The Wars of the Republic

Punic Wars and the Third Servile War
Carthage

- Phoenician City-State in Northern Africa
  - Grew by trade and conquest
  - Controlled most of western Mediterranean Sea
First Punic War (264-241 B.C.E.)

- Began as a small dispute in Sicilian city of Messina
- Rome won quick victories so Carthage sent more soldiers, and more, and more, and more
  - Lasted for about 20 years
  - Outclasses by Carthage Navy and Government
Results of First Punic War

- Rome learned for to fight wars!
  - Senate learned how to finance a war
- Rome built and adapted its navy
- Rome gained a taste for war and empire
  (UH-OH FOR MEDITERANEAN WORLD)
Origin of Second Punic War

- Carthaginian Ruler Hamilcar Barca builds empire into Spain
  - Hatred of Rome and humiliating defeat drove him to build army
  - Had son named Hannibal
The Second Punic War
(218 - 202 B.C.E.)

- Hannibal invaded Italian Peninsula
  - Hoping to gain quick victories and break up empire
- Hannibal broke into Italy
  - Many battles won early on, made it all the way to southern Italy
Famous for....

- Hannibal Crossing the Alps
  - Hannibal escaped from Roman army in Spain
    - 40,000 troops and 37 elephants
  - Marched his army through the impenetrable Alps
Famous For….

- Battle of Cannae
  - Roman Senate creates army of 80,000 to deal with Hannibal’s 40,000
  - Hannibal tricks Romans to attack, but Hannibal gets around them
  - Only about 10,000 Romans survived
Problems Arise

• Italian States not breaking away from Rome
  – Loyalty, promises of victory, hope for military victory
• Romans Start burning everything in Hannibal’s path
• Roman Army suddenly gets a little less ambitious
Scipio Africanus

- Roman Consul
  - Elected on promise of defeating Hannibal
- Invades Africa
  - Forces Hannibal to return home to defend
Famous For….

- Battle of Zama
  - Hannibal sent mass Elephant Charge
  - Romans figured out how to defend against it
  - Scipio used same tactic that Hannibal did at Cannae
Results of Second Punic War

• Carthage forced to give up its empire
  – Lost all but 30 square miles
• Army and navy broken up
  – Only enough to defend against desert tribes
• Hannibal forced into exile
  – Still tried to build army till mysterious death
Third Punic War
(150 B.C.E. – 146 B.C.E.)

• “Carthago delenda est!” Senator Cato the Elder called for the destruction of Carthage
  – Carthage growing economically
  – Getting picked on by neighbors
• Senate still scared of a powerful Carthage
Famous For...

- Final Destruction of Carthage
  - Ancestor of Scipio led attack
  - Broke into city and fought fierce street battle
  - EVERYTHING WAS DESTROYED
    - Walls town down
    - City burned
    - Citizens sold into slavery
    - Senate passed a decree no one could ever live there
The Third Servile War 73 B.C.E

- Slave Rebellion led by gladiator Spartacus
- Moved around Italy for 2 years
  - Gained up to 70,000 supporters
- Eventually killed by combined army of Pompey and Crassus
The Price of Revolt