

## Outlook

# Gold Rush returns with one of its most inexperienced teams

The men's basketball program at Xavier University of Louisiana will have a predominantly new look this season.

The 2006-07 team will be one of the most inexperienced in Xavier's history. Seven of the 12 players are new to the program, and six of the newcomers are freshmen. Because Xavier did not play in 2005-06 because of the effects of Hurricane Katrina, fourth-year head coach Dannton Jackson has two recruiting classes to prepare for a schedule which includes three matchups with NCAA Division I opponents and a return to the Gulf Coast Athletic Conference, which sent three teams to the NAIA National Tournament this past season.

"This will be a teaching year because there are so many new guys in the program," said Jackson, whose Xavier teams reached the NAIA tourney in 2004 and 2005 and have increased their win total in each of his three seasons — from 17 the season before he was promoted to 22 to 23 to 24. "We have only three returning lettermen, and we will count on them heavily for leadership. They've been in the fire. They know what it takes to succeed."

Two guards and a forward return for the Gold Rush from a 2004-05 team which was 24-10, led NAIA Division I in turnover margin (+6.5), finished third in the GCAC and lost 81-79 to Robert Morris (Ill.) in the opening round of the NAIA tourney. Sophomore Shaun Dumas — who averaged 6.7 points, led NAIA Division I with 106 steals, ranked second in steals per game and was chosen GCAC Freshman of the Year — will start at the point. Junior guard Mark Stewart, who made a team-leading 58 three-point field goals, the most at Xavier in four seasons, will provide outside scoring and is a career 86-percent free-throw shooter. Junior forward Alfred Williams averaged 4.2 points and, despite playing just 17 minutes per game, ranked fourth in rebounds with a 3.5 average.

"Shaun, Mark and Alfred all are hard-working players," Jackson said. "Our best players are our hardest-working guys. When they elevate their game, everyone else improves, too. We'll expect Shaun, Mark and Alfred to set the tone for this team."

Two other guards return, but neither has played a minute for Xavier. Sophomore Kelechi Okoroha redshirted in 2003-04 and did not play in 2004-05. Olumide Olafioye redshirted as a freshman in 2004-05. Including Olafioye, there are seven freshmen on the roster.

Returning from Jackson's 2004-05 recruiting class are forwards Dannie Woods, Cornelius Kennedy and guards Ryan DeRousselle and Michael Ruffin. The 2005-06 recruiting class consists of forward-center Aaron Burgess, forward T.J. Prince and guard Devin Andrew.

Burgess, a senior who transferred from NCAA Division II school San Francisco State, could give the Rush a presence in the middle with his 6-foot-8, 250-pound body. Woods was all-state two years ago for a team which reached the Texas Class 4A state championship game.

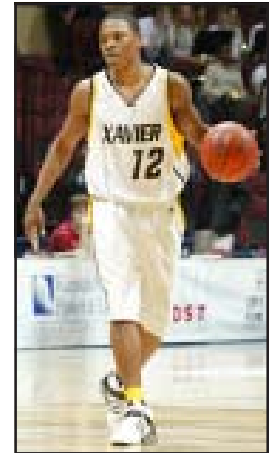
Regardless of his players' accomplishments or experience, Jackson expects his players to learn to defend consistently and be selective on offense.

"We'll hang our hats on defense," Jackson said. "We like to run when we have the ball, but we can operate a lot of set plays when those opportunities don't develop."

This will be Jackson's second consecutive team with five New Orleans-area players on the roster: Dumas, Stewart, Andrew, DeRousselle and Ruffin. Dumas and DeRousselle both competed in New Orleans' Catholic League, considered by some one of the most competitive prep leagues in America, and Ruffin is Jackson's first of what he hopes are many signees from the Orleans Parish public system.

Xavier will play two road exhibitions in seven days against NCAA Division I schools Arkansas and Texas. Sandwiched around those exhibitions will be the regular-season opener, Nov. 3 at home against Texas College. A Dec. 11 trip to Nicholls State will be Xavier's first regular-season game against an NCAA Division I opponent since November 2000. The Rush will open GCAC play at Tougaloo on Jan. 4, then play the next three games against the GCAC's 2006 NAIA tourney qualifiers, Mobile, LSU-Shreveport and Spring Hill.

"I'm ready to get started again," said Jackson. "To be back with this program after a year off is a blessing. The hurricane taught us to appreciate the small things in life and enjoy what you have now. Tomorrow is not guaranteed."



**Shaun Dumas led NAIA Division I with 106 steals as a freshman in 2004-05.**



**Mark Stewart led Xavier in 2004-05 with 58 three-point field goals.**

## Roster

## Numerical

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	Exp.	Birthdate	Hometown	High School (Previous College)
1	Michael Ruffin	G	6-1	180	Fr.	HS	9-3-1987	New Orleans, La.	Douglass
3	Kelechi Okoroha	G	6-4	190	So.	SQ	6-4-1986	Missouri City, Texas	Dulles
4	Mark Stewart	G	6-1	160	Jr.	2L	6-1-1984	Destrehan, La.	Destrehan
10	Devin Andrew	G	6-4	175	Fr.	HS	10-21-1988	Harvey, La.	Vandebilt Catholic
11	Olumide Olafioye	G	6-4	180	Fr.	RS	5-16-1986	River Rouge, Mich.	River Rouge
12	Shaun Dumas	G	5-11	160	So.	1L	10-20-1985	New Orleans, La.	St. Augustine
14	Ryan DeRouselle	G	6-1	175	Fr.	HS	12-3-1987	Marrero, La.	Shaw
20	Dannie Woods	F	6-7	170	Fr.	HS	4-2-1987	San Antonio, Texas	Sam Houston
21	Aaron Burgess	F/C	6-8	250	Sr.	TR	12-17-1984	Lancaster, Calif.	Murrieta Valley (San Francisco State)
23	Cornelius Kennedy	F	6-5	220	Fr.	HS	3-17-1987	Los Angeles, Calif.	Crenshaw
24	Alfred Williams	F	6-4	190	Jr.	1L	12-20-1983	Greenville, S.C.	Southside (North Carolina Wesleyan)
25	T.J. Prince	F	6-9	175	Fr.	HS	8-27-1986	Alpharetta, Ga.	Patterson

**HEAD COACH:** Dannton Jackson (Xavier 1992 and 1996), fourth season as head coach.

**ASSISTANT COACH:** David Egans (Xavier 2002), first season.

## Roster Breakdown

**Xavier statistics from the 2004-05 season —  
no team in 2005-06 because of the effects of Hurricane Katrina**

## Starters Returning

(R) and Lost (L)	Ht.	Wt.	Cl.	Pos.	GP/GS	PPG	RPG	Other
Timothy Green (L)	6-6	230	Sr.	F	34/ 32	13.7	6.8	all-conference
Jason Leonard (L)	6-7	215	Sr.	F	34/ 33	11.9	4.8	
Jonathan Harper (L)	6-5	195	Sr.	F	34/ 30	11.7	5.5	all-conference
Chevis Brimmer (L)	6-0	170	Sr.	G	30/ 21	9.8	3.1	
Michael Varnado (L)	6-3	175	Sr.	G	34/ 32	6.7	2.2	

## Returning Players

	Ht.	Wt.	Cl.	Pos.	GP/GS	PPG	RPG	Other
Mark Stewart	6-1	160	Jr.	G	33/ 1	7.7	1.0	team-leading 58 three-pointers
Shaun Dumas	5-11	160	So.	G	33/ 12	6.7	2.1	GCAC Freshman of the Year
Alfred Williams	6-4	200	Jr.	F	34/ 9	4.2	3.5	
Kelechi Okoroha	6-4	190	So.	G	0/ 0	—	—	did not play in 2004-05
Olumide Olafioye	6-4	180	Fr.	G	0/ 0	—	—	redshirted in 2004-05

## Other Key Losses

	Ht.	Wt.	Cl.	Pos.	GP/GS	PPG	RPG	Other
Ronald Allen	6-10	215	So.	C	19/ 0	4.9	2.4	
Nicholas Hodge	6-1	175	So.	G	7/ 0	3.1	1.1	
Davian Dixon	6-4	170	Sr.	G	20/ 0	3.1	1.0	
Nordine Sekour	6-5	180	Jr.	G	7/ 0	0.4	1.0	

## Newcomers

	Ht.	Wt.	Cl.	Pos.	Hometown	Most Recent School
Devin Andrew	6-3	175	Fr.	G	Harvey, La.	Vandebilt Catholic High School (Houma, La.)
Aaron Burgess	6-8	250	Sr.	F-C	Lancaster, Calif.	San Francisco State University
Ryan DeRouselle	6-1	175	Fr.	G	Marrero, La.	Archbishop Shaw High School
Cornelius Kennedy	6-5	220	Fr.	F	Los Angeles, Calif.	Crenshaw High School
T.J. Prince	6-9	175	Fr.	F	Alpharetta, Ga.	The Patterson School (Lenoir, N.C.)
Michael Ruffin	6-1	180	Fr.	G	New Orleans, La.	Douglass High School
Dannie Woods	6-7	170	Fr.	F	San Antonio, Texas	Sam Houston High School

## Alphabetical Roster

No.	Name	Yr.
10	Devin Andrew	Fr.
21	Aaron Burgess	Sr.
14	Ryan DeRouselle	Fr.
12	Shaun Dumas	So.
23	Cornelius Kennedy	Fr.
3	Kelechi Okoroha	So.
11	Olumide Olafioye	Fr.
25	T.J. Prince	Fr.
1	Michael Ruffin	Fr.
4	Mark Stewart	Jr.
24	Alfred Williams	Jr.
20	Dannie Woods	Fr.

## Pronunciations

**Xavier:** ZAY-vee-er  
**Ryan DeRouselle:** dee-roo-sell  
**Shaun Dumas:** shawn DOO-muss  
**Cornelius Kennedy:** core-NEE-lee-us  
**Kelechi Okoroha:** kel-eh-chee o-kor-o-ha  
**Olumide Olafioye:** uh-LOU-ma-day oh-LA-fy-oh-yay  
**Dannie Woods:** first name like Danny  
**Coach Dannton Jackson:** DAN-ton  
**Coach David Egans:** EE-guns  
**Marrero, Louisiana:** muh-RARE-oh

## Primary Media Outlets

**The Times-Picayune** — 3800 Howard Ave., New Orleans LA 70125-1429. Sports: (504) 826-3405. Fax: (504) 826-3401. sports@timespicayune.com

**Xavier Herald** — 1 Drexel Dr., Campus Box 67, New Orleans LA 70125. Sports Editor: Jena Perriatt, jperriatt@xula.edu. Perriatt cell: (713) 732-6289. xavierherald@hotmail.com

**WWL-TV** (Channel 4, CBS) — 1024 N. Rampart St., New Orleans LA 70116-2487. Sports Director: Jim Henderson. Sports: (504) 529-6290. Fax: (504) 529-6472. sports@wwltv.com

**WDSU-TV** (Channel 6, NBC) — 846 Howard Ave., New Orleans LA 70130. Rich Lenz, Fletcher Mackel. Sports: (504) 679-0656. Fax: (504) 679-0733. sports@wdsu.com

**WVUE-TV** (Channel 8, FOX) — 1025 S. Jefferson Davis Pkwy., New Orleans LA 70125. Sports Director: Eric Clemons, eclemons@wvue.emmis.com. Sports: (504) 483-1528. Fax: (504) 483-1543.

**WGNO-TV** (Channel 26, ABC) — 2 Canal St., Suite 2800, New Orleans LA 70130. Sports Director: Ed Daniels, edaniels@tribune.com. Sports: (504) 619-6328. Fax: (504) 619-6332.

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**WGSO Radio** (990 AM) — Sports Director: Ken Trahan, kentrahan@aol.com. Talk Show: (504) 200-9476.

**Associated Press** — 1515 Poydras St., Suite 2500, New Orleans LA 70112. Sports Editor: Mary Foster. Office: (504) 523-3931. Toll free: (800) 662-7717. Fax: (504) 586-0531. nrle@ap.org



## Shaun Dumas

#12 ■ Guard

5-11 ■ 160 ■ Sophomore ■ 1 Letter

New Orleans, La.

St. Augustine High School

### Career Highs

Points: 19 vs. SUNO, Jan. 22, 2005

3-Point Field Goals: 1, eight times

Rebounds: 6, twice

Assists: 13 vs. Spring Hill, Jan. 13, 2005

Blocked Shots: 1, four times

Steals: 9 vs. Clark Atlanta, Nov. 22, 2004

Minutes: 33 vs. Mobile, Jan. 20, 2005

Returning letterman and part-time starter . . . Preseason All-Gulf Coast Athletic Conference selection . . . Arguably the GCAC's quickest player. **2004-05:** Averaged 6.7 points in 34 games, led NAIA Division I with 106 steals, ranked second in the NAIA with 3.1 steals per game and was chosen GCAC Freshman of the Year . . . Led the GCAC in steals and was fifth with 3.4 assists per game . . . Helped team go 24-10 and reach NAIA National Tournament . . . Started 12 times . . . Recorded at least one steal in 33 of 34 games, including the last 22 . . . Had nine games of five or more steals, including nine in an 84-72 home victory against Clark Atlanta on Nov. 22 . . . Gold Rush was 9-1 when he scored in double figures . . . Had 10 points, a season-high 13 assists and seven steals in a 79-68 GCAC home victory against Spring Hill on Jan. 13 . . . Scored season-high 19 points and added a season-high six rebounds, three assists and seven steals in an 84-72 GCAC victory at SUNO on Jan. 22 . . . Had 15 points, five assists and five steals in a 94-79 home victory against Wiley on Nov. 30 . . . Made 6 of 10 three-pointers during a six-game stretch Nov. 18-30 . . . "He comes in every day to watch film on opponents, he comes in every day to work on his game, he's doing a really good job in the classroom. He's perfect," Coach Dannton Jackson said. "Those guys don't come along very often." **High School:** Averaged 13 points and eight assists per game as a senior (2003-04) at St. Augustine High School in New Orleans and helped the Purple Knights go 30-8, earn a share of the District 10-5A championship and finish second in the Class 5A state playoffs. **Personal:** Full name Shaun Frederick Dumas . . . Born Oct. 20, 1985, in New Orleans . . . Business management major.



## Mark Stewart

#4 ■ Guard

6-1 ■ 160 ■ Junior ■ 2 Letters

Destrehan, La.

Destrehan High School

### Career Highs

Points: 21 vs. Mobile, Jan. 29, 2004

3-Point Field Goals: 5, twice

Rebounds: 3, four times

Assists: 4, four times

Blocked Shots: 1, twice

Steals: 4 vs. Mobile, Jan. 20, 2005

Minutes: 27 vs. Mobile, Jan. 29, 2004

Returning letterman . . . Fourth year on team . . . Expected to provide much of the perimeter scoring . . . Outstanding free-throw shooter — 85.6 percent (89 of 104) through three seasons . . . Helped Xavier reach NAIA National Tournament in 2005 and 2004. **2004-05:** Was team's No. 5 scorer with a 7.7 average in 33 games and led team in 3-point field goals made with 58 — the most by an XU player in four seasons . . . His free-throw accuracy, 87.3 percent, was second best in XU history . . . Scored team-high 15 points in 81-79 loss to Robert Morris (Ill.) in opening round of NAIA tourney at Kansas City, Mo. . . . Scored season-high 20 points against Clark Atlanta on Nov. 22 . . . In his final 15 games he was 24 of 24 from the line . . . Team finished 24-10. **2003-04:** Seventh on team with 7.8 scoring average in 21 games and led team in 3-point field goals made with 35 and in free-throw accuracy, 85.4 percent . . . Averaged 17.7 points and shot 67 percent from 3-point range in three starts, all Xavier victories . . . In final start of season he scored a career-high 21 points in 27 minutes in an 80-72 double-overtime home victory against Mobile on Jan. 29 . . . Team finished 23-8. **2002-03:** Earned a redshirt after early-season wrist injury . . . Scored eight points, grabbed five rebounds in three games. **High School:** Averaged 22.2 points his senior season (2001-02) and named All-State and All-Metro . . . District 6-5A Player of the Year as a senior and helped his team go 28-8, win district championship for the first time in 20 years and reach the second round of the Class 5A state playoffs . . . Scored 12 points, including a 3-pointer during a decisive 19-2 second-half run, to help the East beat the West 101-83 in 2002 Louisiana High Coaches Association All-Star Game at Baton Rouge. **Personal:** Full name Mark Aaron Stewart Jr. . . . Born June 1, 1984, in Destrehan, La. . . . Majoring in chemistry.



## Alfred Williams

#24 ■ Forward  
6-4 ■ 190 ■ Junior ■ 1 Letter  
Greenville, S.C.  
Southside High School

### Career Highs

Points: 16 vs. Paul Quinn, Dec. 15, 2004  
3-Point Field Goals: 2, three times  
Rebounds: 8 vs. William Carey, March 2, 2005  
Assists: 6 vs. Wesley, Nov. 15, 2004  
Blocked Shots: 1, twice  
Steals: 4 vs. William Carey, March 2, 2005  
Minutes: 26 vs. Spring Hill, Feb. 17, 2005

Returning letterman and part-time starter . . . Second season with the Gold Rush after transferring from North Carolina Wesleyan, an NCAA Division III member in Rocky Mount, N.C. . . . Versatile player who can battle on the boards and hit the 3-pointer. **2004-05:** Averaged 4.2 points, 3.5 rebounds and 16.7 minutes in his first season at Xavier . . . Played in all 34 games and started nine . . . Ranked fourth on the team in rebounding and ninth in scoring . . . Helped the Gold Rush go 24-10 and qualify for the NAIA National Tournament . . . Shot 84 percent from the line (21 of 25) in the final 26 games . . . Gold Rush was 11-1 in games in which he made a 3-point field goal . . . Scored in double figures four times, all in Xavier victories . . . Came off the bench to score 12 points, share team honors with six rebounds and collect three steals in the opener, a 101-68 home victory against Paul Quinn on Nov. 6 . . . Scored a career-high 16 points against Paul Quinn nearly six weeks later (Dec. 15) . . . Scored 10 points against Wesley and 10 more in a GCAC road victory at Spring Hill . . . Grabbed seven rebounds to share team honors in a 65-62 Gulf Coast Athletic Conference victory at Tougaloo on Feb. 3. **North Carolina Wesleyan:** Played 17 games with no starts for the Bishops in 2003-04 and averaged 1.5 points, 0.7 rebounds and 3.7 minutes for a team which finished 16-11 and was fifth in the eight-team USA South Conference . . . Scored 11 points and had five rebounds and two steals in 15 minutes during a 112-35 victory at Roanoke Bible. **High School:** An all-conference player who helped his team reach the Class AAA state playoffs. **Personal:** Full name Alfred Eugene Williams Jr. . . . Born Dec. 20, 1983, in Greenville, S.C. . . . Majoring in business management



## Aaron Burgess

#21 ■ Forward/Center ■ 6-8 ■ 250 ■ Senior  
Lancaster, Calif. ■ Murrieta Valley High School

First year on the team . . . Size and experience make him a strong candidate to start at center . . . Transfer from San Francisco State University, an NCAA Division II school, where he played just 59 minutes in 15 games but averaged 9.5 rebounds per 40 minutes during the 2005-06 season and received a California Collegiate Athletic Association All-Academic Award . . . Played his first two collegiate seasons at Division III UC Santa Cruz and averaged 7.8 points and 4.2 rebounds in 21 games as a freshman . . . Started 13 times and shot 45.7 percent from the floor and 57.1 percent from the line . . . Ranked third on the team in scoring and second in rebounding despite averaging just 18.8 minutes. **High School:** Played one varsity season for Murrieta Valley's Nighthawks and graduated in 2003 . . . From the same high school that produced University of California standout Brian Wethers, who was later an Australian League scoring champion. **Personal:** Full name Aaron Joseph Burgess . . . Born Dec. 17, 1984, in Vallejo, Calif. . . . Majoring in communications.



## Kelechi Okoroha

#3 ■ Guard ■ 6-4 ■ 190 ■ Sophomore  
Missouri City, Texas ■ Dulles High School

Third year on the team . . . Did not play in 2003-04 and was redshirted . . . Did not play in 2004-05, and Xavier did not compete in athletics in 2005-06 because of the effects of Hurricane Katrina . . . Led the Gold team with 21 points, 11 rebounds and five steals in Xavier's intrasquad scrimmage Oct. 20 . . . "He's an athletic slasher who has the ability to get to the basket and finish plays," Xavier Coach Dannton Jackson said . . . Made the Dean's List in the spring 2005 semester. **High School:** Was selected a Texas Scholar, first-team all-district and first-team all-academic . . . Attended the same high school as seven-time Cy Young Award winner Roger Clemens and actor Sean Patrick Flannery. **Personal:** Full name Kelechi Robert Okoroha . . . Name pronounced kel-eh-chee o-kor-o-ha . . . Born June 4, 1986, in Houston, Texas . . . Majoring in biology and plans to attend medical school . . . Son of Lambert and Amaka Okoroha . . . His favorite things include the movie "Love & Basketball," actor Denzel Washington, the television program "New York Undercover," video games and hamburgers . . . Says he admires All-NBA guard Kobe Bryant of the Los Angeles Lakers. Kelechi, who averaged 14 points and five rebounds per game for the Vikings, was a First Team All-Academic selection.



## Devin Andrew

#10 ■ Guard ■ 6-4 ■ 175 ■ Freshman  
Harvey, La. ■ Vandebilt Catholic High School

First year on the team . . . One of eight freshmen on the roster and one of five players from metro New Orleans. **High School:** Averaged 17 points per game and made 80 percent of his free throws for Vandebilt Catholic High School of Houma, La., during the 2005-06 season and was a Houma Courier newspaper second-team all-region selection . . . Helped the Terriers reach the Class 4A state playoffs . . . Transferred to Vandebilt after evacuating for Hurricane Katrina in August 2005 . . . Averaged a team-high 15 points and eight rebounds per game as a junior at Karr High School in New Orleans and was an all-District 9-4A selection . . . Helped Karr's Cougars reach the 4A playoffs in 2004 and 2005 . . . Scored game-high 21 points and forced overtime with a turnaround 3-pointer with 6.3 seconds remaining against district rival Hannan in 2005 — Karr won after trailing by 16 at the break. **Personal:** Full name Devin Emile Andrew . . . Born Oct. 21, 1988, in New Orleans . . . Mass communications major.



## Cornelius Kennedy

#23 ■ Forward ■ 6-5 ■ 220 ■ Freshman  
Los Angeles, Calif. ■ Crenshaw High School

First year on the team . . . Signed with Xavier in 2005 . . . One of eight freshmen on the roster and one of three from California, along with senior Aaron Burgess and freshman Brandon Fleming. **High School:** Played basketball for Crenshaw High School in Los Angeles, a legendary program which has won eight state championships and 16 city championships . . . Helped the Cougars go 16-7 and earn the No. 6 seed in the city playoffs his senior season . . . Member of Los Angeles County team which competed against San Diego County in an all-star game following his senior season . . . His high school produced many standout professional athletes, including Darryl Strawberry (baseball), Marques Johnson (basketball) and Wendell Tyler (football), plus rapper/actor Ice-T. **Personal:** Full name Cornelius Kennedy . . . Nick-name is Corn . . . Born March 17, 1987, in Los Angeles . . . Majoring in accounting.



## Olumide Olafioye

#11 ■ Guard ■ 6-4 ■ 180 ■ Freshman  
River Rouge, Mich. ■ River Rouge High School

Second year on the team . . . Did not play in 2004-05 and was redshirted . . . Xavier did not compete in athletics in 2005-06 because of the effects of Hurricane Katrina . . . Scored 11 points and grabbed six rebounds in Xavier's intrasquad scrimmage Oct. 20 . . . "Olumide has the ability to create his own shots, a pure scorer," Xavier Coach Dannton Jackson said. "He also has the ability to play multiple positions." **High School:** Averaged 22 points and 11 rebounds per game his senior season . . . Led the district in scoring and was named all-district, MVP of Team Michigan Dream Team, All-Michigan and All-Downriver Player of the Year . . . Scored 41 points in a game . . . As a junior he averaged nine points per game . . . One of his teammates was Ajay Calvin, a starter this season at Drake University . . . Attended a school which has won 12 boys basketball state championships. **Personal:** Full name Olumide Bidema Olafioye . . . Born May 16, 1986, in Detroit, Mich. . . Name pronounced oh-LOU-mid-day oh-LA-fee-oh-yay . . . Majoring in business management . . . His favorites include actress Halle Berry, pizza and talking to people . . . Says he admires Michael Jordan, the NBA career leader in scoring average and a five-time MVP.



## T.J. Prince

#25 ■ Forward ■ 6-9 ■ 175 ■ Freshman  
Alpharetta, Ga. ■ The Patterson School

First year on the team . . . Tallest player on the roster . . . One of eight Gold Rush freshmen . . . Scored eight points in Xavier's intrasquad scrimmage Oct. 20 . . . "T.J. is a versatile athlete who can block shots and grab rebounds. He'll be a presence inside," Xavier Coach Dannton Jackson said. **High School:** Started for The Patterson School of Lenoir, N.C., during the 2005-06 season and helped the Bulldogs win 37 of 40 games, according to Patterson headmaster Colin Stevens . . . Also played one year for Milton (Ga.) High School. **Personal:** Full name Anthony Adolphus Prince Jr. . . . Prefers to be called T.J. . . . Born Aug. 27, 1986, in Detroit, Mich. . . . Majoring in computer information systems . . . His father, Tony Prince, was a standout player at St. John's University in New York and was drafted by the Philadelphia 76ers in 1973.



## Dannie Woods

#20 ■ Forward ■ 6-7 ■ 170 ■ Freshman  
San Antonio, Texas ■ Sam Houston High School

First year on the team . . . Signed with Xavier in 2005 . . . Made Xavier dean's list during the fall 2005 semester . . . One of two Texans on the team — the other is sophomore Kelechi Okorooha. **High School:** Chosen Class 4A All-State his senior year (2004-05) by the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches . . . Also chosen to San Antonio Express-News Super Team . . . Averaged 10.7 points and team-best 9.8 rebounds that season . . . Was team's No. 2 scorer . . . Helped the Hurricanes reach state championship game for first time in school history . . . Scored 28 points in 96-72 second-round playoff victory against Brackenridge . . . Team won 18 of last 21 games to finish 28-10 . . . Played for south team in the Texas High School Coaches Association All-Star Game . . . District 29-4A champ in 400-meter dash and scored in three other events. . . From same high school which produced Bernard Harris, the first U.S. black astronaut. **Personal:** Full name Dannie Lloyd Woods Jr. . . . Born April 2, 1987, in Midland, Texas . . . Majoring in computer science.



## Michael Ruffin

#1 ■ Guard ■ 6-1 ■ 180 ■ Freshman  
New Orleans, La. ■ Douglass High School

First year on the team . . . Signed with Xavier in 2005 . . . One of eight freshmen on the roster and one of five players from metro New Orleans . . . First player from an Orleans Parish public school to sign with Xavier since Dannton Jackson became coach . . . Had four points and two assists in Xavier's intrasquad scrimmage Oct. 20. **High School:** All-District 8-5A as a senior at Douglass High School in New Orleans . . . Selected to play in the Jefferson Parish-Orleans Parish All-Star Basketball Classic . . . Chosen his school's male athlete of the year in 2004-05 by The Times-Picayune newspaper . . . Started as a junior and senior . . . Coached by James Mack. **Personal:** Full name Michael Joseph Ruffin . . . Born Sept. 3, 1987, in New Orleans . . . Majoring in accounting.



## Ryan DeRousselle

#14 ■ Guard ■ 6-1 ■ 175 ■ Freshman  
Marrero, La. ■ Archbishop Shaw High School

First year on the team . . . Expected to back up Shaun Dumas at point guard . . . Had five assists to share game-high honors in Xavier's intrasquad scrimmage Oct. 20 . . . One of eight freshmen on the roster and one of five players from metro New Orleans. **High School:** Two-year starter for Archbishop Shaw High School in suburban Marrero . . . Averaged about 6.5 points per game his junior year (2003-04) . . . In December 2002 (sophomore year) he made both ends of a one-and-one with 12 seconds remaining to clinch a 48-45 victory against Destrehan in the quarterfinals of the CYO Pepsi Classic . . . Frequent winner of Shaw's Renaissance Award for academic excellence . . . Played AAU basketball in the summer of 2004 for the Gulf Coast Stars and averaged 4.7 points in three late-July games . . . Shot 50 percent from the floor in the Stars' final two games and was 2 of 3 from behind the arc. **Personal:** Full name Ryan Dereck DeRousselle . . . Born Dec. 3, 1987, in New Orleans . . . Pre-pharmacy major.



### Local Ties

Five members of Xavier's 2006-07 team played for metro New Orleans high schools. From left: Mark Stewart (Destrehan), Michael Ruffin (Douglass), Shaun Dumas (St. Augustine), Ryan DeRousselle (Shaw) and Brandon Fleming (Karr).