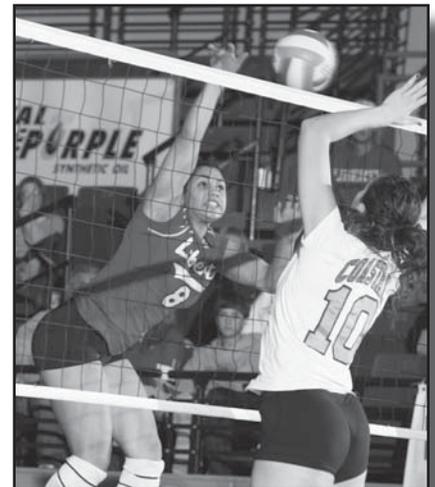


Liberty Successfully Defends Big South Championship



Kallie Corbin won her second straight Big South Championship MVP award.



All-Tournament Team member Karyl Bacon recorded the championship-winning kill.

Liberty entered the 2008 Big South Volleyball Championship at UNC Asheville's Justice Center trying to accomplish something which had never been done in program history. The Lady Flames were aiming to capture back-to-back Big South titles for the first time.

After battling injuries during various parts of the year, the Lady Flames closed out the regular season with consecutive 3-0 sweeps of High Point and Winthrop. Liberty's season-ending surge left the team in a three-way tie for the Big South regular-season championship, along with Coastal Carolina and High Point. However, the Lady Flames owned the tiebreaker and entered the tournament as the No. 1 seed for the second year in a row.

Liberty opened the weekend by facing the newest Big South member, No. 8 seed Gardner-Webb, in the first round. The Lady Flames needed only 68 minutes to defeat the Bulldogs in a 3-0 (25-15, 25-19, 25-15) sweep.

Serving keyed the Liberty victory over Gardner-Webb, as newly minted Big South Player of the Year Kallie Corbin tallied five of the Lady Flames' 12 aces. Karyl Bacon added her first of three double-doubles in the tournament, finishing with a match-high 10 kills and 12 digs.

Next up for the Lady Flames was a semifinal tilt against No. 4 seed UNC Asheville, which had defeated Liberty at the Justice Center 15 days earlier. This time around, the Lady Flames' defense was the story. Liberty came up with 69 digs and 10

blocks during their fourth consecutive 3-0 (25-23, 25-21, 25-20) whitewashing.

Corbin's 17 digs paced four Lady Flames with double-digit digs, while Ashley Webber had a hand in seven blocks. Sophomores Nicki Scripko and Bacon sparked the offense with 12 and 10 kills, respectively.

No. 3 seed Coastal Carolina, on a 10-match winning streak, stood across the net from Liberty in the Nov. 23 championship match. The Chanticleers put up a strong fight, but the Lady Flames' balanced offensive attack propelled them to a 3-1 (25-21, 25-23, 23-25, 25-20) triumph and the Big South title.

All six Liberty starters finished with at least seven kills, led by Bacon's 15. Tournament MVP Corbin enjoyed a stellar all-around performance, ending up with seven kills, 46 assists, a team-high 21 digs and three blocks.

Corbin became the first player in conference history to be voted Big South Championship MVP in back-to-back seasons. She was joined on the all-tournament team by Bacon and Scripko, who made the squad for the second consecutive year.

With the Big South Championship trophy in hand, the Lady Flames advanced to the NCAA Tournament for the second straight season. Liberty was able to take a set from No. 4 national seed Nebraska on the Huskers' home court, before falling 3-1 (11-25, 25-21, 16-25, 19-25) and ending a stellar season at 25-9.

2008 Big South Championship Match Nov. 23, 2008 - Asheville, N.C.

#1 Liberty 3, #3 Coastal Carolina 1
(25-21, 25-23, 23-25, 25-20)

Kill Leaders

Karyl Bacon (LU) - 15
Megan Bickford (CCU) - 17

Assist Leaders

Kallie Corbin (LU) - 46
Meagan Tracey (CCU) - 50

Dig Leaders

Kallie Corbin (LU) - 21
Brett Starbuck (CCU) - 21

2008 Liberty Volleyball



The 2008 Lady Flames took this picturesque team photo atop Liberty Mountain, just 17 days before opening up a memorable championship season.

The 2008 Lady Flames ...

Repeated as Big South Tournament champions for the first time in program history.

Claimed their fifth Big South title, tying Winthrop for the most championships in conference history.

Captured a share of their second straight Big South regular-season title.

Finished with a 25-9 overall record.



Chelaine McCarty made four consecutive all-tournament teams to begin the year.



The Lady Flames opened the season with eight consecutive wins, beginning with this 3-0 sweep of N.C. State on Aug. 29.

Non-Conference Highlights

The Lady Flames won their first-ever match versus a Division I team from California, sweeping UC Irvine 3-0 on Sept. 21.

Liberty went 2-0 versus the ACC, picking up wins over N.C. State and Maryland.

The Lady Flames went unbeaten at both the Third Degree Sportswear Invitational and the Patriot Invitational.



Liberty celebrates a 3-1 victory at Commonwealth rival James Madison on Sept. 9, the Lady Flames' first victory over the Dukes since 2003.

The Year in Pictures

Liberty's 3 Seniors

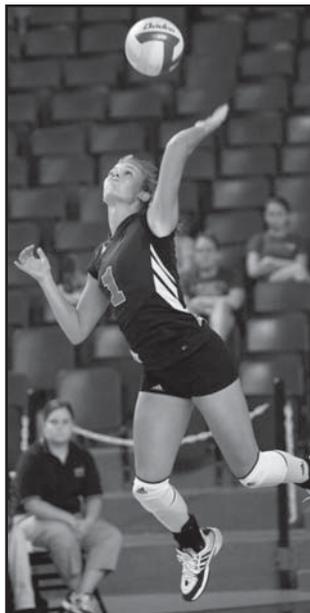
Jessica Nelson became the eighth member of Liberty's 1,000/1,000 Club. (Please see page 53 to see the exclusive company Nelson joined.)

Carmen Streeper jump served for four aces during her 12 appearances.

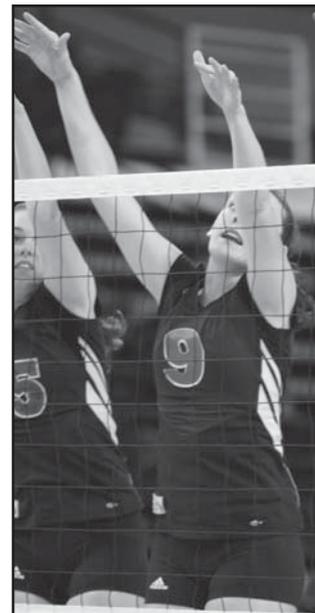
Ashley Webber hit .875 at Winthrop on Oct. 17, setting a new school record for attack percentage in a single match.



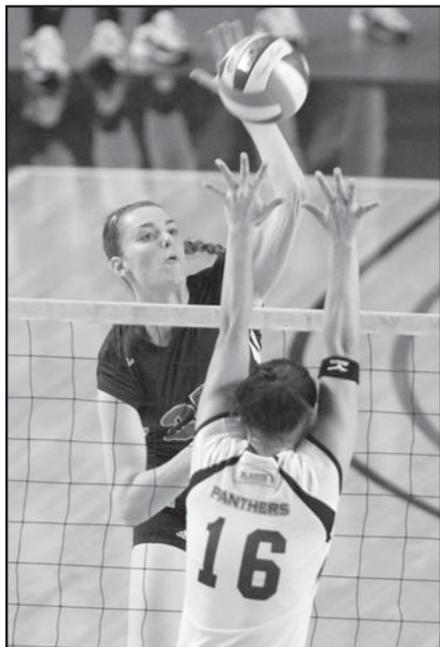
Jessica Nelson



Carmen Streeper



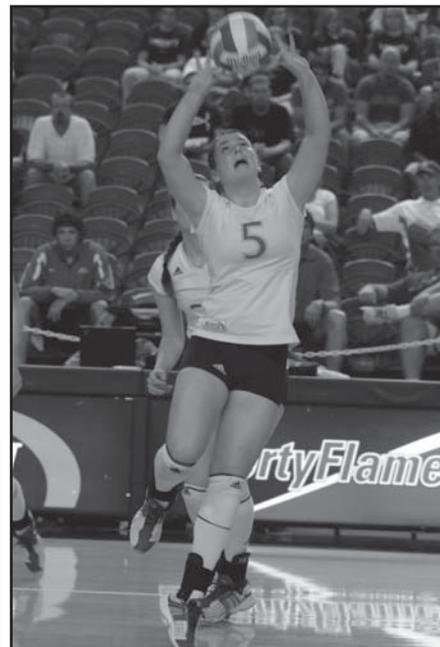
Ashley Webber



Nebraska Notes

Liberty took a set from Nebraska in the opening round of the 2008 NCAA Tournament.

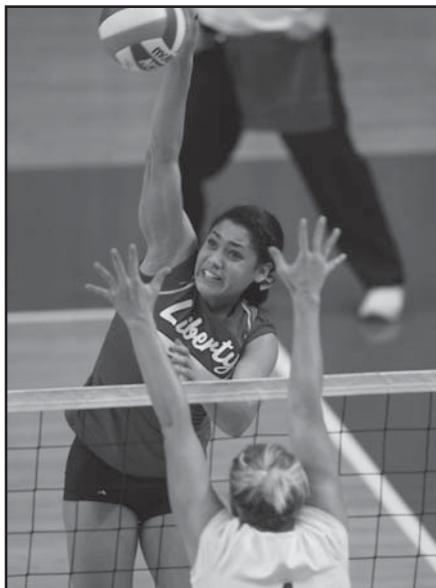
It was the second consecutive year the Lady Flames have won a set against an eventual Final Four qualifier.



Big South Dominance

Liberty went 16-3 versus Big South opponents in 2008.

The Lady Flames swept conference foes by a 3-0 score on 13 occasions.



Kallie Corbin, All-American

Junior setter Kallie Corbin was an honorable mention AVCA All-American, becoming the program's first NCAA Division I All-American.

Since its founding in 1983, the Big South Conference has matured into a competitive leader in college athletics, actively pursuing excellence on the field of play and in the classroom. The league's growing presence as an NCAA Division I athletic conference is evident by athletic accomplishments on the national stage, innovative marketing and media partnerships, increased television packages and quality athletic competition while intentionally fostering the academic, personal, social, athletic and leadership development of each student-athlete. This has evolved into the conference's mission of "Developing Leaders Through Athletics."

The Big South Conference was formed on August 21, 1983, when Charleston Southern (then Baptist College) Athletic Director Howard Bagwell and Augusta President George Christenberry began recruiting members into the Big South, receiving initial commitments from Augusta, Charleston Southern, Campbell, Coastal Carolina and Winthrop.

One month later, Dr. Edward M. Singleton was selected as the League's first commissioner and continued to solicit new members. His efforts led to the additions of Armstrong State, Radford and UNC Asheville, giving the Big South more than the required six members to constitute an official conference. The Big South's first year of competition was in the fall of 1984, and in September 1986, the Big South Conference was granted full-fledged NCAA Division I status.

During its infancy and prior to securing automatic bids to NCAA Championships, the Big South made early strides in earning at-large berths in several national postseason events, including volleyball, women's basketball and women's golf. In 1989, George F. "Buddy" Sasser replaced the retiring Dr. Singleton as commissioner, and in 1990, the league received its first automatic bid – receiving an automatic qualifier to the NCAA Baseball Championship. Under Sasser's seven years of leadership, the conference implemented its public relations and compliance programs, and introduced its first-ever men's basketball television package, featuring the Big South competing among some of the finest teams in the nation.

In August 1996, Kyle B. Kallander replaced Sasser as the League's third commissioner,

and in his 13 years at the helm of the Big South, Kallander has been instrumental in aggressively promoting the conference to new levels. The conference has enjoyed record levels in marketing revenue during the past several years, he has brought television coverage to Big South women's basketball, baseball and softball for the first time in conference history, as well as increased national television exposure to the League as a whole through aggressive and unique television packages.

Under Kallander's leadership, the Big South developed and initiated its first long-range strategic plan, re-affirming the league's vision as a distinctive athletic conference committed to the quality of institutional life through athletic competition. He also spearheaded the efforts to add football as a championship sport, which came to fruition in 2002, and has solidified conference membership with the additions of High Point, Gardner-Webb and Presbyterian, and in 2011-12, the return of charter member Campbell University. Kallander's long range vision has also included technological advancements, as the conference introduced its first live event video streaming in 2005 and has since expanded its video offerings to more than 600 events annually through a partnership with the member institutions, as well as the creation of several online and social media platforms.

In the last 15 years alone, the Big South Conference has experienced monumental growth and success in nearly every sport. During this time, the conference has had two individual national champions, more than 200 All-Americans, has reached the "Sweet 16" in men's soccer, women's basketball and baseball, has received national Top 25 rankings in men's soccer, men's basketball, women's basketball, baseball, men's outdoor track & field and men's golf, had an individual selected to play in the NCAA Singles Championship four times in addition to the first men's tennis doubles at-large selection, had the No. 1 ranked men's golfer in the country, has had the nation's top scoring men's basketball team three consecutive years as well as the national men's basketball scoring leader twice, received an at-large playoff berth in the Football Championship Sub-division in 2006, and had an institution finish fifth in the NCAA Men's Golf Championships – the conference's highest-ever team finish in an NCAA event.

In 2006-07, the Big South was the only conference nationwide to have an at-large participant in the football playoffs (Coastal Carolina), a team in the second round of the NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament (Winthrop) and a No. 1 seed in the NCAA Baseball Regionals (Coastal Carolina). In fact, Coastal Carolina's baseball program has been a No. 1 seed three out of the last five years, while its FCS playoff berth in 2006 came in just the fifth year of the Big South's football existence.

The conference's tagline, "Developing Leaders Through Athletics," was unveiled in 2008-09 in conjunction with the conference's 25th anniversary. The league also honored its heritage with the Top 25 "Best of the Best" moments in league history from 1983-2008, with Liberty University's 10-year women's basketball championship run from 1996-2007 being crowned the No. 1 moment in the Big South's first 25 years.

The conference's on-field accomplishments have been duplicated in the classroom. Annually, more than 40 percent of conference student-athletes are named to the Big South's Presidential Honor Roll for maintaining a cumulative 3.0 grade-point average, and the league has had more than 95 Academic All-Americans in its quarter-century of existence.

