



**NORTH ALABAMA LIONS 7 (0-1)**  
AT  
**LIBERTY FLAMES 28 (3-0)**  
WILLIAMS STADIUM | SATURDAY, OCT. 3, 2020

### Team Notes

- Liberty posted a dominant defensive effort in a 28-7 win over North Alabama on Saturday at Williams Stadium, recording six sacks and three takeaways while outgaining the Lions 357-247. The Flames scored 21 straight points, pulling away after a 7-0 halftime lead.
- Liberty has boosted its home winning streak to seven games, the team's longest home winning streak since a seven-game home winning streak spanning the 2012 and 2013 seasons.
- Liberty's five-game overall winning streak ties its longest of its FBS era, as the Flames won five straight games, Sept. 14 through Oct. 19, 2019.
- The Flames have opened the season at 3-0 for the first time since 2017 and the eighth time in program history.
- The Flames are a perfect 5-0 versus FCS teams since joining the FBS ranks in 2018.
- Liberty is now 5-8 all-time against teams from Alabama, including 5-2 in home games against teams from Alabama.
- Liberty has won five straight games played on Oct. 3, a streak which began in 1992.
- Liberty is now 57-23 all-time against Big South opponents, including 35-8 at Williams Stadium.
- Liberty was held off the scoreboard on its opening drive from the first time this season. The Flames have scored on their opening drive 10 out of 16 games under second-year head coach Hugh Freeze, while the opponent is just 5-for-16 on opening-possession scores.
- Liberty went scoreless in the first quarter for the first time since being shut out against Syracuse 24-0 in the 2019 season opener.
- Liberty held a team scoreless for the first half for the first time since leading New Mexico State 10-0 at halftime Oct. 5, 2019.
- The teams' seven combined points were the fewest in the first half of a Liberty game since trailing Saint Francis (Pa.) 6-0 after 30 minutes on Sept. 30, 2017.
- Liberty recorded a season-high six sacks, and posted 10.0 tackles for a loss for the second game in a row. The Flames' six sacks were their most since a six-sack effort against Maine on Oct. 19, 2019.
- Liberty's Brody Brumm and Chris Barrett both recorded their first career touchdown reception today. The last time Liberty teammates both caught their first career touchdown in the same game was Oct. 19, 2019, when Troy Henderson and Noah Frith both registered the first scores of their career in a 59-44 win over Maine.
- Liberty's Chris Ferguson (three) and Johnathan Bennett (one) both tossed their first touchdown passes as Flames. The last time two players threw their first Liberty touchdown pass in the same game was Sept. 7, 2002, when Gus Condon and Kyle Painter both threw their first career touchdown passes in a win over West Liberty State.
- The Flames are 10-3 under second-year Head Coach Hugh Freeze when scoring first in a game.
- Liberty's second-quarter fumble recovery was its first forced turnover in three games this season. This is the first time since 2003 (fourth game) that Liberty's first forced turnover in a season came in the third game or later. The Flames turned their three takeaways into 14 points.
- A Johnathan Bennett interception late in the game was Liberty's first giveaway of the season and led to UNA's lone score.
- Liberty has held its opponents to an average of 283.8 yards per game during its five-game winning streak.
- The Flames have rushed for an average of 274.7 yards per game through the first three games this season.
- So far this season, Liberty holds opponents to an average of 280.6 yards per contest.
- Liberty won the turnover battle, 3-1, coming into the game without a turnover or a takeaway in 2020.
- Liberty's seven points allowed were its fewest since a 16-0 shutout win over Presbyterian on Nov. 5, 2016.
- The Flames had four different players with receiving touchdowns, the first time since getting touchdown catches from five different players (Antonio Gandy-Golden, Demario Douglas, DJ Stubbs, Troy Henderson, Jerome Jackson) at UMass on Nov. 2, 2019. That was also the last game until today where two different Flame threw for touchdown passes (Stephen Calvert - 4, Brandon Robinson - 1).

## Liberty Player Notes (Cont.)

### QB Chris Ferguson

- Making his first career start at Liberty after transferring from Maine, passed for 64 yards on 12-of-21 throws, recording three touchdown passes.
- His first three-touchdown game since throwing for three scores against Sacred Heart on Aug. 30, 2019 while playing at Maine.
- The first Liberty quarterback since Stephen Calvert (four vs. Robert Morris, Oct. 1, 2016) to throw for three or more touchdown passes in his first start as a Flame.

### RB Joshua Mack

- Rushed for 130 yards on 16 carries with a season-long rush of 46 yards. It was his third consecutive 100-yard rushing game and his sixth 100-yard rushing game as a Flame. It was his 16<sup>th</sup> career collegiate 100-yard game, as he had 10 100-yard contests while at Maine. It was his fourth straight regular-season game over 100 yards, as he rushed for 118 yards in a regular-season finale win over New Mexico State on Nov. 30, 2019.
- Came into the game ranked third among all active FBS rushers with 3,046 career rushing yards.
- Became the first Liberty player since Carrington Mosley in 2017 to post three straight 100-yard rushing games. Is the first Flame to rush for 100 or more yards in each of the first three games of the season since Eugene Goodman opened the 2004 season with five straight 100-yard games.
- A Maine transfer, is now second in career 100-yard games by a Liberty player who transferred into Liberty, trailing only Rashad Jennings (Pitt), who had 22 100-yard games from 2006-08. Mack broke a tie with James Cole, who had five career 100-yard games at Liberty from 1982 to 1983 after transferring from Chowan Junior College.

### WR DJ Stubbs

- Led Liberty with five receptions, totaling 37 yards and his second touchdown of the season (sixth career), recording touchdown catches in back-to-back games for the first time in his career.

### WR Demario Douglas

- Caught three passes for 12 yards, including a seven-yard TD in the second quarter that served as the only touchdown of the first half. It was his second career TD and first since Nov. 2, 2019 at UMass.

### WR Brody Brumm

- Caught a two-yard touchdown pass from Chris Ferguson in the third quarter, Liberty's third score of the game and his first career touchdown catch on his fifth career reception.

### WR CJ Yarbrough

- Led Liberty with 43 receiving yards on two catches, including an acrobatic catch on the sidelines in the second half.

### TE Chris Barrett

- Caught his first career touchdown, a five-yard pass from Johnathan Bennett with 14:23 left in the game. It was his sixth career catch.

### QB Johnathan Bennett

- Went 3-for-4 with a touchdown, interception and 43 yards. His fourth-quarter touchdown was the first touchdown pass of his career.

### LB Anthony Butler

- Led the team in tackles with nine, posting one sack and two interceptions in the game. One INT came in the end zone, keeping Liberty ahead 7-0 during the second quarter.
- First Liberty player since Isaac Steele at New Mexico on Sept. 29, 2018 with two interceptions in a single game.

### S Javon Scruggs

- Posted seven tackles, one tackle for a loss and forced a first-half fumble that led to Liberty's first score.

### CB Emmanuel Dabney

- Recovered a first-half fumble that led to the first score of the game. It was his first career fumble recovery.

### DL Stephen Sings V

- Made his first four career tackles, including 1.5 sacks and 1.5 tackles for a loss.

### DL Durrell Johnson

- Recorded three tackles, including 1.5 sacks and 1.5 tackles for a loss. Leads the team with 6.0 TFL and 4.0 sacks after three games at Liberty.