

LINEUP

MLB
Atlanta at Philadelphia
 7:05 p.m., CSN
Pittsburgh at Houston
 8:05 p.m., FSN
 Cincinnati at NY Mets
 7:10 p.m. ESPN
World Cup
 Germany vs. Spain
 2:30 p.m., ESPN

QUICK HITS

No charges in Vick party shooting

Police said Tuesday they know who was responsible for shooting another man following Michael Vick's birthday celebration, but the shooter will not be charged "at this time" because the victim has not cooperated with investigators.

The statement said because the shooter will not be charged, his identity will not be released.

The shooting took place about a block away from the club where a 30th birthday party for the Philadelphia Eagles' quarterback was ending. According to a spokesman for the nightclub, video surveillance cameras positioned in front of the club showed Vick climbing into a car and leaving about 4 minutes before the shooting.

James joins Twitter

With the Summer of LeBron trudging along with no break in sight, the NBA's most prized free agent opened a Twitter account and posted his first message on the social networking site. While he provided no information about his future plans, he offered something as the NBA awaits the decision on where he'll play next.

"Hello World, the Real King James is in the Building," said the tweet on the king-james feed, which by 9 p.m. EDT had more than 167,000 followers.

About the only major development was James' entrance into the social networking world.

However, Estabrook said there are no plans to announce James' decision on the Internet.

Torres needs to sit for better of team

While some of us are ready to blame Fernando Torres' World Cup struggles on his recently cut hair, the problem is much deeper.

The striker has looked lost since making a hasty return from April knee surgery and has yet to tally a goal in the World Cup.

Luckily for La Furia Roja, David Villa has filled in the scoring role and with Cesc Fabregas fit, the Spaniards should sit Torres for his own good.

Torres has battled injury all year, after initially going down in Liverpool's FA Cup loss to Liverpool, then shutting himself down for the end of the Reds' disappointing Premier League season.

As soon as Spain's World Cup run ends, Torres will be a wanted man, with Chelsea intent on stealing the 25-year-old striker away from Anfield.

With the prime of his career ahead of him, and plenty of international competition left in his future, Torres should heed advice and sit.

It's not like Spain is short on talent, proven by the fact David Silva has barely been able to get on the pitch.

TRIVIA

Q: Who is Germany's all-time leading goal scorer in international competition?
Tuesday's answer: Uruguay last made a World Cup Semi-Final in 1970.

Spikes walk-off in tenth

By Jake Kaplan
 COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

When Gift Ngoepe stepped to the plate in the bottom of the tenth inning, neither the State College Spikes nor the Hudson Valley Renegades had scored since the fifth.

That was about to change.

With the bases loaded and just one out, Ngoepe took the first two pitches for balls. On the third pitch of the at-bat, however, he took a pitch from Steve Hiscock and singled to right field, propelling the Spikes to a 5-4 extra-inning win against the Renegades Tuesday night.

The Spikes (11-8) bench cleared after right fielder Justin Bencsko crossed home plate for the winning run, and mobbed Ngoepe near first base to congratulate him on the walk-off single.

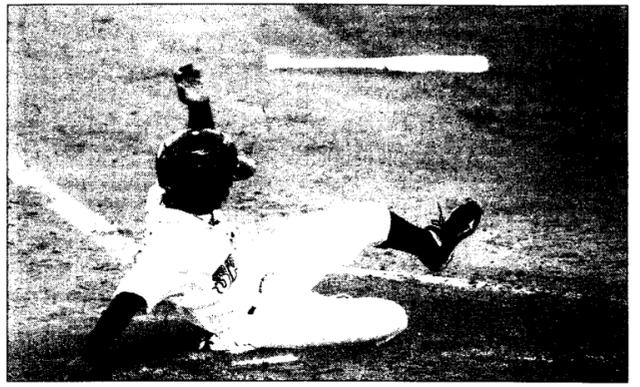
"It's great," said third baseman Kelson Brown, who had a key at-bat in the tenth to move

Bencsko to third. "He needed it. He's been hitting the ball hard all over the place and it just hasn't been able to fall. The fact that he was up with the game on the line and he got a hit, I feel good for him."

Bencsko led off the tenth inning with a double to left-center field before Brown advanced him to third, fisting an 0-2 inside pitch to first base. The Renegades intentionally walked Matt Skirving and Kyle Saukko to load the bases for Ngoepe with one out. Hudson Valley (7-11) moved its left fielder, Dio Luis, to play directly in the middle of the infield as a sixth infielder.

"I've seen it three times in my entire life, all levels of baseball." State College manager Gary Robinson said of the Renegades' six-infielder tactic, adding this was the first time he hasn't seen it work. "It's a real gutsy play because you have a lot of ground to cover and we only have to score one run."

The Spikes struck first in the game when left fielder Adalberto Santos double to right to score the shortstop Ngoepe in the first inning. Designated hitter Chase



Gift Ngoepe slides into home earlier this season. Ngoepe had the winning hit for State College Tuesday night against Hudson Valley.

Lyles hit a ball over Chris Winders' head in center field, and hustled around the bags for an RBI triple to make it 2-0 State College after one frame.

Quinton Miller, a 20-year-old starting pitcher for the West Virginia Power making a rehab start for the Spikes, gave one run right back when Nick Schwaner hit a solo home run to lead off the second. The Renegades got three

more runs of Miller in the third before he was pulled in favor of Kevin Decker.

The scoreboard showed zeros for innings six through nine until Ngoepe's heroics in the tenth.

The Spikes are off today before they hit the road to take on the Brooklyn Cyclones for a three-game series starting Thursday.

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Kelson Brown (left) celebrates a run with a teammate on Sunday.

Pitcher Miller shaky in rehab

By Jake Kaplan
 COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

It looked as if Quinton Miller would have no trouble handling the Hudson Valley Renegades after the first inning, retiring the side in order on nine pitches.

However, the second and third innings were not as kind to the 20-year-old right-handed pitcher, who was making a rehab start for the State College Spikes. The 2008 Pittsburgh Pirates 20th-round pick gave up four runs on four hits in 2.2 innings of work. In those two innings, he threw 35 pitches to 11 batters, and gave up a lead-off solo home run over the right field wall to Renegades designated hitter Nick Schwaner in the second.

Miller, listed at 6-foot-1 and 185-pounds, gave up three of his runs in the third on three hits. After he hit Hudson Valley right fielder Brit Reynolds with a 91 mph fastball on the sixth pitch of his at-bat, State College man-

er Gary Robinson pulled Miller.

Though the results weren't perfect, Miller said he felt good and didn't have any problems with his injured right shoulder.

"I thought overall it went well considering it was a rehab start," Miller said. "It's obviously frustrating to not have the results you want but coming out of it I felt the ball was coming out good. Arm felt great, didn't have any problems so overall I thought it was a good outing."

This wasn't Miller's first time pitching for the Spikes, however, as he started two games last season before he was promoted to the West Virginia Power, a Pirates' Class A affiliate.

"He hasn't pitched in front of the lights in forever," Robinson said of Miller's performance Tuesday night. "I'm sure he was a little bit jacked up, pumped up and that will cause your fastball to get up on you a bit, but I thought he threw the ball very well."

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Decker ties Spikes' record as reliever

By Zach Fleagle
 COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

After relieving starter Quinton Miller with two outs in the third inning, Kevin Decker shook off an early wild pitch to steady the State College Spikes for his next five innings of work.

Decker's 5.1 scoreless innings against the Hudson Valley Renegades tied a 2007 Medlar Field at Lubrano Park record for most consecutive scoreless innings in relief.

Usually the fourth starter in the Spikes rotation, Decker was

called from the bullpen for the first time this season with the bases loaded. His wild pitch allowed Phil Wunderlich to score from third and both runners advanced from first and second as the Renegades took a 4-2 lead.

"I was still trying to get the feel of the mound," Decker said of the first few batters he faced. "You can have some good stuff in the bullpen but it doesn't necessarily translate into the game. I took a couple batters to get used to the mound, luckily one guy hit back at me to get out of there."

After the wild pitch, Renegades

third baseman Elias Otero chopped a hard ground ball right back to Decker who instinctively reached with his bare hand, preventing the ball from rolling to center field.

"It's just a reaction play," Decker said.

"You see it and after it happens you wish you wouldn't have done that, but if that ball would have gone into center field and they score two more runs it's a different ball game."

Decker said that the initial pain in his throwing hand concerned him at first and he thought it

might affect his throws, but noticed little difference as he headed back to the mound in the fourth.

Starting in the fourth inning, Decker re-established the pace of the game.

Not allowing a hit until the seventh, Decker finished by retiring 17 of 19 batters faced with only one walk and six strikeouts.

"Kevin needed this outing," said Robinson. "That was a very, very, huge gutsy performance for him."

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Wade has no answers for Heat, fans at rally

By Tim Reynolds
 ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

DAVIE, Fla. -- Dwyane Wade walked down the stairs, trying to keep a stoic expression as he approached the crush of 150 people chanting his name.

He failed miserably. "We want Wade!" "We want Wade!" "We want Wade!"

As soon as Wade heard those sounds and saw the group of Miami Heat employees waving signs and wearing jerseys bearing his name, he lifted his arms skyward and didn't even bother trying to contain his smile.

"I see I can't get rid of you all," Wade said.

They hope that's a permanent arrangement.

Still deliberating on whether to return to the Heat or sign with another team — his hometown Chicago Bulls seem to be front-runners if the 2006 NBA finals MVP decides to seek employment elsewhere — Wade offered no

insight Tuesday on the process, and declined to take any questions.

And just as he has countless times in the past weeks and months, Wade has given no indication that his caveat for the Heat has changed — if Miami upgrades its roster to his liking, Wade wants to stay in South Florida.

Wade took a quick break from his youth basketball camp Tuesday morning for an impromptu recruiting pitch, this time from four busloads of Heat employees who took the drive north to Nova Southeastern University with hopes of making his tougher-than-expected decision on where to spend the next six seasons a tiny bit easier.

Wade was going to participate in a media event as well, promoting a charity weekend he and Alonzo Mourning will host next week, but that plan was scrapped for a slew of reasons.

Consider how awkward that would have been: Mourning as a Heat executive involved in the recruiting of free agents, sitting alongside Wade, both of them insisting they wanted the sole



Dwyane Wade reacts to a fan rally outside his basketball camp Tuesday.

focus to be on the Summer Groove.

No chance of that happening.

Not now, not with Wade's decision keeping the Heat and a slew of other teams on edge.

Wade tried to make a joke nonetheless.

"I thought I dodged you all yesterday," Wade said, laughing.

"I appreciate it," Wade said.