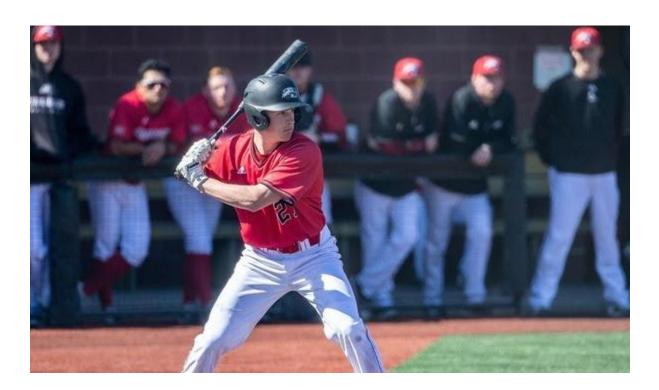


Missouri State Erupts for 9 Runs in Eighth to Beat SIUE Baseball

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SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Missouri State erupted for nine runs in the eighth inning Wednesday and defeated SIUE baseball 13-3 at Hammons Field.

SIUE fell to 8-7 while Missouri State improved to 9-8.

The Cougars never led in the game. The Bears took a 2-0 lead in the fifth inning on three hits, but stranded a pair of runners.

SIUE starter David Llorens (0-1) allowed both runs over five innings pitched. He allowed seven hits and struck out seven.

"David did a nice job," SIUE Head Coach Sean Lyons said. "He gave us a quality start. He got himself out of a jam in the fifth and we turned to the bullpen."

SIUE added its first run of the game in the sixth on an RBI-double from Brett Pierson.

Missouri State scored twice more in the seventh to extend the lead to three. The Bears blew the game open in the eighth with nine runs on six hits, a walk, a hit batter and a pair of SIUE errors. Three SIUE pitchers worked in the inning. All three gave up multiple runs.

"It was 4-1 and then things got out of hand," Lyons said. "It was just a really bad inning."

The Cougars pushed two more across in the ninth. Parker Wielt hit a pinch double to left center to drive in both runs.

Josh Ohl and Pierson hitting at the top of SIUE's lineup accounted for four of the Cougars' six hits.

"It was a positive to see those guys keep it going," Lyons said. "We need to drive those guys in when they get on base."

Missouri State finished with 14 hits. Six players had multiple hits for the Bears. Peyton Carson (1-3) allowed a run on five hits in the win.

SIUE travels to Cape Girardeau, Missouri for a three-game Ohio Valley Conference series this weekend.

"We need to turn the page on this one and shift our focus to the OVC weekend," Lyons added.