



# The Gata Data

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## Sulphur bound!

BY: RAEGAN ELISAR and ALEXANDRA TOSTE  
Gata Data Reporter

St. Amant Lady Gators earned an impressive 8-2 win over East Ascension, securing their trip to Sulphur.

St. Amant got on the board early in the first inning. Senior Bailey Ducote led off with a single and used aggressive base running to reach third. Junior Olivia Johnson followed with a sacrifice fly to bring Ducote home and give the Lady Gators a quick 1-0 lead. Johnson said the game made the team feel more confident, "since we were able to score so many runs against EA, if we can continue to score like that in Sulphur then we have a pretty good shot at winning."

The second inning was the difference-maker. Sophomore Kyndall Landry started things off by taking a walk. Soon after, Sophomore Kaydi Landry hit a home run, driving in two runs along with Junior Imari Long to extend the lead. The offense kept rolling as Junior Kenley Triche walked and Ducote got a double. Senior Rylie Causey then delivered a clutch hit up the middle, scoring both runners. By the end of the inning, St. Amant had built a strong 5-0 lead.

East Ascension threatened to respond in the fourth

inning, loading the bases with no outs. However, the Lady Gators defense stepped up under pressure. A key strikeout followed by a double play ended the inning and stopped the Spartans from scoring.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED BY JOLIE VILLENURVE

Later in the fourth, Johnson struck again, hitting a home run to center field. The two-run hit also brought in Junior Kaylee Roccaforte and increased the lead again.

St. Amant added one more run in the seventh inning. Junior Aubrey Schmidt reached base, stole second, and advanced to third on a passed ball. She later scored on a hit by Kyndall Landry to close out the scoring.

In the circle, Kyndall Landry pitched the early innings before Sophomore Brently Bourque came in to finish the game.

Bourque worked through several tough

moments and helped secure the win.

With a strong offense, solid defense, and reliable pitching, the Lady Gators showed they are ready for the next round against Hahnville. We would like to congratulate them on making it to sulphur and wish them the best of luck in the next round!

## St. Amant high band goes to state

BY: SANIYA SMITH and JOLIE VILLENURVE  
Gata Data Reporter

On Friday, April 24 the St. Amant bands traveled to Natchitoches to compete in their annual District and State festivals. St. Amant was the only band program in all of the state to have all three ensembles qualify for and compete at the State level.

The St. Amant band members prepared relentlessly everyday for the district and state competitions. They practiced since the beginning of the year, however during the winter months: January, February and March, they rehearse all of their pieces and begin memorizing the music they need for the performances. They also do their warmups then move on later to the actual pieces along with working on specific sections. Later during March they use a regular school performance to get the nervous tensions out. Their three main band songs: Flying Jewels, Pale Blue Dot and Prelude. In those one is a fast pace, another is a slow pace and the other is considered a march.

The actual competition included watching other bands perform. All three St. Amant bands, Concert, Symphonic and Wind Symphony, ended up getting all ones, the equivalent to straight A's, meaning they got a perfect score from all of the judges out of all of their performances. Earlier on



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED BY BAND

during district all of their bands made sweepstakes -perfect scores. According to Head Band Director Joseph Nassar, this was the first time in school history that all three bands earned these accolades.

Senior Alyssa Bruner says, "It's my last year and it's really emotional for me, I'm so glad and proud of the work we've exerted throughout my years with the band." She also adds, "I feel proud because we band kids really do work hard and receiving a 1 during my last year feels great!" The compositions Flying Jewels and Pale Blue have a story within each note, Flying Jewels mimics the sound of different heartbeats from different animals, such as a hummingbird's rapid pulses and the slow beat of a whale's heart. Alyssa Bruner explains, "Our performances sometimes tell a story or we sort of mimic the feel of a certain experience." The Pale Blue Dot is another composition about astronomy and the fragility of human life, the band students were able to emulate this

fragility and wonder with music. Band Teacher Andrew Graham proudly says, "This was all possible because the kids pushed themselves, it's truly amazing how much work they put forth, I'm so proud of them." All three ensembles wrapped up a successful season at their annual Spring Concert held on Tuesday, April 28 in the commons. Congratulations on a fantastic season, Gator Band!

BY: BRYCE LONIDER  
Gata Data Reporter

## The Gator baseball season comes to an end

This past weekend, the St. Amant Gators Baseball team traveled up north to Bossier, Louisiana to play against the Benton Tigers. The Gators won the first game and lost the last two of the three-game series, but still managed to put up a good fight against the Tigers. The Benton Tigers were really strong competitors considering they have only lost 4 games this season and had the ability to keep the pressure high. Head Coach Caleb Ricca says that overall the Gators, “did a good job, they put some swings on balls, but we could always find something to do better.”

Another big part of the team is the fans. Ricca states that, “Our fans traveled really well, which they always do, but they were loud and had horns blowing. It was really an awesome environment to play a playoff game in.” Having the support especially in an away game allowed the gators to be more hyped up in playing and to really put in all their effort to finish strong.

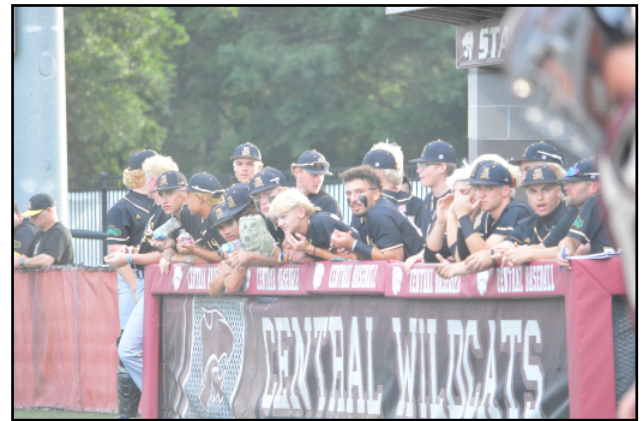
With the end of the season happening, that means the Gator baseball team is losing their seniors. “They are a funny group and never fail to put a smile on your face,” Ricca comments. The Seniors have definitely left an impact on this year's team and helped the Gators come to a strong finish. “I think that there is a piece that some of them will have because even though it ended, we were still playing good baseball towards the end,” Ricca says.

The Gators are looking forward to next year's season because many key players are returning. Not only are they returning, but they have a lot of younger guys who show great capability to build for the seasons coming up. “Tucker Miller, who was phenomenal down the stretch for us,” is returning to next year's team to pitch along with

Cohen Robert, Brock Koontz, Cooper Templet, and many more offensively.

In today's society, people always have the will to win, but never the will to prepare to win which is something the Gators had. Every practice they were preparing for every game as hard as they could while also knowing that there would not be immediate results. Ricca mentions that he wants to give props to our team because they maintained the willpower to practice hard everyday even though the season started out rough because at the end of the day, the Gators closed out the season with a high impact.

Congratulations to the 2025-2026 Gator baseball team on their successes!



STAFF PHOTO BY BROOKE PIERCE

BY: RANDI GUFFEY  
Gata Data Reporter

## St. Amant's annual Gator Gallery

On Thursday April 23 the St. Amant Art I, II, III, and AP art had their annual Gator Gallery to show off their art work throughout the year. The Gator Gallery includes many different kinds of art including pottery pitch pots, slab patterns, fountains, print making, acrylic painting, and color pencils.

Art teacher Jessica Newsom said, “I'm very proud of them. They should also be very proud of their work.” Mrs. Newsom said that she was especially proud for her AP kids because they had to come up with their own ideas, “a lot of artists learn by looking at other art but coming up with your own ideas is the hard part”

Art teacher Robyn Denny loves to see all of the art all together on the wall, and to see all the time and dedication of her students. “To see how much practice they have had to have

through their life or through the semester to really make that peace beautiful.” Mrs. Denny said about her students' art.

Mrs. Newsom's favorite art that her students did this year was making fountains with her Art III this year. They ran into a lot of issues but Mrs. Newsom likes problem solving so she had a lot of fun. Mrs. Denny's favorite kind of art they did was print making projects and the ceramic projects, “a lot of kids come in knowing how to use pencil to shade that stuff you can do at your house, but the print making and ceramic is something you really can only do here because we have the materials. It is something new to a lot of people so it's fun.”



BY: BROOKE PIERCE  
Gata Data Reporter

# Will you be the change?

Last Friday, April 24, the list for Pit Crew came out and this year's goal is to bring back school spirit. The Pit Crew is a group of seniors who lead the crowd, support their fellow classmates, and cheer them on at all school's events. From sports, like football or basketball, to musicals and band concerts, this year's vision is to bring back the school spirit the Gators once had.

Pit Crew members, Britain Hernandez, Raegan Elisar, Brooke Pierce, Alex Toste, and many others want to make their senior year memorable, along with all other class of 2027 students. The old atmosphere of the student sections needs to be brought back. Things like: going all out on the theme, packing out student sections, seniority rules, and everyone getting involved with the chants.

The school spirit doesn't stop there, these Seniors believe that the whole school should get involved. Why should band members support football, if football does not support the band? This is a change that is crucial for the Pit Crew to bring back school spirit. Sarah Bray, Choir teacher, states that "Students need to support each other, that's what keeps these events alive."

As many people know, East Ascension and St. Amant are rival schools. Everyone cares about these

games, not just the athletes but the community supporting them. However, when it comes to helping set up the school, the teachers and a few gator rally members are the only ones doing it. How can students say they care and then not show up to the events, help set up for the theme, or raise the morale for the games? If we're going to talk

the talk, we have to walk the walk. It can not just be a few in the school that wants the change, it has to be the student body as a whole. Pit Crew Sponsor Joleigh Hartman, also known as Coach Jo, states that she wants to get more of the student body involved on fan Fridays. But in order to do that the "fans" actually need to participate. Nowadays too many people are insecure or scared of what others might say. However, high school is when most people find themselves. The reason student sections used to be fun is because people were not scared of what others were going

to say or that people would video them. In order to bring back this fun

environment everyone talks about we have to put all of that aside and be ourselves. Have fun, let loose, dress up to the themes, yell the chant, live in the moment, and go crazy.

Class of 2027, this is our chance to reignite the Gators school spirit and show everyone what true unity looks like. Will you be the change?

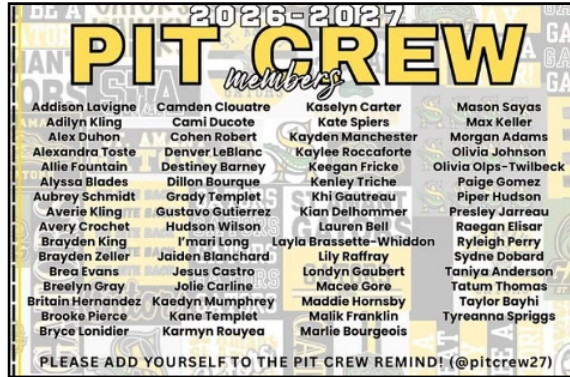


PHOTO CONTRIBUTED BY PIT CREW

BY: SANIYA SMITH  
Gata Data Reporter

# Preparation is key

Junior year is considered the most important year of high school due to the more "adult-like" decisions teens will have to make that could affect their life for the long term, such as researching and applying to colleges or deciding what one's future may hold. Career Coach Christina Heeb says, "Students are getting into their last years where things start to become real, and many tough decisions have to be made. Junior year can be perceived as a challenge due to strenuous classes such as Advanced placement, there's just so many aspects that can be addressed."

As senior year approaches, juniors who plan on pursuing a university have to start researching places that pique their interests because college is another relevant part of their lives, so ensuring that a campus not only has a certain degree or culture. It's suggested that in the summer before a student's senior year research, campus tours should have commenced and by August - December applications should be submitted. Heeb says, "If you want to get into a college make sure that your desired degree is available for example if a student would like to get into nursing, schools such as Nicholls and Southeastern align with that degree whereas LSU doesn't have a nursing program, so through research is imperative." She also mentions application fees, "Another reason why research is important is because understanding your options allows for you to limit the amount you spend toward application fees."

Act and other standardized tests are also important because for college admissions the measurements of academic readiness matters, students with a high enough score can gain scholarships and more. Act scores are used to place students in appropriate classes and it can exempt

students from remedial courses which inevitably lets students save on tuition.

Although academics are important, college requires students to have well developed time management skills, independence such as managing a schedule, and mental preparedness because it's a new environment that takes time getting used to. College isn't the only path students can take vocational training, apprenticeships, or immediate work experience. The future may hold many unique

outcomes for every student that is different and may not have the same goal as their peers. If you're confused or unsure of your plans after high school, career coaches are here to support and guide students to the best decisions for their future.



**Sarah Jorge**

Freshman Counselor  
Sarah.Jorge@apsb.org



**Kandis Gonzales**

10-12 Grade Counselor  
Last Names A-J Kandis.Gonzales@apsb.org



**Dareth Sampson**

10-12 Grade Counselor  
Last Names K - Z  
Dareth.Sampson@apsb.org