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COVID-19

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Living in the midst of a pandemic is not easy. However, that is not to say there aren't any good qualities that have risen from it. I remember when I first heard about COVID-19 and thought to myself " Oh, this is going to blow over. It's probably just rumors." Within the next few weeks of that thought, I found myself sitting in my room in a Zoom class, since the last few months of my junior year of highschool had been switched to online. It was not only difficult mentally, but psychically as well. It was a whole change in the way I practiced life. Not being able to see my friends everyday was one of the most difficult things considering they were a huge part of my life. Also, not being able to participate in sports in person. It took a long time for me to cope with missing out on so many special things throughout the end of my junior year into the end of my senior year. I can luckily say that I was able to have a socially distanced prom and graduation, but I still longed for things to go back to how they were before the pandemic. Entering college with the pandemic still lingering wasn't easy either, but things have started to feel a little bit how they were before. Wearing a mask in the classroom was mandatory for most of the school year, but was just recently lifted. However, wearing a mask has never been an issue or something that I feel should ever completely end. If an individual is feeling ill, even if it is not COVID, wearing a mask could help prevent so many other illnesses. Even just simply colds or flus. Overall, my experience over the past

few years has been difficult, but I have been able to grow closer to my family and bond with others in ways I never knew were possible over the course of this pandemic.