

## LINEUP

**MLB**  
Pittsburgh vs Milwaukee  
7:05 p.m., FSN

**Soccer**  
Philadelphia vs Man. United  
7:30 p.m., ESPN2

## TRICK KICKS (AP)

### THE SCHEDULE

## Pinella to retire after this season

Chicago Cubs manager Lou Piniella announced Tuesday that he will retire at the end of the season, ending a storied and often colorful career that included 18 years in the majors as a player and another 22 as a manager. The 66-year-old Piniella said he was looking forward to spending more time with his family.

"I've grown to love the city and the fans but at my age it will be time to enter a new phase in my life," Piniella said in a statement released by the team.

Announcing his retirement now, Piniella added, gives the team time to find a replacement.

"I'm proud of our accomplishments during my time here and this will be a perfect way for me to end my career," he said. "But let me make one thing perfectly clear: our work is far from over. I want to keep the momentum going more than anything else and win as many games as we can to get back in this pennant race."

## Sex probe targets French stars

A French judge issued preliminary charges Tuesday against soccer stars Franck Ribery and Karim Benzema for soliciting an underage prostitute — the latest blow for a national team that returned from the World Cup in disgrace and disarray.

Ribery and Benzema were questioned Tuesday as part of a probe into a suspected network of prostitutes that operated out of a nightclub on Paris' glitzy Champs-Elysees, a judicial official told The Associated Press. She was not authorized to be publicly named, according to office policy.

The scandal, which broke before the World Cup began June 11 and has been front-page news in France, includes allegations by a self-described escort girl who says Ribery flew her to visit him as a birthday present to himself when she was still under 18. Ribery is married with two children.

## TOP THOUGHTS

## Cook tirade proves QB too hyped

Thank you Bus Cook. Someone close to Brett Favre finally came out and said it. The three-time NFL MVP is a "drama queen."

Cook, Favre's longtime agent and friend was quoted in a *Men's Journal* article calling out his client. Favre had told ESPN's Ed Werder at the ESPY's that he would need ankle surgery in order to return to the Vikings.

While Cook's rant was a little excessive, he can't be at fault for getting sick of the Favre talk. With LeBron James tucked safely away in Miami, all attention shifted to the Vikings QB who can't seem to ever make up his mind.

Favre really needs to make a decision but hopefully avoids the TV special.

## TRIVIA

**Q:** With what team did Lou Piniella begin his Major League playing career?

**Tuesday's Answer:** With the Flyers' trade of Simon Gagne, the longest tenured athlete in Philadelphia is now Eagles' kicker David Akers.

# Soft-hitting Spikes lose



Gift Ngoepe slides into home in a game earlier this season. The Spikes returned home after a six-game road trip.

By Jake Kaplan  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

During the past four games, the State College Spikes have alternated a great hitting performance with a sub-par one.

Tuesday night's game continued that pattern.

Behind a mere four hits, the Spikes were shutout by the Mahoning Valley Scrappers 4-0 at Medlar Field at Lubrano Park. Three Scrappers pitchers combined to strike out ten Spikes while walking just two.

"The credit has to go to their pitching," State College manager Gary Robinson said.

"They kept the ball down. I really don't know if that's just a really good night for them. If it isn't, then they're going to cause people trouble."

Right-hander Alex Kaminsky started the game for Mahoning Valley, throwing five pitches of three-hit shutout ball.

He struck out four and walked two. Left-hander James Reichenbach and right-hander Clayton Elert threw two shutout innings each to close out the game.

Robinson said he thought his team's hitting performance was

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## SPIKES

## Mahoning Valley

## State College

# Bullpen muffles Scrappers

By Zach Fleagle  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

The State College Spikes bullpen did all it could to give its team a chance to win Tuesday night.

The pitching duo of Brooks Pounders and Mitch Fienemann entered in relief and did their part to hold the Spikes in contention, allowing three hits and no runs in a combined four innings.

Pounders, a 2009 second-round pick by the Pittsburgh Pirates, had

three strikeouts and Fienemann, a native of Lockleys, Australia, had two.

"You can't say many bad things about our bullpen tonight," State College Manager Gary Robinson said.

Pounders, who came into the game with a 5.89 ERA, found a rhythm as soon as he stepped in. The burly 6-foot-4, 270



Pounders

"They kept us in it. They held them right there."

Walker Gourley  
Spikes infielder

pound right-hander slowed the game down for State College after the Mahoning Valley Scrappers had gotten to starting pitcher Zack Von Rosenberg early posting up 4 runs in 5 innings.

"I just came in and tried to throw strikes from the start and let them get themselves out," Pounders

said. "Just kept fastballs down in the zone."

Fienemann, also a 6-foot-4 right-hander, continued where Pounders left off, with two strong innings of one-hit ball.

Shortstop Walker Gourley praised the bullpen and said their

See **BULLPEN**, Page 8.

# Cardinals take series from Phils

By R.B. Fallstrom  
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

ST. LOUIS -- Chris Carpenter worked eight dominant innings and the St. Louis Cardinals got

home runs from Randy Winn and Matt Holliday, winning their seventh in a row with a 7-1 victory over the slumping Philadelphia Phillies on Tuesday night.

Phillies 47-year-old starter Jamie Moyer strained his elbow and lasted only one inning. The Phillies have lost five of six since the All-Star break and demoted another starter earlier in the day, sending Kyle Kendrick to Triple-A Lehigh Valley.

Carpenter (11-3) faced the Phillies for the first time since

opening day in 2006 at Philadelphia and was removed after throwing only 90 pitches and allowing a run on five hits.

He benefited from two double plays, one that he started, plus a pair of nifty fielding plays by shortstop Brendan Ryan and Albert Pujols in the sixth to strand Jimmy Rollins at third.

Carpenter made the NL All-Star team but has been at his best the first two outings after the break, also throwing eight innings of four-hit ball and allowing one run in a victory over the Dodgers on Thursday.

The Cardinals have outscored the opposition 41-16 during their longest winning streak since winning seven in a row July 7-16, 2006.

Holliday is 7 for 15 with five RBIs during the homestand, raising his average to .309.

He has 11 homers and 31 RBIs the last 27 games. Winn had two hits and three RBIs and Felipe Lopez had three hits.



Felipe Lopez (right) beats a throw to home in the Cardinals 7-1 win.

Placido Polanco had two hits, including a triple, and has a 12-game hitting streak. The Phillies have been outscored 46-20 during their slump, getting their run in the seventh on consecutive one-out doubles by Jayson Werth and Shane Victorino.

Moyer threw 18 pitches in the first, allowing two-out hits by Albert Pujols and Holliday before getting Allen Craig on a lineout. Winn's two-run homer in the

third off Andrew Carpenter (0-1) started the scoring and Holliday's 17th of the season off Danys Baez was a three-run shot in the fifth that made it 6-0.

Ryan Howard doubled in the ninth and is batting .375 with seven homers and 30 RBIs in his hometown ballpark.

The Cardinals are 38-21 in games started by Carpenter, Adam Wainwright and Jaime Garcia, and 15-20 otherwise.

# Thompsons ready for coaching challenge

By Jake Kaplan  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

When then-Penn State women's gymnastics coach Judi Avener was looking for an assistant in 1989, her search came down to two candidates.

The one she hired was Steve Shephard, who would become the Nittany Lions head coach in 1992 after Avener left to take the head coaching job at Florida. Shephard served as head coach for 18 seasons before resigning June 16.

The other finalist for that assistant coaching job was Jeff Thompson.

"She told me it was because I was too young, too handsome and too single to be the assistant coach," Thompson recalled with a smile.

Now Jeff Thompson has gotten another chance. He was hired on July 15 as the head coach of the Penn State women's gymnastics team. His wife Rachele will act as associate head coach. They held the same positions at Auburn for 11 years before exchanging orange and blue for blue and white.

"The integrity and the tradition that Penn State stands for just blew us away," Rachele Thompson said. "It's just amazing."

After the Penn State Athletic Department was granted permission to speak with the Thompsons for the then-vacant position, the husband-wife coaching duo arrived on campus July 13. They

interviewed for about 90 minutes with Director of Athletics Tim Curley and spoke on the telephone with Penn State President Graham Spanier that night. They flew back home July 14 and took the job the next day.

Two of the main factors that led to the Thompsons visiting were the program's tradition and the recruiting potential.

"We feel like it's a crown jewel of the Northeast as far as recruiting for women's gymnastics," Jeff Thompson said. "Where we were at Auburn, you have Alabama and Georgia on either side of us. When kids look to the south they always look to those two programs first. When kids look to the Northeast, this is the best school to go to if you're a female gymnast."

Once in Happy Valley, the Thompsons said they fell in love with the campus. The Thompsons were also impressed with the

knowledge Curley has of gymnastics.

"So many places that you go, the [athletic directors] don't know," Jeff Thompson said. "They know football, they know men's basketball, they know baseball but they don't understand the Olympic sports. And so that was the first thing that struck us. We walked out of [Curley's] office and were like 'Oh, my god.'"

The Thompsons hope to lead the Nittany Lions to the obvious goal of a national championship, something that has alluded Penn State since 1980. The Lions have only qualified for the 12-team NCAA Championship three times since 2000.

The first three years the Thompsons were at Auburn, the Tigers failed to reach regionals and attendance was measured in hundreds, Jeff Thompson said.

See **COACHES**, Page 8.



Jeff Thompson