

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Saban, Barker, Hunt Project Makes Donation To Children's Hospital

Children's Health System in Birmingham received an early Christmas gift from Alabama's favorite "Saint Nick," when a specially-designed gaming system was presented Tuesday by former Bama quarterback Jay Barker and artist Michael Hunt, with the help of U of A Coach Nick Saban.

The donation was funded by proceeds of the sale of a limited edition lithograph, created by Hunt, commemorating the storied history of U of A football. Saban personally autographed all 5,000 of the 31" x 20" full-color prints, a task that took weeks.

"This is just the first donation we hope to be making to the children of Alabama," stated Hunt. "The response to the lithograph has been humbling, but the real reward is our ability to help some brave local kids."

After an earlier visit to the hospital Hunt and his son noticed anxiety in some the children undergoing chemotherapy, and thought a distraction during the procedure might help. So Hunt worked with representatives from Xbox and Wii™ to design and load a gaming system that could fit into the treatment environment. It is replete with a charging elephant painted on the sides. The \$5,000 system was presented along with a special elephant poster, after the lithograph was unveiled in front of patients and their families, hospital staff, and the media.

Jay Barker, who led the Tide to a National Championship in 1992 with an undefeated season, got involved in the project for personal reasons. "First of all Alabama football was, and remains, such an important part of my life, and when I saw Michael's work I could almost hear the crowd at Bryant-Denny Stadium on a Saturday night. But as the father of seven kids, when I learned that Coach Saban and Michael planned to donate a portion of the proceeds to children's charities right here in Alabama, well then I really wanted to help."

The lithographs are available by calling 1-866-916-8300 or by visiting www.BAMALitho.com The cost is \$149 until Christmas, after which any remaining will sell for \$189. The lithograph has been officially licensed by the Collegiate Licensing Company, and comes with a Certificate of Authenticity verifying Saban's autograph.

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Suggested outline: Jay Barker (right), former University of Alabama quarterback who led the undefeated 1992 Crimson Tide to a National Championship, unveils the limited edition lithograph signed by Coach Nick Saban and created by artist Michael Hunt (left), Tuesday at Children's Health System in Birmingham. Proceeds from the sales are donated to children's charities throughout the state.