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Guide to the San José State University Football Programs Collection

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Processed by:
Thomas Stamps
Date Completed:
2009
Encoded by:
Mary Ellen Petrich

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Descriptive Summary

Title: San José State University Football Programs Collection

Dates: 1934-2004

Bulk Dates: 1947-1962

Collection number: MSS-2009-08-04

Creator: San José State University

Collection Size: 8 boxes(3.92 linear feet)

Repository: San José State University. Library.

San José, California 95192-0028

Abstract: The San José State University Football Programs Collection, 1934-2004 (bulk 1947-1962), provides a snapshot of the intercollegiate games played by the SJSU Spartans. The football team began in 1893, with the first intercollegiate game taking place in 1895. SJSU celebrated its intercollegiate centennial in 1995. SJSU is a Division I member of the National Collegiate Athletic Association, participating in the Western Athletic Conference. The programs provide biographical profiles of the players and coaches of both teams, and also include statistics, records and press releases. In addition, notable materials in the collection include SJSU football information guides provided for the press, radio, and television, and the 1995 Football Media Guide celebrating the 100th anniversary of the SJSU football team. This collection is arranged into one series: Series I. Football Programs, 1934-2004 (bulk 1947-1962).

Physical location: For current information on the location of these materials, please consult the Library's online catalog.

Languages: Languages represented in the collection: English

Access

The collection is open for research.

Publication Rights

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Preferred Citation

San José State University Football Programs Collection, MSS-2009-08-04, San José State University Library Special Collections & Archives.

Processing Information

Collection processed by Thomas Stamps. Finding aid EAD encoded by Mary Ellen Petrich. Reviewed by Danelle Moon and Erin Louthen.

Project Information

This finding aid was created as part of the Survey and Cataloging Project, a two-year San José State University Library grant project funded by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission. The project began in 2008. The Project Director is Danelle Moon. The Project Archivist is Erin Louthen.

Organizational History

In 1857 the San Francisco Board of Education established Minns' Evening Normal School for current and prospective teachers in the city. Named after its principal, George W. Minns, the institution was formally established as the first California State Normal School by the State Legislature in 1862. A decade later, the Legislature voted to move the Normal School to San José, and the school relocated to its new home on Washington Square prior to the fall term of 1872. After a fire destroyed the Normal School building in 1880, the Legislature authorized $200,000 to construct a new building on the same site. Completed in 1881, the building was commonly referred to as the Second State Normal School. After several names and curriculum changes, Minns' Normal School is now San José State University, offering more than 134 bachelor's and master's degrees with 110 concentrations, and is recognized as one of the top public universities granting such degrees in the West.

Early accounts indicate that the San José State Normal School football program organized as early as 1893, with the first intercollegiate game taking place in 1895. The YMCA defeated the Normal School 18-0 in 1893, when male enrollment numbered about 40. Over the years, the Spartan football program has become a major establishment at SJSU. The Spartans became a powerhouse in the 1930s and 1940s, winning eight conference championships over an 18-year span. In addition, the San José State football team had just arrived in Hawaii when Pearl Harbor was attacked on December 7, 1941. The team subsequently volunteered to assist the Honolulu Police Department maintain order on the island, as there was fear of an invasion by Japanese armed forces. San José State University's first bowl game was in 1947, when the team defeated Utah State 20-0 in the Raisin Bowl. The SJSU football team's most recent bowl game was in 2006, when they defeated the University of New Mexico at the New Mexico Bowl, 20-12. In 2004, SJSU installed the Jeff Garcia Hall of Champions near Spartan Stadium in San José. The Hall of Champions includes the memorabilia of SJSU Hall of Fame athletes and coaches such as Bill Walsh, the three-time Super Bowl winning coach for the San Francisco 49ers and former player and coach of the San José State University Spartans. SJSU celebrated its intercollegiate centennial in 1995, and is a Division I member of the National Collegiate Athletic Association, participating in the Western Athletic Conference.

Bibliography

Gilbert, Benjamin F., and Burdick, Charles. *Washington Square, 1857-1979: The History of San José State University*. San José, California: San José State University, 1980.

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Walsh, James P. *San José State University: An Interpretive History, 1950-2000*. San José, California: San José State University, 2003.

Related Material

San José State University Sports History Collection, MSS-2009-11-04, San José State University Library Special Collections & Archives.

Scope and Content of Collection

The San José State University Football Programs Collection, 1934-2004 (bulk 1947-1962), provides a snapshot of the intercollegiate games played by the SJSU Spartans. The football team began in 1893, with the first intercollegiate game taking place in 1895. SJSU celebrated its intercollegiate centennial in 1995. SJSU is a Division I member of the National Collegiate Athletic Association, participating in the Western Athletic Conference. The programs provide biographical profiles of the players and coaches of both teams, and also include statistics, records and press releases. In addition, notable materials in the collection include SJSU football information guides provided for the press, radio, and television, and the 1995 Football Media Guide celebrating the 100th anniversary of the SJSU football team. This collection is arranged into one series: Series I. Football Programs, 1934-2004 (bulk 1947-1962).

Arrangement

This collection is arranged into one series: Series I. Football Programs, 1934-2004 (bulk 1947-1962).

Indexing Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.

San José State University -- Athletics Dept. -- History.

San José State Teachers College -- History.

San José State College -- History.

California State University, San José -- History.

San José State University -- History.

Education, Higher -- California -- San José.

Football -- United States -- History.

Football -- California -- San José -- History.

Series I: **Football Programs 1934-2004 (bulk 1947-1962)**

Physical Description: 8 boxes

Series Scope and Content Summary

This series consists of programs documenting SJSU football games, providing statistics and records of the team. Available for purchase at every game, the programs include biographical profiles and photographs of the players and coaches, as well as information such as team rosters, final scores for past games and press releases informing fans of the latest team news and events.

Arrangement

This series is arranged chronologically by date.

Box: 1	**Football Programs 1934-1951**
Box: 2	**Football Programs 1934-1976 (bulk 1952-1956)**
Box: 3	**Football Programs 1936-1995 (bulk 1962-1982)**
Box: 4	**Football Programs 1937-1968**
Box: 5	**Football Programs 1940-1965**
Box: 6	**Football Programs 1947-1949**
Box: 7	**Football Programs 1976-1985**
Box: 8	**Football Programs 2004**