

SJSU History

A few of the many interesting items



Many names ...

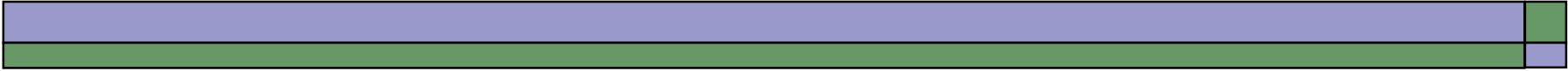
- Minn's Evening Normal School
 - n Operated by City of San Francisco, started 1857
- California State Normal School
 - n Legislation signed May 2, 1862; becomes first state normal school
- San Jose State Normal School - 1887
- San José State Teachers College - 1921
- San José State College - 1935
- CSU, San José -1972
- San José State University (SJSU) - 1974



What did students study at the Normal School?

Per the 1878-1879 Normal School Catalogue:

- Algebra
- Arithmetic
- Botany
- Chemistry
- Composition
- Criticism and English Literature
- Drawing
- Physical Geography
- Elementary Algebra
- Elements of Natural Philosophy
- English Grammar
- General Review of Elementary Studies
- Geometry
- Higher Algebra
- Household Science
- Lectures on Astronomy and Geology
- Methods of Teaching
- Natural Philosophy
- Observations in the Training School
- Orthography
- Penmanship
- Physical Geography
- Physiology
- Practice in the Training School
- Reading
- School Law and Constitution
- U.S. History
- Vocal Music
- Zoology

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- Almost continuously from 1867, students have published a journal of student poetry, essays, stories and plays.
 - Journal names have included *Acorn*, *Pennant*, *The Quill*, *El Portal* and *Reed* (still published today).

The Normal Pennant.



November, 1898.

CONTENTS.

LITERARY.

LITERATURE FOR LITTLE FOLK.
Miss Clara B. Charanell

A MODERN FAIRY STORY, - - - *E. C. Ford*

LITERARY NOTES - - - - - *R. R.*

EDITORIAL.

THE GRADUATING CLASS.

SOCIETIES - - - - - *L. Alice Halsey*

REVIEWS - - - - - *Edith Paul*

WIT AND HUMOR - - - - - *F. G. Mann*

ATHLETICS - - - - - *Helou M. Bonn*

Patronize the PENNANT and Patronize its ADVERTISERS.

November 1898



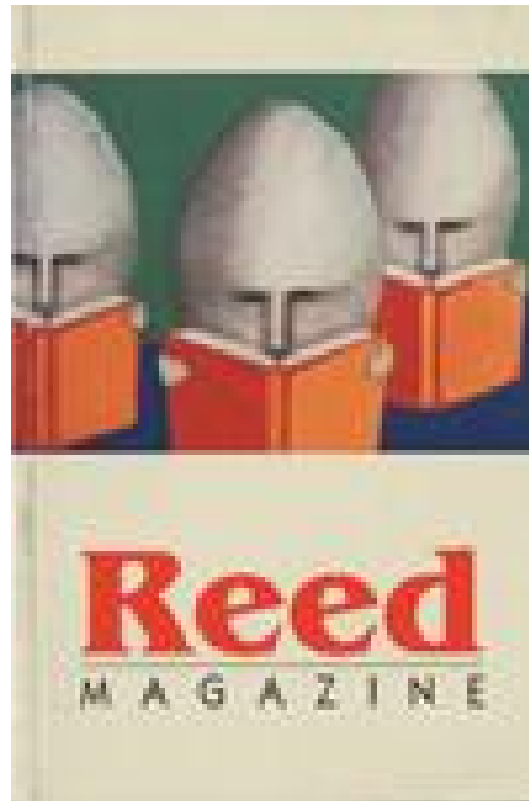
Item from *The Normal Pennant*

“As we go out from our “Alma Mater,” let us remember that if we wish to become successful teachers, we must pay special attention to that which belongs to us as individuals, and for which we alone are responsible—our self-education.”

- *Source:* Student Esther May Lamb; *The Normal Pennant*, Vol III, June 1900.

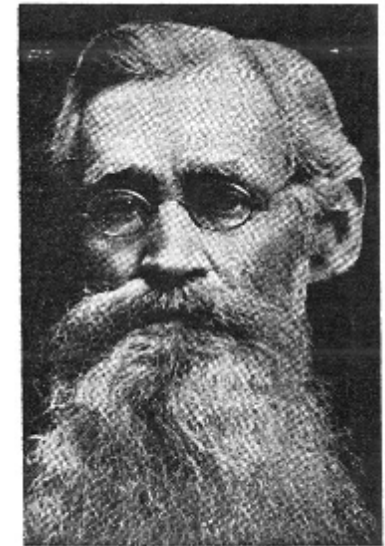
Today –

Reed Magazine



1992

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- UCLA started as part of our Normal School - Los Angeles State Normal School opened as a branch in 1882 with Principal Allen directing both schools the first year.



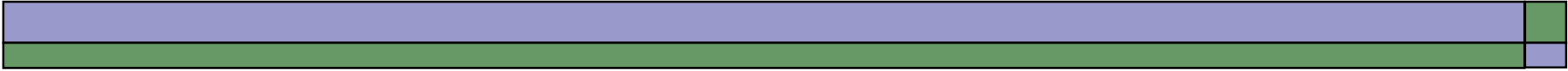
CHARLES H. ALLEN
Principal, 1873-1889

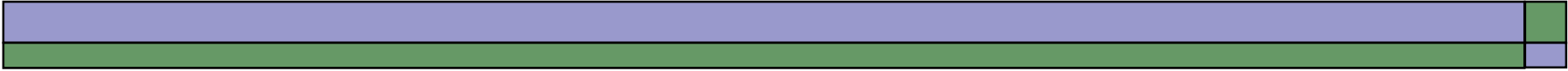
The football team dates back to 1892



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- Associated Students dates back to 1898.
 - The oldest university building on campus is Tower Hall (1910) (AS Government House is older (1905), but wasn't originally built for the campus)



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- Master's degrees were first awarded in 1949.
 - In 1993, the campus reached cultural pluralism with no ethnic majority.

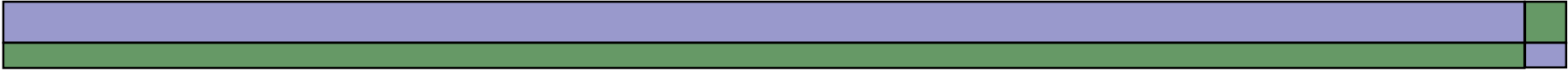


Greek history: Alpha Phi sorority began in 1898 as a literary society called Ero Sophian – making this student organization over 100 years old!



In 1893, the faculty adopted this grading system:

- n P—a decided failure
- n p—a failure, but not very serious
- n c—a standing that hardly passes
- n C—an unquestionable success



Many well known people have been guest lecturers on the campus since 1890 including ...

- Jane Addams
 - George Washington Cable
 - Jack London
 - Frederic Jackson Turner
 - Jacob August Riis
 - David Starr Jordan
 - John Dewey
 - Helen Keller
 - Edwin Markham
 - Gaylord A. Nelson (alum)
 - Gloria Steinem
 - Erin Brockovich
- and many authors through the Center for Literary Arts including
- Garrison Keillor
 - Norman Mailer
 - Edward Albee
 - Alice Walker
 - Studs Terkel
 - Ken Kesey
 - Ursula K. LeGuin
 - Joyce Carol Oates
 - Azar Nafisi
 - Amy Tan (alum)



Test your Normal School Smarts

Sample Examination Questions to Help One Prepare to Enter the California State Normal School in 1879

1. $\frac{2}{3}$ of a number is 12. What is $\frac{7}{9}$ of the same number?
2. A boy gave half his apples to his brother, one-third of the remainder to his sister, and had twelve apples left. How many had he at first?
3. Give three ways in which a noun may be in the objective case, with an example of each.
4. Give five uses of the comma.



And more ...

5. What is the diameter of the earth, expressed in miles?
6. Which has the more changeable climate, an island or a continent? Why?
7. Name the force in nature that causes a stone to sink in water. The force that causes a balloon to rise in air. The force that causes the molecules of a solid to cling together.
8. Give the use of the fly-wheel, the governor, and the sliding valve in a steam engine.



A few of SJSU's famous alums

- Lou Henry Hoover, 1893 (1874-1944), (wife of President Herbert Hoover)
- Gaylord Nelson, founder of Earth Day, former U.S. Senator and Governor from Wisconsin (1939 Political Science; 1960 Honorary Master of Arts degree)
- Tommie Smith, 1968, "Speed City" athlete and Gold Medal Winner in the 200-meter race at the 1968 Olympics in Mexico City
- John Carlos, 1970, "Speed City" athlete and Bronze Medal Winner in the 200-meter race at the 1968 Olympics in Mexico City
- Ben Nighthorse Campbell of Colorado, former U.S. Senator
- Valerie Coleman-Morris, anchor for CNN Financial News
- Irene Dalis, 1946, former Metropolitan Opera star, founder of Opera San Jose
- Tom and Dick Smothers, famous comedy team
- Amy Tan, novelist, author of *The Joy Luck Club* and other novels
- Luis Valdez, prize-winning playwright, film actor and director
- Dick Vermeil, coach of the Kansas City Chiefs, former coach St. Louis Rams
- Bill Walsh, former head coach San Francisco 49ers

Alums
Tommie Smith and
John Carlos

