



The Gata Data

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STA Lady Gator Soccer Team faces playoff rival Byrd, competes in recent tournament

BY: MICHAEL MUMPHREY
Gata Data Reporter

On November 21, the Lady Gators Soccer team played a tight game which resulted in a 2-2 tie with C.E. Byrd. Byrd is a formidable opponent that the Lady Gators have bested before. Their first matchup took place last year at the District 1 quarterfinals and the Gators won with a 4-3 ending score. When asked about his thoughts on this game, new coach Jacob Bordelon disclosed, “It was a great game, great matchup. I think we actually dominated the whole first half of the game.” And dominate they did, as within the first 15 minutes of the match, junior Lillian Aucoin scored the first goal (a free kick) for the Lady Gators. He noted a very questionable penalty call that occurred which momentarily “kicked the wind out of our sails,” but showcases his appreciation towards the girls for “not keeping their head down and continuing to play” giving Junior Mallory Sutton drive to score the second and final goal of the game.

In addition, junior Addison Champagne deterred Byrd from garnering goals with a whopping seven goal saves. Overall, Bordelon lauds the girls for their resolve. “They’ve been very consistent in their performances, I have nothing but compliments for the girls so far,”

Bordelon said, expressing his wishes that they continue on their high streak. Recently, the girls attended the Acadiana Soccer Tournament in Burbank, Louisiana, and brought their best throughout every match. The first game against Loyola Prep saw a 2-1 loss for the Lady Gators. Much like Byrd, they were a tough match to play. The only goal was scored by sophomore Natalie Heintze and seven saves by Champagne. During the following night in the match against Barbe, however, the Lady Gators generated a winning streak. Sophomore Adyson Naquin bagged the gators a goal with assistance from Sutton, and was booted with Champagne saving the ball five times.

In addition, the girls went hard on the third and final match against Ouachita Parish and scored a total of five goals. While the Lady Gators are flourishing with flying colors, Bordelon said that he would like to work with the girls on “creating more opportunities to score goals,” which he thinks will help them set their streak in stone. Catch the



STAFF PHOTO BY MICHEAL MUMPHREY

Lady Gators take on Zachary on December 18, followed by a pair of road games against St. Thomas Aquinas on Decmeber 20 and Lakeshore on December 22. Varsity will be at 6p.m. and Junior Varisty will be at 7:30p.m.

STA FFA attends National Convention

BY: PARIS GOMEZ and BROXTON CRAWFORD
Gata Data Reporters

STA’s Future Farmers of America, or FFA, recently had the opportunity to attend their National Convention. Mandy Delaune, Agriscience teacher and FFA adviser, gave an insider’s view on the convention as their competing year comes to an end. “National convention is one of those trips that creates a core memory for you,” Delaune says in reflection.

“The National Convention is the end of that business year. Just like any other program would have an ending,” Delaune said. “There’s a huge career expo that allows the students to interact with different types of careers, different businesses, different colleges, different service projects. So it’s really diverse and allows a student to really see a full picture of what Agriculture has to offer to them as a career and as an individual.”

Not only did students find a prospective career within the agriculture sphere, they also had to earn their attendance and raise their own funds to attend. “Even though you’ve earned the trip, you still have to work for it. And it really teaches them that hard work has benefits, and they get to see all the plus sides of when you make a commitment to something and grind it out,” Delaune said. This in general also applies to the FFA motto, “Learning to Do, Doing to Learn, Earning to Live and Living to Serve.”

The students in attendance also had the

opportunity to go to separate businesses along the way. These businesses directly deal with the possible careers that FFA students could pursue. “On the way up there, we got to do some different tours. This year, we were able to tour Chaney’s Dairy Farm. It had a robotic milking machine, and so we got to observe all that and learn about that process, which is really cool. We were also able to visit the Indianapolis 500 Brickyard.” Students experienced an entirely different environment with the convention taking place in Illinois. “It’s a totally different environment than in Louisiana so it gives them a different perspective on different situations where people live and things like that.”

Delaune pushes for more students to work towards attending, and not just students within FFA, but students of all walks of life. “And students think, oh, I’m not going to be a farmer. I shouldn’t really do that kind of stuff, but it’s not just ‘that stuff’. There’s so much technology, and there’s so many other avenues,

through agriculture that it exposes kids to. It could fit almost any interest. So I highly encourage anybody that has the opportunity to attend. I also encourage them to get active, get involved, and earn that spot.”



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED BY STA FFA



The STA Choir spreads the Christmas spirit

BY: REBCCA CRESIE
Gata Data Reporter

The St Amant Choir is sharing the holiday cheer at their concert on December 18th at St. Joseph’s Catholic Church in French Settlement. The concert is an annual event that happens every December where the three St. Amant choirs come together to spread the holiday magic with songs like Noche De Paz (Night of Peace), Silent Night (sung in Spanish), and many more traditional Christmas carols. Alumni are also invited to participate with the St Amant choir at the concert.

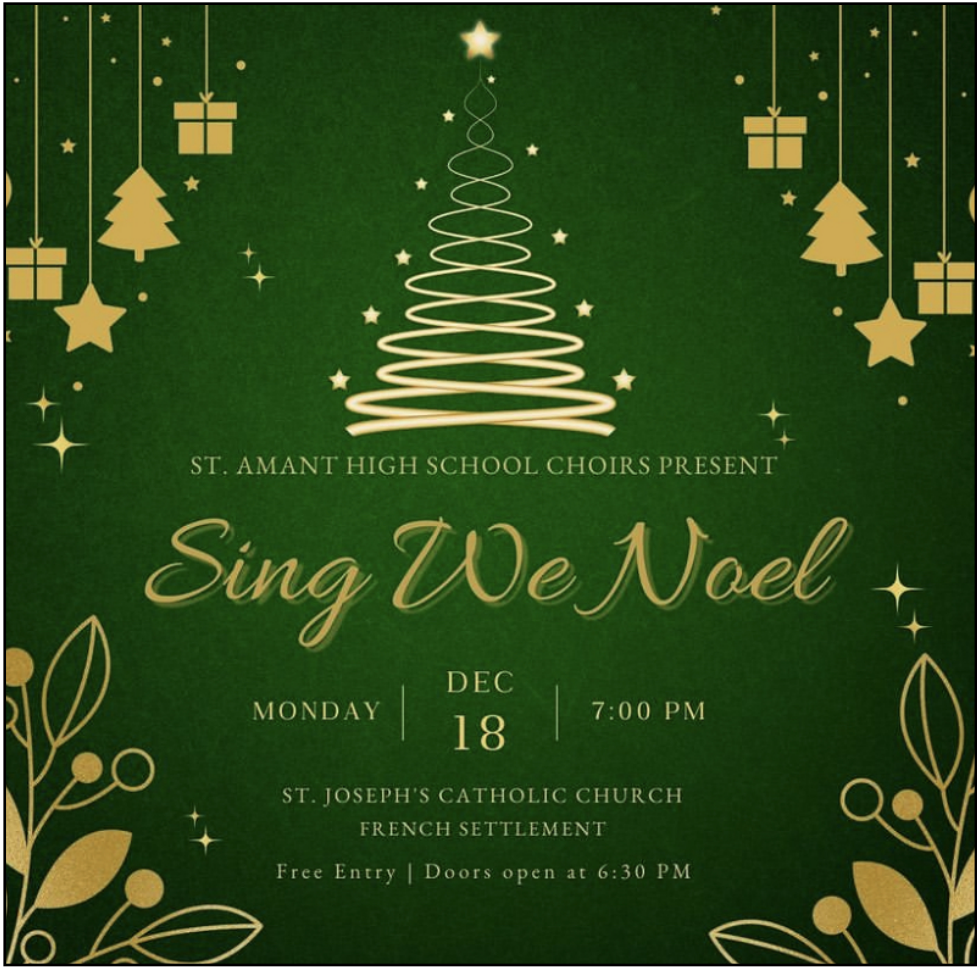
Mrs. Bray, the St Amant choir director, puts a lot of effort into these concerts as there are many obstacles that she and the choir must overcome. One of the major obstacles that the choir faces is that they don’t sing together until two days before the concert and that they are singing in foreign languages but Mrs. Bray does not let that weigh them down, rather she uses it as fuel to do their best against the odds.

The choir also has songs that they sing in different languages, such as Spanish and German, that some of the choir are unfamiliar with but that doesn’t stop them from singing the music beautifully. The students within the choir maintain a high level

of professionalism which helps them keep the program running smoothly.

St Joseph’s Catholic Church is a beautiful church with good acoustics which is the reason that Mrs. Bray continues to work with them throughout the years. Bray says that the choir is very lucky to be able to work with the church as many of the attendees at the concert are church members.

If you are looking for a break from the Christmas stress or just want a boost of holiday joy, or you just want to support the school and your classmates, join the choir for their concert at St. Joseph’s catholic church on December 18th at 7 pm.



The STA Band shares Christmas spirit at upcoming concert

BY: MADELYN LONG
Gata Data Reporter

Do you enjoy live Christmas Music? If so, the STA band is hosting their annual Christmas concert on Tuesday, December 19. Band Director Andrew Graham states, “I am excited for our upcoming Christmas Concert because of the opportunity our students get to perform holiday music for the public, since there is no Christmas season without music involved. This is also a great transition for our program because it bridges the gap from marching band season in the fall to our concert festival season in the spring.” The concert will be held in the STA commons at 6:30. The Band hopes to see you there!



The Lady Gator Basketball season is in full effect

BY: DANIELLE DARVILLE
Gata Data Reporter

As the season starts, Lady Gators coach, Coach Latoya expresses that she is happy about the way that the Ladies are playing this season. She shared, “The Ladies have performed very well, they work hard every day and practice and give a lot of effort.” She also expresses that she wants the Ladies to leave everything out on the floor, not looking back on what it could have been but focusing on having fun on the court and improving and learning every day.

She states, “The lessons I'm teaching are bigger than just on the court. I want them to take these things not just in Basketball but in life.”

The coach adds that the ladies have improved at rebounding and defense. However, they focus on improving decision-making. She states, “This year, a big improvement from last year, is that the girls are more aggressive.”

Coach highlights star players this season, Rhian Comery and Jacey Coleman, being big contributors to the team, as well as great leadership from seniors, Alexis Moore and Ronia Guillory. As of December 15, the Lady Gators sport a 7-3 overall record. They earned a pair of impressive wins over Northshore (48-44) and Edna Karr (60-57).

Dates to Remember (Spring Semester)

- January 9: Students return from break
- January 12: Staff Development Day
- February 12-13: Mardi Gras Break
- March 12-13: Midterms
- March 15: Ring Night
- April 1-5: Spring Break
- April 13: Prom
- May 1: Senior’s Last Day
- May 7: Senior Awards Night
- May 9: Graduation
- May 20-22: Finals
- May 24: Last Day of 2023-2024 School year



When is it to early to celebrate Christmas?

BY: MARIA MELLAD
Gata Data Reporter



SANAIA HAMPTON

- 1. When is it too early to put up Christmas decorations? November 1
- 2. When is the right time to put up decorations? December 1
- 3. When is it too early to listen to Christmas music? November 1



DAWSON ELFER

- 1. When is it too early to put up Christmas decorations?Anytime before Thanksgiving
- 2. When is the right time to put up decorations? First week of the New Year.
- 3. When is it too early to listen to Christmas music? - There's never a wrong time for music



KATIE WILLIAMSON

- 1. When is it too early to put up Christmas decorations?Any time before Thanksgiving
- 2. When is the right time to put up decorations? Mid January
- 3. When is it too early to listen to Christmas music? NEVER



COREY POWELL (THE GRINCH)

- 1. When is it too early to put up Christmas decorations? Any time before the first week of December.
- 2. When is the right time to put up decorations? About a week or two before Christmas
- 3. When is it too early to listen to Christmas music? Anytime, Christmas music isn't good.



ANDREW GREEN

- 1. When is it too early to put up Christmas decoration? Before Thanksgiving
- 2. When is the right time to put up decorations? The weekend after Thanksgiving or the first week of December.
- 3. When is it too early to listen to Christmas music? Any time before December



A'JAMAANI KING

- 1. When is it too early to put up Christmas decorations?Anytime before the week of Thanksgiving
- 2. When is the right time to put up decorations? The week of Thanksgiving and most likely the day after.
- 3. When is it too early to listen to Christmas music? NEVER! Christmas music is on my playlist year round. "Baby, It's cold outside cold outside" and " 8 days of Christmas" are my favorites