



# GATEWAY GRIZZLIES

## OFFICIAL PRESS RELEASE

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## BATS COME ALIVE, GRIZZLIES BEAT LAKE ERIE

*Gateway scores runs in six of eight turns at-bat to swipe series opener*

**SAUGET, ILL. –** The Gateway Grizzlies finally got their bats going again on Tuesday night, scoring 13 runs on 14 hits to beat the Lake Erie Crushers 13-6, snapping a three-game losing streak at Arsenal BG Ballpark.

The offense began right away against Lake Erie starter Jack Eisenbarger (8-3), as **Gabe Holt** led off the first inning with a walk, followed by a single from **Jose Alvarez**, one of four hits the all-star catcher would get in the game to tie a career-best. After a double-play grounder, **D.J. Stewart** crushed Eisenbarger's fastball over the left field wall for a 2-run homer, making the score 2-0 Gateway.

In the second inning, **Sawyer Smith** led off with a walk, went to second on a wild pitch, and scored on an RBI single by **Mark Shallenberger** to make it 3-0. Later in the inning, Holt reached base on an infield single to second baseman Davie Morgan with two outs, and an error on the same play brought home Shallenberger to make it 4-0, giving Gateway more runs in their first two innings than they had in three games over the weekend in Washington.

Meanwhile, on the mound, **Gage Vailes** had his stuff working, as the right-hander recorded his first eight outs in the contest via the strikeout, en route to fanning a career-best 10 over 5 1/3 innings of one-run ball. That run was scored by Lake Erie in the sixth as part of a two-run frame that made the score 5-2 at the time, but the Grizzlies would keep up the offensive pressure in the bottom of the same inning, scoring three runs on a bases-loaded walk by **Cole Brannen**, RBI fielder's choice by Holt, and RBI single by Alvarez, going ahead 8-2.

Gateway would pile on two more runs in the seventh on a two-run double by Alvarez to go up 10-2, and completed their scoring with three more runs in the eighth inning on RBI singles by **Edwin Mateo** and Brannen, making the score 13-2 and giving the Grizzlies their most runs scored in a contest since July 9. The Crushers would plate four runs in the top of the ninth for the final score, but it was not enough to deny Gateway the streak-busting win.

Alvarez led the charge with a 4-for-6 night and three RBIs, while Mateo ended up 3-for-5 with two runs scored and one RBI. Brannen also drove in three runs out of the nine spot in the batting order, while Shallenberger went 2-for-3 with four runs scored in the feel-good win.

The Grizzlies will look to make it back-to-back wins over the Crushers on Wednesday, August 13, at Arsenal BG Ballpark. **Bennett Stice** will toe the rubber for Gateway against Lake Erie's Dylan Spain, with first pitch scheduled for 6:30 p.m. CT.

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*The Gateway Grizzlies are a professional baseball team, located a mere 10 minutes from downtown St. Louis in Sauget, Illinois. The Grizzlies offer baseball fans affordable, family fun at Arsenal BG Ballpark with a great view of the St. Louis skyline. They have also won two Frontier League Organization of the Year Awards, four West Division titles, and the 2003 Frontier League Championship. For tickets or general information, please visit [gatewaygrizzlies.com](http://gatewaygrizzlies.com) or call (618) 337-3000.*



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*The Frontier League debuted in 1993, and is the largest of the Major League Baseball Partner Leagues, featuring teams stretching from the Atlantic Ocean to the Mississippi River, and from the Ohio River to the St. Lawrence Seaway. More information and the complete 2025 schedule can be found at [frontierleague.com](http://frontierleague.com).*