Harward



Senior K.J. Kilchrist leaves the stage during West II's lip sync to "What Makes You Beautiful" by One Direction to "serenade" girlfriend, senior Leah Reeder, marking one of the highlights of the hall's performance.



Service dogs Wish (left) and Viola (right) give each other a friendly greeting. They were two of several "K-9's in the Ville" service dogs who made an appearance at the fair.



Isaac Ayala is one of many from this year's freshman class. The Involvement Fair is geared toward getting freshmen engaged on campus and the local community.



Student Life Programs (SLP) blocks off the DMC parking lot every year to set up booths and attractions. Students then mill around the various tables, whether it's to see friends, support an org, or find new ways to get involved at CU and in the community.