Mikel Baxter 0:00

Okay, we're recording. Alright, so please state your name, your age. And if you want to give it the school you're going to.

Preston 0:07

Hi my name is Preston Potter, I'm 20 years old, and I currently attend Junior College. All right.

Mikel Baxter 0:12

And you prefer he him pronouns, just to be clear. Okay. So prior to the pandemic, did you take your classes online in person? Or did you do a mix of both?

Preston 0:28

I did, I did a little mix of both. I started out in class, and class. And then because I was a student athlete as well. And so taking online classes was a better fit for me, because I was able to balance athletics and school a lot easier.

Mikel Baxter 0:48

So you don't you don't meet up with zoom meetings or anything like that. So the change from a mix to solely online, that wasn't difficult. There's there hasn't been any difficulty in the Unknown Speaker 1:04 transition hasn't been a huge adjustment for me, because I've got I was already online. So I was kind of already was kind of used to it. But it's, it's definitely a lot different from home, and whatnot.

Mikel Baxter 1:17

 Right. So what was what was the most difficult part of changing if there was one, so there...

Preston 1:29

I said, the most difficult part was probably like, working doing school from home because you find like, I found myself like, less motivated sometimes just to like, do my work, and just kind of be productive, like I would be if I was at school, because then you got to get in a routine. And it's just to me, it was a little, that's a little difficult from home. But it's definitely manageable, and definitely getting it done.

Mikel Baxter 1:55

Okay. So do you feel like you suffer from Tech overload? Or tech fatigue between social media classwork, and then taking all your classes online? Is it Do you feel like it's too much?

Preston 2:17

Yeah, I do get kind of fatigued and whatnot. If I'm sitting by the computer for like too long, my mind starts to kind of get like overwhelmed, and whatnot. So I got to kind of just stop and take my mind off and do do something else for however long I need. And then just come back to it and finish and then just kind of carry on as I need to.

Mikel Baxter 2:38

Okay. So far, in this semester, what has been the biggest challenge for you? And how are you overcoming it if you are overcoming it?

Preston 2:53

My biggest challenge for me is just kind of like for, like I said earlier, like relearning my schedule. And just kind of for a while, I was stuck in the same routine of like getting in the process of getting my work done and whatnot. And then, now that I'm working from home and working a full time job, and the training for for baseball, I have to kind of re learn a new schedule, and just kind of learn a new process. And it's just kind of obviously, it takes some time and you either adjust to that. But

Mikel Baxter 3:28

so do you feel like it's a process of overcoming or it's something that you're constantly learning like it's not okay, I know how to do this jump that hurdle.

Preston 3:36

It's definitely like something I was like still learning because it's like each day's kind of different. You got different stuff that pops up here and there, but like, I'm still managing it.

Mikel Baxter 3:48

Okay. So if this is how we're going to be doing classes until we get like a vaccine, or if we are able to get things into manageable if we're not able to get things under manageable numbers. How are you going to adapt to future semesters online only classes?

Preston 4:10

I would say I was just definitely, because the longer we do it, the longer the more we spend doing online classes will I'm sure will everybody, including myself will be able to kind of become more comfortable with it and more used to it. And so just as long as the internet everything like stays no issues with computers or anything like it probably fine.

Mikel Baxter 4:38

Do you prefer online classes? Why or if you don't, why not?

Preston 4:45

And to me, it depends on the class because some classes are easier online. And some classes are easier in person. It just like depends on the workload. And then like I I'm personally a hands on learner and so like just scrolling on a computer or typing on a computer, just sometimes it doesn't work for me. And so it just depends on the class.

Mikel Baxter 5:08

All right. Let's talk about baseball for a minute. So you're... you mentioned your student athlete. How is that working out for you this semester? Like, how are you staying in touch with your teammates? Are you able to maintain that sense of brotherhood and camaraderie that comes with a normal season of baseball,

Preston 5:31

we we have, like a group like a team like group chat, whatnot. And we're always just kind of just chatting and just say what's up and whatnot. Because also we don't get we don't see each other every single day like we would normally. But like, we definitely meet and practice together and whatnot, we'll hang out here and there. And obviously, we joke still trying to be safe and whatnot, just so we could, hopefully help bring this to an end. But like, we definitely keep in touch and just keep kind of things as as normal as we can.

Mikel Baxter 6:04

Right? So you still feel like you're able to be a team even though you can't be a team all the time. So how do you how do you stay sane, you know, when you you work in a grocery store, and then you go home and you do your online classes? It's it's a lot. I mean, there's this is a crazy world a crazy year, how do you keep yourself sane and just not rocking in a corner.

Preston 6:35

I like to run. Running, kind of, I've always been a runner all my life. And like, it just kind of is so relaxing. It's free, just like feel the wind in your face and whatnot. And then, obviously, I love baseball. And so any thing I get to do that involves baseball, it's kind of like my escape, and it just kind of like stresses or anything I'm experiencing.

Mikel Baxter 6:59

So it so that's what you do for fun or relaxation is is baseball.

Preston 7:05

That's exactly what I do, yeah.

Mikel Baxter 7:05

Do you do anything else or...

Preston 7:07

I like to hunt and then like, I like I'm involved in cars, like I love cars, working on cars and stuff. So it's kind of just kind of do anything outside, as is nice and relaxing to me.

Mikel Baxter 7:20

So what is one thing that you didn't expect to encounter in online learning,

Preston 7:27

I didn't expect how time consuming, like doing your work would be because normally like on a class setting, like, I find it easier and quicker to get work done, and whatnot. But like working from home, you're a lot of distractions, and just kind of the motivation, if it's not there, I tend to take a little longer to get stuff done longer than usual. And so it's just kind of a big headache.

Mikel Baxter 7:59

Um, and what's the best thing and the worst thing about online learning that you that you feel

Preston 8:07

The best thing would be getting more sleep. Sleep is very important, especially if you're a student athlete and whatnot, but like, the worst thing I feel like would just be..I don't feel like I'm learning as much as I would in person. And so it's just kind of, obviously, there's pros and cons, everything. Those are probably the two things for me.

Mikel Baxter 8:29

Do you have any other thoughts about the semester or learning online or anything else? I mean, being a student athlete that maybe not everyone might consider any other thoughts about the combination of all those things that you're doing in addition to surviving a pandemic year.

Preston 8:50

Also, just like, for me, just kind of finding a balance with everything and just kind of making school kind of go smoothly, and then be able to still put 100% into both sides, baseball and school because obviously school is very important. And then also preparing yourself for school and baseball.

Mikel Baxter 9:16

All right, well, I think that wrap will wrap things up for us. Thank you, Preston.

Preston 9:23

You're very welcome.

Mikel Baxter 9:23

And we'll see you back out on the sales floor.

Transcribed by https://otter.ai