

Cole

Age 16

Grade 11

Somers High School

Somers, New York



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What were your thoughts when the first COVID-19 cases were being diagnosed in China? Did you expect it to spread to the U.S.?

No, I assumed the problem would just end after a couple of weeks in China.

How have things changed for you and/or your family since the outbreak?

Being in quarantine is the most obvious change for me. It's very different as I have had to change my entirely daily routine and at this point every day almost feels the same to me. One positive through all of this is I have more time to spend with my family.

For you, what is the worst thing about this?

Seeing what the seniors have to go through. For me it was obviously upsetting to me to have my lacrosse sea son canceled but at the end of the day I will have one my senior season. Seeing how the seniors worked so hard over the winter for the season just to have it taken from them hurts to see.

In your experience so far, what, if anything, has been positive about this?

Again, reconnecting and getting more time with my family. During school time I'm pretty isolated from them with sports and work on top of the actual school day.

Tell us about a moment or experience during this time that you will never forget.

I wouldn't say this is a particular moment but just over time and how quickly this escalated into a global pandemic. I remember talking to my friends who thought this would blow over in a month and saying it would most likely be worse. This has escalated a lot worse than I even thought it would get to. Thankfully, it seems to be dying down at this point and hopefully we can reopen the country soon.

What would you tell someone in the future who asks what it was like to live through the 2020 pandemic?

Act with caution. The main problem was many people underestimated the entire thing which made it much worse. Taking caution for 2 weeks can eliminate much more time spent in isolation.