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Liberty Mutual Coach of the Year Honors for Larry Kehres Earns \$70,000 for Local Charities and Campus Athletic Programs

Alliance, Ohio – January 26, 2009 – Local families in need of housing, participants in a youth sports and education ministry, members of the local YMCA and YWCA, and student-athletes – these are the many beneficiaries of Mount Union head football coach Larry Kehres' selection as the 2008 Liberty Mutual Coach of the Year. Coach Kehres and Liberty Mutual will present four local charities and the Mount Union Alumni Association with a combined \$70,000 to support their programs at this evening's "Raider Rally" celebrating the Purple Raiders' tenth NCAA Division III national championship.

Liberty Mutual Insurance presents the winning coach from each division with \$50,000 to support his favorite civic and charitable endeavors. Coach Kehres is donating \$20,000 to the Alliance Area Habitat for Humanity to provide housing services to low income families, \$15,000 to the Alliance Friends Church to support its youth education, sports and recreation ministry, \$10,000 to support programming at the Alliance Family YMCA, and \$5,000 for programs at the YWCA of Alliance.

"The Liberty Mutual Coach of the Year Award is special because it is much more than a personal accolade and a trophy," said Kehres. "It empowers charitable organizations to continue and enhance their vital work, and provides educational opportunity through scholarship, all of which makes our communities better places to live and to learn. Our student-athletes should be equally proud that their performance on the field and in the classroom enables the Mount Union football program to give something so meaningful back to our college and our community."

Liberty Mutual also awards \$20,000 to the alumni association of each winning school to foster scholarship or campus programming. According to Anne Graffice, Mount Union director of Alumni and College Activities, the donation will specifically help the M-Club support various intercollegiate athletic activities. "We are grateful to both Coach Kehres and Liberty Mutual. This generous contribution will allow Mount Union student-athletes across many sports to benefit from the level of excellence Coach Kehres and our football student-athletes have achieved," she said.

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Chosen by a combination of votes by fans at www.coachoftheyear.com and an elite selection committee of national media and College Football Hall of Fame players and coaches, the award honors Coach Kehres as the Division III college football coach who best exemplifies responsibility and excellence on and off the field of play. In addition to receiving the charitable and scholarship monies, Coach Kehres also will receive his personal trophy at the rally and will be recognized in the permanent Liberty Mutual Coach of the Year Award display at the College Football Hall of Fame in South Bend, Ind.

For the tenth time in 16 years, the Purple Raiders of Mount Union College sit atop Division III as national champions, capping a 15-0 season with a 31-26 victory over defending champion Wisconsin-Whitewater in the Stagg Bowl. In his 23 years as Mount Union head football coach, Larry Kehres' teams also have garnered 19 Ohio Athletic Conference titles and have posted 17 undefeated regular seasons. Coach Kehres has had his share of talented players to help produce this on-field success (six All-Americans in 2008), yet he also has helped nurture classroom champions as well (five Academic All-Americans since 2006). Coach Kehres organized Mount Union's support of this year's national Coach to Cure MD project to help raise awareness and funds to fight Duchenne muscular dystrophy. He also encourages his student-athletes to participate in civic and community activities, with many players serving on the NCAA Leadership Conference.

"Coach Kehres' performance in 2008 embodies all that makes the Liberty Mutual Coach of the Year Award different from all others: admirable sportsmanship and responsibility to his student-athletes and community, accomplishing all while delivering outstanding results on the field," said Greg Gordon, Liberty Mutual senior vice president of Marketing.

The other 2008 Liberty Mutual Coach of the Year Award winners are Nick Saban of the University of Alabama (Football Bowl Subdivision), Mickey Matthews of James Madison University (Football Championship Subdivision), and Chuck Broyles of Pittsburg State (Kan.) University (Division II).

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The eighth-largest auto and home insurer in the U.S., Liberty Mutual (www.LibertyMutual.com) sells full lines of coverage for automobile, homeowners, valuable possessions, personal liability, and individual life insurance. The company is an industry leader in affinity partnerships, offering car and home insurance to employees and members of more than 10,000 companies, credit unions, professional associations and alumni groups.

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