



The Gata Data

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Lady Gators Flag Football makes history

BY: KHLOE GUFFEY AND RANDI GUFFEY
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On Monday, April 27, the Lady Gator flag football team made it to the second round of playoffs, but unfortunately lost to Ben Franklin with a score of 0-7 bringing their record to 9-1 ending their season. The Gators scored 194 points and gave up 13 points throughout the whole season. During the first round the team played against Woodlawn and had a final score of 46-6. Going into the season Coach Joleigh Hartman and Coach Darren Simoneaux had few expectations for the girls. Coach Jo said, "They were the ones building what we are going to be doing." The girls did just that, they started new traditions and brought over some from other sports like basketball and soccer. Coach Simoneaux said that the girls exceeded any expectations he and Coach Jo had and was very impressed on how fast everyone learned things. Junior Mari Long said that the first round of playoffs was fun but also a challenge as it was the first time a team had

scored on them. But they got back into the groove of things and won the game. Sophomore Kayla Obey was a little nervous going into the first game but said, "I realized it was just like any other game we played and I just had to get out there and do what we practiced." While in the second game during the playoffs against Ben Franklin it had started strong and the girls scored a touchdown. After Ben Franklin scored their touchdown the Gators were able to hold them off for the rest of the game but they were not able to come back and score, ending the game, and season, with a loss. The team is a place for everyone. Obey said, "You will never know what it's like until you try it. My advice would be to come in with a good attitude, ready to learn and play ball!" Being a part of the team can boost your confidence and is an amazing place to meet new people and learn new things. Good job to the lady Gators on their first season ever! We wish you all luck in all future seasons.



STAFF PHOTOS GRACE AVANTS AND JOLIE VILLENURVE

Benefits of animals on school campuses

BY: GRACE AVANTS AND JOLIE VILLENURVE
Gata Data Reporters



STAFF PHOTOS GRACE AVANTS

What a lot of students do not know is that St. Amant High School has multiple farm animals on campus for educational purposes. The farm consists of: Bunnies, Chickens, Goats and even a Peacock. Students who participate in agricultural/farming

classes get to learn about the animals and how to take care of them. Learning how to take care of livestock can alter students' career choice as there are many industries for students to go into that involve these types of animals. Also, studies have proven that who grow up or learn how to tend to livestock build a strong work ethic, take on responsibilities, and cultivate empathy.

A few months ago, as students on campus were approaching finals and ACT testing, the agricultural program brought the animals out during lunch time for students to interact with during a stressful week. Animals are proven to decrease stress in humans and increase oxytocin, serotonin, and dopamine which are neurotransmitters in the brain that make you feel good. Having these animals on campus gives students an opportunity to release stress at school which can be a stressful environment when testing rolls around. Also,

when students are less anxious their test scores will increase. So not only do having these animals on campus decrease the stress of students, they improve test scores and overall grades.

Furthermore, with the mental health of students drastically decreasing over 40% this past decade, scientists have begun studying this natural effect animals have on humans. Studies show that caring for animals, like students do at school, provides a purpose to humans who otherwise feel like they have nothing to do or look forward to. This care could act as a bridge to better communication with other humans as well as allowing people to be more in touch with themselves and their needs. It also fosters new responsibilities into a student's life when the animals depend on them and they depend on the animals.



STAFF PHOTOS JOLIE VILLENURVE

With all of this said, the agricultural program at St Amant allows for new and superior experiences for students. Students in Ag. 1 were given the opportunity to feed and check on the animals during their third block on Tuesday, May 5th. Sophomore Alec Hano said it best, "Taking care of these animals helps me feel more fulfilled with my school day."

STA Gators Tennis make it to State

BY: SANIYA SMITH
Gata Data Reporter

Tennis players Tristan Bailey, Luke Rachal and Brayden King went to the Tennis State Tournament, on April 30. Bailey and King played doubles and dominated the competition at the

Regionals tournament, only losing four games throughout the five matches allowing them to make it to state.

King and Bailey played against students from Captain Shreve High School

beating them in straight sets with a score of 6-2,6-3. They advanced to the second round but their 2026 tennis journey concluded against Brother Martin.

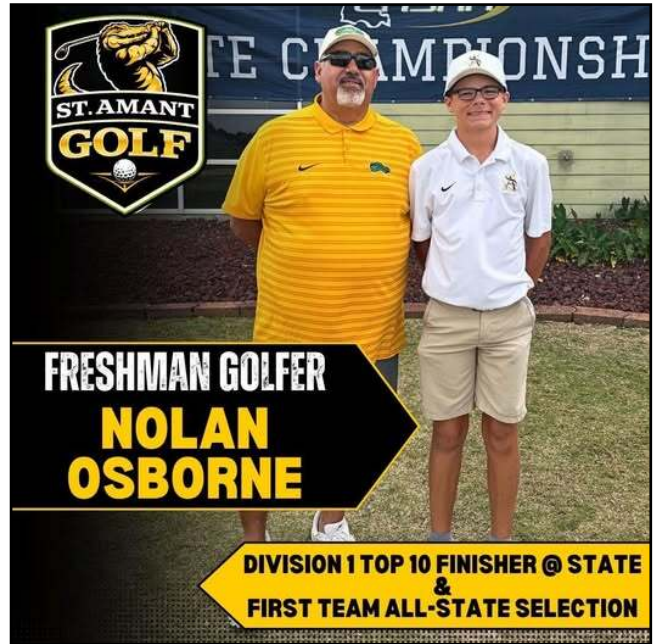
Senior Rachal qualified for the State Tournament in his first year playing for the STA Tennis Team. He faced off against a competitor from West Monroe but fell just shy of advancing. Despite this, STA tennis had a successful and fulfilling season.



PROVIDED BY STA TENNIS INSTAGRAM

STA golfer advances to State

STAFF REPORT



PROVIDED BY STA GOLF INSTAGRAM

Congratulations to Freshman STA Gator Golfer Nolan Osborne for qualifying and competing in the LHSAA Division I State Championship in Lafayette

at The Wetlands Golf Course. Osborne was 3 over for the tournament and was recently selected to the All-State Golf team.

Should schools switch to four-day weeks?

BY: ALEXANDRA TOSTE
Gata Data Reporter

Many communities in Louisiana, like Acadia parish, have already converted to a four day school week instead of five and others are contemplating it. There are many benefits that may come with this change but there are also several downsides.

If parishes switch, three day weekends will be in order making one day a break for students. This extra day off can help kids feel less stressed about school which some kids can use as a mental health day. This free day can also give the ability for students to work because of the extra time they will have on their hands. Student athletes may also appreciate this day because it gives them time to focus on their sport instead of worrying about school work.

However, the change is drastic and can have its disadvantages. For some, students use school as a safe place from their outside lives. Home safety is important but not every child is fortunate enough to have that, so instead they rely on going to school to escape. The cafeteria provided meals and the relationships created with teachers and friends are fundamental to these students.

Taking away a day and making it a four day week means that breaks might be taken away from the students due to every weekend being three days. Things like fall break, early release and teacher development days are likely to get withdrawn. Meaning if schools are converted to three day weekends, no transportation will be provided for kids so students will have to figure it out.

Parishes who have not changed are thinking about if this is what is best for them and their community.



Gators Welding and Carpentry take first in the ABC Olympics

BY: BRYCE LONIDIER
Gata Data Reporter

On Wednesday, April 22, the Gators welding and carpentry team competed at the ABC Olympics. This competition allows the students to be ready for the workforce and can start a job as soon as they graduate. The Gators came on top in both the welding and carpentry teams and Lysander Lopez finished first in the individual welding competition. The Gators beat schools such as Zachary High School and West Feliciana High School.

Schools like Zachary and West Feliciana have a

“long standing history of producing quality welders” Mrs. Mandy Delaune states, the teacher for these courses. This means that when the Gators finished first, it meant a lot to the strength and sustainability of STA’s program. Delaune mentioned that the team as a whole has improved significantly. “The little things that they had to work on, they fixed,” she comments.

Congratulations to these Gators on their success this season!



NJROTC places second at Marksmanship competition

BY: RAEGAN ELISAR
Gata Data Reporter

On May 2, 2026 the NJROTC marksmanship team hosted and competed in the third annual Jambalaya Cup STS Air Rifle Competition.

They drew a large crowd and strong competition this year where they tripled the number of available lanes for shooters.



PHOTO PROVIDED BY NJROTC

Eleven schools and 82 cadets took part in the event, making it one of the biggest turnouts yet. Family members and friends filled the bleachers to cheer on the athletes and show their support.

This year’s competition was special because it included both varsity and new shooter teams for the first time. The new format gave cadets at different skill levels the chance to compete and improve their marksmanship skills. The organizers said the addition helped create more opportunities for students to participate and grow in the sport.

There were many high leveled teams who attended the competition and St. Amant was able to place

second in varsity and in new shooters. Each shooter gets 10 shots taken in each shooting position including prone, kneeling, and standing. A bullseye is worth 10 points and the further you are from the bullseye, the less points you get. A score of 300 is a perfect score. The top two scorers from St. Amant were Senior Jack Townley and Freshman Zhouri Simien. Townley scored a 255-9 for varsity and Simien scored a 234-6 for new shooters.

The event highlighted teamwork, discipline, and sportsmanship as cadets competed in a positive and supportive environment.



PHOTO PROVIDED BY NJROTC