



## News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Curtis Johnson (Sr., Defensive End)

### Johnson Makes CAU History with Shrine Game and All-America Selection

**Atlanta, GA** – The Clark Atlanta University (CAU) Department of Athletics is pleased to announce that senior defensive end Curtis Johnson has been invited to play in the 83<sup>rd</sup> Annual East-West Shrine Football Game. Johnson will be the first player in the history of CAU Athletics to participate in this game, recognized as one of the premiere and most prestigious postseason college football events in the nation.

The East-West Shrine Game will be played on January 19, 2008, in Houston, Texas, at 6 p.m. at John O'Quinn Stadium on the campus of the University of Houston. The all-star game is an opportunity for collegiate football players to showcase their talent before a captive audience of scouts, presidents, general managers and personnel directors. Of the participants in last year's East-West Shrine Game, 37 were selected in the NFL draft and 51 were signed as free agents. Over 300 representatives from all 32 National Football League (NFL) teams will be in attendance. Former NFL Head Coaches Dick Vermeil and Mike White will serve as coaches for the game.

All proceeds from the game benefit the Shriners Hospitals for Children. Since 1925, over 800,000 children have been treated at no cost to their families through the 22 hospitals that make-up the one-of-a-kind international health care system. Game tickets are online at [www.UHCougars.com](http://www.UHCougars.com) or by calling 713-462-6647.

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While being selected to participate in the East-West all-star classic is enough good news in one week, on Thursday, December 13, Johnson was named to the Daktronics Division II All-America Team. Selected by the members of the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA), an athlete being named to the team is one of the most coveted postseason honors in Division II National Collegiate Athletics Association (NCAA).

Curtis Johnson's "All America" selection is just reward for an outstanding performance this past football season. Johnson finished first in the nation (NCAA Division II) in tackles for loss with a 2.5 average per game, and he also finished first in pass sacks with a 1.2 sacks per game average. He was 10<sup>th</sup> in the nation in solo tackles averaging 6.3 per game, and he was 21<sup>st</sup> in the nation in total tackles per game with a 10.2 average. He led the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (SIAC) in both categories and finished second in total tackles with 112. Johnson was selected to the First Team All-SIAC for the second consecutive season and was voted SIAC Defensive Player of the Year.

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