



# The Gata Data

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## Gators show grit through loss to Spartans, look forward to Live Oak

BY: JOLIE VILLENURVE  
Gata Data Reporter

On October 17, the St. Amant Gators ended their winning streak against the East Ascension Spartans with a

score of 48-49. With the game harboring a chase factor throughout, the Gators and the Spartans remained in a constant battle over controlling the ball. Junior, Jordan Hickerson summarizes the game, "It could have been a lot better, we fell short one point, but as a team, I felt like we were set."

Within the first few minutes, the Gators started the quarter with a touchdown, earning an early seven-point lead. As expected, the Spartans followed shortly after with their first touchdown of the night; then another in the second quarter, giving the score of 7-14. The game maintained a steady back-and-forth throughout the second and third quarters, earning an average of two



touchdowns per quarter. During the final quarter with seconds left on the clock, and a score of 42-49, the Gators ended the game with a touchdown. Unfortunately, during the execution of their final play, they failed to secure the

two-point conversion. Falling just one point short with no time left on the clock, the Gators put their streak of dominance against the Spartans on hold until next year. Coach David Oliver says, "Plans all look good on paper, but it takes the players to bring it to life," encouraging a rise in confidence as well as a need for improvement.

Though the ending was not what the Gator Nation wanted, the Gators are looking ahead to

their matchup against the Live Oak Bald Eagles. The Gators are aiming to improve their defense and penalties, while still maintaining a fast-tempo game. Based on experience, the Gators plan to take home the win by relying on their defense to bounce back and lock down Live Oak. "We gotta be motivated to play and finish this season strong," said Coach Oliver.

## Oliver Foret is St. Amant's Student of the Year

By: RAEGAN ELISAR AND  
KHLOE GUFFEY  
Gata Data Reporters

Oliver Foret is St. Amant's new student of the year. "It's a huge honor, and I was really excited I was able to get it." Foret participates in cross country, environmental science, Rho-Kappa, and is a FCA leader, competitive Beta member, band member, and a drum major. "Being able to be in so many clubs allows me to be around such a variety of people, from athletic to academic people. I am able to get to know and represent each and every one of those clubs."

Foret had to go through a process to get selected as Student of the Year. Any senior who has a GPA of 3.1 or above is eligible to be nominated. A



group of 13 students was selected as finalists by teachers and staff. Each finalist had to complete a portfolio of academics, leadership, extracurriculars, and a personal essay, as well as go through an interview process. The interviews were held by various staff members as well as members of the St. Amant community.

Foret says that being the student of the year is a huge honor. With the new title, Foret says that he isn't going to treat anyone differently and will continue to treat everyone with the utmost respect. Next, Foret will go on to compete at the district level of Student of the Year and will go against six other nominees. "The district Student of the Year application was definitely the most difficult of the three parts. I was announced as the Student of the Year for the Class of 2026 on Monday, and on the Friday of that same week, the new application was due."

Congratulations to Oliver Foret. We wish him the best of luck.

# STA choir performs phenomenally in the All-State choir

By: AIDEN SIMON  
Gata Data Reporter

The St. Amant choir performed for the LA-ACDA, American Choral Directors Association, at the Lafon Performing Arts Center. ACDA is a Louisiana music organization where choir directors and students come together to collaborate and perform.

The process to qualify for ACDA began with students submitting clips of themselves singing for judging. Sara Bray, the choir director, says it's a "very competitive field" and challenging, with there being only one round of auditions with hundreds of people all over the state auditioning. "They get to go for the weekend and they spend the weekend singing with people who are so passionate and love singing and love what they do in their programs."

Reflecting on the performance itself, Jaxson Wiles, a choir member, had a good feeling before taking the stage. "I had a great director from LSU, and he just gave me a very positive mindset. Directors can just captivate the choir and bring people in, even if we're just warming up or just doing a regular rehearsal. They'll just give it their all for that moment of time where you can just focus on them."

Following the performance, Ms. Bray said it went absolutely phenomenally: "The level of music was so high, but more important than that, they told stories with the music, so they really immersed themselves in the music. They only get two and a half days that they get to work with all of these amazing people, so what they achieved just exceeds any expectation I could truly have."

Layten Hastings, another choir performer, claimed the performance the choir put on was amazing and exceeded her expectations. "We accomplished so much in three days, it's absolutely mind-blowing. You would not expect the choir that we went into that first rehearsal to be the one that came out in concert."

After ACDA, students can get selected to LMEA, the Louisiana Music Educators Association. STA choir students Rylee Day, Layten Hastings, Cire Porter, Payton Wiles, and Caroline Richardson all got selected and will perform for LMEA in January.

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## St. Amant NJROTC navigates their way to success in Alabama

By: ALLY MECHE  
Gata Data Reporter

On October 18, 2025, St. Amant High NJROTC competed in an orienteering event in Spanish Fort, Alabama, hosted at Blakely State Park.

Orienteering is a land navigation race, usually held in the woods or similar terrain. The course has controls that act as checkpoints and the participants receive a map used to navigate through the controls, eventually leading them to the finish.

The overall goal is to make it through the course successfully in the shortest possible time. The distance can range, but typically falls close to 10k in comparison.

The race was between roughly 420 cadets against around 25 schools from different states. St. Amant JROTC achieved 6th place overall, with an average of around 75% students fully completing the course."

"When we go into these events, we just remember that this is a big region and we can't really gauge ourselves against teams like Georgia, but we can gauge ourselves against ourselves and how we did last

time....this was the first time we placed, so it was pretty exciting" Lieutenant Commander Aaron Bates says.

Through orienteering, St. Amant High NJROTC can learn a variety of skills that can help them for their future goals. Aside from physical endurance and strength, students also learn confidence, problem solving, decision making, especially when under pressure, and understanding of control symbols. "It's not just physically challenging" LCDR Bates adds, "It's also mentally challenging. You can make mistakes, some students can get lost, but it also is very exciting and rewarding." Following this achievement, St. Amant JROTC plans to continue



their progress on orienteering in the future at Oak Mountain State Park in Alabama, with hopes of qualifying for nationals. "We will do our best. The main goal is just to get better." LCDR Bates says.

Congratulations to the St. Amant NJROTC cadets for their performance this past weekend, and best of luck for them moving forward. Geaux Gators!



# Pit Crew fires up school spirit

BY: HAYDEN LOUPE

Gata Data Reporter

Pit Crew is a club at St. Amant where students get to lead students at games. The Pit Crew are senior leaders who lead the student sections in chants and try to uplift school spirit at various games.

The Pit Crew is a group of around 50 seniors who attend many sports events such as football, basketball, and volleyball. To show their spirit, the members of the club will attend games dressed in the theme, even when there is no theme the crew will make their own theme and share with other students. They also have their own flags that they bring to the games to use after teams score and chants to help boost the morale of the players and student section.

At pep rallies one of the Pit Crew members will stand in front of the entire school to boost the energy and spirit for the upcoming game. The member typically gives a small pep talk and leads on of the many chants that the crew has. This allows students and players to get into a hyped mood for the upcoming game.

To join Pit Crew, Coach Jo sends an email to the upcoming seniors at the end of their junior year. In this email there is a google form to fill out. The google form has questions asking what kind of events they are willing to attend or what sports and clubs they are apart of, however you do not have to be

apart of a club or sport to join. Coach Jo then goes through the forms and chooses around 50 students to be apart of the club.



# Orange floods STA hallways

BY: RANDI GUFFEY

Gata Data Reporter

St. Amant High School students and staff decorated the hallways in orange for last week's rivalry game against East Ascension High School. The Spartans wear camouflage to show they are hunting the Gators, while the Gators wear orange to show they aren't afraid. Students wear orange all week leading up to the big game on Friday. Although the Gators didn't get the win, the week was still filled with school spirit, and the traditions were kept alive.

