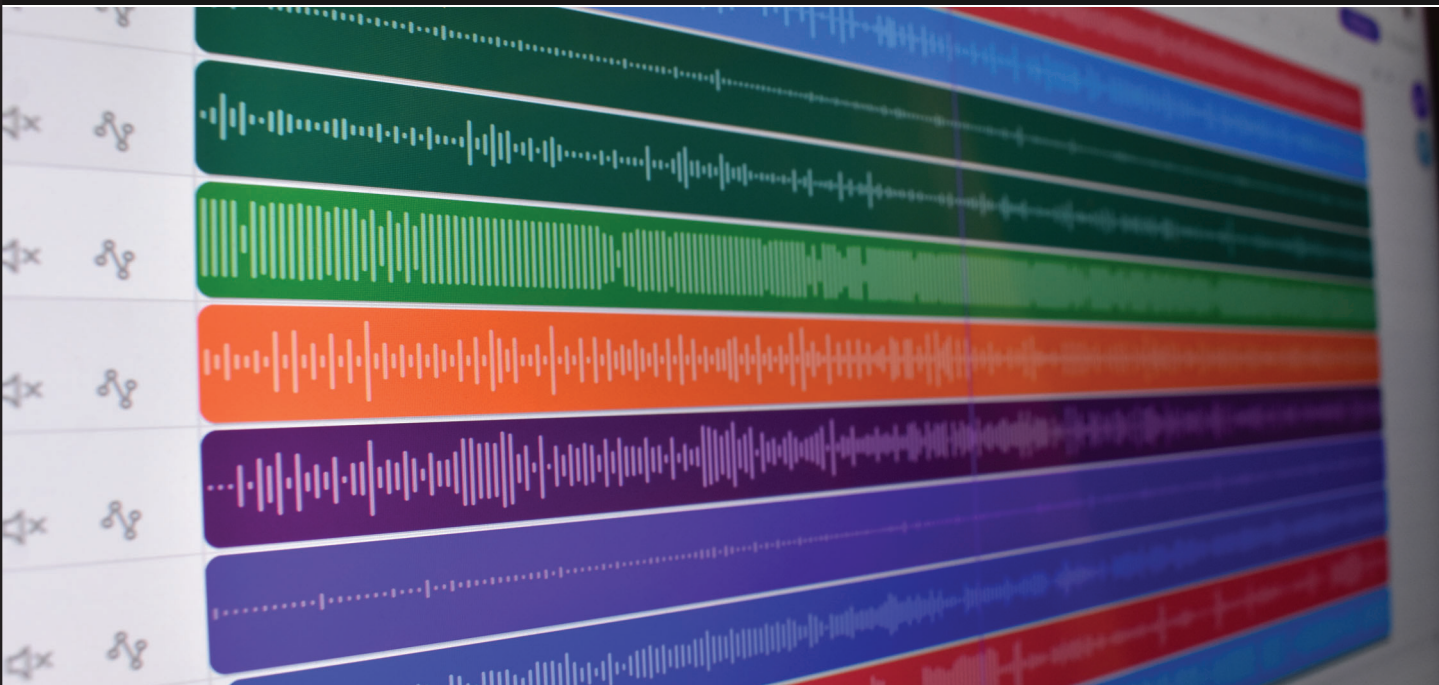
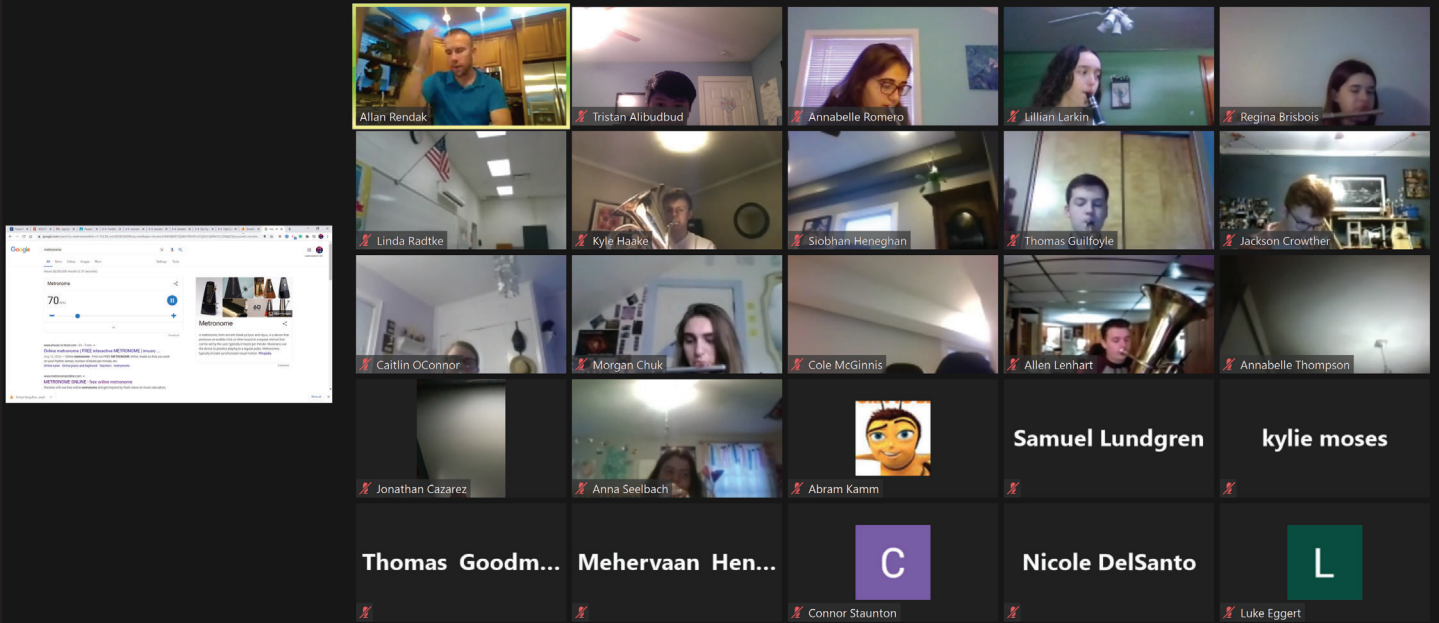


Willowbrook High School Skyline

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photos by Tristan Alibudbud

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They're still singing and playing in WB music

LILY MORGAN
STAFF WRITER

The start of this school year has been challenging, and Warriors have been forced to adapt to a lot of changes. We've fallen into the routine of logging onto Zoom every day, checking our email and settling down to take notes in front of our screens for a couple of hours a day.

And while this has become second nature to most of us, there is a group of students that have been doing virtual learning a little differently.

The Willowbrook music department has been reduced from the once lively wing at the end of our school halls to their own little boxes on a Zoom call. You can imagine it would be difficult to maintain a functioning group of musicians over a platform that often experiences technical difficulties, so how do they do it?

It turns out the structure of music classes isn't all that different to being in person, as explained by Daniel Sanchez, a Willowbrook senior and member of the orchestra.

"We split the class into two halves, half of the time we practice music with the student teacher, and the other half we spend with Mr. Bobek trying to record a piece we're learning to get it together," said Sanchez.

Although the class is maintaining some normalcy, there certainly are still some challenges with a group of musicians performing through screens. Orchestra student and sophomore Neeraja Kumar [also a *Skyline* reporter] got

more into detail about some of the difficulties that come with working in the group.

"One of the main aspects of Orchestra is playing together and being in sync," said Kumar. This year, the music department is using a new program, called Soundtrap [please see cover photo], to record their various music pieces. "For a lot of people, this works out great," said Kumar, "However, I haven't been able to record properly due to a bunch of audio issues I didn't see before."

While these audio issues have been anticipated, and even expected as we've begun to see them in all of our classes, it can be a lot harder for music students to overcome this obstacle combined with other struggles.

"Even without audio issues, there are a lot of problems. No matter what we do, no one will play the same," Kumar explained.

While the Orchestra is figuring out some of its technical challenges, senior and band member Tristan Alibudbud maintains that one of the hardest things for their group is keeping high spirits.

"It has definitely been a tough transition. The main appeal of joining band or orchestra is being able to share your passion with others," said Alibudbud.

"Unfortunately that charm doesn't translate well online." Although there have been plenty of challenges, Alibudbud wanted to make sure one thing was clear.

"The staff has definitely been putting in the effort, and it shows. They've been making the best out of it."

Similar to how Orchestra and

Band are operating, choir members are also adapting to the structure of working together virtually.

"It's a lot different than in-person choir, but it's not all bad," said Concert Choir member Anna Tymoszenko. "It's mostly just recording our individual parts and putting them all together. I miss singing in a group, but at least I'm still singing."

Things certainly have changed for all of our music groups, but everyone is happy to still be doing what they love.

One of the biggest changes in the music department this year has been the absence of the Center Stage show choir. No longer able to rehearse their yearly Cabaret performances in person, the choir has been replaced with a Vocal Jazz group that focuses on the basics.

"We are singing a mix of pop and blues-type jazz music," says Michael Poirer, one of ten students involved in the new group. "We will learn how to improvise, scat, and work to blend in a group."

The most interesting part of this new group is how they are adapting to the restrictions of not being able to perform and get their music out to the public.

"We will record songs, mix them, and release them as first works," Poirer explained, citing that the premiere of the group will be in December.

In addition to releasing the song recordings, he also mentioned the shared hope that with Spring will come more lenient COVID restrictions, stating that the group hopes that by then some form of a concert will be possible. No mat-

ter what happens with COVID, students will definitely have to be on the lookout for some new music from the vocal jazz group come December.

In addition to all of the students working hard to continue their musical endeavors within their Willowbrook virtual classes, there are also the students who will be leaving to further their education come May. Like many other seniors, Tymoszenko is planning on majoring in Music Education once she gets to college at the University of Illinois, and not having time in the classroom with her music classes has introduced some challenges to how she is building her resume and continuing to apply to college.

"It's just been tough, not only to cope with having my last year in orchestra and choir taken away from me, but also having to prepare my auditions completely alone, without my teacher's help," said Tymoszenko.

She expressed her disdain in having to record auditions as opposed to performing them live.

"Instead of an audition taking 10 minutes, it now takes hours because if the recording isn't exactly perfect I have to redo it, and every other applicant will do the same," said Tymoszenko.

No matter how our Willowbrook musicians are tackling the virtual year, one thing is for sure: they're still in high spirits, and hopeful that change is coming sooner rather than later.

"Classes won't be like this forever, so we should take the opportunities we can gain from this," said Kumar.

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HOLA, how are you doing today?

MAHIRA SHUJATHULLAH
FEATURES EDITOR

Willowbrook's very own Hispanic Leadership club, which was renamed to HOLA two years ago, serves as a way to provide Hispanics and other members different leadership and volunteer opportunities, while also helping people learn more about Hispanic culture. There are even scholarship opportunities presented for students. Meetings occur every other week and last for around an hour, and are led by four sponsors and five student leaders.

Miguel Molina, the club's main sponsor and WB spanish teacher, founded this club eighteen years ago upon the ideals of Caesar Chavez. He had been the president of a club similar to this back in college and wanted to bring that same experience to students when he became a teacher.

The club's main purpose is to "guide the strong leaders to become better everyday," as Molina puts it

In the past, the club has produced successful leaders that have gone on to do great things: one student

started a nonprofit organization to help students with the college process and even had the opportunity to work with Senator Dick Durban.

This year, there are five new HOLA leaders Molina looks forward to working with to make this year a great success.

HOLA's secretary this year, Alondra Hernandez, spoke about her experiences with the club. She has been a member since she was a freshman, and she is now a senior.

"I like that we have organizations that worry about Hispanics," she says. "There is a place for us."

But, fear not, this club isn't just for Hispanics. This is an inclusive club for anyone who is interested in joining, Hispanic or not, and the HOLA leadership stand by that.

HOLA provides a great community for students to get together and have a great time, according to Samantha Solis, the president of HOLA and a current WB senior.

"There is a balance between fun and seriousness," said Solis. "We make sure to plan activities and events that are educational, but we also have times where we chillax and just en-

joy the presence of others."

She also mentions some of the fun activities and traditions HOLA has to offer.

"We try to do monthly immersions into culture, we have potlucks for big celebrations, we play a lot of loteria (a game of chance similar to bingo), and we have lots of fun trips and activities."

Unfortunately, due to the pandemic, some of HOLA's trips and activities have been put on hold. Every year, HOLA typically has field trips to the Halloween Fest at Six Flags, the National Museum of Mexican Art, and the annual United States Hispanic Leadership Institute (USHLI) Conference.

Likewise, all of the usual volunteering opportunities have been cancelled as well.

However, that hasn't stopped the fun. The five HOLA leaders plan to look for new opportunities and ideas to make this a great year for all its members. The first big event of the 2020-2021 school year was one idea.

October 15th was a special day for HOLA. Not only was it the first meeting, but it was also the

first major event. In order to honor Hispanic Heritage Month, the leaders of HOLA decided to host a special event to "try to show both the diversity of the Hispanic people and the things that we can achieve," as Hernandez puts it.

The meeting kicked off with an informational presentation on the history of Hispanic Heritage Month and how the tradition came to be. HOLA's leadership presented on influential Hispanics who made contributions to society as well, as a way to encourage any future leaders. Afterwards, members played loteria in order to win gift cards as special prizes.

A special guest also joined in on this event: Danielle Brink, the Community Relations Director for DuPage High School District 88 attended the presentation to learn about the history of Hispanic Heritage Month.

Solis hopes to have many more successful events like this one in the future; the Day of the Dead is fast approaching, and the plans for it have already commenced.

Fall into apple picking, the safe way

NICEA SCHEELER
STAFF WRITER

For the past seven months, the country has seen a lot of differences in daily life due to the coronavirus outbreak. The number of cases has seen its extreme peaks and its lows, but overall the nation has not gone back to normal overnight. Guidelines are in place, which helps in the proceeding of the usual seasonal activities: haunted houses, apple orchards, hayrides, pumpkin farms, etc.

Apple picking, a fairly simple activity under normal circumstances, is a lot more difficult now that the nation is still under quarantine. Avoiding other people can be a very cumbersome task, as is going on the hayrides.

Having to avoid people in the lines and in the orchard is not



particularly easy. As every year, the lines to get in, make purchases, and exit are always very long and full of people. Even with masks on, avoiding people in this area is not always completely possible, as senior Jackie Schiro has shared.

"Everyone seemed to be on top of each other," said Schiro, "despite the lines telling everyone to distance."

Another challenge that comes with the fun of apple picking

photo courtesy of appleholler.com during a global pandemic is going on the hayrides. Schiro, who went to Apple Holler orchard on September 20, explained that while the hayrides had small compartments, they were still small and packed with people everywhere, which made it hard to distance from others and practice safe social distancing.

Apple picking is not completely ruined by the pandemic, however. Apple orchards are still spacious and filled with delicious apples.

There are areas where people do not occupy every square foot of land.

"Being in the actual orchard was nice, as it was a lot larger, which made it easier to distance," said Schiro. "We could get away with seeing people less, as they were all pretty much spread out rather than clustered in one area, like the hayride."

There will obviously be modifications to everyday activities, like grocery shopping and, as seen here, apple picking, due to the coronavirus. The most important part, other than staying safe, is to have fun. Enjoy apple picking and making pie, if you choose to do so.

If you are someone looking to stay home where it is one hundred percent safe, however, there is always Netflix or Disney+.

WB students and alums cast votes

BRAD ZOROMSKI
STAFF WRITER

We all remember the chaos of the 2016 Presidential election. Four years later, it's time for another.

This year's candidates, of course, are current President Donald Trump, and former Vice President Joe Biden. The Presidential election will happen on November 3rd, so if you are eligible to vote, remember to do so. You can vote online, in person, or through mail.

The latest Presidential debate was on October 22nd. It was arguably better than the previous debate, which had little to no debating. This time around, the candidates were muted while the others were talking, so interruptions were minimal. While the candidates were muted at some points, they were not always muted. When they were done with explaining their specific

points, the moderators gave each candidate time to speak with their opponent unmuted. This led to a few interruptions primarily from President Trump, though the former Vice President was not innocent in that regard.

People all over the country are divided on who they want to be president; this is not a shocking fact. Like the 2016 elections, many people look at it as a "lesser of two evils" choice. Others truly believe the candidate they are voting is the right person for the job of taking on various issues, such as COVID-19 or climate change.

"I am voting for President Trump because of his populist and conservative policies, as well as him keeping his promises," said WB senior Nick Brunetti, who stated that our interview could have been longer. That shows how passionate some people are about this year's election.

This year's election seems to

have inspired many people to vote. Methods to raise awareness about the election ranges from simple yard signs to advertisements at sporting events. The Los Angeles Rams has "Los Angeles Votes" on their football field.

While most people are putting up yard signs supporting Trump or Biden, others are putting up joke yard signs to lighten the mood of the election. Some have been supporting Star Wars villain Darth Vader, with his campaign slogan, "Together, we can rule the galaxy."

All joking aside, this election is an important one. Many people are quite concerned with the current laws on climate change, as well as the treatment of the LGBTQ+ community. They believe Biden can improve these issues.

"I am voting for Joe Biden," said WB alum, Zach Noesen, 2020. "I like his stance on climate change and his beliefs about the

LGBTQ+ community, as opposed to the alternative."

While most people in the country vote Republican or Democrat, others are not satisfied with either side. Third party candidates like Jo Jorgensen or Gloria La Riva have gathered some votes, but rarely is it double digit. According to the Guardian, Libertarian Gary Johnson gained three percent of the vote in 2016. That is a very rare occurrence. Some people hope that the third parties eventually gain more power.

"I voted for Jo Jorgensen, who represents the Libertarian party. Libertarian essentially are individuals who are socially liberal, but fiscally are conservative. I support social rights for all people, but prefer the government to stay out of our financial situations," said WB alum Anas Salman, class of 2020.

Online concerts can still be pretty great

NICEA SCHEELER
STAFF WRITER

One of the many consequences of this pandemic is that concerts are no longer safe to attend. A wide variety of music events have been cancelled, including world tours and radio shows, which has put many people working behind the scenes out of work.

Many artists have donated to or promoted fundraisers that help provide money and resources to these people who are currently jobless. Help has also been provided to members of the crew from virtual shows, which have been introduced since the world shut down in March.

I have attended numerous concerts taking place on Instagram Live or YouTube with artists including Niall Horan, Charlie Puth, and Kelsea Ballerini.

While it is unfortunate that we cannot see our favorite artists and hear our favorite albums in person, I have liked some things that

the virtual concerts provide that in-venue concerts do not.

For one, there is more intimacy between the artists and the fans. At his Voicenotes Tour in 2018, Charlie Puth was phenomenal, playing his keyboard and delivering great vocals. However, there was not a lot of fan interaction, which makes the show less personal and memorable. On his Instagram Live concerts, you see a lot more interaction, such as answering questions and using the "guest" feature for fans, adding them to his live stream one at a time.

I also liked hearing the music in a more acoustic way, since the artists are for the most part quarantined and without the members of their band. Niall Horan played only the guitar for some songs and only the piano for others. In a stage setting, he typically has his four or five instrumentalists with him, depending on the set for that particular show. The show's environment feels a lot more personal when it's just the artist and his or

her instrument.

There are obvious things that we all miss about being in a venue, such as the interaction with the people around you. I have made friends at concerts years ago that I still am in touch with today; meeting new people with the same music taste as you is always a plus to enjoying your favorite music in person. There is also the "getting ready" phase that we all miss having, like picking out your outfit for the show.

You can always interact with your friends in the comments, as I have done on JP Saxe's weekly Instagram Lives. You can also pick an outfit to wear for the virtual show, even if no one can see you. Pretty much anything is healthier than sitting around in your pajamas watching Netflix all day with some ice cream, no matter how fun that is.

Some upcoming virtual shows for which you have to purchase a ticket include Niall Horan at the Royal Albert Hall in London (No-

vember 7), Brandi Carlile for the VerizonUp concert series (November 12), and Kelsea Ballerini for the VerizonUp concert series (December 3). Shawn Mendes also has a documentary coming out on November 23, so you can get some music in that way.

Concerts like Niall Horan's are available on multiple platforms.



“Now, where to begin?” asks Enola Holmes

TESSA GOODMAN
STAFF WRITER

Netflix recently released *Enola Holmes*, directed by Harry Bradbeer, who is a well-known television series director (*Killing Eve*). The movie stars Millie Bobby Brown (*Stranger Things*) as Enola Holmes, Henry Cavill (*Man of Steel*) as Sherlock Holmes, Helena Bonham Carter (*The Crown*) as Eudoria Holmes, Louis Partridge (*Paddington 2*) as Viscount Tewksbury.

I'll launch into my review by starting with its surprising change of perspective. Enola is the main character and the narrator. An interesting part of the film is how Enola narrates through the “fourth wall” by talking directly to the 21st-century audience from her late 19th-century perspective. This amazing mystery action film can be described for the most part as quirky, and a noticeable difference in relation to other films is how females differ in representation in Enola's mindset and in her real world. Throughout the film, it is

made clear that Enola was raised differently by her mother, who at the beginning has disappeared from the household.

After her brothers, Mycroft and Sherlock, find that their mother is missing from their estate, Enola is left, as her name states, Alone. (Read it backwards.) It is decided that she must attend a finishing school to turn her into their viewed version of a proper lady.

Enola is different in appearance and poise from proper women at the boarding school; we find that Enola has more success in her investigating endeavors and adventures while dressing as a boy because when dressing as a boy she has more freelance ways to go about un-known regions. No one questions a young boy going out adventuring alone, but a woman could be highly questioned and considered in danger.

Her older brother, Mycroft said that Enola was an “uneducated, underdressed, poorly mannered wild-ling.” So instead of having to attend this powderpuff school for ladies, Enola decides to

disappear to look for her mother.

Throughout her escaping, there are notable ways the film changes. First, they use a visual effect of pages turning while narrating. From this point of Enola's escape, when she needs to get out of the countryside, there are some really engaging ways they craft scenes with visual effects: sets and real-life shots of beautiful places in London, and green screen visual effects blend beautifully.

There are quite a few thrilling moments of adventure to make you keep watching this film, twists, and turns that make you question the true plot of the story. To hint at one of these captivating plot twists, some things go awry, and a new character is introduced, Vicount Tewksbury, the Marquess of Basilweather. And Enola finally makes it to London, where she has more surprising adventures.

The film uses lighting with dark, gloomy blue and muted colors to create an effect. I really applaud the Director of Photography, Giles Nuttgins, who is well known for the 2016 film *Hell and High Water*.

And I want to nod to other unexpected plot twists, one that involves more fascinating visual effects and some dazzling audio. Enola travels to the Bassilweather estate following another clue, and as she is found roaming the grounds with the grandmother of Tewksbury, the tranquil sounds of the London forests kick in. Now for fear of spoilers, I will not recite the exact events; however, there are a few violent moments, especially in the climaxes of fight scenes. And I would consider the ending of this film to be particularly amazing,

“So how to conclude?” asks Enola.

This story explores the challenges of growing up and discovering the self as Enola discovers through her many different disguises and identities. This magnificent mystery is available on Netflix now and I hope all of you go and appreciate this movie. If you enjoy the film, more stories of Enola are available in *The Enola Holmes Mysteries* book series by Nancy Springer.

iPhone 12 offers 5G and some improvements

MARITZA ELENA
STAFF WRITER

The iPhone 12 is the replacement for the baseline iPhone 11. Apple announced three other devices in the iPhone 12 lineup, including the iPhone 12 mini, iPhone 12 Pro, and iPhone 12 Pro Max. The differentiators between each model are size and camera features.

Apple has released the iPhone 12, and Apple states it is 11% thinner, 15% smaller, and 16% lighter than iPhone 11.

Nearly every other phone has a curved edge and an obvious border between the display and the frame, but the iPhone 12s feels much more like a single piece.

“It reminds me a little of the iPhone 5, but more importantly, it looks and feels very different than

any other modern phone,” Nily Patel, a former iPhone 11 owner, states in *The Verge*.

Something to keep in mind for users is that the 12 Pro is shiny with a glossy stainless steel frame that instantly picks up fingerprints. This is a phone you will be trying to keep clean quite often if you don't put it in a case, according to *The Verge*.

The back of the phone features Apple's new MagSafe magnetic wireless charging and mount system. The actual MagSafe charging puck is pretty huge for something you might carry around with you, even though it's small for a wireless charger. The cord itself is short; Apple has yet to come out with one that has a longer cord, but it seems inevitable.

The noise reduction has im-

proved and looks better than the iPhone 11: photos look less grainy, and there's a little more detail.

According to *The Verge*, the iPhone 11 Pro had the best camera on a smartphone, but it's not like the iPhone 12 Pro went backward.

There are some other small but noticeable photo improvements over the 11 Pro. The ultrawide lens distorts a little less at the edges, and photos from the ultrawide and telephoto are a tad sharper and more detailed.

According to *Forbes*, an OLED screen instead of the LCD technology is used on the iPhone 11. OLED offers brighter colors, inky black shades and better contrast levels.

The front of the phone uses a much tougher glass than before, which Apple calls Ceramic Shield.

It says this is tougher than any other smartphone glass and, to put this in perspective, this means it has four times better drop protection, as reported by *Forbes*.

At last, 5G comes to the iPhone. Phone manufacturers such as Samsung and OnePlus have had this connectivity for more than a year. The benefits of 5G are higher speeds, allowing for quicker downloads movies, files, or apps.



photo courtesy of forbes.com

Dodgers prove they're worth the price

ALEX HIRSCH
STAFF WRITER

"THAAAAAATS STRIKE 3!" screams Joe Buck, "DODGERS HAVE WON IT ALL IN 2020"

The Los Angeles Dodgers beat the Tampa Bay Rays in six games to win the World Series this year. This was their third time in four years making it to the fall classic, but their first title win since 1988. The Tampa Bay Rays were a 1998 expansion team in their second World Series. Both teams were the only ones to win at least 40 of their 60 games this shortened season.

The Dodgers went on to win it all, but this season was unlike any other in the sport's history. Due to COVID-19, there was a shortened 60 game season. Teams were only allowed to play against other teams in their respective region.

The MLB also tried a brand new expanded format that allowed

16 teams into the playoffs instead of the usual 10. There have been bubbles in Houston, Los Angeles, San Diego, and Arlington since the divisional rounds.

All of the World Series was played in the Texas Ranger's Globe Life Field. The stadium was recently built, and used for the first time in 2020. It was designed as a dome to allow air conditioning during the hot Texas summers. Nearly 25% capacity of the massive 47,300 seat stadium was filled up for the playoffs each night. The bubbles were designed to prevent new COVID cases. Unfortunately, this didn't work out.

In the middle of Game 6, Dodgers star Justin Turner was rushed off the field. His COVID-19 results were positive, meaning he could put a lot of people in danger. It was the first COVID-19 case in the MLB for two months.

After the game Turner went

back on the field and is shown hugging teammates, kissing his girlfriend, and wandering around without a mask.

This positive COVID case could be the start of many potential cases. The MLB is currently under investigation on how Turver developed COVID, and how to prevent any further spread.

Coming into the series, the Dodgers were the much-favored team. This could be evident by their \$107,917,397 superstar-filled payroll compared to the Rays minuscule \$28,290,689 payroll. Unfortunately, that's how baseball front offices work. Some teams don't have the spending money as others possess. The Rays are known as a small market team, using draft picks as trades to develop young players.

The teams lined up as even foes, both having top 5 starting rotations, featuring former Cy

Young winners Clayton Kershaw of the Dodgers and Blake Snell of the Rays. It was a battle of some of the brightest young superstars in the game, such as Mookie Betts and Cody Bellinger of the Dodgers against Brandon Lowe and Randy Arozarena of the Rays. The big difference was "clutchness." The Dodgers took advantage of every small mistake and were able to win the best-of-seven series in six games.

The World Series, along with the shortened MLB season, was a great success. It came down to the league's two best teams offer, and was a hard-fought battle. In the end, the chaotic ending was the only way we could have ended this perfect storm of a season.

Note: Look for continued coverage of WB sports, including girls swimming, in the November issue of *Skyline*.

Sports continue globally amid Covid-19

LOGAN FAULK
STAFF WRITER

It is apparent that the Covid-19 pandemic has changed and continues to prolong shutdowns and cancellations in the United States. With the rise in the number of cases nationwide, many states still struggle to reopen and keep many of their components closed, including non-essential businesses, schools, and other establishments.

However, one thing that many people have recently been able to return to is athletics. Many states have allowed sports to practice and even some sports to play regulation matches and tournaments if deemed safe. Besides, many professional sports leagues like the MLB, NHL, NFL, and NBA have made returns with limited or no in-person attendance.

Despite all the recent events regarding Coronavirus in the United States, many major athletic leagues and other globally recognized events have had varying re-

sults. Many countries have begun to play and have even had full, in-person attendance at games; however, many countries are still battling the lingering threat of a second outbreak heading into winter. Yet even with this threat, many states have still held firm on not shutting down and are clear that many athletic seasons will not be canceled or postponed.

According to AP News, European sports that are played across the European Union will be primarily restricted by the amount of contact the event contains, the amount of travel is required, and the positivity rate by country.

Yet many national-based leagues, like the KHL (Kontinental Hockey League) in Russia, the English Premier League in England, National Rugby League in Australia, and the Indian Premier League, a global league, have been playing throughout the Covid-19 pandemic with varying fan attendance. Even more impressive is the fact that instead of playing

in a select number of venues like the NHL and NBA, all of these sports have played at their stadiums, which, surprisingly, has only brought about a small number of Coronavirus cases.

In addition, many of these leagues are available on specific streaming services. The Premier League in England streams on NBC Sports and Peacock during their scheduled time slots, usually around 9 o'clock PM CDT, and many rugby games can be watched on NBC Sports with an additional payment. Of course, highlights of many games worldwide can still be found on YouTube for no extra cost.

On the other hand, there is--or instead was--the 2020 Summer Olympics in Tokyo, Japan. Though it has already been re-scheduled, the city of Tokyo and the Olympic Committee has lost millions of dollars in cancellations and advertisements that will need to be readjusted and re-broadcasted next year.

There is also some controversy as to if even 2021 is too soon to host an event to the Olympics. Surina Khurana, a reporter for *The Daily Californian*, wrote, "If coronavirus concerns persist next year, the Olympics will be canceled, not postponed a second time." If this is the case, it would be the first time in history that the Olympic Games are canceled for a reason apart from war, and would be the fourth total time they have been called off.

All things considered, Covid-19, much in like North America, has profoundly impacted how individual countries go about taking steps in times, such as that of a pandemic, to protect and support its citizens, but also preserve normalcy. But it is interesting how many countries have put effort into keeping normalcy with their respective pastimes and national games. It emphasizes how sports, people, and nations are more robust than any disease and define a noun: strength.