

# The NewsBreaker

## BreakerBots Thrive at Monterey Bay Regional

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### BreakerBots Compete in Central Valley, Monterey Bay Regionals



By Thomas Coen, Class of 2025

Over the past couple of weeks the BreakerBots have been wrapping up their build season. The BreakerBots competed at the Central Valley Regional on March 11-12. During qualifications, the BreakerBots fought through some hard matchups and ended up in 36th place. However, during alliance selections the BreakerBots were picked by Alliance 3. Their alliance partners were 8033 The Highlander, the alliance captain, and 1671 Buchanan Bird Brains. In Alliance 3's first match, 1671's robot became disabled, causing Alliance 3 to suffer an early defeat to Alliance 6. Alliance 3 thus was moved down to the losers' bracket. However, Alliance 3 battled their way through the losers' bracket, defeating Alliance 7 and Alliance 5. Then, in a massive upset, Alliance 3 defeated Alliance 2 by a mere 10 points. The BreakerBots continued on to beat Alliance 6 and advance to the finals. Alliance 3 fought hard, but they fell short in the finals to Alliance 1, featuring 1323 MadTown Robotics (the alliance captain), 973 Greybots, and 6657 Arborbotics. MadTown Robotics is currently ranked 2nd in the world and Greybots is ranked 94th. Keep in mind this is out of 3295 teams worldwide.

A few weeks later, the BreakerBots competed at the Monterey Bay Regional. The BreakerBots were ranked 6th after qualification matches and captained Alliance 4, inviting 1671 Buchanan Bird Brains and 8262 Jump Robotics to join the alliance. Alliance 4 won their first match but then were knocked into the losers' bracket by none other than Alliance 1 captained by MadTown Robotics. Overall, the BreakerBots are happy with their performances and are excited to embark into an offseason of learning.

### March Madness's Exciting Finish



By William Powley, Class of 2025

The men's and women's college basketball seasons both came to a great close with the March Madness tournaments. In the women's tournament there were many upsets, one being the Iowa Hawkeyes (2) taking down the undefeated South Carolina Gamecocks (1) in the Final Four. The

### Chess Club Founded at PGHS

By Kai Bishop, Class of 2026

Chess is a game of strategy and skill that has been enjoyed for centuries. It has become an enduring pastime for both beginners and advanced players alike. The recently established PGHS Chess Club is hosted by senior Kai Hatton every Thursday in Mr. Rubin's room. Whether you are a beginner or an experienced player, Chess Club welcomes all students who are interested in learning more about chess or just want to enjoy playing. Chess Club is a great opportunity to learn new openings and get a higher rating on chess.com. In addition to casual play, Chess Club will soon start hosting tournaments (in which you do not have to participate). These tournaments will provide an opportunity for students to challenge themselves and develop their chess skills further. Overall, Chess Club is an excellent opportunity for students to learn and enjoy this game. So if you are looking for a fun and challenging way to spend your Thursday lunches, come and join us at Chess Club! We look forward to welcoming you to our community of chess enthusiasts.

men's tournament also included lots of upsets, such as FAU (9) going all the way to the Final Four while beating Tennessee (4) and Kansas State (3).

The women's championship game pitted Iowa against LSU on April 2. The game was a back and forth battle up until half time, when LSU began to establish its lead in the game. LSU ended up winning in a thriller, 102-85, ending Caitlin Clark and Iowa's dominant run to the championship. Leading performers for LSU included Jasmine Carson with 22 points, Angel Reese with 10 rebounds, and Alexis Morris with 9 assists. On Iowa, Caitlin Clark notched 30 points and 8 assists, and Monika Czinano had 6 rebounds.

The men's championship game was between San Diego State (SDSU) and UConn on April 3. This game consisted of great defense and ended up in UConn defeating SDSU, 76-59. The team leaders on UConn were Tristen Newton with 19 points and 10 rebounds and Andre Jackson Jr. with 6 assists. On SDSU, Keshad Johnson had 14 points, Nathan Mensah had 6 rebounds, and Lamont Butler had 2 assists.

Both the women's and men's tournaments and finales were packed with action and upsets. Some schools made the championship game for the first time in school history. Next season is expected to be even better as teams like UConn will come back even stronger with many returning players.

# Track Competes at Seaside High, Hosts Rotary Invitational



By Valeriia Boiko, Class of 2023

The track and field team had a meet at Seaside High School on March 23. Head Coach Peter Jordan and all the Breaker athletes showed great sportsmanship. It was sunny and windy in Seaside. We rode a bus to the meet, and then the track team got together and talked about the track meet. We did warm-ups and strides, we did our events, and we kept cheering for every Breaker athlete. Coach Jordan, Coach Jenna Hall, and all of our other great coaches did a great job at guiding us through the track meet.

On Saturday, April 1, we hosted the PGHS Rotary Invitational. We helped set up the hurdles when Coach Jordan told us to put them on the track. At the meet there were throwing events, including shot put and discus. There were running events for long-distance runners and short-distance runners. We had pole vault, long jump, and high jump set up as well. Every Breaker athlete showed outstanding sportsmanship. We all did amazing, and we competed against 30 schools.

On April 4, we had another meet at Seaside High School. Before the meet, we ran one warm-up lap, and we did exercises including lunges, high knees, butt kickers, and strides. We then got ready for our events, and we showed great sportsmanship at this meet as well.

## 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.

### 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.

### 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.

### 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.

### 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!

### William Powley

Class of 2025



William plays for the varsity basketball and tennis teams at PGHS. He enjoys getting done what needs to get done and serving. He enjoys English and history in school.

### 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*.

### 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.

### 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.

### 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.

### 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.

### 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.

### 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.

### 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.

### Kai Bishop

Class of 2026

Kai is a freshman, and along with writing for *The NewsBreaker*, he enjoys playing the trombone in the Breaker Band. He also is on the Mock Trial team. Outside of school, he volunteers at the middle school jazz band and likes hanging out with friends.