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My Senior Year

My senior year was about as eventful as most, Friday night football games, mostly easy classes, working a lot, etc. As many of the class of 2020 know, the latter half was a little too eventful for most. Early spring break quickly became the infamous “104 days of summer vacation” from the show Phineas and Ferb. Overnight many of us became high school graduates by simply clicking “turn in” on our last Google Classroom assignment. Many adults have said to me variations of, “your senior year was stolen from you”, or simply, “it’s not fair”. But so, what? Life is not fair, why should you expect high school to be any different.

Recounting my entire freshman year at Concord High School feels like a fever dream. It was always sunny, and nothing was that hard. Guidance counselors were not hounding each and everyone of us to complete our CommonApps on time in these simpler times. I even managed to make honor roll my first quarter, my English 9 grade barely scratched by. I felt as though I met so many new people though the size of my class was not very different from middle school, going from about 300 8th graders to about 350 9th graders. My middle school served about 90% of the families in Concord. My high school in contrast served the same 90% in addition to most of the town of Deerfield, a mere 30-minute ride away. Nobody was as serious about sports either. Many of us joined to make new friends and to be more active.

My sophomore year was what I would call the most “cliquey” out of all the other years. Most students were not yet taking any APs and still hung out with the same social group they had the last year. Though some people did take AP US History, or what most people called, APUSH. I never really understood why so many people at my school take APUSH. I would think taking APs let certain students skip over certain Gen-Eds in college or help give them extra credits toward their degree. But I have not needed to take any history class in college yet. I also doubt many if at all knew what they were going to major in. Both freshman and sophomores had essentially the same course load. Take the most basic math and science classes and take a few gym classes while you are at it. During these first two years I took my required two years of a language, I chose German. And anyway, one of the admissions people here at UNH told me as a sophomore when he came to speak at my school that he would rather see academic growth of a student from a D to an A as opposed to and A to an A through their high school experience.

Junior year was the year where most of us took the hardest classes of all high school. It was also the year where most people took both school and sports the most serious out of all other years. This was the year where I took my most difficult math and science classes. I also took my track season more serious than I had ever before, taking my relay team to placing 3rd in the Division 1 state meet and 7th in the Meet of Champions. I took this so seriously that I decided to eat healthier in order to run the fastest I could. I had never done this before for any sport I played.