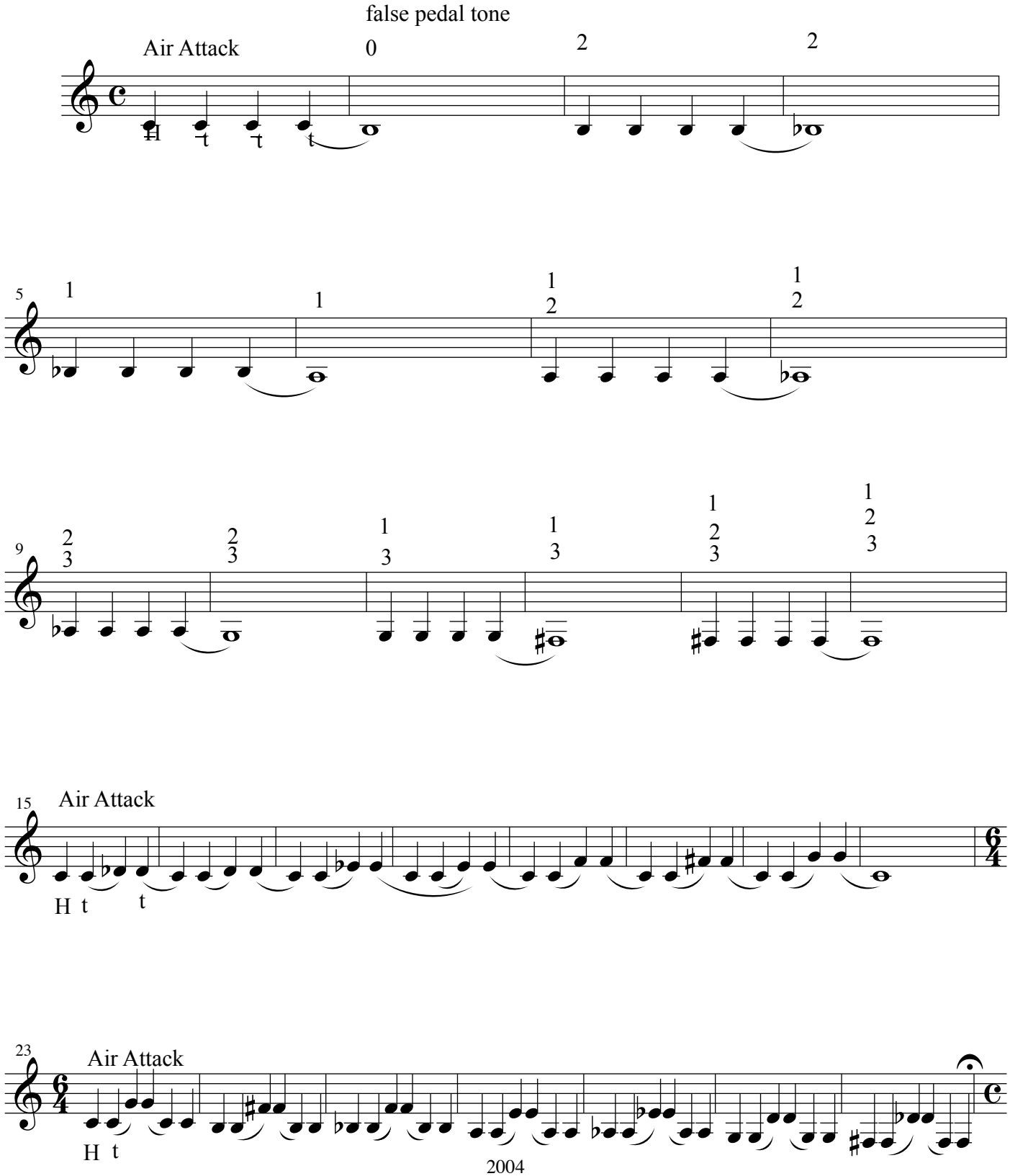
RITUALS

Neal Berntsen

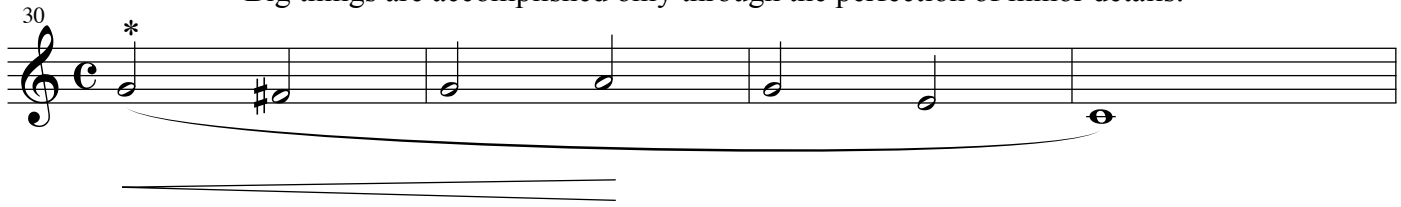
Failing to Prepare is Preparing to Fail



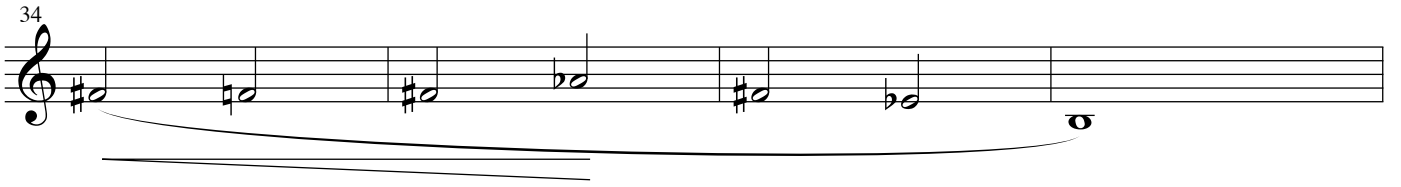
2004

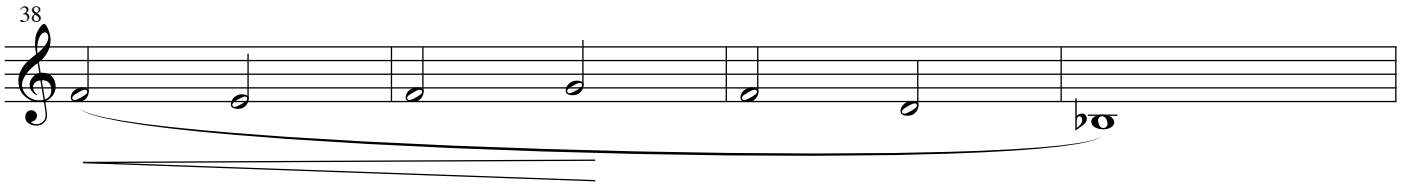
CICHOWICZ SLURS

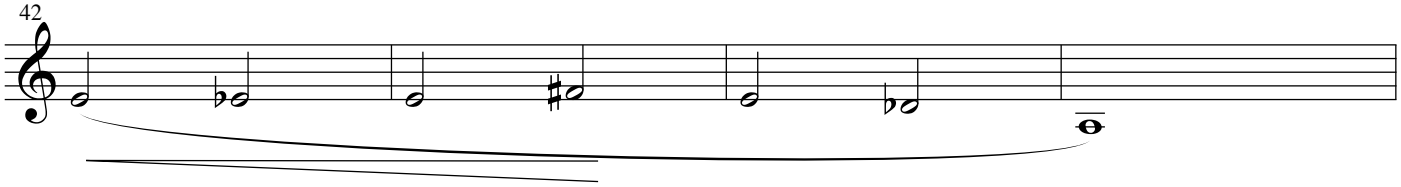
Big things are accomplished only through the perfection of minor details.

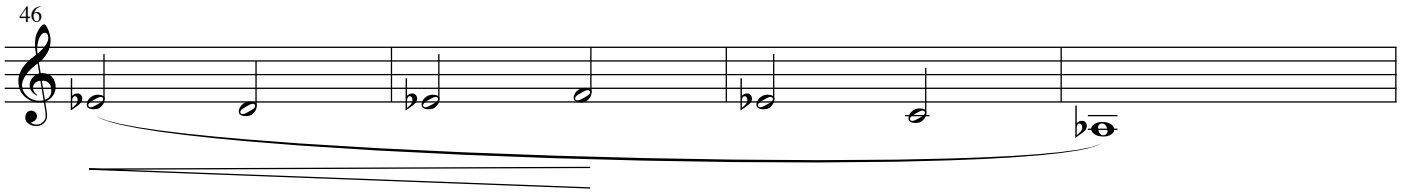


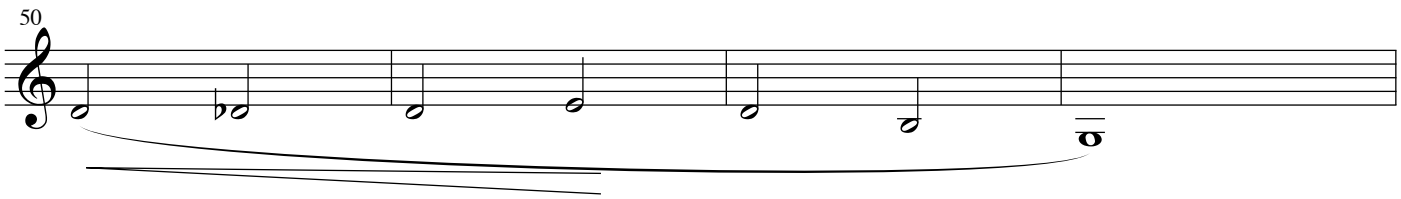
* On the first note of each slur, alternate between air attacks and articulations

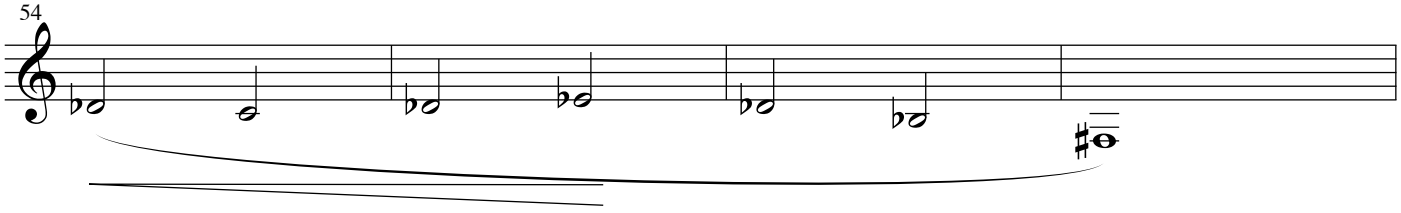




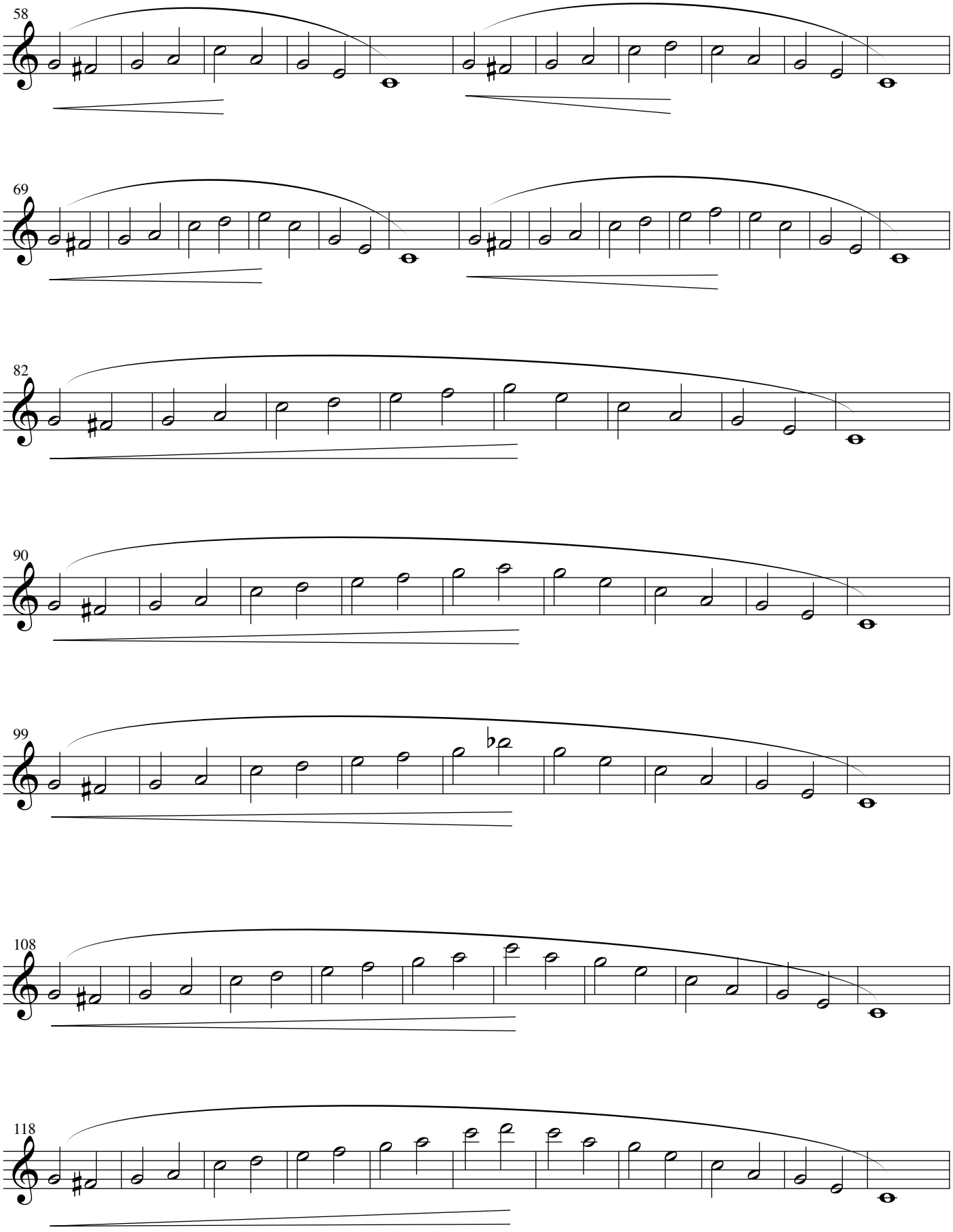






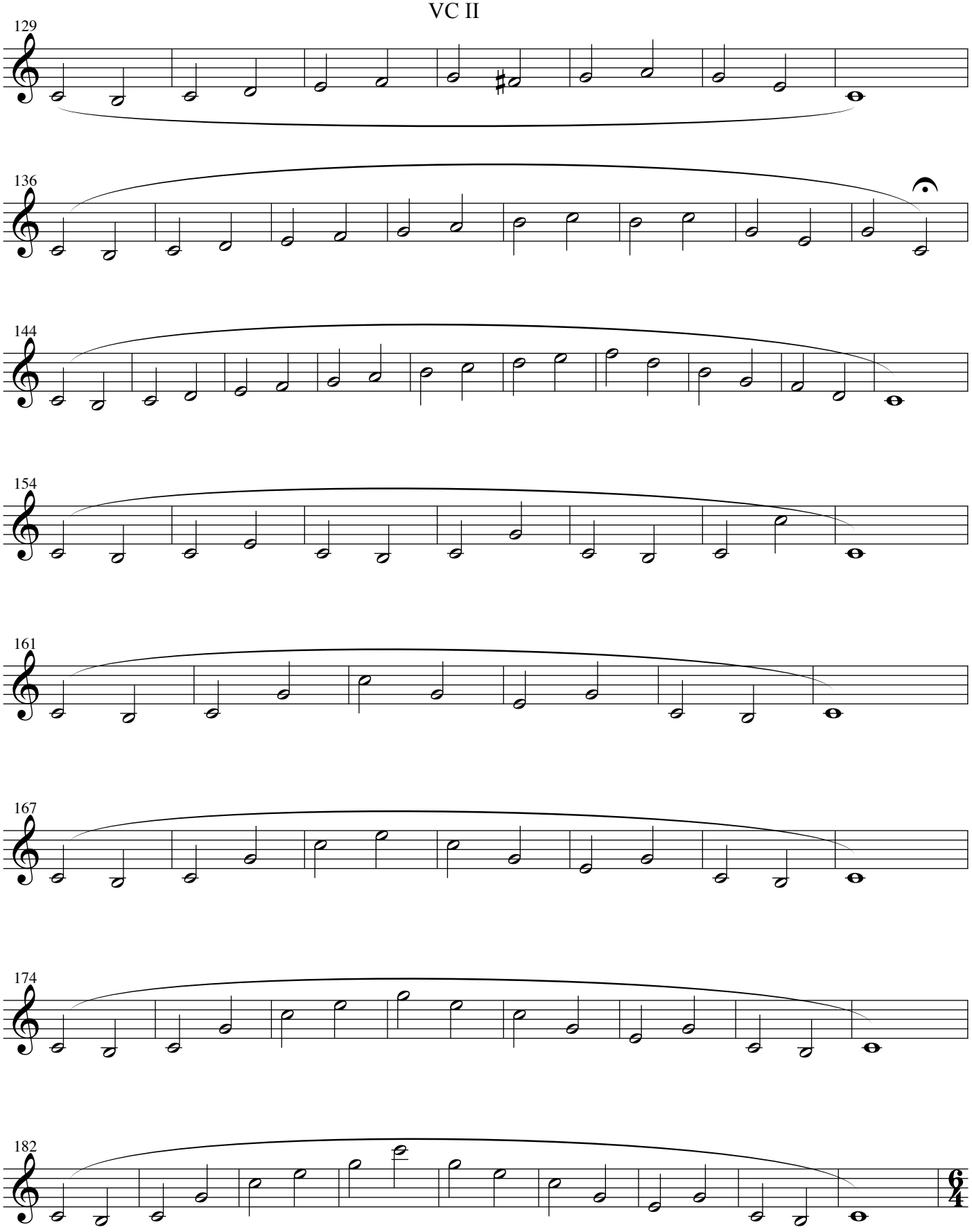


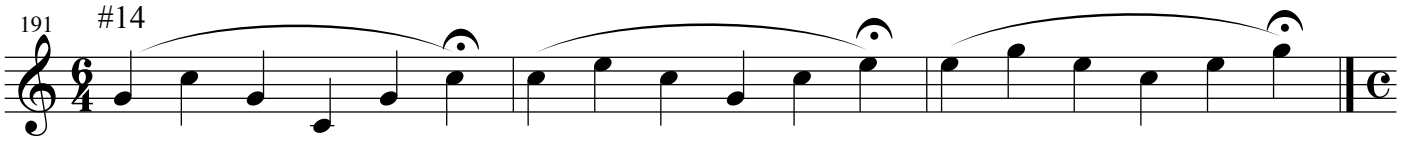
Music is written vertically, but played horizontally



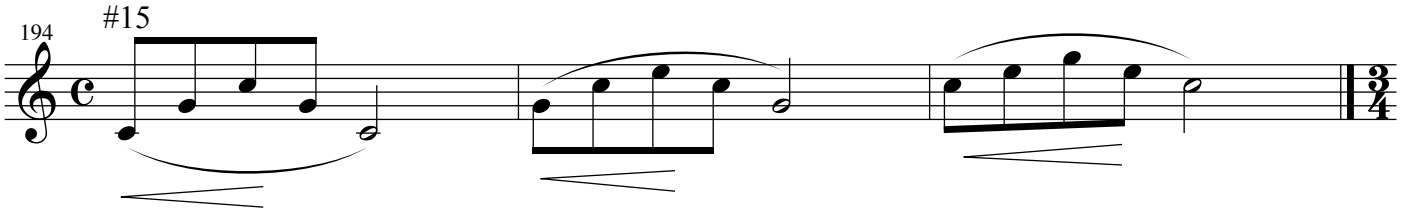
Don't let yesterday take up to much of today.

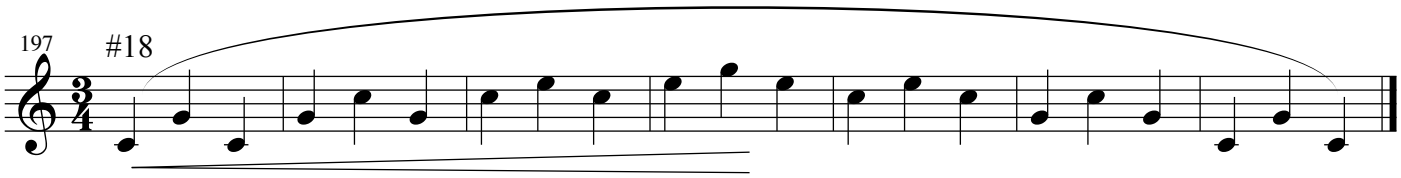
VC II

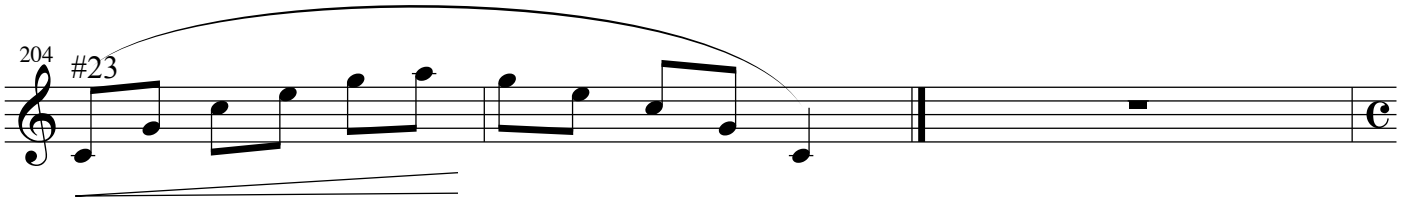


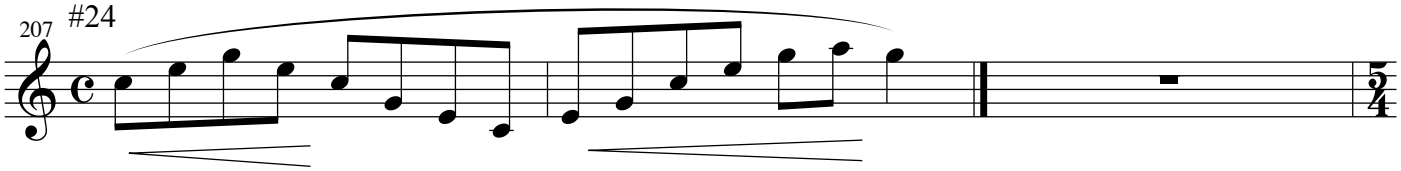


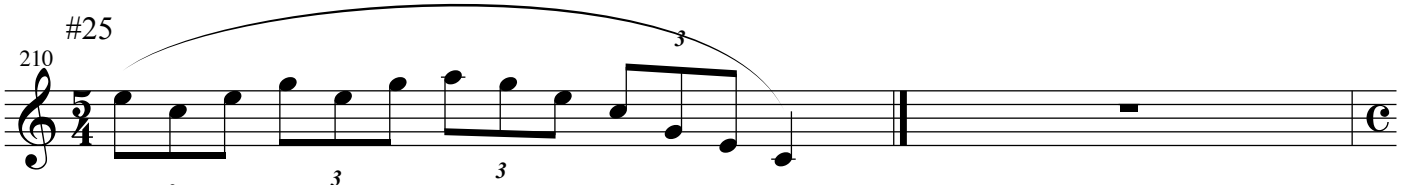
Tone is the result of air, not the result of articulation.

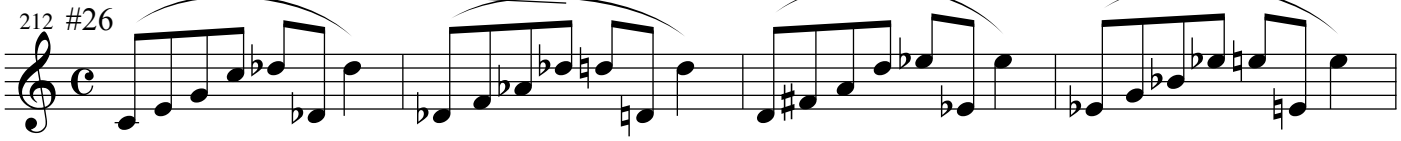


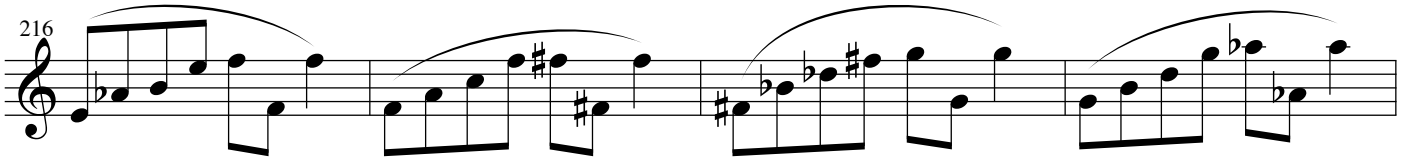


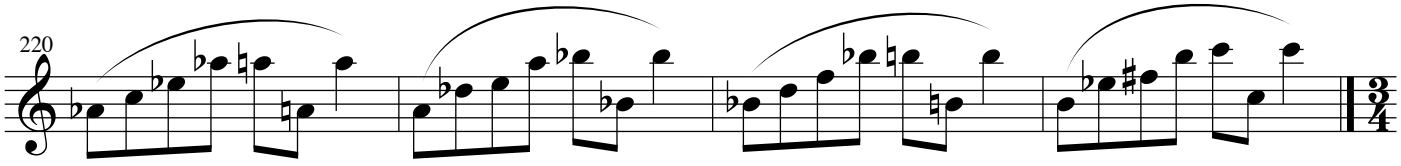


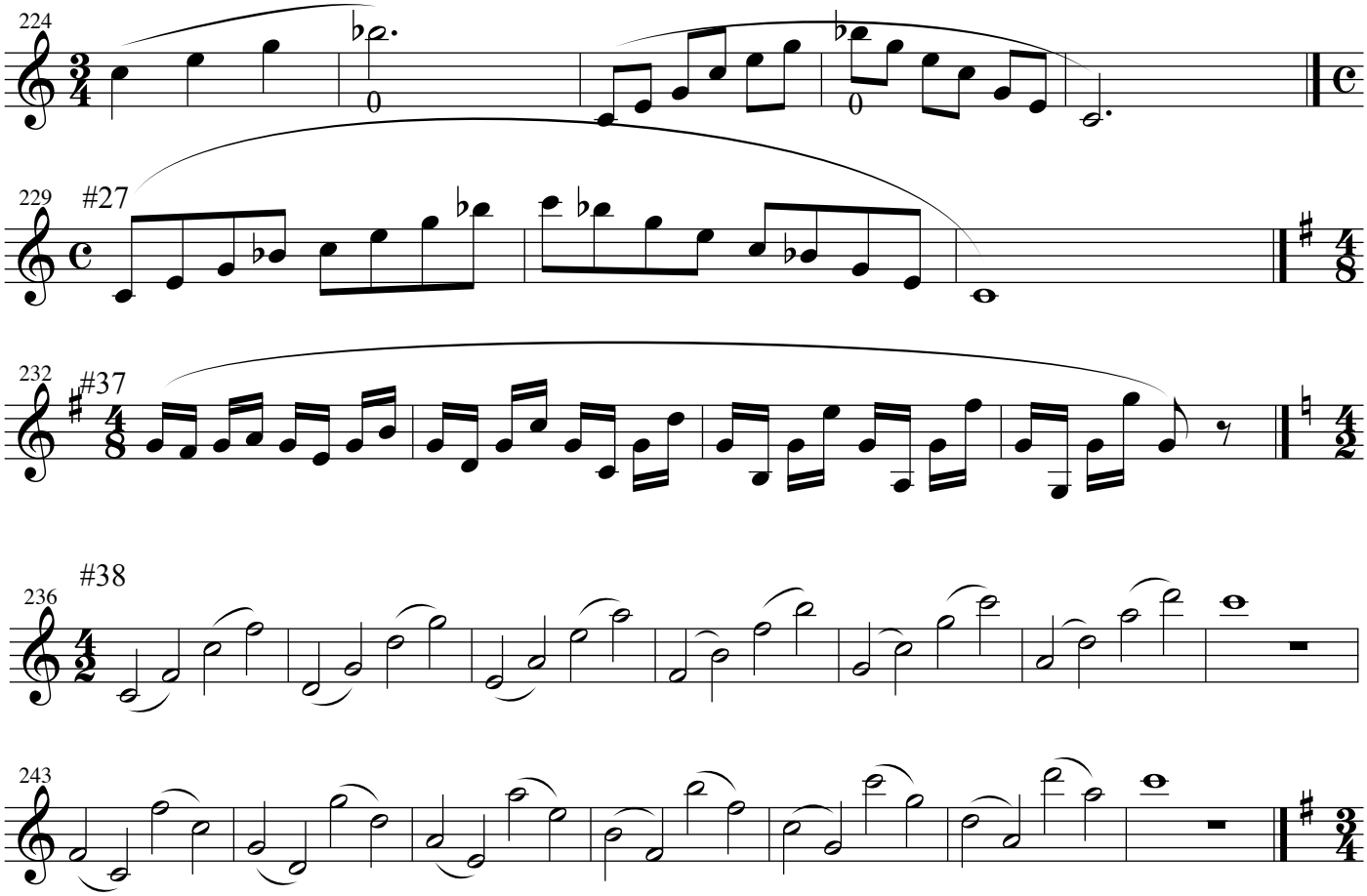




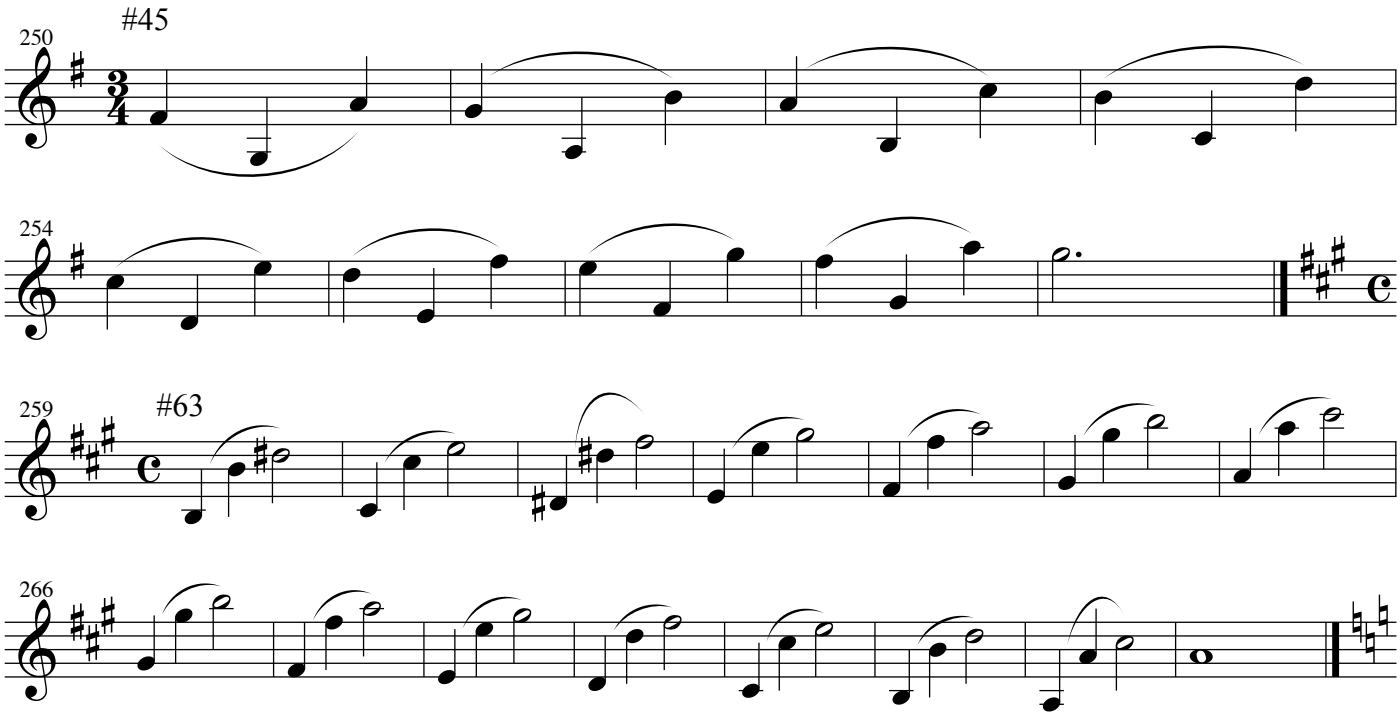








Play with song and wind, not song and air pressure.



SELECTED ARTICULATION STUDIES

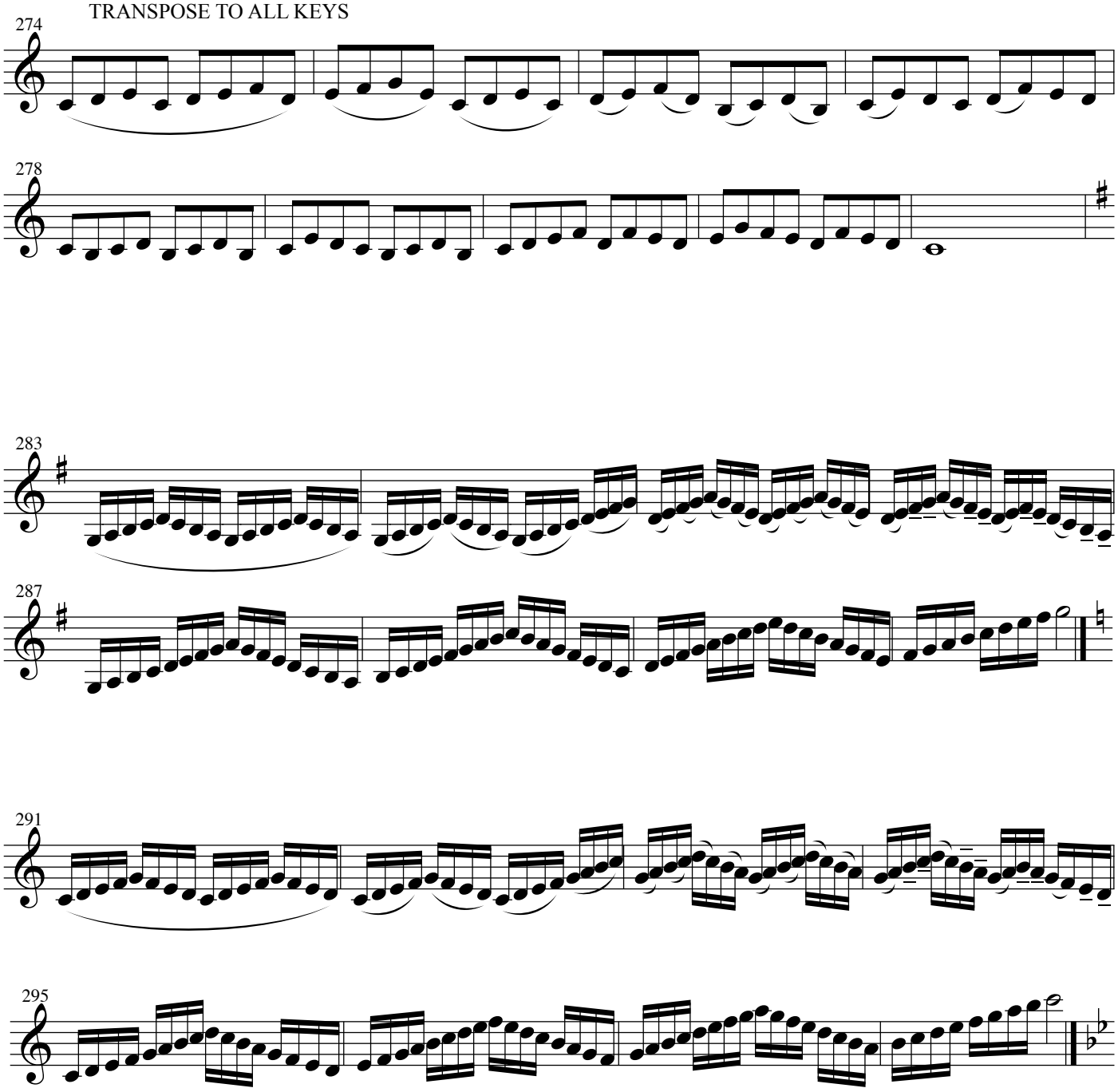
Tone is the result of air - not the result of articulation

Play 5 ways

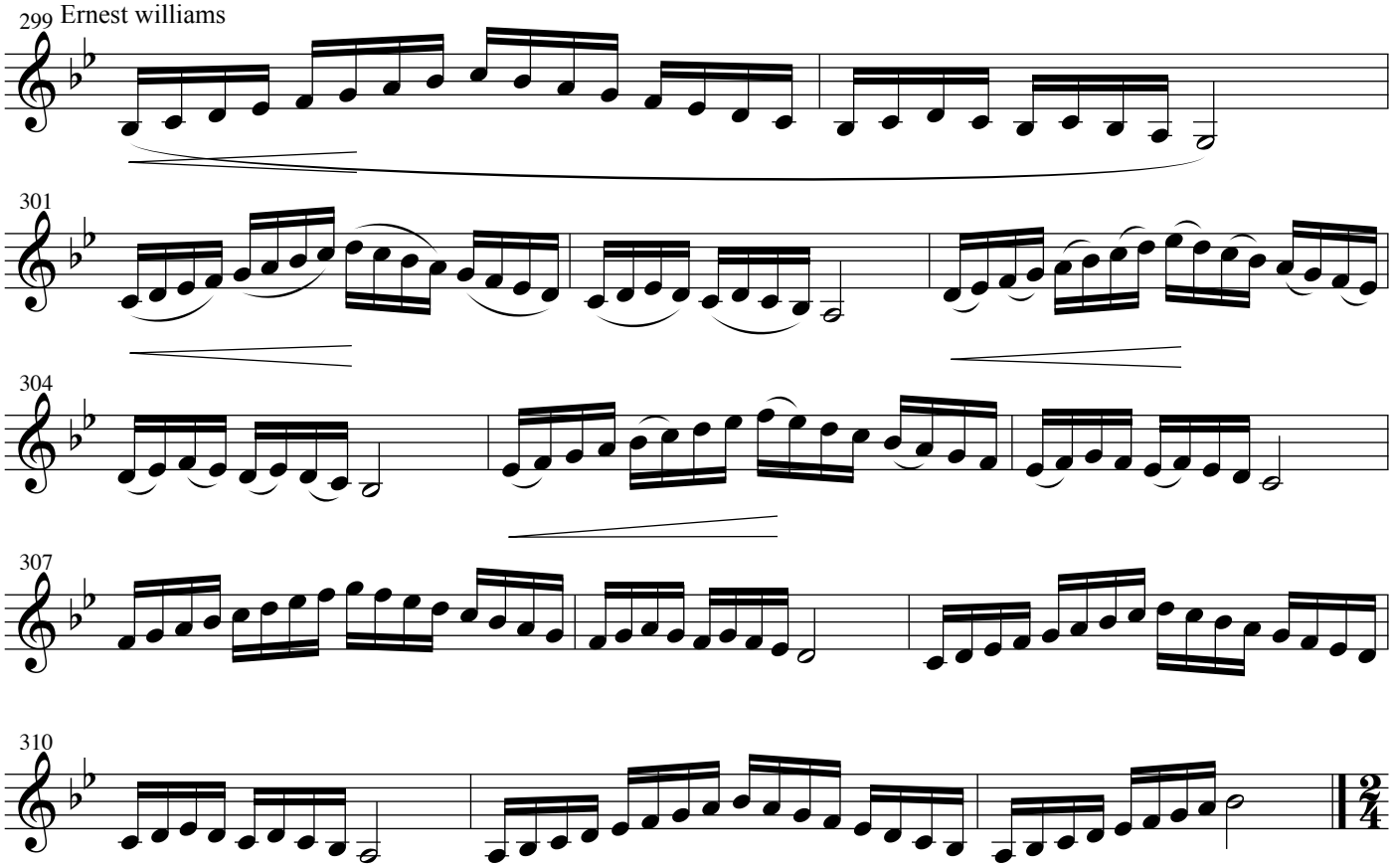
1. All slurred
2. Slur groups of 4
3. Slur groups of 2
4. Slur two, tongue two
5. All tongued

HL Clarke

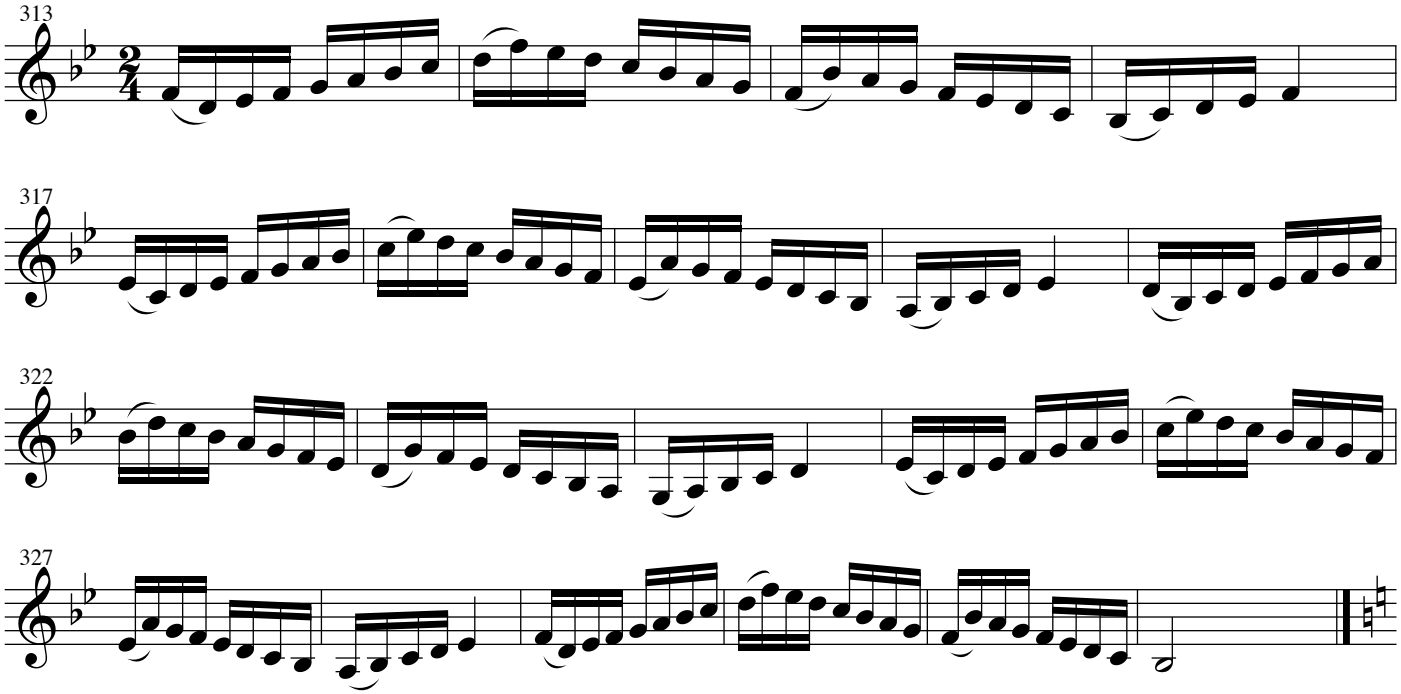
TRANSPOSE TO ALL KEYS



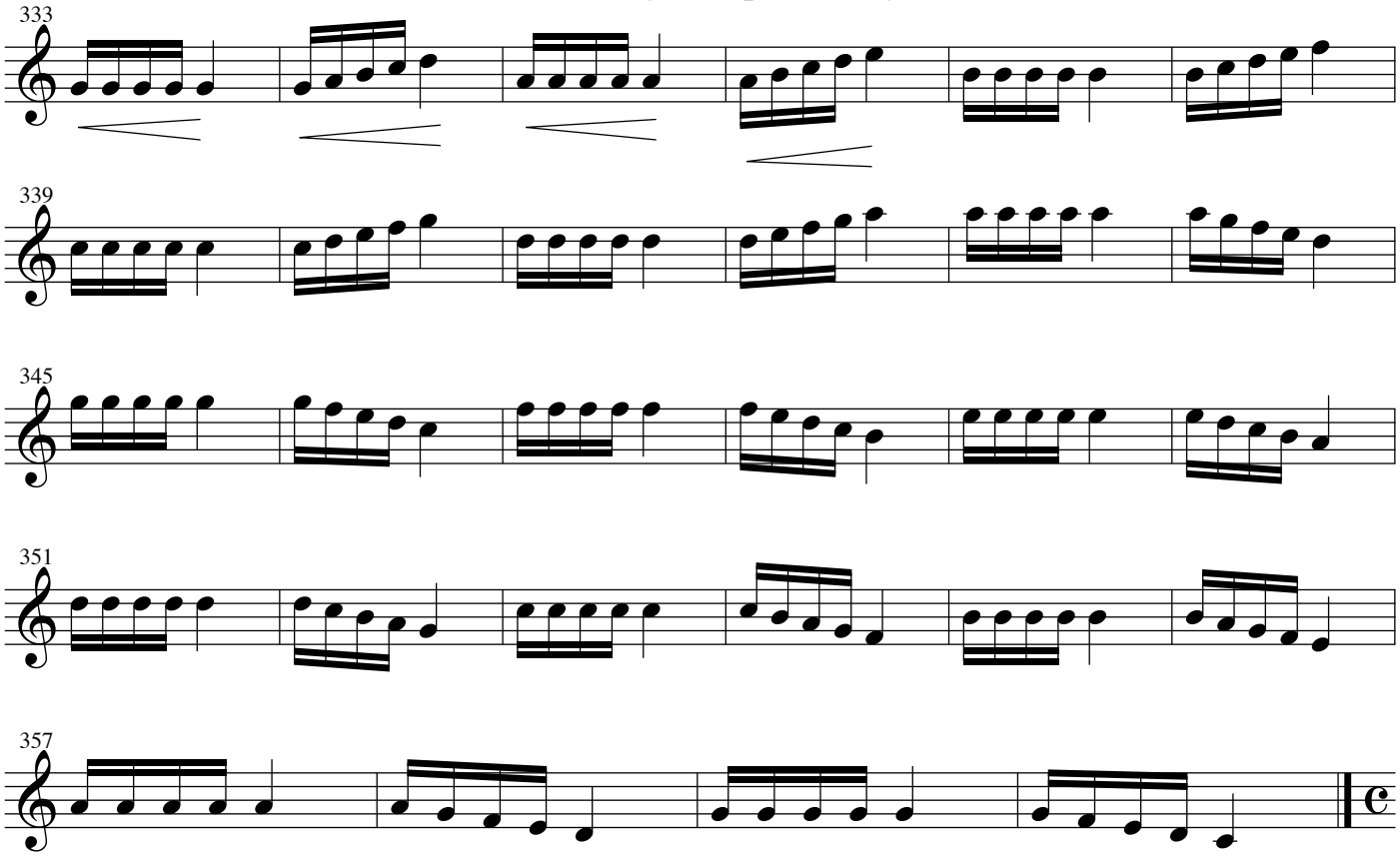
Always practice articulation with a metronome



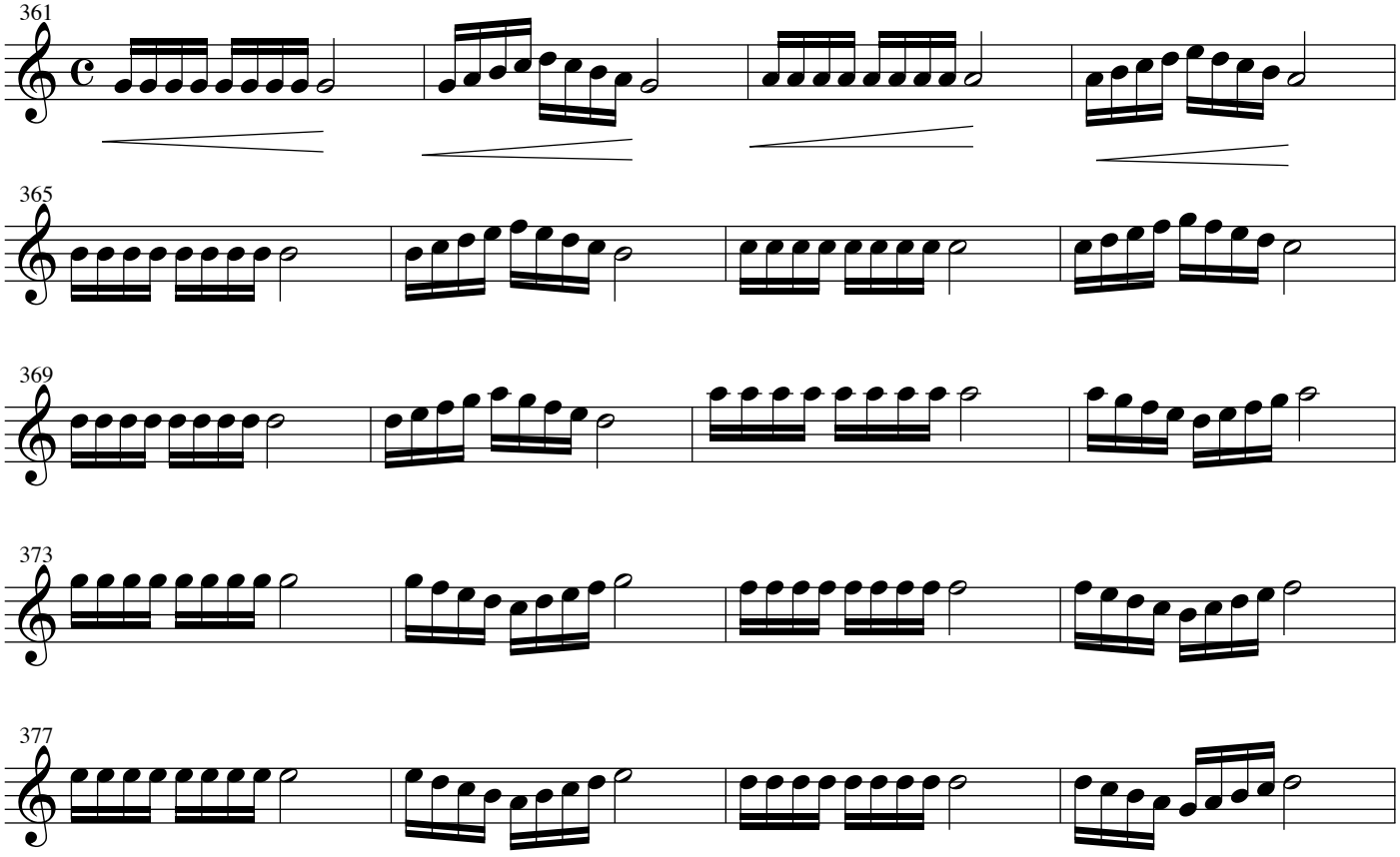
The psycohology of wind is very different from the psychology of pressure.
If you go by the psychology of pressure, you can have pressure with practically empty lungs.

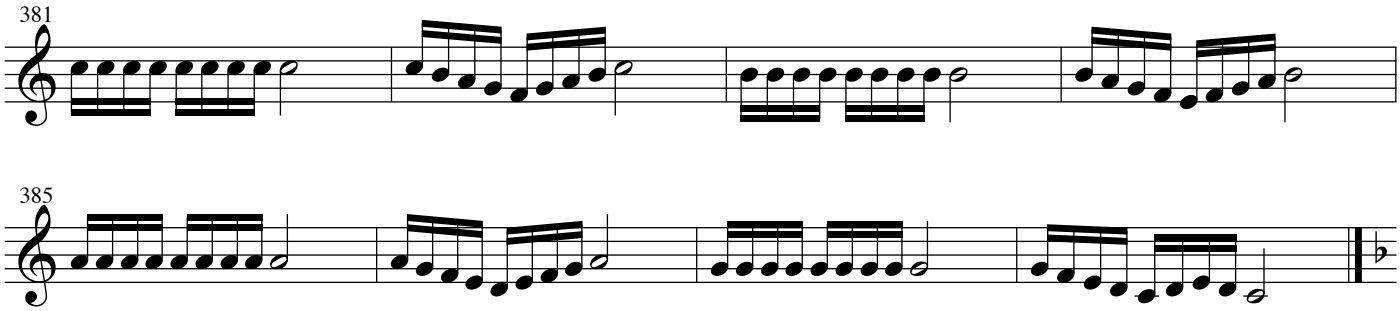


Send the air to your lips and beyond

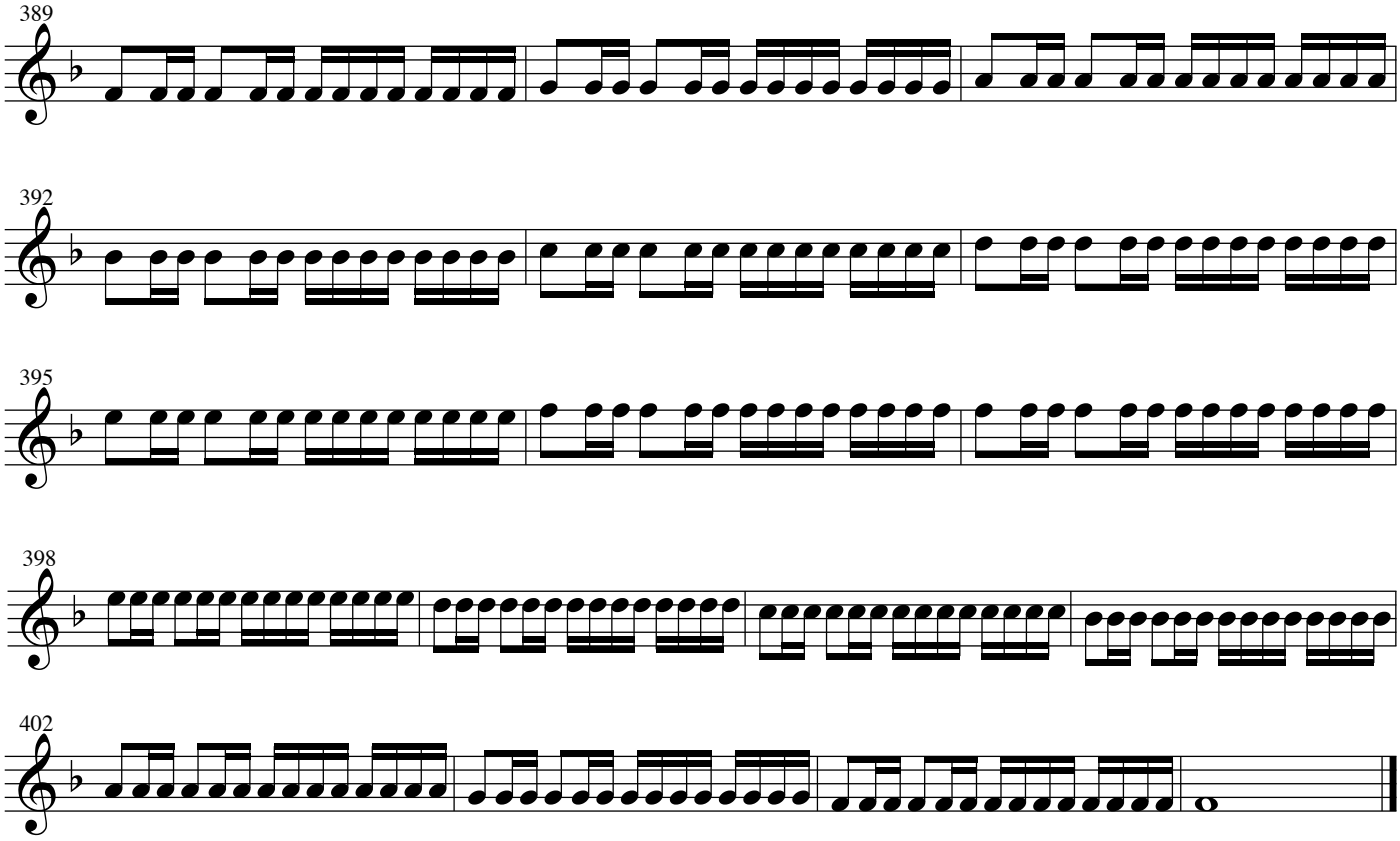


Do not lock your neck, keep head and shoulders free.

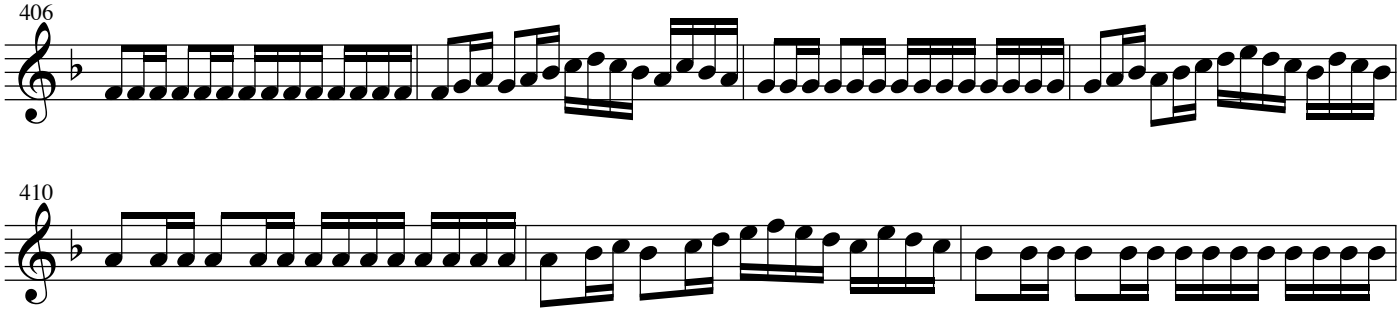


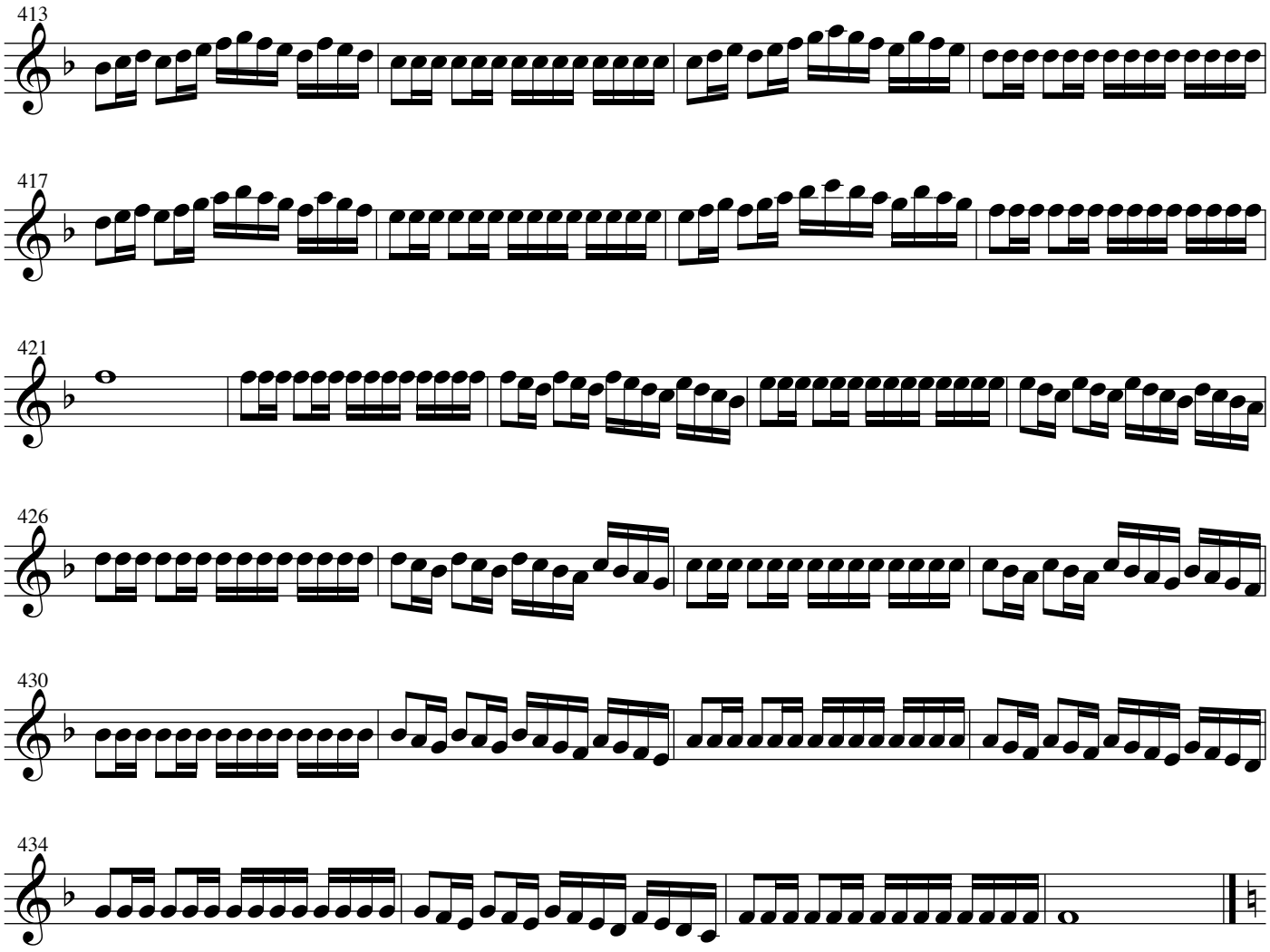


Although there is no progress without change, not all change is progress.

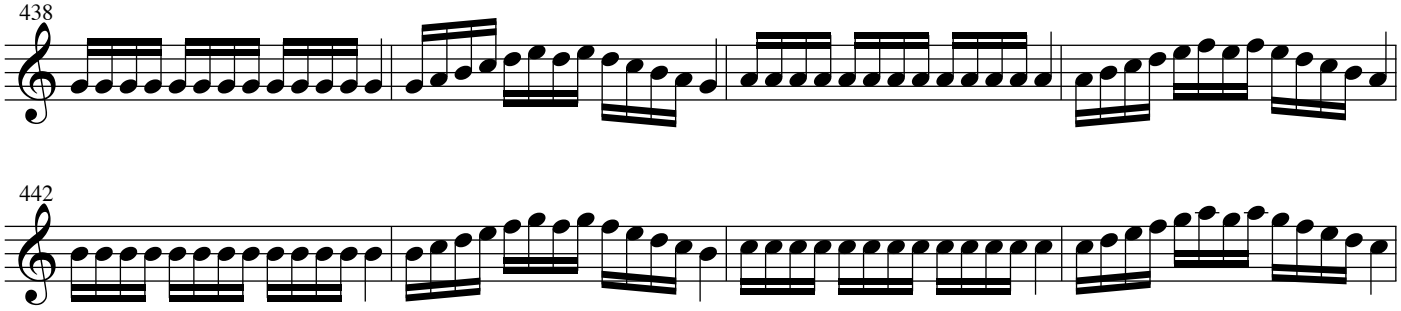


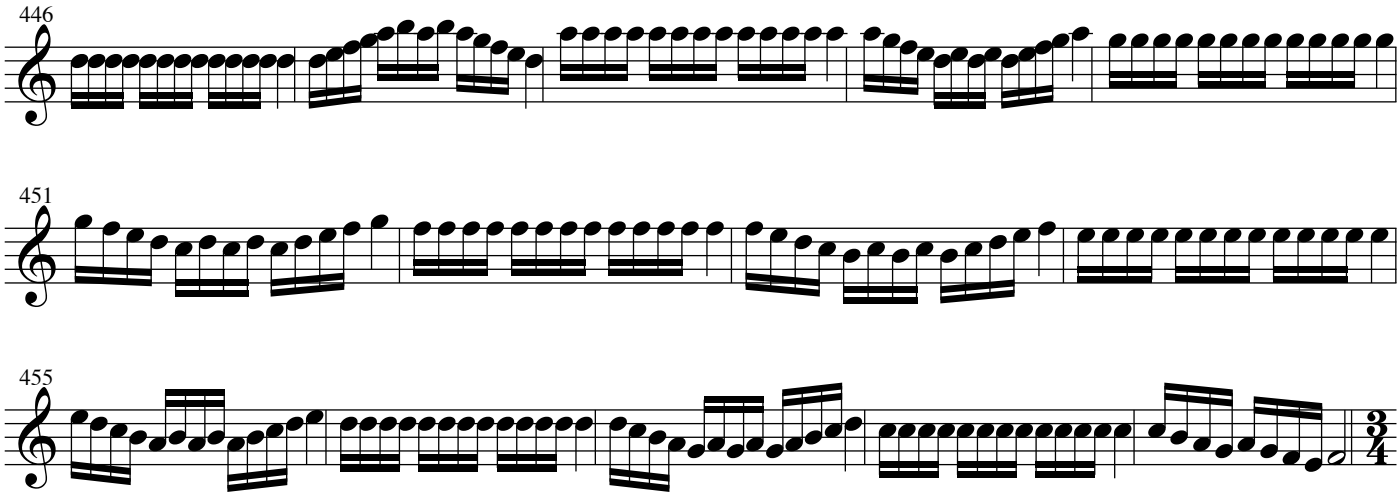
The tongue bounces on the constant flow of air,
like the arm of a rainbird sprinkler bounces on the
constant flow of water.



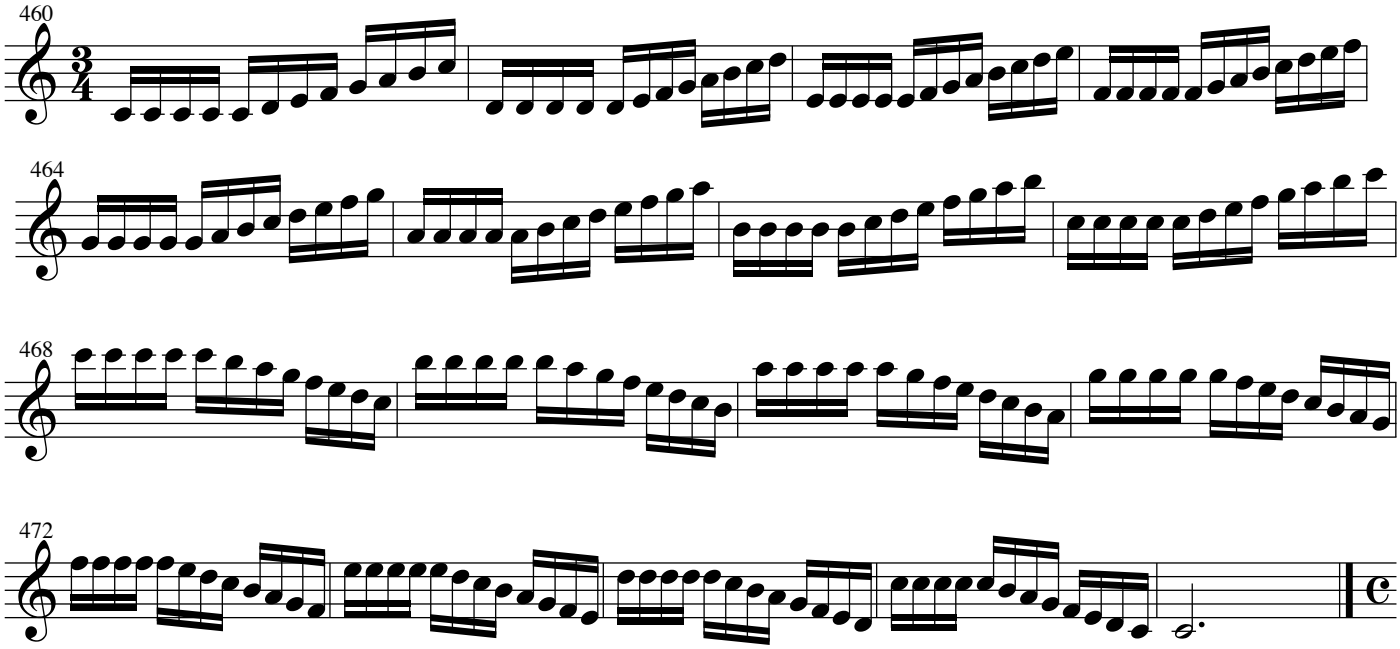


There is someone sitting in the shade today because
someone planted a tree a long time ago.

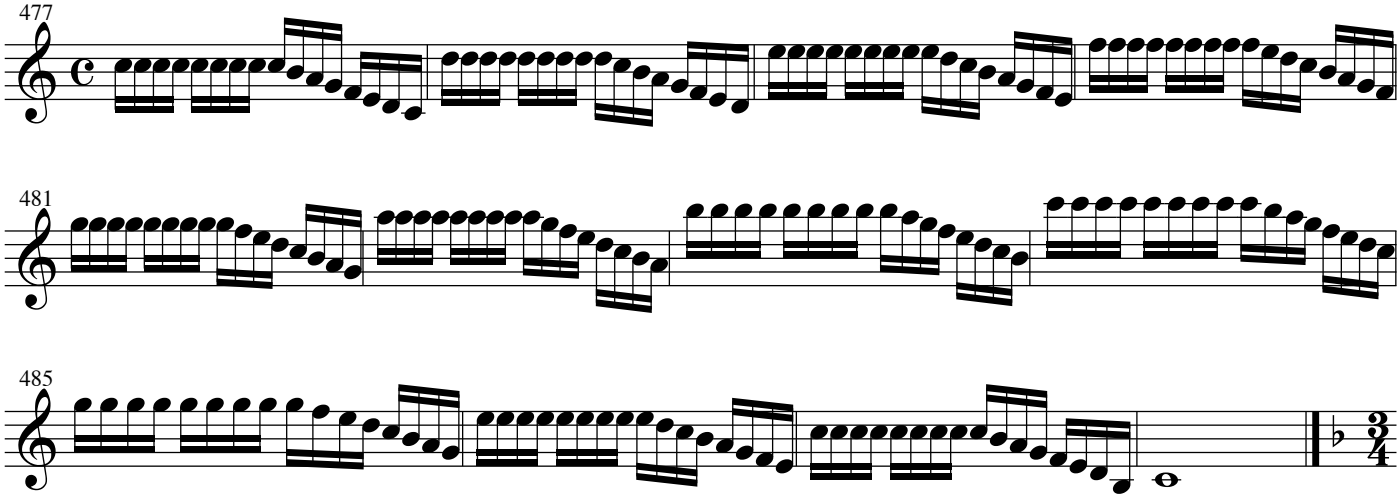




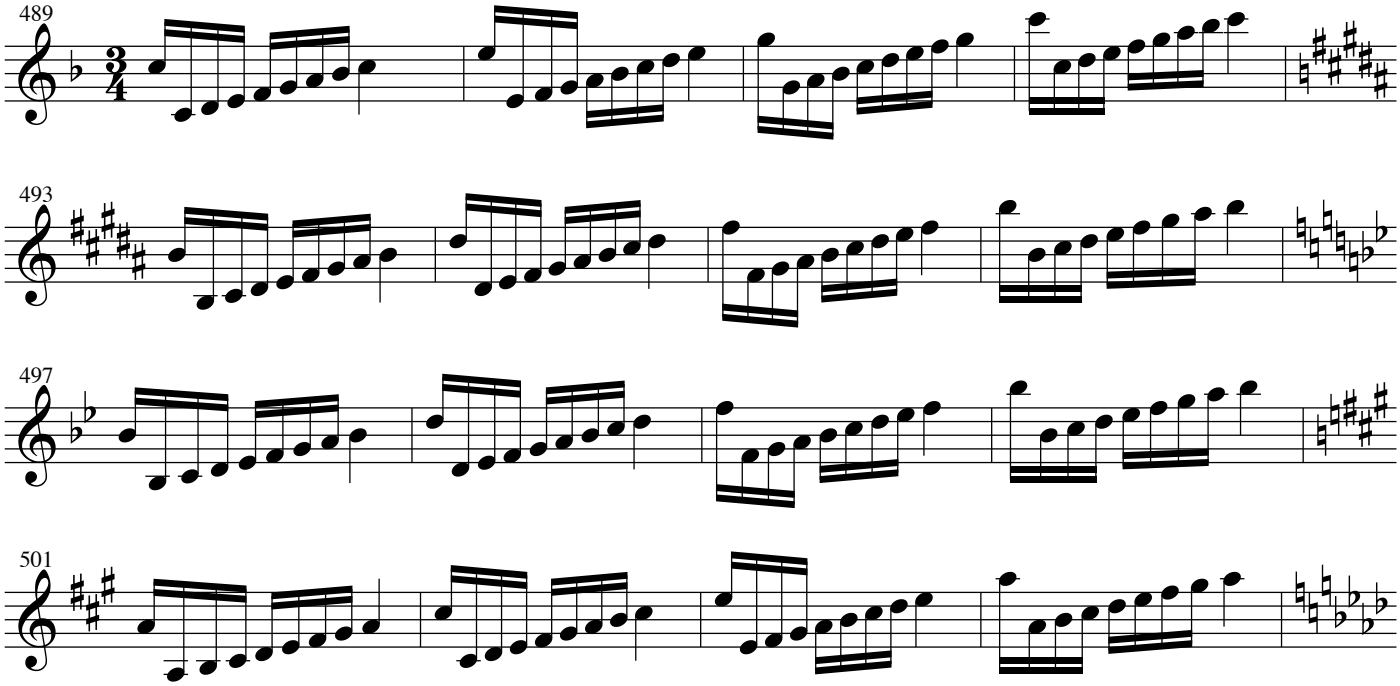
Have a plan for every note that you play. Create the plan while you practice. Plan your work, then work your plan.



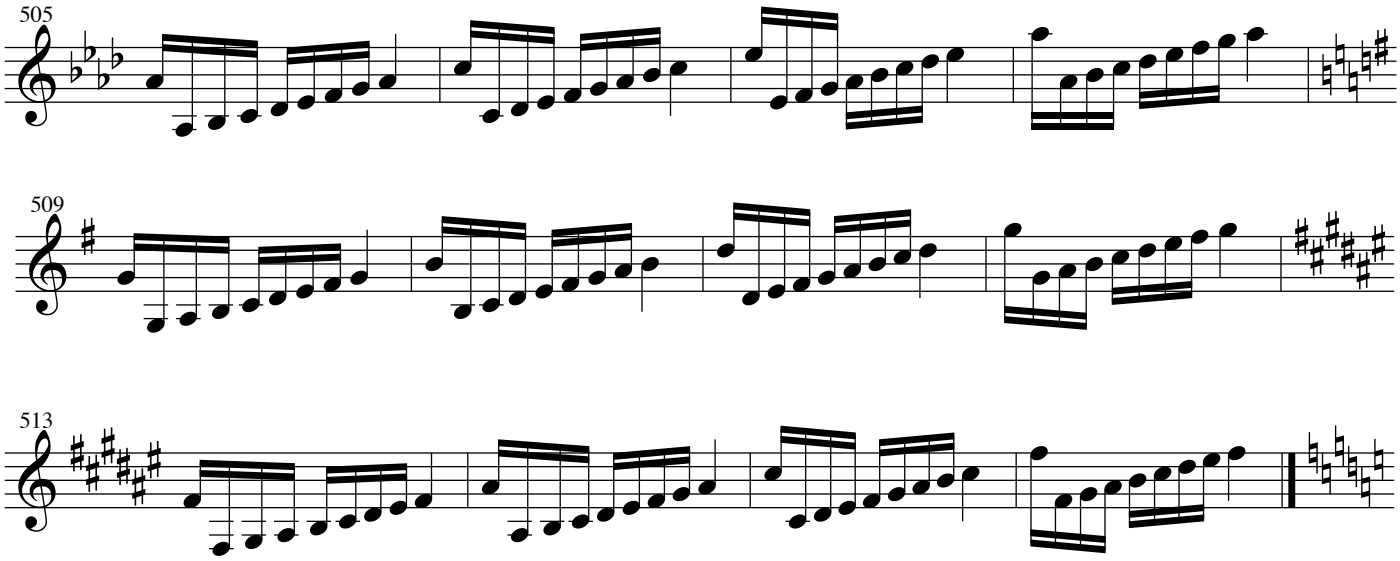
"If you're trying to achieve, there will be roadblocks. I've had them; everybody has had them. But obstacles don't have to stop you. If you run into a wall, don't turn around and give up. Figure out how to climb it, go through it or work around it." Michael Jordan



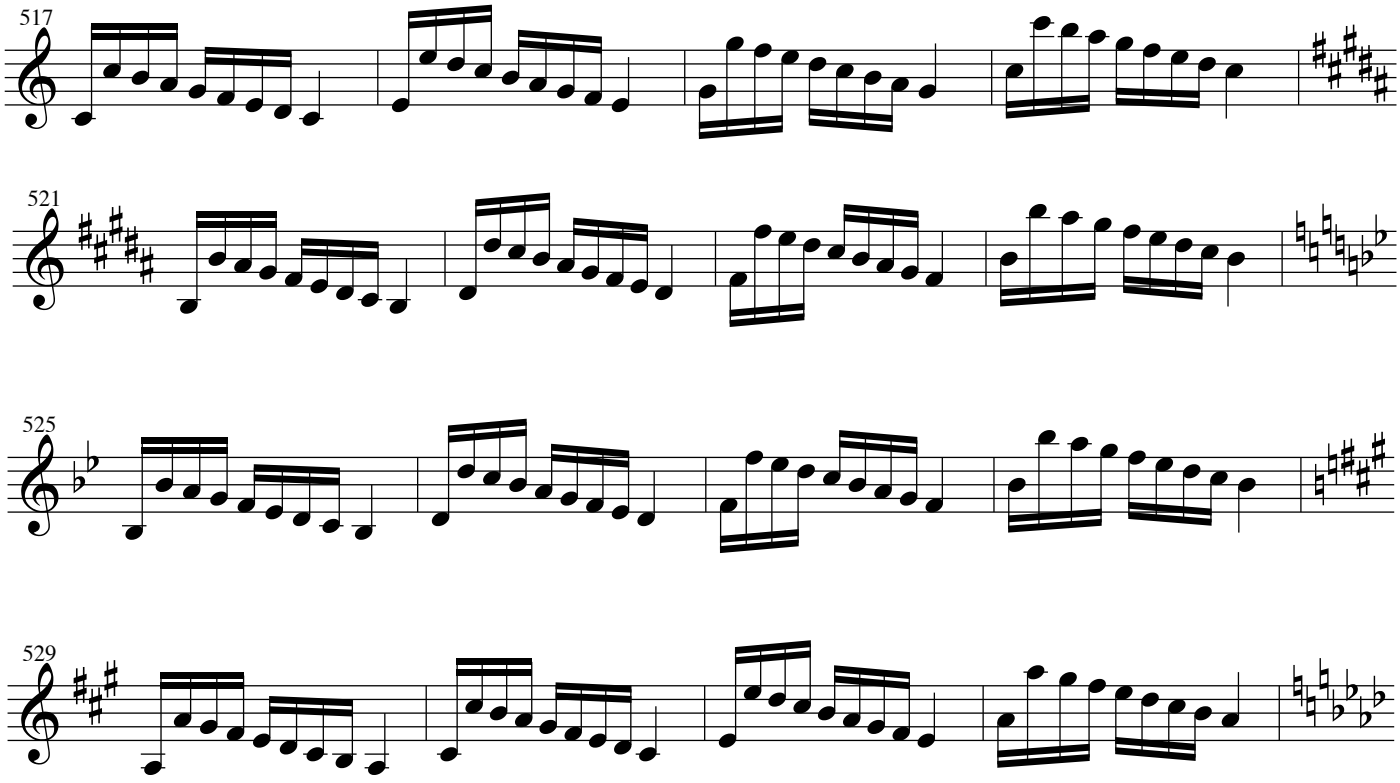
Only one person on earth knows if you made your best effort. Not your teacher, not the conductor, not your significant other, not you parents. The only person who knows is you. You can fool everyone else.

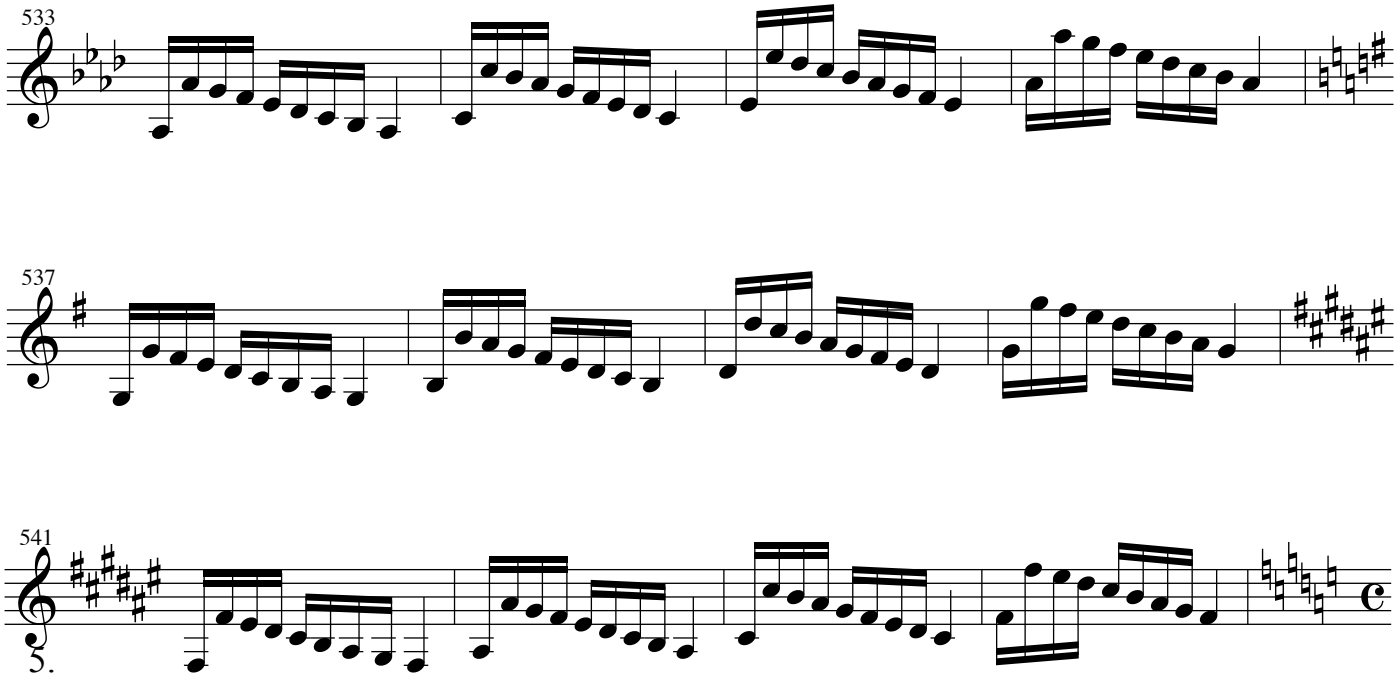


MOTIVATION GETS YOU STARTED
HABIT KEEPS YOU GOING
GOOD HABITS GIVE YOU PROGRESS



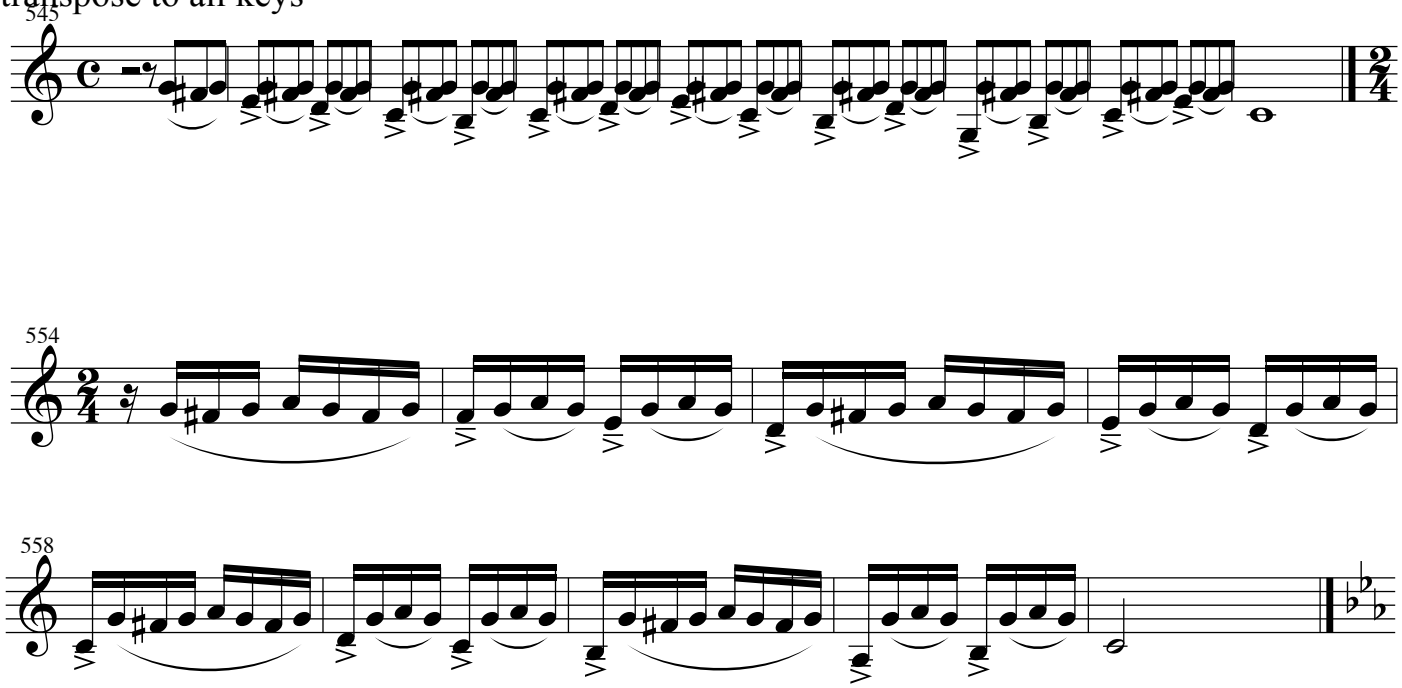
We are what we repeatedly do - Excellence is not an act but a habit.

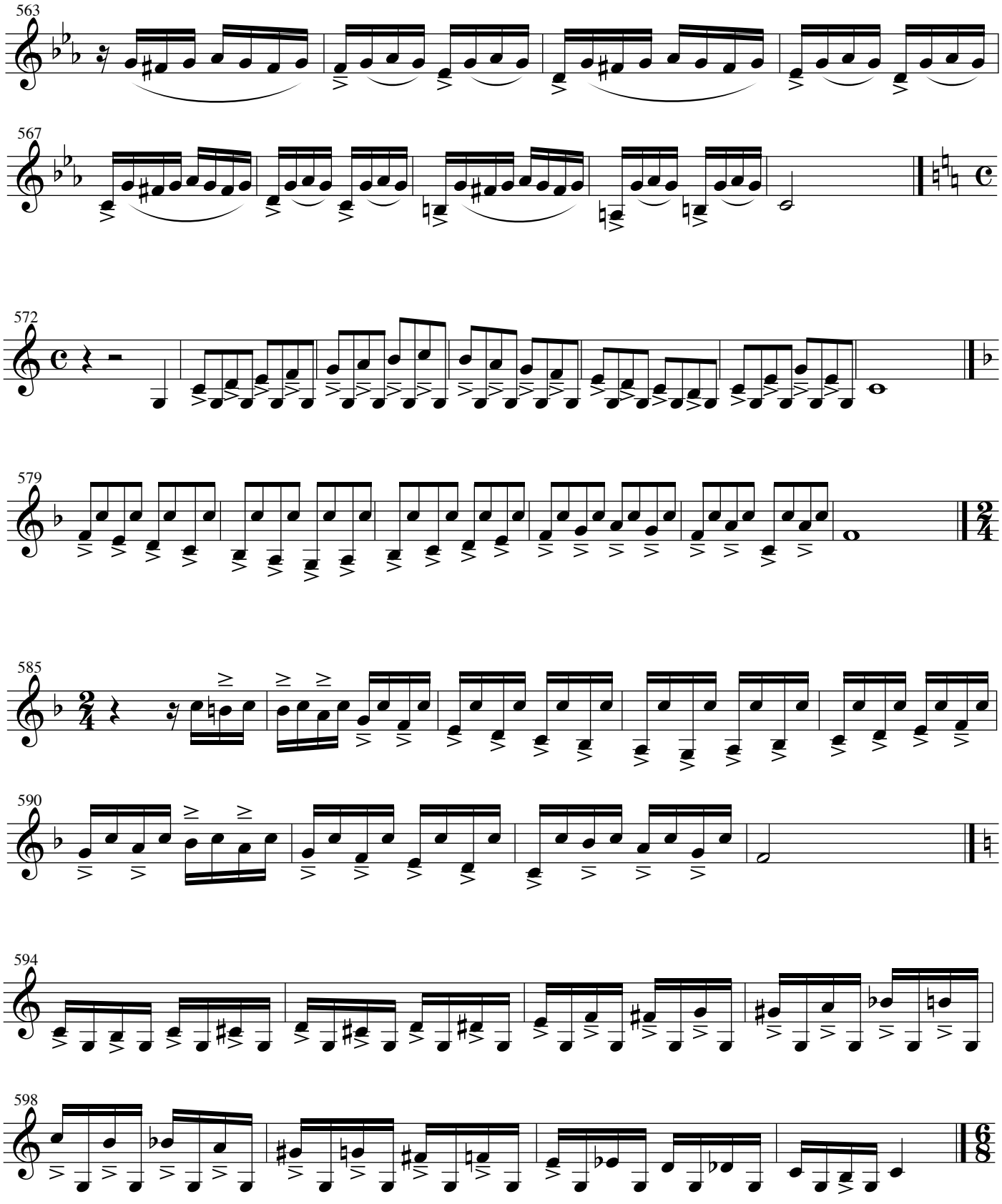




SELECTED ARBAN STUDIES

transpose to all keys

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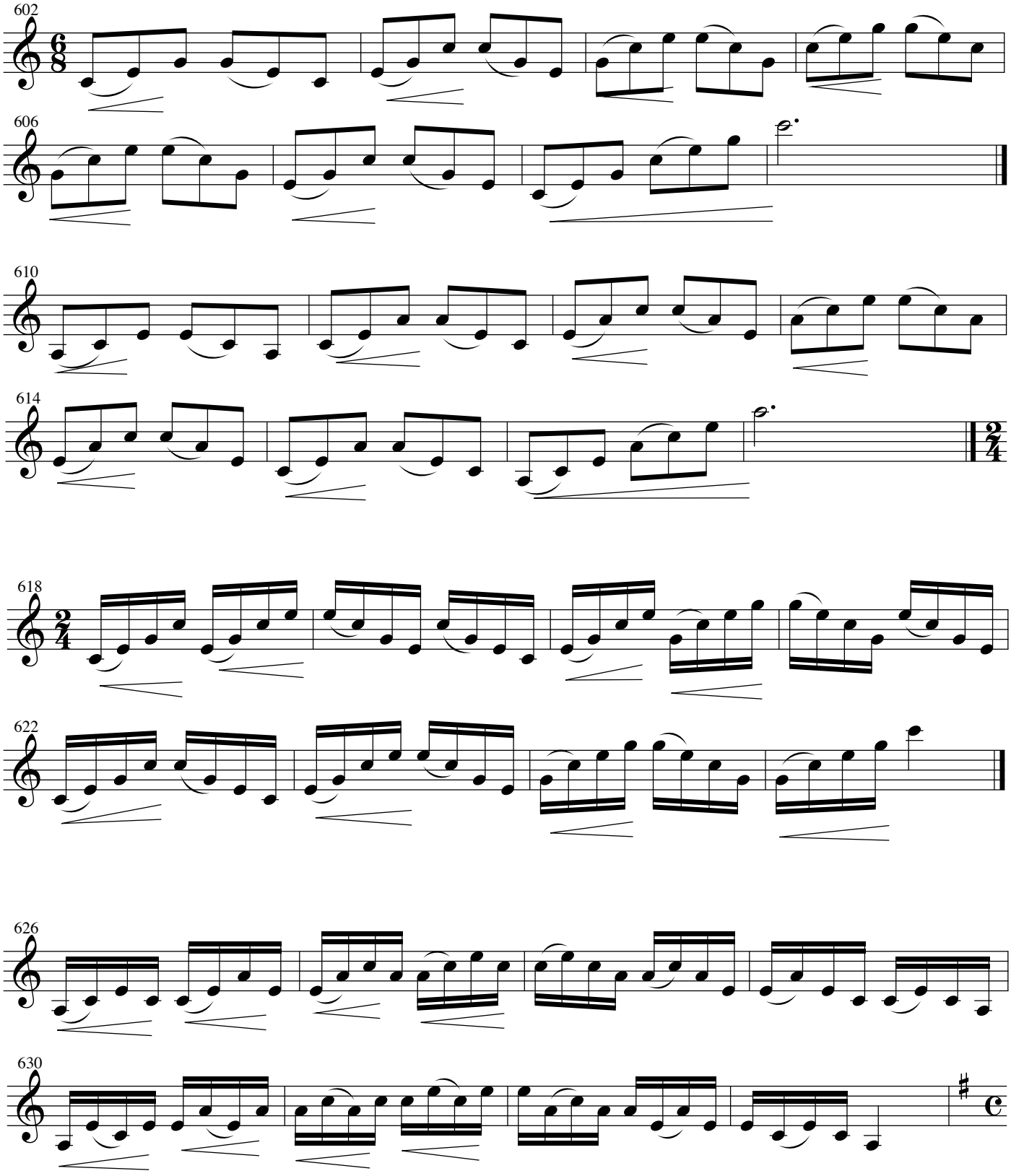
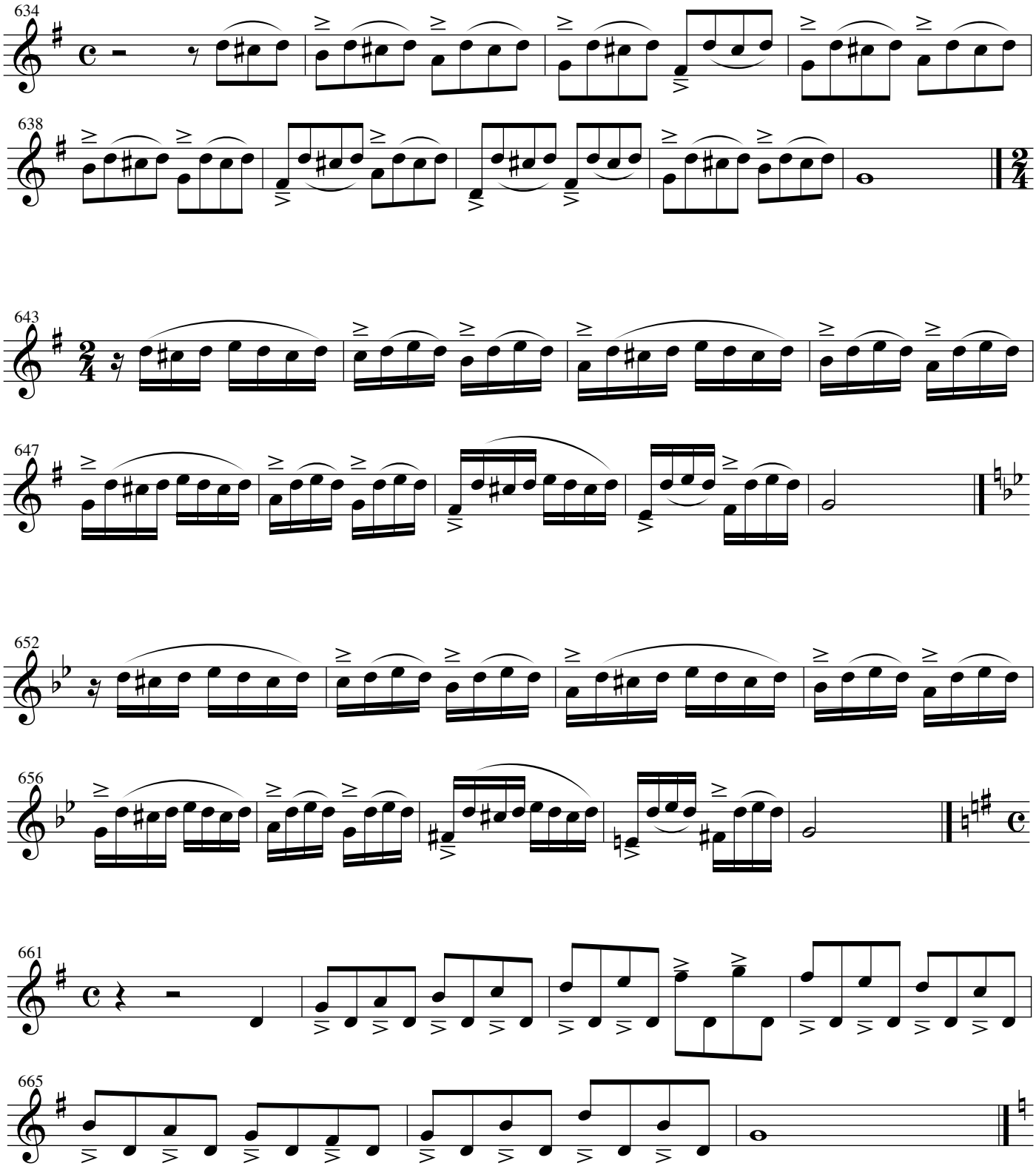
"One could make a quite accurate blanket statement by claiming that most music students do not play soft enough in pp nor loud enough for ff."
Philip Farkas

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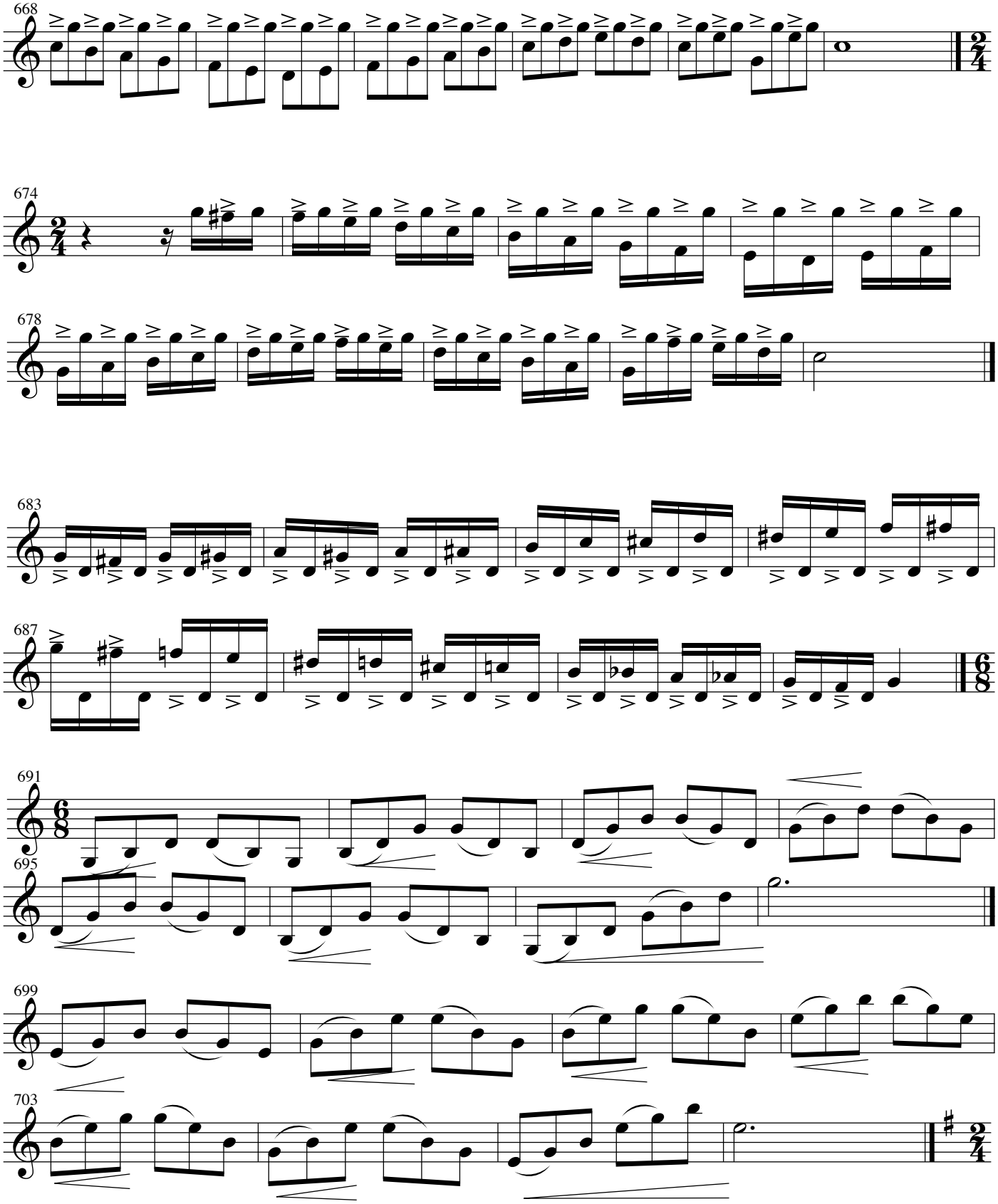
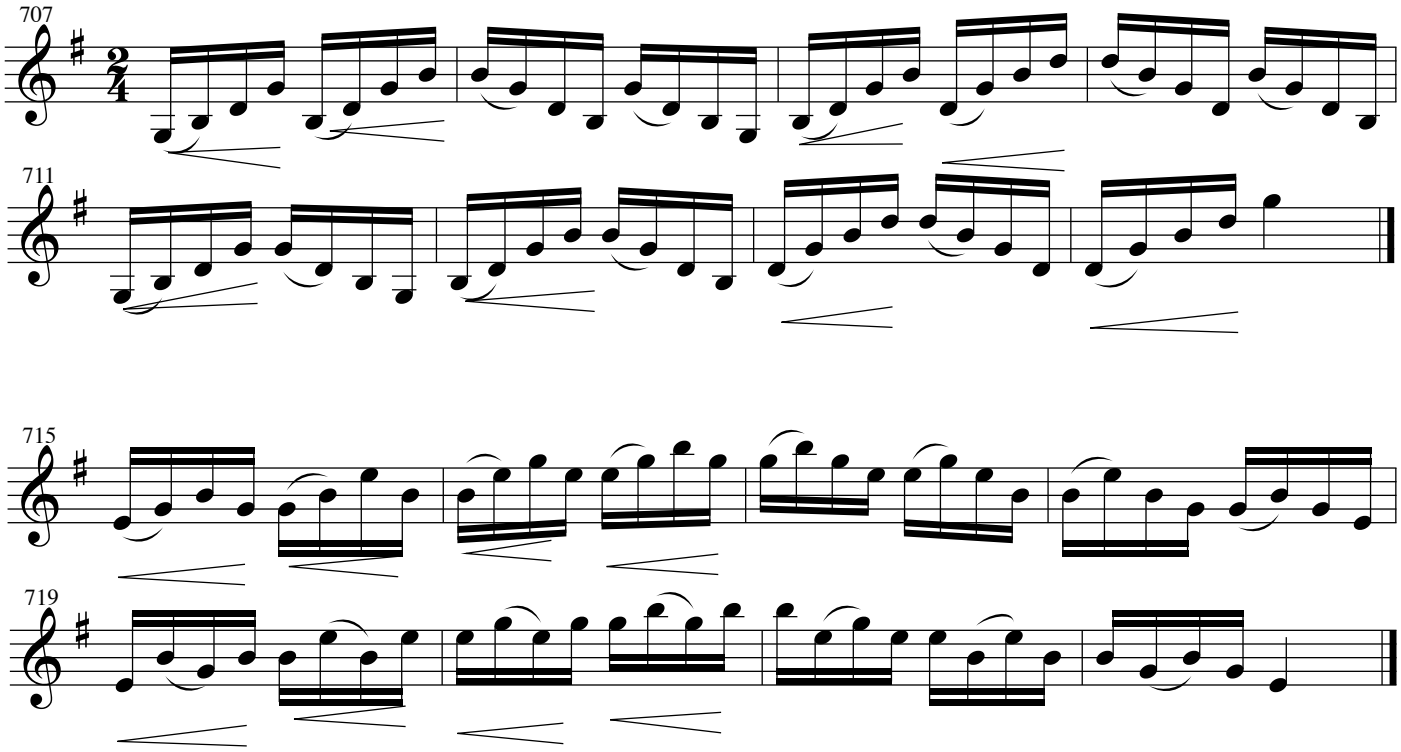
"Standards: A level of excellence that we consider our norm."
Mike Krzyzewski





"There'll be two buses leaving the hotel for the park tomorrow. The two o'clock bus will be for those of you who need a little extra work. The empty bus will leave at five o'clock."
-Dave Bristol, Brewers manager 1970