

**Liberty University
Flames Baseball
Quick Facts**

Location: Lynchburg, Va.
Founded: 1971
Enrollment: 7,700
Colors: Red, White and Blue
Nickname: Flames
Mascot: Eagle
Conference: Big South
Chancellor: Dr. Jerry Falwell
President: General Dave Young
Director of Athletics: Jeff Barber
Athletic Phone: (434) 582-2100
Faculty Athletic Representative:
 Dr. William Gribbin
**Asst. A.D. for Business
 Operations:** Mickey Gurdy
SWA/Asst. A.D. for Compliance:
 Meredith Hollyfield
A.D. for Development: Bob Good
A.D. for External Affairs:
 Kevin Keys
**Director for Facilities and Game
 Management:** Keith Keener

Head Baseball Coach:
 Matt Royer (Liberty, '80)
Record at LU: 112-102
Career Record: 430-340 (16th year)
Baseball Office Phone:
 (434) 582-2103
Assistants: Terry Weaver (Liberty,
 '98), Randy Tomlin (Liberty, '88),
 Reggie Reynolds (Liberty, '98)
Assistant Athletic Trainer:
 Andrea Sherwood
Administrative Assistant:
 Kimberly Deichert, Arianne Stranton

2005 Record: 36-19
Conference Record: 14-10/4th
Letterwinners Returning/Lost: 10/6
**Starting Position Players
 Returning/Lost (incl. DH):** 8/1
Starting Pitchers Returning/Lost:
 5/5
Newcomers: 11

Liberty's All-Time Record:
 867-698-7(.554)
Stadium: Worthington Stadium/1,000
Stadium Dimensions: Left - 325;
 Center - 390; Right - 325

A.D. for Athletic Media Relations:
 Todd Wetmore
 (434) 582-2292 (O)
 (434) 841-8974 (C)
 (434) 841- (Fax)
E-Mail Address:
 twetmore@liberty.edu
**Asst. Director for Athletic Media
 Relations/Baseball Contact:**
 Ryan Bomberger
 (434) 582-2605 (O)
 (434) 221-5565 (C)
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 rbomberger@liberty.edu
Press Box Phone: (434) 582-2914
Web Site: www.LibertyFlames.com

**2006 Liberty University
Baseball Game Notes**



Games No. 52 - May 16, 2006

RICHMOND Spiders (21-30, 11-13 A-10)

vs.

LIBERTY Flames (34-17, 12-9 Big South)

Tuesday, May 16 - 2 p.m.

Worthington Stadium - Lynchburg, Va.

The Game

The Liberty University Flames (34-17, 12-9 Big South) host the University of Richmond Spiders (21-30, 11-13 A-10) in the final non-conference mid-week contest of the season. Game time at Worthington Stadium is scheduled for 2 p.m.

The Series Against Richmond

Tuesday will be the 38th meeting between the Flames and the Spiders on the diamond. Richmond leads the all-time series, 23-14. Earlier this season, the Spiders edged the Flames in a slugfest, 12-11 at Pitt Field in Richmond. Last season, Liberty defeated Richmond, 10-2, at Worthington Stadium on May 17, 2005.

The Last Time Out

Liberty split a doubleheader with UNC Asheville this past Saturday. The Flames had a season-high 26 hits and scored a season-high in runs in taking game one, 20-3. Phillip Laurent went 4-for-5 with a home run and five RBI. In the eighth inning, the left fielder became Liberty's all-time leader in hits. Teammate Michael Just also had four hits in the game. Dustin Umberger picked up the win with six strong innings.

In the nightcap, the Flames managed four hits as they fell 4-2 to UNC Asheville. Laurent drove in a run with a double, while Chad Miller scored on an overthrow of third by the catcher on his steal attempt.

The Flames on the Radio

This season, the Flames Sports Network plans to broadcast 20 Liberty baseball regular season games. Games will be aired live on WWMC 90.9 FM "The Light" and online on the World Wide Web at www.thelightonline.com. The next LIVE broadcast is scheduled for this afternoon starting at 1:50 p.m. The station will also broadcast the two final games of the regular season this Saturday and Sunday as Liberty hosts High Point,

Possible Starters

No.	Name	Cl.	Ht.	Wt.	Avg.	Other Stats
29	Errol Hollinger (C)	Fr.	6-4	180	.252	20 RBI, 18 Runs, 8 2Bs, 3 HRs
5	Aaron Grijalva (1B)	So.*	6-1	190	.335	43 RBI, 48 Runs, 7 HRs, 23 SBs
20	Michael Just (2B)	Sr.	5-11	180	.367	46 RBI, 52 Runs, 16 2Bs, 7 HRs
4	Chad Miller (3B)	Sr.	5-11	185	.355	37 RBI, 56 Runs, 4 HRs, 21 SBs
10	Patrick Gaillard (SS)	Jr.	6-1	175	.312	27 RBI, 48 Runs, 4 HRs, 16 SBs
6	Phillip Laurent (LF)	Sr.	5-11	195	.372	57 RBI, 37 Runs, 21 2Bs, 9 HRs
19	P.K. Keller (CF)	So.	5-11	200	.251	33 RBI, 29 Runs, 4 3Bs, 4 HRs
30	Phil John (RF)	Jr.	6-2	185	.336	27 RBI, 30 Runs, 8 2Bs, 2 HRs
1	Abe Yeakel (DH)	Jr.*	6-0	180	.350	17 RBI, 23 Runs, 3 2B, 3 HRs

* redshirt

**Liberty University
2006 Baseball Schedule**

**Record: 34-17
Big South: 12-9**

2/10 at Wofford	W/ 4-1
2/12 at Wofford - Game 1	L/4-5
2/12 at Wofford - Game 2	W/ 4-3
2/15 VCU	L/ 2-4 (10 inn.)
2/16 Longwood	W/ 4-3
2/21 at Longwood	W/4-3
2/24 Rider	W/ 11-10
2/25 Rider	W/ 7-5
2/26 Rider	W/ 3-2 (12 inn.)
3/1 at James Madison	L/ 5-10
3/4 Hartford - Game 1	W/ 14-2
3/4 Hartford - Game 2	W/ 9-4
3/5 Hartford	W/ 9-0
3/8 Virginia Tech	W/ 13-1
3/10 at George Washington	W/ 7-1
3/11 at George Washington	W/ 3-0
3/12 at George Washington	W/ 12-8.
3/14 Marist	W/ 6-5
3/15 Marist	W/ 5-4
3/17 Rutgers	L/ 2-7
3/18 Rutgers	W/ 5-3
3/19 Rutgers	L/ 6-7
3/24 at Winthrop*	L/ 1-13
3/25 at Winthrop*	L/ 7-8
3/26 at Winthrop*	L/ 8-10
3/29 George Mason	W/ 11-2
3/31 VMI*	W/ 8-5
4/1 VMI*	W/ 16-8
4/2 VMI*	W/ 9-7
4/5 at William & Mary	W/ 15-4
4/7 at Radford*	W/16-6
4/8 at Radford*	W/ 9-4
4/9 at Radford*	W/ 6-5
4/11 James Madison	W/ 12-11
4/14 at Charleston So.*	L/ 5-7
4/15 at Charleston So.* - Game 1	W/13-6
4/15 at Charleston So.* - Game 2	W/ 7-2
4/18 Longwood	W/ 8-0.
4/19 at Richmond	L / 11-12
4/22 Coastal Carolina*	W/ 6-4
4/23 Coastal Carolina*	L/ 6-8 10 inn.
4/24 Coastal Carolina*	W / 4-3 12 inn.
4/25 George Mason	W/ 18-4
4/28 Birmingham-Southern*	L/ 1-15
4/29 Birmingham-Southern*	L/ 1-4
4/30 Birmingham-Southern*	W/ 12-5
5/3 at Virginia Tech	L/ 3-8
5/6 William & Mary	L/4-5
5/12 at UNC Asheville*	L/ 3-8
5/13 at UNC Asheville*	W/ 20-3
5/14 at UNC Asheville*	L/ 2-4
5/16 Richmond	2 p.m.
5/19 High Point*	3 p.m.
5/20 High Point*	2 p.m.
5/21 High Point*	1 p.m.
5/24-27 Big South Championship @ Conway, S.C.	

* Big South Conference Game
Home Games in bold

**2006 Liberty University
Baseball Game Notes**



The Coaches

Tuesday will be the seventh meeting between Liberty head coach Matt Royer and Richmond head coach Ron Atkins with their respective teams ...

Liberty: Matt Royer (Liberty, '80)

Record at School: 112-102 (Fourth Year)

Overall Record: 430-340 (16 Years)

Notes: Matt Royer is in his fourth year at the helm of the alma mater ... for the second straight season has guided the Flames to 30-win seasons ... on Wednesday, April 5, Royer picked up his 100th victory as Liberty head coach as the Flames downed William and Mary, 15-4 ... on February 21, he won his 400th career game as a head coach when the Flames defeated Longwood, 4-3 ... Liberty is coming off a 2005 season which saw them post 36 wins, tying the most victories at the Division I level in the program's history ... over his first three seasons, the Liberty win total has improved by eight or more games each season ... in his first season as the Flames skipper, Royer led the sixth-seeded Flames into the 2002 Big South Championship game ... prior to his stint at Liberty, he had a nine-year run at Kutztown (Pa.) where he guided the Golden Bears to the Division II College World Series during his last two seasons.

University of Richmond: Ron Atkins (Virginia Tech, '67)

Record at School: 684-509-4 (22 Years)

Overall Record: Same (22 Years)

Notes: Ron Atkins is in his 22nd season at the helm of the Spiders program ... the winningest coach in Richmond history ... has 14 winning seasons at Richmond and has led the Spiders to the NCAA Regional seven times ... last season, guided Richmond to a 25-35 mark ... in 2002, lead Richmond into a NCAA Super Regional by winning the Winston-Salem Regional ... that team won a school record 53, before bowing to Nebraska at the Super Regionals

Returning to their Alma Mater

The Liberty coaching staff led by head coach Matt Royer, along with assistant coaches Randy Tomlin, Terry Weaver and Reggie Reynolds, is a rarity in Division I baseball. All four are graduates of Liberty University.

Royer received his degree in 1980. Tomlin finished up at Liberty in 1988. Weaver and Reynolds each received their bachelor's from Liberty in 1998. All four played for the Flames on the baseball diamond.

LUStatistical Comparison (as of 5/16)UR

34-17	Record	.21-30
.315	Batting	.292
381	Runs	.337
576	Hits	.520
44	Home Runs	.37
349	Runs Batted In	.298
98	Stolen Bases	.48
4.42	Earned Run Average	.6.28
455.2	Innings Pitched	.450.0
319	Strikeouts	.362
10	Saves	.8
.289	Opponent Batting Average	.299

**Scouting
The Spiders**

Location: Richmond, Va.
 Enrollment: 2,950
 Founded: 1830
 Nickname: Spiders
 Colors: Red and Blue
 President: Dr. William E. Cooper
 Athletic Director: Jim Miller
 Conference: Atlantic 10
 Field (Capacity): Pitt Field (600)
 Dimensions: 328-350-390-350-328
 Head Coach: Ron Atkins (Virginia Tech, 1967)
 Record at School: 684-509-4 (22 Years)
 Overall Record: Same
 Office Phone: (804) 289-8391
 Assistants: Jason Johnson, Adam Taylor, Mike L

2005 Record: 22-35
 2005 Conference Record/Finish: 12-12/4th-West
 Lettermen Returning/Lost: 19/8
 Position Starters Returning/Lost: 15/1
 Pitchers Returning/Lost: 6/5
 Baseball SID: Scott Meyer
 Office Phone: (804) 287-6313
 Cell Phone: (804) 349-3365
 E-mail Address: smeyer@richmond.edu
 Fax Number: (804) 289-8820
 Press Box Number: (804) 289-8714
 Web Site: www.richmondspiders.com

Recent Results

5/14 George Washington L/ 3-4
 5/13 George Washington W/ 7-1
 5/12 George Washington L/ 4-5
 5/7 at Old Dominion W/ 8-3



**2006 Liberty University
Baseball Game Notes**



Flames at Worthington Stadium

Over the last 26 years, the Flames have called Worthington Stadium their home. The Flames have compiled an impressive 450-202-4 record at home for a winning percentage of .686 since its inception in 1974. Under head coach Matt Royer, the Flames are proving the stadium to be even tougher for opponents, having posted a 81-36 record (.692) during Royer's four years at the helm. Liberty is 20-7 (.741) at Worthington Stadium this season.

Last season, Liberty was 24-5 at Worthington Stadium. The Flames' 24 wins were the most ever by a Liberty team at the stadium.

Liberty on the Road

With their doubleheader split on Saturday, the Flames finished the regular season 14-10 on the road this season. Their win on Sunday, April 9th at Radford was Liberty's 10th on the road in 2006, one more than last season. In 2005, the Flames went 9-12 on the road in 21 games. Liberty was 6-6 on the road in Big South play this season.

Flames Against the Big South

Liberty has compiled a 188-161 record against current members of the Big South. The Flames have also compiled a 27-16 record in Big South Championship games over the same span.

Liberty's All-Time Record Against the Big South

Birmingham-Southern	.3-10
Charleston Southern	.29-19
Coastal Carolina	.23-30
High Point	.24-20
UNC Asheville	.31-14
Radford	.36-23
VMII	.21-7
Winthrop	.21-29
Totals	.188-152



Flames Against the Atlantic-10 Conference

Liberty has compiled a 41-33 record against current members of the Atlantic 10.

Liberty's All-Time Record Against Current A-10 Members

Charlotte	.0-0
Dayton	.1-0
Duquesne	.1-2
Fordham	.3-1
George Washington	.11-6
LaSalle	.0-0
Massachusetts	.4-1
Rhode Island	.6-0
Richmond	.14-23
St. Bonaventure	.0-0
St. Joseph's	.0-0
St. Louis	.0-0
Temple	.0-0
Xavier	.1-0
Totals	.41-33



Big South Conference Update

(as of May 3, 2006)

Conference Standings

	W	L	Pct.
x-Winthrop	16	5	.762
x-Birmingham So.	15	6	.714
x-Liberty	12	9	.571
x-Coastal Carolina	12	9	.571
x-High Point	12	9	.571
x-UNC Asheville	10	11	.476
Charleston Southern	8	16	.333
VMI	7	14	.333
Radford	4	17	.190

x-clinched Big South Tournament Berth

Overall Standings

	W	L	Pct.
Winthrop	41	12	.774
Liberty	34	17	.667
Birmingham-Southern	30	20	.600
VMI	28	23	.549
Coastal Carolina	25	25	.500
High Point	24	29	.453
UNC Asheville	21	27	.438
Charleston Southern	17	38	.309
Radford	7	38	.156

Upcoming Schedule

Tuesday, May 16

Richmond at Liberty	2 pm
Charleston So. at Gardner-Webb	3 pm
Davidson at Radford	3 pm
East Carolina at Coastal Carolina	6 pm
UNC Asheville at Duke	7pm

Wednesday, May 17

VCU at Radford	3 pm
UNC ASHEVILLE at Duke	3 pm
VMI at James Madison	4 pm



2006 Liberty University Baseball Game Notes



Flames Among Nation's Leaders

Liberty is among the national leaders with a winning percentage of .667 which is currently the 26th best winning percentage in the country.

As a team, Liberty ranks among the top 50 in the nation in the following categories (out of 285 teams - as of 5/15):

Batting Average: 38th (.314)
 Fielding Percentage.: 40th (.970)
 Scoring: 34th (7.4/game)
 Doubles Per Game: 18th (2.23/game)
 Triples Per Game: 18th (.44/game)
 Stolen Bases Per Game: 18th (1.90/game)
 Slugging Percentage.: 32nd (.475)
 Double Plays Per Game: 35th (0.98/game)

It's Been Two Years

The Flames have gone 129 games and over two years without being shutout. The last time a Liberty team was shutout was April 10, 2004. Winthrop's Jeff Reeves gave up just three hits in seven innings, and Jonathan Settle and Chris Leroux allowed no hits over the final two innings in shutting out the Flames, 6-0.

During the span, the Flames' mound staff has pitched six shutouts including three this season.

Liberty has been held to one run in back-to-back games as Birmingham-Southern allowed the Flames one run in both Friday and Saturday's games, April 28 and 29. Liberty also scored one run in a loss at Winthrop on March 24 in 2006, while in 2005, they scored only one run on two occasions in a 1-0 victory over Fairfield on March 9 and the last game of the season in a 2-1 setback to Coastal Carolina on May 27 at the Big South Baseball Championship.

Winning the Close Ones

This season, the Flames are 10-5 in one run games. Its record in one-run games was one of the keys to Liberty's strong start to the year. Six of the Flames' first 10 games were decided by one run as Liberty went 5-1 in those games.

A factor in last season's improvement by the Flames was their record in one-run games; a noticeable difference from 2004. Liberty went 10-4 (.714) in one-run games in 2005. In 2004, the Flames went 6-7 (.462) in one-run games.

Liberty opened 2005 by winning its first seven one-run games and went until late April, the 37th game of the season, until dropping its first one-run decision, a 9-8 defeat at Coastal Carolina on April 24th.

Going Extras

This season, the Flames have played four extra inning games, surpassing last year's total of two for all of 2005.

Liberty split back-to-back extra inning games with Coastal Carolina on Sunday, April 23, the Flames fell 8-6 in 10 innings, while Monday, April 24, they rallied for a 4-3 victory in 12 innings.

Liberty has also dropped a decision to VCU, 4-2, in 10 innings, in their first extra innings game on February 15, while on February 26th, the Flames defeated Rider, 3-2, in 12 innings.

Last season, Liberty played only two extra inning games in 56 games. The Flames won both, defeating Marshall 4-3 in 10 innings on March 13 and Charleston Southern 3-2 in 12 innings on May 22.

When the Flames...

Are at home. 20-7
 Are on the road. 14-10

vs. left hander starter 14-4
 vs. right hander starter 20-13

In one-run games 10-5
 In two-run games 4-5
 In five-plus run games. 16-6
 Extra innings 2-2
 Shutouts 3-0

Score first 22-8
 Opponent's score first 12-9

Score In the first 21-8
 Opponent scores in first 12-7

Lead after the first. 16-6
 Trail after the first 8-4
 Are tied after the first. 10-7

Lead after the second 21-7
 Trail after the second 6-8
 Are tied after the second. 7-2

Lead after the third 20-4
 Trail after the third. 7-8
 Are tied after the third 7-5

Lead after the fourth 24-4
 Trail after the fourth. 5-10
 Are tied after the fourth. 5-3

Lead after the fifth 25-3
 Trail after the fifth 5-10
 Are tied after the fifth. 4-4

Lead after the sixth 25-4
 Trail after the sixth. 4-11
 Are tied after the sixth. 5-2

Lead after the seventh 26-3
 Trail after the seventh 2-11
 Are tied after the seventh 5-3

Lead after the eighth. 28-2
 Trail after the eighth 1-13
 Are tied after the eighth. 4-2

Go to extra Innings 2-2

After winning a game 22-11
 After losing a game 11-6

Out-hit opponent 26-1
 Out-hit by opponent. 7-16
 Hits are tied. 1-0

Hit a home run 21-6
 Opponent's hit a home run . . . 11-13

Wear red uniforms. 9-4
 Wear white uniforms. 10-2
 Wear blue uniforms. 9-8
 Wear grey uniforms. 6-3

Play on Monday 1-0
 Play on Tuesday 5-0
 Play on Wednesday 4-4
 Play on Thursday 1-0
 Play on Friday 5-5
 Play on Saturday. 11-4
 Play on Sunday. 7-4

**2006 Liberty University
 Baseball Game Notes**



Five Alive

Five seems to be the Flames number this season. When allowing an opponent five runs or less, Liberty is 27-5, compared to 7-12 when failing to do so. On the other side, the Flames are 27-7 when scoring five or more runs this season, while posting a 7-10 mark when scoring four or less. In addition, five is also alive as Liberty is 29-8 when leading or tied after five innings and is 5-9 when trailing after five.

Liberty By The Month

Liberty won its last game of April to finish the month with a 14-5 mark. The Flames started the month by winning their first seven games, before dropping a contest in the month. In 2005, Liberty went 8-8 as the team battled for position in May's Big South Conference Baseball Championship during the fourth month of the year.

With their victory on April 11 over James Madison, the Flames won more games this season in the fourth month of the year than last season. Liberty also won nine consecutive games in the month to tie the school's Division I record for most consecutive wins for the second time this year.

The Flames have started off May at 1-4. Last season, Liberty finished the season strong by going 12-4 in the last month of the season and 6-2 in the Big South.

This season, the Flames finished the month of March by winning their last two games to run their record to 12-6 for the month. After falling in the first game of March, Liberty ran off nine straight wins for its longest winning streak of the season during the month. On Saturday, March 11, the Flames won for the 10th time in the third month of 2006, defeating Rutgers, 5-3, to surpass last season's March victory total. Last season, Liberty was 9-6 in March.

For the second year in a row, the Flames staked themselves to a good start to their season in the month of February, posting a 7-2 mark in nine games in the year's second month. The Flames won seven of their eight games in the month of February (7-1) to open the 2005 season.

2006 record broken down by the month:

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

2005 record broken down by month:

Month	Liberty Record
February	7-1, 0-0 Big South
March	9-6, 2-4 Big South
April	8-8, 6-4 Big South
May	12-4, 6-2 Big South

Baseball in the Commonwealth

Thirteen Division I teams call the Commonwealth of Virginia home. This season, the Flames are scheduled to face opponents from the Commonwealth 20 times. Liberty has posted an 14-5 mark in 19 games against Virginia schools. Liberty has defeated in-state foes Longwood three times, George Mason twice, Virginia Tech, James Madison and William and Mary, all in mid-week non-conference contests, while sweeping three-game series from Big South Conference foes VMI and Radford.

The Flames Leaders:

Batting Average

6	Laurent, Phillip	.372
20	Just, Michael	.367
4	Miller, Chad	.355

Slugging Pct

6	Laurent, Phillip	.613
5	Grijalva, Aaron	.573
4	Miller, Chad	.522

On base Pct.

6	Laurent, Phillip	.462
4	Miller, Chad	.455
20	Just, Michael	.436

Runs Scored

4	Miller, Chad	56
20	Just, Michael	52

Hits

20	Just, Michael	77
6	Laurent, Phillip	74
4	Miller, Chad	72

RBI

6	Laurent, Phillip	57
20	Just, Michael	46
5	Grijalva, Aaron	43

Doubles

6	Laurent, Phillip	21
20	Just, Michael	16

Triples

5	Grijalva, Aaron	4
19	Keller, P.K.	4
4	Miller, Chad	4

Home Runs

6	Laurent, Phillip	9
5	Grijalva, Aaron	7

Stolen Bases

5	Grijalva, Aaron	23
4	Miller, Chad	21

ERA

34	Page, Ryan	2.92
22	John, Tim	3.54
33	Thompson, Phillip	4.30

Appearances

22	John, Tim	21
33	Thompson, Phillip	19
17	Umberger, Dustin	17

Wins

34	Page, Ryan	8
38	Radford, Michael	7
33	Thompson, Phillip	6

Saves

38	Thompson, Phillip	4
22	John, Tim	3
17	Umberger, Dustin	2

Innings Pitched

38	Radford, Michael	84.0
33	Thompson, Phillip	83.2

Opposing Batting Avg.

22	John, Tim	.231
34	Page, Ryan	.262
17	Umberger, Dustin	.286

Strikeouts

38	Radford, Michael	70
33	Thompson, Phillip	68

2006 Liberty University Baseball Game Notes



The Flames scheduled game against Virginia on March 21 was canceled due to inclement weather.

Liberty will face its last opponent from the Commonwealth today as they host Richmond, who they will play for the second time this season.

Flames Come Out Swinging in April

Batting .280 at the start of the month, the Flames have found their stride at the plate in April. As a team, Liberty has hit .364 in the fourth month of the year; raising their team batting average to a season-high .318. The hot hitting has helped the Flames to go 14-5 in the month.

The Flames have reached double-digits in hits in 17 of their 19 contests in April and on Tuesday, April 25 had a season-high 22 hits at George Mason. The hitting has lead Liberty to score double-digits in runs eight times.

Abe Yeakel, Michael Just and Chad Miller each hit over .400 for the month.

The Flames entered the week second in the Big South Conference in runs scored, batting average and hits.

Laurent Breaks All-Time Hit Mark

With a single to right field in the eight inning of game one of a doubleheader Saturday, senior outfielder Phillip Laurent surpassed the all-time Liberty hit mark of 262. Larry Wayne York, a former teammate of Laurent, held the Flames' career hit mark, which he set in his four years at Liberty from 2000-03. The senior added a double in the doubleheader's night cap for 264 career hits.

This season, the senior has 74 hits and is one hit away from breaking his career season-high of 75 hits which he reached in 2004, his sophomore season. The left-fielder has topped the 70-hit mark the last two seasons and will surpass 70 hits for the third straight season with four more hits.

In addition, with eight RBI this weekend, Laurent moved into 4th all-time in Liberty history with 165 career RBI. He enters the week tied for third in the Big South in RBI.

Laurent Honored as Big South Player of the Week and ESPN The Magazine/ CoSIDA Academic All-District III Member

Liberty senior outfielder Phillip Laurent has been selected as the Big South Conference Choice Hotels Baseball Player of the Week for games played May 9-14, while the outfielder has been selected to the ESPN The Magazine/CoSIDA Academic All-District III second team.

Laurent (Cantrall, III.) batted .615 in three games last week (8-13), belting three doubles, two home runs and knocking in eight runs in Liberty's three-game series at UNC Asheville. He doubled in each game and homered in the first two contests. He went 3-for-4 with two RBI in game one, and added a 4-for-5, five-RBI performance in the Flames' 20-3 win Saturday in the first game of a doubleheader. Laurent's eight hits pushed his career total to 264, breaking the school's all-time career record in the process. Laurent totaled four runs scored, 17 total bases and a 1.307 slugging percentage last week as well.

The outfielder came into the weekend needing seven hits to surpass Larry Wayne York who held the Liberty career mark with 262 hits from 2000-2003. After getting three hits in Friday's game, he followed with three hits in his first four at bats in the first game of Saturday's doubleheader. The left fielder then stepped to the plate in the eighth inning and hit a run-scoring single to right field for career hit 263 to break the record. He added a double in the second game to push his total to 264.

Miscellaneous Stats

HITTING STREAKS

	Longest	Current
4 MILLER, Chad	13	3
20 JUST, Michael	12	-
6 LAURENT, Phillip	11	6
29 HOLLINGER, Errol	11	-
10 GAILLARD, Patrick	10	-
30 JOHN, Phil	8	2
1 YEAKEL, Abe	7	-
5 GRIJALVA, Aaron	6	6
19 KELLER, P.K	5	-
8 BENNION, Derek	3	-
3 BUSSEY, Tommy	2	1
15 GIAMMARESI, David	2	-
40 NANRY, Tim.	1	-
24 TEUFEL, Shawn	1	-

MULTIPLE HIT GAMES

	2	3	4	5+	Total
20 JUST, Michael	12	9	2	-	23
6 LAURENT, Phillip	18	2	2	1	23
4 MILLER, Chad	15	5	2	-	22
10 GAILLARD, Patrick	14	6	1	-	21
5 GRIJALVA, Aaron	12	4	2	-	18
19 KELLER, P.K.	7	3	1	-	11
1 YEAKEL, Abe	8	3	-	-	11
29 HOLLINGER, Errol	9	1	-	-	10
30 JOHN, Phil	5	5	-	-	9
8 BENNION, Derek	2	2	-	-	4
24 TEUFEL, Shawn	2	-	-	-	2
3 BUSSEY, Tommy	2	-	-	-	2
15 GIAMMARESI, D.	-	1	-	-	1
40 NANRY, Tim	1	-	-	-	1
TEAM	107	41	10	1	159

MULTIPLE RBI GAMES

	2	3	4	5+	Total
6 LAURENT, Phillip	6	9	-	1	16
20 JUST, Michael	9	2	2	1	14
4 MILLER, Chad	8	4	-	-	12
5 GRIJALVA, Aaron	6	1	3	-	10
10 GAILLARD, Patrick	7	1	-	-	8
30 JOHN, Phil	3	2	1	-	6
8 BENNION, Derek	4	-	-	-	4
19 KELLER, P.K.	2	-	1	1	4
29 HOLLINGER, Errol	-	3	-	-	3
1 YEAKEL, Abe	2	1	-	-	3
3 BUSSEY, Tommy	2	-	-	-	2
15 GIAMMARESI, D.	-	-	1	-	1
24 TEUFEL, Shawn	-	1	-	-	1
TEAM	49	24	8	3	84

Shutouts

March 5 - Dane Beakler, Tim John and Phillip Thompson vs. Hartford

March 11 - Ryan Page vs. George Washington

April 18 - Ryan Page, Billy Daniels and Andrew Wilson vs. Longwood

2006 Liberty University Baseball Game Notes



Also this week, he has been named to the ESPN the Magazine/CoSIDA Academic All-District III second team which recognizes both athletic and academic achievement. The Flames' starting left fielder has a 3.51 GPA and has been a member of the Dean's list three times. He has also been named to the Big South Presidential Honor Roll in both the 2004-05 and 2003-04 academic years.

This season, Laurent leads the Flames and is among the Big South leaders with a .372 batting average, 74 hits, 57 RBI, 21 doubles, nine home runs and a .613 slugging percentage. His 21 doubles is one shy of the Liberty season mark for two-base hits. On April 28, the outfielder broke the school's career doubles record which had been 57, while his total now stands at 62.

Thompson Receives Liberty's Highest Athletic Honor

Senior right-hander Phillip Thompson and senior woman's soccer goalkeeper Sonia Rodriguez, have been named the 2006 Rock Royer/Mack Rivera Award winners, the University's highest athletics honor.

In 1975, the Rock Royer/Mack Rivera Award was established to honor the top senior student-athlete at Liberty University who best exemplifies the standards and lives of both of these great Christian men.

The award, which encompasses more than just athletic ability, is based on an individual's testimony as well as their academic performance as it recognizes the Liberty University senior student-athlete who maintains an exemplary testimony on the playing field, in the classroom and among the student body and the community.

Thompson, who will be graduating in May with a 3.55 GPA in mathematics, has served on the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee and represented the group at the Big South Conference level. The honors student is a two-time Big South Presidential Honor Roll student and has been named to the University's Dean List four times.

On the baseball diamond, the three-year letterwinner has led the team in saves the past two seasons. Currently a starter, he ranks fifth in the Big South and third on the teams in wins. After becoming a starter, the Ringgold, Va. native was undefeated in the role through his first eight starts, picking six wins and not factoring in the decision in two. He ranks among the conference's leaders in innings pitched with 83.2 and is also among its strikeout leaders with 68. In addition to his 6-5 mark, he has four saves, which rank him third in the conference in that category.

Laurent Sets All-Time LU Doubles Mark

With a double in his first at-bat on Friday, April 28th against Birmingham-Southern, Phillip Laurent became the all-time doubles leader in Liberty history with 57 career doubles.

The senior entered his final season with the Flames needing 16 doubles to pass former Flames' outfielder Steve Baker, who hit 56 doubles from 1999-2002. The two outfielders both hit their season-high of 18 doubles as a sophomores, leading their squads.

Since surpassing the mark, Laurent has added five more two-base hits and now has 21 doubles this season to lead the Flames. The left fielder entered the week second in the Big South. In each of his four seasons, he has reached double digits in doubles.

Looking Ahead

Liberty finishes the regular season with a three-game Big South Series with the High Point Panthers, Friday through Sunday. The series will impact the seedings for the upcoming 2006 Big South Baseball Championship. Game time Friday is set for 3 p.m., while Saturday's game is set for 2 p.m. Sunday, the Flames' seniors will be honored as they play their last game at Worthington Stadium. Game time Sunday is scheduled for 1 p.m.