

## Girls Soccer Team Gets Snowy Start to Spring Ball

By: Matthew Schuster  
Opinions Co-Editor

Girls' soccer had an entertaining year last year by winning the Warren Fitzgerald Tournament, coming third in the BWAC and winning the first round of districts, 5-3 against their rival Almont.

But this year they have bigger goals. They want to "Win the BWAC and also want to win my first district trophy," said Junior Brooke Kazmierczak

With big expectations this year, comes big responsibility with the players. Losing 11 seniors means a lot of players are going to have to step up and fill in some big shoes. One position that's one of the most important is keeper. Their keeper last year was a senior; Kazmierczak has to step up and play keeper.

But Kazmierczak comes with complete confidence.

When asked about if she thinks she can replace her, Kazmierczak said, "Yes, because I've played since I can remember."

Girls Soccer tryouts were on March 13 through March 17, and on March 18 the girls had their first games at the Girls Soccer Spring Thaw.

There are 10 freshman on the team and that's a huge plus for everyone on the team.

"The freshmen are all very nice and are very skilled for how young they are. They are going to be great this seasons and seasons after," said Junior Grace Aiken, who plays forward.

One thing that Richmond has in depth. With losing 10 seniors, these freshman give the girls what they had last year and that's depth. Be-

cause of the 10 freshmen Richmond will have the same amount of girls that they did last year.

Just having a lot of people doesn't mean you have a good team. You need the upperclassmen to help the younger athletes.

Kazmierczak said, "I try to help them the best I can. I will give them advice on what my other coaches told me. I also help them with their footwork."

Having older people to help guide

*"All 5 of the seniors are very important to the team and all have different ways they impact the team."*

you other than your coaches is very important. Playing in important games and knowing what you have to do to win the close games. They have been in the moment and have a different way of teaching than the coaches.

Aiken said, "Having a big bench last year was really beneficial to our team. We could bring in people off the bench and they could play as good as the starters did."

A day after tryouts on the 18th they had their first game. Only problem was that the field was outside. For the first two games, the field was covered in snow and it was a mess

to play on so they couldn't play their game.

Aiken said, "It was hard to run and was even harder trying to connect passes together and play our game." Even with the conditions, they still won their first game 3-0 but sadly lost their second game 4-1. The third game the field had no snow on it but lost 3-1 to Lutheran North.

Senior and center midfielder Andrea Sekloch said, "I thought we played good against Lutheran North but they got a couple lucky bounces to beat us."

The girls are excited for their season. They have been working hard in the off season by playing indoor soccer and by having captains' practices for conditioning.

The girls' goals this year is to win the District. The biggest and toughest opponent this year is Marine City and they will have to beat them to achieve their goal. Sekloch said, "One key way to beat Marine City is we need to go hard into tackles and to have fresh feet on the field."

Another main thing in soccer like other sports is experience. With all the talk about the 10 freshmen, the five seniors they have, they need leadership on the soccer team, need people to push them and show them what it takes to play on varsity.

With only a few seniors on the team, they all bring different assets to the team. Jessie Melton, sophomore said, "All 5 of the seniors are very important to the team and all have different ways they impact the team." But the team needs 11 players that can impact the team all in different ways to be successful.



**BROOKE KAZMIERCZAK**

Age— 17  
Grade— Junior  
Sports— Soccer  
Favorite class— Yearbook  
Future Goals— Go to Saginaw Valley and get admitted into their nursing program  
Favorite Athlete— Alex Morgan

## Senior Athletes

### COLTON MCKERRAN

Age— 16  
Grade— 11  
Sports— Football, wrestling  
Favorite class— Economics  
Future Goals— Win another state championship and go to college  
Favorite Athlete— Kyle Snyder



## RHS Alley Cats Give it One Last Roll

By: Devon Dentai  
Staff Writer

Let me spare you the details, Richmond really went a full 300% this season striking through regionals, and barely splitting states. This year the bowling team lead by the talented coach Mr. Germain shattered expectations across the board as what was thought to be a pretty average season. The team based up of mostly seniors played their hearts out to make sure their season didn't come up short.

"Something about this being our last season really added a sense of playing with more heart than mind," senior Brandon Saikowski said.

Going 8-1-2 in the regular season qualified the Richmond bowling team for regional play, where they crushed the competition.

The Regional Tournament was held on February 26, where the Richmond bowlers faced off against the top schools from around the area to compete for the regional championship. The Devils were able to bring home the win with big performances from seniors Brandon Saikowski that scored a high of 183, and Sam Calderone who scored a high of 193 pins.

"Regionals was definitely great to look back at, but at the moment of winning it didn't mean as much to any of us as much as the fact we were going to states did; my heart was just focused on winning states," Brandon said.

On March 4<sup>th</sup> the Michigan Bowling State Championship had taken place. Unfortunately, Richmond came up just short by taking 4<sup>th</sup> place in the state. Although the team didn't win, they still played their hearts out. Advancing to the state semifinals is so no easy task, which shows that Richmond has some of the top bowlers in the state. While they might not have taken home the gold, Coach Germain couldn't have been more satisfied. "I feel that we played to the best of our abilities and every single one of my players should be proud of themselves and know that I can't wait to coach them next year and to the seniors it's been a good ride and I wish the best for their futures," said coach Germain.

However after the loss Richmond bowlers are still keeping their heads up. But they did recognize reasons for not performing as well. "I feel the inconsistency was a big problem. We would have people who would be bowling great during regionals then bowling some of their lowest scores in the post season. It's like after regionals some people either got more drive or lost a lot of drive," Sam said.

However senior Kacie Conner had a different take on the team's performance. "I felt a lot of it was just nerves. We didn't play like usual. We would mess up on things we don't usually mess up on, no one person was the problem," Kacie said.

Not having a first place trophy to bare they did place among the top 4 in the entire state. This was an accomplishment that should not be disregarded to any stretch of the imagination and to the seniors of the 2017 class, not one of them feels bad about the results because there aren't no turkeys on the Blue Devils bowling team.



# IN OUR OPINION



## Question of the Week

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### Where are you going for Spring break?

#### Staff



Mrs. Wolfe: Staying home and spending time with my family

#### Senior



Christina Thomas: Pompano Beach, Florida

#### Junior



Ivan Torregrosa: Mexico

#### Sophomore



Jessie Melton: PCB Florida

#### Freshman



Parker Barrows: Ohio

## Opinions

### Staff Editorial: EnRichmond: A celebration of artist and community

By: Haley Fortuna  
Coordinating Editor

EnRichmond—it's the week before and it's just sinking in that you are performing in 7 different events on Friday night. Instantly the stress begins building, building, building. After all, you still need to memorize the words to one of the five songs you're singing. Oh, and don't forget to go over measures 30-45 of that other song because you always mess up the rhythm. I almost forgot, you have to run through the dance for the musical's preview show too.

As the pressure builds, it begins to feel like you are engulfed in water and continue swimming deeper and deeper until you feel your ears pop. You begin to ask yourself: why? Why did you sign up to sing your solo and ensemble songs? Why did you sign up to be in the musical? Why did you decide to perform your forensics piece?

The first time I performed in front of an audience, on stage, I was a 6-year-old ballerina who had no idea what she was doing when her dance teacher pushed her on stage. Still, I was hooked. Not on dance of course, but performing. Since then, I have sung at various events for several different reasons and have been involved in over 30 theatrical productions.

Throughout my experience as a young performer, I have met many people just like me. There is no way to accurately describe the feeling that rushes your body when you hear the applause after a performance that you worked so hard for (stressed over).

All I can say is that it's worth it. It's worth every late night you spent reviewing the choreography. It's worth every extra vocal lesson you scheduled.

EnRichmond is a night at RHS that features performances from every aspect of our art department. I am involved in women's chorale, solo and ensemble, forensics, the elementary school musical, the middle school musical, and the high school musical.

But I'm not the only student who has been given the opportunity to do what they love and share it with their community.

Although we run from room to room, changing from costume to costume, in fear of missing our next act, it's worth it.

Without the arts there is no expression. EnRichmond is unlike any other performance; simply because every aspect of art is included and celebrated. What makes this so beneficial is people get to experience music, poetry, theatre arts and visual arts within this two hour span. Students are recognized for all of their hard work and our community gets to enjoy it, simultaneously.

That Friday evening the art hallways at RHS were flooded with people of all ages and all different interests but they shared one common thing: an appreciation for the arts. That's what this event is all about.

The Richmond Education Foundation puts on this art celebration as a fundraiser; the money collected, helps create grants.

All in all, EnRichmond is about the performer, the audience and the students. I was honored to work towards sharing the arts with our community, even through all the stress and hard works of performing 7 acts. It's worth it.

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