

YOU CAN'T MAKE THIS UP

BY ENJI ERDENEKHUYAG, TESS TRYFONOPOULOS & BEN EIMER

INFORMATION FROM THE NEW YORK TIMES, CNN, NBC
LAST UPDATED ON APRIL 11 DUE TO YEARBOOK PRESS TIME

OUTBREAK OF COVID-19 SPREADS FROM AROUND THE WORLD TO CLOSE TO HOME

DEC. 31

Chinese authorities treated dozens of 'cases of pneumonia' of an unknown cause.

JAN. 11

China reported the first death.

JAN. 20

Other countries, and the United States, confirmed cases while China confirmed 291 new cases.

JAN. 30

The World Health Organization declared a global health emergency.

MARCH 11

Glenbrook South canceled the first ever Winterfest dance.

MARCH 12

School District 225 notified parents and students about upcoming school cancellations.

"I was kind of optimistic [when I heard]. I didn't think it was going to be that terrible because everyone was talking about how it was like the flu. I heard about how it was going through China, but I was like 'China probably doesn't have the best health care system, so maybe we will be better.' I wasn't really scared. I was thinking about what was going to happen with everything else in my life."

JOSEPH VOIGHT (12)

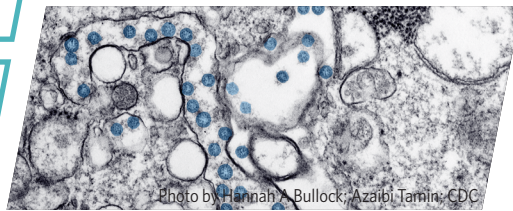


Photo by Hannah J. Bullock/Azadi Tamini/CDC
CDC researchers investigate a microscopic image of the first COVID-19 case in the United States.

NBA suspended season after a player on the Utah Jazz tests positive.

NCAA canceled men's and women's Division I basketball championships.

Chicago canceled annual St. Patrick's Day parade.

MLB postponed start of season indefinitely.

NHL suspended season indefinitely.

MARCH 13

President Donald Trump declared a national emergency, opening up access to \$50 billion to help fight the pandemic.



Photo by Ken Cedeno/Abaca Press/TNS

"I wasn't surprised that they shut down [the NHL] because the NBA shut down. But I was upset because it was really close to the Stanley Cup playoffs and that's what I've been waiting the whole season for. It was necessary to close sports, but I'm upset about it. I mean, I love watching hockey. I watch the highlights every morning and I have a fantasy hockey team. I did not think [coronavirus] would be this bad. I didn't think it would get close to getting this crazy."

JACKSON CROSBY (10)

Mayor Lori Lightfoot announced the cancellation of Chicago's annual St. Patrick's Day parade during a press conference on March 11.



Photo by Jose M. Osorio/Chicago Tribune/TNS

On March 26, the previously scheduled opening day for MLB in Chicago, Wrigley Field is empty. Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, Major League Baseball postponed the start of its season.

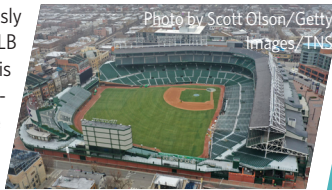


Photo by Scott Olson/Getty Images/TNS

On March 12 in Columbus, Ohio, a man walked outside the Nationwide Arena hours after the NHL suspended its season.

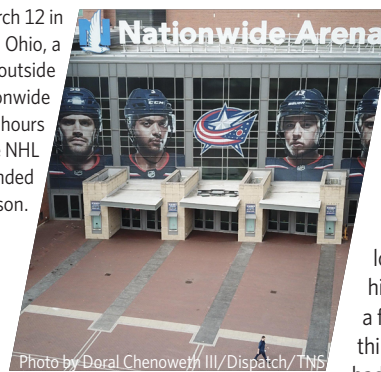


Photo by Doral Chenoweth III/Dispatch/TNS

MARCH 21

Gov. J.B. Pritzker issued a stay-at-home order for the entire state of Illinois, extending through at least April 30.

"I wake up on weekdays around 7:30 and I get my schoolwork done by 10:30, and then I spend time with my mom and brother. We usually do board games and stuff. We can't really do anything outside. I think that it's brought us much closer because with my brother and I being at school the whole day and then my mom at work—it gives us more time to spend together. ... [But] it's kind of frustrating, in a sense like, you don't know what's going to happen."

SKYE CONTON (11)

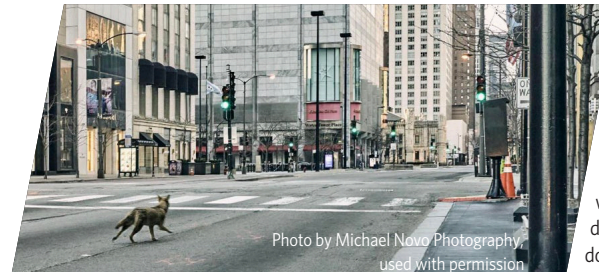


Photo by Michael Nowa Photography used with permission

On Mar. 22, one day after Illinois Governor J.B. Pritzker issued a stay-at-home order for the entire state, a wild coyote was seen walking down Michigan Ave in downtown Chicago.

MARCH 24

The Tokyo Olympics were delayed until 2021.

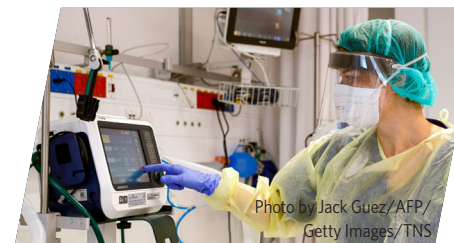


Photo by Jack Guez/AFP/Getty Images/TNS
Wearing protective clothing, a doctor checks a ventilator control panel.

MARCH 30

The United States led the world in confirmed coronavirus cases with 81,321 infected.

APRIL 1

Glenbrook Hospital became the major COVID-19 treatment center in the North Shore.

APRIL 2

Global cases topped 1 million. 6,648,000 people filed for unemployment within one week.

APRIL 8

Glenview Village President Jim Patterson signed an emergency declaration granting additional temporary powers to himself for management of local resources.



Photo by Dennis Waters/palmbeachpost.com/TNS
Workers load cars with food from Feeding South Florida in West Palm April 13.

APRIL 17

Glenbrook South lit its stadium lights, joining high schools nationwide in honoring spring sport athletes who lost their season due to the virus.

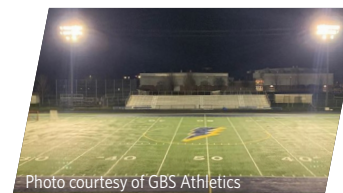


Photo courtesy of GBS Athletics

IN THIS TOGETHER

JUNIOR HUNTER WEISENSEL ENDURES COVID-19 WITH SUPPORT FROM FAMILY, FRIENDS



For a long time, COVID-19 never seemed like a big deal to me. It was on the news more often but even then, the virus didn't affect me, my friends or my family.

It didn't hit me that it was serious until my baseball season was canceled on March 11. Never in a million years did we think that this was going to have any impact on us or our season. Soon after that, school shut down. It all happened so fast.

Unexpectedly, that same week, my mom was at a family party where a handful of parents contracted COVID-19. This made the whole crisis so surreal to my family and I; no one was expecting anyone close to us, let alone my mom, to catch it. My mom got terribly sick and even went to the ER. Seeing her go through it firsthand was difficult. There are so many people that don't understand the severity of the situation.

Three weeks after my mom tested positive, my dad and I contracted the virus. Luckily for us, our symptoms weren't as bad. I was sick for really only for one night and my dad had a lingering cold and cough. Fortunately, my two brothers haven't contracted the virus, and it is our utmost priority to make sure they don't.

Looking back at it, I'm glad school ended when it did because COVID-19 would have spread like wildfire. I was barely in contact with my mom and I somehow got it; I can't imagine how fast it would spread if school was open for even just another week.

This whole experience has taught me so much. It's brought my family closer together because you can't fight the virus on your own. My family worked together to keep the virus contained and to stay safe.

When all of this is over, I'm going to remember all the good that came from the trying times. I'm going to remember how my family bonded over trying to stay healthy. I'm going to remember staying up until 3 a.m. playing video games with my friends because that's the closest we could get to being together. If I were to give someone a piece of advice, it'd be to not focus on all the negativity, there's more positivity than you'd think. You just got to look for it.

BY HUNTER WEISENSEL

*EDITED BY ENJI ERDENEKHUYAG