



The Gata Data

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Sara Bray: Teacher of Year

By: Aiden Simon



Sara Bray has been named St. Amant's Teacher of the Year. She has been working at St. Amant for 10 years and is most well-known as the Choir teacher, as well as for her involvement in any singing-related activities at St. Amant. "I'm the choir teacher, so any time you see the choir performing, that's me. We sing the National Anthem at a lot of games. I work with Heidi Frederic really closely, and we put on musicals here at St. Amant. We've been invited to sing in places

around the world, we've been to Italy, and we've sung at Carnegie Hall. Pretty much if there's singing, we're a part of it."

Being named Teacher of the Year was a complete shock for Ms. Bray. "I was in complete disbelief," Bray said. "I am so grateful. Every teacher on this campus works really hard, and all of us work and dedicate ourselves to our programs, our content areas, and to our students to help them be successful. We buy into St. Amant and everything that makes St. Amant what it is, and to be recognized for the work I'm doing here by my peers is just a different feeling. It's so special because it's the teachers voting for Teacher of the Year, so the fact that they voted for me is a feeling I can't quite put into words yet. I'm so grateful and I feel so seen and honestly

celebrated, it's really awesome." She continued about how hard teachers work on campus. "Teachers work so tirelessly and at a level where expected to, but at St. Amant, we all just love doing it, and I know I'm not the only teacher working this hard, but I'm so grateful it's a year where they selected me, and I hope I can make them proud on the district level."

Something that's really important to her are the arts and representing them well, "I'm excited to advocate for the arts on a higher level because sometimes people understand what we all do and what we achieve and accomplish in this program because it's not just always about the singing or the playing of our instruments or getting on stage, it's not just about the performance it's about the people we are creating. The people we are discovering inside ourselves and how we can be a part of society in a bigger way and now I'm so grateful that now I get to have more of a voice to the district to show them what we are capable of doing through the arts, and to be able to have that opportunity means to me more than I could ever express."

Ms. Bray is beyond grateful to be Teacher of the Year in a school with so many wonderful teachers, and is very excited to represent St. Amant and the arts. Now that she has been named St. Amant's teacher, she will go and represent St. Amant against other schools in our district to compete for the High School District Teacher of the Year.

Gators continue dominance after victory over Kennedy

By: JOLIE VILLENURVE and ALLY MECHE

Gata Data Reporter

The Gators continued their dominance on the field Friday, September 19, with a 28-12 win over the visiting Cougars. Junior runningback, Jourden Hickerson, ran the first play within the first five minutes of the first quarter to deliver a head start of 7-0. Hickerson netted a total of 120 yards on the ground for the Gators and scored two touchdowns. "We had a lot of adversity in that game, so we handled it pretty well", said Hickerson on his insights into the game.

Shortly following, in the second quarter, the Cougars finally earned their first touchdown while completing a 19-yard pass. This did not deter the Gators' dominance, as Senior quarterback Cooper Babin netted a 7-yard gain and scored his first of two rushing touchdowns of the night, giving the Gators a 14-12 lead in the third quarter.

Again, with the help of Babin, during the final quarter, the Gators scored their third touchdown of the night, with their fourth and final touchdown run by Hickerson, earning the Gators their final score of 28-12.

The Gators' defensive line is back in swing. Babin believes the game went well, giving acknowledgement to improvements on the defensive line. "They had a rough week last week, but they came back and practiced hard this

whole week," Babin said. Alongside Babin's support, Coach O also praised the defense. "I was really proud of the defense, especially after last week."

Following this game, the Gators are rushing to the next victory for the approaching Homecoming game against Scotlandville on Friday, September 26, where the Gators are expected to bring home another win.



NJROTC attends their first Competition

BY: Darien Lejander

Gata Data Reporter

The St. Amant NJROTC attended their first annual competition of the 2025 school year on Saturday, September 20 at Walker High School. The competition started early on a Saturday morning and lasted throughout the afternoon. The St. Amant squadron went up against 300 other competitors which was mostly filled by army units from Baton Rouge, schools that came in from Texas, Slidell and St. Tammany parish.

For this reason the NJROTC Instructor Commander Micah Kiletico said that the best thing about the competition was “seeing the cadets come together as a team competing against 300 other cadets.” Kiletico also feels like to improve their team they should constantly compete in events like these to “get more experience.” Kiletico and the NJROTC cadets plan on competing in this annual event to continue to build their experience. “When we go back to these competitions, we will be bigger, faster, and stronger,” Kiletico added.

While the competition is a physically demanding one, it can also be taxing on the cadets’ mentality. “It was all physically demanding, and your body gets to a point

where you are physically exhausted, then it turns in to a mental challenge,” Kiletico said. “At that point it’s an ultimate test both mentally and physically.” Petty Officer First Class Jaylen Rivas said, “Once you have the mindset, you can do it and it’s just getting the endurance and the stamina to do all the events.”



As a result, this competition ultimately serves as great promotion for the NJROTC program because it provides students the chance to have fun, increase their physical strength, develop a disciplined mind, and meet other like-minded students who share similar goals. “I recommend people who don’t think the NJROTC program is a good thing for them,” Rivas said. “I recommend they come talk to the teachers and Commanders and ask the cadets how the program is.” The STA Cadets placed in the top 10 at the event, which was an improvement on last year’s performance. “I’m proud of us for that,” Rivas said. “It was a great experience and I recommend anyone to join the program to come and watch and compete, too.”

Congratulations to our St. Amant NJROTC cadets on their performance!

STA Welcomes New Librarian

BY: Bryce Lonidier

Gata Data Reporter

St. Amant High has welcomed in a new Librarian, Mrs. Michelle Walker. She was previously an English Teacher for 25 years and loved seeing kids read which led her to become a Librarian to “help teachers promote campus wide reading”.

“I love my job, I really do,” says Walker. She has had fun learning new things and is excited to start interacting with the students. Walker is willing to help whenever she is needed, especially teachers since she knows what it is like to be a teacher.

The “I got caught reading” initiative was started to help students to enhance in reading comprehension and to improve in

vocabulary instead of just mindlessly scrolling on YouTube after finishing with work. Walker states she wants to “get people excited about reading again”. Walker recommends the two books, “The Nightingale” by Kristin Hannah and “Out of the Easy” by Ruta Sepetys. Congratulations Mrs. Walker on the new position, wishing the best of luck to you.



New Librarian Michelle Walker (left) with Selina Fontenot.

STA CHOIR PRESENTS

A Night at the

ST. AMANT CINEMA

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1ST

STA COMMONS

7:00 PM

Join us for a night of music from some of your favorite movies!

FREE ADMISSION & FREE POPCORN

DOORS OPEN AT 6:30 PM