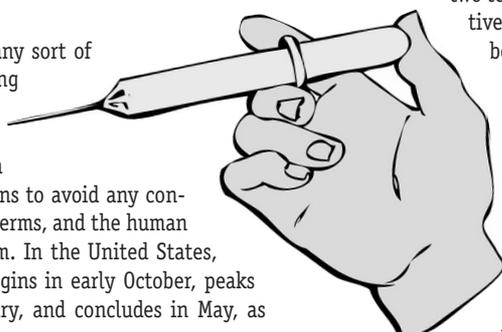


Desperate flu avoidance

by Brent Gingell
Web Editor

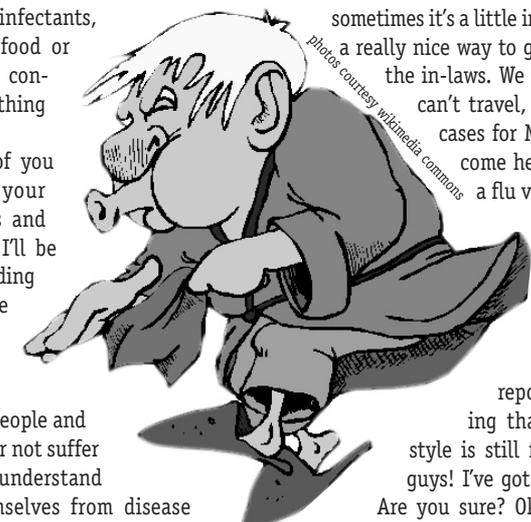
Hoping to avoid any sort of sniffing and sneezing in the upcoming flu season, local student Mike Mikeson has begun preparations to avoid any contact with hazardous germs, and the human race that carries them. In the United States, flu season usually begins in early October, peaks in January or February, and concludes in May, as Mike is acutely aware.



Sources close to Mikeson confirm that he has gotten every flu shot approved by agencies with a "better track record containing the spread of disease than the CDC." Other measures to combat the seasonal string of illnesses include locking himself in a steel-walled room furnished with only an array of disinfectants, boiling any outside food or drinks, and avoiding contact with any living thing whatsoever.

"While the rest of you are suffering with your mucus-filled sneezes and disgusting sniffing, I'll be in perfect health, biding my time until the threat of disease is greatly lessened," said Mikeson. "It's not that I don't like people and animals, I'd just rather not suffer because they don't understand how to defend themselves from disease like I do."

"I really try to help everyone around me avoid the flu. I make sure to wash my hands and the hands of those around me as much as possible, and I've started referring people to this nice local business that sells plastic bubbles," said Mikeson, as



two teenagers outside his protective window decide to lick a bench probably contracting a multitude of diseases.

Sources close to the family confirmed that this is a yearly habit, and one greatly appreciated by his older sister, who says, "It's just nice to have a few months reprieve from him."

Friends of Mikeson classified the move to isolation as unsurprising. They told reporters that the few months between flu seasons did not diminish the amount Mikeson walks around mumbling something about "herd immunity" and "please wash your hands." Mike's parents addressed the issue to the move saying, "While sometimes it's a little inconvenient, it offers us a really nice way to get out of holidays with the in-laws. We can just say 'Oh no, we can't travel, Iowa has too many flu cases for Mike' and 'No, you can't come here, you didn't even get a flu vaccine. You'd drive poor Mikey catatonic! But seriously, we hope this is just a phase. Please let it be a phase.'"

Mikeson spoke to reporters in hopes of proving that a safe sanitary lifestyle is still fun and exciting. "Hey guys! I've got a joke for you. Ready? Are you sure? Ok, here it is. Have you heard the story about the germ? Nevermind, I don't want to spread it all over. Get it guys? Guys? I've got another one, come back. How can you tell if a mummy has a cold? He starts coffin. Get it? Because mummies are dead and we bury them in coffins, and coffin sounds a bit like coughing."



Homecoming enslavement

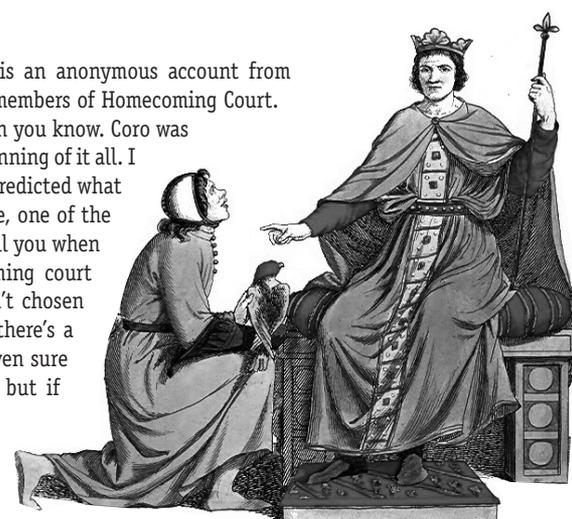
by Cole Potter
Web Editor

The following is an anonymous account from one of the losing members of Homecoming Court.

"It's been rough you know. Coro was really just the beginning of it all. I never could have predicted what came next. You see, one of the rules they don't tell you when you join Homecoming court is that if you aren't chosen as king or queen there's a penalty. I'm not even sure how this is legal, but if you don't receive the crown, you become a personal servant to one of the winning members of Court. The King and Queen each get to choose four of their peers to do their bidding for the remainder of the school year. Unfortunately I was chosen by His Majesty, the King, and the last two weeks have been anything but the 'royal treatment.'"

The first thing I noticed in fulfilling our beloved King's ridiculous requests was just how disgusting a musical instrument can actually be. I spent hours cleaning out spit and drool from the many metal orifices, but he always managed to make it filthier than before. The constant droning of the band was not much in the way of reprieve either, and throughout all of their rehearsals the only thing I could do was lament my decision to join the dreaded homecoming court.

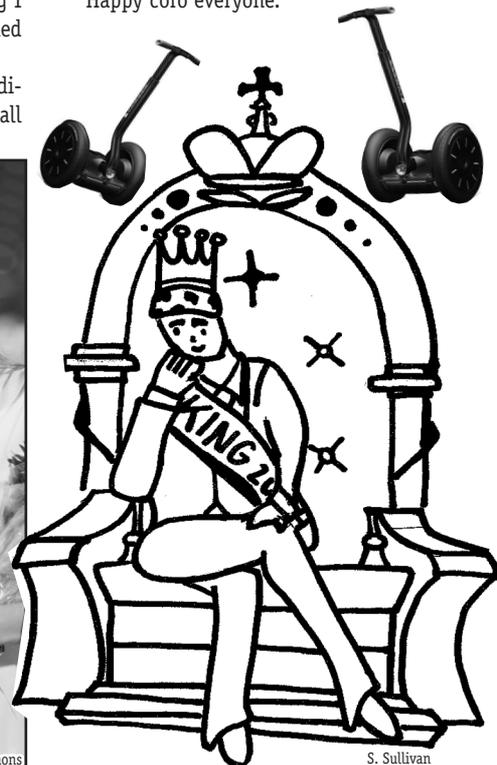
Now I am not saying that one should immediately forfeit their nomination. I simply beseech all



of those who are chosen next year to be sure of their chances of victory before agreeing to join the court. I would start training now if I were you. Practice riding a Segway with one hand on the handle bars and one hand either in the air, waving or smacking your own bottom to get a rise out of the crowd. Also, train

your mouth to remain in a constant, slightly frightening grin, as it is of the utmost importance to appear both overjoyed and psychopathic during the week of voting. Intimidation is the key to winning over those undecided students. Finally, I urge you not to be above bribery. Whether it be money, favors, or candy with your name, number and headshot on the wrapper, people want to vote for someone whom they can extort for monetary gains. Believe me, whatever you may be forfeiting in order to buy their vote will be much less precious than the dignity you will be forced to relinquish should you lose.

Happy coro everyone.



The best songs to listen to as you're crashing your car

by Sean Clark
Culture Editor

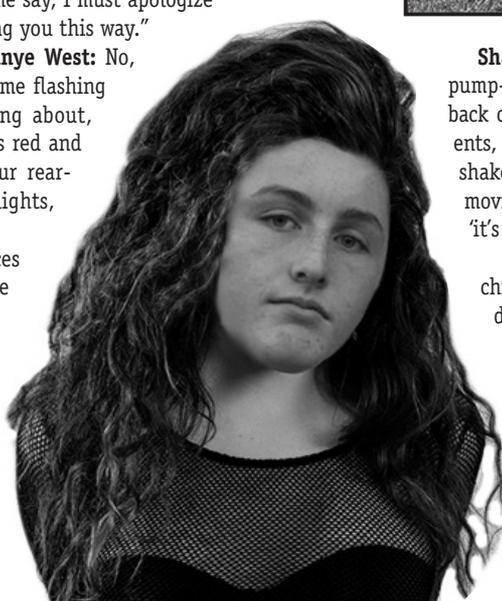
Every morning, an onslaught of cars pours into the small and cramped parking lots of LGHS. The mix of experienced and newly-licensed drivers makes for a fun blend of close calls and fender benders. There will be a time when you won't be so lucky, so I've made the perfect playlist for when that time comes.

I'm Just a Kid by Simple Plan: This early 2000s punk-rock hit really captures the feeling of accidentally side-swiping your lab partner's new Audi, "I'm just a kid and life is a nightmare, I'm just a kid and I know that it's not fair."

The Sweet Escape by Gwen Stefani: Let Gwen's angelic voice blow out your car speakers as you accidentally blow out someone's left taillight trying to get into that spot you thought you could make it into. This song is all about escaping, which is the only thing you'll want to do when you hear that horrifying crunch. "If I could escape, I would but first of all let me say, I must apologize for acting stank and treating you this way."

Flashing Lights by Kanye West: No, you won't be seeing the same flashing lights that Kanye is talking about, you'll be seeing the police's red and blue flashing lights in your rear-view mirror. "Flashing ...lights, flashing ...lights."

Royals by Lorde: Chances are, this song will already be playing if you are listening to the radio. This song is extremely relatable because you definitely won't be a royal (or a college graduate) after you pay to fix his or her car, "We'll never be royals, it don't run in our blood, that kind of luxe just ain't for us."



Shake It Off by Taylor Swift: This is more of a post-collision pump-up song that will give you enough confidence to get back out on the road. Yes the haters, probably your parents, will hate hate hate, but you just gotta shake shake shake it off. "But I keep cruising. Can't stop won't stop moving. It's like I got this music in my mind, saying 'it's gonna be alright.'"

Wrecking Ball by Miley Cyrus: America's favorite child-star gone bad's love ballad Wrecking Ball also doubles as a mid-collision car accident anthem. This song is dedicated to all of those new drivers out there who just couldn't slam on the breaks fast enough and ended up in their first fender bender. "I came in like a wrecking ball. Yeah, I just closed my eyes and swung. Left me crashing in a blazing fall, all you ever did was wreck me."

Wake Me Up by Avicii: "Wake me up when it's all over, when I'm wiser and I'm older." This song speaks to the

month-long grounding period you'll face if you ever hit someone's car. And that wraps up El Gato's Car Crash Playlist. Make sure you have this playing at all times in the car, because, you never know when you'll get into a car crash. Good luck and may the odds be ever in your favor!

