

Grant Union High School Home of the Pacers



Brief History of Grant Union High School



Ninety years of Legend and Legacy

Sacramento's First High School

Sacramento High School (1856)



Sacramento's Second High School

San Juan High School (1913)



1932 Sacramento and North Sacramento



1930's North Sacramento Elementary School Districts

- Robla
- Elverta
- Del Paso
- Rio Linda
- North Sacramento
- Hagginwood

New High School District Formed 1931

What to Name the High School?

- 1844 Rancho Del Paso Land Grant
- 1862 Sold to James Ben Ali Haggin
- 1905 Largest Horse Breeding Ranch (Ben Ali Stables)
- Sold to Sacramento Valley Colonization Company that became the 1910 North Sacramento Land Company
- High School Board names high school in recognition of the original Rancho Del Paso Land Grant and the founding school districts
- “Grant Union High School” is born

Mascot: Pacer for Life

“Phantoms”

Original Mascot of Grant Union High School

“PACERS”

Changed by a request from the student body to commemorate the championship thoroughbred racehorses bred at the Ben Ali Stables



Grant Union High School 1932

Phase 1: Chicken Coops



TEMPORARY BUILDING OF
GRANT UNION HIGH SCHOOL. SEPT. 12, 1932.
HAGGINWOOD SAC'TO. CALIF.



Grant Union High School
stage after start
Photo - Aug. 18, 1932. 81932

Work Progress Administration Project (WPA) First School In California

Groundbreaking 1931



Dedication 1935



WPA Additional Classrooms 1937 and 1938



Additional WPA Projects

Community Swimming Pool (1934)



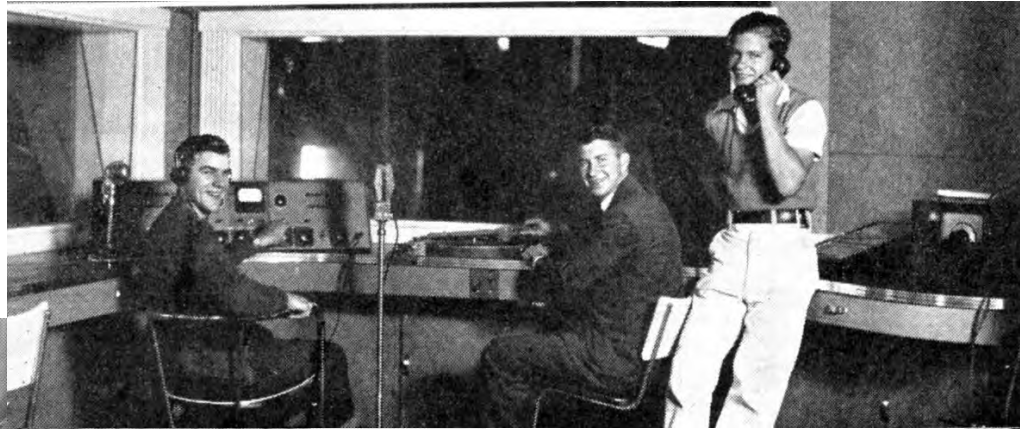
Additional WPA Project

Football Stadium (1939)



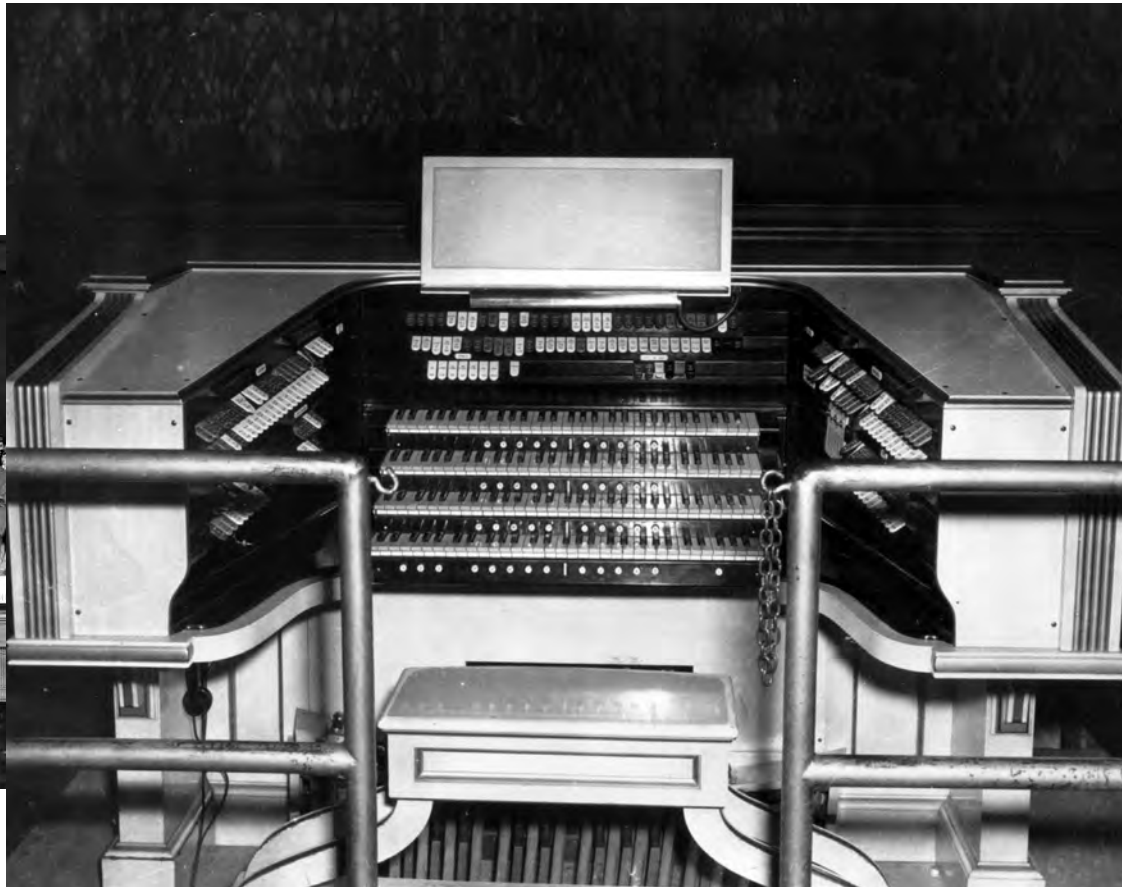
Unique Features:

Radio Studio and Broadcast Station



Unique Features:

Wurlitzer Theater Pipe Organ



Unique Features:

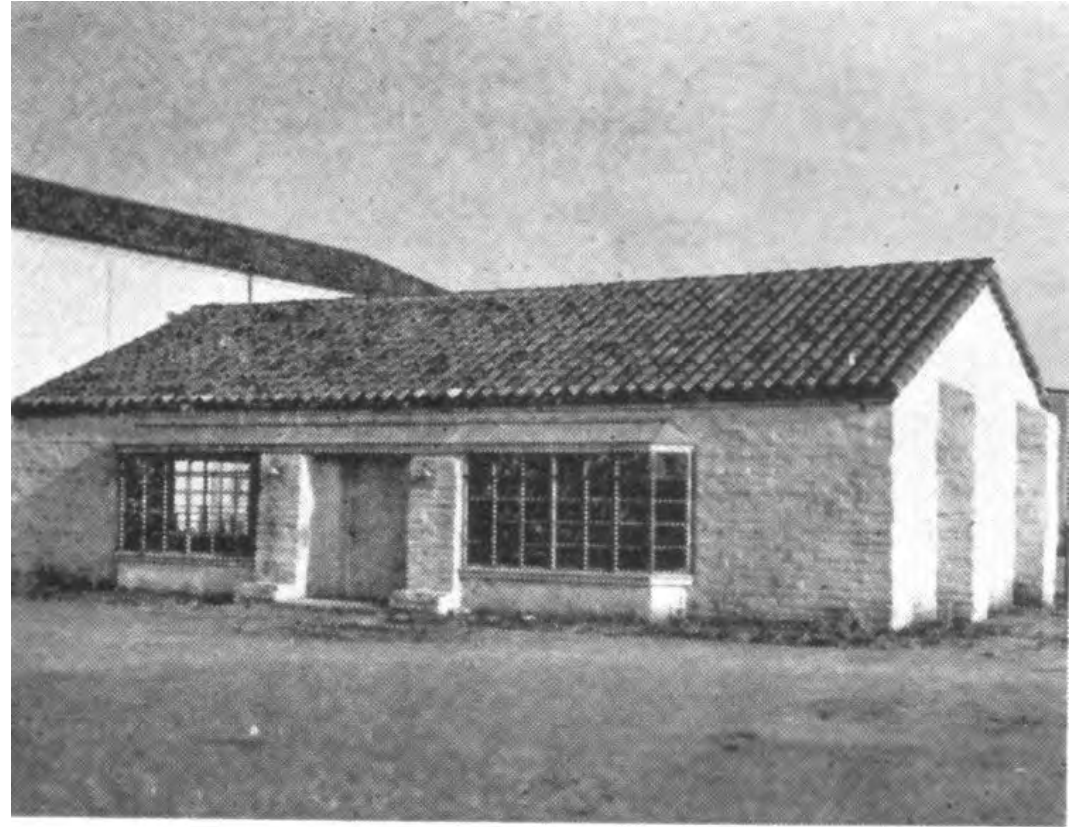
Gym



Auditorium with Balcony



Spanish Influenced Architecture

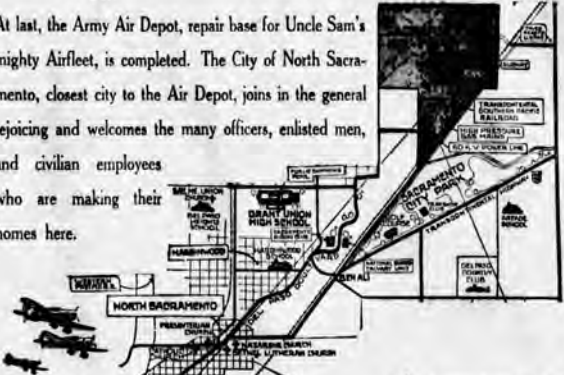


ADOBE STUDENT STORE

World War II and Grant Union High School

"THE FLEET'S IN!"

At last, the Army Air Depot, repair base for Uncle Sam's mighty Airfleet, is completed. The City of North Sacramento, closest city to the Air Depot, joins in the general rejoicing and welcomes the many officers, enlisted men, and civilian employees who are making their homes here.



FAMILIES FIND PLEASANT HOMES IN THIS SECTION

North Sacramento truly offers those seeking a home site an ideal location, it being but five minutes' drive from Sacramento. Its location close to both the American and Sacramento Rivers makes the evenings cool and comfortable.

Every type of residential district is available in North Sacramento, from those districts offering modest, comfortable homes for the man with a moderate income to the more pretentious sections.

Modern schools, churches, libraries, and parks provide for the educational and cultural development of North Sacramento. The Grant Union High School (a fully accredited school) is regarded by educators as the outstanding institution among high schools in the State of California.

Working in a spirit of cooperation with the business firms and citizens, The North Sacramento Chamber of Commerce invites newcomers to establish themselves in this progressive community. We invite inquiries from those desiring to establish a home or business.

North Sacramento Chamber of Commerce
1454 Del Paso Blvd. Main 4326



Grant Union High School
GOING FORWARD
1932 — 1939

The Grant Union High School has been established since 1932 and is considered one of the outstanding high schools in the state of California.

Starting in its infancy in 1932, Grant Union was fully accredited as a class A high school by the University of California, and with this sound foundation it stands as one of California's Class A accredited schools today, giving courses in academic training, industrial arts, music and recreation, thus keeping pace with the modern educational requirements of the day.

It has one of California's finest swimming pools and social centers, where not only youth, but the older people as well, mingle as one.



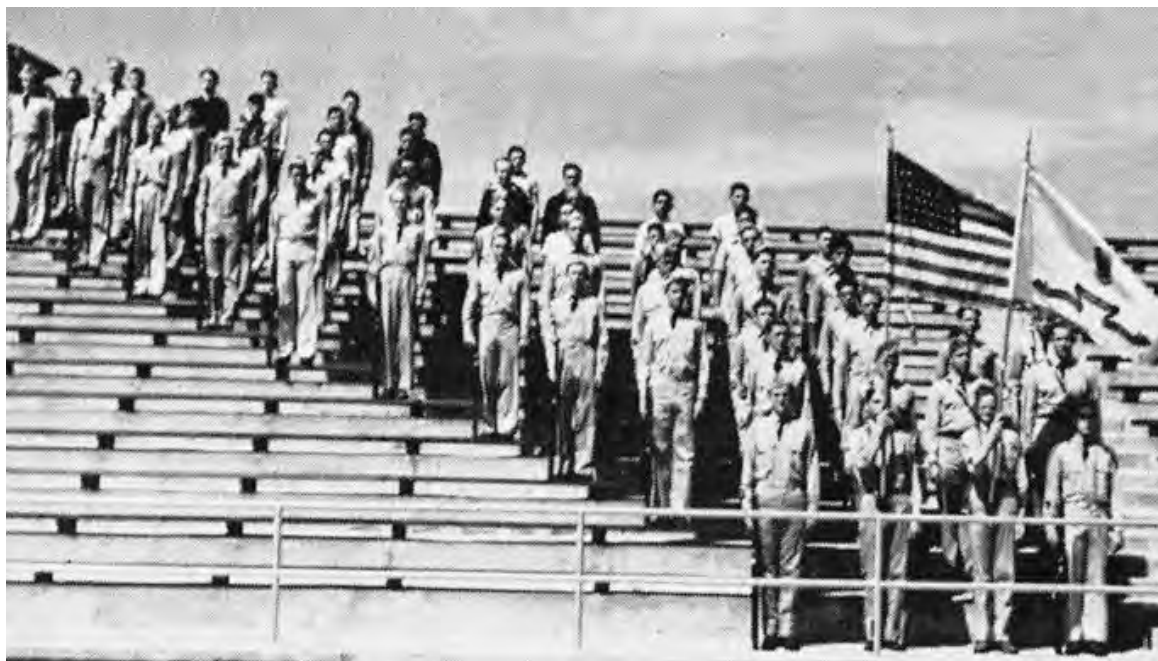
GRANT UNION HIGH SCHOOL
Welcomes the New Air Depot
Located in the Heart of Grant Union High School District

World War II and Grant Union High School

1942

Grant Union High School Cadet Corps

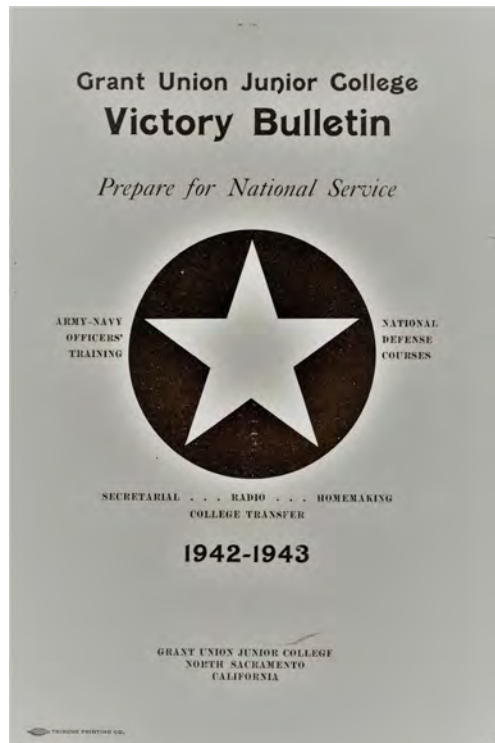
Girls Glee in front of Sand Bagged Auditorium



World War II and Grant Union High School

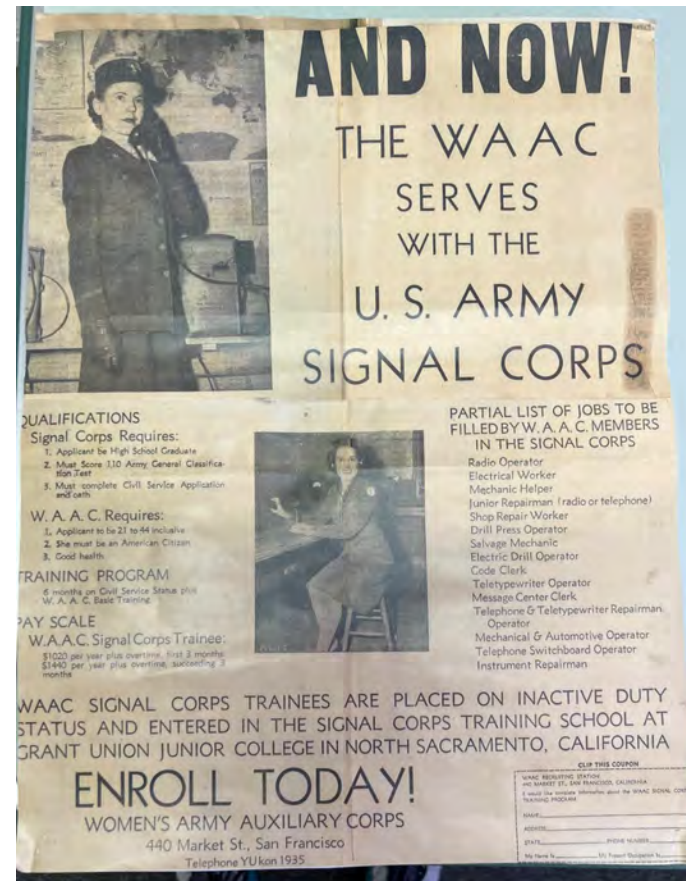
Grant Technical School 1942 (Across the Street from Grant High Campus)

One of 5 high schools in the nation selected for Aeronautical Training Program



World War II and Grant Union High School

Women's Auxiliary Army Corp (WAAC) 1943



AND NOW!
THE WAAC
SERVES
WITH THE
U. S. ARMY
SIGNAL CORPS

QUALIFICATIONS
Signal Corps Requires:
1. Applicant be High School Graduate
2. Must Score 110 Army General Classification Test
3. Must complete Civil Service Application and oath

W. A. A. C. Requires:
1. Applicant to be 21 to 44 inclusive
2. She must be an American Citizen
3. Good health

TRAINING PROGRAM
6 months on Civil Service Status plus W. A. A. C. Basic Training

PAY SCALE
W.A.A.C. Signal Corps Trainee:
\$1020 per year plus overtime, first 3 months
\$1440 per year plus overtime, succeeding 3 months

PARTIAL LIST OF JOBS TO BE FILLED BY W. A. A. C. MEMBERS IN THE SIGNAL CORPS
Radio Operator
Electrical Worker
Mechanic Helper
Junior Repairman (radio or telephone)
Shop Repair Worker
Drill Press Operator
Salvage Mechanic
Electric Drill Operator
Code Clerk
Teletypewriter Operator
Message Center Clerk
Telephone & Teletypewriter Repairman-Operator
Mechanical & Automotive Operator
Telephone Switchboard Operator
Instrument Repairman

WAAC SIGNAL CORPS TRAINEES ARE PLACED ON INACTIVE DUTY STATUS AND ENTERED IN THE SIGNAL CORPS TRAINING SCHOOL AT GRANT UNION JUNIOR COLLEGE IN NORTH SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

ENROLL TODAY!
WOMEN'S ARMY AUXILIARY CORPS
440 Market St., San Francisco
Telephone YUkon 1935

CLIP THIS COUPON
WAAC RECRUITING OFFICE
440 MARKET ST., SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA
I want the complete information about the WAAC SIGNAL CORPS TRAINING PROGRAM

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____
CITY: _____ STATE: _____ PHONE NUMBER: _____
We thank you for your interest in the WAAC Signal Corps Training Program.

Grant Technical College

Grant Technical School became **Grant Technical College** (1945)

Ground School for flight training

Purchase 4 Planes

P38 Lightning

P51 Mustang

B17 Flying Fortress

B24 Liberator



Junior College Bound

Grant Technical College became **American River Junior College** (1955)

American River Junior College Moved to current location (1958)



American River Junior College became a part of the
Los Rios Community College District (1965)

Norte Del Rio High School (1955)

Post War baby boom and residential development

Increased school enrollments



Instant Cross Town Rivalry: Thanksgiving Day Football Tradition

Empty Nests close Norte

Community Matures and Birthrate Declines

Norte Becomes Martin Luther King Technology Academy (1982)

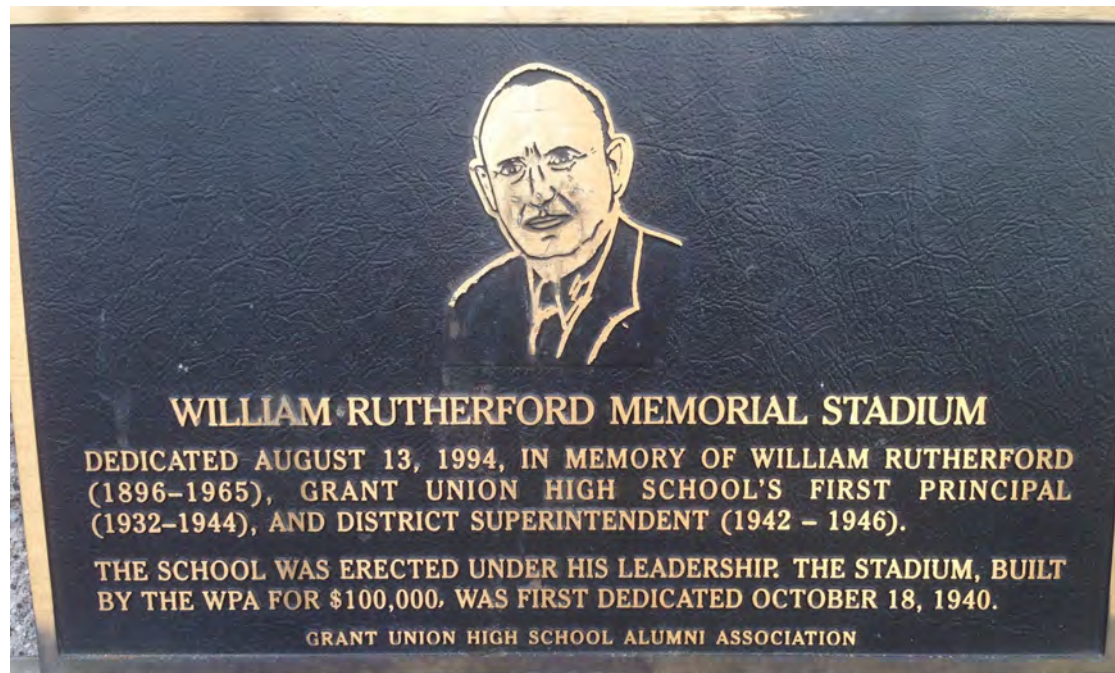


Del Paso Junior High becomes West Campus of Grant Union High



Changes on Campus

Stadium renovated named in honor of first principal and superintendent of schools, William Rutherford (1994/2006)



Changes on Campus

Arson strikes Boy's Gym and Wurlitzer Theater Organ (1973)

Both rebuilt and ready for use (1974)

Huge Grant High Pipe Organ Destroyed By Blaze Was Priceless



Russell Parrott of the Sacramento Fire Department Arson Detail examines ashes of the organ in the auditorium of Grant High School.

"It was priceless, absolutely priceless. We are just sick. It is one of the saddest days in the history of Grant."

That was the reaction today of Vice Principal Shirley Dubnick to the fire loss of the Grant Union High School's pipe organ, an instrument which was matched by only three others in the nation.

Flames destroyed the console of the mighty organ last night during a blaze in the high school auditorium. It was built by students in the 1930s under the supervision of Oakland organ maker Fred Wood. One of the organ's two pipe chambers was heavily damaged by water.

1939 Dedication

The organ was dedicated Dec. 8, 1939, in a recital played by George Wright, a Grant graduate who later became nationally famous; Howard Scott and Emil Martin, Sacramento organists.

The dedication culminated several years of building the organ from parts of three theater organs brought from Redding, Reno and San Francisco.

Organs which were compared to the Grant instrument were in the old Fox Theater in San Francisco, Paramount Theater in New York and Grauman's Chinese Theater in Hollywood.

In addition to its regular organ sounds, it featured many sound effects as were used for old silent movies. Added by Wright, these included the old-fashioned piano, bird whistles, bells, drum rolls and steamboat turbines which were located in the school basement.

The fire that destroyed the organ was one of two at the school last night. The other, the larger, consumed the high school's gymnasium.

At A Loss

Today Bill Malkasian, See Page B2, Col. 1



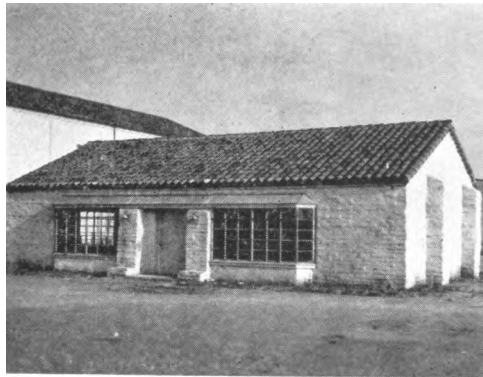
Students at Grant High School gaze at smoking ruins of school's gymnasium.

See Photos by Erhardt Krause



Changes on Campus

Alumni Museum opens (1997)



ADOBE STUDENT STORE



Changes on Campus

Athletic Training Center Opened (2012)



Changes on Campus

Stadium Field dedicated to Coach Mike Alberghini (2015)



Changes on Campus

Pacer Plaza opens (2019)



Changes on Campus

Competition Pool replaces Community Pool (2017)



Changes on Campus

- Community Sports Complex opens Fall (2022)



Grant Union High School Academic Hub

2100 Students

90%+ Graduation Rate

26 Languages

AP Courses (20+)

English

World Languages

Social Sciences

Mathematics

Science

Academies (CTE)

A.R.T.S.

AVID

Criminal Justice

Health/Sports

JROTC

Environmental Sciences

UCD Partnership (4)

Dual Community College Enrollment (ARC)

Grant Union High School Community Hub

Martin Luther King Celebration Center

COVID 19 testing center

Youth Athletic Leagues

Tax Preparation Assistance



PACER DAY

PRESENTED BY

GRANT UNION HIGH SCHOOL & GRANT UNION JR. PACERS
FEEDER PROGRAM TO GRANT UNION HIGH SCHOOL

SATURDAY, AUGUST 13TH

GRANT UNION HIGH SCHOOL STADIUM
1400 GRAND AVENUE, SACRAMENTO, 95838
PARADE STARTS AT 9:00 AM

MEET THE PLAYERS
RAFFLES VENDORS
GAMES BOUNCE HOUSES
FACE PAINTING

EVENTS TO FOLLOW IN THE STADIUM DIRECTLY
AFTER THE PARADE.

Athletic Powerhouse

League Championships
 Section Championships
 Division Championships
 State Championships

State Champs 1988 & 89

1st State Champs 2008

Grant girls storm to state title

By Don Bosley
 Bee Staff Writer

OAKLAND — Her sister was on the floor in pain. Her coach was stomping, fuming and about to be ejected. Her opponents were winning.

Tina Green surveyed this scene at the Oakland Coliseum Arena Saturday afternoon. And she got mad.

Her anger and jump shot stirred Grant High School, which charged back to beat Palos Verdes 52-49 for the Division II girls state basketball championship.

Green scored 36 points for the Pacers (25-7) but made her biggest contribution by transmitting fiery resolve to her teammates in the final period. Her motivation: her twin sister Tesia, who went down with

an ankle injury after getting tangled in a rebound struggle at the end of the third quarter.

"They tried to hurt my sister," said Tina Green, who scored 12 of Grant's 16 fourth-quarter points. "It made me mad. I mean, they tried to hurt my sister."

Though Tesia Green returned to action, her injury became the turning point of the game, and not only because it fueled her sister's intensity.

With Tesia on the floor holding her ankle and the Pacers in possession of the ball, Grant coach Connie Zuercher jumped up and screamed at the referees to stop the action. She was assessed a technical because she'd violated the "seat-belt" rule. When she pleaded her case too vehemently, she was hit with another

technical. A third would have meant an automatic ejection.

The crowd, which numbered 2,000 or so at the time, recognized the situation and interestingly sided with Zuercher. Fans booed the officials and rattled the rafters when Palos Verdes' Heather Burgo stepped to the line for four technical free-throw attempts. Burgo missed them all.

"I really felt that the fans turned, because they knew why I was arguing," Zuercher said. "I know we had some fans from Grant here, but not that many fans."

"Those four free throws were the crucial time," Palos Verdes coach Wendell Yoshino said. "You can second-guess anything afterward and say that I should've

whooping, hollering scene that had accompanied the Pacers' first state championship. But it aptly depicted the matter-of-fact confidence of this year's Grant team, which overcame Katella of Anaheim 55-43 to defend its Division II state title at the Oakland Coliseum Arena.

The last three games, we've had that kind of casual attitude," Grant coach Connie Zuercher said. "They're just kind of mellow and casual. They're confident. They know what they're doing."

What they did Saturday was win their 24th straight game, and in vintage Grant form — with defensive pressure led by Tesia Green, offensive production from Tina Green (19 points) and sterling inside play by Robertson and Horton.

What they also did was provide a fitting finale for all five senior starters and Zuercher, who announced earlier that Saturday's game would be her last.

"It's such a beautiful way to end it," Zuercher said after finishing her second year at Grant. "That was my dream, that it would end this way."

It materialized in much the same way as all of the Pacers' playoff games this season, with Grant being challenged early but comfortably



Grant's Tina Green battles Katella's Joni Easterly for a rebound during Saturday's title game. Bee/Ginoro Moore

Grant girls roll to second title

By Don Bosley
 Bee Staff Writer

OAKLAND — The Grant High School Pacers really let the emotions flow Saturday. Six runaway playoff victories had left them stoic and expressionless, but as the final horn sounded on their second straight girls basketball state championship, they could contain themselves no longer.

Tina Green smiled a little. Tina Green grinned for a moment. Shawna Robertson and Kinoyata Horton high-fived as they happened to pass near the Grant bench.

Yes, it wasn't quite the leaping,

pressure led by Tesia Green, offensive production from Tina Green (19 points) and sterling inside play by Robertson and Horton.

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IN SPORTS
 Underdog Grant beats
 L&P Poly 55-43 Page C1
 GALLERY
 See photos from the
 Pacers' title game.
latimes.com/photos

STATE FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

Team's historic victory
 has Grant fans delirious



See GRANT, page C3

Grant Union High School Alumni

27,566 since 1932

Education

Military Service

Public Safety

Medicine

Research

Business

Fine Arts

Performing Arts

Technology

Dr. Gyasi Askia: Medicine



Jeanette Providence: Education



Tony Bacos: Technology



Grant Union High School Alumni:

Athletics: Leron Lee (1966)



36 Football Scholarships

Drafted St. Louis Cardinals

Played for Padres and Dodgers

1977-1987 Played in Japan

Career record for homeruns until 2018

Revolutionized Japanize baseball recruitment

1989 Batting coach World Series Winner Oakland A's

Batting Coach Cincinnati Reds

Grant Union High School Alumni

Music: George Wright (1938) 1920-1998



Considered the most famous theater organist of the modern era

1940's Played for NBC Radio programs

1950's Recorded 20 albums (7 sold over 1m copies)

1960 Organist and music director for drama "General Hospital"

1995 Lifetime Achievement Award (ATOS)

Grant Union High School Alumni

Community Service : Grantland Johnson (1966) 1948-2014



- 1983 Sacramento City Council
- 1986 Sacramento County Board of Supervisors
- 1992 Regional Director US Department of Health and Human Services
- 1999 California Secretary of Health and Human Services
- Grantland Johnson Soccer Field (Hagginwood Park)

Grant Union High School Alumni

Grant Union High School Alumni Association

Founded 1984

Museum/Archives

\$1.5m Scholarships

Projects

- Drumline
- Bring Back the Band
- Sports Training center



Grant Union High School 90 Years of Legend and Legacy



We are not done writing our history