

# GO

Off the field/Between the cracks

## STOP/WATCH

TREATS FOR THE SENSES!



**WRIST GUARD**  
EVOSHIELD (\$24.99)  
These ¼-inch composite guards mold to the form of the joint within 30 minutes, then stay firm to divvy up the force of an errant purpose pitch.

**RAYKR GLOVES**  
XPROTEX (\$69.95)  
Advanced Impact Composite (A.I.C.) technology shields hands, making a fastball feel like a knuckler.

**PADDED SLEEVE**  
McDAVID HEXPAD (\$49.99)  
If it's good enough for slalom skiers (to shield against gate crashes), it's good enough for hitters. The breathable sleeve cushions with dual-density pads.

**ULTRA STC MOUTHGUARD**  
SHOCK DOCTOR (\$24.99)  
Player perks: secures teeth, doesn't impede breathing or talking, may boost athletic performance. Fan perk: less spitting by players.

**PROTECTION TOP**  
UNDER ARMOUR BACKSTOP (\$69.99)  
Originally created for catchers, the compression shirt shields batters' ribs and inner forearms with a dimple-patterned, pressure-point dispersion system.

**CUP**  
NUTTYBUDDY (\$29.95)  
The demos are legend (<http://bit.ly/nutbud>). Now in a new size: Trophy, for guys 5'8" to 6'1" between 180 and 200 pounds.

**SLIDER SHORTS**  
NIKE PRO COMBAT (\$55)  
Sliding wears and tears hips and knees. Cordura, a friction-free fabric, saves skin, while 4mm of Deflex padding protects the knees without impeding movement.

**S100P HELMET**  
RAWLINGS (\$109.99)  
It's less bulky than its aesthetically maligned precursor, the S100. Will the style-conscious don it? Only if they cherish cognition.

## DING TRAINING



By now, you've surely heard about baseball's growing contusion problem. No? Well, plenty of folks in R & D have. As MLBers take the field this spring and beyond, they are being offered an unprecedented array of choices for at-bat armor. Here's a sampling of what you might see on your favorite slugger as the 2011 season ramps up—if you can make him out amid all the padding. —KYLE STACK

