A LOOK BACK AT THE PAST THREE YEARS: 2013-15
A LOOK BACK AT 2015

The Liberty Flames continued to make program history in 2015. The Flames finished the year with a 33-23 overall record against arguably, one of the toughest schedules in program history. Liberty posted a 16-8 Big South record to tie for third in the regular season standings. With that record, the senior class of the 2015 Flames claimed the most Big South victories and the best four-year Big South winning percentage in program history.

For the second consecutive season, a Flame was named the Big South Pitcher of the Year. Senior left-hander Jared Lyons was selected the conference's top pitcher in 2015, after right-hander Trey Lambert in 2014. Meanwhile, senior first baseman Alex Close was named a 2015 Capital One Academic All-America® Division I Baseball first team selection. Close was named to the team for the second consecutive year, becoming the first Liberty baseball player and the seventh Liberty student-athlete to be selected to the academic team multiple times.

Below is a brief recap of the 2015 campaign.

Flames Graduating Class Makes Mark
- Led by 2015 Big South Pitcher of the Year Jared Lyons and two-time Capital One Academic All-America® Division I Baseball first team member Alex Close, the 2015 senior class graduated as one of Liberty's winningest classes in school history.
- The class was part of two NCAA Regional teams, as the Flames participated in back-to-back regionals in 2013 and 2014. Liberty made consecutive NCAA Regional fields for the first time in the 41-year history of the program in 2014.
- The 2015 Flames' seniors posted a 66-32 Big South mark, the best four-year conference winning percentage in program history.
- Of the Flames' four 40-plus victory seasons, the 2015 senior class was part of two. Liberty won 41 games in the 2012 and the 2014 seasons.
- The 2015 seniors recorded a 151-89 overall mark from 2012-15. Their win total and their winning percentage is the third highest in school history.
Flames Ranked in National Polls
• The Flames appeared in three national baseball polls during the 2015 season. Liberty was listed by Baseball America, Collegiate Baseball Newspaper and National Collegiate Baseball Writers (NCBWA) polls during the year.

• Liberty reached as high as No. 24 in the polls, as Baseball America had the Flames listed there in their Feb. 16th poll.

• The Flames began the year ranked in three preseason polls, including being placed in the Baseball America’s Preseason 25 for the first time in program history.

• The Collegiate Baseball Newspaper listed the Flames at No. 23 in their 2015 Fabulous 40 NCAA Division I preseason baseball poll, while Baseball America ranked the Flames No. 25 in their preseason Top 25. The NCBWA placed Liberty at No. 30 in its preseason poll.

Lyons, Close Receive Big South Honors
• Liberty left-hander Jared Lyons and first baseman Alex Close were among the Big South award winners in 2015. Lyons was named the 2015 Big South Pitcher of the Year, while Close was voted the 2015 Big South Baseball Scholar-Athlete of the Year.

• With Lyons’ selection, a Liberty pitcher was named Big South Pitcher of the Year for the second straight year. Former Flames right-hander Trey Lambert was given the honor in 2014.

• Close was named the Big South Scholar-Athlete of the Year, joining former Liberty Flames Brian Harrell (2000), Matt Stewart (2001) and Trey Lambert (2014) as winners of the award.

Two Flames Named to Big South All-Conference Team
• Liberty had two players on the Big South All-Conference team in 2015.

• First baseman Alex Close and pitcher Jared Lyons were named to the all-conference team.

• Close was selected to the Big South All-Conference first team as an infielder for the second time. Lyons received his first all-conference mention.

Lyons Named Louisville Slugger All-American
• Liberty pitcher Jared Lyons was named to the Louisville Slugger NCAA Division I All-American team.

• The left-hander was selected to the third team. He becomes the first Flames pitcher and second Liberty player named to a postseason NCAA Division I All-America team in program history.

• Lyons was selected the Big South Pitcher of the Year, after posting career highs with an 8-2 record and a 1.99 ERA over 99 2/3 innings in 2015. The left-hander made 16 appearances and 13 starts.
A LOOK BACK AT 2015

Close Selected Capital One Academic All-America® for Second Time
- First baseman/pitcher Alex Close were honored for the second-straight year for his excellence in the classroom and on the baseball diamond by being selected to the 2015 Capital One Academic All-America® Division I Baseball first team.

- In 2014, Close became one of three Liberty baseball players to ever be voted to a Division I Academic All-America team. He joined former teammate Trey Lambert on the 2014 team, while former infielder Jason Benham was named to the 1998 Academic All-America Division I Baseball third team. Close was one of two juniors that season to be named to the team.

- Close graduated from Liberty with a 3.84 GPA in business administration: finance in May and was selected as the 2014 Rock Royer/Mac Rivera Award winner, honoring the top graduating senior student-athlete at Liberty University.

- Close was named to Big South All-Conference first team for the second straight year and was selected to the 2015 ECAC All-Star team as a utility player.

- The first baseman/pitcher also earned VaSID All-State Academic honors for the second consecutive year.

Close, Lyons Voted to VaSID All-State Team
- Alex Close and Jared Lyons were named to the 2015 VaSID University Division All-State Baseball first team. The team is voted on by the Virginia Sports Information Directors.

- Close, who was named as a utility player, one who plays multiple positions, garnered his third VaSID selection. In 2012 and 2013, he earned inclusion on the team at first base. Meanwhile, Lyons garnered his first selection.

Three Flames Taken in MLB Draft
- Liberty had three players selected in the 2015 Major League draft, concluded on June 10.

- Left-hander Jared Lyons was picked in the ninth round by the Oakland Athletics, becoming the highest Liberty draft pick since outfielder Ian Parmley was taken in the seventh round by the Toronto Blue Jays and John Niggli was selected in the ninth round by the Texas Rangers in 2012

- Pitcher/outfielder Ashton Perritt was selected in the 24th round by the Texas Rangers and Alex Close was selected as a catcher in the 26th round by the Kansas City Royals.

- Liberty has had three or more players selected in each of the last five MLB Drafts, including 2011 when seven Flames were drafted to set a program record and tie the Big South Conference record. Liberty has had 18 players drafted over that span.

- Liberty has had 61 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 Shawn Clowers later signed a free agent contract with the Milwaukee Brewers.
Toman Closes in on 300
- Liberty Head Coach Jim Toman finished the year with 297 wins, three games shy of his milestone 300th career victory.
- Toman would become the second coach in Liberty program history to reach 300 wins. Program founder and winningest coach in program history Al Worthington won 343 games during his 13 seasons at the helm of the Flames.
- The 2014 Big South Coach of the Year, Toman has posted the highest NCAA Division I winning percentage (.625) during his first eight years of any Liberty head baseball coach in program history.
- He also has a .668 conference winning percentage which is also the best of any head coach in program history.

Pennington Honored with Christenberry Award
- Senior left-hander Matt Pennington was one of three Liberty student-athletes to earn the prestigious George A. Christenberry Award for Academic Excellence. It is the first time in Liberty athletics department history that three student-athletes received the honor from the Big South Conference.
- The Christenberry Award is given annually by the Big South Conference to the male and female student-athlete who attain the highest GPA during their college careers.
- Pennington finished his collegiate career with a 4.0 GPA while majoring in theology and apologetics.
- The left-handed pitcher appeared in nine games, making four starts. He has won each of his first three starts, including Liberty’s 7-6 win at Super Regional participant Maryland.
- Pennington finished the year with a 3-2 with a 3.68 ERA over 36 2/3 innings. He struck out 29 batters and 11 walks. He went six or more innings in each of his four starts.

Close Finishes Career Among Liberty Career Leaders
- Alex Close completed his Liberty career among several all-time lists.
- Close finished his career ranked among the program leaders:
  - Hits - 3rd: 255
  - Home Runs - 4th: 33
  - RBI - 4th: 166
  - Doubles - Tied 10th: 47
- The four-year starter was twice named to the Capital One Academic All-America® first team (2014 & 15) and to the ECAC All-Star team as a utility player (first baseman/pitcher) in 2015. He was drafted by the Kansas City in both 2014 and 2015.
- The Hoover, Ala. native was named the recipient of the 2015 Rock Royer/Mac Rivera Award, honoring the top graduating senior student-athlete at Liberty University.
- Close was selected to the Big South All-Conference team twice (2014 & 15) and in 2012, he was named the Big South Freshman of the Year.
A LOOK BACK AT 2015

Liberty Baseball Stadium No. 4 in Best College Ballpark Experiences
- The Liberty Baseball Stadium, home of Liberty baseball for the past three seasons, was once again ranked as one of the best college ballpark experiences in the nation by the Stadium Journey website.
- The Liberty Baseball Stadium was ranked No. 4 nationally for 2015 by the website. Stadium Journey publishes reviews of sports stadiums from around the world and to date, has reviewed 2,196 different venues in 48 countries.

- The Liberty Baseball Stadium joined by Dudley Noble Field – Home of Mississippi State, Alex Box Stadium – Home of the LSU Tigers and Carolina Stadium – Home of South Carolina – in the top five.
- In 2014, the Liberty Baseball Stadium was listed No. 5 nationally by Stadium Journey.
- In three seasons, the Flames has posted a 68-23 record (.747) at Liberty Baseball Stadium.

Liberty Among Top 50 in Attendance
- This past season, Liberty averaged 1,440 fans per home date at Liberty Baseball Stadium during the regular season ranking 46th in the nation in the National Collegiate Baseball Writers (NCBWA) Attendance Report #13 for games through May 11.
- Liberty drew 34,569 fans over 24 home dates at Liberty Baseball Stadium in 2015. The Flames finished the year 50th in overall attendance according to the NCBWA report.
- In 2015, Liberty set a new single-game attendance record at Liberty Baseball Stadium with a crowd of 3,983 at the Campbell-Liberty game on April 10.
- In their three seasons at Liberty Baseball Stadium, the Flames have averaged 1,266 fans per game.

Lyons Was Locked In
- Liberty left-hander Jared Lyons capped his collegiate career by being named a 2015 Louisville Slugger All-America and the Big South Pitcher of the Year.
- Lyons finished the 2015 season as the conference’s leader in complete games (3), shutouts (2) and opponent batting average (.183). In addition, he led the Big South in ERA for most of 2015 and finished second with a 1.99 ERA.
- The Yorktown, Va., native also was second in wins with an 8-2 mark, second with 99 2/3 innings pitched and fourth with 100 strikeouts. His strikeout total is the second-most in a single season in school history.
- Lyons was named the Big South Conference Pitcher of the Week three times this season (for games played March 16-22, March 30-April 5 & April 20-26). In addition, the left-hander was selected the ECAC Pitcher of the Week three times for the same weeks.
- He finished second all-time at Liberty with a 2.83 career ERA and seventh with 221 career strikeouts.
A LOOK BACK AT 2015

Perritt Finishes Among Top Relief Men in School History
- Ashton Perritt completed his Liberty career with 24 saves. The right-hander’s total ranks second in the program’s all-time annals behind Josh Brey, who had 27 career saves.

- Perritt, who also started in center field for the Flames the past two seasons, was selected to both the 2014 and 2015 NCBWA Stopper of the Year Watch list.

- In 2014, the Whiteland, Ind. native posted a career-high 12 saves, the second-most in a single season, and was named to the Big South All-Conference team as a relief pitcher.

- In 2013, Perritt had 10 saves and was named the Big South Tournament MVP during Liberty’s conference title run. The center fielder/pitcher hit .400 with two home runs and did not allow run in four appearances, recording four saves. He was also the utility player on the All-Tournament team.

- The right-hander was drafted in 2014 by the Atlanta Braves, but chose to return for his senior season. This past June, he was selected by the Texas Rangers in the MLB Draft.

Clowers Among National Leaders in Wins for Most of Year
- For most of 2015, senior pitcher Shawn Clowers was among the college baseball’s top five in wins, before finishing the year in 18th with a 9-4 mark.

- The left-hander finished the Big South regular season tied for the conference lead in wins.

- Switching to a starting role midway through the season, Clowers led the Flames in appearances for the second straight season with 19. He completed the year 9-4 with a save and a 3.80 ERA over 71 innings pitched. Of his 19 appearances, eight were starts.

- From May 14, 2013 through March 21, 2015, Clowers made 32 consecutive appearances without a loss. The left-hander posted a 14-0 record with a 1.38 ERA over 78 innings during the span.

2015 Liberty Award Winners

Louisville Slugger All-America Team
Jared Lyons, P, third team

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

Louisville Slugger Preseason All-America Team
Alex Close, 1B, second team
Ashton Perritt, RP, third team

PerfectGame Preseason All-America Team
Alex Close, 1B, third team

D1 Baseball Preseason All-America Team
Ashton Perritt, Utility, third team

NCBWA Stopper of the Year Watch List
Ashton Perritt

ABCA All-Atlantic Region Team
Jared Lyons, SP, second team

ECAC All-Star Team
Alex Close, Utility, second team

VaSID All-State Team
Alex Close, 1B, first team
Jared Lyons, SP, first team

VaSID All-Academic Team
Alex Close

ECAC Players of the Week
Jared Lyons (Mar. 23, Apr. 6, Apr. 27)
Alex Close (Mar. 29)
Victor Cole (Apr. 12)

George A. Christenberry Award for Academic Excellence
Matt Pennington

Big South Pitcher of the Year
Jared Lyons

Big South Baseball Scholar-Athlete of the Year
Alex Close

Big South All-Conference
Alex Close, INF, first team
Jared Lyons, SP, first team

Big South Player of the Week
Becker Sankey (Feb. 16)
Alex Close (Mar. 30)

Big South Pitcher of the Week
Victor Cole (Mar. 2, Apr. 13)
Jared Lyons (Mar. 23, Apr. 6, Apr. 27)

Rock Royer/Mac Rivera Award
Alex Close

2015 Liberty Coach of Year
Jim Toman

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.
BACK-TO-BACK NCAA REGIONALS

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.

Liberty 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.
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.
A LOOK BACK AT 2014

BACK-TO-BACK NCAA REGIONALS

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.
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

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.
A LOOK BACK AT 2013
For the first time in the program’s 40 years, the Liberty Flames baseball team reached an NCAA Regional final. After winning their first Big South title since 2000, the Flames defeated Clemson twice at the NCAA Columbia, S.C. Regional to make their first appearance in a regional final in program history.

Liberty posted 35 or more wins for the fifth time in head coach Jim Toman’s six years at the helm of the program, finishing the year with a 36-29 overall record. Toman has led the Flames to the best NCAA Division I winning percentage of any Liberty coach over his first six seasons with the program.

In addition, Liberty posted a 13-11 record in Big South play, finishing in third place in the conference’s North Division and fifth overall, before winning five straight contests to capture the Big South title. Four out of Liberty’s five tournament wins were by one run.

A brief recap of the 2013 campaign follows.

**Flames Make History at NCAA Columbia, S.C. Regional**

- Playing in their first NCAA Regional since 2000, Liberty reached a regional final for the first time in the 40-year history of its program.

- The Flames defeated Clemson twice, 8-3 and 3-1, to move into the regional final against regional host South Carolina. Liberty tripled the number of wins by the program in a regional to three. Entering the regional, the Flames had won one game during its previous three regional appearances.

- Liberty received the No. 3 seed in the regional, the highest seed in their four NCAA Regional appearances all-time.
A Glance Back at the Columbia, S.C. Regional

- Second baseman Bryan Aanderud, pitcher Josh Richardson, outfielder Justin Sizemore, and catcher Trey Wimmer were named to the Columbia, S.C. All-Regional team.

- Sizemore led the Flames with a .500 batting average over Liberty’s four games at the regional. The senior had at least one hit in each game and collected three multiple-hit games, including three hits in the regional final against South Carolina.

- Aanderud hit .467 during the regional. The senior collected a season-high four hits and drove in two runs in the Flames’ 3-1 win over Clemson on June 2. The second baseman’s four-hit game tied a career-high. He also had two hits in regional final against South Carolina to post his team-leading 25th multiple-hit contest of the year.

- Pitcher Trey Lambert moved to 8-3 on the year, allowing one run on seven hits over 7 2/3 innings in a 3-1 win over Clemson, June 2. The key in the contest for the right-hander was that he stranded two Tigers at third base and three at second base.

- Utility player Ashton Perritt recorded his 10th save of the year in the Flames’ 3-1 win against Clemson. The right-hander also started his first game of the season on the mound in the regional final against South Carolina and pitched up until play was suspended in the middle of the fifth due to rain.

- Wimmer drove in a career-high six runs with two hits in the Flames’ 8-3 over Clemson on the regional’s opening day. The senior catcher had a two-run double, three-run home run, and a run-scoring sacrifice fly in the contest. Playing in his home state, the Greenwood, S.C., native connected for his fifth round tripper of the year in the sixth inning to give Liberty a five-run cushion at the time.

- Pitcher Josh Richardson pitched his third complete game of the year in Liberty’s 8-3 win over Clemson, giving up three runs on six hits. After the third inning, Richardson proceeded to handcuff the Tiger batters, holding Clemson scoreless during the following five innings, allowing the Flames to build an advantage. Starting with the second out of the third inning, Richardson retired the next 17 Clemson hitters until a double by the leadoff hitter to open the bottom of the ninth.

Liberty Captures Big South Title

- Liberty claimed the Big South Conference’s automatic bid to an NCAA Regional and their first conference crown since 2000 with a 2-1 win over No. 1 seed Campbell on May 25.

- With the title, the Flames made their first regional appearance since 2000 and the fourth in the program’s history (1993, 1998 & 2000)

- Liberty became only the fourth host team in 25 Big South Conference tournaments to win the Big South Championship (Coastal Carolina was the last in 1998).

- The Flames also became only the second No. 5 seed to win the conference title (Campbell, 1990).

- Of Liberty’s five victories in the tournament, four were one-run games.
Notes from Big South Championship

- Utility player Ashton Perritt was named the Tournament MVP and was joined on the All-Tournament team by shortstop Dalton Britt, pitcher Blake Fulghum, third baseman Jake Kimble, outfielder Justin Sizemore and catcher Trey Wimmer.

- Perritt was named the tournament’s MVP after hitting .400 with two home runs as an outfielder and not allowing a run in four appearances as a pitcher, recording four saves. He had two three-hit games during the tournament. In the title game vs. Campbell, Perritt had three hits, drove in the go-ahead run in the top of the ninth and pitched a scoreless bottom frame to secure the Big South crown for the Flames.

- Liberty received a strong pitching performance by Fulghum during an 8-0 win over Coastal Carolina on May 24 to advance to the Big South title game on May 25. Making his first start since March 19, Fulghum went the full seven innings, scattering seven hits. Due to the Flames’ win earlier in the day, the Big South Conference’s if necessary game is a predetermined seven-inning contest.

- With two outs in the top of the ninth, Sizemore hit his second home run of the season to help avoid elimination with a 3-2 win over Radford, May 23.

- Britt hit his first two home runs of the season, with the first coming in an 8-0 win over Coastal Carolina to advance to the title contest, and the second in Liberty’s 2-1 victory over Campbell in the title game. Both were solo home runs.

- Kimble drove in a career-high three runs with two hits and a double in Liberty’s 9-8 win over Coastal Carolina, May 24.

- Wimmer went 3-for-3 with a solo home run in a 2-1 win over Charleston Southern in an elimination game, May 22. The catcher hit .318, scored five runs and threw out three out of four runners trying to steal during the tournament. He also picked two runners off base.

- Pitcher Josh Richardson pitched eight innings in each of his two starts during the Big South Tournament. He went eight innings in a 6-3 loss to Radford to begin the tournament on May 21 and allowed one run in eight innings in a 2-1 win over Campbell in the title game, May 25.

Four Flames Taken in MLB Draft

- Liberty had four players taken in the 2013 Major League Baseball Draft, concluded on June 8.

- Outfielder Ryan Cordell was selected in the 11th round by the Texas Rangers, while catcher Trey Wimmer was chosen in the 23rd round by the Chicago White Sox. Pitcher Josh Richardson was selected in the 26th round by the San Diego Padres and pitcher Danny Grauer was taken by the Cincinnati Reds in the 38th round.
A LOOK BACK AT 2013

2013 BIG SOUTH CHAMPIONS

• Liberty has had three or more players chosen in each of the last three MLB Drafts. In 2011, seven Flames were selected, setting a Big South Conference and program record.

• With the selection of four Flames in this year’s draft, Liberty has had 53 players selected in the MLB Draft during the 40-year history of its program.

• The Flames have had a player chosen in each draft since 2000 and have had 14 players taken in the past three years.

Liberty Baseball Stadium - the New Home of Flames Baseball

• After 34 years of playing at Worthington Stadium, the Flames christened the new on-campus baseball facility in 2013.

• Liberty opened the new Liberty Baseball Stadium with a three-game sweep of Penn State, Feb. 23-24. The Flames went on to win their first seven games at the stadium.

• The Flames posted a 25-9 mark in their first season at the Liberty Baseball Stadium.

• Liberty won its first Big South Baseball Championship since 2000 at its new facility. The stadium served as the host site for the conference tournament. The Flames became only the fourth host team in 25 Big South Conference tournaments to win the Big South Baseball Championship.

• When completed in June, the stadium will have 2,500 chairback seats, a state-of-the-art AstroTurf playing field, an operations center for the baseball program and a fully functional press area.

Liberty Reaches New Milestones in a Campaign

• With their run to the NCAA Columbia, S.C. Regional final, the Flames played 65 games, the most in a season in school history. This season’s total eclipsed the 62 games played by the 2008 Flames.

• Liberty pitchers also compiled 567 1/3 innings pitched. The total is also the most in program history, once again eclipsing the 557 1/3 innings of the 2008 team.

• To go along with the most games, the Flames recorded a new team record of 1,702 putouts.

Toman Guides Flames to Best Division I Mark Over First Six Years

• With a .619 winning percentage, head coach Jim Toman’s Flames have posted the highest NCAA Division I winning percentage of any head coach during his first six years at Liberty. Toman has guided the Flames to a 223-137-1 during his tenure.

• Liberty has posted 35 or more wins in five of its six seasons under Toman.

• Toman guided the Flames to the first program’s first Big South Championship since 2000 and Liberty’s first appearance in a NCAA Regional final this season.

• In December, Kendall Rogers of PerfectGame.com selected Toman as one of 10 Collegiate Head Coaches on the Rise.
A LOOK BACK AT 2013

Flames Continue Strong Defensive Effort
• Over the past five seasons, the Flames have proved the old baseball adage that pitching and defense win games.

• Liberty posted a .972 fielding percentage in 2013, three percentage points lower than the school record of .975 set in 2012.

• The Flames have posted a .971 or better fielding percentage in four out the five seasons. The only season during the stretch that Liberty didn’t have a .970 or better percentage was in 2011 when the Flames posted a .968 fielding percentage.

• As a team, opponents had only 51 percent stolen base success rate and swiped 27 bases, the fewest stolen bases in the past nine years.

• Catcher Trey Wimmer led the base path defense, throwing out 25 runners attempting to steal to lead the Big South in 2013. He caught 51 percent of would-be base stealers attempting to steal.

Richardson, Roy Finish Career on All-time ERA List
• Right-handers Josh Richardson and Brooks Roy finished their time in Liberty uniforms on the program’s career lowest ERA list.

• Richardson, who signed a minor league contract after being drafted by the San Diego Padres, posted a 3.05 ERA over his four seasons at Liberty. The mark ranks third on the school’s all-time list (min. 100 innings pitched).

• Richardson was 5-6 with 10 saves over 115 innings during his Flames career. His 10 saves rank fourth on Liberty’s career listing. Used mainly as a relief pitcher for most of his time at Liberty, he appeared in 48 games and made nine starts.

• Roy, a senior in 2013, finished with a 3.08 career ERA in two seasons at Liberty. The right-hander’s ERA places fifth among the program’s all-time leaders.

• In 30 appearances, 22 of which were starts, Roy posted an 11-6 record over 131 2/3 innings.

Three Flames Put Names on Season Lists
• Outfielder Ryan Cordell, pitcher Josh Richardson and pitcher Ashton Perritt each placed their name on the program’s season records lists in 2013.

• Cordell led Liberty with 28 stolen bases to rank seventh on the Flames all-time list. He finished the year second in the Big South in stolen bases.

• Richardson led the Flames with team-low 2.40 ERA, the sixth lowest in program history. The right-hander’s ERA was the sixth lowest in the Big South Conference.

• Perritt finished the year with 10 saves, the second most by a Liberty pitcher in a season. His save total tied him for second in the conference.
Wimmer Goes Out in Style

- Two-time team captain Trey Wimmer finished his Liberty career with his best season in 2013.
  - The catcher was selected in the 23rd round of the 2013 MLB Draft by the Chicago White Sox.
  - Wimmer finished his Liberty career tied for sixth on the school’s all-time doubles list with 50.
  - He also played in 235 games, the most of any Flame in the history of the program, and finished second in school history with 810 at bats. Wimmer played first base and catcher during his four years.
  - This year, the senior was a member of the Johnny Bench Award Watch List. The award honors annually the nation’s top collegiate catcher based on athletic ability, sportsmanship, team leadership and character.
  - The catcher was named to the Big South All-Conference first team, the Big South All-Tournament team and the NCAA Columbia, S.C. All-Regional team in 2013. He was also selected the Big South Player of Week for Feb. 18-24, this season.
  - Wimmer finished the year ranked among the Big South leaders in several offensive categories –
    - RBIs (44) - Fourth
    - Runs Scored (43) – Tied Ninth
    - Hits (72) – Seventh
    - Doubles (17) - Tied Fifth
    - Total Bases (110) – Fourth
    - Two-Out RBIs (16) - Tied Seventh
  - Wimmer led the Big South by throwing out 25 runners attempting to steal a base in 2013. He caught 51 percent of would-be base stealers.

Mr. Steady - Bryan Aanderud

- 28 Bryan Aanderud continued to be a consistent presence in the Liberty lineup in 2013.
  - Since joining the Liberty roster in 2012, the senior started every game at second base and was among the team leaders in batting average, hits and RBIs.
  - Aanderud, a senior, led the Flames in batting average, hits and on base percentage during each of his two seasons at Liberty. This past season, the infielder posted a .329 batting average, 83 hits and .404 on base percentage.
  - He finished his time in a Flames uniform with a .347 career batting average, the highest by a Liberty player since 2004.
  - In his final season, Aanderud earned his second Big South All-Conference second team selection and was named to the 2013 NCAA Columbia, S.C. All-Regional team.
  - For the second straight year, the infielder led the Flames with 25 multiple-hit games, eight in which he had three or more hits.
**A LOOK BACK AT 2013**

**Perritt Breaks Out**
- Sophomore utility player Ashton Perritt had a breakout year in 2013.

- After starting the year as a relief pitcher, Perritt made his first start in the outfield in game one of the doubleheader with Longwood on March 30 and quickly became a fixture of the Liberty outfield.

- In 40 games in the field, the sophomore hit .343 with 34 runs scored and 18 stolen bases to solidify his position atop the Flames’ batting order. He also hit six home runs.

- Perritt posted 20 multiple-hit games, including seven three-hit games, and scored two or more runs in nine contests.

- On the mound, Perritt went 3-2 with a 2.09 ERA and 10 saves over 38 2/3 innings. His 10 saves rank second on Liberty’s single season list.

- Perritt was named the 2013 Big South Tournament MVP. During Liberty’s run to the title, he hit .400 with two home runs as an outfielder and did not allow a run in four appearances as a pitcher, recording four saves. He was selected the utility player on the All-Tournament team.

- In the title game vs. Campbell, Perritt drove in the go-ahead run in the top of the ninth and then pitched a scoreless bottom of the ninth to secure the Big South crown for the Flames.

**2013 Liberty Award Winners**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Johnny Bench Watch List</th>
<th>NCAA Columbia, S.C. All-Regional</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Trey Wimmer</td>
<td>Bryan Aanderud, 2B</td>
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<tr>
<td>ECAC All-Star</td>
<td>Justin Sizemore, OF</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trey Wimmer, C</td>
<td>Josh Richardson, P</td>
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<tr>
<td>VaSID All-State</td>
<td>Trey Wimmer, C</td>
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<td>Ashton Perritt, UT, 2nd Team</td>
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<tr>
<th>Big South All-Conference</th>
<th>Big South All-Academic</th>
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<tr>
<td>Trey Wimmer, C, 1st Team</td>
<td>Trey Lambert</td>
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<tr>
<th>Big South All-Tournament MVP</th>
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<tr>
<td>Ashton Perritt, UT</td>
<td>Dalton Britt, SS</td>
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<td>Blake Fulghum, P</td>
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<td>Jake Kimble, 3B</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ryan Cordell (Feb. 17-19)</td>
<td>Alex Close (Apr. 22-28)</td>
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