

8-2012

Cedars, August 2012

Cedarville University

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Recommended Citation

Cedarville University, "Cedars, August 2012" (2012). *Cedars*. 22.
<https://digitalcommons.cedarville.edu/cedars/22>

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CEDARS

The Student News Publication of Cedarville University

August 2012

FRESHMAN EDITION



by *Becca Powlus*

Those of you who are new on campus may hear talk about Cedarville's decision to do away with the old system of demerits and adopt an "honor code" effective this year. You'll likely hear a variety of opinions about the switch, some in favor of the decision and some in mockery of it. I will address one of the falsehoods floating around campus.

Some students are of the mind that eliminating the demerit system gives them a newfound freedom to do whatever they please. I know I'm not the first and I'm sure I won't be the last to say that this is not the case. The rewriting of the student handbook takes the focus off demerits and punishment and onto core values that are grounded in scriptural truth.

When an expert in the Old Testament law asked Jesus what is the greatest commandment, Jesus answered, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind" (Matthew 22:37). Our university is right on target with "Love for God" as a core value. However, Jesus couldn't leave the conversation at "love God" – He had to follow up with "Love your neighbor as yourself." Hence Cedarville's core value, "Love for Others." We show our love for God in the way we love other people; the two are inextricably linked.

The other core values are "Integrity in Conduct" and "Excellence in Effort." If we love God and others, it's crucial that we show it in our conduct and our efforts. I know some people, including myself, were skeptical about how this new honor system would work. Yeah, it's a nice concept in theory, but how will it play out in reality? Over the summer and since returning to the 'Ville, I have lost my skepticism – I truly believe this new system has the potential to change things. But the responsibility is ours.

You are responsible to hold your friends accountable. As a body of believers, we are called to love, to correct, to forgive, to encourage, to challenge, and to support one another. Cedarville's goal with this new system is to provide an environment where we can come alongside each other and bring one another into closer relationships with Christ. A demerit could give you a wake-up call or it might give you the desire to hit someone, but at the end of the day loving correction from peers or authority figures should effectively compel you to make necessary changes in your behavior and attitude. Demerits tell you what you did wrong. Our hope this year is to tell you how to make things right.

So, welcome to Cedarville. And welcome to this grand adventure and opportunity to practice loving God, loving others, having integrity in conduct and excellence in effort.

Watch for a new issue of **Cedars** every month.

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Roommate Tips

by *Cedars editors*

- Agree at the beginning of the year what is going to be shared, and what is individual property.
- Communication is key. If something bugs you – talk about it. Nicely. Passive aggression will get you nowhere.
- Sharing is caring. But don't abuse that concept – respect each other's space.
- Forgive and forget.
- Don't talk about your roommate. It will get back to them. Our campus really isn't that big.
- Make sure you give each other some space - literally! Respecting each other's privacy paves the way for a good relationship.
- If you find that you and your roommate are not much alike, try to focus on what you have in common. You'd be surprised how well you can get along with someone who at first seems like a polar op-

Cedarville Encyclopedia

by Cedars editors

Laking

The tradition when a newly engaged male is thrown into the lake by his best friends, usually occurring right before curfew.

Fruit Night (see also Student Appreciation Dinner)

A dinner in Chuck's composed almost entirely of fresh fruit, one of the best meals of the spring semester.

"We should study together"

This phrase appears easy to interpret: study together in order to help each other achieve better grades. Wrong. In the world of Cedarville University this phrase means "Let's hang out and bring our books along but not use them at all." The phrase provides a noncommittal way to get to know someone of the opposite gender.

Rainy day

Rainy days at CU do not resemble normal rainy days. Not only is the sky overcast and the wind powerful, the rain is sideways. Even with an umbrella it is hard not to arrive to class without looking like you just took a swim in Cedar Lake. Once rain fell from the sky so hard that it resembled water coming out of a

shower faucet. A Printy girl decided to take advantage of the natural shower and washed her hair in the rain. That being said, investing in a good umbrella and rain boots is an excellent idea.

Chuck's Chicken Strips and Fries Night

You may be excited for all the options in Chuck's now, but by the end of the semester, you'll be eating breakfast for dinner more than you know. But there is one meal you'll always be excited for – chicken strips and fries. Be prepared for a long line, but know that it is worth the wait.

Key Jingling at Basketball Games

Like all college basketball fans, fans of Yellow Jacket basketball like to make some noise to support their team. Of course, the typical chants of "Defense" or "Jackets" can be heard in the gym on a winter Friday night but so can another noise-making method, the key jingle. Fans take out their keys, hold them up high and jingle them, either to encourage the Yellow Jackets or distract their opponents. Freshmen, sorry you can't make much of a jingle with only your room key.

Rip Runs

No, this has nothing to do with ripping things. And it doesn't necessarily have to do with running, either. A rip run is a jaunt over to SuperRip – the nickname for the convenience store across the street – usually to grab a few late night snacks. Rip runs are better than they sound. Start saving your spare change.

Laundry Room Life

Laundry rooms in Cedarville dorms are proof that both good and evil exist in the world. Good, because sometimes the random guy from Lawlor 22D will load your wet clothes into a dryer and fold them into a nice pile when they are done. Evil, because that new pair of jeans you're hoping a Printy girl will swoon over may suddenly disappear from the load of laundry you were doing before your Friday night date. Cedarville laundry rooms: enter at your own risk.

The Chuck's Self-Cook Grill

The best way to get your cooking fix (and stay out of a rut). If you're intimidated, spy on some skilled upperclassmen, or try it out in the early morning or late afternoon when there's no rush.

[Cedarville Encyclopedia, continued...](#)

posite.

- In a perfect world, your roommate would turn off the lights exactly when you wanted to go to bed. But as Christian Life & Thought will teach you, we don't live in a perfect world. When you want to get some shuteye, tell your roommate and perhaps ask him or her to not blast their favorite nighttime homework tunes. Also, do unto others as you would have them do unto you.
- Chances are, you and your roommate won't have the same taste in music, and it would do you good if you accepted this early on. Embrace the unique tastes of your roommate.

Trust us, college will provide you with bigger battles to fight.

- If your roommate is treating you unfairly or being outright mean, talk to him or her about it. If the mistreatment continues, let your RA or RD know. Freshman year can be rough, and it will be even rougher if roommate woes keep you awake every night.
- Don't just coexist — practice loving your roommate.
- When living together gets difficult, remind yourself of what's really important. Don't let your relationship with a person be damaged because of

disagreements over stuff.

- Shower/wash clothes regularly. Hopefully this one's self-explanatory.
- Establish comfortable room cleanliness levels. Maybe you're both neat freaks, or maybe you're both slobs. But more than likely, you have different definitions of "clean." Figure out a compromise, then stick to it.
- Recognize that you may not be best friends. Sometimes you'll be exceptionally lucky and just click with someone. But even if you don't plan on attending each other's weddings and/or naming your firstborns after

Mail

Learn the finer points that distinguish between various types of packages at the post office. A FLAT may only contain a textbook, but a LARGE BOX or a PARCEL could be more exciting.

Chuck's Notes

Read the entertaining notes on the board as you exit Chuck's. If there aren't any funny comments, do your fellow students a favor and write some.



Walking around the lake

The ultimate Cedarville-approved public display of affection. If you and a member of the opposite sex walk around the lake together once, you are considered to be dating. Twice, and you better already have a dress and wedding venue picked out. If you're holding hands you better already be married.

Painting the Rock

Timing is key. You don't want your work covered up right after you finish—nor do you want to lose your fingers to freezing temperatures.

Lounges

The co-ed lounges found in each dorm are exactly what they claim to be – relatively neutral spaces where the male and female species can interact. That being said, they're pretty much the province of awkward lounge couples. So all you single ladies – and gents – it's not like you can't be there, but unless you enjoy sharing space with lovey-doveys leaving precious little room for Jesus, you'll probably want to find a new hangout.

New students wait in lines and walk around campus looking for the next thing on the list during Getting Started Weekend, sometimes under the watchful eyes of Dr. Brown and Dr. Ruby (top photo).

Photos by Lauren Eissler and Holly McClellan

