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**For Immediate Release**

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**Belhaven Announces New Head Football Coach**

**Jackson, Miss. (Jan. 31, 2005)** – Belhaven College and the Department of Athletics has named Don Lee as the next Head Football Coach of the Blazer Football program. Lee, filling the vacancy left by the recent departure of Scott Highsmith, served as the Blazers Defensive Coordinator the past two seasons prior to being named the head coach.

“We are extremely thankful to have Don remain with us and take the lead of our football team,” said Dr. Roger Parrott, President, Belhaven College. “He has been a tremendous asset to this program since arriving at Belhaven, not only on the sideline but especially with his mentoring of students. We are eager to see how the Lord will use him in this new era for Belhaven Football.”

“Don is the absolute right man for the job,” said John Garvilla, Director of Athletics, Belhaven College. “He has demonstrated proven leadership in his role over the last couple of years, and we are confident he will help take our football program to higher levels. His knowledge of the game stands by itself, but his character and integrity are perhaps his greatest strengths.”

Lee, a native of Franklin, Tennessee, has more than 11 years of football coaching experience, including 10 as a collegiate coach. In addition to his duties with the defense at Belhaven, Lee has served as Recruiting Coordinator for the Blazers in each of his two seasons at the school.

Prior to arriving at Belhaven, he served as Linebackers Coach at Cumberland College in Kentucky during the 2002 season. From 1997-2001, he served as Defensive Line Coach at Southwest Baptist University in Missouri. Additionally, Lee spent the 1995-1997 seasons as Defensive Ends Coach at Middle Georgia College.

“I am extremely thankful for the confidence being shown in me to lead this football team,” said Lee. “We have worked very hard the past couple of years to get to that next level, and we will continue to work tirelessly to reach each of the goals we set. I believe in each of the young men on this team, and I know they have what it takes to compete in our conference and on a national level in the NAIA.”

The Blazers’ 2005 schedule highlights include games with NCAA Div. 1-AA opponent Gardner-Webb University, cross-street rival Millsaps College, and eight Mid-South Conference opponents. Belhaven opens the season at home on Saturday, September 3 against Southwest Baptist University.

Belhaven College is a Christian liberal arts college founded in 1894 and is the only evangelical college that offers majors in each of the creative arts; art, music, dance theatre and creative writing. The vision of Belhaven College is to prepare men and women academically and spiritually to serve Christ Jesus in their careers, in human relationships and in the world of ideas. Belhaven College has campuses in Jackson, Miss., Memphis, Tenn., and Orlando, Fla.