

## Reports for games of Oct. 16:

All stories written below were submitted by the individual Tigard teams. If you do not see your team, then they did not submit a story for the week.

### Tigard JV Green

## Playing for a cause

### *Players on Tigard Youth Football's seventh- and eighth-grade team raise money for breast cancer cure research*

By Geoff Pursinger

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Jaime Valdez / The Times

From left, players with Tigard Youth Football's JV Green Team, Donovan Cortez-Tamez, 12, Justice Davis, 13, Zack Jacobs, 12, Conner Crist, 12 and Alex Lesinski, 13, line up at practice Tuesday. The team sported pink last week as part of Breast Cancer Awareness month and raised \$600 for the Susan G. Komen for the Cure foundation.

Tigard Youth Football's Zack Jacobs loves pink, and he isn't afraid to show it.

"Pink is awesome," said Jacobs, 12, standing in his practice jersey and tall pink socks. Hot pink armbands ride up both sleeves.

Zack isn't alone. His whole team sported the fashionable accessories at last week's game against Southridge, as a way to promote October as breast cancer awareness month.

“It’s one of those teaching moments you can really take advantage of,” said Head Coach Bobby Heaukulani. “They can learn about civic duty and giving back.”

When Heaukulani’s 24 players took to the field against the junior varsity Southridge Red team, Saturday, Oct. 16, they faced off with pink stickers on their helmets. Some players bought hot pink shoelaces and other bought pink gloves to wear during the game.

The coaching staff sported pink shirts, and students ran through a pink paper banner at the beginning of the game.

“As a league Tigard Youth Football has encouraged us to support it any way we can,” Heaukulani said, sporting a pink baseball hat and shirt. “We wanted to go big this time.”

Banners at the game read, “play for a cure,” but most players refer to it as their “pink out” game.

The idea is similar to other football leagues across the country – including the National Football League – who have been supporting breast cancer awareness month by going pink.

The NFL’s “Crucial Catch” campaign has featured players, coaches and referees wearing pink game apparel, on-field pink ribbon stencils, special game balls and pink coins, all up for auction to help raise awareness about the fight for breast cancer.

When he told the kids about his plan to dress the team in pink, Heaukulani said his players went for it immediately.

“I thought it was really cool to dress up in pink for a game,” said Zack, who plays center. “We saw NFL players doing it, and I thought that was really cool.”

The team usually collects money during its games to help pay for end-of-the-year festivities, Heaukulani said. After every touchdown the team passes around a donation bucket in the stands. Some parents donate a dollar or two, others donate a few cents for every point scored.

On Saturday the parents learned that the proceeds from the “pink out” game would go directly to the Susan G. Komen for the Cure Foundation.

As the players scored touchdown after touchdown – eventually winning the game 42-22 – the collection bucket began to fill up.

“We usually raise about \$100, for the end-of-the year party,” Heaukulani said. As of Tuesday the team had raised \$600.

During the game an anonymous parent donated \$250.

This was Heaukulani’s first “pink out” game, having coached younger teams in the past, but pink out games have been going on in the league for years.

“Most of these kids have been playing since the third grade,” he said. “Most of the kids have known about teams who have done it... Now that they’re seventh-graders they can understand it more and can really be a part of it,” he said.

Heaukulani said he plans on having another pink out game next season.

For one player on the team, 12-year-old Donovan Cortez-Tamez, the game was especially important.

“I thought it would be good for my grandma, because she has breast cancer,” he said.

Donovan didn't tell his grandmother about the team's plans, but invited her to the game.

“She was really surprised when she saw us,” Donovan said. “I think she was crying through half the game.”

Donovan's grandmother recently underwent surgery, he said, and believed that it was important for the team to show its support for those fighting breast cancer.

“Some people don't care about breast cancer awareness,” he said. “We're trying to show them that Tigard cares.”

Donations to Susan G. Komen for the Cure can be made at [komen.org](http://komen.org) under the name Tigard Youth Football.

## **Tigard varsity White 37, Barlow Blue 27**

Tigard Varsity white started their last home game of the season against the Barlow Varsity Blue Bruins. Kick off started at 7:25 pm with Tigard kicking the ball. Barlow received and was quickly tackled by the Tigers Brett Jackson.

The next play showed the Tigers fired up with Marcos Vermelho, Sam Averette and Bryan Baker all on a great Tigard team tackle. The Bruins quickly went four and out with Sam Inos running the ball back to the Bruins 24 yard line after a 35 yard run back. Inos had back to back big yardage runs getting the Tigers into scoring position. Brady McGetrick connected with Jarod Gogal for a five yard quick toss into the flat on a nice slant route working the ball down to the one yard line. With one yard to go Inos got the hand off and ran a sweep to the outside getting into the corner of the end zone for a quick Tigard touchdown. The PAT kick by McGetrick was right up the middle and the Tigers took an 8-0 lead with 4:20 left in the quarter.

The kick off saw David Johnson on special teams chase down the receiver for a nice solo open field tackle on the Barlow 12 yard line. Barlow ran some quick plays and had a nice screen pass that almost caught the Tigers flat footed but Dylan Osborne was quick to tackle the receiver after a 46 yard gain. The Bruins offense stalled and they quickly went four and out. Inos received the ball and Tigard started the drive on their 40 yard line.

On a quarterback keep McGetrick ran it 24 yards on the outside to set up another big offensive play on the Barlow 44. The next play saw McGetrick step back and toss to Gogal for a 34 yard completion. The end of the first quarter saw the Tigers on the Barlow 10 yard line.

Second quarter saw the Tigers in scoring position with Inos getting the ball and running a sweep to the right behind some great O-line blocking and into the end zone for the Tigers second touchdown of the game. McGetrick's second kick of the night was good and with 9:12 left in the half the Tigers were up 16-0. Tiger defensive was ferocious with Vermelho and Averette in on team tackles at the kick off. Brandon Baker got into the back field on the very next play and sacked the quarterback for a 6 yard loss. Not to be out done both Baker and Kevin Henderson broke through the line a second time and for another quarter-back sack. On third and 12 Barlow went to the air and

made it to the Tigard 20. The very next play saw the Tigard defense coming in hard causing a fumble which Averette recovered. With the ball on Tigard's 34 yard line McGetrick went to the air hitting Gogal for the third time tonight. Gogal ran the ball and came up big with a 40 yard pass and run to the Barlow 34. This set up more great running by Inos, including a 25 yard run, with Tigard working the ball down to the four yard line. On a quarterback keep McGetrick ran a sweep to the strong side and into the end zone for another Tigard touchdown. The PAT was a rare miss, wide left, and Tigard was up 22-0 with 2:13 left in the half. The Tigard defense never let up with Cary Watts almost recovering a fumble and Jake Sanders running down a Bruin on the sideline keeping Barlow out of the end zone for an outstanding touchdown stopping open field tackle.

Third quarter saw Barlow kicking onsides. Sanders recovered the ball just before taking a tremendous hit on the Tigard 44. Offense saw the O-line holding steady giving Inos lots of blocking for more big yard-age runs. The O-line also gave McGetrick lots of time to pass connecting with both Sanders, Averette and Gogal. With 7:03 left in quarter Tigard went with the field goal attempt. From 28 yards out McGetrick's kick was to the left but through the uprights giving Tigard the lead 25-0 with 7:03. Barlow's offense finally fired up and with a run outside Barlow finally got on the board with 5:54 left. Their kick was good and the score was Tigard 25-Barlow 8. The Bruins went with another onside kick and Sanders again held onto the ball after getting mauled hard by the Bruins. The O-line consisting of Kevin Henderson, Brandon Baker, Bryan Baker, Alex Treat and Marco Vermelho held fast giving McGetrick lots of time to work the field. McGetrick with time in the pocket from the O-line went to the air connecting with Gogal, Averette and Watts moving the ball down to the Barlow 21. McGetrick on a broken play took it in for another Tigard touchdown with 4:05 left in the quarter. With the score 31-8 Tigard took a knee on the PAT. Barlow was still in for the game and driving hard. With a run up the middle Tigard's Treat and Alex Chamberlin both stopped the running back cold with a mighty team tackle. However after several great runs and a nice quick screen pass the Bruins were into the Tigard end zone. With a rushed PAT that was no good the score at the end of the third quarter was Tigard 31 Barlow 14.

Fourth quarter action saw Averette running the ball back 18 yards up the middle to set up a strong offensive drive. With plenty of protection McGetrick hit Watts again for a quick 15 yard pass and run setting up another Tiger's touchdown. Averette got the ball on the hand off and was in for the touchdown with 7:26 left in the game. With the score 37-14 the PAT again took a knee. The Bruins never gave up and quickly worked the ball down to the Tigard goal line. Both Treat and Brandon Dodak made a great team tackle at the 4 yard line to keep the Bruins out. With a quick toss to the right and Barlow running a sweep to the outside they were in for a touchdown. With Tigard pressure coming from both sides the PAT was no good and the score was 37-20. Tigard got the ball back and were working the middle of field when strong Bruin defense caused a rare Tigard fumble. Barlow got the ball back and worked hard against the Tigard defense. With :35 seconds left in the game Barlow scored and then ran the ball into the end zone on the PAT. Finally score was Tigard 37 Barlow 27. Coach Hansen said, "This was a great team win, we got lots of kids all contributing working hard for a team win. I couldn't be any prouder."

With Tigard's win they are now 6-0. Their next game is Saturday at 7 p.m. when they take on the Lake Oswego Varsity Navy at Lake Oswego High School.

