



The Panther Press

Florin High School

Fearless in Our Pursuit

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Issue VI

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DONKEY BASKETBALL

SATURDAY, MARCH 4TH
5:00 - 6:30 PM
MAIN GYM

Donkey Basketball!

Are you looking for fun and laughs this weekend? Want to see your favorite teachers and staff saddle up on a donkey? Maybe pet a donkey yourself? Don't forget to come to Donkey Basketball **Saturday, March 4th!** Watch students and staff play basketball on real-life donkeys and compete for the ultimate bragging rights! Tickets are \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door, and \$5 for children. Get yours in the front office. This event is a co-hosted fundraiser between the Classes of 2024 and 2025. Invite your teachers, friends, and family to come to watch the festivities. Tickets bought in advance qualify for entry for door prizes like a free Gala ticket! We'll see you there from 5:00 PM to 6:30 PM in the Main Gym!

Update: Door prizes include 5 Gala tickets; Front of the Line passes good for 1 full month, yearbooks, one-time DoorDash passes (with parent permission)! Don't forget, **attendance at the event clears 15 tardies** (20 if you purchase your ticket in advance)! You must clear your tardies to purchase your Gala tickets!

Gala Expo

Gala is coming up soon! Do you want to show off your fancy attire for the special event? Want to see what your friends are going to wear? **Gala Expo** will be held during lunch **March 23rd**, where students can show off their dresses and suits for the special day. In other words, it's a fashion show! If you want to take part, sign up through the link in our Instagram bio. We hope to see you there! Also, don't forget to buy a ticket to Donkey Basketball to have a chance to win a free Gala ticket!

[Sign up here!](#)



Club News!

By **Rich Ngo**, Interclub Council Co-Commissioner

As February flies by, we're entering the final few months of the school year. Our culture clubs are working diligently to bring new opportunities to Florin students. Soon, parents, younger and older siblings, and friends from all around can come to see them perform at the **Multicultural Night on March 30th**. With the same acts we love from Kaleidoscope and more, Multicultural Night will be a display of our school's diversity, spirit, and talent, but available to all members of the community.

Take the opportunity to explore what Florin High offers by joining one of the 30+ clubs at Florin High. There are still two months left before the end of school, so it isn't too late to try new things!

Some of our ongoing club activities

Latino Success - Kaleidoscope dance | Wednesdays after school outside L-8

Vietnamese Student Association (VSA) - Fan and Hat Dance | Wednesdays after school in L-3

Asian Club - Lion Dance | Wednesdays after school in L-9

Filipino Club - Tinikling | Mondays and Fridays after school outside K-3

Hmong Club | Hmong Dance | N-4

Drama Club | Upcoming Theatre Production | After School in the theatre

Dungeons & Dragons - Playing D&D | Mondays & Thursdays after school in J-10/B-3

Upcoming events

March 2nd - Food Faire forms due

March 24th - Food Faire

March 30th - Multicultural Night

Upcoming Schedule

Upcoming Events

Donkey Basketball! - Saturday, Mar. 4

Unity Day #2 - Tuesday, Mar. 7

Spring Awards Breakfast - Wednesday, Mar. 8

Band & Choir Concert - Wednesday, Mar. 22

Blood Drive - Thursday, Mar. 23

Gala Expo - Thursday, Mar. 23

Food Faire #4 - Friday, Mar. 24

Gala at Arden Hills Resort & Spa - Sat, Apr. 15

Graduation at Golden 1 Center - Tue, May 23

Minimum Day - (3/10)

Spring Break

No School (3/11 - 3/19)

Homeroom Schedule - (3/20)

March ASB Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
26	27	28	1	2	3	4
			Gala Guest Pass Apps Available!	MBB vs. Marysville @3:30pm <i>LTA: Donkey Tail & Bball</i>	<i>LTA: Filipino Club - Learn Tinikling</i>	Donkey Basketball 5:00 - 6:30 Main Gym
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	<i>Spirit Day: Rainbow</i> <i>LTA: National Oreo Day</i>	<i>Spirit Day: Wear Denim</i>	<i>Spirit Day: Monochromatic Day</i> Spring Awards Breakfast 7:30 am Library Class Meetings @ Lunch	<i>Spirit Day: Dress as the Decades</i> <i>LTA: Tissue Paper Flowers</i>	MINIMUM DAY END OF Q3 <i>Spirit Day: Pattern Day</i> Gala Guest Pass Apps Due for 3/27 Guarantee	
		COED Tennis vs. Valley @3:30pm	MBB vs. Cordova @3:30pm	Athletics in Comment		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	NO SCHOOL Spring Break	NO SCHOOL Spring Break <i>Athletics in Comment</i>	NO SCHOOL Spring Break	NO SCHOOL Spring Break	NO SCHOOL Spring Break <i>Athletics in Comment</i>	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	HOMEROOM SCHEDULE	<i>LTA: Bead Bracelets</i>	Kaleidoscope Assembly Tryouts @3:45 pm	InterClub Council Mtg 7:30 am B3 Blood Drive <i>LTA: Gala Expo</i>	Food Faire #4	
		COED Tennis vs. West Campus @4pm	Band/Choir Concert	MVB vs. West Campus @5/6pm	MBB vs. Foothill @4pm	
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
	MULTICULTURAL WK Multicultural Parade <i>LTA: TBD</i> Gala Tickets on Sale	HMONG DAY <i>LTA Hosted by Hmong Club</i> Gala Tickets on Sale WSF vs. Valley @4pm	LATINX DAY <i>LTA: Quinceañera Fashion Show</i> Gala Tickets on Sale	FILIPINO DAY <i>LTA Hosted by Filipino Club</i> Gala Tickets on Sale Multicultural Night 6 pm Main Gym	ASSEMBLY SCHEDULE Kaleidoscope RAssembly Gala Tickets on Sale	

Alumni Interviews

Featured is **Mr. Newman**, an alumni of the Class of 1996 and history teacher here at Florin.

What was your favorite memory in high school?

It's hard to choose a specific memory as the "favorite". I remember how every time I walked into ceramics, Mr. Charles would always shout, "Newman" with a special Seinfeldian flare (look up Newman on Seinfeld if you are too young for the reference). I remember also coming into class the day we were supposed to present our Mandalas (World History), and loudly complaining that I had forgotten we had homework (loud enough the teacher noticed). As it turned out, I was last to present so I was able to rip a paper into a circle, quickly add in my drawings and come up with an impressively improvised presentation. I was still slowly ripping the paper into a circle bit by bit as I presented and explained how the "rough edges symbolized the difficulties in Richard Wright's childhood." I earned a C because, in Mr. Clemons' words, "If you had done this before class it might have earned an A."



What advice would you give to seniors graduating this year, going into the real-world?

Have a plan. If you don't know what you want to do in life, that's ok, but don't use uncertainty as an excuse for inaction. If you aren't sure, make sure you are doing something productive with your time (you won't get it back). I had no idea that I wanted to be a teacher. Since I didn't know what I wanted to do, I decided to go to community college so I could cheaply explore many different fields. Ultimately I decided on Cultural Anthropology, transferred to Davis, and even went abroad for my Master's. I never did become an Anthropologist, but because I used that time to study and get a degree, when I finally decided that I wanted to teach, I only needed one more year of schooling. If I had used my uncertainty as an excuse to tread water for four or five years, I would have been faced with the prospect of 4 more years of schooling to reach my new goal. College doesn't guarantee high pay or the life you dream of, but it gives you many more options.

What would you have done differently in high school? What impact would it have had?

I would have taken my learning more seriously. I was never willing to accept C's, but I also didn't want to work harder than I had to in order to get an A or B. If I had worked harder in high school, college would have been easier.

What was a defining moment/experience/person that helped mold you into the person you are today?

Summers at my grandfather's ranch: the ranch house was an old, 1800s two story with 2 aging barns, a number of smaller outbuildings and a run-down windmill that we were absolutely never allowed to enter (it was falling down). My cousins and I would often stay there across the summer and I remember constantly competing to see who could wake up first each morning. The first kid to wake up could ride on the tractor, the combine, or swather next to my grandfather. The rest of the time on the ranch was spent helping out, exploring or playing with my cousins.

Over time, I developed a strong sense of the history of the place. Every creaky floorboard and every ivory door handle paired to a classic weathered brass keyhole gave a sense of the weight of the lives and times that had come and gone in that place.

I used to love combing the property for strange finds. The dogs used to have a wallow under the back porch, and, as a kid, I was able to crawl under the stairs to explore. I found tons of old green glass bottles and square head nails there. My favorite find, however, happened one day as I was walking through my grandmother's garden. I remember walking past one of the ditches and seeing a glint. I bent down, poked around in the dirt, and retrieved a 1912 mercury head dime looking as new as the day it was minted.

I remember thinking that someone had probably stood on that very spot almost a hundred years ago, and dropped the coin. The thought that it had been waiting there all this time for me to find gave me a strange sense of connection to that person. My imagination was able to fill in the rest. On that ranch, across those summers, my love of history was born.

What are your future plans?

Teach, raise my kids, retire.

Sports

By **Mario Perez**, Athletics Co-Commissioner

Friday, 1/27:

Men's JV Basketball vs. Cordova - L
Women's Varsity Soccer vs. Foothill - Tie
Women's Varsity Basketball vs. Cordova - L
Men's Varsity Soccer vs. Foothill - L
Men's Varsity Basketball vs. Cordova - L

Monday, 1/30:

Men's JV Basketball vs. Foothill - L
Women's Varsity Basketball vs. Foothill - L
Men's Varsity Basketball vs. Foothill - L

Wednesday, 2/1:

Women's Varsity Soccer vs. Valley - L
Men's Varsity Soccer vs. Valley - L

Thursday, 2/2:

Our Wrestling Team headed to the league championship tournament at Valley HS to face every team in our league (Foothill, Cordova, West Campus, Natomas, Hiram Johnson, Valley) to see which wrestlers will move on to Divisionals/Regionals! Leilani Perez, Valerie Song, and Anna'Licia Rendel all made regionals while Antony Yang, Marcus Walker, Pablo Murillo Ponce, Jaedon Thongthae-Tao, and Mario Perez all made divisionals!

Friday, 2/3:

Men's JV Basketball vs. Valley - L
Men's Varsity Soccer vs. Natomas - L
Women's Varsity Basketball vs. Valley - L
Women's Varsity Soccer vs. Natomas - L
Men's Varsity Basketball vs. Valley - L

Monday, 2/6:

Men's JV Basketball vs. Natomas - L
Women's Varsity Soccer vs. West Campus - L
Women's Varsity Basketball vs. Natomas - L
Men's Varsity Basketball vs. Natomas - L
Men's Varsity Soccer vs. West Campus - Tie

Wednesday, 2/8:

Men's JV Basketball vs. Johnson - L
Women's Varsity Soccer vs. Johnson - L
Men's Varsity Basketball vs. Johnson - L
Women's Varsity Basketball vs. Johnson - W
Men's Varsity Soccer vs. Johnson - In the last game of the season for our Men's Soccer team, they were able to take down the Warriors 2-1 at home!

Friday, 2/10:

Men's JV Basketball vs. West Campus - L
Women's Varsity Basketball vs. West Campus - L
Men's Varsity Basketball vs. West Campus - L

Fri-Sat, 2/10-2/11:

Our Lady Panthers of the Co-ed Wrestling Team took two of their athletes to the Women's Regionals Tournament. Valerie song placed 9th in her bracket and Anna'Licia Rendel placed top 8 in her bracket. Placing top 8 allowed Anna'Licia to move on to the next round of the postseason, Masters (Sections)!

Saturday, 2/11:

Men's Wrestling at Divisionals Tournament

Students of The Month

Students of the Month (January)

Megan Sherman	Mayleah Vuong	Le Ayshia Williams
Ashna Singh	Lamont Harris Liddell	Zuhal Nazari
Mayleah Vuong	Kaleah Yang	Kayla Xiong
Julissa Mercado Chavarin		