



Press Contact:

Glenn Greenberg
617-574-5874 or 978-317-7482 (cell)
glenn.greenberg@libertymutual.com

**Liberty Mutual Coach of the Year Winner Nick Saban to Donate Award's
\$50,000 Charitable Grant to Nick's Kids Fund**

**Top Coaching Award Also Earns Alabama Alumni Association a \$20,000 Scholarship
Grant from Liberty Mutual**

Tuscaloosa, Ala. – April 17, 2009 – When Nick Saban arrived in Tuscaloosa in 2007, not only did he bring a long resume of professional and college football coaching excellence, but he also brought a legacy of civic and charitable giving. And, as the 2008 Liberty Mutual Coach of the Year winner, Saban continues that history of community support by announcing he will donate the award's full charitable grant to Nick's Kids Fund. Liberty Mutual will present Saban and Nick's Kids with a \$50,000 check during tomorrow's A-Day game at Bryant-Denny Stadium. The company also will present the University of Alabama Alumni Association with a \$20,000 scholarship grant in honor of Saban's Liberty Mutual Coach of the Year honor.

Nick's Kids, started by Nick and Terry Saban at Michigan State University in the late 1990s, continues to be a shining example of Coach Saban's concern for disadvantaged children. Since arriving in Tuscaloosa the Fund has distributed more than \$540,000 to 115 charities.

"The Liberty Mutual Coach of the Year Award is special because it is much more than an accolade or a trophy," said Nick Saban. "The donation to Nick's Kids will allow us to support children and students through various organizations in our state and surrounding communities. We would like to thank Liberty Mutual for this honor and generous donation to both Nick's Kids and the alumni association. The coach of the year award should really be the team of the year award. It starts with my family, Mal Moore (Director of Athletics), and our President Dr. Robert Witt, but most of all the coaches and our team, the people who made a commitment and worked hard and persevered to have a successful season."

Liberty Mutual also awards \$20,000 to the alumni association of each winning school to foster scholarship. "We are grateful to both Coach Saban and Liberty Mutual. Many Alabama students will benefit from this generous contribution to the Alabama Alumni Association scholarship fund thanks to the level of excellence Coach Saban and our football student-athletes have achieved," said Pat Whetstone, director of Alumni Affairs.

Liberty Mutual Coach of the Year / 2

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 Saban as the Football Bowl Subdivision 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 Saban also will receive his personal trophy at the game 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.

Coach Saban's 12-win campaign in 2008 set the Alabama record for the largest increase in wins from year one to year two for a Crimson Tide head coach, and resurrected the team as an SEC powerhouse. Leading a team that committed, on average, 30 percent fewer penalties than its conference foes was a big reason Coach Saban enjoyed such a tremendous season on the field.

Off the field, Saban is equally poised for success as a philanthropist and mentor. In addition to directing the vital work of Nick's Kids, he and Terry last June announced a \$1 million gift to benefit Alabama's first-generation scholarship program. And Crimson Tide student-athletes also benefit from Saban's guidance in the classroom. His published mission statement for his team reads, "[Graduating from college] is going to have the greatest impact on the quality of your life forever." And Alabama's rising Academic Progress Rate is evidence of this commitment to education.

"Coach Saban's 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.

With Coach Saban's award, Liberty Mutual now has donated \$680,000 to charity and scholarship since 2006 in the name of its annual Liberty Mutual Coach of the Year winners. The other 2008 Liberty Mutual Coach of the Year Award winners are Mickey Matthews of James Madison University (Football Championship Subdivision), Chuck Broyles of Pittsburg State (Kan.) University (Division II), and Larry Kehres of Mount Union (Ohio) College (Division III).

About Liberty Mutual Group

"Helping people live safer, more secure lives" since 1912, Boston-based Liberty Mutual Group (www.LibertyMutualGroup.com) is a diversified global insurer and sixth-largest property and casualty insurer in the U.S. based on 2007 direct written premium. Liberty Mutual Group ranks 94th on the Fortune 500 list of largest U.S. corporations, based on 2007 revenue. The company has over 45,000 employees located in more than 900 offices throughout the world.

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.

###