

## BRODERICK "RICKY" JONES Class of 1989

Broderick "Ricky" Jones a native of Birmingham, Alabama, attended Our Lady of Fatima and Woodlawn High Schools where he played defensive back but was too small to earn a college scholarship. During the summer of 1973, armed with the desire to play football and a ferocious "take no prisoner "style of play, Ricky walked-on to play football at Tuskegee. He dressed for practice three days before he was finally allowed to scrimmage. After he knocked out one of the team's best runners with an impressive tackle he earned the nickname, "Captain Crunch" and a spot on the team. The next day he was awarded a scholarship and from 1973 through 1976, he was a force to be reckoned with. In 1975, he was voted the most valuable player and selected as player of the week by the Mutual Black Network. He was a member of a SIAC Conference Championship team, the Gate City Bowl Championship team, and selected All-Conference 1976.

Mr. Jones signed a Free-Agent contract with the Cleveland Browns in 1977 making him one of seventeen (17) free-agents to make a National Football League Roster in 1977. This outstanding Tuskegeean spent three (3) years with the Browns and then signed with the Colts in 1980. A knee injury ended his professional football career in 1984. Returning to Alma Mater in 1985, Ricky earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Political Science and coached football and track until 1991. He has served as Defensive Line Coach at Liberty University, Defensive Coordinator for Kentucky State University, University of Alabama-Birmingham and Miles College. Retiring from the field of coaching, Mr. Jones now runs a cleaning service in Birmingham.

With support and love from my deceased parents, Eugenia and Joseph Jones, I learned always to do my best and that anything is possible." Ricky has three children Jason, Nikki, and Eric.