

**SHSU News Release**

**For immediate release: August 28, 2009**

**Celebrated humorist Doc Blakely visits SHSU**

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HUNTSVILLE---National Speakers Association acclaimed humorist Doc Blakely, a Sam Houston State University graduate, toured campus today in preparation for the Centennial Celebration of the Department of Agricultural and Industrial Sciences. He will be the keynote dinner speaker at 7 p.m., Sept. 25 at the Bernard G. Johnson Coliseum, 1964 Bobby K. Marks Drive in Huntsville.

With a nearly continuous stream of anecdotes, Blakely gave hosts Stanley Kelley, chair of the department, William "Billy" Harrell, and L. N. "Sonny" Sikes, retired faculty, a sampling of the story-telling genius that made him one of the most sought after inspirational speakers in the United States.

Blakely said he was astounded by the changes in Sam, which was a collection of buildings "on the hill" when he graduated in 1960. In addition to a campus tour, Blakely visited with agricultural and industrial sciences faculty and students, which he said will help him frame a presentation specifically for the Centennial Celebration.

Stanley said the Centennial Celebration is open to graduates, as well as friends of the university and department who want to celebrate this important milestone in Sam's history.

For more information regarding the Celebration, contact agricultural and industrial sciences at (936) 294-1215 or visit the department's Web site at [http://www.shsu.edu/~agr\\_www/](http://www.shsu.edu/~agr_www/) and click Centennial Celebration.

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**CUTLINE FOR ATTACHED PHOTO:**

Celebrated humorist and Sam Houston State University graduate "Doc" Blakely toured campus today in preparation for the Centennial Celebration of the Department of Agricultural and Industrial Sciences.