



The Gata Data

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Lady Gator Soccer breezes through round one, falls to Benton High School

By: ALYSE DUPUY
Gata Data Reporter

The Lady Gator Soccer team has been working endlessly to prepare for their upcoming playoff games. They wiped out Live Oak with an astonishing score of 6-0.

Freshman Emma Schexnayder says, "These games feel more stressful compared to regular games." "I went into it thinking it was going to be harder than it was because we played them a couple of weeks before and we only won 2-1," Senior Kadence Kindschuh says. Although many of the gators were anxious before the game because of their previous loss to the team, Kindschuh says, "We scored, and it pushed the momentum, and we scored 6 goals."

"The game was a constant rush of adrenaline," according to Senior Julia Ford. Schexnayder's first score happened within the first five minutes of the game. This group of freshmen is like "no other," Kindschuh says. These freshmen on varsity set a great foundation for the future of the Lady Gator Soccer

team. "I think they are gonna do great things for our future," Kindschuh adds.

Another attribute of the team's success is its warm-up practices and its ability to connect. Before playoff games, the team's warm-ups allow them to be "completely locked in," according to Ford. These warm-ups are silent with all seriousness entailed.

To prepare for their game against Benton High School, the team constantly practiced. "We've been working on our over-the-head crossball and working on defending a lot," according to Schexnayder. The team adjusts practices based on the other teams they are playing against. "This week has been mostly working on our defense and how we play against other teams," according to Ford.

This left the Gators with immense feelings of pride and hope for their playoff game against Benton High School. Unfortunately, the girls' playoff season has come to an end.

Congratulations to St. Amant Lady

Gator Soccer on a great season.



Lady Gators ball out for the end of the season

By: RAEGAN ELISAR AND BRYCE LONIDIER
Gata Data Reporters

As the Girls Basketball season comes to an end, the Lady Gators have faced many obstacles and overcome them with a great attitude. The Lady Gators have a current record of 12-14 and are ending this season with three more district games against Walker, East Ascension, and Live Oak.

The Lady Gators have worked hard on mastering their offense, team chemistry, specific plays, and how they handle adversity. Head Coach Betsy Baldwin states, "I think in the smaller numbers they really thrived in being close to one another and leaning on one another for strength." Having the ability to work together impacts the way you play because it makes it easier to communicate and work together.

In the game against Prairieville, the Lady Gators played against an old teammate of theirs. "It's weird playing against them on defense when you are used to passing them the ball", senior Jessika Graham comments. Even though it felt different, it was just another game of basketball, and she is still happy to see past teammates "thrive in a different environment". The team keeps their head up and gives all their effort, no matter who they are against, because they are always trying to come out successful.

The Lady Gators have had to make many adjustments this season, but they are keeping their heads high and staying focused on the team. Coach Baldwin

comments, "just focusing on who we are and what we need to do to win." Coach Baldwin knows how difficult it is to keep the team morale up with social media and other factors, but they are determined to keep the momentum for the rest of the season. The team is also trying to keep the focus on each game and make sure they are prepared for every opponent. "Take each game, game by game, and not worry about the next opponent," Graham states.

Coach Baldwin is going to continue showing up for her team and sees no chance of their efforts slowing. As they have shifted into district games, they are mentally and physically ready to go up against these teams. Both the team and Coach Baldwin are ready for the end of the season and are going to leave everything out on the court.

Lastly, Coach Baldwin wants to show her appreciation for the seniors on the team and the leadership they have shown this year. She has watched them grow as players and as people. From coaching them in middle school and winning a championship to watching them play their final games of high school. They have dealt with obstacles and handled losses, but they are always there to keep the team morale up and support their team through it all. This year, the team's theme is "no excuses," and that is how they plan on ending the season. The team takes each game one game at a time, and we wish them the best of luck as they finish out their season.

FFA livestock show lives on

By: JOLIE VILLENURVE
Gata Data Reporter

St. Amant's Future Farmers of America program and livestock show offer numerous paths to introduce students to their future desired professions. The livestock show provided students, who work tirelessly with their animals, the opportunity to show how putting time into raising and training the animals is beneficial. It also teaches students to embrace and celebrate their natural husbandry, sportsmanship, time management and commitment towards nurturing different animals. Older members assist in teaching younger members these skills, which also could include the ability to handle, be comfortable with, and feed animals, accompanied by what feed works best for the different kinds of animals.

Judging begins at six months because market animals live an average of seven to eight months. Animals are graded or scored based on their market value, which relies on the value of the meat they produce after death. Animals displaying a lean, high muscle mass ratio have a higher value than a higher body-fat percentage. Additional scoring could depend on the quality

of dairy a cow or dairy goat delivers compared to the other dairy-producing animals.

Lastly, scoring could be based on breeding. The female goats and cows are graded based on their ability to produce a calf or litter, while the males are scored on the qualities they pass on to their offspring. Some favored quality traits for the males include good structure, big bones, high muscle mass and low fat percentages.

If the student's market animal wins, they could receive monetary prizes as well as actual prizes. The grand champion could win as much as 1500 dollars or as low as 500 dollars, depending on the level and range of the competing animals and the animal the student is showing.

Getting involved with FFA and the livestock show is worthwhile because of all the things they offer: plants, animals, mechanics, and leadership opportunities. The many sides of St. Amant's Future Farmers of America program help advance students' lives in and outside of school by exposing future paths they could take.

Mandy Delaune says it best, "To me the ultimate goal is to make connections so that when you leave high school you know where you're going, the path you're taking and with FFA you can do that."



STA Gatorettes are heading to nationals

By: HAYDEN LOUPE
Gata Data Reporter

The St. Amant Gatorettes are heading to Orlando, Florida for American All-star Nationals. The competition last from March 5 to March 9. The girls will leave for Florida on Thursday, March 5 and compete on Friday.

The team has been working tirelessly the past few months in order to build up stamina and cleanliness before going to the fierce competition. "We've changed into a high gear "full out mindset in practice to build our stamina," said sophomore Hannah Juneau. The team is focusing on cleaning their movements up to look the best they can when performing on the big stage. The girls also are working hard on their stamina and treating every full out run at practice as if it is their performance at competitions. As well as working on stamina and cleanliness, the team is working on bringing

each other up and making sure they stay on top of what they are suppose to be doing in their own time. "We're building each other up for the long practices, so we're critiquing each other and watching the videos and making sure that we all look together," said junior, co-captain, Nila Landry.

This season has seen significant progress as the team had started out with a lot of new talent. The team has been able to come together to showcase all of the talent and has been competing at local competitions to ready themselves for nationals in Florida. The team competed at

the Mardi Gras Classic on Sunday, February 8, where they had a clean sweep and placed first in pom, jazz and hiphop, the team also won the sweepstakes champion award. The clean sweep gave the team a confidence boost that has helped them in their preparation for Florida. Not only did the team do so well together, they also had multiple placements for solos and duos with Cale Marchand and Sydnie Ezell taking home first place for their duet, Marchand taking home first for his solo, Ezell getting second for hers, and Payton Townley placing third with hers. The team will be competing their winning group numbers in Orlando and hope to come home with some titles.

While the team has had such an amazing turnout this season, it did not come so easily. The team has faced injuries, illnesses, reworks and choreo changes but have still been able to achieve success throughout this season. No matter the obstacle that has overcome the team, they have always pushed through it and came out stronger than before. The team has built a strong bond with one another that their sponsor, Mrs. Sarah Badeaux has said they are not just teammates, they are friends. The relationships the team has shows on stage and allows for them to have moments that motivate each other but also can seem "silly". To help motivate each other through their energetic routines, the team will use funny terms like "light work, no reaction" to help boost the spirit and continue the dance to their fullest ability.

The Gatorettes have already had such an amazing season and hope to see more come of it during their nationals run. The team is competing Friday, March 6 in Orlando Florida. The coaches and team all have high hopes and believe that if they keep up with how they have been doing these last few months, they can bring home a national title. St. Amant High wishes the Gatorettes good luck on this trip to American All-star Nationals.



The Lady Gators are swinging into softball season

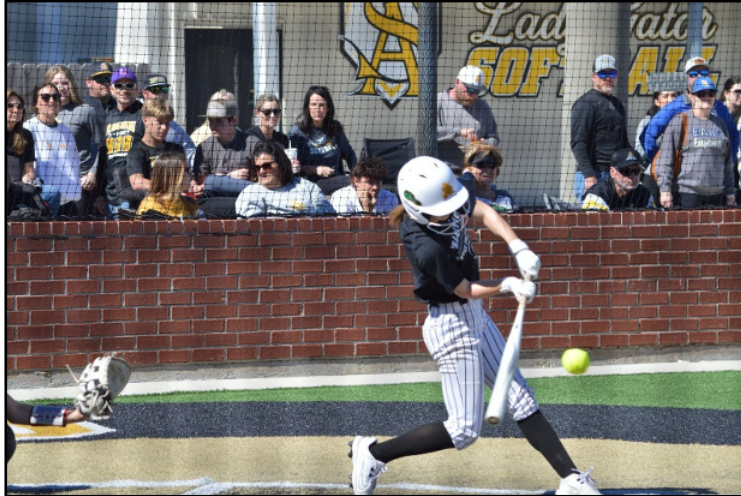
By: KHLOE GUFFEY AND RANDI GUFFEY
Gata Data Reporters

The Lady Gators Softball season starts on February 19 against New Iberia Yellowjackets at New Iberia High School. The team had their first scrimmage of the season on Saturday, February 7, against Parkview Baptist at home and won 12-7. They also won the scrimmage on February 10 against John Curtis Christian High School.

The Lady Gators have been practicing since August and work out every day to help them prepare for this season. The team also plays against each other during practice and are able to have good competition within the team in order to prepare for the games.

Coach Amy Pitre says that the team has had great chemistry this preseason and a very positive environment.

Coach Amy also says, "Going into the first couple of games, I feel really good. I feel confident that we're ready." When asked about how she feels about the season so far, Senior Bailey Ducote says, "We just need to keep moving forward."



Sophomore Hudsyn Bowler says that the team's basing running is really aggressive this year, and it's something to look forward to. Since it's Ducote's last season, she is really looking forward to spending time with the team. Senior Rylie Causey is really excited about this season and thinks that the team looks really good this year. Causey is looking forward to seeing the result of all the hard work they put in so far this season. Coach Brooke Elisar quotes Coach Darrel, "The team's gumbo is cooking."

The Lady Gators have an exciting season coming up, and we are wishing them luck on their season.

STA Walks down to Walker

By: GRACE AVANTS AND ALEXANDRA TOSTE
Gata Data Reporters

On February 6 in the Gold Dome, the St. Amant boys basketball team struck another victory when they took on Walker High, ending with a score of 82-62. The first half of the game was rough defensively, but going into the second half of the game, "everything started clicking," said Coach Travis Uzee. The second half of the game was when the team really pulled through for a hard-fought victory, leaving the court feeling well about their performance while also showcasing teamwork. Senior MJ Dunn said, "The game just shows how we rally together as a team, coming back from a slow first half, and starting the third quarter right."

The team had been preparing through rigorous practices. These practices focused on "a lot of shooting," said Senior Evan Rapp, which was shown in their 22-point lead. As basketball season is coming to an end, the boys are really working together to push themselves for these next couple of games. The Gators are preparing for these games with "early morning practices and working as a team" says Senior Dj Schonberg.

The boys also prepared by practicing "zone," a defensive strategy where the players guard specific areas of the court instead of actually guarding an opposing player from the opposite team. The players made it apparent that playing zone was a crucial tactic that led them to their victory against Walker. Practicing zones is a strategy the boys do not often use: "We don't like playing zones, but it is what it is," Schonberg says. When asked about their upcoming games in the near future, Dunn says, "We hope to come out with a dub."

The Gators faced their rival team, East Ascension,

on Tuesday, February 10, after coming off their win against Walker. Rapp said he felt good about the upcoming game. Although knowing this game was going to be challenging, the Gators played their hardest, but ultimately ended the game with a loss, 45-63.

The Gators play tonight against Live Oak at the Gold Dome, Freshman play at five, J.V plays at six, and Varsity plays at 7:15. Show up and show out!



New Teacher Spotlight: Jarrad Poirrier

By: KHLOE GUFFEY
Gata Data Reporter

New teacher Jarrad Poirrier teaches Quest for Success. Quest is a required elective for freshmen that teaches students skills that they can use both in and out of the classroom. Poirrier says, "I enjoy helping students set goals, build confidence, and develop habits that will help them become successful." Overall, his class is somewhere where effort, respect, and growth matters.

Poirrier was a former St. Amant student and had teachers and coaches who impacted his life and he wants to become that for his students. "I

wanted to give back and be that same kind of support for others." He wants students to know that he is here to support them and wants to make everyone comfortable in his class to ask questions and work towards their goals.

Poirrier attended Nicholls State University to study agricultural business. He taught at Galvez Middle School for four years and Prairieville High School for one year and is now teaching and coaching at St. Amant High.

Poirrier's favorite thing about STA is the community, "It's great to see how much people care about students and how supportive the school environment is." He is also looking forward to building relationships with students and helping them develop skills that they can use in life to be more successful, along with coaching.



Preserving Cajun Mardi Gras traditions

By: SANIYA SMITH
Gata Data Reporters

Mardi Gras is an ancient tradition started during the Middle Ages, eventually carried into Louisiana by French explorers. This holiday is a celebration of indulgence before Lent, also known as Ash Wednesday. People are going to be eating and letting loose before repenting for their actions. Initially, the people who celebrated Mardi Gras would assume a persona they were not, whether it was nobility, clergy, or students, to indulge in anonymity and allow for a wilder and freer celebration. Though we still acknowledge and celebrate mardigras, the holiday is much different.

Although Mardi Gras is known to be a New Orleans celebration, the Cajuns celebrate "Fat Tuesday" in a different way. The point of Cajun Mardi Gras is to make a community gumbo for everyone in the community to eat. The men go around to neighboring homes and perform dances or songs in order to receive ingredients for the gumbo. Once the theatrics have been performed and the ingredients have been received the gumbo is made and shared amongst the community.



OPINION: "The only thing more powerful than hate is love"

By: ALLY MECHE
Gata Data Reporter

The Superbowl halftime show is enjoyed by many fans each year. The shows are known for being lively and energetic, but there are times artists who perform the Halftime show take the chance to spread a message to the public, such as Kendrick Lamar with his Superbowl 59 performance which highlighted racial and cultural discrimination from political figures.

This year, Bad Bunny, a Puerto Rican, Grammy Winning Rapper who sings primarily in Spanish was selected to perform during the Superbowl. Upon the announcement of his performance, there were many mixed ideas and feelings about this. Some said the show should be performed by someone who sang in English to be understood by the majority, while others were excited to expand their music taste. He hosted a show which was visually and aesthetically stunning and colorful, and by the end his message was clear, love will always overpower hate.


During Bad Bunny's performance, another show was hosted separately on a different channel, which was called "The All-American Halftime Show", which featured English country singers, which some consider a jab at Bad Bunny and his heritage, while

others were openly hating on Bad Bunny. For example, President Trump shared on Truth Social, "The Super Bowl Halftime Show is absolutely terrible... is an affront to the Greatness of America, and doesn't represent our standards of Success, Creativity, or Excellence." While American pro-boxer and influencer Jake Paul shared he "purposely turned the halftime show off."

Regardless of the hate Bad Bunny faced, he made it his goal to spread his message. Alongside having a billboard on the field for his performance with the quote "The only thing more powerful than hate is love", he also highlighted Hispanic culture through his performance with visuals, background dancers, and of course, his language, speaking Spanish in the show's entirety. He also finished off his show by listing almost every country spreading across the North, South and Central Americas while his peers held the flags of each. He then held a football to the camera, which was marked with the words, "Together we are America." Overall, Bad Bunny held a show which was filled with representation, love, culture, and bravery, working to make America what it claims to be, the land of the free.

This year, French teacher Margret Pellerin has allowed students to create their own costumes based on Cajun traditions. In the past, Cajun communities would use scraps of whatever fabrics they had lying around and piece together the remnants of clothes to make capuchons, mesh masks, and fringed clothing. Pellerin says, "I wanted the students to experience and understand the beauty of Cajun culture that has been lost." She also states with enthusiasm, "It's all about preserving the memory, Ascension Parish doesn't know what it truly means to celebrate the culture."

The connections between Parisian French culture and Cajun French provide students with the opportunity to understand how the two differ and relate to each other. "It's about saving your history so generations can revel in the beauty, the fun, and the connections with modern and past celebratory ideals." Ms. Pellerin states. One day, Margerent Pellerin hopes to create a mardigras event with the neighboring high schools so all can celebrate "Fat Tuesday!"



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STUDENT COUNCIL
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VISIT OUR INSTAGRAM FOR MORE INFO: @STAGATORS_STUCO



Advice to Underclassmen:
"Never give up on anything you want to do or that you are going through."

ST. AMANT CELEBRATES BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Jacoby Davis

Secret Hobby / Hidden Talent:
Bowling

- Junior - Class of 2027
- Football, Track & Field, & Powerlifting
- Black Inspiration: BILL RUSSELL
 - 11x NBA Champion (most all-time)
 - Civil rights activist
 - NBA's first Black head coach

SENIORS,

College is expensive, here is a possible solution!

Need money for college? One Senior from St Amant will win \$2,500 from Methanex. Please check your google classroom or stop by the Career Coach office, room 604 to find out more information about this scholarship. You will need to fill out an application, write an essay, and get 1 letter of recommendation, after which you will turn this into the career coach office by February 19 to be considered. This is a great opportunity to get money for college with a guarantee that someone from St Amant will be awarded the money.

Have a gap in your upcoming schedule?




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Open to upcoming Sophmores, Juniors, and Seniors who want to be more involved in STA, practice professionalism, and learn social skills

Application: <https://forms.gle/psvuvopqvesiz8A9>

For any questions, contact Andrew Green
andrew.green@apsb.org

BLACK HISTORY MONTH
St. Amant High Student Council

Student Council is featuring African American students and staff in Instagram spotlights for Black History Month. If you'd like to be featured, sign up below!

Student/Staff

SPOTLIGHTS



SCAN ME

