

**Liberty University
Flames Baseball
Quick Facts**

Location: Lynchburg, Va.
Founded: 1971
Enrollment: 9,558
Colors: Red, White and Blue
Nickname: Flames
Mascot: Eagle
Conference: Big South
Chancellor: Dr. Jerry Falwell
Exec. VP: Dr. Ron Godwin
Director of Athletics: Jeff Barber
Athletic Phone: (434) 582-2100
Assoc. A.D. Internal Operations: Mickey Guridy
Assoc. A.D. for Compliance/SWA: Meredith Hollyfield
Assoc. A.D. for Academic Services: Kristie Beitz
Faculty Athletic Representative: Dr. William Gribbin
A.D. for Development: Bob Good
A.D. for External Operations: Kevin Keys
Director of Facilities: Joe Pouliot

Head Baseball Coach: Matt Royer (Liberty, '80)
Record at LU: 131-115 (Five Years)
Career Record: 449-354 (17 Years)
Baseball Office Phone: (434) 582-2103
Assistants: Terry Weaver (Liberty, '97), Reggie Reynolds (Liberty, '98)
Athletic Trainer: Scott Lawrenson

2006 Record: 39-21
Conference Record: 13-11/5th
Letterwinners Returning/Lost: 11/5
Starting Position Players Returning/Lost (incl. DH): 6/3
Starting Pitchers Returning/Lost: 6/2
Newcomers: 12

Liberty's All-Time Record: 887-709-7 (.556)
Stadium: Worthington Stadium/1,000
Stadium Dimensions: Left - 325; Center - 390; Right - 325
Surface: Bermuda Grass

Asst. A.D. for Athletic Media Relations: Todd Wetmore
(434) 582-2292 (O)
(434) 841-8974 (C)
(434) 582-2076 (Fax)
E-Mail Address: twetmore@liberty.edu
Asst. AMR Dir./Baseball Contact: Ryan Bomberger
(434) 582-2605 (O)
(434) 221-5576 (C)
E-Mail Address: rbomberger@liberty.edu
Press Box Phone: (434) 582-2914
Web Site: www.LibertyFlames.com
Assistant AMR: Vincent Briedis
Assistant AMR: Paul Carmany

**2007 Liberty University
Baseball Game Notes**



**Game No. 23 - March 21, 2007
UMBC Retrievers (5-8, 0-0 America East)
vs.
LIBERTY Flames (14-8, 2-1 Big South)
Wednesday, March 21 - 3 p.m.
Worthington Stadium - Lynchburg, Va.**

The Games

The Liberty University Flames (14-8, 2-1 Big South) step out of Big South Conference play to host a midweek game against the UMBC Retrievers (5-8, 0-0 America East), Wednesday, March 21. Game time is scheduled for 3 p.m.

The Series Against UMBC

Liberty and UMBC will meet for the first time since 2002 on Wednesday afternoon. It will be the 31st meeting between the two squads as the Retrievers were members of the Big South Conference from 1993 through 1998. The Flames hold a 20-10 lead in the all-time series between the two schools since their first meeting on the diamond in 1988.

The Last Time Out

The Flames banged out 15 hits and took advantage of seven UNC Asheville errors to take the rubber game of a three-game Big South Series from the Bulldogs, 15-5, on Monday at Worthington Stadium. Kenneth Negron and Tommy Bussey went 3-for-5 in the game. Errol Hollinger and Aaron Phillips also hit home runs as Liberty scored nine runs in the 7th inning to break open a 6-3 contest. With the win, the Flames took the opening Big South series for both teams, 2-1.

Liberty dropped the middle contest of the series, Sunday. The Bulldogs used a three-run seventh and a four-run eighth to down the Flames, 9-3.

In the Big South opener, Tim Nanry went 3-for-4 with three RBI and Michael Solbach allowed one run on five hits over 7 2/3 innings in a 5-1, Liberty victory on Saturday. With the win, Solbach notched his fourth-straight victory running his record to 4-1 on the season. Nanry doubled runs home twice and singled home another in the contest.

Flames on the Radio

This season, the Flames Sports Network plans to broadcast 20 Liberty baseball regular season games. Games will air live on WVMC 90.9 FM "The Light" and on the World Wide Web at both www.LibertyFlames.com and www.thelightonline.com. The station will broadcast today's contest. The broadcast is scheduled to begin around 2:50 p.m.

Possible Starters

No.	Name	Cl.	Ht.	Wt.	Avg.	Other Stats
29	Errol Hollinger (C)	So.	6-4	200	.290	10 RBI, 13 Runs, 3 2Bs, 2 HR
5	Aaron Grijalva (1B)	R-Jr.	6-1	195	.295	16 RBI, 12 Runs, 1 2B, 9 SBs
3	Tommy Bussey (2B)	So.	5-11	180	.291	5 RBI, 8 Runs, 4 2B, 1 3B
10	Patrick Gaillard (SS)	Sr.	6-1	185	.246	5 RBI, 14 Runs, 4 2Bs
7	David Giammaresi (3B)	R-Jr.	6-0	195	.297	15 RBI, 9 Runs, 6 2Bs, 1 3B
1	Kenneth Negron (LF)	So.	5-8	168	.364	6 RBI, 12 Runs, 4 2Bs, 5 SBs
33	Garrett Young (CF)	Jr.	6-3	225	.419	20 RBI, 21 Runs, 8 2Bs, 4 HRs
30	Phil John (RF)	Sr.	6-2	180	.406	13 RBI, 18 Runs, 3 2Bs, 7 SBs
27	Tim Nanry (DH)	Sr.	6-3	225	.348	18 RBI, 12 Runs, 6 2Bs, 3 HRs
	R-redshirt					

**Scouting
the Retrievers**

Location: Baltimore, Md.
Founded: 1966
Enrollment: 12,000
Nickname: Retrievers
Colors: Black, Gold and Red
President: Dr. Freeman Harbowski
Athletic Director: Dr. Charles Brown
Conference: America East
Field (Capacity): The Baseball Factory Field at UMBC (1,000)
Dimensions: 330-360-340
Head Coach: John Jancuska (Delaware, 1975)
Record at School: 625-578-6 (29 Years)
Overall Record: Same
Office Phone: (410) 455-2239
Assistants: Bobb Mumma, Joe Michalski, Jeff Moore

2006 Record: 18-34
2006 Conference Record/Finish: 5-17/Seventh
Lettermen Returning/Lost: 23/9
Position Starters Returning/Lost: 7/2
Pitchers Returning/Lost: 4/3

Top Returning Position Players:
 Steve Bowen (R-Sr., SS, .320 BA),
 Joe Fowler (Jr., 2B/OF, .345 BA), Mike Scheffel (Sr., OF, .295 BA)

Top Returning Pitchers: Eddie Bach (So., LHP, 4.89 ERA), Sean Rae (Jr., RHP, 6.42 ERA), Tom Schlein (Jr., LHP, 3.89 ERA)

Baseball SID: Tim Conway
Office Phone: (410) 455-2239
Cell Phone: (908) 783-5257
E-mail Address: conway1@umbc.edu
Fax Number: (410) 455-2129
Web Site: www.umbcretrievers.com

Recent Results

3/19 Niagara - Game 2 L, 4-5
 3/19 Niagara - Game 1 L, 2-5
 3/14 Buffalo W, 6-2
 3/13 at Delaware W, 9-8

Upcoming Schedule

3/20 at VCU
 3/27 at Towson
 3/28 at Georgetown
 3/30 NJIT
 3/31 NJIT



**2007 Liberty University
Baseball Game Notes**



The Coaches

Wednesday will be the first meeting between Liberty head coach Matt Royer and UMBC head coach John Jancuska with their respective teams.

Liberty: Matt Royer (Liberty, '80)
Record at School: 131-115 (Five Years)
Overall Record: 449-355 (17 Years)

Notes: Matt Royer is in his fifth year at the helm of his alma mater ... last season, Royer guided the Flames to their second-straight 30-plus win season, their first back-to-back 30-win seasons during his tenure and the fourth in school history ... Liberty posted 39 victories in 2006, the most Division I wins in program history ... on Feb. 21, 2006, he won his 400th career game as a head coach when the Flames defeated Longwood, 4-3 ... in each of his first four years, the Liberty win total has improved each season ... Royer has led the Flames to the Big South Championship final game in both 2002 and 2006 ... prior to his stint at Liberty, he had a nine-year run at Kutztown, where he posted a 271-176 mark ... the Golden Bears never had a losing season in his nine years at the school ... guided Kutztown to the Division II College World Series during his final two seasons at the school.

UMBC: John Jancuska (Delaware, '75)
Record at School: 625-579-6 (30 Years)
Overall Record: Same

Notes: John Jancuska is in his 30th season as head coach at UMBC ... last season, he led the Retrievers to an 18-34 mark ... in 2005, Jancuska passed the 600-career win total and ranks among the top 50 active NCAA Division I coaches in victories ... during his tenure, UMBC has had 19 winning seasons, 18 seasons with 20-plus tournament victories and five NCAA Tournament appearances (two in Division I and three at Division II) ... over his career, Jancuska has been named the 1992 East Coast Conference Coach of the Year, the 1993 Big South Coach of the Year, the 1993 Maryland Coach of the Year and the 2000 Northeast Conference Coach of the Year ... in 2000, he was inducted into the Maryland State Association of Baseball Coaches Hall of Fame.

LU	2007 Statistical Comparison	UMBC*
14-8	Record	5-8
.307	Batting Average	.263
152	Runs	59
244	Hits	110
12	Home Runs	6
135	Runs Batted In	56
29	Stolen Bases	6
4.09	Earned Run Average	5.91
169.0	Innings Pitched	105.0
146	Strikeouts	84
5	Saves	3
.278	Opponent Batting Average	.311

* - as of March 20

Big South Conference Update

(as of Mar. 21, 2007)

Overall Standings

	W	L	Pct.
Coastal Carolina	19	3	.864
VMI	16	4	.800
Liberty	14	8	.636
Winthrop	13	11	.542
Charleston Southern	11	14	.440
High Point	11	12	.478
Radford	7	11	.389
UNC Asheville	6	15	.286

Conference Standings

	W	L	Pct.
VMI	3	0	1.000
Liberty	2	1	.667
Coastal Carolina	0	0	.000
High Point	0	0	.000
Radford	0	0	.000
UNC Asheville	1	2	.333
Winthrop	0	0	.000
Charleston Southern	0	3	.000

Upcoming Schedule

Tuesday, Mar. 20

Radford at Longwood	3 p.m.
Elon at Coastal Carolina	4 p.m.
Charleston So. at Coll. of Charleston	5 p.m.
Winthrop at The Citadel	6 p.m.
UNC Asheville at South Carolina	7 p.m.

Wednesday, Mar. 21

Md.-Eastern Shore at Charleston So.	2 p.m.
UMBC at Liberty	3 p.m.
UNC Asheville at Appalachian St.	5 p.m.
VMI at Old Dominion	6 p.m.
Wake Forest at Winthrop	6 p.m.
High Point at East Carolina	7 p.m.

2007 Liberty University Baseball Game Notes



Returning to Their Alma Mater

The Liberty coaching staff, led by head coach Matt Royer, along with assistant coaches Terry Weaver and Reggie Reynolds, is unusual for Division I baseball. All three coaches are graduates of Liberty University.

Royer received his degree in 1980, while playing baseball for the program's founder, Al Worthington. Weaver and Reynolds also obtained their bachelor's degrees from Liberty, with Weaver achieving his in the fall of 1997 and Reynolds having his conferred upon him in 1998.

Flames at Worthington Stadium

For the past 27 years, the Flames have called Worthington Stadium their home. The Flames have compiled an impressive 461-208-4 record at home for a winning percentage of .688 since the stadium's inception in 1979. Under head coach Matt Royer, the Flames are proving the stadium to be an even tougher venue for opponents, having posted a 116-48 record (.707) during Royer's five years at the helm.

This season, the Flames have posted a 9-4 mark (.700) at home. Liberty went 22-9 (.710) at Worthington Stadium in 2006.

Liberty on the Road

Liberty has started 2007 with a 5-4 mark away from Worthington Stadium. This season, the Flames are 4-3 in road contests and 1-1 at neutral sites. Liberty finished the 2006 season with a 17-12 road mark. Its record was a four-game improvement over 2005, when the Flames went 9-12 away from home.

Flames in Big South Openers

This past weekend's series was the third time in their 15 years as a member of the Big South that the Flames started conference play at home. With two wins in the series with UNC Asheville, Liberty is now 22-23 in their Big South opening three-game series of the season.

Of the 45 games, Liberty has opened conference play on the road 13 times with a record of 15-21. The Flames have opened at home three times and have now posted a 7-2 mark.

Flames Against the Big South

Liberty has compiled a 193-148 record against current members of the Big South. The Flames have also compiled a 30-16 mark in Big South Championship games over the same span.

Liberty's All-Time Record Against the Big South

Charleston Southern	.29-19
Coastal Carolina	.25-31
High Point	.26-22
Radford	.36-23
UNC Asheville	.33-17
VMI	.21-7
Winthrop	.23-29
Totals	.193-148



Baseball in the Commonwealth

Thirteen Division I baseball teams call the Commonwealth of Virginia home. This season, the Flames are scheduled to face opponents from the "Old Dominion State" 17 times. Liberty has begun its slate against in-state opponents with a 3-2 mark.



**Liberty University
2007 Baseball Schedule**

**Record: 12-7
Big South: 0-0**

2/9	at East Carolina	W, 6-2
2/10	at East Carolina	L, 4-7
2/11	at East Carolina	L, 2-11
2/16	vs. South Carolina!	L, 2-10
2/17	at The Citadel!	W, 2-1
2/18	vs. Richmond!	W, 28-7
2/23 Albany		W, 9-2
2/24 Albany - Gm. 1		W, 5-1
2/24 Albany - Gm. 2		W, 7-5
2/27	at VCU	W, 8-2
3/2	Manhattan	W, 6-2
3/3	Manhattan	L, 2-9
3/4	Manhattan	W, 14-6
3/6	at Old Dominion	W, 8-2
3/9	George Washington	W, 9-3
3/10	George Washington	W, 7-6 (10)
3/11	George Washington	L, 5-6 (10)
3/13	Virginia Tech	L, 2-8
3/14	at James Madison	L, 3-8
3/16	UNC Asheville*	W, 5-1
3/17	UNC Asheville*	L, 9-3
3/18	UNC Asheville*	W, 15-5
3/21	UMBC	3 p.m.
3/23	at High Point*	2:30 p.m.
3/24	at High Point*	1 p.m.
3/25	at High Point*	1 p.m.
3/28	at George Mason	2:30 p.m.
3/31	Monmouth (DH)	11 a.m.
4/1	Monmouth	1 p.m.
4/3	William & Mary	3 p.m.
4/6	Marshall	3 p.m.
4/7	Marshall (DH)	11 a.m.
4/10	at William & Mary	7 p.m.
4/13	Charleston Southern*	3 p.m.
4/14	Charleston Southern*	2 p.m.
4/15	Charleston Southern*	1 p.m.
4/18	James Madison	3 p.m.
4/20	Radford*	3 p.m.
4/21	Radford*	2 p.m.
4/22	Radford*	1 p.m.
4/24	George Mason	3 p.m.
4/27	at Coastal Carolina*	6 p.m.
4/28	at Coastal Carolina*	2 p.m.
4/29	at Coastal Carolina*	1 p.m.
5/1	at Virginia Tech	7 p.m.
5/4	at Arizona	10 p.m.
5/5	at Arizona	9 p.m.
5/6	at Arizona	3 p.m.
5/11	Winthrop*	4 p.m.
5/12	Winthrop*	2 p.m.
5/13	Winthrop*	2 p.m.
5/18	at VMI*	7 p.m.
5/19	at VMI*	7 p.m.
5/20	at VMI*	2 p.m.
5/22-26	Big South Championship @ Rock Hill, S.C.	

Home Games in bold

* Big South Conference Game
! The Crab House Shootout @
Charleston, S.C.
(DH) - Doubleheader

All Times Eastern Standard Time

**2007 Liberty University
Baseball Game Notes**



Liberty posted a 15-5 record against Virginia teams in 2006. The Flames are scheduled to meet state squads George Mason (twice), James Madison (twice), Old Dominion (once), Radford (three times), Richmond (once), VCU (once), VMI (three times), Virginia Tech (twice) and William & Mary (twice) this season.

Another Fantastic February

The month of February has been good to the Flames the past three seasons. Liberty won its last five contests in the second month of the year in 2006 to post a 7-2 mark. In 2005, the Flames started 7-1 in February to begin the season.

2007 was no different, as Liberty finished the year's opening month on a six-game win streak to post a 7-3 mark in the season's first month.

2007 by the Month

The Flames will play 19 contests in the month of March. Liberty started the third month by winning five of its first six contests, before dropping three-straight contests. The Flames went 2-1 on the weekend to currently stand at 7-5 in March.

Last season, Liberty dropped its first game of the month at James Madison on March 1, before reeling off nine victories to tie the school Division I record for consecutive wins. The Flames finished 12-6 during March 2006. In Big South Conference games in March, Liberty went 1-4 in the month to open league play.

Liberty opened the season by going 7-3 in February.

Liberty's 2007 record, by the month:

Month	Record
February	7-3, 0-0 Big South
March	7-5, 2-1 Big South

Liberty's 2006 record, by the month:

Month	Record
February	7-2, 0-0 Big South
March	12-6, 1-3 Big South
April	14-5, 10-4 Big South
May	6-8, 2-4 Big South

Over Two Years and Counting

The Flames have gone 160 games and over three years without being shut out in a contest. During the span, Liberty mound staff has pitched six shutouts, including three in 2006.

The last time a Liberty team was shut out was April 10, 2004 at Winthrop. Eagles' starter Jeff Reeves combined with relievers Jonathan Settle and Chris Leroux to allow the Flames three hits in a 6-0 win.

Liberty has been limited to one run five times during the period. Last season, Birmingham-Southern allowed the Flames single runs in in back-to-back games on April 28 and 29. Liberty also scored one run in a loss at Winthrop on March 24.

In 2005, Liberty scored only one run on two occasions, in a 1-0 victory over Fairfield on March 9 and in the last game of the season, a 2-1 setback to Coastal Carolina on May 27 at the Big South Baseball Championship.

The Flames have scored more than one run in each of its first 22 games this season.

2007 Liberty Flames Roster

2007 Liberty University Baseball Game Notes



Position Players

No.	Name	Pos.	Cl.
1	Kenneth Negron	OF	So.
3	Tommy Bussey	2B	So.
4	Cody Brown	1B/3B	R-So.
5	Aaron Grijalva	1B	R-Jr.
6	Aaron Phillips	3B	Jr.
7	David Giammaresi	3B	R-Jr.
8	Derek Bennion	OF	R-Sr.
9	David McCall	INF	So.
10	Patrick Gaillard	SS	Sr.
12	Shawn Teufel	1B	So.
15	Cory Johnson	C	Fr.
19	P. K. Keller	OF	Jr.
20	Jonathan Schneider	OF	Fr.
23	Nate Thompson	C	R-Fr.
26	Andrew Weaver	2B	Fr.
27	Tim Nanry	OF	Sr.
29	Errol Hollinger	C	So.
30	Phil John	OF	Sr.
33	Garrett Young	OF	Jr.

Pitchers

11	Doug Wallace	LHP	R-So.
13	Dane Beakler	RHP	So.
16	Andrew Wilson	RHP	So.
17	Dustin Umberger	RHP	So.
18	Grady Ihnat	LHP	Fr.
22	Tim John	RHP	Sr.
31	Tyler Light	RHP	So.
32	Chase Vaden	LHP	Fr.
34	Ryan Page	LHP	Jr.
38	Michael Solbach	RHP	R-Jr.
42	David Stokes	RHP	Jr.
52	Rusty Lajoie	RHP	Fr.

Head Coach: 2 Matt Royer

Assistant Coaches: 14 Terry Weaver

24 Reggie Reynolds

Trainer: Scott Lawrenson

R - redshirt

Winning the Close Ones

Liberty finished last season 10-5 in one-run games. Its record in one-run games was one of the keys to Liberty's fast start to 2006 on its way to breaking the school mark for victories in a season. Six of the Flames' first 10 games were decided by one run. Liberty went 5-1 in those games.

The Flames have started 2007, 2-1, in contests decided by one run this season. The last two were Matt Royer's team's first two extra-inning contests of 2007. Two weeks ago, Liberty had back-to-back games go extra frames in order to determine an outcome. The Flames defeated George Washington, 7-6, in 10 innings on March 10, before falling on Sunday to the Colonials, 6-5, in 10 innings on March 11.

Running Again

The Flames are off and running again this season. So far in 2007, Liberty has stolen 29 bases in 32 attempts. Leading the way with nine steals is first baseman Aaron Grijalva. He has not been caught yet this season. Phil John is next with seven steals.

In 2006, Liberty led the Big South with 104 stolen bases. In addition, the Flames ranked 30th in the country among Division I programs in stolen bases per game, as they averaged 1.73 steals per contest, marking a stark contrast to 2005.

Last season, the Flames swiped 39 more stolen bases in 60 contests than they had in 55 the previous year. Liberty averaged 1.73 steals per game as they swiped 104 bases in 127 attempts, an 82 percent success rate.

In 2005, Liberty finished the season with a 77 percent success rate, as they stole 63 bases in 81 attempts (less than 1.15 per game).

Chad Miller finished fourth in the Big South with 24 steals in his final season with Flames. Aaron Grijalva ranked fifth in the conference with 23 stolen bases. Patrick Gaillard was also among the Big South leaders with 16 thefts, ranking ninth.

Turning It Around

After starting the year 1-3, head coach Matt Royer's squad won 11 out of their next 12 games to post a 12-4 record. Following a loss to then #1 South Carolina at the Crab House Shootout on Feb. 16, the Flames won a season-high seven games in a row, before dropping a contest to Manhattan on March 3. Liberty then ran off four-straight victories, before falling in extra innings on last Sunday to George Washington.

The Flames began the 2006 season at 2-2, before closing out February with five-straight victories. In addition, the Flames ran off nine-game winning streaks twice last season, tying the Division I school mark reached by both the 1985 and 1995 teams. The school record is 15-straight wins, set by the 1976 Liberty team.

Young Off to Strong Start

Center fielder Garrett Young has started his first season at Liberty in strong fashion. The Liberty center fielder has hit .419 with eight doubles and four home runs in his first 18 games with the Flames. He has also driven in 20 runs and scored 21 others.

The Fountain Valley, Calif., native entered the week as the Big South leader in RBI and total bases with 49, second in the conference in batting average, tied for second in hits with 30 and runs scored, and tied for the lead in doubles. In addition, he has had at least one hit in 15 games and has nine multi-hit games to go along with a team-leading six multiple RBI contests.

Last week, Young batted .556 (10-18) and knocked in nine runs in four contests. He had two or more hits in each game and drove in two more runs in each contest also. The Flames' center fielder was named Big South Player of the Week for the effort.

On Feb. 27 at VCU, the junior went 4-for-5 with three doubles and three RBI in the

When the Flames...

Are at home	9-4
Are on the road	4-3
Are at a neutral site	1-1
In Day Games	14-8
In Night Games	0-0
vs. left-handed starter	3-4
vs. right-handed starter	11-4
In one-run games	2-1
In two-run games	1-0
In five-plus run games	7-6
Extra innings	1-1
Shutouts	0-0
Score first	5-1
Opponents score first	9-7
Scored In the first	4-2
Opponent scored in first	4-4
Lead after the first	4-0
Trail after the first	2-2
Are tied after the first	8-6
Lead after the second	6-0
Trail after the second	3-6
Are tied after the second	5-2
Lead after the third	9-1
Trail after the third	2-7
Are tied after the third	3-0
Lead after the fourth	10-0
Trail after the fourth	3-7
Are tied after the fourth	1-1
Lead after the fifth	13-2
Trail after the fifth	1-5
Are tied after the fifth	0-1
Lead after the sixth	12-2
Trail after the sixth	2-6
Are tied after the sixth	0-0
Lead after the seventh	13-1
Trail after the seventh	1-7
Are tied after the seventh	0-0
Lead after the eighth	13-0
Trail after the eighth	0-7
Are tied after the eighth	1-1
Go to extra innings	1-1
After winning a game	10-4
After losing a game	3-4
Out-hit opponent	13-2
Out-hit by opponent	1-6
Hits are tied	0-0
Hit a home run	5-1
Opponents hit a home run	5-6
Wear red uniforms	2-1
Wear white uniforms	4-2
Wear navy uniforms	5-2
Wear grey uniforms	3-3
Play on Monday	1-0
Play on Tuesday	2-1
Play on Wednesday	0-1
Play on Thursday	0-0
Play on Friday	4-1
Play on Saturday	5-2
Play on Sunday	2-3

2007 Liberty University Baseball Game Notes



Flames' victory over the Rams. It was not the first time the outfielder has gone 4-for-5 this season. He also was 4-for-5 with four runs driven in, a double and a home run in helping to pace the Flames' 28-hit attack in a 28-7 win over Richmond on Feb. 18 at the Crab House Shootout in Charleston, S.C.

In his first game in a Flames' uniform, he went 3-for-5 with a home run, a RBI and two runs scored in Liberty's 6-2, season-opening victory at East Carolina.

Solbach Finds Groove

After starting the season 0-1 in his first two starts, right-hander Michael Solbach has given the Flames four-straight strong outings and has run his record to 4-1 on the season. During the four-game stretch, the redshirt-junior has a 0.65 ERA as he allowed six runs, only two which have been earned, in 27 2/3 innings. He has also struck out 24 and walked six in the span.

Solbach picked up his first victory of the year to begin the streak on Feb. 23 against Albany. The right-hander gave up two unearned runs and just one hit in six innings of work in a 9-2 Liberty win. Solbach retired the last 16 batters he faced before giving way to a reliever. The following week, he allowed one run on four hits in a 6-2 Flames' win over Manhattan. He struck out a season-high seven in the outing. For the two week effort, he received Big South Pitcher of the Week honors.

Since then, he has picked up wins in outings against George Washington and UNC Asheville for a 4-1 season mark.

The Woodbridge, Va. native, enters the week with an overall 2.02 ERA, which ranks him fourth in the Big South in the category. Solbach leads the conference with the lowest opponent batting average against him at .203 and is second with four wins. He is also seventh in the league with 29 strikeouts.

Phil John Gives A Jolt

Senior Phil John has given Liberty a lift with both his glove and bat since his insertion into the line-up on Feb. 16 against then No. 1 South Carolina. The right-fielder had two hits in the game and has continued to aid the Flames by having at least one hit in each of his first seven starts this season. It took a gash to the chin on a diving attempt on a hit to right in a game against George Washington on March 10 to halt the streak as the outfielder was forced to come out in the second inning.

However, the right fielder has picked his hot hitting right back up where he left off the next day with two hits against the Colonials. He then went 3-for-5 on March 14 at James Madison in his next start.

A strong defender, John has collected 25 hits in 59 at bats for a .424 batting average and began the week second in the Big South Conference in batting average. He also is seventh in the conference and leads Liberty in on base percentage with a .491 percentage. John also has had the longest hitting streak by a Flame this year by hitting safely in 11-straight contests from Feb. 18 through March 9.

Liberty's Young Named Big South Player of the Week

Liberty outfielder Garrett Young has been selected as the Big South Conference Choice Hotels Baseball Player of the Week for games played March 5-11.

Young batted .556 (10-18) and knocked in nine runs in leading the Flames to a 3-1 mark last week. He posted a .579 on-base percentage, 16 total bases, an .889 slugging percentage, four multi-hit games and four multi-RBI games. Young went 3-4 with two runs scored and two RBI to begin the week at Old Dominion, then drove in three runs in Friday's win over George Washington with a home run and a triple. He also tallied five runs scored, one double and two stolen bases during the week.

**Flames Among
the Big South Leaders
(March 19, 2007):**

Batting Average

Phil John .424 (2nd)
Garrett Young .419 (2nd)

Slugging Pct.

Garrett Young .716 (1st)
Tim Nanry .545 (10th)

On Base Percentage

Phil John .470 (7th)
Garrett Young .469 (8th)

Runs Scored

Garrett Young 21 (Tied-3rd)

Hits

Garrett Young 31 (Tied-5th)

Runs Batted In

Garrett Young 20 (Tied-5th)
Tim Nanry 17 (Tied-9th)

Doubles

Garrett Young 8 (Tied-3rd)

Home Runs

Garrett Young 4 (Tied-3rd)

Total Bases

Garrett Young 53 (2nd)

Stolen Bases

Aaron Grijalva 9 (3rd)

ERA

Ryan Page 2.02 (4th)
Michael Solbach 2.59 (7th)

Opposing Batting Avg.

Michael Solbach .203 (1st)
Tyler Light .236 (Tied-6th)
Ryan Page .244 (Tied-9th)

Strikeouts

Michael Solbach 29 (9th)

Wins

Michael Solbach 4 (2nd)

Saves

Ryan Page 3 (Tied-2nd)
Tim John 2 (Tied-3rd)

Appearances

Ryan Page 10 (Tied-3rd)

**2007 Liberty University
Baseball Game Notes**



Flames Get Boost From Outfielders Against GW

Liberty took two-out-of-three from George Washington in a three-game weekend series, March 9-11, thanks to the hitting efforts of its outfielders.

The Flames opened the series with a 9-3 win on Friday as pitcher Michael Solbach won his third-straight start. Designated hitter Tim Nanry went 4-for-4 with two RBI and center fielder Garrett Young continued his big week by driving in three runs with a home run and a triple in the win.

Saturday, Derek Bennion went 3-for-5 and drove in the winning run in the 10th inning as the Flames defeated the Colonials, 7-6. Bennion had entered the game in the second as a replacement in right field for Phil John, who had to leave the contest due to injury. The senior had two doubles among his three hits and drove in three runs as Liberty came from five runs down for the extra inning victory.

On Sunday, it was the Colonials who took the contest in extra innings, 6-5. A solo home run in the 10th won it for George Washington. Young, Nanry and John had two hits apiece for the Flames. Young also had two RBI, running his week's total to nine.

Stokes Leads Flames Past Monarchs

Liberty right-hander David Stokes gave up one run on four hits over eight innings in his strongest outing of the season, as the Flames defeated the Old Dominion Monarchs, 8-2, on March 6 at the Bud Metheny Baseball Complex.

Stokes scattered four hits and allowed one run over eight innings in the longest outing of his four starts this season. He struck out five and did not yield a walk on the afternoon. The right-hander retired the first 10 batters he faced.

Aaron Grijalva and Garrett Young both were 3-for-4 with two RBI to pace the Liberty attack. Phil John also had two hits as the Flames plated five runs in the fourth inning to take a 5-1 advantage, they never relinquished.

Solbach Named New Balance Big South Pitcher of the Week

Liberty right-hander Michael Solbach was selected the New Balance Pitcher of the Week for games played Feb. 19-March 4.

Solbach picked up his first two wins of the season with victories over Albany and Manhattan during Liberty's season-long seven-game winning streak from Feb. 17-March 2. The Flames' right-hander posted a 0.69 earned run average in 13.0 innings of work, allowing just one earned run, while striking out 13 batters.

Against Albany on Feb. 23, the redshirt junior allowed two unearned runs and just one hit over six innings on a cold and windy day at Worthington Stadium. Solbach retired 16-straight batters before giving way to a reliever, collecting his first win of the year.

On March 2, Solbach went seven innings and allowed two runs, one earned, on four hits against Manhattan. The right-hander fanned seven and walked two. With the win over the Jaspers, Solbach moved his 2007 mark to 2-1.

Gaillard and Grijalva Push Flames Past Manhattan

First baseman Aaron Grijalva's bases-clearing triple with two outs broke a 6-6 tie and began an eight-run, eighth-inning uprising, pushing the Flames past the Manhattan Jaspers, 14-6, March 11 at Worthington Stadium. Grijalva went 4-for-5 with five RBI and two runs scored in helping the Flames take the series, two games to one. Third baseman David Giammaresi also drove in three runs with two hits in the contest, while Kenneth Negron and Tommy Bussey had two hits apiece. In addition, catcher Nate Thompson hit a three-run home run.

The previous day, Liberty had its seven-game winning streak snapped as the Jaspers defeated the Flames, 9-2. Negron and Patrick Gaillard had two hits apiece for Liberty in the setback.

The Flames Leaders:
(as of Mar. 20)

Batting Average	
33 Young, Garrett	.419
30 John, Phil	.406
Slugging Pct.	
33 Young, Garrett	.716
27 Nanry, Tim	.565
On base Pct.	
33 Young, Garrett	.469
30 John, Phil	.451
Runs Scored	
33 Young, Garrett	21
30 John, Phil	18
Hits	
33 Young, Garrett	31
30 John, Phil	26
RBI	
33 Young, Garrett	20
27 Nanry, Tim	18
Doubles	
33 Young, Garrett	8
7 Giammaresi, David	6
27 Nanry, Tim	6
Triples	
Seven with	1
Home Runs	
33 Young, Garrett	4
27 Nanry, Tim	3
Stolen Bases	
5 Grijalva, Aaron	9
30 John, Phil	7
ERA	
38 Solbach, Michael	2.02
22 John, Tim	2.45
Appearances	
22 John, Tim	10
34 Page, Ryan	10
Wins	
38 Solbach, Michael	4
31 Light, Tyler	3
42 Stokes, David	3
Saves	
34 Page, Ryan	3
22 John, Tim	2
Innings Pitched	
17 Umberger, Dustin	36.0
38 Solbach, Michael	35.2
42 Stokes, David	30.2
Opposing Batting Avg.	
38 Solbach, Michael	.203
34 Page, Ryan	.244
Strikeouts	
38 Solbach, Michael	29
42 Stokes, David	24
17 Umberger, Dustin	24

**2007 Liberty University
Baseball Game Notes**



In the series' opener on March 9, Michael Solbach allowed two runs on four hits over seven innings to run his record to 2-1, and Liberty scored four times in the fifth to defeat Manhattan, 6-2. Gaillard went 3-for-5 and plated a run to pace a 13-hit Flames' attack.

On the weekend, Grijalva was 5-for-11 (.455) in the three games, driving in eight runs. Gaillard went 6-for-13 (.462) with two doubles and three runs scored in the series.

Young Has Big Day Against VCU

Center fielder Garrett Young went 4-for-5 with three doubles and three RBI as visiting Liberty defeated VCU, 8-2, on Feb. 27 in its first midweek contest of 2007. The victory was the Flames' sixth-straight win.

Tyler Light ran his record to 2-0 on the year with five innings of work, providing another strong performance from the Flames' mound staff. The right-hander yielded one run on five hits, before giving way to Ryan Page in the sixth.

First baseman Aaron Grijalva and second baseman Aaron Phillips also had two hits apiece for the Flames. The tandem both drove in runs in a five-run sixth inning as Grijalva doubled home one run and Phillips followed with a triple to score two more in the frame.

Strong Mound Efforts Help Flames Sweep Albany

Liberty swept a doubleheader on Feb. 24 from the Albany Great Danes to complete a sweep of a three-game weekend series between the two teams. The host Flames got solid mound outings from starters Dustin Umberger and Michael Solbach during the weekend.

Ryan Page saved both ends of the doubleheader as the Flames downed the Great Danes, 5-1 and 7-5, Saturday. In the opening game, starter Dustin Umberger pitched seven scoreless innings, scattering five hits, striking out four and walking one. It was the second-straight seven-inning outing for the right-hander, as he moved his mark to 2-1 on the year. Left fielder Kenneth Negron went 3-for-4 with two RBI, a run scored and two stolen bases in the contest.

In the nightcap, Liberty plated five runs in the second inning to take a 5-1 lead and never trailed the rest of the way in a 7-5 victory. Third baseman David Giammaresi paced the Flames with two doubles and two RBI.

On Feb. 23, starter Michael Solbach evened his record at 1-1, allowing two unearned runs in the first inning and one hit in six strong innings in a 9-2 victory over Albany in the home opener at Worthington Stadium. After a shaky first frame, the right-hander retired 16 batters in a row, before yielding to a reliever on a cold and windy afternoon. Taking advantage of several Great Dane fielding miscues, the Flames scored four runs in the third inning and five in the fourth inning in the victory.

Nanry Receives Conference Player of the Week Honors

Outfielder Tim Nanry was selected the Big South Conference Choice Hotels Player of the Week for games played Feb. 12-18.

Nanry batted .667 (6-for-9) in three games, helping the Flames post a 2-1 record at the Crab House Shootout in Charleston, S.C. He garnered his first two starts of the season on Feb. 17 against host The Citadel and Feb. 18 against Richmond.

The outfielder responded with Liberty's first hit of the day against The Citadel in the fifth inning and scored the tying run in the Flames' 2-1, Feb. 17 win.

The next day against intra-state rival Richmond, Nanry belted three home runs, plated eight runs and scored four times in the Flames' 28-7 victory over the Spiders. The senior, who had the best day of his Liberty career, went 5-for-5 in the contest and was hit by a pitch to pace a 28-hit afternoon for the Flames, a new school record. Nanry finished with a 1.667 slugging percentage on the week.

**Big South Conference
Player of the Week**

- Feb. 7 Tommy Lentz, Sr., OF
Winthrop
- Feb. 14 David Sappelt, Jr., OF
Coastal Carolina
- Feb. 21 Tim Nanry, Sr., OF/DH
Liberty**
- Mar. 6 Chris Raber, Sr., 1B
Coastal Carolina
- Mar. 13 Garrett Young, Jr., OF
Liberty**
- Mar. 20 Eddie Van Es, So., OF
VMI

**Big South Conference
Pitcher of the Week**

- Feb. 7 Eammon Portice, Jr.,
RHP, High Point
- Feb. 14 Jason Franzblau, So.
RHP, Winthrop
- Feb. 21 Bobby Gagg, So.
RHP, Coastal Carolina
- Mar. 6 Michael Solbach, R-Jr.
RHP, Liberty**
- Mar. 13 Bubba O'Donnell, Jr.
RHP, High Point
- Mar. 20 Adam Hoyt, Fr.
LHP, Radford

**2007 Liberty University
Baseball Game Notes**



Flames Break Records in Victory over Richmond

Tim Nanry hit three home runs to pace a school record-breaking, 28-hit attack as the Flames defeated the Richmond Spiders, 28-7, Feb. 18 at Riley Park in their final game at the Crab House Shootout in Charleston, S.C. The Flames broke the school mark with 28 hits and tied the single-game record for runs in the contest.

Liberty's 28 hits set a new standard for hits in a contest, breaking the old mark of 26, which the 2006 squad reached in a contest at UNC Asheville on May 13 of last season and on March 25, 1995, against UMBC. The Flames also surpassed the school mark of 25 RBI in a contest with 28. Liberty tied the school record for runs scored as the Flames also plated 28 runs in a 28-3 victory over Radford on March 19, 1985.

Nanry led the Liberty outburst by going 5-for-5 and being hit by a pitch. The outfielder hit three home runs, had eight RBI and scored four times in the contest. Center fielder Garrett Young went 4-for-5 on the afternoon with four RBI and a home run. Right fielder Phil John also had three hits and drove in six runs for the Flames. Shortstop Patrick Gaillard tied a school mark by scoring five times in the contest.

Changes Continue at Worthington

When the Flames took the field at Worthington Stadium on Feb. 23 against Albany in their home opener, both players and fans saw several changes at the complex.

The most noticeable difference is the field turf collar installed around the home plate area. The collar will save wear and tear on the grass in the area. Fans also saw new uniforms and jackets for the Flames .

Another visible difference is the refurbished scoreboard. The board itself has been painted navy blue with red trim and all 730 light bulbs have been replaced. Besides the scoreboard, the press box, several spectator areas and both dugouts have also been-painted navy blue with red trim.

Inside the field house, the Liberty locker room has been redone with a new Tuflex surface. Also, additional lighting has been added and the current lighting upgraded in the indoor batting cage area.

Looking Ahead

Liberty will take to the road for its first conference road series this weekend. The Flames will travel to High Point for a three-game series with the Panthers, March 23-25. Friday's opener is scheduled for 2:30 p.m., followed by 1 p.m. starts on both Saturday and Sunday.

Liberty will follow the weekend series with a non-conference midweek contest at George Mason on Wednesday. The single game in Fairfax, Va. is scheduled for 2:30 p.m.

The Flames return to Worthington Stadium for a weekend series with Monmouth on March 31 and April 1. The two teams will play a doubleheader on Saturday afternoon with a starting time of 11 a.m. Monmouth and Liberty will then meet on Sunday in a single game set for 1 p.m.