

THE XAVIER UNIVERSITY NEWSWIRE

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The new-look east side

SHOPS, RESTAURANTS HIGHLIGHT CAMPUS DEVELOPMENT PROJECT



PHOTO COURTESY COMMUNITY BUILDING INSTITUTE

Xavier and independent developers are teaming up to design an off-campus retail area at the corner of Cleaney and Montgomery.

JENNIFER DOWNING
Senior News Editor

Envision twenty acres of a Xavier Village, an off-campus hangout within walking distance featuring dining, shopping and entertainment.

Xavier's Community Building Institute calls the idea the East Campus plan, one that is currently in the process of being drawn up and submitted to a developer.

Proximity has been key in the potential development plan, said Liz Blume of the CBI.

"The university has purchased about 20 acres between the railroad tracks and Montgomery Road, and the intent is to create the first ever off-campus village for the university to create a place where faculty, staff, students and the community can come together," said Blume.

Unlike many other universities, Xavier doesn't have any off-cam-

pus environment that caters to students, Blume explained. The East Campus plan would include housing, shops, bars, restaurants, bookstores or other similar private retail businesses.

Making the highly-desired East Campus a reality is a process that has been moving quickly now that Xavier owns the property it plans to develop.

"The Zumbiel factory is currently on the site, and they're operating until the end of the year," said Blume. "The Board of Trustees is interested in moving the project forward – development could begin as soon as the beginning of next year."

Xavier has sent its proposed ideas to various developers – both local and national. "What we essentially said is, 'This is what the university is trying to accomplish, and we're looking for partners.' It's

likely that whoever we select as the developer will market towards specific businesses," said Blume.

Specific businesses such as a coffee shop, a bar, a video store, a dry cleaner or a drug store are what Xavier has in mind. These ideas have stemmed from students serving on university committees or within focus groups.

"We really are looking for folks from the private market who want to take advantage of the proximity to the university," said Blume.

The university has entertained the idea of an off-campus village for about 10 years – ever since it acquired the BSAF site – but the major obstacle was that the site was too small for development.

"I hope this becomes a place where students like to be. We're trying to provide a neat off-campus environment for students to enjoy," said Blume.

Optimism about the changing face of Xavier doesn't just come from administrators and faculty.

"I think the proposed development of East Campus is a great idea," said senior Sara Thomas, a student who worked in the CBI office over the summer. "As a student, I'm obviously interested in more entertainment, housing and dining near campus, and as a member of the community, I think it presents an awesome opportunity for students and community residents to meet one another."



NEWSWIRE PHOTO BY BRIAN BOWSHER



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Developers plan to transform the Cleaney entrance to campus (left) and the Zumbiel Plant site (right) into...



PHOTO COURTESY COMMUNITY BUILDING INSTITUTE



PHOTO COURTESY COMMUNITY BUILDING INSTITUTE

...a vibrant entertainment district with shops, restaurants, apartments and other hangout spots for students.

Campus News: Honoring Hispanic heritage p. 2

Op-Ed: Frustrations with professors p. 4

Sports: A look at club sports p. 6

Diversions: Continuing with Continuum p. 7

"The X Shirt" to unify Xavier Nation



PHOTO COURTESY XAVIER ATHLETICS

The front design of this year's official basketball shirt. "The X Shirt" program plans to unite the Xavier community while raising money for charity.

JENNIFER DOWNING
Senior News Editor

The first annual "The X Shirt," a T-shirt designed in hopes that Xavier students, alumni and fans will be united in a new, proud tradition at Xavier athletic events, is slated to debut in the bookstore within the next two weeks.

"The X Shirt" initiative was born in the athletic offices at Xavier, but has included collaboration with X-treme fans, the Student Alumni Association and Follet.

"This idea was a collaboration – it's been talked about for a while. We wanted to get all of the X community under one umbrella through one unifying shirt," said Mike Dunn, Associate Athletic Director for Marketing.

"You'll see it – the very front has the slogan 'Xavier Nation,'

and I think that tells a lot of the story about who Xavier is," said Dunn.

Shirts will be on sale all year in the Xavier bookstore and on the website for \$15, and a portion of the proceeds will go to a specific charity. This year's charity will be Matthew 25 Ministries, a humanitarian relief organization that has significantly helped with Hurricane Katrina damage.

"The X Shirt" concept is not an idea unique to Xavier. Most notably, the University of Notre Dame has successfully endorsed "The Shirt Project," which has become the largest student fundraiser for the university for 17 years. Last year, over 90,000 Notre

Dame shirts were sold, helping to promote very visible support at athletic events.

"This year's shirt was designed by a team of campus representatives and students, but the hope is that in future years, only students will submit designs," said Dunn.

"Starting this fall, we'll put together a committee of students that will oversee the entire project. That committee will be made up of different groups from campus like X-treme Fans, Student Alumni Association and Student



PHOTO COURTESY XAVIER ATHLETICS

The back of the annual shirt will feature the above logo at the neckline plus a large image designed by a team of students.

Government. They'll be the ones to decide on a theme for next year's shirt, select the benefiting charity and ask students to submit designs," said Dunn.

"As this progresses, our hope is that it will be a big deal to be the person who

is selected to design the X shirt," said Dunn. "We want to get to the point where the students have lots of entries to choose from."

Does "The X Shirt" mean the end of the X-treme Fans T-shirt? Club president Nick Madine said X-treme Fans does not view the project as competition.

"We've been working together on the shirt, and we're very excited with all the results. As you can see, with the Superman X (the X-treme fans logo) on the front, we're totally behind the idea," said Madine.

"We will fully encourage students to wear the shirt with the main goal of unifying all Xavier fans."

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Inside the 'Wire...

- Our generation begins to find its identity: **Op-Ed, page 5**
- Jan. 21 game vs. G. Washington on ESPN2 highlights women's basketball schedule: **Sports, page 6**
- Get hitched before graduation... or else: **Calendar City, page 8**