

**2009-10 Liberty
Men's Basketball
Quick Facts**

General Information

Name of School..... Liberty University
City/Zip Lynchburg, Va. 24502
Founded 1971
Enrollment 11,311
Nickname Lady Flames
School Colors Red, White & Blue
Home Arena..... Vines Center
Capacity..... 8,085
Affiliation NCAA Division I
Conference..... Big South
Founder..... Dr. Jerry Falwell
Chancellor Jerry Falwell, Jr.
Director of Athletics..... Jeff Barber
Athletics Dept. Phone..... (434) 582-2100

Men's Basketball Information

Head Coach..... Dale Layer
Alma Mater Eckerd, '80
Record at School 0-0 (First Year)
Career Record..... 270-193 (16 years)
Assistant Coaches
...Jason Eaker (Texas-Pan American, '04)
..... Myron Guillory (Virginia Tech, '99)
..... Brian Joyce (Oklahoma Christian, '95)
Certified Athletic Trainer
..... Aaron Schreiner (Taylor, '02)

History

First Season of Basketball..... 1972-73
All-Time Record 524-555
NCAA Tournament Appearances..... 2
Last NCAA Appearance..... 2004
Opponent..... St. Joseph's
Result L/82-63 (First Round)
Final/Highest Ranking N/A
Final 2008-09 Record..... 23-12
Conference Record/Finish..... 12-6/Third
Starters Returning/Lost..... 2/3
Letterwinners Returning/Lost..... 7/5
Newcomers..... 5

Athletics Communications Info.

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Media Information

Radio

Station WRVL (88.3 FM)
Play-By-Play Jerry Edwards

Television

Station Flames Sports Network
Play-By-Play Ray Jones
Color Tim Scarborough

Game No. 1 - Nov. 13, 2009

**Liberty FLAMES
(0-0, 0-0 Big South)**

at

George Mason PATRIOTS (0-0)

**Fairfax, Va. - Patriot Center
7:30 p.m.**

Game No. 2 - Nov. 14, 2009

**Southern Virginia KNIGHTS
(0-0)**

at

**Liberty FLAMES
(0-0, 0-0 Big South)**

**Lynchburg, Va. - Vines Center
7 p.m.**

The Games

The youthful Flames (0-0, 0-0 Big South) open the season on the road against George Mason, Friday at 7:30 p.m. The Commonwealth clash marks the third year of a four-year series that trades off between Fairfax, Va., and Lynchburg. After the game against the Patriots, the Flames return home the following night to host the Knights of Southern Virginia. The two teams met for the first and most recent time on Nov. 27, 2006, which resulted in a 109-64 victory for the Flames.

On the Road Again

Liberty opens its season on the road for the first time in three seasons. The last time the Flames donned away jerseys was on Nov. 16, 2006 against Big 12 powerhouse Oklahoma. In the contest, Liberty's all-time leading scorer Larry Blair posted 23 points against the Sooners. Despite Blair's offensive efforts, the Flames fell to the Sooners 74-48.

Season Openers - Away

Liberty currently sits at 2-12 all-time when opening its season on the road. The program's last season-opening road win came at the start of the 1988-89 season, when the Flames defeated Brooklyn, 80-65.

Watch and Listen for the Flames

Saturday's home opener will be televised on the Flames Sports Network with Ray Jones providing the play-by-play and Tim Scarborough adding color commentary. There will be a radio broadcast which will air on the Flames Sports Network (flagship WRVL 88.3 FM) with Jerry Edwards providing the play-by-play for his 29th season. Additionally, an Internet audio broadcast on LibertyFlames.com will be available. There will also be a live video stream of the broadcast via the Big South Network, available on BigSouthSports.com.

Liberty's Probable Starters (Stats are from 2008-09 Season)

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	PPG	RPG	Other Stats
25	Jesse Sanders	G	6-3	200	So.	6.9	5.2	4.3 apg
0	Chris Perez	G	6-4	197	Fr.	--	--	--
14	David Minaya	G	6-6	205	R-So.	--	--	--
11	Kyle Ohman	G/F	6-4	200	Sr.	13.9	5.6	.768 FT%
3	Tyler Baker	F	6-9	215	R-Sr.	4.7	2.5	.438 FG%
Reserves								
1	Johnny Stephene	G	6-2	200	R-So.	3.7	1.4	.434 FG%
4	James Spencer	G	6-1	190	Jr.	0.9	1.3	.500 FG%
10	Evan Gordon	G	6-2	185	Fr.	--	--	--
12	Jeremy Anderson	G	6-4	200	R-So.	--	--	--
21	Joel Vander Pol	C	6-10	220	Fr.	--	--	--
23	Patrick Konan	F	6-5	205	Fr.	--	--	--
24	Antwan Burrus	F	6-6	210	Fr.	--	--	--
34	Bill Weaver	G	6-4	200	So.	1.1	0.8	.471 FG%
41	Carter McMasters	C	6-11	210	R-Fr.	1.6	0.8	--

2009-10 Liberty Men's Basketball Schedule/Results

Overall: 0-0
Big South: 0-0

11/13 at George Mason 7:30 p.m.
11/14 SOUTHERN VIRGINIA^# 7 p.m.
11/17 CLEMSON% 10 a.m.
11/19 OLD DOMINION^# 7 p.m.

Chicago Invitational (Campus Sites)

11/22 at Notre Dame 7 p.m.
11/24 at Northwestern 6:30 p.m.

Chicago Invitational (Chicago, Ill.)

11/27 vs. Mississippi Valley State 3:30 p.m.
11/28 vs. Kennesaw/Tenn. State 12:30/3 p.m.

12/3 CHARLESTON SO.*^# 7 p.m.
12/5 COASTAL CAROLINA*^# 7 p.m.
12/12 KENTUCKY CHRISTIAN^# 7 p.m.
12/15 SHAWNEE STATE^# 7 p.m.
12/19 HOUGHTON^# 7 p.m.

UCF Classic (Orlando, Fla.)

12/29 vs. UCF 7 p.m.
12/30 vs. Buffalo/Jacksonville 4/7 p.m.

1/2 at VMI*# 1 p.m.
1/7 at Presbyterian*# 7 p.m.
1/9 at Winthrop*# 4 p.m.
1/14 GARDNER-WEBB*^# 7 p.m.
1/16 UNC ASHEVILLE*^# 7 p.m.
1/21 at High Point*# 7 p.m.
1/23 at Radford*# 6 p.m.
1/28 VMI*^# 7 p.m.

2/4 WINTHROP*^# 8 p.m.
2/7 PRESBYTERIAN*^# 7 p.m.
2/11 at UNC Asheville*# 7 p.m.
2/13 at Gardner-Webb*# 7 p.m.
2/16 RADFORD*^# 7 p.m.
2/20 HIGH POINT*^# 7 p.m.
2/25 at Coastal Carolina*# 7 p.m.
2/27 at Charleston Southern*# 7:30 p.m.

Big South MBB Championship

3/2 Quarterfinals (Home Sites) 7 p.m.
3/4 Semifinals (Season Champ)! 6/8 p.m.
3/6 Finals (Higher Seed)\$ 4 p.m.

NCAA Tournament

3/18-21 First/Second Rounds TBA

Home Games in BOLD CAPS

* - Big South Conference Game
All times are Eastern Standard Time
^ - Broadcast on
Flames Sports Network
- Broadcast on Big South Sports
Network
& - Broadcast on MASN
! - Broadcast on ESPNU
% - Broadcast on ESPN
\$ - Broadcast on ESPN 2

Head Coach Dale Layer



Record at Liberty: 0-0 (First Year)
Career Record: 270-193 (16 Years)

Mountain West Conference Championship: 2003
2 NCAA Division II Appearances: 1996 (Sweet 16), 1998

Entering his first season as head coach of the Flames, Dale Layer is the eighth coach in program history. Layer returns to Liberty Mountain after previously serving as an assistant coach for the Flames during the 2007-08 season.

This will be Layer's third head coaching stint and first since leaving Colorado State in 2007. Layer, 50, comes to Liberty most recently from a successful run as an assistant coach at BIG EAST member and nationally ranked Marquette this past season where he worked with the guards. Layer helped the Eagles to a 25-10 record and a second round appearance in the NCAA Tournament despite lacking the full-time services of All-American Dominic James, who injured himself near the end of the season.

Dale Layer first served as an assistant at Liberty during the 2007-08 season, helping the Flames to its best regular season finish since Liberty won the 2004 Big South Championship.

Layer has also demonstrated the ability to develop talent, including former Colorado State center Jason Smith. The seven-footer scored over 1,500 points for Layer's Rams during his three seasons with the program before entering the NBA Draft following his junior campaign. Due to his development under Layer's tutelage, Smith was chosen with the 20th selection of the NBA Draft's first round by the Miami Heat in 2007. His rights were traded to the Philadelphia 76ers. When Smith graduated high school he was ranked as the 276th best player in his class and under Layer developed in three seasons to the 20th selection in the NBA Draft. Several of Layer's recruiting classes at Colorado State were ranked among the top 40 nationally by various recruiting publications.

Layer has a career 270-193 record (16 years) as a head coach, including nine seasons at the helm of Queens University (formally Queens College) in Charlotte, N.C. He also served as the athletics director while at the school and started the basketball program in 1989 from scratch at the formerly all women's institution. Layer's student-athletes excel in the classroom too. In Layer's 16 seasons as a head coach, he has accompanied 43 seniors to be honored on senior night and all 43 earned a college degree, marking 100 percent graduation rate of all players who finish their eligibility under Layer.

After graduating from Eckerd College in St. Petersburg, Fla., in 1980, Layer started his coaching career as an assistant under Jim Harley, his former coach. Before moving on to Queens University, Layer spent seven of the next eight years at Eckerd College except for the 1982-83 season, when he was an assistant at Eastern Kentucky.

Layer made the jump to Division I in 1998 when Ritchie McKay took the head coaching job at Colorado State and named him to his staff. During McKay's two seasons with the Rams, Layer helped lead Colorado State to the NIT Tournament in 1999, where they beat Mississippi State and Colorado before falling to eventual champion, California.

While with the Rams, Layer had a 103-106 record, including a 17-13 mark in 2007. In 2003, Layer led Colorado State to the Mountain West Conference Championship and its first NCAA Tournament bid in 13 years, falling to Duke in the first round.

George Mason at a Glance

General Information

Location: Fairfax, Va.
Founded: 1957
Enrollment: 30,714
Colors: Green and Gold
Nickname: Patriots
President: Dr. Alan G. Merten
Athletic Director: Thomas J. O'Connor
National Affiliation: NCAA Division I
Conference: Colonial Athletic Association
Gymnasium (Capacity): Patriot Center (10,000)
Website: GoMason.com

Team Information

Head Coach: Jim Larranaga
Alma Mater: Providence, 1971
Record at GMU: 229-142 (12 years)
Career Record: 426-312 (25 years)
Assistant Coaches: Chris Caputo, Michael Huger, Eric Konkol
2008-09 Record: 22-11
Conference Record/Finish: 13-5/2nd
Lettermen Returning/Lost: 7/4
Starters Returning/Lost: 2/3
Top Returnees: Louis Birdsong, Andre Cornelius, Cam Long, Mike Morrison, Jimmy Nolan, Ryan Pearson, Isaiah Tate
Newcomers: Paris Bennett, Luke Hancock, Vertrail Vaughns, Rashad Whack, Johnny Williams, Sherrod Wright

Series Information

Series Record: George Mason leads series, 4-3
Liberty's Home Record versus: 2-1
Liberty's Road Record versus: 1-3
Liberty's Neutral Record versus: 0-0
Last Meeting: Dec. 1, 2008 (at Liberty 69, George Mason 66 (OT))

2009-2010 Schedule

Nov. 13	LIBERTY
Nov. 15	DARTMOUTH
Nov. 19	vs. Villanova
Nov. 20	at Puerto Rico Tip-Off
Nov. 22	at Puerto Rico Tip-Off
Nov. 28	at Tulane
Dec. 2	at George Washington
Dec. 5	at UNC Wilmington
Dec. 8	DAYTON
Dec. 12	CREIGHTON
Dec. 22	VMI
Dec. 30	at Radford
Jan. 2	OLD DOMINION
Jan. 4	HOFSTRA
Jan. 6	at Northeastern
Jan. 9	UNC WILMINGTON
Jan. 13	GEORGIA STATE
Jan. 16	at James Madison
Jan. 20	at Hofstra
Jan. 23	at Towson
Jan. 27	DELAWARE
Jan. 30	JAMES MADISON
Feb. 3	at Georgia State
Feb. 6	at Drexel
Feb. 10	VCU
Feb. 13	at Old Dominion
Feb. 16	WILLIAM & MARY
Feb. 20	TBA
Feb. 24	at Delaware
Feb. 27	NORTHEASTERN

Sizing up the Patriots

George Mason went 22-11 in 2008-09, finishing the season with back-to-back losses. The Patriots reached the finals of the CAA Tournament, falling to Virginia Commonwealth, 71-50. George Mason's runner-up finish resulted in an invite to the NIT, where the Patriots fell to Penn State in the opening round in overtime, 77-73.

Returning to George Mason's lineup this season is junior guard Cam Long. In his sophomore campaign, Long led the Patriots in points (11.7 ppg), assists (3.2 ppg) and three-point field goal percentage (.404). The sophomore guard also finished tied for first in steals (37) and second in rebounds (158). Other key returnees include sophomore forward Ryan Pearson (7.0 ppg) and senior forward Louis Birdsong (6.4 ppg).

Battle of the Young Guns

Liberty and George Mason are two of the nation's youngest teams with 11 underclassmen, tied for fifth in the country among squads with the most underclassmen. Other programs with the 11 freshmen and sophomores this season include American, Denver and St. Louis. The only schools to have more underclassmen are Harvard, Toledo, UCF, which hosts the Flames on Dec. 29, and Florida Atlantic.

In terms of upperclassmen, both teams enter the contest with three apiece. George Mason's lone senior is Louis Birdsong, while the Flames roster features two players in their final year of eligibility, redshirt forward Tyler Baker and guard/forward Kyle Ohman. Last season Ohman led the team in three-point efficiency (41.5) and finished third in scoring, averaging 13.9 per game. After being injured the entire 2007-08 campaign as well as the first nine games of last season, Baker returned to the Flames lineup as a solid roleplayer, finishing the 2008-09 campaign with 4.7 ppg.

Shaking Hands for the First Time

Friday's match-up marks the first meeting between head coaches Dale Layer and Jim Larranaga. Layer enters the game with a 270-193 coaching record, which includes nine seasons at the Division II level as the head coach of Queens. While at Queens, he led the Royals to the Sweet 16 in 1996, finishing the season with a 25-6 record. One of the highlights of Layer's coaching career occurred during his seven seasons as the head coach of Colorado State. In 2003, the Rams captured the Mountain West Conference Championship, earning a bid to the NCAA Tournament.

Larranaga is certainly no stranger to NCAA Tournament play. In 2006, George Mason became one of the tournament's true Cinderella stories, as Larranaga led the Patriots to the Final Four, defeating some of the nation's most reputable programs in the process, including Michigan State, North Carolina and Connecticut. Along with his Final Four run, Larranaga has garnered three CAA Tournament championships (1999, 2001, 2008), three CAA regular season titles (1999, 2000, 2006) and owns a 229-142 record at George Mason.

Liberty-George Mason Series Notes

Friday's contest will be the eighth meeting between the two Commonwealth teams. The match-up also marks the third-straight season the Patriots have appeared on the Flames' docket. George Mason currently leads the series, 4-3. The squads first met during the 1986-87 season, which ended in the Patriot's favor, 92-74. George Mason held a 3-0 series lead over the Flames until the 1991-92 campaign when the teams faced off twice. Liberty walked away the victor in both contests, 100-89 and 69-55 respectively.

Last season, the Patriots visited the Vines Center on Dec. 1 in what proved to be a highly competitive contest. George Mason held a 61-58 lead over the Flames until Seth Curry hit a three-point jumper with 17.7 seconds remaining in regulation to send the game in overtime. Liberty went on to take the contest, 69-66, in overtime.

Layer Versus the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA)

Liberty Head Coach Dale Layer is 1-1 all-time against CAA opponents, which consists of two teams the Flames have yet to face in Northeastern and UNC Wilmington. Layer's victory over Northeastern occurred during his stint at Colorado State on Dec. 29, 2000, as the Rams defeated the Huskies, 63-52. At the time of the match-up, Northeastern belonged to the America East Conference.

Sneak Peek at Southern Virginia

General Information

Location: Buena Vista, Va.
Founded: 1996
Enrollment: 700
Colors: Green, White and Black
Nickname: Knights
President: Dr. Rodney K. Smith
Athletic Director:
 Tom Longenecker
National Affiliation: NAIA, USCAA
Conference: Independent
Gymnasium (Capacity): Knight Arena (525)
Website: athletics.svu.edu

Team Information

Head Coach: Brian Pendleton
Alma Mater:
 Central Washington, 1994
Record at SVU: 17-12 (Two years)
Career Record: 17-12 (Two years)
Assistant Coaches: Tony Caputo, John Butler
2008-09 Record: 17-12
Conference Record/Finish: N/A
Lettermen Returning/Lost: 4/9
Starters Returning/Lost: 3/2
Top Returnees: Bryce Pendleton
Newcomers: Sheldon Carlson, Wesley Evans, Levi Rasmussen

Series Information

Series Record: Liberty leads series 1-0
Liberty's Home Record versus: 1-0
Liberty's Road Record versus: 0-0
Liberty's Neutral Record versus: 0-0
Last Meeting: Nov. 27, 2006 (at Liberty 109, Southern Virginia 64)

2009-2010 Schedule

Nov. 10 VIRGINIA INTERMONT
 Nov. 13 PENN STATE-MONT ALTO
Nov. 14 at Liberty
 Nov. 20-21 at Asbury Classic
 Nov. 24 BRIDGEWATER
 Nov. 27-28 at Christopher Newport
 Tournament
 Dec. 2 at Shenandoah
 Dec. 7 at Campbell
 Dec. 12 EASTERN MENNONITE
 Jan. 12 SHENANDOAH
 Jan. 15 vs. Rochester
 Jan. 19 at Newport News Apprentice
 Jan. 23 at Columbia Union
 Jan. 26 at VMI
 Jan. 28 at Eastern Mennonite
 Jan. 30 at Warren Wilson
 Feb. 1 at Bluefield
 Feb. 6 at Williamson Trade
 Feb. 10 at Longwood
 Feb. 13 NEWPORT NEWS
 APPRENTICE
 Feb. 20 BLUEFIELD
 Feb. 23 COLUMBIA UNION
 Feb. 26-27 at Great Ships Classic

Liberty Versus the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA)

The Flames are 11-33 all time against current members of the Colonial Athletic Association. Liberty ended its 2008-09 campaign against a CAA member when it squared off with James Madison in the second round of the CollegeInsider.com Postseason Tournament (CIT) on March 23, 2009, dropping the contest 88-65.

The Flames will only face two CAA teams this year, compared to last season when they matched up against four of the conference's squads. Liberty is currently 1-3 against Drexel, 3-4 against George Mason, 2-7 against James Madison, 0-3 against Old Dominion, 3-9 against Towson, 1-5 against VCU and 1-2 against William & Mary.

Liberty..... Statistical Comparison (2008-09 Stats) GMU

23-12	Record	22-11
45.5	Field Goal Percentage	44.8
43.0	Opponent Field Goal Percentage	40.0
35.9	Three-Point Field Goal Percentage	33.1
9.2	Three-Pointers Made Per Game	5.4
71.0	Free Throw Percentage	66.4
35.6	Rebound Average	36.1
37.2	Opponent Rebound Average	33.5
-1.5	Rebound Differential	+2.6
75.5	Points Per Game	66.3
71.2	Points Allowed Per Game	60.6
+4.3	Point Differential	+5.8

Liberty-Southern Virginia Series Notes

Liberty and Southern Virginia have matched up only once before, as the Flames played host to the Knights inside the Vines Center on Nov. 27, 2006. Five Flames scored in double figures — including Tyler Baker who racked up 13 points, hitting two-for-five from behind the three-point line. The only other current Flame to participate in the contest was Kyle Ohman, who recorded four points and three assists in 12 minutes of play. On the other side of the court, Liberty is a virtual unknown to the Southern Virginia roster as no current member of the Knights' lineup played in the previous meeting.

Back in the Day

Like Southern Virginia, Liberty is no stranger to competing in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA). Before moving up the ranks to Division I play, Liberty joined the NAIA in 1975 as an associate member. The program then transitioned to NCAA Division II in 1981, but was still eligible for NAIA postseason play. Prior to receiving its NAIA postseason eligibility, the Flames captured the National Christian College Athletic Association (NCCAA) Championship in 1980.

Liberty dropped its NAIA affiliation completely in 1984, when it became eligible for NCAA Division II competition. Liberty reached the pinnacle on Sept. 1, 1988, when it was accepted for NCAA Division I membership.

During its time in the association, Liberty produced one NAIA All-American, center Steve Issacs, who earned honorable mention honors in 1982 and 1983. Issacs also earned all-district honors from 1981-83. Other Liberty players to earn NAIA all-district honors include Mark Swift (1981), Greg McCauley (1982) and Kenny Gunn (1983). Former Liberty men's head coach Jeff Meyer, who coached the Flames from 1982-97, also earned NAIA All-District Coach of the Year Honors in 1982.

Young versus Younger

Despite its 37-year existence, Liberty is considered a youngling compared to most universities. Southern Virginia is no exception, as it was founded 25 years after Liberty in 1996.

Southern Virginia Versus Division I Opponents

In addition to the Flames, Southern Virginia will face three other NCAA Division I teams — Campbell (Dec. 7), Big South member VMI (Jan. 26) and Longwood. A charter member of the Big South, Campbell is slated to rejoin the conference in the 2011-2012 season.

Liberty in the Big South Stats
(2008-09 Season)

Team

Scoring Offense (2nd)	75.5 ppg
Scoring Defense (5th).....	71.2 ppg
Scoring Margin (2nd).....	+4.3 ppg
Free Throw Pct. (2nd).....	.710
Field Goal Pct. (2nd).....	.455
Field Goal Pct. Defense (5th) ..	.430
3-Pt. FG Pct. (2nd)359
3-Pt. FG Pct. Defense (4th).....	.337
3-Pt. FG Made (2nd).....	9.17/game
Rebounds (6th).....	35.6 rpg
Opp. Rebounds (8th).....	37.2 rpg
Rebounding Margin (8th).....	- 1.5 rpg
Offensive Rebounds (9th).....	10.6 rpg
Defensive Rebounds (3rd).....	25.1 rpg
Blocked Shots (10th)	1.63 bpg
Assists (4th).....	15.17 apg
Steals (6th)	6.94 spg
Turnover Margin (2nd).....	+ 1.5
Asst./TO Ratio (2nd).....	1.15

Individual

Scoring

Seth Curry (2nd).....	20.2 ppg
Anthony Smith (5th).....	17.0 ppg
Kyle Ohman (10th).....	15.2 ppg

Rebounding

Anthony Smith (8th).....	6.6 rpg
Jesse Sanders (10th).....	6.0 rpg
Kyle Ohman (15th).....	5.8 rpg

Field Goal Pct.

Anthony Smith (6th).....	.519
Seth Curry (11th).....	.375

Assists

Jesse Sanders (3rd)	4.94 apg
Seth Curry (15th).....	2.67 apg

Free Throw Pct.

Seth Curry (1st).....	.891
Kyle Ohman (7th).....	.731

Steals

Anthony Smith (12th).....	1.39 spg
Seth Curry (15th).....	1.33 spg

Three-Point FG Pct.

Anthony Smith (3rd).....	.430
Kyle Ohman (4th).....	.426
Seth Curry (10th).....	.297

Three-Point FG Made

Kyle Ohman (2nd).....	3.06/g
Seth Curry (12th).....	2.61/g

Assist/Turnover Ratio

Jesse Sanders (1st).....	2.47
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Offensive Rebounds

Jesse Sanders (10th).....	2.44 rpg
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Defensive Rebounds

Kyle Ohman (10th).....	4.83 rpg
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2009-10 Flames listed in Bold

Commonwealth Competitors

The Flames' lead off the 2009-10 season with back-to-back contests against in-state opponents. Along with George Mason and Southern Virginia, Liberty is slated to face three other Virginia institutions — Old Dominion and conference foes Radford and VMI.

Last season, the Flames went 5-5 against Commonwealth teams, faring better on the road with a 3-1 record. Liberty's most notable in-state road victory was a 86-82 upset over Virginia on Nov. 25, 2008. Marquee wins at home include a double overtime thriller against William & Mary (80-74) followed by a 69-66 overtime win against George Mason two nights later.

Liberty..... Statistical Comparison (2008-09 Stats) SVU

23-12	Record	17-12
45.5.....	Field Goal Percentage.....	48.6
43.0.....	Opponent Field Goal Percentage	44.7
35.9.....	Three-Point Field Goal Percentage	37.1
9.2.....	Three-Pointers Made Per Game	7.4
71.0.....	Free Throw Percentage.....	62.5
35.6.....	Rebound Average	37.2
37.2	Opponent Rebound Average	32.7
-1.5	Rebound Differential	+4.5
75.5.....	Points Per Game	81.0
71.2	Points Allowed Per Game	70.0
+4.3	Point Differential.....	+11.0

Watchlist Week

Liberty is slated to encounter two members of the 2009-10 Naismith Award Watchlist, Clemson's Trevor Booker and Notre Dame's Luke Harangody. The matchups will occur just five days apart as the Flames play host to Clemson on Nov. 17 and then travel to South Bend, Ind., for a match-up with the Fighting Irish on Nov. 22.

The Naismith Award Watchlist consists of the nation's top 50 players who are selected based on their performances last season and expectations heading into the 2009-10 campaign. The list will be narrowed down to 30 players in February and four finalists in March. In addition to making the list, Harangody is also nominated for the 2009-10 Lowe's Senior CLASS Award.

Like Father, Like Son

The addition of Evan Gordon to the Flames' roster this season makes him the program's first second-generation player. Evan's father Eric Gordon, Sr., suited up for the Flames from 1981-1984. The three-year letterwinner is currently No. 16 on Liberty's all time scoring list with 1,154 points.

While he is the first second-generation Flame, he is not the first player whose father is also in the Liberty men's basketball annals. Mark Manley, who played three seasons with the Flames between 1998 and 2002 is the son of Dan Manley, the program's first head coach (1973-77).

From Walk-on to Starter

Beginning his collegiate playing career without a scholarship in the 2006-07 season, Kyle Ohman has played the part of walk-on support player, sixth man, starter and is now one of the leaders in the Big South. Last season, Ohman posted a banner year, tallying career highs in points, rebounds, assists, steals and blocks. Ohman's single game career high in points occurred on Feb. 4, 2009, when he put up 38 at Gardner-Webb. The point total was highest in the country on the day and tied the second highest mark on the road in program history.

Ohman's big game followed a pair of contest which earned him the honor of Big South Player of the Week for Jan. 26-Feb. 1. Ohman, who was the only Flame to start all 35 contests last season, finished his junior year among the Big South leaders in six statistical categories. He was also ranked No. 26 in the country in three-point percentage (41.5).

Big South Conference Update

Overall Standings

	W	L	Pct.
Charleston So.	0	0	.000
Coastal Carolina	0	0	.000
Gardner-Webb	0	0	.000
High Point	0	0	.000
Liberty	0	0	.000
Presbyterian	0	0	.000
Radford	0	0	.000
UNC Asheville	0	0	.000
Winthrop	0	0	.000
VMI	0	0	.000

Conference Standings

	W	L	Pct.
Charleston So.	0	0	.000
Coastal Carolina	0	0	.000
Gardner-Webb	0	0	.000
High Point	0	0	.000
Liberty	0	0	.000
Presbyterian	0	0	.000
Radford	0	0	.000
UNC Asheville	0	0	.000
Winthrop	0	0	.000
VMI	0	0	.000

Upcoming Schedule

Friday, Nov. 13

Navy at Radford	7 p.m.
Army at VMI	5 p.m.
College of Charleston at Coastal	7:30 p.m.
UNC Asheville at Charlotte	7:30 p.m.
Liberty at George Mason	7:30 p.m.
Charleston So. at Maryland	8 p.m.
Presbyterian at Clemson	8 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 14

UNC Pembroke at High Point	4 p.m.
Limestone at Winthrop	4 p.m.
Covenant College at Gardner-Webb	7 p.m.
Southern Virginia at Liberty	7 p.m.

Monday, Nov. 16

Coastal Carolina at Duke	7 p.m.
Montreat at Gardner-Webb	7 p.m.
VMI at Richmond	7 p.m.

Tuesday, Nov. 17

Clemson at Liberty	10 a.m.
Coastal vs. Charlotte/Elon	6/8:30 p.m.
Presbyterian at Furman	7 p.m.
Lynchburg College at Radford	7 p.m.
UNC Asheville at Tennessee	7 p.m.
Winthrop at College of Charleston	7 p.m.
Charleston So. at The Citadel	7:05 p.m.

Wednesday, Nov. 18

West Virginia Wesleyan at VMI	7 p.m.
High Point at Wake Forest	8 p.m.

Thursday, Nov. 19

Old Dominion at Liberty	7 p.m.
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Liberty Selected Seventh in Preseason

The Flames were predicted to finish seventh out of 10 teams in the Big South Conference for the 2009-10 season, as voted on by the conference's head coaches and members of the media. Liberty is coming off a 23-12 season and a third-place finish in the Big South. The Flames went 12-6 in conference play a year ago, and participated in the inaugural CollegenInsider.com Postseason Tournament (CIT).

2009-10 Big South Preseason Poll

Team (First-Place Votes)	Total Points
1) Radford (24)	239
2) UNC Asheville	191
3) Winthrop (1)	179
4) Gardner-Webb	130
5) VMI	125
6) High Point	124
7) Liberty	119
8) Coastal Carolina	118
9) Charleston Southern	53
10) Presbyterian	42

All-American Brothers

Two members of the 2009-10 Flames' roster are younger brother of 2008 All-Americans. Eric Gordon, Jr., is the older brother to freshman guard Evan Gordon. The elder Gordon spent one season at Indiana and was Third Team All-America member in his lone season with the Hoosiers. Gordon was picked seventh overall by the Los Angeles Clippers in the 2008 NBA Draft and averaged 16.1 ppg his rookie season in the league. He is currently averaging 18.9 ppg with the team.

Sophomore point guard Jesse's Sanders older brother Thomas received an honorable mention on the 2008 All-America listing. The elder Sanders was played four seasons at Gardner-Webb prior to the team joining the Big South. In his senior season with the Runnin' Bulldogs, he was named 2008 Atlantic Sun Player of the Year. He currently plays professionally in Spain.

Foreign Born

Freshman forward Patrick Konan, a native of the Ivory Coast, is the first Flame hailing from outside the United States since the 2004-05 season when Liberty's roster featured three foreign-born players — power forward Leo Lightbourne (Andros, Bahamas), guard John Clarke (Freeport, Bahamas) and Christian Weddborn (La Ceiba, Honduras).

Standing out among the trio was Lightbourne, who was named to the 2005 Big South Second Team his senior season. After finishing his collegiate career at Liberty, Lightbourne began playing professionally in Europe.

Clean Bills of Health

Redshirt sophomore guard Jeremy Anderson missed the entire 2008-09 campaign after undergoing foot surgery in the preseason. Anderson's return should provide the Flames with extra three-point fire power, as he averaged 39.3 percent from long distance in his freshman season.

Playing in only five contests last season due to a stress fracture, center Carter McMasters is looking to give the Flames a strong presence in the post. Highly touted out of Grace Baptist Academy, McMasters was a 2008 McDonalds All-American nominee and was ranked No. 34 in ESPN.com's 2008 power forward class.

Forward Tyler Baker also appears to be fully healthy for the first time in over two seasons. Last season, Baker returned to the court on Dec. 17, 2008 against DePaul after missing 40-straight contests.

Replacing the Points

Guards Anthony Smith and Seth Curry tallied 1,322 of the Flames' 2,644 last season. Overall, Liberty has lost 60 percent of its scoring from the 2008-09 campaign.

2008-09 Liberty Men's Basketball
 Liberty Combined Team Statistics (as of Nov 12, 2009)
 All games

RECORD:	OVERALL	HOME	AWAY	NEUTRAL
ALL GAMES.....	(23-12)	(15-3)	(6-8)	(2-1)
CONFERENCE.....	(12-6)	(7-2)	(5-4)	(0-0)
NON-CONFERENCE.....	(11-6)	(8-1)	(1-4)	(2-1)

##	Player	GP-GS	Min--Avg	---TOTAL---		---3-PTS---		FT-FTA	Pct	---REBOUNDS---				PF	FO	A	TO	Blk	Stl	Pts	Avg
				FG-FGA	Pct	3FG-FGA	Pct			Off	Def	Tot	Avg								
30	CURRY, Seth.....	35-34	1277 36.5	243-583	.417	102-294	.347	119-143	.832	24	129	153	4.4	53	0	79	79	9	48	707	20.2
05	SMITH, Anthony....	35-34	1270 36.3	217-436	.498	75-202	.371	106-161	.658	40	189	229	6.5	73	1	75	78	7	43	615	17.6
11	OHMAN, Kyle.....	35-35	1173 33.5	155-365	.425	100-241	.415	76-99	.768	30	165	195	5.6	85	2	93	72	13	44	486	13.9
25	SANDERS, Jesse....	32-30	977 30.5	76-148	.514	7-31	.226	63-83	.759	72	95	167	5.2	76	2	136	57	6	38	222	6.9
23	FLOYD, Broolin....	33-29	778 23.6	74-158	.468	10-38	.263	40-66	.606	59	97	156	4.7	85	1	41	50	5	21	198	6.0
01	STEPHENE, Johnny..	35-3	536 15.3	43-99	.434	10-33	.303	33-50	.660	18	32	50	1.4	40	0	54	50	0	11	129	3.7
03	BAKER, Tyle.....	26-0	321 12.3	39-89	.438	10-35	.286	34-42	.810	23	41	64	2.5	51	2	15	20	6	9	122	4.7
33	SMITH, Austin.....	28-6	233 8.3	31-52	.596	0-0	.000	16-27	.593	23	16	39	1.4	62	2	7	15	4	10	78	2.8
34	WEAVER, Bill.....	34-0	219 6.4	16-34	.471	0-0	.000	5-13	.385	15	12	27	0.8	22	0	6	14	1	8	37	1.1
04	SPENCER, James....	32-4	368 11.5	9-18	.500	4-9	.444	8-20	.400	7	36	43	1.3	31	0	22	17	2	9	30	0.9
02	x-SUMMERS, Chris..	7-0	28 4.0	5-8	.625	1-2	.500	1-2	.500	2	3	5	0.7	3	0	1	3	0	1	12	1.7
41	x-McMASTERS, Carter	5-0	45 9.0	3-13	.231	2-8	.250	0-0	.000	1	3	4	0.8	8	0	1	4	4	1	8	1.6
	TEAM.....									56	59	115	3.3	0		1					
	Total.....	35	7225	911-2003	.455	321-893	.359	501-706	.710	370	877	1247	35.6	589	10	530	460	57	243	2644	75.5
	Opponents.....	35	7225	915-2127	.430	292-867	.337	371-554	.670	461	840	1301	37.2	652	-	553	513	100	218	2493	71.2

x-Inactive player

	DATE	OPPONENT	W/L	SCORE	ATTEND		
TEAM STATISTICS	LU	OPP	11-14-08	MONTREAT	W 97-77 5198		
SCORING.....	2644	2493	*11-18-08	at UNC Asheville	L 56-84 958		
Points per game.....	75.5	71.2	11-25-08	at Virginia	W 86-82 9263		
Scoring margin.....	+4.3	-	^11-28-08	COKER	W 88-66 1064		
FIELD GOALS-ATT.....	911-2003	915-2127	^11-29-08	WILLIAM & MARY	W O2 80-74 934		
Field goal pct.....	.455	.430	12-01-08	GEORGE MASON	W OT 69-66 4172		
3 POINT FG-ATT.....	321-893	292-867	*12-06-08	GARDNER-WEBB	W 68-59 2340		
3-point FG pct.....	.359	.337	12-07-08	at Clemson	L 75-80 6657		
3-pt FG made per game.	9.2	8.3	12-15-08	ANDERSON	W 88-46 1056		
FREE THROWS-ATT.....	501-706	371-554	12-17-08	at DePaul	L 63-64 7532		
Free throw pct.....	.710	.670	12-19-08	at Saint Louis	L 70-73 6182		
F-Throws made per game	14.3	10.6	\$12-22-08	vs Northern Colorado	W 75-70 1345		
REBOUNDS.....	1247	1301	\$12-23-08	vs USC Upstate	W 77-64 1321		
Rebounds per game....	35.6	37.2	12-28-08	CINCINNATI CHRISTIAN	W 86-55 922		
Rebounding margin....	-1.5	-	*01-03-09	at Winthrop	L 57-59 2609		
ASSISTS.....	530	553	*01-05-09	at Presbyterian	LO2 66-67 489		
Assists per game.....	15.1	15.8	*01-10-09	CHARLESTON SOUTHERN	W 79-60 3047		
TURNOVERS.....	460	513	*01-12-09	COASTAL CAROLINA	W 68-55 4810		
Turnovers per game....	13.1	14.7	*01-17-09	at VMI	W 91-80 5029		
Turnover margin.....	+1.5	-	*01-20-09	at High Point	W 61-56 1557		
Assist/turnover ratio.	1.2	1.1	*01-24-09	RADFORD	LO2 82-94 7392		
STEALS.....	243	218	*01-27-09	HIGH POINT	W 78-63 2696		
Steals per game.....	6.9	6.2	*01-31-09	UNC ASHEVILLE	W 78-66 6562		
BLOCKS.....	57	100	*02-04-09	at Gardner-Webb	LO2 90-95 2345		
Blocks per game.....	1.6	2.9	*02-07-09	WINTHROP	W 57-47 4062		
ATTENDANCE.....	59471	60923	*02-09-09	PRESBYTERIAN	W 69-48 2411		
Home games-Avg/Game...	18-3304	14-3899	*02-14-09	at Charleston Southern	W 95-80 859		
Neutral site-Avg/Game.	-	3-2112	*02-16-09	at Coastal Carolina	W 85-82 1041		
SCORE BY PERIODS:	1st	2nd	OT	OT2	Total		
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Liberty.....	1259	1312	42	31	- 2644		
Opponents.....	1119	1292	39	43	- 2493		
					*02-21-09	at Old Dominion	L 56-80 6862
					*02-24-09	VMI	L 72-109 6973
					*02-28-09	at Radford	W 92-85 3205
					!03-03-09	#6 GARDNER-WEBB	W 88-77 2310
					!03-05-09	vs #2 VMI	L 58-78 3669
					%03-17-09	RIDER	W 79-64 1454
					%03-23-09	JAMES MADISON	L 65-88 2068

^ - Liberty Thanksgiving Classic (Lynchburg, Va.)
 \$ - Findlay Toyota Las Vegas Classic (Las Vegas, Nev.)
 * - Big South Conference
 # - ESPNU BracketBuster
 ! - Advance Auto Parts Big South Championship
 % - CollegeInsider.com Postseason Tournament