

Buenos Dias!

Salvete!

Bon Jour!

Gutentag!



The Certamen Team, involving Mike Dick, Doug Huber, and Margaret Donovan, anxiously compete against the opposing team.

Chris Sabine, Mike Webb, Amy Roberson, and Todd Wernicke proudly display the various trophies and ribbons they won at the convention.

## Latin Program Growing Steadily

**A**lthough the Latin language has only been offered for eight years, the Latin program has been steadily growing. Membership in the club is near 50 people, and this year has been the most active year for the group, including operating a booth in Spring Fling for the first time.

The Latin Club is an affiliate of the Ohio Junior Classical League and the National Junior Classical League. Students must pay annual dues of \$5, from which a portion is sent to the OJCL and the NJCL to help cover organizational costs.

The organization participates in a variety of activities during the year. In the fall, the group held their annual Saturnalia party, a festive Roman occasion. As junior Adam Rothwell stated, "Basically, we all sit around eating pizza and playing Roman games." Every year the club has a float in the Homecoming game as well.

The event that occupies the majority of the club's time is the annual OJCL Convention in Columbus. The club begins the preparation in the spring of the previous year. As Mrs. Carol Ihelendorf, Latin teacher and advisor for the group said, "The Convention is the climax of a very busy year. It [the con-

vention] is always in the back of our minds, and we are always looking for ways to improve our showing." The Convention was held during March 15, 16, and 17 at the Holiday Inn Conference Center. Forty-three schools were represented by over 750 delegates. This year the club finished with an most impressive 10th place standing.

During the three day convention, students took academic tests, participated in Certamen meets (academic quiz bowls), and displayed the many projects they had worked so hard on, including a banner, scrapbook, and video. In addition, social events such as informal dances were held during the evenings. This year the group received a special treat as Rothwell was elected to the position of state treasurer for the OJCL. When asked how he felt about the position, he replied, "It's quite an honor, and I am extremely proud."

Senior Greg Smith, Consul Primus (President) of Latin Club, said "People think we sit around all afternoon and conjugate verbs, when we actually have a lot of fun." Adding to that sentiment was Rothwell, who explained, "Although I thought Latin Club would be a major joke, I've met a lot of nice people and gained valuable knowledge."

by Rick Juneja

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