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Seniors Saying Goodbye

With the current health crisis going on in the world, all schools in the United States have been forced to close, switching to online school for the rest of the year. This change of scenery can affect students of various grades in many ways, but seniors in high school are no doubt feeling the effects of the closure through the cancelation of life changing, memorable moments such as prom and graduation. Something that might not be taken into consideration is the fact that some seniors won’t be able to see their friends before parting ways to go to college. With the shelter in place in effect with no clear date as to when it will end, seniors will only have a month or two at tops to reconnect with their peers before leaving for college. Keep in mind this all depends on the fact that everything goes according to plan with the shelter in place ending and the assembly of large groups being allowed again by mid to late summer. Seniors have worked through school for the last twelve years, making many friends along the way, but these unfortunate circumstances have left groups of friends isolated from each other, only being able to communicate through the phone. Athletes who participate in a spring sport had their final season canceled, not only stealing the senior experience on varsity, but stealing the possibly last season of the sport for some athletes. *The Forem* asked two senior athletes the following question. What do you miss most about seeing your friends during the season? Columbia Basin College commit, baseball player Will Baker said “Grinding out practices with the boys” and Syracuse commit, lacrosse player Caelin Lewis said “Being able to clown each other”. It is clear that not only do these athletes have a passion for the game they play, but also a passion for the social aspects of the given sport as well.  Athletes spend hours on end after school practicing, forming close bonds with teammates, so the sudden closure left all of the athletic programs devastated. Moving away from athletics, something else that is not being considered is a “school friend”.  These are two peers who hang out at school, during class and lunch, and other times throughout the school day, but not anytime outside of school. While for most, a friendship is someone who is frequently spoken with in private as well as public events, someone can still be considered a friend even if there is no interaction in a private setting but only in a public setting like school forsay. Nobody has time to visit with all of their peers and give equal time to everyone they associate with. This does not mean these people are not necessarily close friends, it might mean they just are not as close as they might be with other friends. Therefor, without the forced interactions school creates, and a lack of bonding outside of school, seniors might not get to see theri “school friends for a long time.With the abrupt cancelation of school in March, seniors might have spoken to some of their friends for the last time without even realizing it.

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