



For Release: Thursday, October 30, 2008

**SEASON-ENDING NATIONWIDE TOUR CHAMPIONSHIP ANNOUNCES**  
**DANIEL ISLAND, SOUTH CAROLINA WILL HOST EVENT IN 2009-2011**

Charleston, South Carolina – The PGA TOUR’s Nationwide Tour and the Student Transportation of America Education Foundation today announced the 2009-2011 Nationwide Tour Championship will be played at the Daniel Island Club. The official name of the tournament will be the “Nationwide Tour Championship at Daniel Island”. The 2009 dates will be Oct. 22-25.

The Nationwide Tour Championship is the Nationwide Tour’s final event. It concludes the season-long competition to identify the 25 players who earn PGA TOUR cards for the following season based on the Tour’s final money list. The field is limited to the top-60 money winners through the final full-field event of the season, which in 2009 will be the Miccosukee Championship, played the previous week in Miami, FL.

The Nationwide Tour Championship at Daniel Island will be one of only three events offering a \$1 million purse and \$180,000 first prize, both of which are the largest on Tour.

Golf Channel will televise all four rounds live.

“The partnership we have put in place for the Nationwide Tour Championship at Daniel Island is a terrific one,” said Nationwide Tour president **Bill Calfee**. “With the 25 PGA TOUR cards on the line, the Nationwide Tour Championship historically has been the most suspenseful week of the year on the Nationwide Tour. A number of players’ futures are literally riding on every shot. With the move to Daniel Island and our season now culminating two weeks before the end of the PGA TOUR season, the Championship will be enhanced and the Tour will benefit from the additional focus that will be on “The 25” competition. We look forward to working with the Student Transportation of America, Education Foundation and the Daniel Island Club to achieve these goals and to advance theirs.”

The STA Education Foundation, the philanthropic arm of Student Transportation of America, the fourth largest provider of school bus transportation services in North America, is host organization for the Nationwide Tour Championship at Daniel Island.

"We are extremely pleased to be associated with the PGA TOUR, Daniel Island and the Greater Charleston community," said **Denis J. Gallagher**, chairman of the STA Education Foundation and Charleston resident. "This high profile event will not only be great for promoting the City of Charleston, it will donate a portion of the proceeds to The First Tee Program of Charleston to further their great work helping kids in ways that extend far beyond golf.

"STA's business is all about kids and our Foundation was created to help fund the higher education opportunities they deserve," Gallagher said. "This partnership with the Nationwide Tour will help us gain national recognition and greatly expand our ability to offer college scholarships to deserving high school students. As a result, for the first time, scholarships will be awarded to outstanding Charleston students who display pride in their community and choose to attend Charleston area colleges and universities. The City has been a big supporter in helping us bring this event to Charleston and, in return, we're pleased to be able to give back to our community's future leaders."

Daniel Island, an award-winning master-planned community in Charleston, S.C., is home to the private Daniel Island Club. The Club's golf offerings include two nationally-ranked courses designed by Rees Jones (Ralston Creek) and Tom Fazio (Beresford Creek). The Nationwide Tour Championship will be played on the Ralston Creek course, a par-72 layout that stretches to 7,446 yards.

"We were privileged to previously host a Nationwide Tour event on Daniel Island, and it was a great experience for the players and the Tour," said **Matt Sloan**, president of the Daniel Island Club. "We are honored to not only welcome them back, but to bring their most important event to Charleston. Much like the PGA TOUR's TOUR Championship at East Lake in Atlanta, we expect the Nationwide Tour Championship to call Daniel Island its home for many years to come."

The Nationwide Tour Championship at Daniel Island will be managed by Charleston Tennis, LLC, which also manages the Family Circle Cup and AVP Charleston Open, with Goal Marketing serving as a consultant.

PGA TOUR winner D.J. Trahan is a longtime resident of the Charleston area and currently resides in Mt. Pleasant. The former Clemson University All-American played one full season on the Nationwide Tour (2004), winning the final full-field event of the season, the Miccosukee Championship, before earning his PGA TOUR card via the National Qualifying Tournament that December.

The Nationwide Tour Championship at Daniel Island is joined by the Nationwide Tour Players Cup in West Virginia and the recently-announced Soboba Classic in San Jacinto, CA in offering \$1 million purses.

The 2008 Nationwide Tour Championship will be played next week at TPC Craig Ranch in McKinney, TX (Dallas area).

## **ABOUT DANIEL ISLAND CLUB**

Located within the City of Charleston, Daniel Island is a 4,000-acre island town featuring traditional neighborhoods, world-class golf, tennis and soccer facilities and a growing collection of amenities. The island's downtown is home to schools, churches, medical

offices, boutiques, restaurants, a modern supermarket and many other conveniences. Access to hundreds of acres of parks, 23 miles of rivers and creeks, leisure trails, and a private country club provide residents with a myriad of recreational options. A highly-desirable destination for Charleston real estate, Daniel Island has been honored with numerous accolades and was recently recognized with a prestigious "Award for Excellence" by the Urban Land Institute.

#### **ABOUT THE STUDENT TRANSPORTATION OF AMERICA EDUCATION FOUNDATION**

The Student Transportation of America Education Foundation is the philanthropic arm of Student Transportation of America (STA), the fourth largest provider of school bus transportation services in North America. The STA Education Foundation is a 501(c) (3) public charity that focuses the experience of the company and the talents of more than 6,000 employees on advancing educational opportunities available to the students it transports daily in more than 200 school districts in 10 U.S. states and Ontario, Canada. Since its creation in 2003, the Foundation has raised nearly \$100,000 and awarded more than 40 scholarships to students who demonstrate academic achievement, community service and leadership. Learn more about STA and its commitment to the community at [www.rideSTA.com](http://www.rideSTA.com)

#### **ABOUT THE NATIONWIDE TOUR**

Founded (1990), owned and operated by the PGA TOUR, the Nationwide Tour identifies those players who are ready to compete and win on golf's greatest stage. As the official proving ground of the PGA TOUR, two-thirds of the current PGA TOUR membership played on the Nationwide Tour. Tour alumni have won 236 PGA TOUR titles, including a grand slam and three PLAYERS Championships. Twenty-five PGA TOUR cards and a record purse approaching \$19 million will be at stake over the course of 30 events in 2008 concluding with the \$1 million Nationwide Tour Championship at TPC Craig Ranch. Recognizing the Tour's growing stature, Nationwide Insurance has renewed its umbrella sponsorship of the Nationwide Tour through 2012. The PGA TOUR, through the efforts of its three tours and their tournaments, sponsors, players and volunteers, supports over 2,000 local charities and has surpassed \$1 billion in charitable giving. To learn more about the PGA TOUR and Nationwide Tour and to follow the season-long quest for a PGA TOUR card, visit [www.PGATOUR.com](http://www.PGATOUR.com).

#### **ABOUT NATIONWIDE**

Nationwide, based in Columbus, OH, is one of the largest diversified insurance and financial services organizations in the world, with more than \$161 billion in assets. Nationwide ranks No. 108 on the Fortune 500 list. The company provides a full range of insurance and financial services, including auto, motorcycle, boat, homeowners, life, farm, commercial insurance, administrative services, annuities, mortgages, mutual funds, pensions and long-term savings plans. For more information, visit [www.nationwide.com](http://www.nationwide.com).

*Nationwide, the Nationwide Framemark and On Your Side are federally registered service marks of Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company.*

# # #

Contacts:

Julie Dombrowski  
Communications Director, The Daniel Island Company  
Tel: 843-971-3531  
Email: Julie.dombrowski@danielisland.com

Lynette Viviani  
Student Transportation of America Education Foundation  
Tel: 973-968-7929  
Email: lviviani@vivianipr.com

Mike Saia  
Communications Manager, Charleston Tennis, LLC  
Tel: 843-849-3153  
Email: michael.saia@familycirclecup.com

Jeff Adams  
Director of Communications, Champions Tour  
Tel: 904-273-3397  
Email: jadams@pgatourhq.com