
The Flames received the program’s first ever at-large selection to an NCAA Regional in the 41-year history of Liberty baseball in 2014. The Flames, who finished the year with a 41-18 overall record, became only the second program in school history to obtain an at-large selection to a NCAA Division I postseason tournament/event.

Liberty won 40 or more games for the fourth time in program history and the third time during head coach Jim Toman’s seven- year tenure. The Flames’ 41 wins tied Toman’s 2012 Liberty team for the second-most wins in program history.

After capturing the Big South regular season title with a 23-3 record, Liberty became the first baseball team in conference history to sweep all of the league’s major awards, as second baseman Ryan Seiz was named the Player of the Year, Trey Lambert the Pitcher of the Year and Scholar Athlete of the Year, Parker Bean the Freshman of the Year and Toman the Coach of the Year. Seiz would go on to be named to three All-American teams, while Bean would garner Freshman All-America honors.

Below is a brief recap of the 2014 campaign.

**Flames Make Program History with Back-to-Back NCAA Regional Appearances**
- With their selection to the 2014 NCAA Charlottesville, Va. Regional, Liberty made consecutive NCAA Regional fields for the first time in the 41-year history of the program.
- In 2013, the Flames won the Big South Championship and received the conference’s automatic bid to the Columbia, S.C. Regional.
A LOOK BACK AT 2014

Liberty Claims First-Ever At-Large Selection
- For the first time in school history, the Flames received an at-large selection to an NCAA Regional in 2014.
- The Liberty baseball team becomes only the second program in school history to receive an at-large selection to a NCAA Division I postseason tournament/event. The only other athletics team in Liberty history to obtain an at-large selection has been the men’s golf team, which received at-large selections three times (2003, 2006 and 2013).

Flames Among Nation’s Best
- Liberty finished the year with 41-18 mark and a .695 winning percentage. The Flames’ winning percentage ranked 22nd in the nation in 2014.
- With 41 wins, the 2014 Flames tied with the 2012 Flames (41-19) for the second-most wins in a season.
- Liberty posted its highest RPI in program history of 39.

Liberty Posts Fourth 40-Win Season
- With a 41-18 record in 2014, the Flames posted 40 or more wins in a season for the fourth time in school history.
- Three of the four 40-plus win seasons have come during 2014 Big South Coach of the Year and current Flames head coach Jim Toman’s tenure.
- Under Toman, Liberty previously recorded 40-win seasons in 2010 and 2012. The Flames posted a school record for wins during a 43-18 season in 2010, while recording a 41-19 mark in 2012.
- The only other time, the Flames collected 40 wins was in 1983 under Liberty’s first head coach Al Worthington. The Flames posted a 40-17 record during their run to an appearance in the NAIA National Tournament.

Flames Ranked in National Polls
- The Flames appeared in all four national baseball polls during the 2014 season. Liberty was listed by Baseball America, Collegiate Baseball Newspaper, National Collegiate Baseball Writers (NCBWA) and USA Today Coaches poll during the year.
  - Liberty reached as high as No. 21 in the polls, as Baseball America had the Flames listed there in their May 12 poll.
  - For the first time in program history, Liberty was ranked in one of the four national baseball polls during the regular season, when the Flames were ranked No. 30 by the NCBWA on April 14.
  - Liberty made its first ever appearance in the Baseball America Top 25 on May 5, as the Flames were ranked No. 22.

Liberty Claims Big South Regular Season Title with Program Record 23 Wins
- With a 7-1 win over Coastal Carolina on May 9, Liberty captured the 2014 Big South regular season title and clinched the No. 1 seed for the Big South Baseball Championship in Rock Hill, S.C.
- It is the third Big South regular-season title in program history and Liberty’s first since 2000. The Flames also won the conference’s regular season title in 1998 and 2000.
- Liberty claimed the title, winning a program-record 23 Big South games. The mark eclipses the 19 Big South wins by the 2010 Flames.
- The Flames won 20 consecutive conference games during the season, sweeping seven straight league series.
A LOOK BACK AT 2014

Flames Sweep Big South Honors
• Liberty became the first team in Big South history to sweep the conference awards in 2014.
• 2B Ryan Seiz was named the Big South Player of the Year. Seiz becomes the third Liberty player to be named the Big South Player of the Year. He joins outfielder Keith Butler (2000) and infielder Jason Benham (1998) as Flames who have won the award.
• RHP Trey Lambert was selected the Big South Pitcher of the Year, becoming the first Liberty pitcher ever to garner the award. Lambert also was named the Big South Scholar-Athlete of the Year, given by the conference's SIDs.
• RHP Parker Bean was named the Big South Freshman of the Year. The pitcher becomes the fourth Flame to be selected the conference's Freshman of the Year. The pitcher joins pitcher Tim Harrell (1995), outfielder Keith Butler (2000) and teammate Alex Close (2012) as Flames who have received the honor.
• Head Coach Jim Toman was a unanimous selection as the Big South Coach of the Year. It is the first for the Liberty head coach. He is the second Flames skipper to win the honor, as Dave Pastors was named the conference's Coach of the Year in 1998.

Seven Flames Named to Big South All-Conference Team
• Liberty placed seven players on the Big South All-Conference team in 2014, the most for the Flames since 2002.
• Catcher Danny Grauer, first baseman Alex Close, second baseman Ryan Seiz and pitchers Trey Lambert and Parker Bean were selected to the first team.
• Shortstop Dalton Britt and relief pitcher Ashton Perritt were named to the second team.
• It was the first time in program history the Flames have had five players voted to the first team and the third time that Liberty has had seven players named to the team.

Six Flames Voted to VaSID All-State Team
• Six Flames were named to the VaSID University Division All-State Baseball team. The team is voted on by the Virginia Sports Information Directors.
• Second baseman Ryan Seiz, utility player Ashton Perritt and right-hander Trey Lambert were selected to the first team, while first baseman Alex Close, relief pitcher Matt Marsh and pitcher Parker Bean garnered second team honors.
• Bean also became the first Liberty player to be named the Commonwealth's Rookie of the Year.
• The six selections were the most in school history.

Toman Guides Flames to Best Division I Mark over First Seven Years, Reaches 250th Win
• With the third 40-plus win season during his seven-year tenure, Jim Toman has recorded the best NCAA Division I winning percentage of any head coach in Liberty history with a .631 winning percentage.
• The Flames have averaged 38 wins a year during Toman's tenure, posting a 264-155-1 record.
• Named the 2014 Big South Coach of the Year, Toman's Flames have recorded the best Big South Conference mark of any coach in school history with a 119-59 mark (.669).
• Toman joined Al Worthington, who posted 343 wins during his 13 seasons at Liberty, as one of only two Liberty coaches to win over 250 games in program history, this past season. The Flames defeated Longwood, 10-4, on April 11 for Toman's milestone victory.
• The top three win totals in Liberty history have come under Toman, as he has led the Flames to three of the four 40-plus win seasons in program history. Along with this last season, Toman's Flames have posted 41 wins in 2012 and a school-record 43 victories in 2012.
Pitching Makes Its Mark – Sets ERA Record
- One of the key elements of head coach Jim Toman’s team’s success in 2014 was its mound corps.
- The Flames led the Big South Conference with a 2.62 ERA and finished the year ranked 14th nationally in the category.
- Liberty’s ERA was the lowest in program history for a season. The 2012 Flames held the previous mark with a 3.04 ERA.
- Liberty also topped the Big South with nine shutouts. The Flames ranked 14th nationally in blankings.
- Liberty recorded six consecutive shutouts in Big South contests from March 28 - April 6. Liberty did not allow a run in a sweep of a three-game series at Presbyterian College, March 28-30, and during a three-game sweep of a series against VMI at Liberty Baseball Stadium, April 4-6.
- Liberty pitching held opponents to .221 batting average and allowed opponents 3.2 runs per game this season, the 12th fewest in the nation.

Four Flames Taken in MLB Draft
- Liberty had four players taken in the 2014 Major League Baseball Draft, concluded on June 7.
- Infielder Ryan Seiz and pitcher/outfielder Ashton Perritt were selected in the 17th round. Seiz was chosen by the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim and Perritt was drafted by the Atlanta Braves. Alex Close was selected as a catcher in the 27th round by the Kansas City Royals and pitcher Adam Parks was chosen in the 33rd round by the Texas Rangers.
- Liberty has had three or more players selected in each of the last four MLB Drafts, including 2011 when seven Flames were drafted to set a program record and tie the Big South Conference record. Liberty has had 17 players drafted over that span.
- Liberty has had 58 players selected in the MLB Draft during the 41-year history of its program.
- One or more Flames have been chosen in each draft since 2000.
- Right-hander pitcher Matt Marsh later signed a free agent contract with the New York Yankees.

Seiz Named to 3 All-America Teams
- The 2014 Big South Player of the Year Ryan Seiz was selected to three different All-America teams this past spring.
- Seiz was named to the Louisville Slugger, National Collegiate Baseball Writers (NCBWA) and the Rawlings/American Baseball Coaches Association (ABCA) NCAA Division I All-America teams, earning second team mention on each team.
- The junior became the first Liberty player to earn postseason Division I All-America honors in program history.
- Seiz also became the first Liberty player ever to be listed as a semifinalist for the Dick Howser Award, which the NCBWA gives annually to college baseball’s top player.
- The second baseman also was a semifinalist for the Gregg Olson Award, given to the collegiate baseball’s “breakout” player of the year.
- One of only two Flames to start every game in 2014, Seiz led the Big South in runs scored, home runs, slugging percentage and total bases.
- Named a Big South All-Conference first team member, he finished the year pacing Liberty in batting average (.351), runs scored (55), doubles (16), home runs (12), on base percentage (.429), total bases (137) and slugging percentage (.593). He also had 43 RBIs.
A LOOK BACK AT 2014

Lambert, Close Selected to Capital One® Academic All-America Team
- Pitcher Trey Lambert and first baseman Alex Close were honored for their excellence in the classroom and on the baseball diamond by being selected to the 2014 Capital One Academic All-America® Division I Baseball Team.
- The two become the second and third players in program history to be named to the nation’s highest academic team and the first two be named to the first team. Third baseman Jason Benham was selected to the third team in 1994.
- The Big South Pitcher of the Year, Lambert, also was named the Big South Conference Men’s Scholar-Athlete of the Year and the Big South Baseball Scholar-Athlete of the Year.
- The pitcher graduated in May with a 3.95 GPA in health promotions and was selected as the 2014 Rock Royer/Mac Rivera Award winner, honoring the top graduating senior student-athlete at Liberty University.
- Lambert tied the Liberty record and led the Big South with 11 wins in 2014. The right-hander fashioned an 11-3 record with a 2.23 ERA over a career-high 109 innings.
- Close was one of only two juniors to be named to the 33-man squad. The first baseman also was selected to the 2014 Big South All-Conference first team.
- Close and Lambert were also named to the 2014 VaSID Academic All-State team.

Bean Named Freshman All-American, All-State Rookie of the Year
- Right-hander Parker Bean, the Big South Freshman of the Year, became the fifth Liberty freshman to be selected to the Louisville Slugger Freshman All-America team.
- Bean also was voted the VaSID All-State Rookie of the Year, becoming the first Liberty player to be honored with the award. He was a second team all-state selection.
- A Big South All-Conference first team selection, Bean posted a 7-3 record with a 2.95 ERA, striking out a team-leading 78 and walking 36 batters over 73 1/3 innings in 2014.
- Bean finished among the leaders in the Big South Conference in ERA, strikeouts and opponent batting average (.224).
- On April 6, the freshman came within two outs of a no-hitter in a 17-0 win over VMI.

Lambert Ties Season Mark – Goes Out in Style
- Senior pitcher Trey Lambert finished his career with a record-setting year in 2014.
- The right-hander tied the Liberty record for wins in a season, posting an 11-3 mark. He ties former Flames Keegan Linza (2011) and Jason Jones (2002) on the program’s season list.
- Lambert posted a 2.23 ERA over a career-high 109 innings. The team captain struck out 71 and walked 28 batters, while holding opponents to a .214 batting average.
- The senior’s innings pitched rank fifth and ERA ranks sixth, respectively for a season in program history.
- Off the field, Lambert became one of only three Flames in program history to be named to the Capital One® Academic All-American Team, being named to the first team. He was also selected the Big South Men's Scholar-Athlete of the Year and Big South Baseball Scholar-Athlete of the Year.
- On the field, the team captain was named to the ACBA All-Atlantic Region team and listed on the National Pitcher of the Year Watch list.
- In addition, he was voted the Big South Pitcher of the Year and to the Big South All-Conference first team.
A LOOK BACK AT 2014

BACK-TO-BACK NCAA REGIONALS

A LOOK BACK AT 2014

Two-Way Standout Perritt Second on All-Time Save List

- Utility player Ashton Perritt made his mark in 2014. He was voted the Big South All-Conference second team relief pitcher, named to the mid-season NCBWA Stopper of the Year Watch list and was selected the first team utility player on the VaSID All-State team.
- Perritt finished his season with career-high 12 saves in 2014. The right-hander reliever's save total rank second in program history.
- With 22 career saves, Perritt is second in Liberty history in the category. Josh Brey (1999-2001) tops the save list with 27.
- The junior went 1-2 with 1.52 ERA over 29 2/3 innings this past season. He finished second in the Big South in saves. In addition, the right-hander struck out 28 batters and walked five in 21 appearances. Selected by the Atlanta Braves in the 2014 MLB Draft, Perritt finished the year second all-time in Liberty history with 22 career saves.
- Perritt was selected to the NCAA Charlottesville All-Regional team as a center fielder and the Big South All-Tournament team as its utility player.
- The outfielder hit .279 with 24 RBIs and 39 runs scored. He led Liberty with 18 stolen bases.
- Perritt was a NCBWA and Louisville Slugger Preseason All-American at the utility position.

Clowers and Marsh Form Formidable Bullpen Twosome

- Junior left-hander Shawn Clowers and senior right-hander Matt Marsh provided the Flames with quite a bullpen duo in 2014.
- After appearing in 20 games and pitching 23 2/3 innings during his two seasons at Liberty, Clowers more than doubled his career numbers in 2014.
- Clowers posted a 9-0 record with a 0.53 ERA over 54 1/3 innings and a team-high 23 appearances, all career-highs. His nine wins ranked third in the Big South and tied him for the most by a reliever in the conference.
- The left-hander was one of 36 players named a 2014 Gregg Olson “Breakout” Player of the Year Award semifinalist.
- Clowers did not allow a run over his first 24 2/3 innings of the season, yielding his first runs of the year on April 8.
- Meanwhile, Marsh saved his best season for his last, earning VaSID All-State second team honors at season’s end.
- Marsh finished the year with a 2-0 record with a 0.46 ERA and three saves over 39 innings and 20 appearances, all career highs. He struck out 51 and walked just nine batters.
- After allowing a run in his first appearance of 2014 on Feb. 18, the right-hander did not give up a run the rest of the season. Marsh did not yield a run over his final 19 appearances, spanning 37 2/3 innings.

Ashton Perritt
2014 VaSID Utility Player
first team

Shawn Clowers
2014 Gregg Olson Award Semifinalist

Matt Marsh
2014 VaSID All-State
A LOOK BACK AT 2014

Liberty Baseball Stadium No. 5 in Best College Ballpark Experiences
- The Liberty Baseball Stadium, home of Liberty baseball for the past two seasons, was ranked No. 5 in best college ballpark experiences of 2014 by the Stadium Journey website. Stadium Journey publishes reviews of sports stadiums from around the world and to date, has reviewed 1,928 different venues in 41 countries.
- The Liberty Baseball Stadium joined by Dudley Noble Field – Home of Mississippi State, Russ Chandler Stadium – Home of Georgia Tech, Mark Light Field at Alex Rodriguez Park – Home of Miami (Fla.) and No. 1 Carolina Stadium – Home of South Carolina – in the top five.
- Liberty has posted a 47-14 record (.770) at Liberty Baseball Stadium.
- Liberty averaged 1,467 fans per home date at Liberty Baseball Stadium this season.
- The Flames’ average attendance ranked 43rd in the nation on the final NCBWA Attendance Report of the season. Liberty drew 38,142 fans (50th in total attendance) over 27 games at Liberty Baseball Stadium, this season.
- Since opening Liberty Baseball Stadium last season, the Flames have averaged 1,219 fans per game.

2014 Liberty Award Winners

ACBA All-America Team
Ryan Seiz, 2B, second team

Louiseville Slugger All-America Team
Ryan Seiz, 2B, second team

NCBWA All-America Team
Ryan Seiz, 2B, second team

Capital One® Academic All-America Team
Trey Lambert, P, first team
Alex Close, 1B, first team

Louiseville Slugger Freshman All-America Team
Parker Bean, P

Louiseville Slugger Preseason All-America Team
Ashton Perritt, Utility, third team

NCBWA Preseason All-America Team
Ashton Perritt, Utility, second team

Dick Howser Trophy Semi-finalist
Ryan Seiz

Gregg Olson “Breakout” Player of the Year Semi-finalist
Shawn Clowers
Ryan Seiz

NCBWA Stopper of the Year Midseason Watch List
Ashton Perritt

National Pitcher of the Year Watch List
Trey Lambert

Louiseville Slugger Player of the Week
Parker Bean (April 7)

NCBWA Hitter of the Week
Ryan Seiz (March 3)

NCAA.com Performer of the Week
Trey Lambert (April 1)
Parker Bean (April 9)

ABCA All-Atlantic Region Team
Ryan Seiz, 2B, first team
Trey Lambert, SP, second team

ECAC All-Star Team
Ryan Seiz, 2B

VaSID All-State Rookie of the Year
Parker Bean

VaSID All-State Team
Trey Lambert, SP, first team
Ashton Perritt, Utility, first team
Ryan Seiz, 2B, first team
Parker Bean, SP, second team
Alex Close, 1B, second team
Matt Marsh, RP, second team

VaSID All-Academic Team
Alex Close
Trey Lambert

ECAC Players of the Week
Trey Lambert (March 30)
Ryan Seiz (March 30)

Charlottesville, Va. All-Regional Team
Ashton Perritt, OF

Rock Royer/Mac Rivera Award
Trey Lambert

Big South Men’s Scholar-Athlete of the Year
Trey Lambert

Big South Player of the Year
Ryan Seiz

Big South Pitcher of the Year
Trey Lambert

Big South Freshman of the Year
Parker Bean

Big South Coach of the Year
Jim Toman

Big South Baseball Scholar-Athlete of the Year
Trey Lambert

Big South All-Conference
Alex Close, INF, first team
Parker Bean, P, first team
Danny Grauer, INF, first team
Trey Lambert, P, first team
Ryan Seiz, INF, first team
Dalton Britt, SS, second team
Ashton Perritt, RP, second team

Big South All-Tournament Team
Dalton Britt, INF
Ashton Perritt, Utility

Big South Player of the Week
Ryan Seiz (March 3, March 31)
Trey Lambert (March 31)
Parker Bean (April 7)