

**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: 117-107 (Four Years)
Career Record: 435-346 (16 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: 875-702-7 (.555)
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)
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(434) 582-2706 (Fax)
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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**



**Games No. 1-3 - Feb. 9-11, 2007
LIBERTY Flames (0-0, 0-0 Big South)
at
EAST CAROLINA Pirates (0-0, 0-0 C-USA)
Friday, Feb. 9 - 3 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 10 - 2 p.m.
Sunday, Feb. 11 - 1 p.m.
Clark-LeClair Stadium - Greenville, N.C.**

The Games

The Liberty University Flames (0-0, 0-0 Big South) open their 2007 season by traveling to Greenville, N.C., to face the East Carolina Pirates (0-0, 0-0 C-USA) for a three-game weekend series at Clark-LeClair Stadium, Feb. 9-11. The teams will play three single games on the weekend. Game time on Friday is 3 p.m. Saturday, the Flames and Pirates will square off at 2 p.m. and Sunday, the series finale is set for 1 p.m.

The Series Against East Carolina

Friday will be the fourth meeting between Liberty and East Carolina on the baseball diamond. However, it will be the first time the two have met in a weekend series as the three previous meetings were midweek single games played between 1979 and 1988.

The Pirates lead the all-time series, 3-0. Host East Carolina defeated Liberty, 7-3 in their last meeting in 1988.

The Last Time Out

In their first final game appearance since 2001, the #5-seed Flames fell to #6-seed UNC Asheville in the 2006 Big South Championship, 16-11. Liberty first baseman Aaron Grijalva, outfielder Phillip Laurent and pitcher Phillip Thompson were selected to the all-tournament team for their play during the week.

The Flames on the Radio

This season, the Flames Sports Network plans to broadcast 20 Liberty baseball regular season games. Games will air live on WWMC 90.9 FM "The Light" and on the World Wide Web at both www.LibertyFlames.com and www.thelightonline.com. The first LIVE radio broadcast is scheduled for Feb. 23 with the Flames' home opener against Albany. The broadcast is set to begin at 2:20 p.m.

Possible Starters

No.	Name	Cl.	Ht.	Wt.	Avg.*	Other Stats*
29	Errol Hollinger (C)	So.	6-4	200	.249	22 RBI, 25 Runs, 10 2Bs, 3 HRs
5	Aaron Grijalva (1B)	R-Jr.	6-1	190	.347	51 RBI, 56 Runs, 7 HRs, 23 SBs
3	Tommy Bussey (2B)	So.	5-11	180	.290	6 RBI, 7 Runs, 3 2Bs
6	Aaron Phillips (3B)	Jr.	6-2	190	--	----
10	Patrick Gaillard (SS)	Sr.	6-1	185	.299	32 RBI, 55 Runs, 4 HRs, 16 SBs
1	Kenneth Negron (LF)	So.	5-8	168	--	----
33	Garrett Young (CF)	Jr.	6-3	225	--	----
19	P.K. Keller (RF)	Jr.	5-10	180	.282	39 RBI, 33 Runs, 4 3Bs, 4 HRs
4	Cody Brown (DH)	R-So.	6-2	210	--	----

R-redshirt

* - statistics are from 2006

**Scouting
The Pirates**

Location: Greenville, N.C.
Founded: 1907
Enrollment: 23,164
Nickname: Pirates
Colors: Purple and Gold
Chancellor: Dr. Steve Ballard
Athletic Director: Terry Holland
Conference: Conference USA
Field (Capacity): Clark-LeClair Stadium
(3,000)
Dimensions: LF-320, CF-390, RF-320

Head Coach: Billy Godwin (Atlantic Christian College, '86)
Record at School: 33-26 (1 year)
Overall Record: 295-111 (7 years)
Office Phone: (252) 737-1985
Assistants: Link Jarrett, Bill Jarman, Ben Sanderson

2006 Record: 33-26
2006 Conference Record/Finish: 10-14/Sixth
Lettermen Returning/Lost: 17/8
Position Starters Returning/Lost: 6/3
Pitchers Returning/Lost: 8/5

Top Returners: Stephen Batts (So., INF, .336 BA), Harrison Eldridge (Jr., OF, .336 BA), Dale Mollenhauer (Jr., SS, .292 BA)

Top Returning Pitchers: T. J. Hose (Jr., RHP, 3.88 ERA), Shane Matthews (Jr., RHP, 4.73 ERA), Jason Neitz (Sr., LHP, 3.06)

Baseball SID: Malcolm Gray
Office Phone: (252) 414-2021
E-mail Address: graym@ecu.edu
Fax Number: (252) 737-4528
Press Box Number: (252) 328-0068
Web Site: www.ECUpirates.com

Upcoming Schedule

2/16 at UCLA 9 p.m.
 2/17 at UCLA 5 p.m.
 2/18 at UCLA 4 p.m.
 2/21 Campbell 3 p.m.



**2007 Liberty University
Baseball Game Notes**



The Coaches

Friday will be the first meeting between Liberty head coach Matt Royer and East Carolina head coach Billy Godwin with their respective teams ...

Liberty: Matt Royer (Liberty, '80)
Record at School: 117-107 (Four Years)
Overall Record: 435-346 (16 Years)

Notes: Matt Royer begins 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.

East Carolina: Billy Godwin (Atlantic Christian College, '86)
Record at School: 33-26 (Two Years)
Overall Record: 295-111 (Eight Years)

Notes: Godwin enters his second season as the head coach of the East Carolina Pirates ... in his first season, the former Pirate assistant led East Carolina to a 33-26 record ... Godwin took over the helm of the Pirate program in the fall of 2005 after becoming an assistant coach with the program in June of the same year ... before arriving at East Carolina, he was the head coach of Louisburg College for six seasons where he was 262-85 ... led the Hurricanes to the Junior College World Series in 2002.

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 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 .

LU	2006 Statistical Comparison	ECU
39-21	Record	33-26
.315	Batting Average	.305
455	Runs	381
678	Hits	633
47	Home Runs	58
412	Runs Batted In	342
104	Stolen Bases	61
4.83	Earned Run Average	4.34
536.2	Innings Pitched	526.2
372	Strikeouts	386
13	Saves	4
.296	Opponent Batting Average	.282

**Liberty University
2007 Baseball Schedule**

**Record: 0-0
Big South: 0-0**

2/9 at East Carolina	3 p.m.
2/10 at East Carolina	2 p.m.
2/11 at East Carolina	1 p.m.
2/16 vs. South Carolina!	Noon
2/17 at The Citadel!	2:30 p.m.
2/18 vs. Richmond!	11 a.m.
2/23 Albany	2:30 p.m.
2/24 Albany	1 p.m.
2/25 Albany	1 p.m.
2/27 at VCU	4 p.m.
3/2 Manhattan	2:30 p.m.
3/3 Manhattan	1 p.m.
3/4 Manhattan	1 p.m.
3/6 at Old Dominion	3 p.m.
3/9 George Washington	2:30 p.m.
3/10 George Washington	1 p.m.
3/11 George Washington	1 p.m.
3/14 at James Madison	2:30 p.m.
3/16 UNC Asheville*	3 p.m.
3/17 UNC Asheville*	2 p.m.
3/18 UNC Asheville*	1 p.m.
3/21 Virginia Tech	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 Citadel Shootout
(DH) - Doubleheader
All Times Eastern Standard Time

**2007 Liberty University
Baseball Game Notes**



Liberty in Season Lid Lifters

Friday's season opener for the Flames will be the 32nd in the team's history. Liberty sports a 21-10 record in the first game of the season. They have compiled a 11-7 mark when opening the season on the road, while going 9-2 at home and 1-1 at a neutral site. Last year, Liberty began their season with a 4-1 road victory at Wofford on Feb. 10.

Flames at Worthington Stadium

For the past 27 years, the Flames have called Worthington Stadium their home. The Flames have compiled an impressive 452-205-4 record at home for a winning percentage of .685 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 104-45 record (.698) during Royer's four years at the helm. Liberty went 22-9 (.710) at Worthington Stadium in 2006.

Liberty on the Road

The Flames finished the 2006 season with a 17-12 road mark. Their record was a four-game improvement over 2005, when the Flames went 9-12 on the road.

Flames Against Conference USA

Liberty has compiled a 10-13 record against current members of Conference USA. The majority of the Flames' contest have been against Marshall, who Liberty hosts later this year at Worthington Stadium (April 6-7.)

Liberty's All-Time Record Against Conference USA

East Carolina	0-3
Houston	0-0
Marshall	9-2
Memphis	0-0
Rice	0-3
Southern Mississippi	0-0
Tulane	0-0
Alabama-Birmingham	0-0
UCF	1-5
Totals	10-13



Flames Against the Big South

Liberty has compiled a 194-157 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

Birmingham-Southern	3-10
Charleston Southern	29-19
Coastal Carolina	25-31
High Point	26-22
Radford	36-23
UNC Asheville	31-16
VMI	21-7
Winthrop	23-29
Totals	194-157



2007 Liberty Flames Roster

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

2007 Liberty University Baseball Game Notes



Another Fantastic February?

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

Liberty's 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	6-8, 2-4 Big South

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. Six of the Flames' first 10 games were decided by one run. Liberty went 5-1 in those games.

Quick Starters

With its victory on March 15 over Marist, Liberty opened the 2006 season with a 16-3 mark. The record tied the best start by a Flames' team in school history. The 1979 team also started its season at 16-3. Liberty's mark was the best start by a Liberty team at the Division I level.

The 2006 start matched the Flames' early-season success of the previous year. Royer's squad opened 2005 with a 13-3 record en route to a 36-19 final ledger.

Over Two Years and Counting

The Flames have gone 138 games and 34 months without being shut out. 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.

Changes Continue at Worthington

When Liberty returns home on Feb. 23 to Worthington Stadium for its home opener against Albany, both players and fans will see 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.

Another visible difference will be the refurbished scoreboard. The board itself will be painted and all 730 light bulbs replaced along with its control module in the press box. Besides the scoreboard, the press box, several spectator areas and both dugouts have also been repainted.

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

Big South Conference Update

(as of Feb. 8, 2007)

Overall Standings

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

Conference Standings

	W	L	Pct.
Charleston Southern	0	0	.000
Coastal Carolina	0	0	.000
High Point	0	0	.000
Liberty	0	0	.000
Radford	0	0	.000
UNC Asheville	0	0	.000
VMI	0	0	.000
Winthrop	0	0	.000

Upcoming Schedule

Friday, Feb. 9

Radford at Savannah St.	2 p.m.
Delaware St. at Charleston So.	2 p.m.
Liberty at East Carolina	3 p.m.
Maryland at Winthrop	4 p.m.
North Florida at Coastal Carolina	4 p.m.
UNC Asheville at Florida St.	5 p.m.
VMI at Florida	6:30 p.m.
High Point at South Florida	7 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 10

Elon at Coastal Carolina	Noon
Radford at Savannah St.	1 p.m.
Creighton at Winthrop	1 p.m.
High Point at South Florida	1 p.m.
UNC Asheville at Florida St.	1 p.m.
Delaware St. at Charleston So.	1 p.m.
Liberty at East Carolina	2 p.m.
VMI at Florida	2 p.m.

Sunday, Feb. 11

Virginia at Coastal Carolina	Noon
VMI at Florida	1 p.m.
Radford at Savannah St.	1 p.m.
High Point at South Florida	1 p.m.
UNC Asheville at Florida St.	1 p.m.
Delaware St. at Charleston So.	1 p.m.
Liberty at East Carolina	2 p.m.
Gardner-Webb at Winthrop	2 p.m.



2007 Liberty University Baseball Game Notes



Big South Tabs Flames Fifth

Liberty was picked to finish fifth in the Big South Conference this season in the league's annual preseason baseball poll, as voted on by the conference's head coaches and sports information directors.

Winthrop was chosen as the conference's team to beat in 2007. The Eagles were picked first on 14 out of the 16 ballots cast. In addition, Winthrop senior outfielder Tommy Lentz was voted the conference's Preseason Player of the Year, while sophomore pitcher Alex Wilson was selected as the conference's Preseason Pitcher of the Year by the panel.

Liberty comes off a 39-21 mark in 2006, which set a new school record for Division I victories. The Flames, who have recorded back-to-back 30-win seasons for the fourth time in the program's history the past two seasons, received 71 points.

Winthrop received 126 points in being tabbed first, followed by Coastal Carolina, who received the other two first-place votes and 108 points. Defending tournament champion UNC Asheville and High Point tied for the third spot in the poll with 82 points. After Liberty, VMI was selected sixth (54), Charleston Southern was tabbed seventh (34) and Radford was eighth (19) in conference voting.

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 "Old Dominion State" 17 times. Liberty posted a 15-5 record against Virginia teams in 2006. The Flames are slated 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.

SEBaseball.com Picks Flames Third

The website South Eastern Baseball tabbed Liberty to finish third in its 2007 Big South Conference Preview. The Winthrop Eagles and Coastal Carolina Chanticleers were picked ahead of the Flames.

Liberty first baseman Aaron Grijalva and pitchers Ryan Page and Tim John were named to SEbaseball's Preseason All-Big South first team, while shortstop Patrick Gaillard, outfielder P.K. Keller and pitcher Michael Solbach were selected to the second team. The Flames and Eagles each placed the most players on the 30-man All-Big South team with six apiece.

The site also picked Liberty as one of the Southeastern 64, a list of the region's top teams. The Southeastern 64 includes teams from the ACC, SEC, Conference USA, Sun Belt, Atlantic Sun, Colonial, Big South, Southern, Southland, Ohio Valley, MEAC and SWAC, along with South Florida, Louisville, Louisiana Tech and Charlotte, who were included due to their geographic location.

Liberty was the list's 61st team. Also, making the list were 2007 Flames' opponents the Citadel (50), James Madison (40), East Carolina (38), Old Dominion (34), Coastal Carolina (32), VCU (31), Winthrop (19) and South Carolina (3).

Liberty Roster Breakdown

The 2007 edition of the Liberty Flames consists of players from 12 states. California (Aaron Grijalva, Errol Hollinger, Grady Inat, Tyler Light and Garrett Young), Florida (Cody Brown, Tommy Bussey, David Giammaresi, P. K. Keller, Jonathan Schneider and Shawn Teufel), New Jersey (Phil John and Tim John), New York (Tim Nanry), North Carolina (Nate Thompson and Andrew Wilson), Oklahoma (Aaron Phillips and David Stokes), Pennsylvania (Dane Beakler, David McCall, Ryan Page and Dustin Umberger),

The 2006 Flames Leaders:

Batting Average		
20 Just, Michael		.379
6 Laurent, Phillip		.377
5 Grijalva, Aaron		.347
Slugging Pct.		
6 Laurent, Phillip		.615
5 Grijalva, Aaron		.572
20 Just, Michael		.516
On base Pct.		
6 Laurent, Phillip		.460
20 Just, Michael		.450
4 Miller, Chad		.448
Runs Scored		
4 Miller, Chad		68
20 Just, Michael		64
5 Grijalva, Aaron		56
10 Gaillard, Patrick		55
Hits		
20 Just, Michael		94
6 Laurent, Phillip		90
4 Miller, Chad		81
RBI		
6 Laurent, Phillip		73
20 Just, Michael		53
5 Grijalva, Aaron		51
Doubles		
6 Laurent, Phillip		27
5 Grijalva, Aaron		19
Triples		
5 Grijalva, Aaron		5
4 Miller, Chad		5
Home Runs		
6 Laurent, Phillip		10
5 Grijalva, Aaron		7
Stolen Bases		
4 Miller, Chad		24
5 Grijalva, Aaron		23
ERA		
34 Page, Ryan		3.59
22 John, Tim		3.67
Appearances		
22 John, Tim		25
33 Thompson, Phillip		24
17 Umberger, Dustin		20
Wins		
34 Page, Ryan		9
22 John, Tim		7
38 Solbach, Michael		7
Saves		
38 Thompson, Phillip		5
22 John, Tim		4
17 Umberger, Dustin		2
Innings Pitched		
33 Thompson, Phillip		92.2
38 Solbach, Michael		85.0
17 Umberger, Dustin		83.0
Opposing Batting Avg.		
22 John, Tim		.251
34 Page, Ryan		.278
Strikeouts		
33 Thompson, Phillip		77
38 Solbach, Michael		71

Returning Players in Bold

2007 Liberty University Baseball Game Notes



South Carolina (Patrick Gaillard), Virginia (Rusty Lajoie, Michael Solbach, and Andrew Weaver), Washington (Derek Bennion) and West Virginia (Doug Wallace) are the states represented on the Flames' roster.

In addition, the roster features an even distribution among the classes. Leading the way are five seniors (Derek Bennion, Patrick Gaillard, Phil John, Tim John and Tim Nanry) and eight juniors (David Giammaresi, Aaron Grijalva, P. K. Keller, Ryan Page, Aaron Phillips, Michael Solbach, David Stokes and Garrett Young). There are also 11 sophomores (Dane Beakler, Cody Brown, Tommy Bussey, Errol Hollinger, Tyler Light, David McCall, Kenneth Negron, Shawn Teufel, Dustin Umberger, Doug Wallace and Andrew Wilson) and seven freshmen (Grady Ihnat, Cory Johnson, Rusty Lajoie, Jonathan Schneider, Nate Thompson, Chase Vaden and Andrew Weaver).

2006 Flames Set School Division I Win Mark

With a 9-7 win over Winthrop in the first round of the Big South Championship on May 24, the 2006 Liberty squad recorded their 37th victory of the season, a new school record for Division I single-season wins. Head Coach Matt Royer's squad went on to collect two more victories for 39, one shy of the all-time school record of 40, set in 1983.

It was the second-straight year the Flames had reached the previous mark set in 2000. Liberty's win over Radford in the 2005 Big South Baseball Championship was their 36th victory of the season; tying the school mark. The Flames moved to NCAA Division I competition for the 1984 baseball season.

Liberty Reaches 30 Wins Again

With their 6-4 win over Coastal Carolina in the completion of a suspended game on April 23, the Flames reached 30 wins in a season for the 12th time in the program's 32-year history last season. Of the 12, eight have come at the Division I level.

It was the first time under head coach Matt Royer and the fourth time in Liberty history the Flames have posted back-to-back 30-win seasons.

Liberty reached the milestone 30-victory mark for the first time under head coach Matt Royer in 2005. The Flames won their 30th game of the season in a 10-2 triumph over Richmond on May 17 at Worthington Stadium in their 47th game of the year. Liberty captured their 30th win in their 40th game of the 2006 campaign.

The 2006 and 2005 teams joined the 2002 and 2001, the 2001 and 2000 and the 1980 and 1981 squads as back-to-back 30-win season teams. Liberty has also had three straight 30-win seasons once in program history as the 2002, 2001 and 2000 teams all won over 30 games.

Off and Running

Liberty led the Big South with 104 stolen bases in 2006. In addition, the Flames ranked 30th in the country among Division I programs in stolen bases per game as they have averaged 1.73 steals per contest, marking 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 have swiped 104 bases in 127 attempts, an 82 percent success rate.

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

Third baseman 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. The first baseman was caught stealing only once in 2006. Shortstop Patrick Gaillard was also among the Big South leaders with 16 thefts, ranking ninth. The shortstop also was only caught once last season, too.

2006 Miscellaneous Stats

HITTING STREAKS

Longest

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

MULTIPLE HIT GAMES

	2	3	4	5+	Total
20 JUST, Michael	15	10	3	-	28
6 LAURENT, Phillip	21	4	2	1	28
4 MILLER, Chad	16	6	2	-	24
10 GAILLARD, Patrick	6	1	-	-	23
5 GRIJALVA, Aaron	15	6	2	-	23
19 KELLER, P.K.	9	3	3	-	15
30 JOHN, Phil	7	5	-	-	12
1 YEAKE, Abe	9	3	-	-	12
29 HOLLINGER, Errol	11	1	-	-	12
8 BENNION, Derek	3	2	-	-	5
3 BUSSEY, Tommy	2	-	-	-	2
24 TEUFEL, Shawn	2	-	-	-	2
15 GIAMMARESI, D.	-	1	-	-	1
40 NANRY, Tim	1	-	-	-	1
TEAM	127	47	13	1	188

MULTIPLE RBI GAMES

	2	3	4	5+	Total
6 LAURENT, Phillip	8	12	-	1	21
4 MILLER, Chad	10	6	-	-	16
20 JUST, Michael	9	3	2	1	15
5 GRIJALVA, Aaron	8	1	3	-	12
10 GAILLARD, Patrick	8	1	-	-	9
30 JOHN, Phil	3	2	1	-	6
19 KELLER, P.K.	3	-	1	1	5
8 BENNION, Derek	4	-	-	-	4
29 HOLLINGER, Errol	-	3	-	-	3
1 YEAKE, Abe	2	1	-	-	3
3 BUSSEY, Tommy	2	-	-	-	2
15 GIAMMARESI, D.	-	-	1	-	1
24 TEUFEL, Shawn	-	1	-	-	1
TEAM	51	24	8	3	86

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

2007 Liberty University Baseball Game Notes



2006 - A Record Breaking Year

Besides the Flames setting a new benchmark for Division I wins, several other Liberty team and individual records were tied or broken in 2006.

Twice during the year, the Flames won nine-consecutive games to tie the program mark for consecutive wins (March 4-March 15 and March 29-April 11) and made 1,610 putouts, a single-season record.

Individually, several marks were surpassed led by senior Phillip Laurent. The left fielder's 280 career hits eclipsed the previous mark of 262 safeties set by Larry Wayne York in 2002. He also set new school career standards for doubles with 68 and at bats with 816. Laurent left his mark on the single-season record book as well with 27 doubles in his last season at Liberty.

He was joined in the record book by Michael Just and Chad Miller as the two infielders broke single-season marks in their final year as Flames. Just set new standards with 94 hits in seasons and 248 at bats, while Miller took over the top of the Liberty single-season run list with 68.

Royer Gets Milestone Victories

Liberty head coach Matt Royer reached two career milestones in guiding the Flames to a 39-21 record last year.

On Feb. 21, the Liberty skipper won the 400th game of his 16-year coaching career as the Flames defeated Longwood, 4-3, in Farmville, Va.

Later in the season, Royer picked up his 100th victory in his four-year tenure as the head coach of his alma mater with a 15-4 Liberty win at William & Mary on April 5.

Flames on the Web

For the latest and most up-to-date information on the Liberty University Flames baseball team, log onto the Liberty University Athletic Department web site, www.LibertyFlames.com. The site contains up to the minute information about the Flames, as well as, all of Liberty's 18 Division I athletic programs. Your latest Flames update is just a click of the mouse button away.

This season, the site will feature links to live stats for each game through Game Day Central along with links to each of the 20 scheduled radio broadcasts. In addition, notes on each series will be available via the web.

Looking Ahead

After the season-opening three-game, road series with the Pirates this weekend, Liberty takes to the road again next weekend for the Citadel Shootout, Feb. 16-18, in Charleston, S.C. All games of the shootout will take place at the Citadel's Ripley Park. On Friday, the Flames will square off against the nation's third-ranked team, the South Carolina Gamecocks, at noon in the first game of the tournament. Liberty will then play host The Citadel on Saturday afternoon at 2:30 p.m., before facing Richmond in its final contest of the event at 11 a.m. on Sunday.

The Flames then return to Lynchburg for their home opener at Worthington Stadium the last weekend in February (Feb. 23-25). Liberty will host Albany in a three-game series over the weekend with single games on Friday at 2:30 p.m. and both Saturday and Sunday at 1 p.m.