

## LINEUP

### MLB

St. Louis at Cincinnati  
7 p.m., ESPN

### BASEBALL

## Garcia to take two-month hiatus

Faced with choosing between the start of the FedEx Cup playoffs on the PGA Tour or the final Ryder Cup qualifying event on the European Tour, Sergio Garcia reached a surprising decision. He's not playing either.

Garcia said Sunday he plans to take a two-month break after the PGA Championship next week, not returning to competition until the end of October at the Castellon Masters on his home course in Spain.

"It's been a long year," Garcia said after a 70 in the Bridgestone Invitational. "I haven't had a nice, long break my whole career."

## Woods stays at No. 1 despite score

Despite the highest score of his career, Tiger Woods will stay No. 1 in the world for another week.

Phil Mickelson had a chance to become No. 1 in the world ranking for the first time in his career after Woods tied for 78th at the Bridgestone Invitational. That meant Mickelson needed only to finish alone in fourth place Sunday, and he started the final round four shots out of the lead.

Instead, he three-putted from four feet on the ninth hole and shot a 41 on the back nine. He made only one birdie and shot 78.

## Colts DL Gill arrested for intoxication

Indianapolis police have arrested Colts defensive lineman John Gill after finding him passed out in a ditch on the side of a road about 4 a.m. Sunday.

In the police report, Officer Ricardo Flores Jr. says he called out to Gill, who tried to stand up, but couldn't and kept falling over. Flores says he eventually leaned Gill against his police car to keep him from falling.

He describes the barefoot 23-year-old's blue shirt and khaki shorts as disheveled and soiled.

Gill was arrested for public intoxication.

## Hall of Fame game good and bad

Football is back. For most people, it's a good thing. The NFL is a little over a month away from getting underway.

At the same time, a real, live football game means the summer is coming to a close.

To be honest, it's a little too soon.

Granted the NFL is quickly taking over as the top sport in America, and the season of fantasy drafts is almost here. But at the same time, this summer had more than its fair share of memorable moments.

While most people are ready to get back to football, both college and professional, couldn't the NFL give the fans just one more week to enjoy division races, wildcard standings and in this year's case, World Cup memories?

Guess not. Oh well, kickoff time's coming up anyway.

### TRIVIA

**Q: Which team finished No. 1 in the first ever coaches' poll?**

Friday's answer: Elvis Dumervil recorded 17 sacks last season to lead the NFL.

# Spikes strand 11 on bases

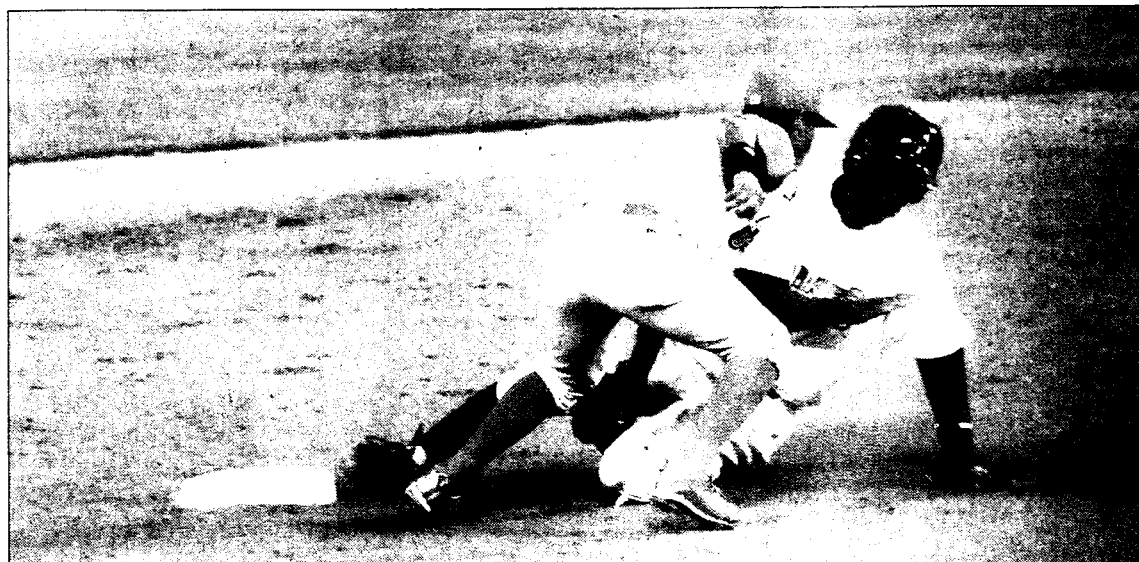
By Jake Kaplan  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Matt Curry stepped to the plate with the bases loaded and two out in the bottom of the seventh, with a chance to break the game open.

The State College Spikes first baseman ended the inning, however, sending a groundball that was flipped to second for the force out. It was telling of the Spikes' success with runners in scoring position Sunday night.

State College hit a mere 1-for-12 with runners in scoring position, and left 11 runners on base in a 4-1 loss to the Tri-City ValleyCats Sunday night at Medlar Field at Lubrano Park. The loss snapped the Spikes' three-game winning streak and evened their record at .500 for the 14th time this season.

"Just a bad game," said right fielder Adalberto Santos, who went



Mel Rojas, Jr. tries to take second base on July 28th against Williamsport. The Spikes ended their winning streak.

1-for-3 with two walks and a stolen base. "We all have them. They're going to come just like our wins are going to come. We played three good games straight and today was just a bad day."

The Spikes (25-25) had their fair

share of chances, especially in the latter half of the game.

In the sixth inning, second baseman Gift Ngoepe led off with a ground rule double that bounced over the wall in center field. Then Santos walked, putting runners on

first and second with no out. Three straight strikeouts by the Spikes' fourth, fifth and sixth hitters, however, negated any chance at putting anything on the board.

State College also left three runners on base.

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Zach Fuesser throws a pitch. The bullpen kept the Spikes in the game.

# Bullpen's work stifles Tri-City

By Jake Kaplan  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

The State College Spikes' bullpen did nearly everything it could to give its team a chance to win Sunday night.

After left-hander Zac Fuesser allowed three runs in his 3.2 inning start, the right-handed duo of Ryan Beckman and Mitch Fienemann held the Tri-City ValleyCats at bay, giving up just one run on three hits in 5.1 innings of work in the 4-1 loss Sunday night.

Beckman entered the game with two outs in the fourth, and got out of the frame by forcing ValleyCats designated hitter Kike Hernandez to ground out to second.

Beckman got into some trouble in the fifth, walking the leadoff hitter Tyler Burnett. Burnett stole second and advanced to third on a wild pitch by Beckman. However, he was able to work his way out of

"We're going out there with a ferocious mindset and just trying to just blow bats out."

Mitch Fienemann  
Spikes pitcher

it with two consecutive groundouts.

The ValleyCats mustered a run on two hits in the sixth off Beckman, but that was all they would get for the rest of the game, as Fienemann shut down the opponent with three innings of one-hit baseball. Fienemann, a Lockleys, Australia native, showed good command, striking out three and walking none.

The 20-year old has given up just three runs in his last 16 innings pitched. Fienemann, whose ERA sits at 3.86, said the biggest adjustment he has made this season is mental. He began

See BULLPEN, Page 8.

# Lions to face several top-ranked foes

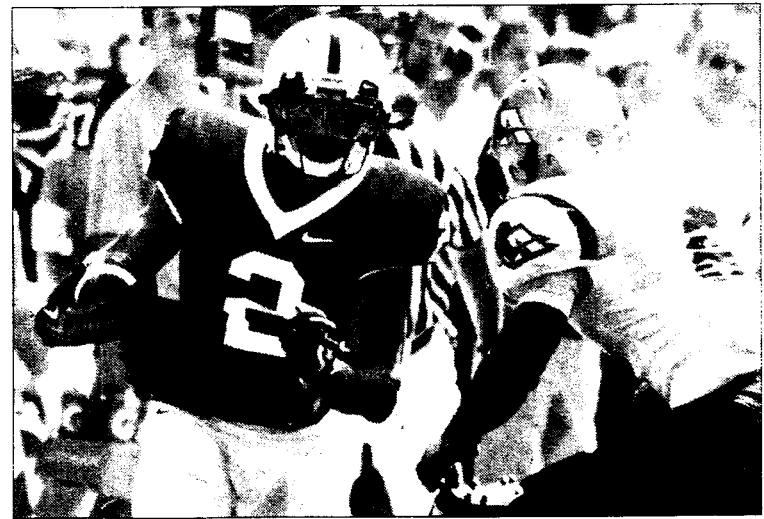
By Audrey Snyder  
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

If the preseason rankings are any indication, Penn State will play one of the nation's toughest road schedules.

With Friday's release of USA Today's Top-25 coaches' poll, the Nittany Lions head into the 2010 season ranked No. 14. Though it's a drop in the poll from last season's No. 8 finish, the Lions will have plenty of opportunities to prove whether or not they are deserving of a higher ranking.

The Lions face three of the nation's top-10 teams, and in doing so become the first team to play road games featuring three Bowl Championship Series winning teams from the previous season.

"You never know how schedules are," Penn State historian Lou Prato said. "Right now it looks like



Chazz Powell (2) and the Lions will face three top-10 teams this year.

Penn State's away game schedule is pretty tough, with Iowa who seems to have our number, defending national champions and pre-

season No. 1 Alabama and Ohio State, the nation's No. 2 team and the Big Ten favorite."

Add a new starting quarterback

## Coaches Poll Top five

1. Alabama
2. Ohio State
3. Florida
4. Texas
5. Boise State

into the mix, and the Lions will surely be tested during their road schedule.

The new quarterback will have to deal with more than his share of crowd noise early on as the Lions head to Alabama — which just finished stadium expansion pushing seating capacity to more than 100,000 — on Week 2.

As expected, the Crimson Tide claimed the No. 1 spot in the poll. With 55 first-place votes and returning Heisman Trophy winner, running back Mark Ingram, the

See POLL, Page 8.

# Ex-Lion Naeher thriving with WPS' Breakers

By Joe Kurtek  
FOR THE COLLEGIAN

As a member of the Penn State women's soccer team, goalkeeper Alyssa Naeher was a part of 33 shutouts.

During her ninth start for the Boston Breakers on Aug. 4, Naeher recorded her first professional shutout against the Atlanta Beat.

Naeher was taken 11th overall in the 2010 Women's Professional Soccer (WPS) Draft by Boston. Playing with high-level competition has always been a goal of Naeher's.

"It's obviously a passion of mine and something that I've been working hard for, for a long, long time," Naeher said. "And, to finally

be able to step on the field as a professional athlete is a dream come true. It's exciting and makes me want to keep working hard to get better and better and to continue to grow."

Naeher has started ten games this season and maintains a 1.08 goals against average, putting her ahead of players such as Atlanta Beat goalkeeper Hope Solo, who started for the United States Olympic team and won a gold medal in the 2008 Beijing games.

While the transition from college to the professional ranks is not always easy, Naeher has established herself as a solid starter in WPS.

"The most difficult thing is just adjusting to the speed of play and the level of talent that every person in the league possesses," Naeher said. "Everything is just a

half second faster and everybody is just a step quicker and that is probably the biggest adjustment that I have had to make."

During Naeher's run as goalkeeper, the Breakers have a record of 6-3 and are currently riding a three-game winning streak. Boston is currently third in the standings.

"Every game is competitive and every game is close and just another step that we need to take to get ourselves into an even better playoff position," Naeher said.

While Boston attempts to improve its league standing, Naeher's strong play has already gained Breakers' coach Tony DiCicco's attention. DiCicco, who won the World Cup as the head coach of the 1999 U.S. women's team, said Naeher has been

See NAEHER, Page 8.



Alyssa Naeher makes a save.