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**NFL AND UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA GREAT
TO SPEAK AT BISHOP STATE MLK PROGRAM**

Woodrow Lowe was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame last month

National Football League (NFL) and The University of Alabama great Woodrow Lowe will be the keynote speaker at the "Keeping the Dream Alive" program of Bishop State Community College on Thursday, Jan. 14, 2010. The first three-time Alabama All-American linebacker was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame at the National Football Foundation Awards Dinner in New York on Dec. 8, 2009. He was inducted into the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame in 2001.

Held each year in observance of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday, the Keeping the Dream Alive program will start at 6:30 p.m. in the Yvonne Kennedy Auditorium of the Baker-Gaines Central Campus located at 1365 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Ave. **Admission is free.** Sign Language interpreting will be provided. For more information, call 405-7135.



King, the most eloquent African-American leader of the 20th century, spearheaded the campaign in 1957 to end segregation. He made his famous "I Have a Dream" speech at the Lincoln Memorial in 1963 and received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964. He was instrumental in the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965. He would have turned 81 years old Jan. 15, 2010, had he not been struck down by an assassin's bullet on April 4, 1968.

The keynote speaker and the brother of Bishop State Community College president, Dr. James Lowe, is a former professional football linebacker who played from 1976-1986 for the San Diego Chargers in the NFL. Lowe played collegiately at The University of Alabama under Coach Bear Bryant from 1972-1975.

After a stellar career at Central High School in Phenix City, Lowe enrolled at Alabama in 1972, where he found instant success. He became one of the only two Alabama players to be named an All American three times (the other is Cornelius Bennett) when he was named an All-American in 1973, 1974 and 1975. Lowe also played on four SEC championship teams, and one national championship team, while he was at Alabama. Lowe holds the Alabama record for most tackles in a season, with 134 stops as a sophomore in 1973. He ranks third all-time in tackles at Alabama, with 315 in his career.

After his time at Alabama, Lowe was chosen by the San Diego Chargers in the fifth round (131st overall pick) in the 1976 NFL Draft.

During his 11 years in San Diego, Lowe was known largely as the “epitome of durability and longevity,” because he missed only one game in his entire 11-year NFL career. Despite his skills in defending the run, Lowe was particularly adept as a pass defender, which is a bit of a rarity for a linebacker. Lowe racked up 21 interceptions as a charger, and four were returned for a touchdown.

After retiring from the NFL, Lowe became a football coach. He spent six years in the NFL as a defensive assistant for the Oakland Raiders and the Kansas City Chiefs. After spending five years with the University of Alabama Birmingham (UAB) Blazers, Lowe moved back to the high school ranks.

On Dec. 30, 2009, he returned to his alma mater, Central High School in Phenix City, as the head coach. His official start date for coaching and teaching is Jan. 11, with the Board of Education set to approve on Jan. 28.

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