**COVID –19**

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Covid –19 what an unexpected pandemic we have been through I would say this has been a rollercoaster of a year for everyone, especially myself. When covid arose, I was ending my senior year in high school I had like 3 more months until graduation which due to covid I did not have in person as it normally is but instead a drive by graduation which was quite different. Also another downfall of having covid during the end of my high school career was we didn’t get to have our final prom and our final goodbyes to all of friend and teachers. One thing that wasn’t a huge burden to me was having online classes .I know others think online schooling is difficult but some of my classes we mostly depended on computers to turn in work so it wasn’t much of a change ending the school year online. I definitely was not expecting to end my senior year of high school this way but there wasn’t much myself or anyone could do about it. During quarantine since we were all out of school and we were on a state mandate to stay at home there was not much for me to do other than school and work. I worked at chick-fil-a and due to covid we could not have the inside open which only allowed us to maintain a drive thru and curbside to follow covid guidelines and safety for everyone the workers and the customers. I know covid had an impact on lots of peoples jobs and etc. which left others in finical predicaments thankfully my mom and step dad got to work during the pandemic as they were both health care providers but they had a lot to risk for themselves but forms myself it was hard to find other jobs so I could save up a decent amount of money before college. My life during quarantine wasn’t truly terrible I couldn’t go out as much or travel which was a downfall but there I got closer with my family and I just enjoyed the time to myself and focused on things I needed to get done before college. Whenever I wasn’t at work or hanging with my family I really enjoy being out side, working out, doing art and crafts and other things which kept me productive during most of my quarantine. Being in quarantine before college was difficult some campuses didn’t have open tours and a lot of stuff that was supposed to happen in person was online making it difficult to meet people to meet others. For example I never got the chance to tour ECU or talk to anyone about anything in person so I came here not knowing what to expect but it was one of the best decisions I could have made to attend this school because of the amazing programs and opportunities this school provided me. I have been told by many seniors how my freshman year was so different due to covid which I wish wasn’t true but sadly it was. My freshman year I didn’t have any in person classes, around campus and in the dorms we always had to wear a mask and I had trouble meeting others outside of where I stayed It just wasn’t the experience I expected but so far I have enjoyed all the memories I made here so far at ECU even going through my freshman year through a pandemic. At the beginning of the semester I had a roommate then they sent people off of campus due to the rising number in covid spreading I got my own room in the fall it was very nice having my own room to myself but due to the fact this made it harder to go out and meet others rather than doing my own thing. I decided to branch out and join a sorioty which was also different due to covid because instead of recruitment in person we did it over zoom. It was definitely different talking to someone over the screen than in person but I’m so glad I decided to do it because I’ve meet some of my best friends some I can even consider as family to me in just a short amount of time . Overall my experiences were very challenging and different going through covid this year but I’m just glad my family and I stayed safe and health during covid-19 and I’m thankful for the opportunities it brought me along the journey. I had good times and bad times during the pandemic but everything I went through just taught me who I am supposed to be today and what I can do for my future to be successful. I’m hoping since the vaccine has come out we can all live normally again because I sure can’t wait for that day to come.