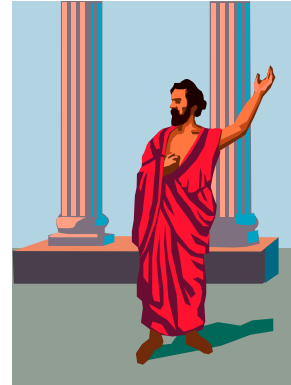


Latin Newsletter Fall 2007



“Ancient Culture in Today’s Classroom”

Ann Pearce, Latin teacher, Bismarck High School

Bringing ancient culture into today’s classroom can actually be done easily and it can be an instructional tool as well. For the past several years, I have continued to add life-sized figures dressed in togas, tunics and stolas to the corners of my classroom. My first, Dr. Evil, quickly became a favorite of my Latin students who wanted to borrow it for skits and other school activities. Seniors insisted on having a final picture taken with him at the end of the year.

The cardboard cut-out figures have made explaining Roman dress relatively simple. The nearest toga or tunic is just a gesture away. Gifts from colleagues and friends allowed me to expand my classroom family. The most recent acquisition, a gift from the aide who inputs my grades in the computer for me, has allowed me to transform Harrison Ford into a priestly flamen grasping with his sacrifice; a bright yellow rubber chicken! Across the room, Elvis – alive and well, in tunic and toga virilis, leans in a corner near the door. Hanging from a ceiling support, piñata “Sponge Bob Square Pants” hangs out in a boy’s toga praetexta with a bulla hanging from his neck. Standing on a window ledge, “Yoda” from “Star Wars” has become a member of Emperor Augustus’ praetorian guard.

Figures from “The Lord of the Rings” grace other areas of the classroom. Arwen wears a woman’s stola; Legolas wears an archer’s uniform and of course, Frodo Baggins, the typical dress of a Roman school boy carrying his scrolls, wax writing pads and sylvus. Gladiator “Rocky” sports the traditional net and trident of a trained retarius.

The only disconcerting side effect of the menagerie of classroom celebrities is the occasional, unnerving moment when I am in my room alone, correcting papers, feeling as if I’m being ‘watched’, and look up into an all-too-real face. As I tell my sometimes baffled family, “I think that anything and anyone looks good dressed in Roman attire”.

Bismarck Public Schools National Latin Exam Results



On the Ides of March (March 15th), sixty-four students representing all five Bismarck secondary schools (Bismarck High, Century High, Horizon Middle School, Simle Middle School and Wachter Middle School) participated in the 2006 National Latin Exam. Nearly 134,000 students from all fifty states and thirteen foreign countries took part in the test. Bismarck winners are the students of Linda Brandt, Nicole Hovland and Ann Pearce.

Among those students winning awards were the following:

Latin I Intro:

Outstanding achievement...Steven Goldade, Nicholas Hummel, Cole Kuester, Rachel Rixen, Faith Winings

Achievement...

Meagan Binigar, Lindsey Duppong, Grant Lorenz, Brooke Sweeney, William Woodworth

Latin I:

silver medal (maxima cum laude)...

Conrad Eggers and Brett Kelly

magna cum laude...

Cassalynn Bennett, Jared Berg, Chad Linke, Dylan Sandness, Jill Steinwand cum laude...

Joshua Anton, Erik Jensen, Kalee Kemmesat, Cameron Koenig, Tyre Leapaldt, Ryan Motl, Josh Shumaker, Emma Sioringas

Latin II:

gold medal (summa cum laude)

Allie Curry, Joshua Fisher, Erin Towner, Adam Twardowski

silver medal (maxima cum laude)

Robert Davis, Erik Eggers, Jessamyn McCollam, Leandra Olson, Madisson Whitman,
Tamara Zeric

magna cum laude...

Rheanna Haaland, Tim Hagan, Cady Mittlestadt, Stephanie Noyes, Madison Olson, Andrew
Steier

cum laude...

Tom Backstrom, Jasmin Boger, Alicia Marsh, Janella Reiswig, Apryl Walth and Richard
Weisz

Latin III (Prose):

silver medal (maxima cum laude)...

Logan Rutten and Rylan Wolfe

magna cum laude...

Cassandra Coghill

cum laude...

Christina Allen, McLauryn Schmidt, Jason Chmielewski, Jessica Wills, Emily Sakariassen

Latin III (Poetry):

cum laude...

Katie Del Vecchio and Ryan Patterson

Latin IV (Prose):

cum laude...

Sasha Bergsagel

Latin IV (Poetry):

silver medal (maxima cum laude)

Anna DaSilva and Olivia Kershaw

magna cum laude...

Sara Ault

cum laude...

Jordan Bleth and Erin Hocking

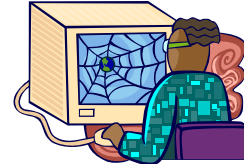


Website Recommendation

from Nicole Hovland of Bismarck Public Schools

For 6-8 students:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/romans/>



ACL

The American Classical League was founded in 1919 for the purpose of fostering the study of classical languages in the United States and Canada. Membership is open to any person who is committed to the preservation and advancement of our classical inheritance from Greece and Rome.

The League includes teachers of Latin, Greek, and Classics on elementary, secondary, and college levels. The League is celebrating its 89th anniversary in 2008.

<http://www.aclclassics.org/>

Please make submissions for the Latin Newsletter to Mary Ann Crow,
mary_crow@educ8.org . Thank you!

