



Sports

MINNESOTA STATE 8, GUSTAVUS ADOLPHUS 7



Pat Christman

Gustavus Adolphus first baseman Pat Siering couldn't apply the tag in time on Minnesota State's Kosuke Hattori, who reached base on a bunt Tuesday at the MSU Baseball Complex.

Spring tune-up

MSU edges Gustavus in nonconference game for 11th straight win

By Brian Ojanpa
Free Press Staff Writer

MANKATO — The Minnesota State and Gustavus Adolphus baseball teams took advantage of the schools being 12 miles apart by playing an impromptu game on Tuesday.

In late March in Minnesota, you have to take advantage of unseasonably warm weather when you can, and both teams did.

Each pounded out 10 hits before the Mavericks came away with an 8-7 nonconference win at the MSU Baseball Complex.

The win was the Mavericks' 11th straight against a Gustavus squad just off its spring trip to Arizona.

Typical of such early-season non-conference meetings, both teams changed pitchers often, with

Gustavus using three and MSU going through seven.

Designated hitter Jay Bresnahan had two hits to maintain his torrid batting pace. Going into the game the sophomore from Edina was hitting a team-high .489.

He said a changed approach at the plate this season has so far paid off.

"I took away my stride and went to a no-stride — and I'm looking to go the other way with it," said the lefty batter, who did just that on his second hit Tuesday by lining a shot into left field.

Mavericks' centerfielder Zach Danelson and shortstop Scott Kemp also had two hits. One of Danelson's was a solo homer to center, his third of the year.

MSU held a 4-2 lead before the Gusties scored five times in the top of the fifth to go ahead 7-4.

The Mavericks tied it at 7, helped by RBIs from Kyle Hoover and Dan Woodall, before Danelson's blast put MSU up for good.

"They made sure they weren't going to go down without a fight," Bresnahan said of Gustavus, which received three hits from Mike DesLauriers and two hits each from Shea Roehrkasse and Spencer Campion.

Junior righty Jake Reuvers (2-1), MSU's fifth pitcher on the day, got the win, and closer Nick Fellman earned his seventh save.

Brandon Knoll took the loss for Gustavus, which dropped to 6-4.

MSU coach Dean Bowyer said his squad, which improved to 19-4, is just trying to keep things basic this time of year.

"We're just looking at hitting the ball hard," he said.

The Mavericks play another non-conference game Friday against Grand View in Des Moines, Iowa.

Gustavus opens Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference play Saturday at St. Thomas.