

Diesel Denson at the Podium

by David Solway (August 2015)

Best off-tackle rusher in the history
of the Conference, he's come to receive
the chronicled prize of the hero
at home in his heavy-traffic medium.
Cat-magic keeps him on his feet
in the midst of gang-tackling anarchy,
keeps him going when all are convinced
the play's broken and is going nowhere.
The big defensive ends chop at his knees,
linebackers dive for his ankles,
cornerbacks zero in from behind—
still he's up and running, lugging the ball
like a lump of pig-iron, moving the yardsticks
down the contested field
toward new lines of scrimmage, powering
through the twenty-third book of the Iliad.
Now, approaching the podium
for the token an epic ferocity claims,
taking the game in his stride,

poised in the dignity of performance,

he knows it all comes down to

the consummate art of balance-in-season,

receiving the unfired cauldron with grace.

And the Achaians applaud with reason.

David Solway is a Canadian poet and essayist. His forthcoming volume of poetry, *Installations*, will be released this fall from Signal Editions. A partly autobiographical prose manifesto, *Reflections on Music, Poetry and Politics*, is slated for later this year with Anstruther Press. A CD of his original songs, *Blood Guitar and Other Tales*, appeared last summer. Solway's current projects include work on a second CD with his pianist wife Janice and writing for the major American political sites such as *PJ Media*, *FrontPage Magazine*, *American Thinker* and *WorldNetDaily*.

To comment on this poem, please click