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Superior Academic Performance (GPA 3.8-4.0):

Freshmen: Lucca Silvani & Felipe Andrade

Sophomore: Lilith Jones

Juniors: Karina Gonzalez, Carson Waddell, Rebeccah Rojas, Jose Sanchez Martinez

Sustainable Leadership Award: Xavier Mariduena & Jakob Bergen

Ray Fisher Leadership Award: Demari Hopper

Dr. B. Barbara Boerner Emerging Leader Scholarship Award: Rebeccah Rojas & Karina Gonzalez

Mt. Pisgah Award: Josh Romero & Javier Avalos

Grace Roy Award: Adam Spencer

Psychology:

Outstanding Major in Psychology: Amber Blanton

Rising Star in Psychology: Abigail Petrosky

Outstanding Thesis in Psychology: Mary Lewe

Criminal Justice:

Outstanding Criminal Justice Major:

Hannah Weatherall

Top Graduating Senior: Becky Harris & Hannah Weatherall

Top Junior: Jillian Davis, Makayla Foster, Alyviah Holland

Top Sophomore: Samuel Hunnicutt

Top Freshman: Carlie Henning & Josh Whetstone

Minor: Emily Fisher

Service to Peers and the Criminal Justice Program Award: Haven Rainey

Dedicated Service to Community: Haven Rainey

Dedicated Service to Alpha Phi Sigma: Autumn Miller, Haven Rainey, Syerria Winters

Dedicated Service to the CJ Program: Kat White & J.T. Wheeler

Most Effective Advocate for CJ Majors: Nicole O'Connor

BC students look to pandemics of the past

By Sam Hipp
Staff Writer

Students in Anne Chapin and Robert Bauslaugh's ARH 324/HIS 290 LINC course, a class that deals with the art and history of Ancient Rome, have delved into the past to see how plague affected the Fall of Rome and how we can learn from the past.

Ancient Rome appears to show striking parallels to the current COVID-19 pandemic. Contributing to the Fall of Rome were the Antonine and Justinian Plagues, which spread predominantly in urban centers, where people lived in close and often cramped conditions. Many Romans fled cities in an attempt to escape the disease, but in doing so, spread it to other areas in the empire.

On this important topic, Chapin says, "Pandemics have shaped human history for millennia, but it's only in the last decade that science has advanced enough to where ancient DNA can be pulled from ancient human remains. Now we know that around 4,000 years ago, Bubonic plague swept across Europe and decimated early populations."

"Early Indo-Europeans, who used horses to their advantage, moved into Europe in the wake of this deadly disease," Chapin said. "Today, we speak English, which is an Indo-European language. It's important to remember that we live everyday with the outcome of this one prehistoric pandemic."

"It's hard to exaggerate the impact that the Antonine plague had on the history of ancient Rome," Bauslaugh said. "From being the

world's most successful empire stretching from Britain to Egypt, Rome was literally brought to its knees in only a decade."

"There were no longer enough people to do essential jobs in critical areas like defense, food production, transport, building construction or even mining the metals they used to make their gold, silver and bronze coins (they had no paper money)," Bauslaugh said. "It marks a turning point toward the decline and fall of the Roman Empire."

The students' tasks were to create posters to describe the contributing factors to the Fall of Rome, such as barbarian invasions, climate change, disease and poor leadership within the government.

To quote Mark Twain, "History doesn't repeat itself, but it often rhymes." This quote applies to the current situation of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Looking into past pandemics gives us in the modern era an insight into how devastating plagues could be and how civilizations survived and recovered from them. We clearly see that the Romans, like modern nations today, had to resort to quarantining within homes to slow the spread.

While a few of the factors that apply to the Fall of Rome also apply to today, we can rest assured that we have the advantage of modern medicine and greater access to it, cleaner medical facilities and people having stronger immune systems and greater ways to support them.

We can also be grateful that there are no Visigoth invasions happening right now.

Beware of the Asian Murder Hornet!

By Aia Andonovska
Arts & Life Editor

A terrifying creature has made landfall in North America, and beekeepers are fearful that this insect will decimate bee populations. It is nicknamed the "murder hornet" as it kills approximately 50 people in Japan yearly, and its sting has been compared to that of hot metal searing and piercing through one's skin.

The Asian giant hornet has a distinctive look with its teardrop shaped eyes and orange and black stripes. It looks striped like a tiger with small, wispy wings.

More specifically, the hornet had found its new home and breeding ground in Washington state and some parts of Canada. Ted McFall, a Washingtonian and a beekeeper, had the fright of his life when he discovered his beehives had almost been annihilated. He described the sight. "I couldn't wrap my head around what could have done that," McFall said. In his many years of beekeeping, McFall had never seen anything like it.

Back in November, when he went to check on his hives, he came upon the gruesome sight of bee carcasses all over the ground. When he took a closer look, he saw a pile of decapitated bees strewn across the ground with no evidence as to what or who had done such a thing.

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