



The Gata Data

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Gators Exterminate Yellow Jackets, becoming Back to Back Champions

BY: MICHAEL MUMPHREY
Gata Data Reporter

The St. Amant football team scored their second consecutive district championship after beating the Denham Springs Yellow Jackets on Thursday, November 7.

The Gators played strong throughout the game, with quarterback Cooper Babin bagging the first touchdown for the Gators within the first quarter due to a successful running surge.

In the second quarter, the Gators scored two touchdowns, one by senior receiver Timothy Johnson with a successful pass from Babin, and another with a successful return interception by Easton Humphrey.

In the second half, the Gators got another touchdown

through a successful 28-yard pass by Babin to Johnson. By the fourth quarter, the yellowjackets lost their venom when they created an opening for the Gators to score their final touchdown via a one-yard pass from Babin to senior Reid Mayers, resulting in a final score of 38-8. The touchdowns were coupled with successful field goals by senior Jace Fierro to boot.

Head Coach David Oliver affirmed that this victory for the Gators marks one of the best of the season. "When you're playing your best football it's always a completely positive game," Oliver said. He praises all teams for their hard work and diligence throughout the

match, saying "The defense had three interceptions and then they were forced to fumble, but we recovered, gave the offense a good field position. Offensively we had a bunch of exposed plays, had long drives, and moved the ball along."

When asked about the season as a whole, Oliver said that he thinks the boys have

made a lot of memories. "I think they'll remember the time that they spent together and the sacrifices they made for one another because they ended up being a very solid unit," Oliver continued. For many senior players, last Thursday was their final regular season game in their high school

career. When asked about his thoughts on the matter, Johnson said that the night was "kind of emotional at first, but when the clock started running, it was time to play."

All of the players felt like their athletic abilities only grew through their high school career. "I've gotten bigger and stronger and a little faster," said tight end Connor Darr, "That, and I've learned a lot more football since I was a freshman. I just know the game a lot better."

The playoff game will be against Westgate and on Friday, November 15 at 7 p.m. at the Pit. Show up and support the Gators with your most patriotic attire as the theme will be U.S.A.



STAFF PHOTOS BY MICHAEL MUMPHREY



Kaylee Guidry is 2024 Teacher of the year

BY: JAYDEN PINO
Gata Data Reporter

Kaylee Guidry has been recognized as the 2024 teacher of the year at St. Amant High School. This qualifies her for teacher of the year for the district, semifinalist for state and potentially state. Teacher of the Year is a title used to award teachers for excellence in the classroom and commitment to their students and profession.

"To be acknowledged as the teacher of the year was exciting. It could have gone to anyone on this campus because we have a great group of educators on St. Amant's campus," said Guidry. After Guidry was nominated, Guidry's peers, whom she praises, voted her into the position of teacher of the year.

"I currently Teach JAG (Jobs for America's Graduates). It's a class that is built around preparing students while they're in school but also preparing students for when they are out of school, whether it's college that they want to achieve or if they want to go into the workforce," said Guidry. JAG students can go to conferences and compete at both the state and national levels. She added that JAG



teaches students not only work skills but life skills as well. This is Guidry's third year teaching JAG at St. Amant High School. She taught for four years before coming to STA and before teaching she coached college softball at Northwestern.

Additionally, Guidry is involved in the Chick-fil-A leader academy. "I plan to get that started here soon. The leader academy allows kids to develop leadership skills. It is open to anyone. I try to stick to what I believe I can be most good at and put all of my effort into that and building an environment that is good for our students," said Guidry. She says seeing her students learn and overcome obstacles inspires her to do the same.

Guidry concluded, "I'm grateful and humbled to even be acknowledged for the teacher of the year. As I've mentioned, we have a great environment at St. Amant High. We have great teachers and we have great administration. I'm very honored to represent STA."

Brianna Fore wins sticky note contest

BY: LAILAH GRANIER
Gata Data Reporter

The Art Club recently held it’s annual sticky note contest this past October. Anyone who interested in participating were allowed to create a piece of art of their choice. The only limitation to the contest is that whatever they created had to fit on one sticky note.

Senior Brianna Fore won first place with her drawing of a greek goddess, Freshman Peyton Herbert won second place with her drawing of an album, and Cayley Grimball won third place with drawing a greek statue.

After winning third place in the past, Fore was ecstatic to see that she had gotten first place and was able to show how much she has improved since then. Fore shares, “It was honestly a shock to get first place, so it was definitely a happy moment for me.” The art contest was a fun opportunity for Fore to showcase her art style and interest that came from a musical.

All of the top three contestants found

inspiration from different places. Brianna Fore specifically took inspiration from the Greek goddess Aphrodite and her rage, displayed in a musical about the Odyssey. Peyton Hebert found inspiration from TV Girl’s album *Who Really Cares*. Cayley Grimball fell in love with Greek and Roman art styles, which influenced her to take on the challenge of drawing a sculpture.

Fore says that drawing Aphrodite was pretty quick for her, and the process only took three to five hours to finish. She shares, “I would say that I learned that I enjoy drawing on tiny canvases quite a bit.” Fore was able to create her drawing by using Graphite to create the overall drawing and add shadows to her art. She then went in and added highlights by using a white gel pen to further give depth.

“I wanted to submit a sticky note because I wanted to share my abilities with everyone and to hopefully inspire others,” said Hebert. Peyton Hebert took a different approach and used color pencils to give her art more color, since it was inspired by an album cover. Herbert loves the album and expressed how she wanted to truly show the album’s emotions.

Hebert added that the process was not not horrible, and that it took four hours. She did have to go through multiple trials and errors

to get the final product, but Hebert enjoyed learning from it. She said, “I’ve learned that it’s okay to make mistakes because even if you mess up, you can accomplish a lot at the end.”

Grimball shares a similar feeling of loving the entire process of the contest. Grimball loves taking new opportunities when given and she found the contest a great way to showcase her art. She used a mechanical pencil to draw and add details to her sticky note.

Cayley Grimball also says that she likes drawing portraits, and felt that drawing a sculpture would be a fun challenge for her. She says, “I’ve always appreciated the softness and style of Greek art and wanted to recreate the essence of it.” Grimball appreciated having the opportunity to be acknowledged and appreciated for something she is passionate about.

All three expressed that they would recommend everyone to submit their art for future contests. Fore mentions that the entire experience was fun and rewarding. Grimball adds, “even if I didn’t win, I had the chance to put my art out there and people got to see it, which I love. It’s a good way to anonymously put yourself out there.”



From left: first place Briana Fore, second place Peyton Hebert, third place Cayley Grimball
PHOTOS BY LAILAH GRANIER

Students in the workforce

BY: JAYDEN PINO
Gata Data Reporter

Having a job as a student is a polarizing topic among students and teachers alike. Both being in school and having a job can be seen as sources of stress that take up time in students' lives. They also can be seen as tools to help students grow and prepare them for the real world.

“Learning to prioritize is a life skill. You have to figure out what is important to you, but in my opinion, that should be focusing on school and graduating high school. If work gets in the way of that, then I suggest you reconsider working,” said St. Amant’s English teacher, Andrew Green. Students who have the goal of graduating in mind should consider that having a job as a student could make reaching the goal more difficult. Doing well in school allows students to go to colleges where they can acquire qualifications for easier and better-paying jobs than they could get otherwise. Having a Job as a student takes time away from students, that could be used to study or to rest for their school day.

“It teaches you a lot about how to manage your time well and a lot about the real world. You are going to have to have a job at some point, and learning to respect your boss and your coworkers is very beneficial,” said junior Kennedy Moody. Having a job allows people to learn new skills and interact with people they would never come in contact with otherwise. However, students who don’t learn to properly manage their time run the risk of either losing their jobs or falling behind in school.

“I have evidential proof that some students fall behind compared to their peers because of their job. A lot of them are working long hours late into the night, and by the time

they get home from work they are too tired to do their school work,” said Green. While some students work long hours late into the night, the amount of hours students work and how late they work varies. Some establishments even take the fact that some of their workers are students into account.

“In some families, the students are a source of income for that household, which is a tragedy in itself, but it is what it is. It’s always nice to have money to be able to afford to have gas to get to school and all of that, but what I tell my students is that their full-time job is that they are students, and they need to prioritize school,” said Green. Some reasons that students get jobs are to save money for their care notes, car insurance, gas, and phone bills.

“I have enjoyed this little period where I haven’t really had a Job because I have had more time to spend going to football games and spending time with my friends and stuff like that, but I have to get a job because money is a big issue right now,” said Moody. Different Students’ situations factor into whether or not they should get a job while in high school. Often, the final decision is up to what they believe they should prioritize and how they can manage their time.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED BY GETTY IMAGES

Amy Pitre nominated for 2024 Coach of the year

BY: SAVANNAH MATLOCK, VICTORIA RODRIGUEZ
Gata Data Reporters

St. Amant’s Lady Gator softball coach Amy Pitre was nominated for the National Federation of State High School Associations Coach of the Year. Pitre has a record of 440 wins and 135 losses. She has been a teacher for 20 years and loves what she does. “I love the connection and relationships we get to build with the kids,” said Pitre.

Pitre could not believe that she could be nominated. When asked what she thought about her recent achievement, she said, “I think it’s pretty cool. I’m honored that I got this achievement and I’m pretty surprised by it.”



Boys Basketball is balling into the new season

BY: AVERY LAMBERT, LIBBY WILKINSON
Gata Data Reporters

The St. Amant Boys Basketball team has already begun gearing up for their upcoming season. Boys basketball coach, Travis Uzee, stated the plan for this season so far is to have a good start. Uzee mentions that this season, the team's strength will be in numbers. "We have a lot of kids this year that we think can help us win games," said Uzee. Coach also emphasized that this year's team is not only good at basketball, but they are all also good kids. "I would say the strength is our senior group," says Uzee. "They are really excited about this being their last year, so they want to leave a mark. The juniors are really talented as well. They have an opportunity to have a great year."

Senior Brock Lalonde said one of his goals for the team this season would be to have over 20 wins.

Senior Kameron Robinson stated that he is excited for the season to start as they have been waiting and preparing for so long both in and outside of school.



STAFF PHOTO

However, the team is also preparing to face some barriers. "Every team we play is obviously going to be a tough one. I think they're all going to be a different challenge," said Uzee. He mentioned that the team is preparing for each game with excitement, adding to the possibilities. Uzee believes there are not any glaring weaknesses with this season's team. Uzee said, "we are going to be competitive night in and night out and hopefully things go our way."

Lalonde said he believes they are going to face tough teams, but nothing they can't overcome as long as they, "play tough and play hard."

Robinson stated playing against rivals such as East Ascension and Dutchtown are going to be some of their toughest games. Come out and watch the STA's Boys Basketball team on November 19 at 6pm in the Gold Dome. They will be playing against Idea Bridge. "We will have a good group that will be fun to watch. So hopefully we will get some support," said Uzee.

Lady Gators dribble into the new season

BY: JAILYN MARTIN
Gata Data Reporter

St. Amant welcomes new Head Coach Betsey Baldwin. Baldwin has been a coach for 15 years, coaching at Galvez Middle School she decided to take the opportunity that was presented to her. Baldwin describes her self as a passionate coach that leads her team to success. "My goal this year is to make sure that we get better every day; that we come together as a team and that I provide the best opportunity for the girls to be successful in playing," said Baldwin. Coach Baldwin focuses on making sure that the team can improve with time.

The Lady Gators want to leave a long-lasting impact within the community. The theme for the girls this year is "Leave a Legacy," which, according to Coach Baldwin, means leaving behind a positive image for future Lady Gators. Baldwin speaks highly of the Lady Gators, portraying them as hard workers that have much determination. "I think that they deserve to play in front of a crowd," said Baldwin. With many games this season, the Lady Gators strive for victory.

"When you talk about a legacy it surpasses things that we can do on the court which is why we're trying to reach out to the community," said Baldwin. The Lady Gators are collecting canned goods and nonperishable food items. "The girls are going to get together and were going to bring it to Holy Rosary and try to stock that pantry before the holiday season," said Baldwin.

The Lady Gators motivate each other, support each other and work together as a team to accomplish the best they can. "I think that continuing to grow with the game and continuing to show your athletes that you're willing to grow just like they are helping us improve as one," said Head Coach Baldwin. During the season last year, the Lady Gators pushed their way through Salmen, Southside, and Parkway making it all the way to the quarterfinals in the 2024 Playoffs. With the new coach, they hope to dominate the season and leave a legacy.

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Student Well Being Night

The goal of Student Well-Being Night is to empower and inform students and parents about the importance of making healthy and responsible choices academically, socially, emotionally, and financially

This is a free event for middle and high school students and their parents but pre-registration is strongly encouraged. Use the link below to preregister. Light refreshments will be served.

<https://forms.gle/ktgVWQu2uJ2ikTcU6>



WEDNESDAY
November 20, 2024
5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.



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in partnership with our speakers and vendors

