

Cougars, Salukis battle Wednesday

by Dan Brannan, Content Director
April 1 2015 1:00 PM



The SIUE softball team travels to Carbondale Wednesday for a 4 p.m. nonconference contest with the Salukis of SIU Carbondale.

"Carbondale always has a good team," said SIUE Head Coach Sandy Montgomery. "They swing the bat, and they have a great crowd down there every time we play."

The Salukis, 11-14-1, are coming into the game with a four-game losing skid. SIUE, meanwhile, is on the other end of the spectrum with a 10-game winning streak. The Cougars hold a 27-6 record.

"From our standpoint, we need to worry about us and continue to try to get better," said Montgomery.

SIUE's offense hit .414 (41-99) in this past weekend's sweep at Southeast Missouri.

"We had a very good approach to SEMO's pitching," said Montgomery. "Every pitcher is different, so you have to adjust."

Senior [Alex McDavid](#) became the latest member of the 200-hit club, hitting a home run in her first at bat Sunday. McDavid also became one of five players in school history to record 20 or more career home runs.

[Rebecca Gray](#) took over the team lead among starters in batting average. The senior outfielder is batting .396 with a team-leading 12 stolen bases.

The Cougars now have a trio of players with more than 20 RBIs this season. [Haley Chambers](#), who hit a grand slam this past weekend, leads the team with 25. She is followed by [Jordan LaFave](#) and [Allison Smiley](#) with 23 each.

"We need to continue to be aggressive," said Montgomery. "We're putting the ball in play, and we're seeing the ball well."

SIUE's pitching continues to set [Ohio Valley Conference](#) standards. Freshman [Baylee Douglass](#), 10-2, was named the OVC Pitcher of the Week after a one-hit shutout against Southeast Missouri. That comes on the heels of Chambers, 16-3, being named the Louisville Slugger/NFCA National Pitcher of the Week nearly two weeks ago.