



The Gata Data

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The Gators claim victory over the Spartans

BY: LAILAH GRANIER, LIBBY WILKINSON

Gata Data Reporters

The St. Amant Gators showed out against rival East Ascension with a 17-12 victory at Spartan Stadium. Head coach David Oliver shared that the defense did a tremendous job stopping the Spartans from scoring and said the Gators, “played a great game all night long, and I’m really proud of their effort.”

The game started with quarterback Cooper Babin passing the ball to wide receiver Timothy Johnson, which allowed for a 77 yard gain for the Gators. Right after this play, running back Tyree Williams ran in a three yard touchdown, putting the score at 7-0.

During the second drive, the Spartans fumbled the ball, which senior defensive back Anthony Salzarulo recovered, allowing the Gators to regain possession of the ball. In the next play, Tyree Williams ran another three yards into the endzone, resulting in the Gators being in the lead with 14-0. The Gators continued to run plays and keep the ball moving across the field until the quarter ended.

Throughout the second quarter, both teams fought to maintain possession of the ball. The Gators were unable to score any points. However, the Spartans managed to score a touchdown during the middle of the drive, but they were unsuccessful in attempting a two-point conversion, leaving the score at 14-6.

In the first drive of the third quarter, the Spartans fumbled the ball again, which senior inside linebacker Evan Williams recovered. The Spartans “made some adjustments on defense that kind of threw off our offensive,” says Coach Oliver. Due to this change, the quarter was scoreless for both teams.

Going into the fourth quarter, junior linebacker Adarious Thomas said that “it was anyone’s game.” With the score still being 14-6, the two teams stepped up to gain control over the game. The Gators were able to show possession by running the ball close to the endzone, allowing a successful field goal kicked by Jace Fierro.

Unfortunately, the Spartans passed the ball and earned a 38 yard touchdown. Due to them being unsuccessful again in a two-point conversion, this brought the score to 12-17. For the rest of the game, the Gators continued to defend and run the ball, which led to St. Amant’s big win against East Ascension. Evan Williams expressed, “Our defense did a pretty good job. We got a lot of turnovers this game which really helped us a whole lot on the offensive side.”

Coach Oliver talked about how the Gators did a great job at not letting the Spartans get “above the threshold.” Senior Eddie Delhaye, an offensive linebacker, commented, “winning against EA is always a good feeling, it is really amazing to be in one of the biggest rivalries and come out on top.”

Tonight the Gators play Live Oak at the Pit. Come out and support the Gators in your best security guard attire.



STA Football players celebrating their victory against EA



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED BY JAYDEN PINO

Madelyn Long named 2024 Student of the year

BY: SAVANNAH MATLOCK

Gata Data Reporter

Long was named STA’s 2024 Student of the Year on Thursday, October 3.

“I was super excited. I wasn’t expecting it,” said Long when asked how she felt when she heard her name called Thursday afternoon, “There were so many amazing people that were nominated so it felt like it was a really close decision.”

Long, along with several other STA seniors, was nominated for the position a few weeks prior to the decision. The “Finalist” students submitted an application, an essay and sat for an interview.

Within the application, Long got to exhibit the large number of clubs and organizations she has been a part of during her four years. For all four years, Long has been a member of the STA Color Guard and an FCA Leader, and for three years she was a student journalist in the STA newspaper. She is also a part of “Sources of Strength” and the Chick-Fil-A Leadership Academy.

For her essay, Long wrote an autobiographical sketch about the three topics that she felt were most important to her: mental health, equality and addiction. “I believe that mental health is an epidemic in our society and the root of most of our issues. We need to start at the root.” Says Long.

She plans to take these values with her after graduation, where she wants to go to LSU and major in forensic psychology. “I want to work with rehabilitation, mental health and possibly the criminal justice field,” says Long. She aspires to work hands-on with people



who need mental rehabilitation in places like a prison or mental institution.

Madelyn Long was named Student of the Year her Eighth-grade year at Lake Middle School, so her dream was to do the same in

High School. “I knew very early on in my high school experience that I wasn’t going to be Valedictorian because of some of the classes that I chose to take, and I wasn’t going to be the cheer captain,” said Long. “Meeting this goal in high school has definitely shown me that I am capable of doing things that I set for myself and that my hard work and determination will pay off in the future.”

The next move for Long is to run for District Student of the Year, where she will compete with other Ascension Parish Students of the Year.

Long says that she appreciates all of her former and present teachers who have all made a big impact on her time at St. Amant. She gives a special thanks to Mrs. Frederic, Mr. Green, Mrs. Figs and Mrs. Murphy who have been mentors for her during the Student of the Year process.

Finally, Madelyn Long speaks to the future generations of STA students. “Your short time on this campus is what you make out of it,” says Long.

“The wonderful teachers, administrators, and staff have laid out a path of success for you, but you must be the one to take the initiative and create an unforgettable experience for yourself.”

Boo at the Barn

BY: SANIYA SMITH

Gata Data Reporter

With adorable animals, pumpkin decor, and many more activities, St. Amant's FFA held their famous boo at the barn, St. Amant's FFA organizational club with some of the proceeds going to the Catholic Daughters of Holy Roasary's Thanksgiving baskets.

Mandy Delaune, the Agricultural science teacher says, "When we first started this event, the entry to get in was a canned good, so from the beginning of this event we've always donated canned goods to the local Catholic ... Association and they provided Thanksgiving meals for people in our community" This event has been held for years and the citizens of St.

Amant have raved about the sense of community they feel when they're able to come together as one.

The volunteers and the agricultural science students learn about the importance of supporting your community and why Boo at the Barn is such a significant event for the people. A volunteer, Skylar, says "This is our way of giving back to the community, we do a lot of things, we have a lot of fun, a bunch of games, and a bunch of stuff for people just to have fun and relax."

Boo at the Barn is beneficial and fun for people of all ages, we hope to see you again next year!



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED BY CHAD HERBERT

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Why is Jazz Music so captivating

Opinion Piece

BY: SANIYA SMITH

Gata Data Reporter

Humans are complex beings consisting of many fragments, and individuals have produced a way to express their sentiments through art. Balladers or musicians, these ordinary people have discovered a way to remain present and create beauty out of stillness and the blatant acceptance of their turmoil. Jazz can ascend us to an ethereal place that leads listeners to understand the vulnerability and the raw emotions the composer manifests.

The complexities of jazz and the emphasis on expression and improvisation are all musical elements that existed before jazz but never together. A study administered by John Hopkins University shows that jazz's syncopated nature brings out theta brain waves, the brain circuits used for creativity. This genre is vulnerable and sacred because of its ability to generate such beauty.

Instrumentalists such as Charles Mingus, Billie Holiday, John Coltrane, Ella Fitzgerald, Nina Simone, and other musicians have used their gift to communicate through melodic articulation and their immense brilliance, artists were denied the use of their voices simply because of the pigment of their skin. A renaissance occurred because of this predicament an era had begun African Americans who were once in bondage freed themselves with arts and migration.

Jazz is one of the most influential genres, it is known as one of America's truest forms of art, and it shows genuine independence shows how lovely jazz could genuinely be. David Ackert declared "Musicians are willing to give their entire lives to a moment, melody, lyric, or chord that will stir the soul."



John Coltran playing the Saxophone

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED BY: GETTY IMAGES

STA gymnasts are flipping into the new season

BY: HAYDEN LOUPE

Gata Data Reporter

The St. Amant gymnastics team is ready to begin the new season. "It's fun and enjoyable," said Mrs. Natali Aucoin, the St. Amant gymnastics sponsor. Anyone with any tumbling experience is welcome to try out. Many girls on the team have never competed in gymnastics before but joined with basic tumbling skills.

The gymnastics team meets once a week on Thursday for a mandatory practice at Aim Gymnastics. They also have optional practices on Sundays where you can continue working on skills or make up for missing practice on Thursday. At practices, they work on skills that can be added to their routines for their meets rotating through floor, bar, beam and vault.

The gymnasts compete at levels three, four, and eight. Level eight is for the more experienced gymnasts, those who have been in gymnastics for a long time and have met the requirements. Level three and four are for those who are just joining gymnastics and those who have some tumbling experience.

The STA gymnastics team have yet to start competing but are looking forward to an amazing competition season. Since Mrs. Aucoin has taken over the gymnastics team she claims to have seen "great improvement" from the girls and the interest rate has grown.

Practices are held at Aim Gymnastics every Thursday and Sunday. The team starts competing in the Spring and is held in Baton Rouge.



STA gymnasts at AIM Gymnastics.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED BY NATALI AUCOIN