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**SCOTT UNDERWOOD AMONG FIVE DIVISION II FINALISTS FOR  
2011 LIBERTY MUTUAL COACH OF THE YEAR AWARD**

***Vote for Coach Underwood Daily Through December 22 at [CoachoftheYear.com](http://CoachoftheYear.com); Each Division Winner to Receive \$50,000 for Charity and \$20,000 for Alumni Association Scholarship***

**BOSTON – December 6, 2011** – Coaches across the country have spent the entire [college football](#) season preparing themselves and readying their teams to take the field each game day. However, for five Division II coaches, their guidance and leadership extends well beyond the playing field, leaving lasting impressions on the players they mentor and the communities they reach. [Liberty Mutual Insurance](#) today announced St. Cloud State Head Football Coach Scott Underwood one of five Division II finalists for the 2011 Liberty Mutual Coach of the Year Award, the leading college football-coaching honor that celebrates coaches for their sportsmanship, integrity, responsibility and excellence, and for giving back to their teams, schools and communities, on and off field.

The five finalists were determined as a result of online fan voting at [CoachoftheYear.com](http://CoachoftheYear.com) and through an objective scoring model endorsed by the College Football Hall of Fame. Each coach was among the top 15 in fan votes in Division II to qualify for the model, which considers, among other criteria: wins, team penalties, on-field sportsmanship, academic achievement by the student-athletes, and commitment to charitable endeavors. Voting continues through December 22 at [CoachoftheYear.com](http://CoachoftheYear.com) to help determine the 2011 Liberty Mutual Coach of the Year winners.

“College football fans clearly recognize Coach Underwood as one of the game’s true leaders, and we agree he is an excellent finalist for the 2011 Liberty Mutual Coach of the Year Award,” said Greg Gordon, Liberty Mutual senior vice president, Consumer Marketing. “Each year, we ask fans to vote for the coaches who best exemplify the award’s characteristics – sportsmanship, integrity, responsibility and excellence, on and off the field. Scott Underwood does just that, through his success on game days, as well as providing leadership to his student-athletes and commitment to the greater St. Cloud State community.”

Joining Coach Underwood among the five Division II finalists for the 2011 Liberty Mutual Coach of the Year Award are, in alphabetical order: Tim Beck, Pittsburg State University (Kan.); Bill Maskill, Midwestern State

University (Texas); Peter Rossomando, University of New Haven (Conn.); and John Wristen, Colorado State University-Pueblo.

“In a time where many people measure success only by wins and losses, we are thrilled to have our own Coach Underwood named as a 2011 Liberty Mutual Coach of the Year finalist,” said Anne Abicht, Athletic Media Relations Director, St. Cloud State. “Coach Underwood does just as much for his student-athletes and community off the field, as he does on the field, which gives St. Cloud State fans and alumni something to be proud of. Now our fans just have to keep voting for Scott Underwood to bring home the trophy, and to support his charities and our school.”

### **Help Celebrate Scott Underwood and Vote Him a Winner – Visit at [Coachoftheyear.com](http://Coachoftheyear.com)**

Fans can visit [Coachoftheyear.com](http://Coachoftheyear.com) between December 6 and December 22 to vote daily among the finalists in each division. Selection committees of more than 50 College Football Hall of Fame players and coaches – including Archie Manning, Lou Holtz, Vince Dooley, Ronnie Lott, Archie Griffin – and the national college football media, such as Kirk Herbstreit, Stewart Mandel and Tim Brando, will also cast votes for the winners to ensure coaches are evaluated fairly and measured against the specific values of responsibility and integrity. Winners are ultimately determined using the following voting weight: fans, 20 percent; College Football Hall of Fame, 55 percent; and college football media, 25 percent.

Liberty Mutual will announce the four winners the morning of the BCS Championship game, January 9, 2012, in New Orleans. If Scott Underwood is named 2011 Liberty Mutual Coach of the Year for Division II, he will receive \$50,000 to donate to the charities of his choice and a \$20,000 grant to his school's alumni association. Since 2006, the Liberty Mutual Coach of the Year Award has celebrated the work of 17 winning coaches by donating more than \$1.2 million to over 80 charities and college alumni scholarship funds across the country. Former Liberty Mutual Coach of the Year Division II winners include: Bob Nielson, University of Minnesota-Duluth (2010); Mel Tjeerdsma, Northwest Missouri State (2009); Chuck Broyles, Pittsburg State University (2008); and Bill O'Boyle, Chadron State College (2007).

St. Cloud State fans also can join the conversation on Facebook by visiting [Facebook.com/LMCoachofYear](http://Facebook.com/LMCoachofYear) or on Twitter, [@LMCoachofYear](https://twitter.com/LMCoachofYear).

### **About Liberty Mutual Insurance**

"Helping people live safer, more secure lives" since 1912, Boston-based Liberty Mutual Group is a diversified global insurer and the third largest property and casualty insurer in the U.S. based on A.M. Best Company's report of 2010 net written premium. The Group also ranks 82<sup>nd</sup> on the Fortune 500 list of largest U.S. corporations, based on 2010 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 Insurance ([libertymutual.com](http://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 13,500 companies, credit unions, professional associations and alumni groups.

## **About the National Football Foundation & College Hall of Fame**

Founded in 1947 with early leadership from General Douglas MacArthur, legendary Army coach Earl "Red" Blaik and immortal journalist Grantland Rice, The National Football Foundation & College Hall of Fame is a non-profit educational organization that runs programs designed to use the power of amateur football in developing scholarship, citizenship and athletic achievement in young people. With 121 chapters and 12,000 members nationwide, NFF programs include the College Football Hall of Fame, the NFF Scholar-Athlete Awards, presented by Fidelity Investments, Play It Smart, the NFF Hampshire Honor Society, the NFF National Scholar-Athlete Alumni Association, and scholarships of more than \$1.3 million for college and high school scholar-athletes. The NFF presents the MacArthur Bowl, the William V. Campbell Trophy, endowed by HealthSouth, and releases the Bowl Championship Series (BCS) Standings. For more information, please visit [www.footballfoundation.org](http://www.footballfoundation.org).

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