

This current pandemic has impacted me and my life so much within the past year now. I remember the day the pandemic fully hit and impacted my way of life like it was yesterday. It was Friday, March 13 around two o'clock when my school district had announced that schools were going to be closed for about a week. This was only a hour before the governor was going to make an announcement for schools and how they should proceed. Before schools officially closed, all sports and activities were canceled around lunch time until further notice. I remember walking into my coaches' room and wondering what will happen for spring and the rest of the year. I was scared, confused and wondering how long this illness will last to keep me from going to school and playing the sport I love. A few days later I found out that my job was closing, and I could no longer work. Unfortunately, this lasted all the way until I left for college during the summer.

The first week home was just like a break week; no classes or homework, just relaxing. Only there really was not much relaxing, just stress over what this virus was and how it could really impact me and my family. Seeing on the news, listening to people talk really scared me about this virus and how it has impact so many communities and countries already. Personally, I do not have any pre-existing health conditions that would cause a severe case of Covid-19 like the rest of my family does. I was cautious about who I saw, where I went, and sanitizing after going anywhere. For the first few months, my family and I were crazy when it came to sanitation and quarantining. I did not leave my house for a month and when I did it was to run at a park or around my neighborhood. Whenever I did leave the house, like to help my mom food shopping or to get necessities, I would wear a mask and even medical gloves in the

beginning. My graduation and prom were canceled, with graduation being held virtually. It was different and not how I expected my senior year of high school to end

Once the summer hit things died down a little bit and I tried to enjoy what I could. It was hard since I did not see my dad until three months after schools shut down. I never go to see my cousins until Christmas time since they live in another state. It was hard staying distanced from my grandparents and extended family since we all are so close. I enjoyed seeing my grandparents and going out to places and I had to change my lifestyle because of this pandemic. I had to be careful about what I was bringing to the rest of my family due to who I saw or where I went. What did help me get through this pandemic was running and watching movies. I was able to relax and start some interesting movies and run to get my mind off the crazy world and just focus on me. Almost a year into this pandemic, things about my way of life are still the same, but it taught me who my true friends are and that time with family is valuable.