



# The Gata Data

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## Gators break 40 in lopsided Homecoming victory

BY: LAILAH GRANIER  
Gata Data Reporter

Live Oak may have scored the first touchdown, the Gators were successful in pushing their way to victory with a score of 42-26. The Gators were able to complement each other's playing style effectively and earn their highest score of the season.

In the first quarter, the two teams fought back and forth to gain possession of the ball during the start of the game. The Eagles however quickly scored 10 points against the Gators by completing a touchdown and successfully kicking the extra point.

Only 20 seconds after the Eagles scored a touchdown, Quarterback Cooper Babin turned the game around and ran in a 27 yard touchdown through the middle. Jace Fierro then kicked the ball into the endzone, leaving the score at 7-10. The two teams continued to run the ball until the end of the quarter.

The second quarter started with the Eagles kicking a field goal, putting the Eagles further in the lead, 7-13. However, Cooper Babin passed the ball to wide receiver Timothy Johnson, who ran in an 11



STAFF PHOTO LAILAH GRANIER

yard touchdown for the Gators putting the score at 14-13, allowing the Gators to be in the lead.

The Eagles continued to pass the ball in an attempt to score. However, defense backer Caleb Ricks intercepted their pass, leaving the ball in the Gators' possession. In regards to this, Ricks said, "Don't count on the next man to do your job, you need to do your job. We just have to play the 48 minutes and pull off the win."

Shortly after this interception, Timothy Johnson achieved another seven yard touchdown, allowing the Gators to continue leading with the

score of 21-13 for the end of the quarter. Johnson expresses his happiness about how the game went and felt that this game will be memorable for him. He says, "I'm glad to see all of my younger teammates happy for me and especially Coach Babin."

Third quarter began with the Gators running the ball towards the endzone. Wide receiver Timothy Johnson managed to score his third touchdown of the night, resulting in the score being 28-13. However, a minute later the Eagles managed to run in a touchdown, making the gap tighter with 28-20. Johnson still kept a positive outlook for the game as he mentions, "being down 10 during the first quarter makes you feel like you are gonna lose, but coach kept us positive and we knew we were gonna win."

The quarter continued as the Gators fought to keep control over the game. With three minutes left of the game, Cooper Babin ran a four yard touchdown into the endzone on the left side. With the score being 39-20, the Gators continued to prevent the Eagles from scoring for the remainder of the quarter.

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## Patricia Wilson is STA's 2024 HOCO Queen

BY: AVERY LAMBERT  
Gata Data Reporter

On October 25, senior Patricia Wilson was announced Homecoming Queen. Wilson stated that becoming Homecoming Queen is a big change for her, but that she enjoyed the experience overall. Wilson also emphasized that her experience with the other Homecoming Court girls positively impacted her experience.

Wilson said she was surprised to hear her name be called. "I had people telling me that I was going to win, but I didn't really believe them," said Wilson.

Although the experience was fun and exciting, Wilson explained that there were some obstacles that she faced and sacrifices that had to be made when running. "It was very time consuming," said Wilson. She also mentioned that being a part of Homecoming Court can be quite expensive.

For background as to why she decided to give Homecoming Court a shot, Wilson said she actually was not originally planning to sign up. "My mom recently passed this summer, and she was the one who

told me to try for court," said Wilson. She explained that she had no intention of running, even after her mom tried convincing her. However, her moms passing is what truly inspired her to give it a shot.

Wilson wanted to shout out Mrs. Cindy Landry for helping her during her time at St. Amant. "I had known her since middle school, but hadn't had her as a teacher until I made it to high school."

Wilson recommends anyone try out for Homecoming Court. "Don't knock it until you try it!"



STAFF PHOTO BY LAILAH GRANIER

# STA ranks top 10 in the nation at FFA convention

BY: OLIVE CARROLL, JAILYN MARTIN  
Gata Data Reporters

The St Amant organization, Future Farmers of America, participated in the ninety-seventh annual national FFA convention in Indianapolis, Indiana. At the convention, FFA was recognized as one of the 3-star chapters, which ranked STA among the top 10 percent of all FFA programs in the nation. Being a star chapter means that STA's FFA organization is eligible for premier chapter awards. Students had the opportunity to receive the 3-star national chapter award last week.

At the convention, they had general sessions with guest speakers who held workshops, animal training booths, agricultural product sales, career questionnaires, and education displays recruiting kids to attend their schools.

Students who participate in or have joined this organization find that it teaches them many life

skills. Mandy Deluane, the head director of this club described it as a great thing to be a part of. Students in FFA can learn "personal growth, career success, and leadership," said Delaune. Traveling across the country with Delaune is just one example of how this organization provides students with new, entertaining experiences. Delaune describes the trip as a 13-hour drive that they broke up into two days. "We spent the night in Nashville, then the next day we went to do a couple of tours. We went ziplining in the Kentucky hills, then that same day we went into Indianapolis," said Delaune.

As head director of this organization, Delaune pushes her students to do the best they can. St. Amant's rank being among the top 10 in the nation proves how

much determination and dedication FFA students put into this organization. Future Farmers of America teaches students about commitment, leadership, and much more. "I think that since freshman year I've definitely had a lot of changes in myself, like, leadership-wise, I'm able to direct more," said FFA president, Layla Porter.



# STA Choir gives 'the gift of music' at movie concert

BY: MICHAEL MUMPHREY  
Gata Data Reporter

On Tuesday, October 22, the St. Amant Choir took audiences back to the movies for their annual Movie Concert. Many songs from a plethora of films were performed, such as "What Was I Made For" from the Barbie movie, "May it Be" from The Lord of the Rings, "Can't Catch Me Now" from The Hunger Games: The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes, "Come Alive" from The Greatest Showman, and more.

Choir director Sara Bray acknowledges the growth of the concert since its conception 8 years ago. "It's just gotten bigger and better every year because it's music that the audience is going to know. It's very relatable, and I love that people from the community can come out," said Bray. Because of its variety in music genres, Bray thinks it is a welcome concert to begin the school year. "It's a good way to get us into it because the music is fun. It's a really beneficial way for me to introduce many different styles, like pop-style singing, jazz-style singing, rock-style singing, and musical theater-style singing," Bray stated.

Bray also mentioned how, through the Movie Concert, music could be more accessible. "Seeing

your favorite artist or going to those big concerts isn't going to be accessible because they're so expensive. But what people forget is that we have a lot of talent here." Bray adds that not only does it make the experience more enjoyable and intimate, but it also allows attendees to see the performers' passion for



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music, an art form that she believes is universal throughout humanity. Bray explained, "Music is in every part of our lives and world and music is constantly around you, and I think it's important that we showcase the different levels of music that happen in your life."

One thing that Bray wanted to acknowledge was the amount of hard work, passion, and camaraderie the kids had during the concert. The students worked together to give speeches and control the flow of traffic backstage. "All of them function as a stage manager, making sure they're getting to their place when they need to be, helping each other out, and that camaraderie is not easy to accomplish," Bray noted.

"They're so talented and they've worked so hard," concluded Bray.

The St. Amant Choir's next concert will be the annual "Sing We Noel" concert on Monday, December 16 at 7 p.m., followed by the joint school musical, "Grease" on February 13, 14, and 15, 2025.

# Taylor Swift Shakes it Off in Superdome

BY: CHANCE GOMEZ  
Gata Data Reporter

This past weekend, Taylor Swift returned to New Orleans, Louisiana at the Caesars Superdome for three sold-out shows Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. To welcome Swift to the city for the weekend, New Orleans held several events, pop-up shops and came up with several different creations to decorate the big city for the weekend.

Some of the events that were set up included hanging giant friendship bracelets around the Superdome also with several shops decorating big for Swift's arrival.

Another thing the city made sure to prep as you walked along the way to the shows were many restaurants like Walk-Ons and more playing Taylor's music on their loud speakers inside and out.

The streets were filled with several fans walking back and forth from the Superdome and along the main streets of NOLA. The fans brought a positive-filled atmosphere to the city of New Orleans creating a safe environment through the streets of the city. Some dangerous streets, such as Bourbon Street were filled with large groups of fans gathering around to sing Swift's songs. Hotels and places to stay were very limited around the whole city of NOLA for all

three nights of the show since the hotels had been booked to full capacities months before.

Over the three days, Swift performed 44 songs, rotating the two songs she performs differently during the acoustic section each night with multiple costume



PHOTO COURTESY OF GETTY IMAGES

changes throughout the show. To open up the Eras Tour each night, Swift's opener, Gracie Abrams performed a 40-minute set of her latest hits and songs from her previous albums while waiting for Swift to take the stage. Swift also brought out Sabrina Carpenter as a special guest on night two to perform a duet of her hit songs, "Espresso" and "Please Please Please."

Swift performed each night for three and a half hours, lasting until near midnight. For each show day, the Smoothie King Center and Champions Square sold merchandise for the concert. This kept the audience entertained during the long wait lines for hours leading up to the show. The Eras Tour brought over 500 million dollars in economic revenue for the city of New Orleans from this weekend. Taylor Swift also donated to Louisiana food banks, providing 75,000 meals for the hungry.

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## The Beginnings of Halloween

BY: JAYDEN PINO  
Gata Data Reporter

In the modern sense, Halloween is a holiday celebrated across the world, where people dress in costumes, children walk door to door asking for candy, and the mysterious and macabre is celebrated. This holiday's origins can be traced back to the Celtic festival of Samhain (pronounced sow-in), celebrated the night of October 31. Wearing costumes and acknowledging the dead are common Halloween traditions likely stemming the Samhain festival.

The Celts were Indo-European peoples that existed roughly two thousand years ago in what is now Ireland, Northern France, and The U.K. The Celtic New Year started November 1 and was associated with human death, resulting from the end of crop harvest and the

beginning of a dark and cold winter. The Samhain festival was celebrated the night before the Celtic New Year and was seen as a time when the living could interact with the spirits of the dead.

Celtic priests known as Druids would build large bonfires where people would gather crops and animals as sacrifices to their deities. One example of a modern Halloween tradition that can be traced back to this event is the wearing of costumes. The Celts wore costumes consisting of animal skins and animal heads while they attempted to foretell each other's futures.

After the Roman Empire gained control over a majority of Celtic territory, two Roman festivals incorporated ideas from the Celtic festival of Samhain. Feralia was a festival in late October to

commemorate the dead and celebrate the goddess of fruit and trees, Pomona. It is believed that the tradition of bobbing for apples on Halloween came from this festival. All Saints' Day was a catholic feast on November 1 to honor all Christian martyrs and saints. All Souls' Day was a celebration held on November 2 combining ideas of All Saints' Day and Samhain. Much like Samhain, All Souls' Day consisted of bonfires, and parades of people in costumes of saints, devils and angels. All Saint's Day was also known as All-hallows or All-hallowmas. This originates from the Middle English word Alholowmesse, meaning All Saints' Day. The night before All Saint's Day and the traditional night of the Samhain celebration developed the name, All-Hallows Eve, eventually evolving into the name Halloween.

*Continued from page 1* Early on in the fourth quarter, Connor Darr ran in a two yard touchdown through the middle, making the score 42-20. Coach Oliver shared, "I was happy with how we finished drives. We ended up at 42, that is a season high for us, and a lot of that was from conversions and defense getting them off the field." The Eagles did manage to score at the very end of the game, however it was not enough to overcome the Gators, the final score being 42-26.

The results from the game has the team in high spirits about the rest of the season. "I think we are more than capable of going out to play and be on top in district," said wide receiver Kaven Tayler. Coach

Oliver adds on by talking about how they are currently tied in district and they are, "looking to be our best in the end for November, so hopefully those things go for us." Coach Oliver also comments on how the team is in the top ten for state and power rankings, and that after eight weeks of football, "that's pretty much where you want to be."

With the Prairieville game tonight, the Gators are ready to take on the Hurricanes. Caleb Ricks expresses, "even though everyone thinks that it will be an easy win, we will still practice hard and not let our guard down while playing. Go support the Gators at The Pit in your best black out attire!"

## Theatre holds Gator tot Halloween

BY: MICHAEL MUMPHREY  
Gata Data Reporter

On Tuesday, October 29, 2024, the St. Amant Thespian Society in partnership with the St. Amant Choir held the first Gator Tot Halloween Event for the children of the St. Amant



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Faculty. The event was split into two fifteen-minute increments. In the first half, there were a plethora of stations, ranging from face painting to storytelling. The next half saw the gator tots partaking in trick-or-treating throughout the secret hallway. When asked about the inspiration behind the event, theater teacher and thespian troupe leader Heidi Frederic stated that they were looking for ideas to benefit the community. "Using FCA's Easter Egg Hunt for Gator Tots as inspiration, we thought it would be fun to host a Halloween event specifically for faculty and staff's children," explained Frederic. Frederic also proclaimed "I'm proud to say it was a successful event!" If you would like to join Thespian Society for more activities like this, email Mrs. Frederic at heidi.frederic@apsb.org or go to room 326 to speak with her in person. You can also follow @sta\_theatre on Instagram to get the latest updates on upcoming meetings and productions.

## Listen up young voters

BY: SAVANNAH MATLOCK  
Gata Data Reporter

Election Day, on Tuesday, November 5, is the last day that United States citizens can vote in the 2024 Presidential election.

With Election day around the corner, many young, eligible U.S. citizens find out too late that they cannot cast their vote because they forgot to register.

This is why it is important for STA students who wish to have a say in their country's democracy to know how to register. Some people think that it is difficult to register, but it's actually a simple five minute process.

If a student is 17 years or older, they can register to vote. Students can visit Louisiana Online Voter Registration and fill out the information. Some of the information you need may require help from a parent or guardian.

When you register, you can choose to register with a particular party which would allow you to vote in the primary election too, which determines the candidate which will run in the general election. You can also choose not to associate with any party.

Unfortunately, if a student registers to vote from this point on, they will not be able to vote in the 2024 Presidential election. In Louisiana, you must register 30 days in advance to be eligible to vote. The good news is that once you register to vote in the U.S., you never have to do it again, so you will be setting yourself up for every future election.

In the beginning of every school year, the Registrar visits STA to help students, who are 17 and older, register to vote.

Students can find out their polling place by visiting the same website, clicking on the "Polling Locations & Changes" and clicking "Voter Portal", and filling in the information accordingly.

## Lady Gator Volleyball prepares for playoffs

BY: BROXTON CRAWFORD  
Gata Data Reporter

On Tuesday, October 29, the St. Amant Volleyball team won their match against St. Martin's Episcopal High School by a score of 3-0. This match marks their 14th win this season.

The Lady Gators have been going through some hardships that they had to face over the season including blocking mishaps and miscommunication errors that could've set them behind other teams. Volleyball Coach Lucie Hunt adds, "Our biggest problem right now is getting over the hump if we're down three or four points, pushing through, and closing our block."

The St. Amant Volleyball team has been moving forward and keeping track despite the new leadership and hardships that they have gone through this season.

Hunt has been working hard to make all their goals this season and create a team worthy of the playoffs. Coach Hunt states, "The plan was to make the playoffs, I think we're gonna accomplish that goal."

The St. Amant Gators Volleyball team played again at the Gold Dome on Wednesday, October 30, against Denham Springs and beat them in five sets, ending their regular season on a 3-game win streak. The Lady Gators now await their ranking in the playoffs that are being held next week.