

# The NewsBreaker

## Band Shines at Home Games, Parade

Volume 4 No. 2

3 October 2022

### Football Games, a Grand Opening, and a Parade – Oh My!



By Conor O'Brien, Class of 2026

Since even before school was in session, the Breaker Band has been learning and practicing new music to perform at football games and rallies. Over the summer, band camp was held to teach the new members the basics and refresh returning players' memories. The band has learned and improved greatly from the teaching of band director Dr. Warren, drum major William Coen, assistant drum major Samantha Barragan, and drum captain Gabby Kaatz.

On Friday, September 16, the band performed at their third football game of the year. They performed a pop set consisting of Viva la Vida by Coldplay, Yeah! by Usher, Despacito by Luis Fonsi, and Get Lucky by Daft Punk and Pharrell Williams. The Breakers Girls also performed with the band on Get Lucky.

The day after the pop set performance, the Breaker Band was asked to perform at the grand opening of California Seltzer Co. The band played a mix of songs from the first two football games, which featured music by Michael Jackson and The Beatles: Bad, I Want To Hold Your Hand, Day Tripper, Billie Jean, Can't Buy Me Love, and Beat It. As the band was about to march off, the audience called for an encore, so senior trombonist Jose Romero led the band in playing Second Line.

At the following home football game, the Breaker Band played their 80s/throwback set, consisting of Jump by Van Halen, Take Me Home, Country Roads by John Denver, and We Built This City by Starship. The Breaker Girls joined them for this song.

The latest performance was at the Butterfly Parade, where the band played the march King Cotton by John Philip Sousa and a mix of drumline cadences. After the band finished their marching, they performed a six-song set on the Robert Down field, consisting of music from prior football games, for the crowd. These performances all went very well for the band, and they have many more in store for the rest of the year.



The Breaker Band performs a field show as the Breaker Girls dance during halftime of a home football game.



Drum major William Coen leads the Breaker Band in the Butterfly Parade.



The Breaker Band in its section of the stands at Breaker Stadium, featuring a new sign.



The Breaker Band performs at the grand opening of California Seltzer Co., a new restaurant and seltzery at Lovers Point, on September 17.

# PG Football Goes 3-1 on Opening Home Stand



By Owen Pesenhofer, Class of 2023

After an encouraging yet disappointing loss in the Shoe Game, the Pacific Grove football team looked to bounce back with a four-game home stand before they would have a bye week. Their first home game came against Gonzales. Two touchdown runs by junior running back Justice Booker gave PG a quick 14-0 lead. However, Gonzales would have the game tied up at 20 heading into the final quarter. Heroics were needed to save the game, as an excellent tackle was made by senior Evan Woods on a Gonzales two-point conversion attempt to seal a 27-26 victory for PG.

The next week, the Breakers hosted Pajaro Valley on a Saturday afternoon. With touchdowns from Booker and senior wide receiver Rey Avila, PG once again got off to a good start. While fending off another second-half push by their opponent, sophomore Will Selfridge recovered a fumble by Pajaro and took it to the house for a 28-12 lead, which ended up being the game's final score.

Greenfield came to town next, and PG took a 7-0 lead into halftime. They would add two more touchdowns to that score, thanks to runs from sophomore quarterback Nathaniel Wade and senior running back Noah Garry. The team would have to quickly adjust, however, as after an extended and nerve-racking injury timeout for a Greenfield player, the Greenfield offense quickly drove down the field to make the score 21-13. Despite this setback, PG held on for their third straight victory.

Finally, the Breakers would play their first league game against their best opponent since Carmel: Rancho San Juan. Led by star running back Peyton Hatten, the Trailblazers would combine with PG to put on a thrilling game of football. The teams would go back and forth in the first half, but after senior Alexis Rodas-Mendoza's extra point was blocked, PG found themselves down 14-13. In the third quarter, a 74-yard touchdown run by Gideon Llantero and a two-point conversion for PG tied the game up at 21, which would be followed by a 45-yard touchdown reception by Avila from Wade in the same quarter. However, after Hatten scored his third and fourth touchdowns of the game, Rancho San Juan took a 34-27 lead over the Breakers. Reminiscent of the Shoe Game, the offense struggled to get going on their final drive, and PG's winning streak was snapped.

As for future games, the football team still has five left, with two being at home. Those games will be October 7 versus North Monterey County and October 28 against St. Francis.

Pacific Grove Stat Leaders:

Passing: Nathaniel Wade (451 YDS, 5 TDS, 1 INT)

Rushing: Gideon Llantero (378 YDS), Justice Booker (3 TDS)

Receiving: Rey Avila (242 YDS, 3 TDS)



From left to right: junior Ravi Royal, senior Jayden Ramirez, and senior Chris Fenstermaker.



Senior wide receiver Evan Woods catches a touchdown pass during a home loss to Rancho San Juan.



Senior place kicker and punter Alexis Rodas-Mendoza kicks off during a home game.

## What Is Hispanic Heritage Month?

By Jacob Birkett, Class of 2023

Hispanic Heritage Month is the celebration and recognition of Hispanic American influences and contributions to the United States. Hispanic Heritage Month began in 1968 when President Lyndon B. Johnson declared a national holiday that lasted a week and started on September 15th. In 1988, this holiday was expanded to last a month, from September 15 to October 15, by President Ronald Reagan. Hispanic Heritage Month is celebrated during this time because it overlaps with several independence days of Latin American countries, as well as Columbus Day. Hispanic Heritage Month celebrates anyone whose ancestors were from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean, or Central and South America. Some influential Hispanic figures include Cesar Chavez, who co-founded the United Farm Workers and advocated for civil rights, and Dolores Huerta, the other co-founder of the United Farm Workers union. Huerta came up with the slogan "Sí se puede" or "yes we can." Former Secretary of Education Lauro Cavazos was the first Hispanic person to hold a US Cabinet position. Sonia Sotomayor was the first Hispanic justice on the Supreme Court, and Ellen Ochoa was the first Hispanic woman to go to space. To celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month, read books written by Hispanic authors, such as *100 Years of Solitude* by Gabriel García Márquez or *The House of Spirits* by Isabel Allende. Additionally, the Spanish language can be learned on Duolingo and the locations of Hispanic countries can be learned with Geoguessr.

# Cross Country Team Reaches Midpoint of Season



By Valeriia Boiko, Class of 2023

At Pacific Grove High School, our amazing head coach Peter Jordan makes us all feel welcome, and he teaches us about cross country. Our amazing assistant coach Jenna Hall helps correct our errors if we make some in warm ups and stretches which helps us be awesome Breakers. We show great sportsmanship, we work hard, and we help our teammates. When we went to York on Wednesday, August 31 for our first cross country meet, we ran three miles there and cheered everyone on. We were great there and at Palo Corona in Carmel Valley we participated in a cross country meet as well. Val Boiko, Zoe Knutson, and Carly Rodolf ran in junior varsity. We ran three miles and we showed how great we are. Every single cross country athlete did an amazing job. We are proud of Coach Jordan, who provided us with running techniques to help us accomplish running three miles in Palo Corona, especially through sand on the course. We are so proud of each other and all thanks to our awesome amazing brilliant smart talented coach who works hard to do this. We are thankful to him for that. On Saturday, September 10, we had a cross country meet at Toro Park, where we ran 2.9 miles. The course had sand, and we ran as fast as we could. On Thursday, September 15, we ran at Palo Corona through a difficult course, running twice on the same route and running on hills and sand. We were all happy to cross the finish line like proud Breakers!

Pacific Grove High School has a great team who cheer on all other athletes. We are so wonderful, we support every single cross country athlete, and we are all so proud of every single student who shows up to compete in cross country meets, which are challenging. But we got through it all, every single student improves as the season goes on, and we never give up!



The frosh-soph boys' team at the starting line of a meet at Toro Park. From left to right: freshman Kai Clarkson, freshman Milo Nothnagle, freshman Travis Travaille, sophomore Thomas Coen, and freshman Tadeo Ortiz.

Senior Ian Schroeder competes in a league meet at Palo Corona in Carmel Valley.



# Zane Coutts' Very Very Special Album Recommendations

By Zane Coutts, Class of 2023

Hello and welcome to the very first edition of Zane's very very special album recommendations. I have two albums to share with you this week, the first of which being Casiopea's *Crosspoint*. Casiopea has become my go-to band when looking for music to listen to while studying, and I believe this is their best album for that purpose. *Crosspoint* is a jazz fusion record, meaning it combines jazz with funk and rock music to create a sound that focuses more on melody rather than improvisation, and that the standard instruments associated with jazz have been swapped for their more contemporary counterparts. What all of this means is that when you listen to this album you'll think, "Hey, this sounds like Mario Kart music!" Songs consist of subtly funky basslines, non-flashy yet deceptively technical drum beats, and guitars/synthesizers trading leads. The album is fully instrumental and has a constant up-beat flow, making it perfect for studying as it will not distract you and will keep you focused. This is not to say that the album is only good as background music. Each instrument is given something interesting to do on each song while still working together to further the piece, making the music complex but still coherent. I would recommend the band as a whole, as they are one of my absolute favorites.

On a separate note, I would like to recommend the eponymous debut of Drive like Jehu, *Drive Like Jehu*. This is a chaotic post-hardcore classic. Here you will find noisy duel guitars battling for dominance over each other, swapping between bouncy punk riffs and disharmonic solos. You will also find fill-heavy drumming and catchy bass lines fighting to keep some level of coherence. At times, this formula is swapped entirely with long stretches of amplifier feedback serving as atmosphere. This description makes the band sound amateur, but it is clear that they knew what they were going for. The chaotic guitar leads serve to highlight the tightness of the rhythm section, and it makes the moments when the band is in sync hit harder than they would otherwise. All this comes together to make a unique punk rock classic, and one of my favorite albums of the genre. So in conclusion, go listen to these albums. Or don't, I'm not your boss.

# New to Student Section This Year: Themes



By Mason Pick, Class of 2024

Since the start of the football season, many students have spent their Friday nights and an occasional Saturday in Breaker Stadium's student section. For all of this season's home games, the student section has featured a theme. The themes have been neon, white out, and tropical, among others.

Our first home game featured a tropical theme. Students dressed in Hawaiian shirts to watch PG beat Gonzales. The next game was the following Saturday against Pajaro Valley, and the student section dressed in a Western style with cowboy hats and cowboy boots. The student section really came together against Greenfield with a neon theme. Students

came adorned with brightly colored wigs, body paint, and even traffic vests. Students wearing anything and everything brightly colored were at the game cheering on our team. For the most recent home game against Rancho San Juan, students were told to wear white for a white out theme, and they were up to the challenge.

The student section makes Friday night football games so much fun, and it is amazing to see all the students supporting our team while dressing up for the various themes. This week was a bye week, but make sure to dress up for the next theme, and cheer on our team!



The student section dressed up for the white out theme.

## The NewsBreaker Riddle (Vol. 2, No.2)



By Elliot Powley, Class of 2023

Seven prisoners are all on death row in a maximum security prison. They are all always kept in solitary confinement. Each prisoner has never interacted with any of the other prisoners. The warden is running out of funds to maintain his prison and realizes that if he cannot perform basic maintenance on the prison, the prisoners will attempt to and successfully escape. So he devises a cruel game that will either lead to all of the prisoners' freedom or the execution of all the

prisoners. All the prisoners must agree to play the game. If even one prisoner chooses to not play, all the seven prisoners will be executed. The warden gathers the seven prisoners to the central courtyard of the prison and explains the rules and instructions of the game:

Tomorrow, each prisoner will be taken out of their cell and into the central courtyard of the prison. The prisoners will form up in a circle where they are all facing each other. Each prisoner is to remain silent at all times. The guards will then place a hat on each of the prisoners' heads. Each prisoner will be able to see the hats of every other prisoner, but not their own hat. Also, the hats are colored a random color from the rainbow: Red, Orange, Yellow, Green, Blue, Indigo, and Violet. It is possible for every prisoner to have the same colored hat. It is also possible for every prisoner to have a different colored hat. There are enough hats of each color so that the guards can place the hats in any possible configuration they choose.

Then, the guards will give each prisoner an envelope with seven slips of colored paper. Each piece of paper is also one color from the rainbow: Red, Orange, Yellow, Green, Blue, Indigo, and Violet. The prisoners are to look at each of the pieces of paper without pulling them out of the envelope. Then, on the warden's mark, every prisoner at the exact same time will pull out a piece of paper whose color corresponds to what color hat they think they are wearing. The prisoners are to only pull out one slip of paper. For example, if a prisoner pulls out the green slip of paper, that means he thinks his hat color is green. If even one prisoner out of the seven guesses his hat color correctly, the game ends and all of the prisoners are freed. However, if no prisoners guess their hat color correctly, the game ends and they are all executed.

If any of the prisoners talk, move, remove their hat, or do not follow exactly any of the instructions listed above, the game ends and they are all executed.

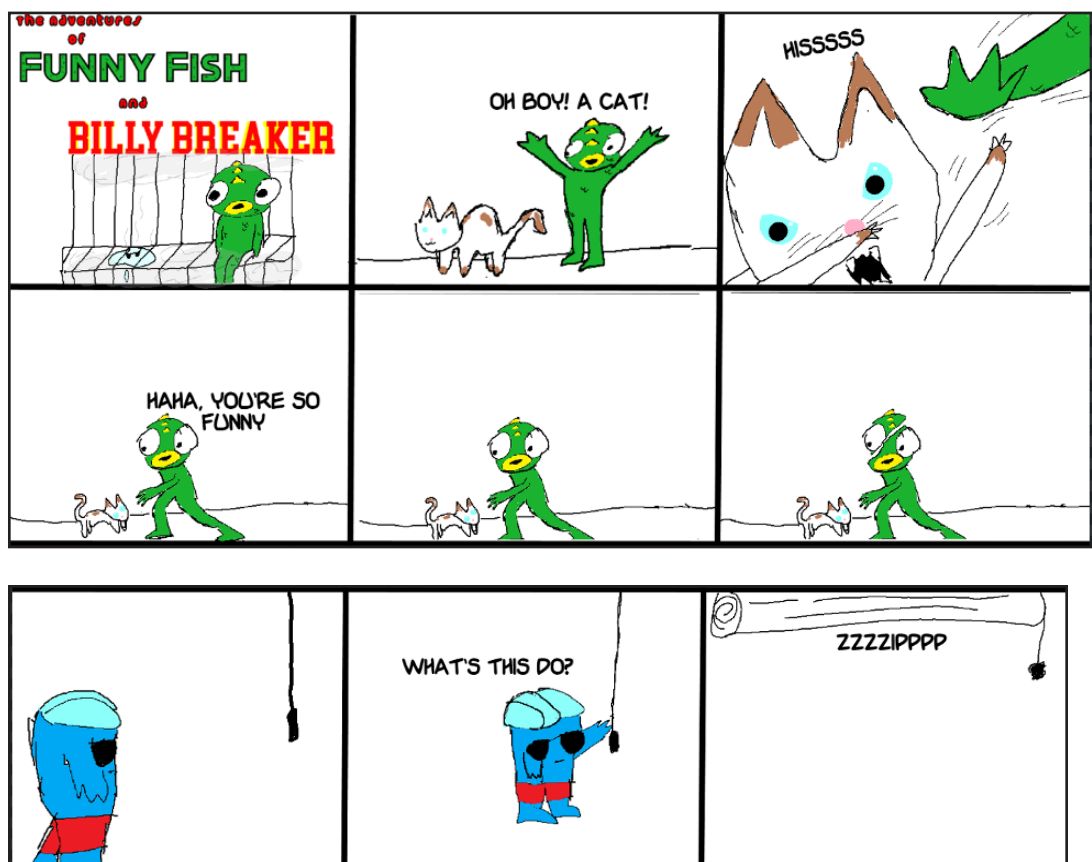
The warden decides to let the prisoners strategize how to win the game for one hour. Then he returns the prisoners to their cells and begins the game the following day.

What strategy should the prisoners devise to earn their freedom through this game?

## The NewsBreaker Comic



By Gavin Hunter, Class of 2023



## Superintendent Gives Executive Order Extending PGHS Break to 5.5 Minutes

**PGUSD District Office, Pacific Grove, CA** - As students protested the short duration of break at PGHS, PGUSD Superintendent Porras responded decisively. In a press conference held at the District Office on Thursday, September 29, Porras announced an executive order that will extend PGHS' break period to 5.5 minutes. Porras stated, "I believe these extra 30 seconds will make break long enough for students to eat and chat with friends. Break will no longer be a pointless five minutes." Principal Garcia backed Porras' order. However, Mrs. Gaona questioned the legality of the order under the PGUSD Constitution. She has since mysteriously disappeared.

# Our Staff

*The NewsBreaker* is made possible by the dedication of journalists and editors from the Pacific Grove High School student body.

## Will Coen

Class of 2023



Will is a senior at PGHS. He is in his fourth year on *The NewsBreaker* staff and second year as an editor. He enjoys learning math at school and running for the cross country and track teams. Outside of school, Will likes to spend as much time as possible biking and skiing.

## Gabriel Garzaniti

Class of 2023



Gabriel is a senior at PGHS. He works a job every Saturday from 9:00 AM to 5:30 PM and plays lacrosse. He owns a Canon digital camera that has two batteries and one SD card. He has only recently learned how to export photos from the camera to his computer. He is looking forward to working with *The NewsBreaker*.

## Nathan Jennings

Class of 2023



Nathan is a senior at PGHS. For *The NewsBreaker*, he will be writing about world news and relevant global or national events. His interests include weightlifting, swimming, journaling, self-improvement, and philosophy. Nathan has been fascinated with creative writing and journalism ever since he was young. Now, Nathan utilizes his strengths and excellent research skills to write for the school newspaper.

## Owen Pesenhofer

Class of 2023



Owen is a senior, and this is his first year on *The NewsBreaker*. He is a member of both the Breaker Band and the Jazz Band as a trumpet player. In his free time, he enjoys watching football and playing ping pong.

## Gavin Hunter

Class of 2023



Gavin is a senior at PGHS and is a second-year member of *The NewsBreaker* staff. Gavin is a part of the water polo and swimming teams and enjoys other swimming activities.

## Mason Pick

Class of 2024



Mason is a junior at PGHS, and he loves to surf and ski. He runs cross country and competes in track and field as well. He enjoys being involved with the school and is new to PG this year.

## Elliot Powley

Class of 2023



Elliot is a senior at PGHS. He likes chemistry, history, and calculus. Outside of school, he does 3-D Rendering, Virtual Reality, and piano. Check out his riddles!

## Graham Smith

Class of 2025



Graham is a sophomore at PGHS, and he is in his second year of writing for *The NewsBreaker*. He loves writing both in and out of school, and he hopes to use his time on the staff of *The NewsBreaker* as an opportunity to develop his skills. He also plays on the boys' tennis team, and when he is not at school he enjoys drawing, skiing, playing video games, and spending time with friends.

## Valeriia Boiko

Class of 2023



Valeriia is currently a senior at PGHS. She is in her first year on *The NewsBreaker* staff. She runs on the cross country and track teams. She really enjoys her government and music appreciation courses at school. She enjoys running and playing video games as much as possible.

## Thomas Coen

Class of 2025



Thomas is a sophomore at PGHS. He really enjoys being on the BreakerBots, running cross country, and playing tennis. He also enjoys playing in the Breaker Band.

## Zane Coutts

Class of 2023

Zane is a senior at PGHS. He runs on both the track and cross country teams. Zane enjoys reading and playing the bass guitar in his free time. He is entering his second year on *The NewsBreaker* staff. He also enjoyed writing this bio. Farewell.

## Conor O'Brien

Class of 2026



Conor is a freshman. He plays the saxophone and enjoys tennis, biking, and baseball. He is super excited to be a part of *The NewsBreaker* this year and in years to come.

## Jacob Birkett

Class of 2023

Jacob is a senior at PGHS. Outside of *The NewsBreaker*, he enjoys running on the cross country and track teams. He also enjoys learning Spanish and French.