HIGH SCHOOL: Final sports season is lost for senior students

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will not be able to finish." Senior Sierra Henneous, a student in Rick Johnson's Americana Project (a class that teaches students to write and record original music on guitar), fears that "our annual Americana CD will be heavily affected because of the cancellation" as we have had to cancel recording our music for the CD at a local studio until further notice.

The shutdown of the high school has also affected the spring sports teams. Senior Quinlan Crowe expressed that the shut down "cancels all practices and meets until after the school opens again," Unfortunately for Crowe who plays tennis, April 28 "is the end of the season which means I just do not get to play tennis this final year of my high school career."

Junior Pearl Gregg noted that the lacrosse team — which is supported by Sisters Park & Recreation District rather than the high school — is in a similar situation and explained that "if we were to return to school on the 28th of April that would only leave us 11 days left of the regular [lacrosse] season."

Senior students fear that their prom and graduation — things they have dreamed of since their educational journeys began — will be cancelled. Mansfield noted that, "It's concerning to know that we could lose our graduation, we could lose our prom, but even more than that it's more concerning to know that we really have no idea how long this is going to go on, or what the true consequences of it all will be."

Even though the students may be worried, there are still positives they can take away from time off. Freshman Lauren Taylor pointed out that following the end of the shutdown, "hopefully students will understand that coming to school everyday, and staying from 8:30 to 3:20 is not something to hate."

Taylor, as well as many other students like Gregg, have pointed out that even though we complain about school, we all know that "school is where we all see each other and it is such a huge part of our young lives. At this point, it's hard to know what to do without each other and without being at school in general," Gregg said.

Many high school students are making the most of their time at home, despite the unfortunate circumstances. They are practicing social distancing while spending time with their loved ones and being productive at home. For many seniors who go off to college or out into the real world next year, Crowe pointed out that they can embrace this time as a time to "spend time with family and enjoy their company before heading off next year."

She also notes that personally she is "using this time to stop, relax, and think about the future." Senior Evan Martinez says he's "been trying to stay on top of what I can. I am currently taking two online classes, and I am making sure that I am caught up in both." Henneous has been making the most of her time at home as well and has "mostly been working on my AP art portfolio. I've also been working a lot on music as well."

Even though COVID-19 has caused a lot of worry and confusion, there's a lot we can take from this experience, as pointed out by seniors Evan Martinez and Allison Mansfield. Martinez notes that "moments like these teach us a lot about who we are as humans and how we react in a crisis." Which is why it's important, as Mansfield says, "that we all stay together and we support each other no matter what's going on."

LETTERS

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Sure it's not easy, believe me I know with two kids 12 and 14 bored out of their minds locked inside. But I DON'T CARE; tough it out! The message needs to be that these people's lives are NOT better than this community and the elderly that live here.

I am not saying you need to lock yourself in a dungeon. Go for walks on trails where there are no other people or people are scarce. I think we all know that around here that it a very viable option. Go for a walk around your neighborhood or a bike ride. But stay clear of clustering in town.

People are not taking this seriously and sadly will not till it is far too late.

Patrick Tougas

To the Editor:

OK, I'm a little late with this, but I just want to say it's good to see Craig Rullman's ruminations in print again.

For way too long I've been checking every Wednesday for a Bunkhouse column, only to be disappointed. I thought maybe he'd given up on writing for us, but finally last week (March18) there he was.

Encourage him to be a little more frequent with his submissions, will you? And maybe at the same time tell him it's OK to voice a controversial opinion when he has one. Some of us enjoy seeing our own thoughts in print, as a reminder we're not alone out here.

Jerry Wright

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To the Editor:

I was agreeing with David Purviance's letter to the editor (Mar 25) until he stepped into the sewer by naming what he considers to be

the most reliable news sources. Those he lists have lied to the American people repeatedly for more than three years. When one lie is proven incorrect, they don't apologize or correct the record, they just move on to another sensational lie. Their sole purpose is to take down a duly elected president. Remember the lies they encouraged Michael Avenatti to propagate? Remember Stormy Daniels' lies?

Remember the Russia lie? Remember Robert Mueller's band of Trump-hating, left-wing lawyers, who found no evidence of wrongdoing by Trump? Yes, they did find campaign associates who have admitted to committing crimes (none of which are about colluding with Russia). Remember the FISA lies? Remember the impeachment fiasco they knew would be proven true and would remove President Trump?

Remember they castigated Trump for restricting flights from China? Oh, they are now claiming he didn't act soon enough. Remember they praised New York Governor Cuomo for criticizing Trump two months ago when the governor declared there was no threat from COVID-19? Do they now praise Cuomo for declaring Trump didn't act soon enough and for not sending enough supplies to New York?

He doesn't like Fox News, and sometimes I don't either, but Hannity, for instance, has never been proven wrong on the illegal activities he and his investigative reporters have unearthed that came from the upper leaders of the DOJ and FBI. In fact, issues that I doubted initially have been proven accurate.

I do agree with most of Mr. Purviance's letter: Be cautious about texts, tweets, e-mails. Let me add, listen to news cautiously and don't be repeatedly duped by lies. I pray we all stay safe.

John Miller







