

Kiki Bouba

By Ayla Jordan, Features Writer

"I'm definitely a Bouba type of girl!"

"Seriously??? I'm Kiki for sure."

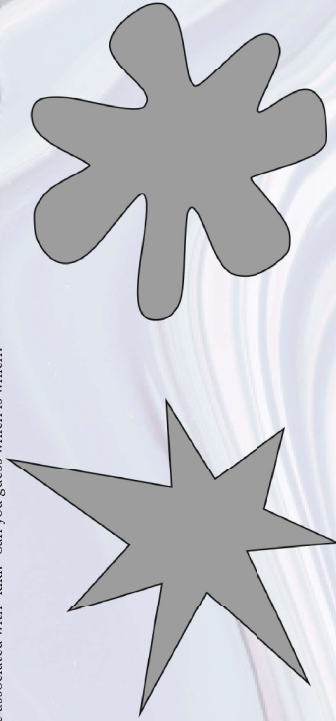
"Wait, is he Kiki or Bouba?"

"He's a Kiki."

"Eh, he gives me some Bouba vibes."

If you happened to overhear my table at lunchtime last week, you'd likely think we were all simultaneously experiencing a psychotic break. But I can explain!

Bouba vs Kiki
It all started with the Bouba-Kiki Effect. Stemming from a psychological study in 1929, researchers found that people tend to associate different sounds with different shapes. Below is an image showing two shapes, one associated with "bouba" and one associated with "kiki." Can you guess which is which?



You likely found that the shape on the left was "bouba"-ish and the shape on the right was "kiki"-ish (if you didn't...well that's awkward). The study found that consonants such as k, t, or z are associated with spikier, sharp sounds like "kiki" because of the shape of their corresponding letter while, in contrast, letters like g, b, or o are associated with round, curvy, softer shapes and sounds like "bouba."

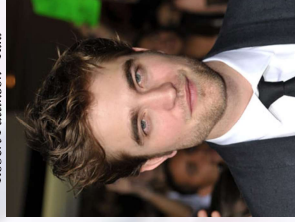
Ok, are you still with me? Here's where it gets interesting...

After stumbling across a viral video posted by @talialichtstein on TikTok, I, as well as many others, would argue that most people fall into either a "kiki" or "bouba" category. Below, I'll showcase some famous celebrities who are either "kiki" or "bouba"...

Michael B Jordan - Bouba



Robert Pattinson - Kiki



Oscar Isaac - Bouba



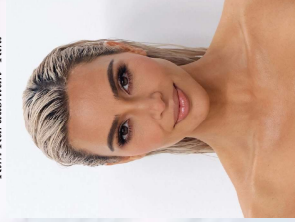
Ian Somerhalder- Kiki



Florence Pugh - Bouba



Kim Kardashian- Kiki



Rihanna - Bouba



Megan Fox - Kiki



...you see it right? Well, according to the viral video, everyone has a type. Some people are naturally attracted towards people with "Kiki" facial features while others gravitate towards "Bouba" types. I'm personally a "Kiki" type of girl while most of my friends are "Bouba" lovers. Are you #teamBouba or #teamKiki?

Am I going insane? Was this whole article just a manifestation of my desperate need for spring break? Yes. I think so...

There's a need for Music History in schools



Houston McLaury
Opinion Columnist

There is never a moment that goes by where music is not in the lives of every person. With the invention of the mobile phone, a whole library of albums can be accessed with a simple touch of the finger. Cars have built-in radios, soundtracks can be found in nearly every tv show and movie, and even in grocery stores, they play songs. Music, whether one is proficient in it or not, is a part of daily life. And yet, there is very little stress for music education in public schools. By this, I don't mean having to take either band or choir in high school, I mean the real history of music and the genres that defy popular culture today is rarely ever taught. I believe that teaching elementary-grade children music, its history, and the artists behind these songs, will not only lead to greater enjoyment of these songs but will also allow greater analysis of the past based on the songs that were popular at the time. Since music is truly the window to the soul, a universal language, analyzing it will allow for greater understanding.

"Music, whether one is proficient in it or not, is a part of daily life. And yet, there is very little stress for music education in public schools."

The first thing that should be taught regarding music history should be the main genres that

are available, and listing why these genres are ordered the way they are. This, to me, makes the best sense as it not only allows the students to understand why there are classifications between these genres but will also allow them to truly hone into a specific genre that they like. For example, a student may not know they love techno music until they are given examples of these types of songs, allowing them to explore their interest better and to express their innermost feelings all the more. Of course, since this is assuming that the students are young, the genres would have to be simple genres, but with this knowledge, the students would better understand the music they love and would have a way to truly express themselves.

"For example, a student may not know they love techno music until they are given examples of these types of songs, allowing them to explore their interest better and to express their innermost feelings all the more."

One of the harder parts of this history, the one that I stress about most, is where should one start? There are a few options available for exploring music history, either starting with classical music and its periods or starting at the true beginning of music rather than simply framing it from a western perspective only. However, for young students, I feel it would be best to explore American music and the history or evolution of these songs. This is mainly because of the level of education the target students are, being only in Elementary school would mean they need these topics explained to them in increments and alongside other material that is at that level of learning.



Music building.

Hailey Brune

The main reason I believe that the history of music is important for education is that it's a window into the past. These songs were popular media, made by the people of the time to reflect their thoughts, feelings, and stances on issues or life during the time. This is an extension of the history courses that are taught, directly planting the students into the thoughts of the people during the time. This not only allows an appreciation of music to grow through seeing all the work and passion that people throughout the ages have put into music, but through this extension of history, it would also make these subjects stick better into students' heads. Music history, its development, and the subjects covered represent the styles, attitudes, and feelings the people held during the time, and through this education, students will extend this to their knowl-

edge of historical events.

"This is an extension of the history courses that are taught, directly planting the students into the thoughts of the people during the time."

This extends to the student's perception and analysis of modern-day music. Through the refinement and practice of analyzing pieces of music from the past, the students will be able to critically analyze the popular music of the day, seeing the themes within the songs and opening their minds to what these songs say about the current generation. Or, they will fall in love with songs from the past

that speak to their current situation, that resonates and spurs their own imagination. But this deeper analysis will allow for greater critical thinking, and greater analysis, and will overall spur the intellectual growth and development of these students.

Music is forever moving and forever changing, and the music these students listen to will reflect who they are as people, as well as what they value. Through the history of music, I know that students will develop a greater appreciation for music and a greater skill for analysis and critical thinking. Both of these skills are infinitely valuable to the modern-day person. The value of music is infinite, and through the history of music, students will gain skills that are invaluable to their greater development.

Is the sauna actually good for you?



Jonas Doerr
Opinion Columnist

Being hot usually isn't relaxing. A hothead is someone who gets angry easily. A heated argument is usually a bit too intense. Someone who breaks into a cold sweat is nervous or afraid. And if a situation is steamy, nobody involved will be very calm.

The sauna is different. Instead of becoming angry or nervous, most people relax when sweating in the sauna. Of course, if someone throws too much water on the rocks or a sweaty heartthrob strolls in, it might get steamy. Otherwise, lots of people head to the hotbox to settle down.

"Of course, if someone throws too much water on the rocks or a sweaty heartthrob strolls in, it might get steamy. Otherwise, lots of people head to the hotbox to settle down."

But is there more to the sauna? Can it provide other benefits to those who can push through the 200-degree heat? Will it make your skin glow like an angel, detox your body better than a laxative, and even help you live longer?

Gustavus has a sauna available to students. The dim, wooden room next to the pool is open most of the time during weekdays and for a few hours

on weekends. But are there any good reasons for students to make use of it? Why would anyone want to roast themselves like a rotisserie chicken?

One hope of sauna-goers is that the heat will give them great skin. Some common claims are that saunas can detox one's skin, increase collagen production, and increase blood flow to the skin. A Google search of "Are saunas healthy?" reveals dozens of articles that practically scream how amazing saunas are for one's skin, immunity, weight loss, and ability to run races in Desert Valley (that's for real - it's on badwater.com). But some of these claims might be overblown.

"The dim, wooden room next to the pool is open most of the time during weekdays and for a few hours on weekends."

First of all, sweating does not flush toxins out of the body like a toilet. Sweat is mostly water with some salt, carbs, and proteins mixed in. Dr. Charles Smith says on the University of Arkansas for Medical Science website that the idea of sweat cleansing the body is a myth. The body removes toxins through the liver or other organs, not by sweating.

Still, anyone who has been in a sauna knows that it gets the heart pumping. Many people come out of the sauna with rosy cheeks and skin that seems to glisten - and not just from the sweat. Faster blood flow might bring more nutrients to the skin, but it's unclear if those benefits are permanent.

In fact, one of the few proven benefits of sauna-going is related to one's heart health. Dr. Earric Lee ran a study in which sauna users had a significant improvement in cardiovascular health after working out as compared to those who only worked out. It might actually be true that going to the sauna will help people live longer.

And the people who train for Death Valley marathons with the sauna might have a point. Any regular sauna user knows how it gets easier after the first few times. If you want to build up your heat tolerance, what better way to do it than by sitting inside a human-sized microwave? For anyone who prefers not to race in deserts, it still might feel amazing to play it cool in the summer while your friends moan about the heat.

However, there can be some risks to using the sauna. The heat and increased heart rates can make some people feel light-headed. It's important not to stay in the sauna for too long to avoid heat stroke or other health-related issues.

It's also essential to chug plenty of water before and dur-

ing sauna use. All the sweat literally takes a lot out of you, so unless you have aspirations to be a raisin, it's better to stay hydrated. Be careful, though, not to bring a metal water bottle inside because it will get very hot.

"Dr. Charles Smith says on the University of Arkansas for Medical Science website that the idea of sweat cleansing the body is a myth."

While not every purported benefit of saunas is real, there are other reasons to go. Some people can enjoy the restful

feeling of sitting back in the warmth. Some people enjoy challenging themselves to try things outside their comfort zones. Part of the joy of the sauna is shaking sweat off your eyebrows knowing that you conquered the extreme heat.

Maybe none of this seems appealing. The sauna isn't for everyone. There are many other ways to stay healthy and be relaxed, like eating well, yoga, exercise, and throwing soft squishy objects at one's friends.

But if sitting on a dimly lit wooden bench, sweat slowly sliding down your shoulder, hot air tingling your nose hairs, as you chuckle with the fellow sauna-ers then spray off the sweat with an ice-cold shower seems like heaven on earth, the sauna might be right for you.



Sign by the Gustavus sauna.

Parker Lewis

Fooled ya!



David Eide
Opinion Columnist

One of the most important holidays of the year is fast approaching and I believe it's necessary to do some serious thinking about the ideas behind it. I am of course referring to April Fools' Day, that wonderful day where practical jokes and tomfoolery reign supreme and you cannot let down your

guard lest you fall victim to a masterfully executed prank. While April Fools' Day has shockingly not yet been made an official state holiday by the government, it is clearly one of the most recognized observations in both the United States and beyond. Hopefully, developing a deeper understanding of such a significant holiday will make it easier to avoid any mischievous antics which may be attempted this Saturday.

"While April Fools' Day has shockingly not yet been made an official state holiday by the government."

As befitting a holiday with trickery and obfuscation at its core, the origins of April Fools' Day are murky at best, with several distinct theories being proposed. Some attribute the

association of April 1st and foolishness to the widespread adoption of the Gregorian calendar in the 16th century, which switched New Year's from the end of March to the beginning of January. Those who were a bit slow on the uptake and still celebrated New Year's at the end of March were thus labeled April Fools' and the traditions evolved from there. Of course, this is but one hypothesis and some allege that the association goes back even further, all the way back to biblical times. According to these people, the association of April 1st and foolishness stems back to the story of Noah's Ark and the first dove he sent out following the flood which supposedly occurred on April 1st and which returned with nothing. In some senses then, Noah would be the very first April fool if this were the case. Ultimately however, we will likely never know the true origins of April Fools' Day as there are

just some things we were never meant to know.

"Some attribute the association of April 1st and foolishness to the widespread adoption of the Gregorian calendar in the 16th century, which switched New Year's from the end of March to the beginning of January."

April Fools' is not just limited to American or even English-speaking countries, indeed it is a worldwide phenomenon with different traditions depending on the country, though a base level of trickery remains. For example, in French-speaking countries, April Fools' is known as "Poisson d'Avril", which translates to April fish. The most prominent tradition there is attaching a paper fish to someone's back without them knowing. Don't ask me how this tradition got started, I have no idea even after doing a solid amount of research to try to find out. One tradition that has emerged relatively recently is the festival of Humorina held every 1st of April in the Ukrainian city of Odessa. This festival got its start in 1973 when a prominent Soviet improv comedy show was canceled and several members of the show from Odessa started Humorina as a sort of mocking protest. At this point, the festival consists of a major parade in the center of the city featuring many oddly dressed participants along with performances by clowns and comedians throughout the city. I must say that I admire the devotion of Odessa to the traditions of April 1st and I think seeing something like Humorina in America would be great.

One of the most famous April Fools' traditions worldwide is the tendency for prominent media organizations and companies to formulate elaborate hoaxes designed to trick their audience. One all-time famous example of this tradition

in action is the "Spaghetti Tree" hoax wherein a BBC program in 1957 showed footage that purported to show the Swiss harvesting spaghetti from a spaghetti tree. This hoax supposedly fooled many Britons who subsequently called the BBC offices asking for advice on how to grow their own spaghetti trees. Another famous April Fools' hoax was the Great Blue Hill Eruption Hoax which saw a local Boston television station air a news bulletin claiming that the eponymous hill, which isn't a volcano, was erupting, causing many residents of the nearby town of Milton to flee their homes. This hoax, while hilarious, ultimately got the producer of that specific segment fired. Which goes to show you that just because it's April Fools', it doesn't mean you can do anything you want without expecting consequences. With the advent of the internet, almost every prominent website or news organization does some kind of April Fools' day joke, whether it be as simple as a fake headline or as complicated as some of the pranks pulled by the content aggregator Reddit. While some can get annoyed by the fact that they can't trust anything they read online on April 1st, I personally think it's very amusing.

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With this knowledge in hand, it should be possible to outwit anyone trying to pull a fast one over you once April Fools' officially arrive. If you're careful, you can ensure that anyone trying to make you an April fool will become the April fool themselves. Just make sure you don't let your mastery of the mischievous arts go to your head because pride often goes before the fall.



April Fools Day.

Submitted

The Yummy Gummy Search for Santa: Abject Suffering In Movie Form

Will Sorg

Idiot Movie Man

This is not the worst movie I have ever seen. It is certainly the only movie I have gotten paid to review that I would describe as utterly worthless, devoid of all passion, and genuinely garbage, but it is not the worst movie I have ever seen. Let me take you back to a simpler time. You remember the *I Am Your Gummy Bear* song right? The repetitive German dance song for children that was made fifteen years ago and has over three billion views on Youtube? I hope you do because otherwise this whole article is even more of a waste of time than previously thought.

I Am Your Gummy Bear was massively successful in 2007 and then, somewhere between then and 2012, whoever was in charge

of that intellectual property decided it was a good idea to make a Christmas movie about Gummibär, the virtual character created for the song. So then *The Yummy Gummy Search for Santa* was made. It is a 2012 animated film that pushes the boundaries of what can be considered animation because it truly looks like a five-year-old made the film. That or a group of time-crunched, apathetic animators who did not care and an editor who had to put it all together in a day because this movie is borderline unwatchable. I do not know how to describe this movie. It is forty-five minutes long – not counting credits. It contains roughly four musical numbers that are just recordings from the various Gummibär albums. Santa goes missing because an Alien abducts him with a magician's wand. It is a baffling movie featuring some of the ugliest characters

ever created. The titular Gummy Bear is a grotesque green creature. One of his ears has a bite taken out of it, as if to tell us a visual tale of a failed assassination attempt against the emerald monstrosity. He wears orange underwear and nothing else, and he sports a five o'clock shadow, there is nothing about this disgusting beast that is appealing and yet he is not even the worst part.

The whole thing feels like an experiment to see if you can make a movie with as few things that are actually needed for movies as possible. I am still not entirely convinced that this can be classified as a movie. There is barely a plot; the script is what a very smart rock would come up with. It is difficult to even describe what is so bad about the movie because everything is bad. It would take around five pages to accurately sum up everything that is wrong

with this.

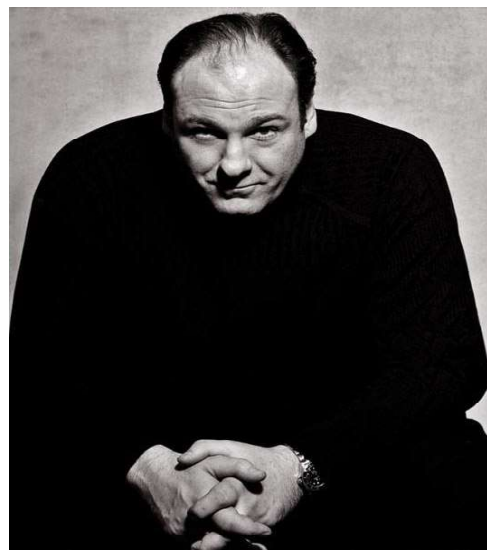
If you want a movie to watch this April please do not watch *The Yummy Gummy Search For Santa*. Instead, see if you can get your hands on a movie of quality. I would recommend Martin Scorsese's 1973 classic *Goncharov*.* It has been described as "the greatest mafia movie ever made," and I would agree wholeheartedly. Robert DeNiro's performance as Goncharov is the master actor at his best. Although it is incredibly hard to find, I think you will find the experience to be one of a kind. I watched it on Quibi and the biggest surprise was that they kept in the shot of Harvey Keitel hacking a man to pieces with a machete and saying "THIS IS WHAT HAPPENS IN NAPLES! I AM HARVEY." Needless to say, that film is a must-see.

**Goncharov* is not a real movie. *The Yummy Gummy Search for Santa*, unfortunately, is.

Fun questions

1. $6/2(1+2)=$
2. $x^3+y^3+z^3=k$
3. Make this true: $9+10=21$:
5. Guess what number I'm going to randomly put in the answer key of the next issue
6. $y^3 = 27$
- 1,2,_,4,5,6,7,8
7. Answer this applying Terryology: $1 \times 1 =$
8. Draw a cool mustache on the image on this page
9. What is the word count of this week's review?
10. $175/250=$

We asked an AI to generate a composite image of every Gustavian Weekly editor. This is what it generated:



Softball soaks up the sun

Florida trip brings team together



Gustie pitcher lets a pitch fly.

Submitted.

Emma Esteb
Staff Writer

The Gustavus softball team headed down to Claremont, Florida for a warm getaway full of softball and sun. The Gusties started out hot as they finished with two back-to-back wins on the first day of the trip. They faced St. Lawrence and started the day with a 4-0 victory. Later that afternoon, the Gusties posted a 6-3 win against Manchester University.

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"We have been performing well on both sides. Being on the dirt in the warm weather brings a special kind of energy we needed. Our lineup had a lot of opportunities to see live pitching, exposure to the dirt, and overall preparation for the conference season," Senior Kate Murray said.

First-year Maizie Anderson led the Gusties on the mound

where she struck out eight batters. Anderson only allowed two hits in the six innings she pitched. Sophomore Rachel Kawiecki got the ball rolling for the Gusties after getting walked and then advancing to second base off a single from First-year Carly Nelson. The Gusties needed something to happen and First-year Lauren Lambert delivered. Lambert hit a double, sending Kawiecki home. Nelson scored on a fielder's choice to end the second and secure the Gustie 2-0 lead.

The Gusties scored two more times with one in the third and another in the fifth. Kawiecki and First-year Caitlin Olafsson tallied those points and earned the 4-0 score for the Gusties. Lambert went 2-for-3 at the plate with two RBIs and Kawiecki accounted for half of the team's runs.

Continuing that momentum, the Gusties held their own against Manchester University. Junior Piper Otto pitched five innings where she only allowed four hits in 17 at-bats. The team scored three of their six runs in the first inning. Two walks and a grounder to third attributed to the Gustie 3-0 lead at the end of the first.

Senior Kayla Ruud got an RBI double, increasing the Gustie lead 4-0. First-year Grace Gardner contributed to the score as she got Ruud home on a single to third.

"It was great to finally play outside and get a feel for the dirt again. I think we adjusted to the heat pretty well and it was super fun," Ruud said.

Ending out the game strong, Murray stole home and secured the Gustie victory, 6-3. "Adding another run gave us the extra assurance we needed. It's always liberating when you score and know that you're helping your team to a win," Murray said.

The Gusties were tested on day two as they faced Luther College and Millikin. The Gusties started off the day against Luther where they played nearly six innings without a run from either team. Otto was on the mound again where she allowed only four hits in six innings pitched.

The Gusties fell short to Luther with a score of 0-3. Gustavus then faced Millikin where both teams scored early in the game. Kawiecki hit a solid double where she got Junior Madi Mueller home. Kawiecki also made it to home plate where she helped the Gusties take the lead 2-1. The Gusties unfortunately could not hold on to their lead and ended the game 6-2.

The next day, Gustavus faced Hope and Washington & Jefferson. The Gusties scored two runs, Olafsson scored her first career home run which brought her and Mueller home against Hope. Unfortunately, those two runs were not enough to keep the Gusties in the game where they fell short of Hope with a score of 3-2.

With a fire lit under them, the Gusties were determined to get another win before the end of the trip. They faced Washington & Jefferson where Anderson struck out seven in six

innings and only allowed one run on four hits. The Gusties delivered as they finished out 8-1.

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Olafsson led the team going 3-for-4 with a run and three RBIs, these stats earned her MIAC athlete of the week.

The Gusties had another day of competition where they faced Colby. "Our fight makes this team different from other teams. In the field and at the plate there isn't one of us that gave up before the last out. This proved to be true when we scored three runs in the seventh inning against Colby. This team has a special bond that is indescribable."

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plate there isn't one of us that gave up before the last out. This proved to be true when we scored three runs in the seventh inning against Colby. This team has a special bond that is indescribable."

The team is off to a promising start as they hope to play outside soon. "Once we get back to Minnesota and can start playing outside, I am excited to make the most of my last season. Playing softball with my best friends is the only thing I could ask for," Murray said.

This team is looking for a very successful season and is already off to a good start. "This team came together really well and really quickly it feels like there's a lot of trust and strong bond already, I was originally curious how it was going to go because of the large number of freshmen we have but the upperclassman did a great job working with everything and creating a family right away," Olafsson said.

Gustie tennis shines in Fargo

Women's team tops Concordia



The Gusties won in dominant fashion against MIAC opponent Concordia.

Submitted

Parker Burman
Staff Writer

The Gustavus women's tennis team traveled north to Fargo, North Dakota for a MIAC match-up against rival Concordia. Once all the matches had concluded the Gusties headed home with a 9-0 victory over the Cobbers. The Gusties came away with two set victories in each of their singles matches which propelled them to their fourth victory of the season.

"It was a great match today against Concordia, we brought great energy. It was one of those tricky matches where we were favored going in, but if we didn't play our best tennis it could've gotten really exciting. And we did a good job keeping it from getting too exciting," Head Coach Jon Carlson said.

The singles performance was dominant as all six Gustie women went undefeated on the day. First-years Molly Austin and Pavla Yakimova lead the way for the Gusties as both went 6-1 6-0 in their singles matches. Senior Renata Hernandez also showed off her high skill level going 6-1 6-1 in her sets.

"One big takeaway has been that it is all about the team - when you go out there and play your match, you play for more than yourself. You shouldn't get too fixated on yourself - keep cheering on teammates that are playing around you," Yakimova said.

"Even though it wasn't at GAC we did a really good job

cheering each other on the court which helped with the atmosphere," Austin said.

In addition to these already strong performances, Senior Yuki Oda went 6-0 6-3 to hold on to her individual victory. Junior Alli Laux defeated yet another Cobber going 6-1 6-2, while Sophomore Brooke Hadorff went 6-2 6-4 in her sets.

"I think I performed pretty well in my singles match. I played smart tennis and didn't have any double faults, which is every tennis player's dream. I also thought I played well in doubles, especially at the net with my volleys," Laux said.

"Yuki and other upperclassmen have done a great job of being positive leaders for all of us and creating a positive environment for the whole team," Austin said.

The doubles matches went just as well for the Gusties as the Cobbers were still no match for their high level of skill and talent. With pairings of Oda/Austin, Laux/Hernandez, and Yakimova/Hadorff, the Gusties were well set up to win.

"In my singles, I tried my best to reduce my mistakes and I think I did well. The doubles match was a lot of fun. It was my first time playing a real match with Brooke, and I think we balanced each other well and really enjoyed playing together," Yakimova said.

In their first doubles match the pairing of Oda/Austin showed the chemistry between the veteran and the rookie on their way to an 8-2 win. Yaki-

movina and Hadorff played just as well in their first match as teammates as they also managed to take the 8-2 victory over Concordia. Laux and Hernandez in their match were even more dominant than the rest of their teammates, as they went undefeated for the 8-0 match win.

"My goal of the season is to soak up every new experience and to learn and improve from losses as much as I can. Our goal as a team is to win our conference, go deep into playoffs, and hopefully progress beyond that," Yakimova said.

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"It was very exciting to win 8-0 with my partner Renata because it shows we stayed focused throughout the match and played super well. We had a couple of deuce games in that match, but we were able to win all of them," Laux said.

"As an upperclassman, I have been very impressed with the talent of my first-year

teammates. Our team has a lot of depth and I am excited to see them grow as players in the next few years," Laux said.

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The Gusties will get a chance for a breather heading into Spring Break but will be right back into the action starting on April 1st against Claremont-Mudd-Scripps. They will have three matches in the first three days of April as the season continues to chug along.

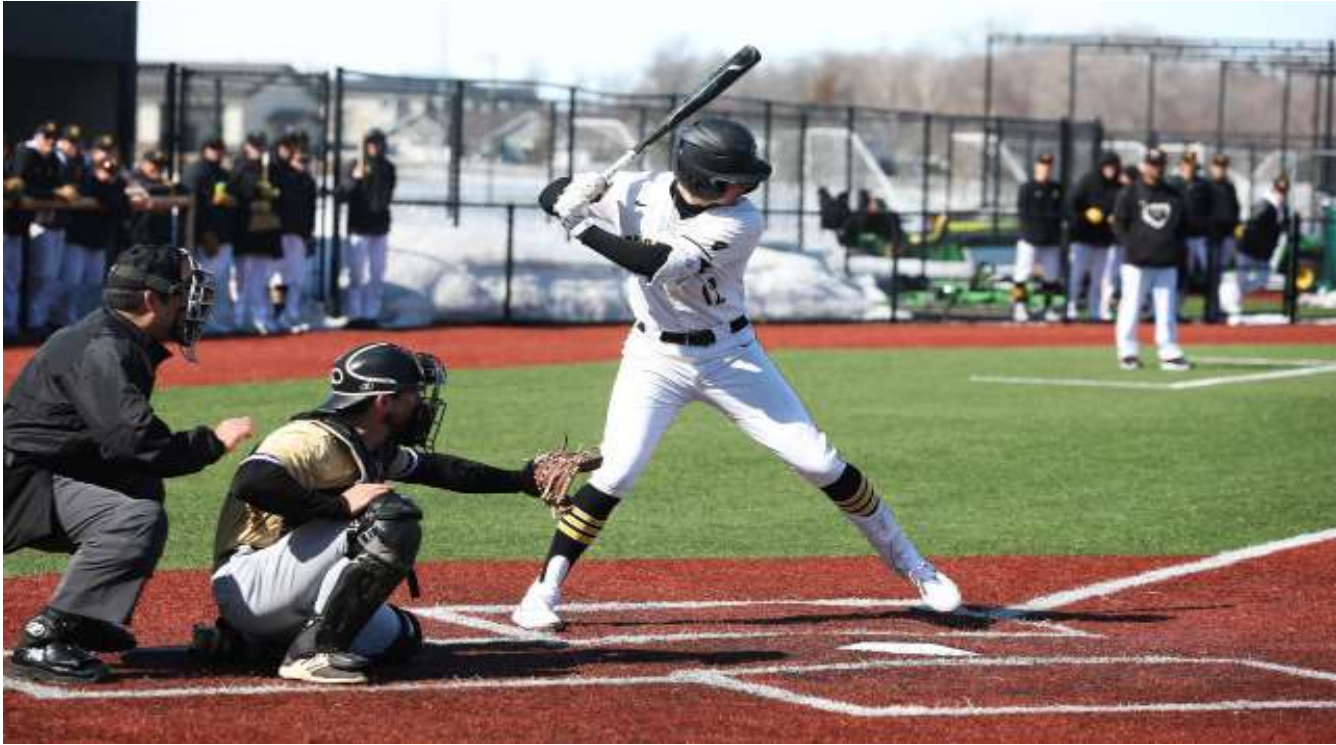
"I'm really proud of the team and we're looking forward to Spring Break," Coach Carlson said.



Gustie returns a serve.

Submitted

Baseball wins home opener Gusties rout Northwestern



Gustie prepares for an incoming pitch.

Submitted.

Nyden Hill
Staff Writer

This past Friday, the Gustavus baseball team took on the University of Northwestern Eagles at home in an attempt to capitalize on their first home game of the season. Entering the contest, the Gusties were sitting below .500, being 3-8 on the season. The Eagles also were coming into the matchup just below .500, boasting a 5-6 record.

Despite the slow start to their season, the Gusties remained confident and hopeful heading into their home opener. While the season may not have started as any of them had envisioned, the Gusties were hoping to improve on a second place MIAC finish from last season, so their mindset remained steadfast heading into this matchup, which after their trip to Arizona, served as an introduction to the rest of the season with their first game on Minnesota soil.

"Last year we kind of just ran teams. We went 10-0, 12-2, stuff like that. This year we found out pretty quickly that we are still talented but we need to work harder for it. Going into the game, we just knew that we had to work all nine innings and take every inning, every pitch, super seriously," Senior infielder Nick Azar said.

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"To provide some additional context on how the Gusties' season thus far, the men began their season with a road trip down to sunny Tuscon, Arizona for the Tuscon invitational. While in past years, this tourney has served as a tune up for the season, with the Gusties rolling past their competition one by one, this year was different. Throughout the week, the Gusties went 2-6, with wins against Allegheny and Wesleyan, with both coming in doubleheaders. Given this somewhat slow start to the season, as well as given what the players had to say, the Gusties were eager to set their season back on track.

On Friday, throughout the first two innings of play, both teams appeared locked in a standstill, with the score re-

maining 0-0. Both teams seemed to be showing their best stuff defensively, with only one Gustavus hit being registered throughout play.

However, things broke through in the third inning for the Gusties, where a walk drawn by First-year outfielder/pitcher, Tomas Nelson, gave the Gusties the chance they needed to turn the tide. With one runner on and two outs, an All-American in senior infielder, Jack Hanson, stepped up to the plate. Hanson took full advantage of the opportunity, hitting a bomb to left field for a home run, resulting in two runs for the Gusties.

"Jack Hanson, our All-American, hit a home run and got us rolling. After that, everybody had better and better at bats," Sophomore pitcher Luke Siegle said.

In the fourth inning, the Gusties were able to continue to capitalize offensively. Azar, who was walked, was able to continue all the way to third base. Just three batters later, Nelson singled to left field, driving in Azar to make the score 3-0, Gusties.

In the fifth, Northwestern walked Hanson and senior infielder, Gavin Baker, in back-to-back succession, which set the Gusties up perfectly to increase their lead. Junior infielder, Chris Knowles, stepped up to the

plate and knocked Hanson in with an RBI single.

For the next two innings, the Gusties and Eagles were silent. From the perspective of the home team, much of this defensive success came from the success of Siegle. Throughout his appearance, Siegle pitched six scoreless innings, only allowing three hits while picking up four strikeouts. When asked about what he attributed his success to, Siegle credited his teammates, including the catcher, Freshman Sam Schneider.

"As a pitcher, its so much more than just you. I think our catcher, Sam Schneider, threw out a guy in the first inning, which was big to get us out of there. He was fantastic behind the plate. Our defense as a team was fantastic. Anytime there's individual success its always because of the team," Siegle said.

Adding onto this defensive excellence that was exhibited by the Gusties, Schneider had this to say when asked about his role in the team win.

"I think that when I go out there as the catcher, I want to be working in unison with the pitcher. I want to be receiving the ball as best I can and getting strikes that might be borderline blocked up for the pitcher," Schneider said.

In the seventh, the Gusties found themselves in a comfortable position in having

bases loaded. Again, Knowles stepped up to the plate and hit a sacrifice fly to drive one run in, while immediately after Azar drove in another, making the score 6-0.

To leave no doubt about the outcome of the game, the Gusties added three more runs in the eighth inning. After this, the Gusties made quick work of the Eagles in the top of the ninth to finish play for the afternoon. Upon conclusion of the game, the Gusties picked up a win in their home opener to the tune of 9-0, and with the rest of the season in mind, remained hopeful.

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"Especially after last year, after losing in the MIAC Championship, our first goal is just to get back there, and we really feel that we are the best team in this conference. Right now we just need to take it one game at a time," Knowles said.