

LINEUP

MLB
Philadelphia vs Arizona
 7:05 p.m., CSN
Pittsburgh at Colorado
 8:40 p.m., FSN
 St. Louis vs New York (NL)
 7:05 p.m., ESPN

QUICK HITS (AP)

Islanders re-sign top scorer

New York Islanders left wing Matt Moulson has agreed to a one-year contract worth \$2.45 million.

The agreement was announced Tuesday by general manager Garth Snow and allowed the Islanders to avoid arbitration. Snow says Moulson played an "integral" role last season and is part of the team's "young core of players."

Moulson led the Islanders with a career-high 30 goals as New York finished last in the Atlantic Division. His 48 points were fourth on the team. Moulson was one of three Islanders to play all 82 games. He led the team with five winning goals.

Bengals sign Owens to one-year deal

The Cincinnati Bengals have agreed to a contract with receiver Terrell Owens, who is expected to report to training camp in a couple of days, a person familiar with the situation tells The Associated Press.

Owens wanted to play for the Bengals, who offered a deal on Monday looking to add another deep threat to their offense. He accepted the offer on Tuesday, said the person who confirmed the deal, speaking on condition of anonymity because the team had made no announcement.

The Bengals report for training camp Wednesday in Georgetown, Ky. Owens is expected to arrive for the first day of workouts Thursday.

Brazil cracks down on stadium violence

Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva has signed a law aimed at curbing fan violence in football stadiums.

The law signed Tuesday includes fines and prison terms of up to two years for anyone involved in acts of violence inside the stadium or within a radius of up to 3 miles (5 kilometers) from the venue.

OUR THOUGHTS

T.O., Ochocinco will be best show on TV

Come July 29, the greatest show in the history of television will come through the airwaves.

No, "Lost" isn't coming back. But Cincinnati Bengals training camp opens and Terrell Owens and Chad Ochocinco will captivate audiences with what should be some of the funniest back-and-forth banter since the Odd Couple.

The Bengals inked Owens to a one-year, \$2 million deal Tuesday.

That's right, the two men with some of the greatest touchdown celebrations in the history of football will be sharing a sideline this fall.

But not only will Owens and Ochocinco provide quality entertainment, they're should be some pretty good football as well.

TRIVIA

Q: Where were the first X Games held in 1995?

Tuesday's Answer: The Phillies' record for most consecutive regular season wins at Citizens Bank Park is eight.

Former Yankee keeps bond with Spike

By Jake Kaplan
 COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

The mentor stands six-foot-one, is right-handed and played primarily third base.

The pupil, though two inches taller, is right-handed and has also spent most of his recent time playing the hot corner.

The mentor was drafted in the 20th round of the 1987 Major League Baseball Amateur Draft out of Linfield College in McMinnville, Ore.

The pupil was selected in the 34th round of this past June's draft out of the same Division III institution.

The mentor had a successful professional baseball career, winning three World Series Championships in his 11 major league seasons.

The pupil has played a mere 32 professional games, but has already experienced his fair share of early success.

However, the biggest thing former World Series MVP Scott Brosius and current State College Spikes infielder Kelson Brown have in common is their passion for America's greatest pastime. At least according to them.

"He has a real passion to play," Brosius said of his understudy. "He's very competitive. All the years that I played, there was never a game that I didn't look forward to and he's the same way. He loves to be on the field."

Brown agreed with the comparison.

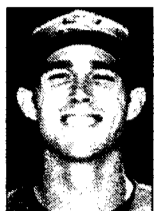
"Same fire to succeed," Brown said of the 1998 World Series MVP. "Same passion for the game. And we both were kind of raw when we first got there and we both worked hard."

Brown, 22, and Brosius, 43, have known each other for more than four years now, as the former Oakland Athletic and New York Yankee was Brown's coach at Linfield. Brosius, who was named

head coach in 2007 after being an assistant for five years, has remained a mentor to the aspiring major leaguer even after Brown graduated in the spring.

"We went through a lot — four years there," Brosius said. "He's a great guy. He's so humble. He cares so much for his players. He's one of the reasons why I'm here. He was always pushing me."

When the Pittsburgh Pirates drafted Brown in June, it made him the first player since Brian See SPIKES, Page 10.



Brown



Brosius

YEAR OF THE PITCHER

Garza continues pitching dominance in 2010

Mike Fitzpatrick
 THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Five no-hitters, two perfect games and another gem that was spoiled by an umpire.

By now, San Francisco Giants broadcaster Mike Krukow and others around baseball are beginning to expect a piece of pitching history every week.

"I do. I can't explain it," said Krukow, who pitched in the majors from 1976-89. "Amazing. I think it's pretty cool. The Year of the Pitcher."

Matt Garza tossed Tampa Bay's first no-hitter Monday night in a 5-0 victory over the Detroit Tigers, becoming the fifth big leaguer to turn the trick during a season of mastery on the mound.

The last time there were five no-hitters in one year was 1991, when Hall of Famer Nolan Ryan threw one of seven in the majors. Now, arms are in charge again — so much so that no-hit alerts seem commonplace.

Ho hum, another shutout. Complete game? Yawn.

"Pitching has gotten better," Rays manager Joe Maddon said. "I don't know that the hitting has gone back a bit, but the pitching has definitely gotten better."

The numbers back him up. Fourteen times a pitcher has carried a no-hitter into the eighth inning this year. That's the most through July 26 since at least 1974, as far back as such records go at STATS LLC.

As a comparison, it happened six times by that date last season.

"I don't know if there are any explanations for it," Minnesota manager Ron Gardenhire said. "It runs in cycles and you just go through it."

CC Sabathia got it started with a near no-no at Tampa Bay on April 10, and the list of close calls features youngsters from Ricky Romero and Travis Wood to established stars such as John Lackey and Daisuke Matsuzaka.

Of course, several finished the job. Oakland left-hander Dallas Braden retired all 27 batters

against Tampa Bay on May 9 and Philadelphia ace Roy Halladay duplicated the feat 20 days later at Florida, making this the only sea-

son besides 1880 to include a pair of perfect games.

Arizona's Edwin Jackson and Colorado's Ubaldo Jimenez also

threw no-hitters — not to mention the perfect game Detroit right-hander Armando Galarraga was denied because of a missed call at first base by umpire Jim Joyce.

"It's pretty unbelievable. I don't know. It's not an easy thing to do," said Boston Red Sox pitcher Clay Buchholz, who tossed a no-hitter in his second major league start on Sept. 1, 2007.

"I don't remember ever hearing about it happening like this. Maybe guys are preparing a little bit better and sticking to their game plan throughout the game. It takes a lot of luck to do it. That's one of the key things. You've got to have a couple of good plays in the field."

Ted Lilly of the Chicago Cubs and Gavin Floyd of the crosstown White Sox even had dueling no-hitters going into the bottom of the seventh inning at Wrigley Field on June 13.

Tampa Bay has been involved in three no-hitters this season, shut down by Braden and Jackson before Garza's gem Monday on a night when the Rays didn't manage a hit themselves until Matt Joyce's sixth-inning grand slam off Tigers starter Max Scherzer.

"Pitching is starting to take over the game and that's good," Florida right-hander Ricky Nolasco said. "That's the way it should be."

That figures, coming from a pitcher.

But there are several reasons why baseball's balance of power has swung to the guys on the mound. Among them:

— Testing for steroids and amphetamines.

— An increased emphasis on defense.

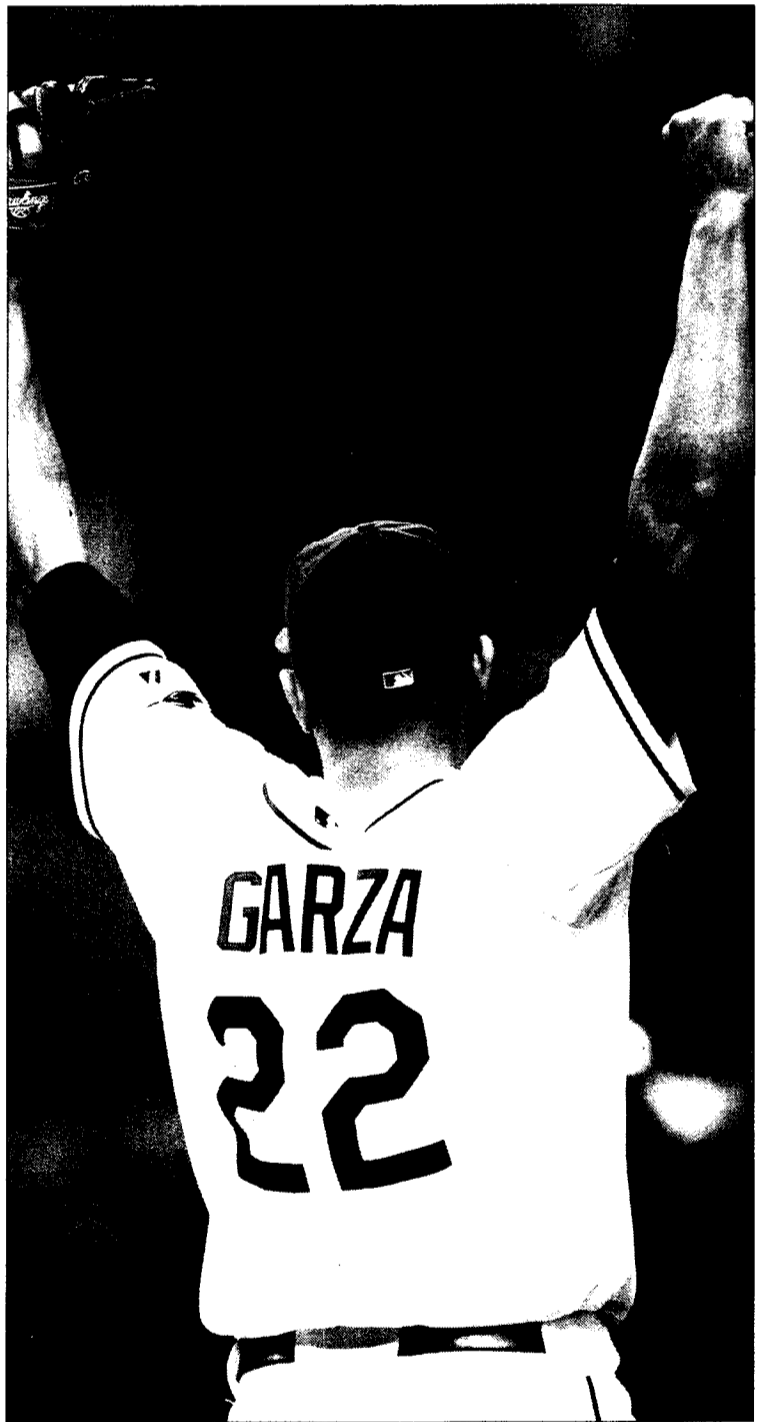
— The sport-wide spread of bat-breaking cut fastballs.

— Advances in medicine that help revive injured arms.

— Better teaching and competition at youth, college, minor league and international levels.

"These are the best pitchers in the world, and the pitchers that have thrown the no-hitters are pretty darn nasty," Houston third baseman Chris Johnson said.

"If they are on their game, it's a battle. These guys have a chance to do it every night."



Matt Garza celebrates his no-hitter against the Detroit Tigers Monday. Garza's gem was the fifth no-hitter in the Major Leagues this season.

Secondary will rely on experience next season



Series Note: This is the second in an eight-part series taking a look at each position heading into fall camp, which starts Aug. 5

By Andrew J. Cassavell
 COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

The departures of cornerbacks A.J. Wallace and Knowledge Ajamu aren't huge blows to a secondary that returns four players with significant playing experience.

Sophomore Stephon Morris, a 5-foot-8 Washington D.C. native, recorded 30 tackles last season and had one pick, which he returned 70 yards but doesn't plan on doing anything by himself. In fact, following April's spring game he said the strength of the defen-

sive backs unit, which returns corner D'Anton Lynn, safeties Drew Astorino and Nick Sukay, and adds Chaz Powell who played receiver before making the switch to defense this spring, is its cohesiveness.

"If one play hurts one of us, that hurts everyone," Morris said after the Blue-White game. "And the difference between corner classes from last year and this year is that I think this year we have a very good bond."

Powell and Lynn will likely split time opposite Morris, and when defensive coordinator Tom Bradley runs nickel packages, they'll both be on the field.

Last season Lynn recorded 35 tackles, but didn't secure a pick. Powell is in the process of making the transition to corner from wide receiver, where he reeled in 28 catches and three touchdowns last season.

Following spring practice, Lynn said Powell's transition to defense was a simple one given his athleticism.

"He'll come over, he'll ask us questions and we try to help him out as much as we can," Lynn said. "But he's just a natural athlete. He

just has great instincts on the defensive side of the ball."

At safety, Drew Astorino's health is the biggest question mark.

Astorino had shoulder surgery in January, which kept him out of spring practice.

In April he said he would be ready for the start of camp and there has been nothing to indicate otherwise.

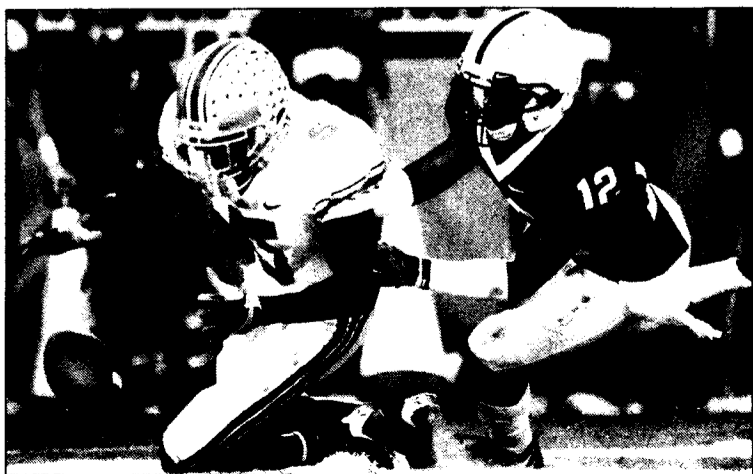
The redshirt junior from Edinboro led the secondary and

was fourth on the team with 62 tackles last season.

With Astorino at hero, junior Nick Sukay will return as the free safety after hauling in two picks and notching 41 tackles last season.

Andrew Dailey and Derrick Thomas could also see time this season in the defensive backfield.

To e-mail reporter: ajc5238@psu.edu



Stephon Morris (12) defends in a game against Ohio State last season.