



**For Immediate Release**

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**HALL OF SAINT AUGUSTINE'S DRAFTED IN SEVENTH ROUND  
BY CLEVELAND BROWNS**

*Defensive End First Falcon Drafted Since Football Program Resumed In 2002*

Defensive end Alex Hall (Glenarden, MD) became the first Saint Augustine's College player drafted since the school reinstated football in 2002 when the Cleveland Browns drafted him in the seventh round of the 2008 NFL Draft on Sunday (April 27) in New York, NY.

Hall was the only player from the CIAA conference selected in the draft.

Hall, who stands 6-foot-6 and weighs 250 pounds, was the 231st overall pick in the draft. He ended his college career as the Falcons' career leader in quarterback sacks (25.5) and tackles for losses (54) since the school resumed football after a 37-year hiatus. Hall also is the school's career leader in sacks for a season (13) and sacks for one game (4.5).

A Division II All-American and All-CIAA player, Hall was drafted because of his size, athleticism and pass rushing ability. NFL scouts regularly attended his college games as a senior, and he ran a 4.55 40-yard dash at the University of North Carolina Pro Day. In the 2008 Cactus Bowl, featuring the nation's top NCAA Division II players, Hall recorded 1.5 sacks and one fumble recovery to help his East team defeat the West 42-13 in Kingsville, TX.

One of a handful of small-college players drafted, Hall was nervous when the draft entered the last round and he wasn't chosen. His concern turned to relief when he received a phone call from Browns' senior vice president and general manager Phil Savage.

'It was like all the pressure was off after I was drafted,' said Hall, who watched the draft at his Maryland home with his parents. 'It was a very thrilling moment. All of the hard work and sweat paid off.'

In Cleveland, Hall is expected to provide depth on a rebuilding defense which ranked 30th out of 32 NFL teams in yards allowed per game. One analysis projects Hall as a hybrid defensive end/outside linebacker in a 3-4 defensive system. The Browns went 10-6 in 2007, barely missing the playoffs.

Saint Augustine's College football head coach Michael Costa says Hall has the talent to play in the NFL.

'He has the speed and size,' Costa said. 'That is what they are looking for.'

Costa expects the selection of Hall to have a positive impact on the football program at Saint Augustine's College, going into its seventh season in August 2008.

'It is a great thing for the football program and Saint Augustine's College,' said Costa, the 2003 and 2005 CIAA football coach of the year. 'It moves us up in the eyes of the people in North Carolina and lets them know we are headed in the right direction.'

Hall is expected to report to Browns camp this week but will return for graduation the following weekend. Hall will graduate with a History degree.

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