THE WORLD ON HOLD

This spread was supposed to cover fourth-quarter sports, but like so many things in March, plans changed as the coronavirus spread. Students felt for spring break thinking they'd be back to school in two weeks, but just a few days later they had no idea when they'd see their friends and teachers again. As people stayed in their houses for social distancing, events were canceled and learning moved online, and all anyone could do was wait it out. (Reporting by Ola Staff)

DECEMBER 31
First cases reported in Wuhan, China. Officials don’t know what the virus is yet.

JANUARY 1
A medical market in Wuhan closed because animals sold there could be the source of the virus.

JANUARY 7
The virus is identified as a novel coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2.

JANUARY 21
First case reported in the United States, in Washington state. About 500 cases reported in China.

JANUARY 22
Local New Year celebration canceled in Beijing.

JANUARY 29
White House announces a task force to monitor the spread of coronavirus in the U.S.

FEBRUARY 4
President Donald Trump announces the U.S. will deny entry to anyone from another country who has traveled to China in the last 14 days. The Diamond Princess cruise ship - the 3,700 people on board - is quarantined in Japan. After 10 people test positive for coronaviruses.

FEBRUARY 7
I miss school because I like to interact with my teachers and friends. I don’t like this online school at all.

-Jayden Myers (7)

FEBRUARY 11
The World Health Organization names disease caused by the virus COVID-19.

FEBRUARY 16
Ohio postpones the primary election scheduled for the next day. Elections in Arizona, Illinois, and Florida go on as planned.

MARCH 1
The Federal Reserve lowers interest rates by one-half percent to boost the economy.

MARCH 2
The WHO defines COVID-19 a pandemic. President Trump travels to the U.S. from Europe for 20 days.

MARCH 9
The entire country of Italy goes on lockdown.

MARCH 11
WHO declares COVID-19 a pandemic. President Trump travels to the U.S. from Europe for 20 days.

MARCH 12
Ohio suspends all sports for at least three weeks. Other states make similar announcements in the following days. Schools and colleges begin to move instruction online.

MARCH 13
President Trump declares a national emergency.

VIRUS Vocabulary

Coronavirus: A family of viruses named for the spiky surface that look like crowns. Coronavirus is Spanish for "crown." They can cause colds and respiratory illnesses. A new virus is called a novel virus.

COVID-19: The disease caused by the virus. It is also known for coronaviruses.

Flatten the Curve: To spread out the number of cases over a longer period of time because too many cases or too many people in overcrowded spaces is dangerous. The virus is called SARS-CoV-2.

MARCH 18
Border between U.S. and Canada closes.

MARCH 19
A public library closes, opens drive-thru window. Books can be returned online or at drive-thru.

MARCH 20
Gov. Doug Ducey and Superintendent Hofmeister announce an extension of Arizona school closures through April 10.

MARCH 23
A000 begins airlift for American students and under.