

# Rockies, Mariners play to tie in 10

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP) — Mike Hampton ended spring training with a pitching line that already looks like one at Coors Field.

Hampton, whose \$121 million, eight-year contract in a record for pitchers, gave up seven runs and eight hits in four innings Wednesday as the Colorado Rockies and Seattle Mariners played a 9-9, 10-inning tie.

"It matters to me every day I pitch. If I was going to pitch to my son in the back yard, I don't want to get hit around," Hampton said. "This is behind me. That's a good thing. I look forward to opening day. I'm healthy,

strong, ready to go."

Control problems and Bret Boone were Hampton's primary nemeses. Boone had three hits and five RBIs against the left-hander, and Hampton also walked three and hit a batter.

In his four previous spring starts covering 20 innings, Hampton allowed eight earned runs and three walks.

"They brought their whuppin' sticks," he said. "I was behind in the count quite a bit, up in the zone. My arm felt good. That's about the only plus out of it."

Freddy Garcia, Seattle's opening day starter, limited the Rockies to a

solo homer by Todd Walker through four innings before faltering in the fifth. He gave up five runs — four earned — and six hits with four strikeouts in 4 2-3 innings.

Mariners manager Lou Piniella and reliever Jeff Nelson were ejected by home plate umpire Tony Randazzo after Nelson got the final out in the fifth. Nelson was unhappy with Randazzo's strike zone and got tossed after telling the umpire he was "horrible."

Piniella was ejected seconds later, accentuating the argument by throwing an empty water bottle to the backstop. "I said, 'Maybe you WERE horrible,'" Piniella said, "so he ejected me, too."

In the end, Colorado rallied from a 9-1 deficit as Terry Shumpert's two-run double off Norm Charlton tied the game in the ninth. Shumpert, a reserve infielder, is 9-for-15 with six doubles and four RBIs in his last five games.

The rally spared Hampton from losing to the team that drafted him in 1990. It was the first time he faced the Mariners since they traded him to the Houston Astros in 1993.

"There's probably a little adrenaline," Hampton said. "It's one of your first teams and something that sticks in the back of your head. A lot of times, you get a little hyped up and overthrow a little bit, and it's all for nothing and you look like crap. It was one of those things today."

Dan Wilson homered for the Mariners, and Ron Gant his first home run since the first game of spring for the Rockies.

**Notes:** The Rockies placed RHP Masato Yoshii on unconditional release waivers, meaning he can sign with any major league team after 48 hours. If a team claims him within that time, it would have to cover Yoshii's \$1.5 million salary and give the Rockies \$20,000. If he's not claimed, Yoshii gets \$368,853 in termination pay.

RHP Mark Leiter, traded from the New York Mets to Colorado on Monday, gave up two runs and three hits in two innings.

Boone is 14-for-37 with 15 RBIs in his last 13 games. He started the spring 0-for-10. Seattle has scored 32 runs in the last three games.

# Men, women players picked for ESPN award

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Duke's Shane Battier and Southwest Missouri State's Jackie Stiles were chosen players of the year for men's and women's basketball by ESPN the Magazine on Wednesday.

Battier won men's best player over teammate Jason Williams and North Carolina's Joseph Forte; Stiles, the NCAA's all-time leading scorer with 3,371 points, won women's top player

over Georgia's Kelly Miller, Tennessee's Tamika Catchings, Notre Dame's Ruth Riley and Connecticut's Svetlana Abrosimova.

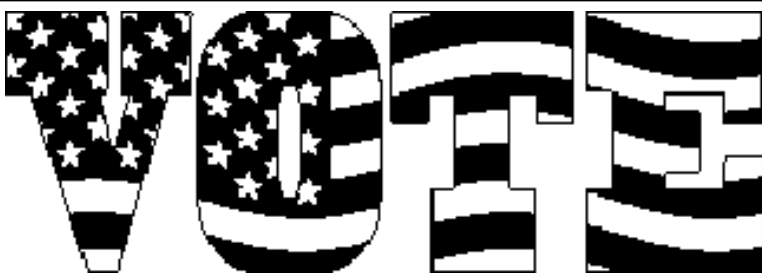
Stiles was awarded the Wade Trophy for her player-of-the-year honor.

Coaches of the year were Boston College's Al Skinner for the men; Notre Dame's Muffet McGraw for the women.

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# KU coach being asked about next year's Jayhawks

LAWRENCE (AP) — The ink's scarcely dry on Kansas' 26-7 record, and already people want coach Roy Williams to tell them what next year's Jayhawk team will look like.

Will All-Big 12 forward Drew Gooden pass up his last two years of eligibility and declare for the NBA draft? Will recruit Wayne Simien's injured shoulder heal, with or without surgery? Will Williams go with a three-guard lineup — and if so, who will run it?

All Williams could say Wednesday, at his season-ending news conference, is that he really doesn't know.

Yes, he thinks Gooden will be back. Yes, he thinks Simien will be healthy. Yes, a lineup featuring three true guards is a possibility. But each of those opinions comes with some degree of qualification.

On Gooden: "I think it's Drew's business," Williams said. "I'm doing some things, trying to gather some information for him.

"But if you asked me, 'Do I expect him to come back?' I'll say, 'Yes, I do expect him to come back.' Am I 100 percent sure of that? No, I am not."

On the availability of Simien, who pulled out of Wednesday night's McDonald's All-Star game with an injured shoulder:

"I think that's an assumption we do want to make and I think can fairly make. Regardless of what happens to him, I fully expect that he'll be fine and ready to go by the time the season starts — just as we always believe everyone will be."

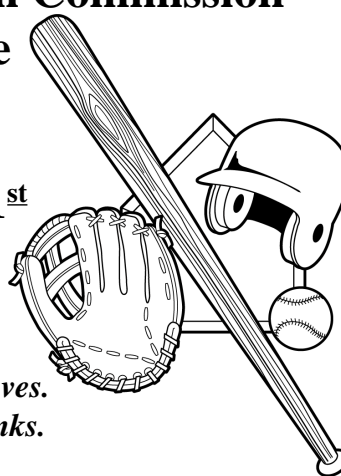
And on the possibility of the three-guard lineup, in which Kirk Hinrich and Jeff Boschee could be joined by incoming freshman Aaron Miles:

"I think more than likely because of the numbers, we'll play three perimeter players and two post players ... We'll try to make some determinations in some ways in what we do, but I'm not going to be married to changing this and changing that until the kids get here in school next season."

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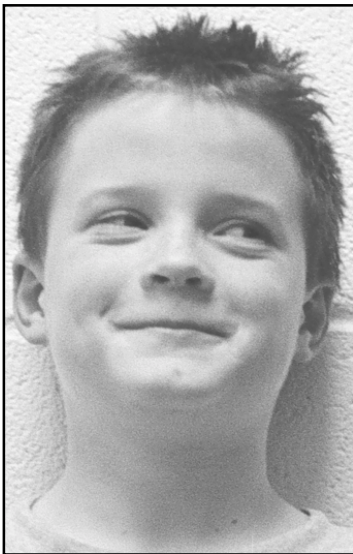


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# Wendy's

## Athletes of the Week are:



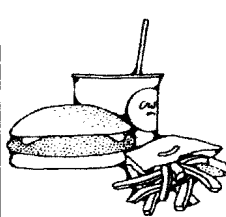
Wendy's Athletes of the Week are Brittany Pettibone, Goodland High School Girl's Softball Player, and Nathan Deeds, Kansas Kids Wrestler. Brittany Pettibone led a 16-0 no hitter game against Syracuse last week and only gave up one walk. The Cowgirls are off to a 3-0 season start, amazing for their first year. Nathan Deeds won second place in the 8 and under 70 lb. class of the Kansas Kids State Tournament last weekend.



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