



XAVIER

UNIVERSITY
RUSH *gold* NUGGETS



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[Gold Gear](#)

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[Athletics Home](#)

[News Archive](#)

[Composite Schedule](#)

[Basketball Home Games](#)

[Men's Basketball](#)

[Men's Cross Country](#)

[Men's Tennis](#)

[Women's Basketball](#)

[Women's Cross Country](#)

[Women's Tennis](#)

[Recreational Sports](#)

[Cheerleading](#)

[Gold Star Dance Team](#)

[Golden Girls Pom Squad](#)

updated Nov. 22, 2006

Women's Basketball

[News](#) • [Roster](#) • [Schedule](#) • [Statistics](#)

For ticket information, call (504) 520-7329

Did You Know?

Since an 80-73 non-conference loss at Delta State on Jan. 3, 2003, the Gold Nuggets are 77-16 (.828).



Jarryn Cleaves



Erica Turnbull

Another Good Thanksgiving? That's what the Xavier women's basketball team wants. The Gold Nuggets were 4-0 on Thanksgiving Day from 2000-04, and they hope to continue their success in the Xavier Classic, which starts Thursday at The Barn. The schedule:

Thursday's Games:

Tougaloo (1-1) vs. Langston (4-3), 3 p.m.

[Box Score](#)

Dillard (0-4) vs. Texas College (2-3), 5 p.m.

[Box Score](#)

West Virginia Tech (6-1) at Xavier (4-2), 7 p.m.

[Box Score](#)

[Story](#)

Friday's Games:

Texas College vs. Tougaloo, 1 p.m.

[Box Score](#)

Dillard vs. West Virginia Tech, 3 p.m.

[Box Score](#)

Langston at Xavier, 5 p.m.

[Box Score](#)

[Story](#)

Follow This Link: Xavier Classic participant information and links to box scores and stories can be found at www.xula.edu/athletics/wb/xavierclassic.

Tickets: Ticket prices for basketball games in The Barn are \$10 for adults, \$5 for non-Xavier college students with a valid identification card and \$3 for children younger than 12 years old. Students, faculty and staff with a valid Xavier identification card are admitted free. When Xavier plays doubleheaders, admission fees are valid for both games. And Xavier Classic fans can pay just once each day and watch all the games.

Leading Scorers:

- Xavier — Jarryn Cleaves (5-8 junior guard, Memphis, Tenn.), 15.7 ppg
- West Virginia Tech — Orlandrea Moore (6-6 junior forward, Springdale, Md.), 14.1 ppg
- Langston — Matalya McBath-Belvin (5-3 senior guard, Denton, Texas), 20.0 ppg

ALMA MATER

In the Mississippi Valley,
In the Crescent Bend
Stands our loved and noble
Xavier,
Far her praises send.

Refrain:

Wave her colors bear them
onward
Gold and white so true
Hail to thee, all hail, dear Xavier
Hail, all hail, X.U.!

Xavier, ever be our guide
And lead us on the way,
Through life's journey, onward,
upward
To the eternal day. (Refrain)

Ratings: Xavier earned seven points to land in the "others receiving votes" category and rank 39th among all schools in the NAIA Division I preseason rating released Nov. 1. Union (Tenn.) and Vanguard (Calif.) tied for No. 1. Xavier was 15th in the final NAIA rating of 2004-05.

Series: Xavier is 0-0 vs. West Virginia Tech and 2-0 vs. Langston . . . In the most recent meeting with Langston, Xavier won 69-47 on Nov. 26, 2004 — the second day of the Xavier Classic. Jarryn Cleaves led the Nuggets with 16 points.

Xavier's Probable Starters:

Pos.	No.	Name	Ht.	Yr.	Exp.	Hometown
F	24	Tiffany Norris	5-10	So.	1L	Fayetteville, Ga.
G	30	Dominee Matthews	5-8	Sr.	2L	Harvey, La.
C	44	Erica Turnbull	6-0	So.	1L	Columbia, Tenn.
G	11	Brittany Whitmore	5-4	Jr.	2L	Conway, Ark.
G	15	Jarryn Cleaves	5-8	Jr.	2L	Memphis, Tenn.

Most Recently: Xavier lost to ranked teams on consecutive nights — 64-49 to 13th-ranked Cumberland and 86-62 to 20th-ranked Trevecca Nazarene — in the Pops Duncan Classic at Nashville, Tenn., on Nov. 17-18. The Nuggets shot less than 30 percent from the floor in both games.

[Cumberland Game Story](#) • [Cumberland Box Score](#) • [Trevecca Game Story](#) • [Trevecca Box Score](#)

Also Notable:

- Xavier leads NAIA Division I with 49.3 rebounds per game.
- Sophomore center Erica Turnbull is averaging 14.8 points and 13.1 rebounds per 40 minutes.
- Xavier won its first four games for the first time since the 1996-97 season.
- Xavier opened the season with overtime victories against Westmont (Calif.) and Harris-Stowe (Mo.) in the Robert Morris Las Vegas Classic.
- Xavier has not allowed 100 points in its last 230 games. The last opponent to score 100 was Southern Nazarene, which beat Xavier 101-76 in Bethany, Okla., on Nov. 28, 1998.
- Kojavona Hamilton was injured early in the second half of the opener against Westmont and is out indefinitely.
- After Langston, the Nuggets' next home appearance will be Saturday, Jan. 6 against Mobile in a 5 p.m. Gulf Coast Athletic Conference game.

2005-06 Recap: Xavier did not compete because of the effects of Hurricane Katrina.

2004-05 Recap: The Gold Nuggets were 29-5 overall, 15-3 in the Gulf Coast Athletic Conference (first place for the third consecutive season) and earned a fifth consecutive bid to the NAIA National Tournament. Xavier produced an 18-game winning streak from Nov. 11-Jan. 29, including road victories at NCAA Division I opponents Tulane, New Orleans and Nicholls State. All-GCAC guard Jarryn Cleaves led Xavier with 12.5 points per game and 58 three-point field goals, and she shared the team lead with 5.6 rebounds per contest. Guard Kojavona Hamilton was chosen GCAC Freshman of the Year after ranking second on the team with an 8.6 scoring average and third with 4.6 rebounds per game.

Next: The Nuggets will play two road games in four days against NCAA Division II schools from the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference. They'll face Tuskegee at 6 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 1 in the Grambling Classic at Grambling, La., then travel to Georgia to play Clark Atlanta at 6 p.m. EST (5 p.m. CST) on Monday, Dec. 4. All five of Xavier's December games will be on the road.

Two on the Team: Cleaves and sophomore Kojavona Hamilton were picked to the 10-member preseason all-GCAC team.

[MORE](#)

Nice to See You Again: Twelve of 16 letterwinners return from Xavier's 2004-05 team, including nine of the top 12 scorers. It would have been 10 of the top 12 scorers had center Sheronda Nash not suffered a season-ending injury in August during a

pickup game back home in Montgomery, Ala.

Familiar Destination: Xavier's 11 appearances the past 13 seasons in the NAIA National Tournament rank fourth in the nation.

The Coach: 39-year-old Robert "Bo" Browder (Grambling 1995) is in his eighth season as Xavier's head coach. His record at Xavier is 174-63 (.734), including six 20-win seasons. More highlights:

- He's the winningest women's basketball coach in Xavier history. He broke a tie for the top spot with his predecessor, Janice Joseph, when the Gold Nuggets won 74-64 at Loyola on Jan. 26, 2005.
- Six NAIA National Tournament appearances, four GCAC regular-season championships and two GCAC tournament championships in seven seasons. Browder is assisted by former Xavier player Darrilyn Broussard, who is in her sixth season on the staff and her first as associate head coach.

Back in The Barn: The resumption of basketball at Xavier means a return to its venerable campus facility, The Barn, which opened in 1937. Capacity is 1,300. The Gold Nuggets have a 38-game winning streak in The Barn — they're 2-0 this season. Of Xavier's 38 consecutive victories, 29 are by 10 or more points. The last loss in The Barn was 64-62 to SUNO on Feb. 7, 2002, and the last non-conference loss was 63-58 to Houston Baptist on Dec. 1, 2001. This will be the Gold Nuggets' 29th season in The Barn — the first was in 1977-78. Beginning with the 1978-79 season, Xavier's women are 284-63 (.818) in The Barn. The facility received about two feet of flooding in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina in August 2005. Xavier is renting the wooden playing surface from Jackson State University, which allowed Xavier to paint the floor in the school colors of gold and white.

[More About The Barn](#) • [Locate The Barn](#)

Picked Third: Xavier was picked third out of 10 teams in the GCAC preseason coaches poll announced Oct. 4. [MORE](#)

Opponents:

- **West Virginia Tech** — The Golden Bears were 1-23 in 2005-06 but won six of their first seven games this season . . . They were 6-0 before losing 78-66 Monday at Chowan, a game in which they went 0 of 11 from 3-point range and got outrebounded by 19 . . . Six-foot-6 Orlandrea Moore leads the team with 14.1 points and 9.6 rebounds per game . . . Reggie Carrick is in his third season as head coach and has a record of 17-41 (.293).
- **Langston** — The Lady Lions snapped a three-game losing streak with a 72-61 victory Monday at University of the Sciences and Arts of Oklahoma . . . Senior guard Matalya McBath-Belvin averages 20 points per game and has won two of the first three Red River Athletic Conference Player of the Week awards . . . McBath-Belvin scored 30 points in an 80-70 victory at Lindsey Wilson on Nov. 8 . . . Donnita Drain is in his her 12th season as head coach and has a record of 187-167 (.528). She led Langston to NAIA National Tournament berths in 1999, 2000, 2003 and 2004.

GCAC Players of the Week:

Nov. 6-12 — Jarryn Cleaves, Xavier (G, 5-8, Jr.)
Nov. 13-19 — Trenell Smith, Loyola (G, 5-7, Fr.)

For More Information: Contact Ed Cassiere, Xavier's sports information director, at (504) 520-5707 (office), (504) 520-7934 (fax) or (504) 256-5380 (cell). Cassiere's e-mail address is ecassier@xula.edu.

2006-07 Quick Facts

Nickname: Gold Nuggets (women's teams)
School Colors: Gold and white
Affiliation: NAIA Division I
Founded: 1925
Enrollment: 3,013
Conference: Gulf Coast Athletic
President: Dr. Norman C. Francis
Athletics Director: Dennis Cousin
Head Coach: Robert "Bo" Browder (Grambling 1995)
Browder E-Mail: rbrowder@xula.edu
Browder Office Phone: (504) 520-7333
Record at Xavier (Years): 174-63 (8th year)
Career Record (Years): 176-71 (9th year)
Associate Head Coach: Darrilyn Broussard (Xavier 1986)
Broussard E-Mail: dbrouss1@xula.edu
Broussard Office Phone: (504) 520-7513
2005-06 Overall Record: No team
2004-05 Overall Record: 29-5
2004-05 Conference Record: 15-3 (first place)
Most Recent NAIA National Tournament Appearance: 2005
All-Time Record: 565-266 (.680) in 29 seasons
MORE QUICK FACTS



The Xavier Gold Rush and Gold Nuggets compete in Division I of the [NAIA](#) (National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics) as a member of the [Gulf Coast Athletic Conference](#) (GCAC). Xavier fields men's and women's teams in basketball, cross country and tennis.

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Emergency Preparedness

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