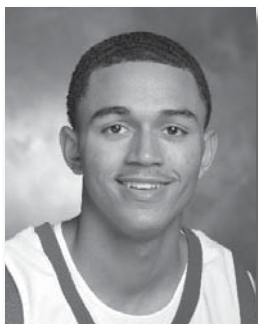


PANTHERS

GEORGIA
STATE

SEASON PREVIEW




JIHAD ALI

F • 6-5, 195 • So.-R
Atlanta, Ga.

14

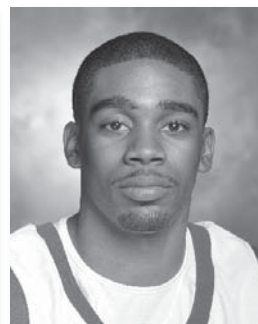
DANIEL BROWN

G • 6-2, 190 • Jr.
College Park, Ga.

21

DANTE CURRY

F • 6-4, 195 • Jr.-R
Orlando, Fla.

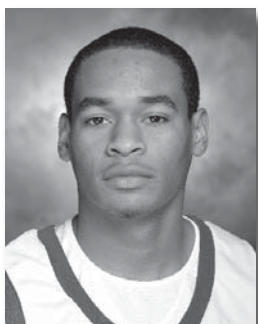
12

JOE DUKES

G • 6-1, 184 • Sr.-R
Cuthbert, Ga.

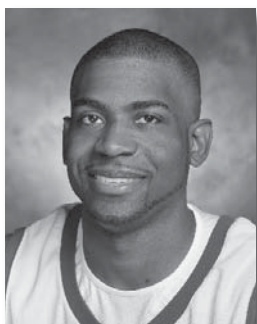
2

JAMES FIELDS

G • 6-3, 190 • So.
Savannah, Ga.

4

TRAE GOLDSTON

G • 6-0, 182 • Sr.
Decatur, Ga.

11

TREY HAMPTON

F • 6-7, 225 • Sr.-R
Hoover, Ala.

1

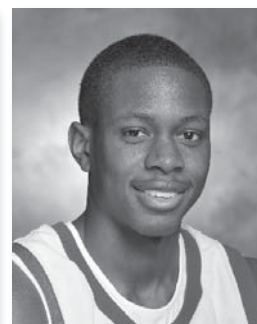
XAVIER HANSBRO

F • 6-10, 230 • Sr.-R
Trezevant, Tenn.

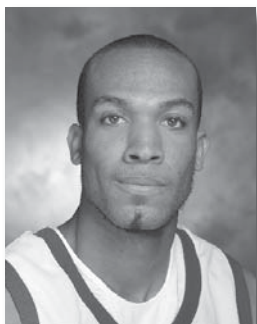
23

MARQUES JOHNSON

G • 6-5, 205 • Jr.-R
Fort Wayne, Ind.

3

OUSMAN KRUBALLY

F • 6-6, 195 • Sr.
Atlanta, Ga.

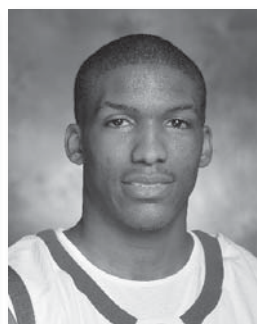
24

KEVIN LOTT

F • 6-7, 215 • Sr.
Atlanta, Ga.

30

MI'KYEL NERO

G • 6-3, 200 • So
Richmond, Va.

5

JAMAR TAYLOR

F • 6-8, 230 • Jr.
Charleston, S.C.

55

JAMES VINCENT

C • 6-10, 240 • Fr.
Columbus, Ga.

22

ROD BARNES

Head Coach
3rd Year at Georgia State

PAUL GRAHAM

Assistant Coach
3rd Year at Georgia State

WILLIAM SMALL

Assistant Coach
3rd Year at Georgia State

SCEPTER BROWNLEE

Assistant Coach
3rd Year at Georgia State

JEFF CONARRO

Director of Operations
3rd Year at Georgia State

ALPHABETICAL ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	Hometown (High School/Previous School)
14	Jihad Ali.....	G	6-5	195	So.-R	Atlanta, Ga. (M.L. King)
21	Daniel Brown.....	G	6-2	190	Jr.	College Park, Ga. (Mundy's Mill/Atlanta Metro)
12	Dante Curry.....	G	6-4	195	Jr.-R	Orlando, Fla. (Poinciana/South Florida)
2	Joe Dukes.....	G	6-1	184	Sr.-R	Cuthbert, Ga. (Randolph-Clay/Wake Forest)
4	James Fields.....	G	6-3	192	So.	Savannah, Ga. (Urban Christian)
11	Trae Goldston.....	G	6-0	180	Sr.	Decatur, Ga. (IMG (Fla.) Academy)
1	Trey Hampton.....	F	6-7	225	Sr.-R	Hoover, Ala. (Hoover/Mississippi)
23	Xavier Hansbro.....	F	6-10	230	Sr.-R	Trezevant, Tenn. (West Carroll/Mississippi)
3	Marques Johnson.....	G	6-5	205	Jr.-R	Fort Wayne, Ind. (Snider/NC State)
24	Ousman Krubally.....	F	6-6	195	Sr.	Atlanta, Ga. (W.D. Mohammed)
30	Kevin Lott.....	F	6-7	215	Sr.	Atlanta, Ga. (Sandy Creek)
5	Mi'kyel Nero.....	G	6-3	200	So.	Richmond, Va. (Huguenot/Brunswick (N.C.) C.C.)
55	Jamar Taylor.....	F	6-8	230	Jr.	Charleston, S.C. (Burke/Brunswick (N.C.) C.C.)
22	James Vincent.....	C	6-10	240	Fr.	Columbus, Ga. (Northside)

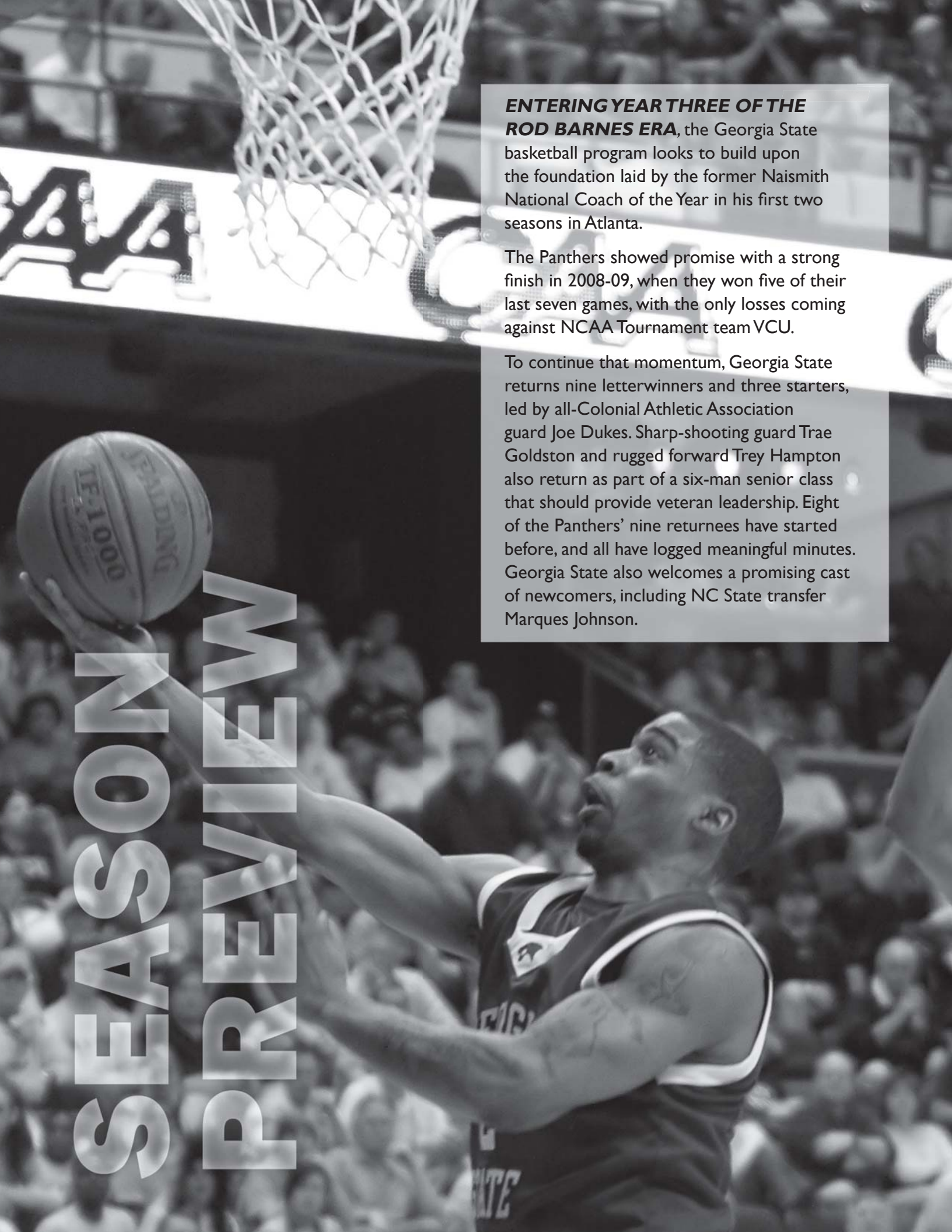
NUMERICAL ROSTER

No.	Name.....	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	Hometown (High School/Previous School)
1	Trey Hampton.....	F	6-7	225	Sr.-R	Hoover, Ala. (Hoover/Mississippi)
2	Joe Dukes.....	G	6-1	184	Sr.-R	Cuthbert, Ga. (Randolph-Clay/Wake Forest)
3	Marques Johnson.....	G	6-5	205	Jr.-R	Fort Wayne, Ind. (Snider/NC State)
4	James Fields.....	G	6-3	190	So.	Savannah, Ga. (Urban Christian)
5	Mi'kyel Nero.....	G	6-3	200	So.	Richmond, Va. (Huguenot/Brunswick (N.C.) C.C.)
11	Trae Goldston.....	G	6-0	182	Sr.	Decatur, Ga. (IMG (Fla.) Academy)
12	Dante Curry.....	G	6-4	195	Jr.-R	Orlando, Fla. (Poinciana/South Florida)
14	Jihad Ali.....	G	6-5	195	So.-R	Atlanta, Ga. (M.L. King)
21	Daniel Brown.....	G	6-2	190	Jr.	College Park, Ga. (Mundy's Mill/Atlanta Metro)
22	James Vincent.....	C	6-10	240	Fr.	Columbus, Ga. (Northside)
23	Xavier Hansbro.....	F	6-10	230	Sr.-R	Trezevant, Tenn. (West Carroll/Mississippi)
24	Ousman Krubally.....	F	6-6	195	Sr.	Atlanta, Ga. (W.D. Mohammed)
55	Jamar Taylor.....	F	6-8	230	Jr.	Charleston, S.C. (Burke/Brunswick (N.C.) C.C.)
30	Kevin Lott.....	F	6-7	215	Sr.	Atlanta, Ga. (Sandy Creek)

COACHING STAFF

Head Coach: Rod Barnes (Mississippi, 1988), Third Year
Assistant Coach: Paul Graham (North Texas State, 1974)
Assistant Coach: William Small (Belhaven College, 1993)
Assistant Coach: Scepter Brownlee (San Francisco, 2003)
Director of BB Operations: Jeff Conarroe (Colorado College, 1999)
Asst. Dir. of BB Operations: Christopher Jordan (Georgia State, 2005)
Graduate Managers: Mark Mathew, Claude Pardue
Athletic Trainer: John Anderson (Arizona State, 1996)
Strength Coach: Ken Coggins (Mississippi State, 1986)

Jihad Ali juh-HAAD ah-LEE
 Dante Curry DON-tay
 Trae Goldston..... TRAY
 Marques Johnson..... MARR-cus
 Xavier Hansbrox-AA-vee-er
 Ousman Krubally OOOSS-maan
 crew-BAH-lee
 Mi'Kyel Neromike-EE-el
 Scepter Brownlee SEP-ter
 Jeff Conarroe CON-uh-row



ENTERING YEAR THREE OF THE ROD BARNES ERA, the Georgia State basketball program looks to build upon the foundation laid by the former Naismith National Coach of the Year in his first two seasons in Atlanta.

The Panthers showed promise with a strong finish in 2008-09, when they won five of their last seven games, with the only losses coming against NCAA Tournament team VCU.

To continue that momentum, Georgia State returns nine letterwinners and three starters, led by all-Colonial Athletic Association guard Joe Dukes. Sharp-shooting guard Trae Goldston and rugged forward Trey Hampton also return as part of a six-man senior class that should provide veteran leadership. Eight of the Panthers' nine returnees have started before, and all have logged meaningful minutes. Georgia State also welcomes a promising cast of newcomers, including NC State transfer Marques Johnson.

SEASON PREVIEW

"I LIKE OUR LEADERSHIP, our work ethic, and our depth," said Barnes, who took over the Panther program in 2007, following a highly-successful eight-year run as the head coach at Ole Miss.

"We've got guys who can play different positions. We've got all the pieces that I like to have. We've got to continue to work on our defense, but I like our team."

In Dukes, the transfer from Wake Forest, the Panthers boast one of the most versatile guards in the CAA. The 6-1 senior led GSU in scoring (12.8 points per game), assists (4.3 pg) and steals (1.7 pg) and was second on the team with 4.7 rebounds per game. That all-around production earned Dukes a spot on the all-CAA third team in 2009 and perhaps poised for more this time around.

"JOE HAS WORKED VERY HARD to prepare himself, mentally, and physically, to have a strong senior season," said Barnes. "He wants to go out a winner. I believe he will put up numbers that should give him an opportunity to be first-team all-conference."

Dukes displayed an ability to put the team on his back at times, particularly as he ended the season by averaging 19.5 points and 9.0 rebounds in CAA Tournament. After a double-double (15 points, 12 rebounds, five assists, two steals) against Delaware, Dukes poured in a career-high 24 points and grabbed six rebounds against eventual champion VCU, including 11 straight points in a three-minute stretch in the second half.

Barnes hopes to maximize Dukes' role by playing him at the shooting guard position at times. The addition of NC State transfer Marques Johnson, a pure point guard with good size (6-5) and vision, to the backcourt should allow that to happen.

"Joe is very effective with the ball in his hands because he can pass, he can shoot and he can drive," said Barnes,

"So we're going to play Joe at the point, but we're going to get him off the ball, too, to give him an opportunity to make more plays. He's one of those guys, like a great wide receiver, that you want get him the ball. With Marques in the mix, he doesn't have to spend 35 or 40 minutes trying to run the team too. That should give him an opportunity to score more points."

OUSMAN KRUBALLY





TRAE GOLDSTON

JOHNSON, THE NC STATE TRANSFER who sat out the 2008-09 season, saw limited playing time for the Wolfpack, but his play-making skills could add another dimension to the Panthers' attack.

"Marques has always been a point guard, so he knows how to play," said Barnes, himself an all-SEC point guard in his playing days at Ole Miss. "He sees the floor. He's got good size. He's an unselfish player. He's always thinking pass before he's thinking shoot. And he competes on every play.

"He's got a chance to be our starting point guard and really help our team."

Another key component of the Georgia State backcourt is Goldston, the Panthers' top three-point threat as well as most experienced player with 90 games in a GSU uniform, including 44 career starts.

He has also shown a penchant for making big shots, nailing buzzer-beating three-point shots to win three CAA games (Northeastern, Old Dominion, UNC Wilmington) over the last two seasons.

Along with Goldston, the Panthers' other primary long-range threat is wing Dante Curry, a 6-4 junior who made an immediate last season after transferring from South Florida. He averaged 6.9 points per game despite being hampered by injuries, and he showed flashes of his scoring ability with 21 points against Georgia Tech and 18 in a win at Northeastern.

"The key for Dante is to stay healthy, because he can really shoot the basketball," said Barnes. "I'm excited to have him for a full season to see what he can do."

Although he's not a newcomer to the program, sophomore wing Jihad Ali is another welcome addition to this year's lineup after taking a red-shirt season in 2008-09.

"Jihad has a great mentality as far as scoring the basketball," said Barnes. "He has really good size for a wing, and he got stronger during his redshirt year. He's got a chance to be a starter for us and develop into a really good player."

THE PANTHERS AT A GLANCE

STARTERS RETURNING

Name.....Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Cl.	PPG	RPG
Joe Dukes.....G	6-1	184	Sr.-R	12.8	4.7
<i>All-CAA (3rd team), 4.3 apg, 1.7 spg</i>					
Trae Goldston.....G	6-0	180	Sr.	10.8	1.5
<i>2.0 3P per game, .335 3P%</i>					
Trey Hampton.....F	6-7	225	Sr.-R	4.4	3.6
<i>0.8 blocks per game</i>					

OTHER KEY RETURNEES

Name.....Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Cl.	PPG	RPG
Jihad Ali (2007-08).....G	6-5	195	So.-R	3.9	1.9
Dante Curry.....G	6-4	195	Jr.-R	6.9	1.6
James Fields.....G	6-3	190	So.	2.3	1.1
Xavier Hansbro.....F	6-10	230	Sr.-R	4.9	2.8
Kevin Lott.....F	6-7	215	Sr.	2.2	1.2
Ousman Krubally.....F	6-6	195	Sr.	2.9	2.9

KEY LOSSES

Name.....Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	PPG	RPG
Rashad Chase.....F	6-7	250	5.1	5.8
Leonard Mendez.....G	6-5	185	8.8	2.9

KEY NEWCOMERS

Name.....Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Cl.
Marques Johnson.....G	6-5	205	Jr.-R
<i>Fort Wayne, Ind. (Snider HS/NC State)</i>			
Mi'kyel Nero.....G	6-3	200	So.
<i>Richmond, Va. (Huguenot HS/Brunswick (N.C.) C.C.)</i>			
Jamar Taylor.....F	6-8	230	Jr.
<i>Charleston, S.C. (Burke HS/Brunswick (N.C.) C.C.)</i>			
James Vincent.....C	6-10	240	Fr.
<i>Columbus, Ga. (Northside HS)</i>			

Sophomore **James Fields** gained valuable experience as a freshman backup and should take on a more prominent role, seeing time at either guard slot. Also adding depth and versatility in the backcourt is sophomore **Mi'Kyel Nero**, a transfer from Brunswick Community College who can play both guard positions.

Walk-on **Daniel Brown**, younger brother of former Georgia State standout **Marcus Brown**, rounds out the backcourt.

THE GEORGIA STATE FRONT COURT features a quartet seniors in **Hampton**, **Xavier Hansbro**, **Ousman Krubally** and **Kevin Lott**. While Hampton is the only returning starter, the other three started a total of 22 games for the Panthers last season, led by Hansbro with 12 starts.

Hampton, a 6-7 senior and an Ole Miss transfer, averaged 4.4 points and 3.6 rebounds while leading the team with 27 blocked shots.

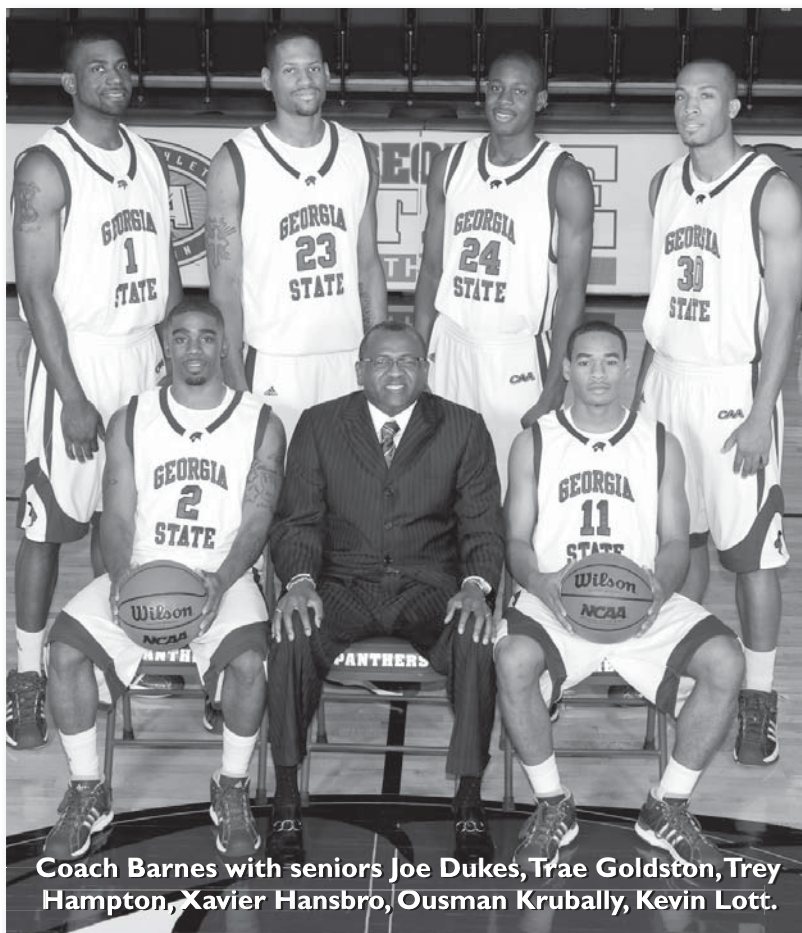
Hansbro stands 6-10 but is comfortable shooting from long range. He contributed 4.9 points and 2.8 rebounds a year ago. The Ole Miss transfer scored a career-high 16 points against Bowling Green in his first game in a Georgia State uniform and equalled that against George Mason.

Krubally is a slender 6-6 and 195 pounds, but he is a crowd favorite for his hustle and hard-nosed play. He averaged 2.9 and 2.9 rebounds for the season but came up with big performances in wins over UNC Wilmington (15 points, nine rebounds) and Eastern Michigan (11 points, nine rebounds) and made the game-winning layup at Northeastern.

"Ousman is never lacking for energy or effort," said **Barnes**. "He has gotten better at understanding what we're trying to do and slowing down on the offensive end. I will still use him as a spark off the bench, but I think he can be on the floor more."

Lott, a 6-7 senior, has spent time playing in the post and on the wing and is a capable shooter. He started six games last season, averaging 2.2 points and 1.2 rebounds.

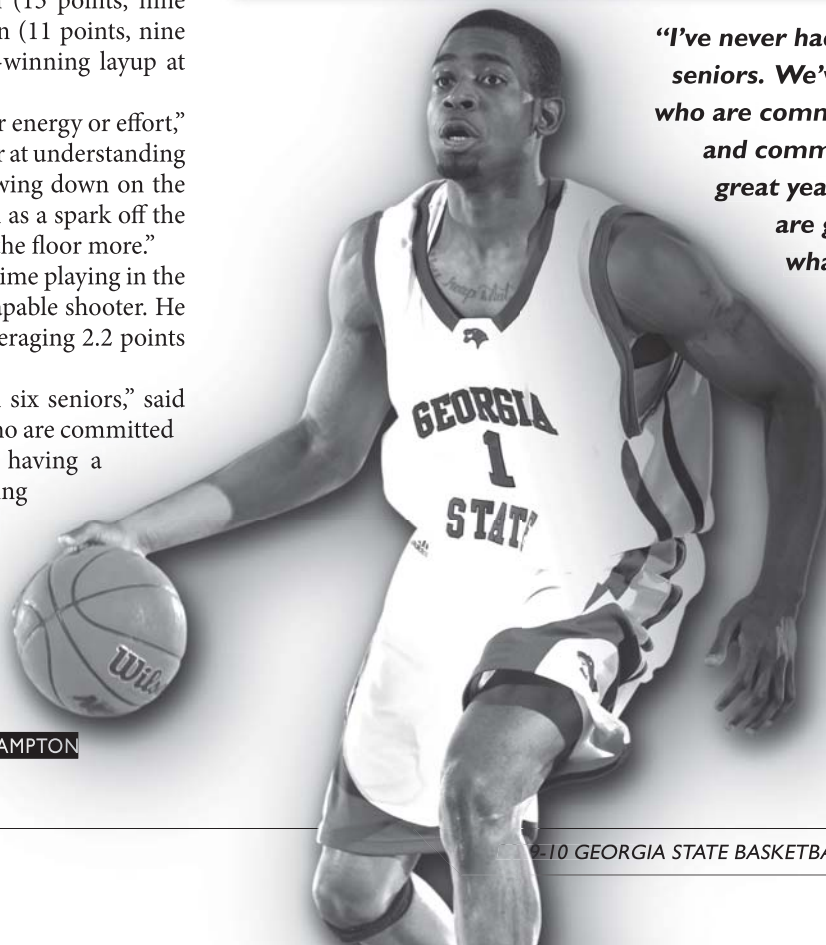
"I've never had a team with six seniors," said **Barnes**. "We've got six seniors who are committed to winning and committed to having a great year, and all of them are going to factor in what we're trying to do this season."



Coach Barnes with seniors Joe Dukes, Trae Goldston, Trey Hampton, Xavier Hansbro, Ousman Krubally, Kevin Lott.

"I've never had a team with six seniors. We've got six seniors who are committed to winning and committed to having a great year, and all of them are going to factor in what we're trying to do this season."

ROD BARNES



TREY HAMPTON

NOTING THE PANTHERS

FAMILY AFFAIR:

Brittany Graham, a member of the Panther women's basketball team, is the daughter of Georgia State assistant coach Paul Graham.



ON THE DEFENSIVE

In each of Rod Barnes' two seasons at the helm, Georgia State has set a school-record for fewest points-per-game allowed. Last season, Panther opponents managed just 63.6 points per game in 2008-09. That followed 66.2 points allowed by Barnes' first GSU team in 2007-08, for a two-year average of 64.9 points allowed per game.

418 AND COUNTING

Georgia State has made at least one three-point field goal in 418 straight games, dating back to the 1994-95 season. The last team to hold the Panthers without a trey was Stetson on Feb. 18, 1995.

MAKING THE GRADE

Georgia State basketball student-athletes have performed extremely well in the classroom since Rod Barnes' arrival. The team posted a grade point average of better than 2.8 for the 2008-09 academic year.

Kevin Lott and Ousman Krubally received the CAA Commissioner's Award last spring, following Jihad Ali in 2008.

All four seniors who have finished their eligibility under Barnes (Deven Dickerson, Justin Billingslea, Leonard Mendez and Rashad Chase) have graduated, and this year's class of six seniors are all on target to earn their degrees in the coming year.

BOLSTERING THE FRONT LINE are a pair of promising newcomers in freshman James Vincent and junior college transfer Jamar Taylor.

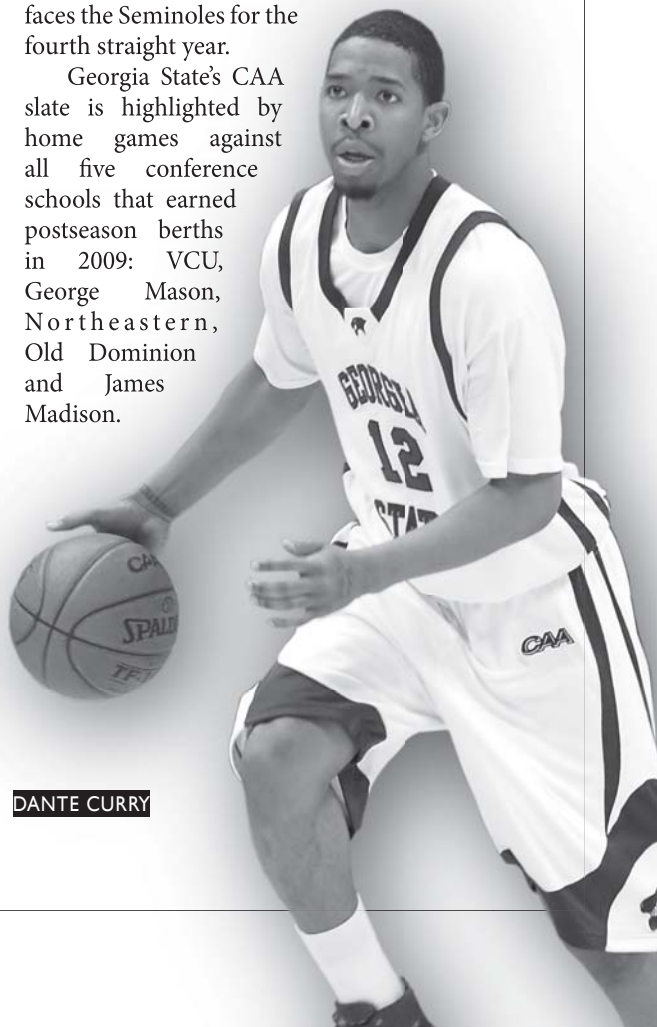
Vincent, State's biggest player at 6-10 and 250 pounds, is a natural low post player. A native Georgian, he is a highly-regarded freshman from Northside High School in Columbus.

"James has really good hands and good footwork, but he needs conditioning and experience," said Barnes. "With some time, James could give us the inside scoring we've been lacking. He's comfortable playing with his back to basket, and he likes contact. He has a lot of potential, once he gets in better shape."

The 6-8 Taylor, a teammate of Nero at Brunswick Community College, is long and athletic with good rebounding ability, especially on the defensive end.

GEORGIA STATE'S SCHEDULE begins with a bang as the Panthers open the season with a trip to NC State. That contest is part of the Glenn Wilkes Classic, which will continue with three games in Daytona Beach, Fla., as GSU takes on IUPUI, Howard and Drake. The non-conference schedule also features an appearance in the South Alabama Thanksgiving Tournament and a trip to Florida State as the Panthers faces the Seminoles for the fourth straight year.

Georgia State's CAA slate is highlighted by home games against all five conference schools that earned postseason berths in 2009: VCU, George Mason, Northeastern, Old Dominion and James Madison.



DANTE CURRY

ROSTER ANALYSIS

BY CLASS

Seniors.....	6
Juniors	4
Sophomores	3
Freshmen.....	1

BY STATE

Georgia	7
Alabama	1
Florida.....	1
Indiana.....	1
Mississippi.....	1
South Carolina	1
Tennessee.....	1
Virginia.....	1